

EXTRACTS FROM THE MEMOIRS OF THE
GALE FAMILY.¹

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MANY were the fortunes made during the long period when the iron-works and furnaces were in full activity in the Weald of Sussex: these have long ago been transferred to other distant districts, where they are now at work with an energy unexampled in the history of any nation in the world. They have carried away with them, *fumum, et opes strepitumque*; all of which, including, perhaps, the *opes*, are gone; but, instead of them, we have, what is far better—the enjoyment of quiet and beautiful country scenery; and, among the vestiges of this former noisy condition of things, we find spotted about in our valleys a number of beautiful little lakes, with their well wooded banks, which turned their water-wheels in the times when the power of steam was unknown. Many families of wealth and station in our county owe their position, directly or indirectly to these, the pursuits and occupations of their forefathers; and, as the Kings of Syria bore the name of Hadad and Benhadad, Smith, and Smithson, considering them to be the proudest designation of their royal house, so much so, that when upon one occasion, the usurper of another family stepped in, and seized the throne, he actually assumed those honoured titles;² let us hope that their descendants and representatives look with equal satisfaction to the useful and profitable occupations of their ancestors.

The writers of the following memoirs, from which we now publish extracts, Leonard Gale the father, and the son of the same name, are instances of great success in their speculations,

¹ Our best thanks are due to Mrs. Morgan, of Uckfield, who is related to the Gales, for having procured for us the ma-

nuscript from which the following extracts are taken.

² *Cambridge Essays*, 1858, p. 143.

and of rapid accumulation of wealth, from a very humble and small beginning. Their accumulations were gradual and steady, and mainly the result of their own sagacity, industry, and economical habits of life; and they were evidently good and seriously minded men, of the Puritan party, entertaining a very indifferent opinion generally of their neighbours, and indeed of mankind in general. The memoir of Leonard Gale, the father, has this preface:—"The advice of me, Leonard Gale, to my two sons, Leonard and Henry, being in the 67th year of my age, A.D. 1687."¹

“My sons, hearken to the words of your loving father, who earnestly desireth your welfare, and increasing of grace, learning, and riches. I have thought good to leave these few lines for your directions, and going on in this miserable world that you are coming into, a world of fraud and deceit, a world of all manner of wickedness in all sorts of people; therefore I will first give you a short breviat of my birth and living since.

“I was born in the parish of Sevenoake, in Kent, my father, a blacksmith, living in Riverhead Street, in the parish aforesaid, who lived there in very good repute, and drove a very good trade; his name Francis Gale: my mother was the daughter of one George Pratt, a very good yeoman, living at Chelsford, about five miles from Riverhead; my father had, by a former wife, two sons, and by my mother three sons and one daughter; and when I was between sixteen and seventeen years of age, my father and mother going to visit a friend at Sensom [Kemsing?], in the said county, took the plague, and quickly after they came home, my mother fell sick, and about six days after died, nobody thinking of such a disease. My father made a great burial for her, and abundance came to it, not fearing anything, and notwithstanding several women layd my mother forth, and no manner of clothes were taken out of the chamber when she died, yet not one person took the distemper; this I set down as a miracle. After her burial, we were all well one whole week, and a great many people frequented our house, and we our neighbours' houses, but at the week's end, in two days, fell sick my father, my eldest brother, my sister, and myself; and in three days after this my two

¹ Written three years before his death.

younger brothers, Edward and John, fell sick, and though I was very ill, my father sent me to market to buy provisions, but before I came home it was noysed abroad that it was the plague, and as soon as I was come in adoores, they charged us to keep in, and set a strong watch over us,¹ yet all this while no one took the distemper of or from us, and about the sixth day after they were taken, three of them dyed in three hours, one after another, and were all buried in one grave, and about two days after the two youngest dyed both together, and were buried in one grave. All this while I lay sick in another bed, and the tender looked every hour for my death; but it pleased God most miraculously to preserve me, and without any sore breaking, only I had a swelling in my groin, which it was long ere it sunk away, and I have been the worse for it ever since, and when I was recovered, I was shut up with two women, one man, and one child, for three months, and neither of them had the distemper.

