

No. XV.—*An Account of the Life and Writings of Richard Dawes, A. M. late Master of the Royal Grammar School, and of the Hospital of St. Mary, in the Westgate, in Newcastle upon Tyne. By the Rev. JOHN HODGSON, Sec.*



I. NICHOLSON DEL. ET SCULP.

DAWES' HOUSE, HEWORTH-SHORE.

THOUGH the subject of this Memoir died only about 61 years since, and, after the death of Bentley, stood pre-eminently at the head of Greek literature, in these kingdoms; yet so little is known, or to be gleaned from the publications of his time, respecting him, that, to compile an account of his life becomes a matter of difficult antiquarian research. He was one, who, in the imaginary maze of lines which the force of ambition and self-interest press in concentric circles towards the throne, like planets of the largest

size and dimmest light, moved in the widest of these circles, and was, therefore, little noticed. In the earlier years of his life he appeared, indeed, for a short time on the stage of human life, among the champions of literature, wielding his weapons with the mightiest, and receiving the praises of the wisest: but a cloud of apprehensions came over his mind, that he was assailed on every side with the arrows of ingratitude and persecution, and he threw aside his armour and walked gloomily away from the contentions for honour and the post of usefulness, to hold conversations in the obscurity of rural life, with unlearned men and his own imagination. The deer, which finds itself smitten, fearful of being gored deeper by its own species, rushes to the woods, and dies unseen; and the Indian of the New World, when he feels the pestilence of the hot savannahs working in his frame, retires from the companions of his journey into a thicket, and, covering his body with his mantle, resigns himself to death. There are no sufferings, which neglected and melancholy pride cannot treat with indifference.

Richard Dawes, a critic and grammarian, of great celebrity, was born in 1708. The place of his birth has not been exactly ascertained; but the hamlet of Stapleton, in the parish of Market-Bosworth, in Leicestershire, is said to be entitled to that honour; for a Dr. Dawes, who had the character of being a great scholar, and was, according to the fashion of his time, a searcher after the Philosopher's Stone, resided there in the beginning of the last century, and is supposed to have been his father, though the register of Barwell, which is the name of the parish in which Stapleton is situated, contains no evidence of the fact. All the tradition, that the author of the *History of Leicestershire* could hear on the subject, was, that he was born in Market-Bosworth, or somewhere in that neighbourhood.

Though I can see no reason to dispute his being a Leicestershire man, yet, my apprehension is, that he was descended from a Westmorland family, who were long seated in the parishes of Barton and Bampton, in that county. Dr. Lancelot Dawes, one of the founders of Barton School, was a Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, became a Prebendary of Carlisle and Rector of Asby, and Vicar of Barton. He purchased of

the Hodgsons of Barton a moiety of the rectorial tythes of that parish,* which descended to his nephew, Thomas, who had two sons, Lancelot and John. This Dr. Dawes died in 1653. A family of the same name also had property in Martindale, in the same parish, and, if my conjecture be right was that from which Richard Dawes originated. The grounds for this conjecture are stated in the following genealogical sketch.

I. Philip Jackson, a relation of Thomas Jackson (a), a celebrated schoolmaster at Bampton, in Westmorland, who died in 1719: and also of Richard Jackson, who was successively master of the Grammar Schools of Bampton, Kendal, and Appleby, in the time of Charles the Second, and "one of the most eminent teachers of his time." This Philip died Dec. 2, 1824. = Jane, who died Oct. 20, 1739, aged 70.

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| II. 1. Philip Jackson died Sep. 11, 1770, aged 72. | = Isabella, widow of Rich. Allison, who was a conveyancer at Rose-gill, in Westmorland. Her maiden name was probably Hobson. She | 2. Martha Jackson married Wm. Judson, and died June 14, 1781, aged 76. | 3. Olave Jackson died unmarried, March 10, 1793, aged 93. | 4. Mary Jackson married John Dawes, who had an estate in Martindale, in the parish of Barton, which he sold to Richard Mounsey, of Butterwick, near Bampton. |
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resided at one time at the first house above Measend-becks, on the margin of the lake Haws-water, in Mardale, and there, about 50 years since had a sale, at which the Rev. John Bowstead, B.D. the present master of Bampton School bought two or three sacks full of Greek and Latin books, which, if my memory serves me rightly, he used to say had belonged to a great scholar of the name of Dawes, who had resided near Newcastle upon Tyne, and was someway related to Mrs. Jackson. I well recollect some of the books being much benoted with critical remarks, on their margins. Mrs. Jackson died only a very few years since at Hornby in Lancashire.

III. 1. died an infant. 2. Philip Jackson died in Jamaica. 3. John Jackson Esq. author of a "Journey from India towards England in the year 1797, by a Route commonly called *Overland*, &c. London, 1799." He sold an estate in Bampton Grange, which he inherited from his father, to Mr. Dawes, a banker in London.

1. John Dawes, a merchant in London, died without issue. 2. Thomas, also a merchant in London, died without issue. 3. Dawes, a banker, in London, of the house "Dawes, Devaynes, and Noble." He left issue who inherit property from him in Bampton Grange.

(a) "Utrumque docuit Gibsonum, alterum Cl. Lincolniae præsulem, alterum Coll. Reg. Oxon. præpositum, et aliquos plurimos, qui patriæ simul et scholæ sunt ornamenta."—(M. I. Hist. Westm. p. 463.)

* He also built the Vicarage House of Barton, and his great nephew, Lancelot Dawes, married Frances, daughter of Thomas Fletcher, of Strickland, Esq. and wrote a remarkable epitaph to her memory, which is printed in Burn and Nicholson's History of Westmorland. For some notices respecting the Hodgsons of Barton Kirk (of whom Dr. Dawes purchased a part of the great tithes of

This connection by marriage between Mrs. Jackson and the family of Dawes, was, I apprehend, the reason why the effects of Richard Dawes fell into her hands; and the hints here thrown together, may possibly serve as a useful clue to any future investigator, who may wish to make further researches into the pedigree of the family from which Dawes was descended.

Mr. Dawes's birth-place and parentage are not, however, the only obscure places in the history of his early life: it is equally uncertain where, or under whom, he received the first rudiments of his education: for though it is known that he had the advantage of the lectures of Anthony Blackwall, in the school of Market-Bosworth; yet because that excellent teacher and grammarian did not remove to that place, from Derby, till 1722, Dawes could not be less than fourteen years old, when he first became his pupil, and must, of course, at that period of life, have made considerable progress in classical learning. Under that able instructor it is, however, probable that he first began to be initiated into those mysteries of grammar, which can never be made intelligible to ordinary minds; but which gradually unfolded to his understanding the niceties and beauties of the antient Hellenick tongues.

That his parents were not wealthy may be inferred from his entering Cambridge as a scholar of the lowest rank; for, in 1725, when he was then only about 17 years old, he was admitted a sizar of Emanuel College, in that University.

Two years after his matriculation he published a "Therno-thriambic Idyl," intituled "The Lamentation of the University of Cambridge for the Death of George the First, the beneficent King of Great Britain;

that parish) see also the same work, p. 401, line 44, and pp. 404 and 406. They generally wrote their name *Hudson*; though George Hudson, mentioned by Burn at p. 404, is called George Hodgson in Bishop Barnes' Survey, and the name of his ancestor (who married Elizabeth Lancaster, a descendant of Ivo de Taylboys, a great captain of the conquerer) is written "John Hodgson" (*Idem.* p. 401 and 31—34). A great author, however, speaking of the origin of English surnames, says "one is called Hodgeson if his father were Roger;" and "Hodson comes from *Hod* or *Oddo*" (*Remains, &c.* p. 92—115). Cadets of this family of Hodgson are still seated in Martindale, and a branch of them resided in the beginning of the last century in Glenridden, in Paterdale, and afterwards in the parishes of Shap and Bampton, in Westmorland, the ascending line of which last branch is, at present, as follows:—Richard-Wellington son of John, son of Isaac, son of John, son of Isaac of Glenridden.