“And now, at between sixteen and seventeen, I came into the world, to shift for myself, having one brother left, which was out at prentice, who presently fell out with me about what my father had left me, and when I had been at about £10 charge, we came to an agreement. I, by my guardian, had the administration, and my brother quickly spent all his portion, and went to sea, and dyed; and I, entering into the world at this age, worth about £200, within the space of two years and a half, ran out £150 of it, not with ill husbandry, for I laboured night and day, to save what I had left to me, but bad servants and trusting was the ruin of me, and then I turned away both man and maid, and lived starke alone for the space of one month, in which time I cast up my accounts, and found that I was not worth £50 if I had sold myself to my shirt; then I was in a great strait, and knew not which way to steer, but I cryed unto the Lord with my whole heart and with tears, and He heard my cry, and put into

¹ Summary power was given to the authorities, by an act passed in the reign of James I., to shut up the sick and infected, and to punish those who were refractory and disobedient. In the accounts of the parish of Great Staughton, in Huntingdonshire, there occurs this item:—“Pd. for watching, victuals, and drink for Mary

Mitchell, 2s. 6d. Pd. for whipping her, 4d.” This occurs in 1710; and in the same year, at Lewes, a Mr. Holmwood occasioned a charge of 12s. for several men to watch and prevent him bringing his son up in the town with the small-pox. Roberts’s *Social History*, p. 287.

my mind to try one year more, to see what I could do, for I resolved to spend nothing but mine own, and I resolved always 'to keep a conscience void of offence towards God and towards man.'

"Then I took a boy to strike and to blow for me, and a man to work by the piece, but kept no maid nor woman in my house; and then I so thrived that, within two years and a half I got back all that I had lost before, so that by the time I came to twenty-one years of age, I had lost £150 and got it again, and I began to be looked upon as a thriving man, and so I was, for all the time I kept a smith's forge I layd by £100 a year, one with another, and having gotten enough to keep me well, and being burdened with free quartering of soldiers, I left off, and came down into Sussex; after one Spur, who owed me between £40 and £50, and he being in a bad capacity to pay me, though he did afterwards pay me all. Before I went home again, I took St. Leonard's forge,¹ and so kept a shop to sell iron, and let out the smith's forge. . . . I had not been in the country one year, but Mr. Walter Burrell, whom I looked upon as my mortal enemy, sent to speak with me, and when I came to him he told me he heard a very good report of me, and desired to be acquainted with me, and he told me if I would let his son Thomas come into partnership with me, he would help me to sows nearer and better and cheaper than I had bought before. I told him I wondered to hear such things from him, for I heard he was my mortal enemy, because I took that forge, and I told him that if he would let me go partners with him in the furnace, he should go partners with me in the forge. He desired time to consider of it, and he rode presently into Kent to enquire of me, and found such an account of me, that he told me I should go partners with him in all his works."

This partnership lasted about fifteen years, and the trade in iron falling off, it was dissolved, and Leonard Gale became the sole proprietor of Tinsloe forge.²

¹ See Mr. Lower's paper on the "Sussex Iron-works" (*Sussex Arch. Coll.* vol. II. pp. 200 and 216.) The works destroyed by the orders of Sir William Waller had probably been reconstructed after the Restoration of Charles II.

² This forge gave name to Forge Farm, near Tensley Green, as the name is written in the Ordnance Map. It is situated somewhat more than two miles north-east of Crawley, and about the same distance in a north-westerly direction from Crabbett.

“Considering,” he says, “that I had got about £5000 or £6000, having traded about thirty years, and being about forty-six years of age, and having neither brother, sister, or child in the world, I bethought myself about taking a wife, and chose this woman, your mother, the daughter of Mr. Johnson, with whom I had £500 and one year’s board with her, and now, at the writing of these lines, I have attained unto the age of sixty-six years, having been married about twenty years, in which time as God hath been pleased to send me five children, so hath he improved my estate to at least £16,000, which is £500 a year, one year with another, which is a very great miracle to me how I should come to so great an estate, considering my small dealings, the bad times, and my great losses by bad debts, suits of law, and by building, which enforces me to extol the name of the great God, for He was always my director in all good ways, and when I was in distress I called upon Him, and He heard me, and gave me more than ever my heart desired; for I had no man in the world that would stand by me, either for advice or for money, when I wanted, which enforced me to be carefull not to run beyond my own substance, and always resolved ‘to keep a good conscience towards God and towards man,’ and not to do to others that which I would not have them to do to me.”

. . . . “Thus, my son, I have set down a short breviate of my life unto this day, and what the Almighty hath bestowed on me in the sixty-sixth year of my age, in all which time I hated idleness and vain gloriousness, and I never boasted of anything but to the glory of God and my own comfort. I always held the Scriptures for the rule of life to walk by; and I always counted it to be a deadly sin to be in any man’s debt longer than they were willing to trust me.” “My son Leonard, I pray you to have a tender respect unto your brothers and sisters; for few men would have left so great an estate to you, and so little to them, when I have gained it all by the blessing of God and my own industry; therefore grudge not anything that I may give them; and next have a tender respect to your mother, who hath been very tender over you in bringing you up, and who nourished you with her own breast.”¹ . . . Next

¹ Few mothers in those days could urge this claim upon the gratitude and affection

of their children. The common practice was, when parents could afford it, to send

I advise you to have a care, and be not too familiar with your vile neighbours, as I have been, and you now see how they hate me ; indeed they are but a beggarly and bastard generation, and whom I have been at great charges with. Next, suffer no man to inclose any land nor build house son the waste, for there is Denshies, and Bowmans, and Finches, which are cottages which will be a perpetual charge to you and yours, and so will Piggotts. Next, I charge you never to suffer that lane to be inclosed by Woolbarrow or Sears, or any one else, for you see I have made them take away the gates, but they leave the posts standing, thinking to set them up again when I am dead. But you may safely cut down the gates, for it was never inclosed but by old Sears, who took delight to damm up highways to his own ruin ; and so it was observed by his neighbours, for he never thrived after he took in Langly Lane, and turned the Crawley footway, and to my knowledge he never thrived since he took in this lane. Next, I advise you to have a great care of ill and debauched company, especially wicked and depraved priests, such as are at this present time about me, as Lee and Troughton, of Worth ; never give any of them any entertainment, nor none of their companions, for they are most vile and wicked men to my knowledge. Next, my advice is, that whatever estates either of you ever attain to, yet follow some employment, which will keep you from abundance of expenses and charges, and take you off from evil thoughts and wicked actions ; and observe the mechanic priests, which have nothing to do but to come to church one hour or two on a Sunday, and all the week besides they will eat and drink at such men's houses as you are, but avoid them ; but love and cherish every honest, godly priest, wherever you find them ; and, above all, hold fast the ancient Protestant religion, for a better religion cannot be found out than that is, only I could wish the abuses were taken away, and wicked men found out, and punished, or turned out. Next, my advice is, that above all things you avoid swearing, lying, drunkenness, whoring, and gaming, which are the ruin of all men's estates, that are ruined in this nation, and pride

out their children, as soon as they were born, to nurse, and there they frequently remained for several years before they were

called back to their homes. The custom remained in Scotland and Ireland till the end of the last century.

in apparell,¹ which is a great consumer of men's estates in this kingdom."

Among the iron-works of Kent and Sussex, those of Cowden bore a very high character, and were a source of wealth to the Gales. "If you can get," he says, "one of the Cowden furnaces, it will be very well, for I do assure you that if I were but forty years old, I would, by God's help, get a good estate by this employment, for I have within these twenty years cleared near £300 per annum out of that very forge, and I never would have left my forge but that my men would work no other sows but Cowden, and they made me pay 20s. for every ton of sows more than I could have them at some other furnaces, which was a great hindrance to my gains; I therefore let them my forge: besides, I feared if I should have died, and you but children, the forge would have fallen down."

Leonard Gale, the father, died in 1690, and Leonard, his eldest son, then seventeen years of age, succeeded to much the larger share of his property. To all his father's prudence and shrewdness and good sense, were added the advantages of a liberal education. His father sent him to a private tutor, Mr. Boraston, of Hever, and he, after his father's death, entered himself a gentleman commoner of University College, Oxford, where he resided four years. In 1697, he was called to the bar, but, as he says of himself, "being very distrustful of my own abilities, and too great a lover of idleness and ease, I neglected the study of the law, and devoted myself to the management of my property in the country."