and her rejoycings on the peaceful and auspicious succession of the most potent prince George the Second, the heir of his father's virtues and throne. Cambridge, 1727." This performance is a good-tempered dialogue between one Palæmon, and two young men, who, from their names, Damoetas and Thyrsis, might, like the Corydon and Thyrsis of Virgil, be supposed to be

Ambo florentes ætatibus, Arcades ambo;

for he introduces them, as

"Ἄμφω ἀμείβεσθαι δαδαημένω, ἄμφω αἰεῖδεν—

a line which, in justice to the verse of Theocritus,

"Ἄμφω σπρίσδεν δαδαημένω, ἄμφω αἰεῖδεν,

ought to have appeared between quotations. This Pastoral is in 89 lines, and has been reprinted by Mr. Kidd, who remarks, "that if one of Dawes's pupils, in after years, had made the first syllable of λύπης short, as he has done in this juvenile composition, the offender would certainly have had to tremble under the ferula of this flogging Orbilius, who, for one sin of false quantity, would have made his skin as black and blue as his nurse's cloak."

In 1729, he took the degree of Bachelor of Arts; and on the 2d of October, 1731, was chosen a Fellow of his own College on the nomination of Sir Wolstan Dixie, Bart. who was a Market-Bosworth man, and probably patronized him before he went to the University. In 1733 he obtained the degree of Master of Arts; and, in the following year, was an unsuccessful candidate for the office of Esquire Beadle, in Cambridge. That his talents had now brought him into celebrity, may be inferred from the struggle he made for that situation; but what were the causes of his disappointment, and the effects of it upon his own mind, are nowhere related. The indolent and sedentary way in which he is said to have lived, while he was at Cambridge, probably originated in a melancholy turn of mind, which loved to indulge itself in solitary contemplations of its own powers, and to look down upon the trifling labours and intriguing schemes of the society that was about him, with a sort of misanthropic scorn; and to vent its embittered feelings in such harsh and sarcastic expressions as created him more enemies among the busy

and self-interested many, than the splendour of his talents could procure him friends among the generous and learned few. His temper, too, was exceedingly irascible; and Dr. Kippis says, that, while he was at Cambridge, "*he distinguished himself* by some peculiarities of conduct;" and occasionally "took such liberties, on certain topics, as gave great offence to those about him."

One of his peculiarities is related. When care for his health compelled him to rouse himself out of the state of bodily inactivity into which his leisure and studies had brought him, he chose bell-ringing as an exercise, and "being of a strong athletic frame of body," and impelled in every thing in which he engaged by "such a genius" as "could not stop at mediocrity, he quickly became the leader of the band, and carried the art to the highest perfection." The stage of this new performance was in the tower of the church of St. Mary-the-Great, in Cambridge, to the ringers of the peal of bells in which Margaret of Richmond* had bequeathed a certain allowance of ale, in which Dawes made no scruple of indulging, after a long lesson in campanology: and, on such occasions, he seasoned "the nut brown draughts" with a spicery of wit and humour, in which he was rich and overflowing, when his spirits were high enough to bring him into the kind of company in which he delighted. The pungency and perfume of his mirth and raillery were not, however, of a kind to be relished over potations of a politer kind than ale; and his want of success in being promoted to the office he had lately aspired to, may be fairly enough attributed to his associating with companions unsuitable to a gowmsman, and amusing them with humour and opinions, which became the subject of conversations, and were at variance with the prevailing opinions of the University. This anecdote in bell-ringing is given by Mr. Kidd, on the authority of the late Dr. Paley's father, who had many humorous tales respecting Dawes, and had been a crony of his at Cambridge, where they studied Terence and Bentley's *Σχιδίασμα* together.

* Margaret daughter and heir of John, Duke of Somerset, grandson of John of Gaunt? She married—Firstly, Edm. Earl of Richmond, by whom she became mother of Hen. VII.; secondly, Henry, son of Humph. Duke of Buckingham; and thirdly, Tho. Stanley, Earl of Derby. She was also the founder of Christ's College, Cambridge. (Dug. Bar. II. 237, and Burn's Eccl. Law *under Monasteries*.)

On the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales in 1736, his talent for Greek versification was a second time called into action in an epithalamium under the following title, "The congratulation of the University of Cambridge, on the very auspicious marriage of Frederick Prince of Wales and Augusta Princess of Saxe-Gotha. Cambridge, printed at the University Press. 1736." It consists of 50 hexameter lines; and is reprinted in Mr. Kidd's Appendix.

In the same year "Proposals" were issued "for printing, by subscription, the First Book of Paradise Lost, rendered into Greek Verse, with Notes by Richard Dawes, M. A., Fellow of Emanuel College, Cambridge." The original title is in Latin, and accompanied with a specimen of the translation of the apostrophe, which commences with

—————"Farewell happy fields
"Where joy for ever dwells," —————

and ends with the line

"Better to reign in hell than serve in heaven."

He proposed to put the book to press "as soon as a competent number had subscribed;" and to "proceed to the second book, and so on, if he met with sufficient encouragement." This tract has also been re-printed, and its "Specimen" commented upon by Mr. Kidd. The translator, indeed, soon found occasion to quarrel with it himself. The search he was daily making into the minutiae and niceties of the Greek language, the discoveries which his own sagacity first elicited, and the ordinary effect of application gradually gave him such enlarged and luminous views into the subject of his favourite study, as to make him dissatisfied with a work from the publication of which he had, a year or two ago, expected to be gratified with the approbation of scholars. But where is the composition in which an acute and fastidious mind cannot discover some fault? When he began to review his translation of Milton, or, as he calls it, "to prune his vines," he found it full of grammatical inaccuracies (*solæcismis scatere*); and ingenuously took occasion to quarrel, even with the first word in the specimen which he gave in his proposal, and pointed out seven other errors or improprieties in language, which he

was not aware that any one else had detected.* Dr. Kippis remarks that “it was customary with him, in conversation, humourously to expose his version to ridicule, and, therefore, though he had actually completed his design, by translating the whole First Book of the *Paradise Lost*, it is no wonder that he did not commit it to press.”

We come now to an important æra of his life. At the age of thirty, on the 10th of July, 1738, he was appointed Head-Master of the Royal Grammar School in Newcastle upon Tyne, and, on the 9th of October following, was admitted to the concurrent office of Master of the Hospital of St. Mary the Virgin, in the Westgate, in that town. Prior to his election these offices had been frequently filled by men of the first talent. Rudd, a famous grammarian and antiquary, and Dr. Jurin (before he sat in the chair of the College of Physicians, and became Secretary to the Royal Society in London), successively held them; and, in selecting Dawes to preside over a seminary that ranked in the highest scale of reputation among similar institutions in the north of England, we cannot suppose that the Common Council of Newcastle were guided in their choice by motives of favouritism; but brought into their town a person who had begun to shine in the bright constellation of learned men that illuminated the reign of George the Second. He had now been thirteen years, five as a student, nine as a graduate, and seven as a fellow, enjoying the academic advantages of one of the first universities of the world; every day in company with the learned members of the society to which he belonged; and storing his mind with the species of literature which his genius inclined him to, and which peculiarly fitted him to excel as a master in a great public school.

For some time after he settled in Newcastle no mention of him occurs. Nothing is said of him, either as a teacher or as an author. He only, however, retires for a short time out of notice to re-appear in the eyes of every genuine scholar in a new and splendid character, touching with talismanic hand, the obscurities and inaccuracies which perplexed the poetry of antient Greece and Rome, and converting them into their primitive forms and beauty.