¹ "The old chronicler Harrison, having described the modest attire of his countrymen in his early days, 'when an Englishman was known abroad by his own cloth, and contented himself at home with his fine carsie hosen, and a mean elop, his coat, gown, and cloak of brown, blue, or puke, with some pretty furniture of velvet or fur, or a doublet of old tawney or black velvet, or other comely silk,' exclaims, 'Oh, it is a world, to see the costliness and curiosity, the excess and vanity, the pomp and the bravery, the fickleness and the folly, that is in all degrees, so that there is nothing so constant in England as inconstancy in attire!' 'The women,' he proceeds to say, 'do far exceed the lightness of our men. What shall

I say of the doublets full of jaggs and cuts, and sleeves of sundry colours, their galligescens to make their attire to sit plump round about them, as they call it.

. . . . I have met with some women in London so disguised, that it hath passed my skill to discover whether they were men or women.'

"This was the style of dress towards the end of Elizabeth's reign. In that of James I., it was still more extravagant; 'They wore a farm in shoe-strings, edged with gold, And spangled garters worth a copyhold;' and this continued with very little abatement of excess during the reigns of Charles I. and II., the Puritans adopting a very plain and severe costume."

In 1698 he purchased the house and estate of Crabbett, in the parish of Worth,¹ for which, including timber, he gave £9000. "Two reasons," he says, "chiefly induced me to buy Crabbett; one was, that my estate might lie together, and the other, that I might have a good estate which I had not before, for I was always afraid of building. Building is a sweet impoverishing; and Cato wisely says—

"Optimum est alienâ frui insaniâ."

"Aug. 19th, 1703, being near thirty years old," he says, "I married with Mrs. Sarah Knight, my mother's sister's only daughter, after I had made my court to her two or three years; by her I had a plentiful fortune,² we were married in the parish church of Charlwood, by Mr. Hesketh, the rector. She was truly my own choice, and I am extremely well satisfied with it; and do verily believe that for truth and sin-

¹ Crabbett belonged to the Playz family, and then to the Mores, of Odiham, Hants. On 10th June, 1504 (19 Henry VII.), among the free tenants of the manor of Kymer, was Sir Edward Moore, Knt., who held by knight's service a tenement and certain lands in Worth, formerly of Richard Playz, called *Crabbetts*; Coke's, at Lee; and John Hodges, late Tapsells. His descendant, of the same name, held it in 1602, and in 1612 settled it upon his eldest living son, Adryan, on his marriage with Anne, eldest daughter of Sir Nicholas Parker, of Ratton (baptised at Willingdon, 4th August, 1594). Adryan More died before 1634, *s. p.*, and his widow had remarried Sir John Smith, of the family of the Smiths, of Shirford, county of Warwick (Dugd. *Warwickshire*, i. p. 50), who had been knighted on 5th Nov. 1614, by Lord Chichester, Baron of Belfast, then Lord Deputy in Ireland. She died without issue, and Edward More, of Hurtmore, Surrey, the heir-at-law of Adryan, sold the estate to trustees, for Sir John Smith, during his life, and in Dec. 1651, mortgaged it, subject to that life interest, which Sir John's trustees had assigned in settlement, upon the marriage, in 1644, of William Smith with Margaret, daughter of Sir Alexander Denton, of Hillesdon, Bucks. Sir John, however, purchased the fee, and married, a second time, to Catherine, daughter of Edward Southcote, of Merstham, Surrey, by whom he had three sons and two daugh-

ters, viz., (1) John, (2) Henry (who died in his seventh year), (3) Richard, and (1) Mary, (2) Catherine. Sir John died 12th Nov. 1662, *æt.* 71, leaving his widow, Catherine, who remarried Sir William Courtenay, Bart., of Powderham, Devon, and died 25th June, 1672 (M. I. Worth). John, the eldest son, married, first, Dorothy, daughter of the Hon. Nicholas Weston, who died in childbirth, in her 26th year, on 9th January, 1678-9, her infant, John, dying within six days, and being only 15 days old. Their daughter Margaret, died in her 7th year, on 12th October, 1683 (M. J. Worth). An only daughter, Dorothy, survived, but I have not been able to trace her. The father married, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Charles Waldegrave, of Chiswick, and Crabbett formed part of her jointure. It was sold, in 1698, to the Gales. (*Burreil MSS.*, 5683, p. 165; *Deeds ex inf.* Frank Fearon, Esq.)

² This lady's fortune was between £7000 and £8000. Leonard Gale was born 12th Nov. 1673; his wife, Sarah Knight, was born 15th Sept. 1680. They had three sons and seven daughters; of whom Leonard was born 6th May and died 4th Aug. 1715; Richard, born 29th March, 1723, and died 7th April, 1724; and Catherine, born 22nd Feb. 1720, and died 14th Jan. 1721-2 (M. I. Worth, and *Burr. MSS.* 5683, p. 165).

cerity, kindness and fidelity, humility and good nature, she has few equals, I am sure none can exceed her; and I pray God to continue us long together in health and prosperity, and to crown us with all those blessings which he has promised to those that serve Him, and walk in His ways."

In 1710 the son of the blacksmith was elected one of the members for East Grinstead without expense or opposition; and this is his recorded opinion of public men, and of the manner in which elections were generally conducted in his time. "We have seen of late innumerable instances of the power of bribes and threats in the election of Members of Parliament. Men have deserted their old friends and neighbours, to whom they have been obliged every day of their lives, and gone over to strangers they never saw or heard of, who came with money in their hands, and empty promises in their mouths, to the eternal scandal of the whole nation, from the highest to the lowest, whereby our lands and liberties are and must be precarious, and our so-much boasted privilege of having free parliaments utterly lost; for this is an observation founded on the greatest truth, that he that will buy his seat in parliament will sell his vote; and to what misery and poverty such men will soon bring this nation, God only knows!"¹

We will not inflict upon our readers his long lecture to his children, and the wise advice he gives them how to regulate their conduct through life, which he founds generally upon the precepts and practice of his father, whom he justly admired and loved, and whose character he thus describes:—"He was certainly a man of admirable parts and understanding in the sphere of his own concerns, and, considering the meanness of his birth and education, was indeed the wonder of the age and country in which he lived. He was most indefatigably industrious, most strictly honest, and an exact performer of his word. He was always willing and zealous to serve his neighbours in general, by defending their right, by preventing encroachments; or any one in particular by advising him in any difficulties, composing differences and assisting him in his wants (though I have heard him say that by lending money he had made two enemies for one

¹ He sat only for one parliament, 1710-1713.

friend), and though in his life-time he had some quarrels and some invidious neighbours who endeavoured to vex and contradict him, I am sure his death was heartily lamented by most of them, and even by those who had the greatest prejudice against him. * * * In all his straits he had (he says) recourse to God in prayer, he always took the Scripture for his rule, and lived and died a true member of the best church in the world."

Nor will we treat our readers with all his warnings against "those inferior beggarly fellows" who had annoyed his father, or "the vermin who had preyed upon Mr. John Smith," of whom he had purchased Crabbett, and who had been forced to abscond and fly to France, where he ended his days at Dunkirk, but limit ourselves to the following rather happy specimen of his style and thoughts:—"Have a care," he says to his children, "and be sure as you grow rich in estate, so you grow richer too in wisdom and virtue. And this is an excellent rule for getting both wisdom and wealth; always take care that your income exceeds your expenses: as to getting wisdom, take care that you read and hear every day more than you speak or tell to others, so your conversation will always be courted and admired, as having continually something new, pleasant, and informing, which otherwise will grow dull and unregarded; for the greatest stock of wit and memory will soon become exhausted and a bankrupt unless frequently supplied and improved by reading and study, as well as conversation: and as to getting wealth, unless you take this for your rule, you must necessarily either waste your estate or run in debt, two things very carefully to be avoided; for you will certainly find that as your estate wastes (however creditably spent,) so your friends and reputation will waste too—

"—— Diffugiunt Cadis
Cum facie siccatis amici,
Ferre jugum pariter dolosi."

We will conclude our paper with extracts from that portion of the Memoir in which he gives an account of his children, and a very characteristic and precise statement of the manner in which the parent's hopes of progeny were frequently frustrated. "I am now," he says, "fifty-two years of age, and have been married above twenty-two years, in

which time by God's blessing I have greatly improved my estate, and I am now worth at Michaelmas, 1724, at a reasonable computation, £40,667; though I have been guilty of a great many oversights in missing good bargains and taking bad (particularly the Mayfield Estate) and not for want of care, but of understanding: but I will not look back upon what is past, but with a thankful heart daily praise almighty God for what I have, by whose divine providence not only my estate is improved, but above all, and to crown His other mercies, He hath given us in that time several children of our own to enjoy it, and prospects of many more; and though He hath been pleased to take several to himself, and also often to disappoint our growing hopes, yet for ever praised be His great goodness, we have still alive four hopeful children, Philippa, Henry, Sarah, and Elizabeth; and I daily pray and entirely trust the divine Majesty that he will spare and protect them to His own glory, and the great joy, comfort, and honour of their parents."

"1703, Nov. 18th. My wife went to London in the Ryegate stage-coach, and on the 21st, being Sunday, she went to bed very ill at my coz. Jackson's house at St. Dunstan's Hill, and miscarried the next morning. At that time happened the great storm of wind; the streets I saw in the morning were almost covered with tyles and bricks, multitudes of chimneys and many houses were blown down, and several persons killed and wounded, and the greatest damage done by sea and land that ever was known;¹ and the June before was

¹ Bishop Kidder and his wife were killed when in bed by the falling in of a stack of chimnies at Wells. The Eddy-stone Lighthouse disappeared in the storm. De Foe published an account of this memorable storm. The following notices are given by De Foe of the effects of the storm in Sussex. At Midhurst there was "the untiling of houses, and three chimneys blown down," and "four or five stacks of chimnies" were "blown down at my Lord Montacute's house (Cowdray), one of which fell on part of the great hall, which did considerable damage; and the church steeple of Osborn, half a mile from us, was blown down at the same time; and my Lord had above 500 trees torn up by the roots;

and near us several barns blown down, one of Sir John Mills a very large barn." At Shoreham "the market house, an ancient and very strong building, was blown flat to the ground, and all the town shattered. Brightelmstone being an old-built and poor though populous town, was most miserably torn to pieces, and made the very picture of desolation, that it look't as if an enemy had sack'd it." Another letter from the same town, states that the storm began "about one of the clock in the morning, the violence of the wind stript a great many houses, turn'd up the lead off the church, overthrew two wind-mills, and laid them flat on the ground, the town in general (at the approach of daylight) looking as if it had been bom-

the greatest flood that ever was seen in our parts; it broke down several pond-bays, and mine among the rest at Cowden, which cost me near £100 to repair."

Many more disappointments of the same nature are recorded, but comfort and rejoicing came when at last, in 1710, a living daughter Philippa was born, who was immediately transferred to the nursing care of Goody Bilcuffe, with whom she remained for three years. In 1712 their hopes were again frustrated, owing to an illness which attacked his wife, and which, from the account he gives of it, must have been identical with that influenza which proved so fatal in the country some twenty years or more ago. "My wife," he says, "was taken with the new distemper (as it was called), a hoarseness at first, then a fever, and after that a violent cough. This was so universal, that scarce any one person, young or old, in any family, city, or country, escaped it."

On the 9th of April, 1723, a son was born, and he was sent to nurse to James Brooker's wife. "When a child," he says, "he was a perfect, healthy, quiet, knowing child to the last moment of his life: and on the 7th of April, 1724, being

barded. Several vessels belonging to this town were lost, others stranded and driven ashore, others forced over to Holland and Hamborough, to the great impoverishment of the place. Derick Pain, Junr., master of the 'Elizabeth' ketch, of this town, lost with all his company; George Taylor, master of the ketch call'd 'The Happy Entrance,' lost, and his company, excepting Walter Street, who, surviving three days on a mast between the Downs and North Yarmouth, was at last taken up; Richard Webb, master of the ketch call'd 'The Richard and Rosa,' of Bright-helmston, lost, and all his company, near St. Helles; Edward Friend, master of the ketch call'd 'Thomas and Francis,' stranded near Portsmouth; Edward Glover, master of the pink called 'Richard and Benjamin,' stranded near Chichester, lost one of his men, and he and the rest of his company forced to hang in the shrouds several hours; Geo. Beach, Jun. master of the pink call'd 'Mary,' driven over to Hamborough from the Downes, having lost his anchor, cable, and sails; Robert Kichener, master of the 'Cholmley,' pink of Brighton, lost near the Roseant with nine men, five men and a

boy saved by another vessel. This is all out of this town, besides the loss of several other able seamen belonging to this place, aboard of His Majesty's ships, transports, and tenders." Stephen Gawen wrote from Hastings:—"This town consists of at least 600 houses, besides two great churches, some publick buildings, and many shops, standing on the beach near the sea, and yet by the special blessing and providence of God, the whole town suffered not above £40 or £50 damage in their houses, churches, publick buildings, and shops, and neither man, woman, or child, suffered the least hurt by the said terrible storm. * * * The wind was exceedingly boisterous, which might drive the froth and sea moisture six or seven miles up the country, for at that distance from the sea the leaves of the trees and bushes were as salt as if they had been dipped in the sea." The same circumstance is reported also from Newport in the Isle of Wight, where there was found on the hedges and twigs of trees, knobs of salt congealed, * * * and the salt "was seen and tasted at the distance of six or ten miles from those seas."

Easter Tuesday, his nurse brought him to see us about one o'clock, and at four he gave a sudden cry in his nurse's arms, and expired immediately in our little parlour at Crabbett, to the unspeakable grief and sudden astonishment of us all: he was buried next day by the other children, in Worth Chancell, by Mr. Hampton. *Acerbum funus quod parens sequitur.*" * * *

Alluding to this loss in another passage, he says: "He was a very healthy, promising child; but yet I must own it was a particular providence both to ourselves and the good woman his nurse, that it happened to be in the day-time, and before our own faces, and being in a state of innocence, rather by a sudden than by a lingering death. * * * The only solid comfort and support in such troubles is a religious trust and dependence on almighty God, who, as He is the Father of us all, so His divine goodness will make all things work for the good of us His children, though by ways unaccountable and above our knowledge, and often contrary to our wishes,—*Calamitas virtuti occasio est, quos Deus probet, quos amat inducat exercet;*¹ what is unavoidable we should never fear, and what is uncertain we should always expect."

"Having now past the noon of my age, and descending fast to my long home, having likewise myself endeavoured, as far as I was able, to follow the precepts here given, I beseech almighty God to pardon all the errors and failings of my past life, and may I be enabled by His divine assistance so to lead the remainder of my life, as that I may go down to the grave in honour and peace, and have my position hereafter among the elect of Christ my Saviour: and when I reflect on the shortness and uncertainty of life, and that pleasure and pain, afflictions and comforts, tread fast on the heels of each other, 'tis a convincing argument that God has prepared a better place for us, and that we cannot set too little value on the pleasures and enjoyments of this world: as the greatest joy I ever had was at the birth of my children, so my greatest sorrow was at the loss of them, especially that of my son Richard, which was the sharpest affliction to me in my whole life."

Another proof of his consciousness of decay is characteristic of the man of business. "I am now in the fifty-eighth year of

¹ Seneca.

my age, and my memory is sensibly growing worse, for I have made some mistake in my accounts within the last three years of above £150, which I cannot possibly find out after my utmost endeavours."

The memoir concludes with the account of his daughter's marriage. No carriage with four horses and smart post-boys in those days was waiting at the door to carry the happy pair away to Tunbridge Wells or the Isle of Wight; the bride and bridegroom returned quietly to her father's house, where they remained a week, and a fortnight after that her mother accompanied her to her new home at Boston House. "My daughter Philippa," he says, "being a woman of excellent accomplishments, and who will, I doubt not, prove an ornament to her sex, to her parents, and the family she is grafted in (if it please God to prolong her life) being not inferior to any in good sense and understanding, as well as all the virtues and graces which adorn womankind, was married 21st Jan. 1730, to James Clitherow, Esq., she being in the twenty-first year of her age, and he about thirty-seven. I gave her £8000 to her portion, and she has £1200 per ann. settled on her and her heirs, of which £600 per ann. is for her jointure: all our relations, except Dr. Woodward and his wife,¹ were at the wedding, which was on Thursday, and they staid a week with us at Crabbett, and that day fortnight she went home to Brentford,² accompanied by her mother, who staid three weeks with her, and Mrs. Ann Clitherow, his sister; and Tim Nightingale, who had lived with us near twelve years, went with her for her maid. There was abundance of people at Worth church on the wedding, and a great many stowers; and the Sunday following there was a prodigious congregation at church, when Mr. Hampton preached an excellent sermon on this text, 'Marriage is honourable in all men, and the bed undefiled,' being the same sermon he preached the next Sunday after I married near twenty-five years before."

His only son Henry, who grew up to man's estate, died a few months before his father, and is buried in the church at Worth, with the following inscription over his remains:—

¹ His aunt Elizabeth married the Rev. Dr. Woodward, rector of East Grinstead. Another aunt, Catherine, married Mr.

William Pellatt.

² The Clitheros still live at Boston House, close to Brentford.

Jacet Henricus,
 Leon, et Saræ, Filius Unicus Superstes,
 Natus Nov. 4, 1717,
 Patre Vivente,
 Inverso Naturæ Ordine,
 Immatura Morte Correptus,
 Feb. 25, 1749-50.¹

The Gales became extinct in the male line on the death of Leonard, and his brother Henry; that brother had a son also named Leonard, but he died in his youth of the small-pox; and this is the account which his uncle gives of him. "My brother designed him for some trade, a druggist he thought of, having himself served an apprenticeship to that trade, with Sir Ralph Box, at the Red Cross in Cheapside. He was a very beautiful, promising, and well-shapen youth, and of a large size for a man, though but fifteen years old; he seemed to want a little more activity of body and quickness of parts, but was of an excellent good nature and disposition; he had a fine voice and an ear for musick; and had it pleased God to spare his life, he would doubtless have been a great comfort and credit to his now most afflicted parents. He was very unwilling to go to London (and his mother likewise at that time of the year), having often said he should dye there of the small-pox; but my brother was fixed, and being of a fit age, he could not bear to see the best part of his time wasted in an inactive country life; and if his natural inclinations were a little forced, it is wholly to be attributed to the great care and sollicitude of a most indulgent father for the good and prosperity of his only son. However, it pleased the divine Providence to frustrate those good intentions by an unexpected and an untimely death."

Leonard Gale died in 1750, having survived his wife nearly four years, and his only son Henry, who died at the age of thirty-three, only a few months; and the following inscription is placed over the remains in the church at Worth:—

¹ His daughter Sarah married Mr. Samuel Blunt, and in the partition of the property (15 Geo. III.) the estate at Crabbett fell to his lot, and is now in the possession of his descendant Francis Scawen Blunt, Esq. The other daughter, Elizabeth, married Mr. Henry Humpherey, of

Lewes, who was for many years chairman of the Quarter Sessions for East Sussex. On his death the bulk of his own (but not his wife's) property went to his nephew, Henry Jackson, Esq., father of the late Henry Humpherey Jackson, Esq., of Holly Hill, Hartfield.

M. S.

Leonard et Saræ Gale
de Crabbett,

Nati, hæc Nov. 12, 1673, illa Sept. 15, 1680,

Connubio Juncti, Aug. 19, 1703,

Mortui hæc Nov. 13, 1746, ille Junⁱ. 24, 1750,

Naturâ duce et Ratione vixerunt

Unde venerunt, quo abituri memores.

In Christi meritis confidentes

Disce.

Jacet et hic Henricus filius vivente Patre.

Inverso Naturæ ordine immaturâ morte correptus,

Feb. 25, Anno R. H. S. 17th, Ætatis 33.

His estates, of the value of about £1100 a year, were equally divided among his three daughters. The Clitherows succeeded to the property at Crawley, and Steyning and its neighbourhood. The Blunts, as we have before stated, became the owners of Crabbett. The estate at East Grinstead and Cowden, in Kent, fell to the lot of Mrs. Humphrey, whose property, as she died without children, reverted to her sisters' families.