* *Mis. Crit. Præf.* p. v.

Some time previous to the year 1745, he addressed "to the Rev. Dr. Taylor," a letter,* dated "Newcastle, May 31st," but without adding the year. Dr. Taylor himself was an eminent classical scholar, a commentator on the works of Lysias and Demosthenes, author of a well-known work on the "Elements of the Civil Law," and a distinguished antiquary. He had somewhere "advanced that the ancient Greeks expressed the power EI by the single vowel E. The authorities to which he had appealed, seemed to" Mr Dawes "to be inconclusive," on which account he hinted to him "such objections as the principal of those authorities seemed liable to, desiring at the same time," that if Dr. Taylor could furnish any more "he would be so kind as to communicate them." That "favour" was "readily granted" and, in the letter before us, Mr. Dawes, with great acuteness and power of argument, makes it appear that the authorities upon which Dr. Taylor "built his hypothesis, are not able to support it." Much of the reasoning advanced in this letter appeared soon after in a printed form. But, besides its being written in a clear and nervous style, and being an excellent specimen of our author's talent in controversial criticism: it contains, in its concluding paragraph, a full developement of his literary plans. "I am preparing," says he, "for the press, a volume in the critical way (which I shall desire the favour of you to revise), with the following inscription:—EMENDATIONES in Poetas Græcos, Aristophanem, Euripidem, Sophoclem, Eschylum, Callimachum, Theocritum, Pindarum, Hesiodum, Homerum. Præmittitur Dissertatio de præcipuis Poetarum dramaticorum Metris, uti et de Accentibus cum *ἑυδαρμονίαις* tum veris. Hanc excipiunt Animadversiones in Cl. Bentleyj Emendationes in duas priores Aristophanis Fabulas. In Præfatione autem disseritur de Aspiratione *vau* prout in Sermone Homericō obtinebat. Agmen extremum claudunt alteræ Animadversiones in Phileleutheri Lipsiensis sive Bentleyj Emendationes in Meandri et Philemonis Reliquias." "I have", he continues, "a pretty large apparatus out of which these emendations will be selected; upon Aristophanes, in particular, about 1500."

* Printed first at the end of Bentley's Letters, by Bulmer, London, 1807; and secondly in Kidd's second edition of the *Miscellanea Critica*.

In 1745, the prefatory part of this plan appeared in his great and only published work on Emendatory Criticism, under the title of MISCELLANEA CRITICA.* The first five pages of the address to the reader are taken up with discussing the "solecisms" committed in the specimen of his Greek translation of Paradise Lost. Then he proceeds to state that he had judged it better to employ the little leisure he enjoyed in correcting the works of the antient Greek poets, than in perfecting his promised Translation; and that, he hoped, that the ingenuous severity he had employed over his own performance, might be advanced as a proof that, when he had found occasion to differ in opinion with learned men, he had not done so from the motive of lessening their merit, but of being of service to sound learning. The subjects treated upon in the five sections of the work are as follow:—

I. "*Select emendations of Terentianus Maurus,*" who was a grammarian about the beginning of the third century; and wrote in Latin verse, on the powers of letters and the laws of metre.

II. "*Examples of the want of accuracy in the Oxford edition of Pindar.*" In this section he displays an accurate knowledge of the prosody and structure of Pindar's stanzas; and great skill and sagacity in detecting the errors committed by transcribers of manuscript copies, and editors of the printed editions of the "deep-mouthed" bard.

III. "*On the true enunciation of the Greek language. The reason and design of the Attic futures varying from the Ionic. The different use of the subjunctive and optative moods. Errors committed in the syllabic quantity of certain words, by [Bentley] the late editor of Callimachus. Emendations of Callimachus.*" Bentley, in 1741, the year before he died, had

* "*Miscellanea Critica in Sectiones quinque dispartita. Scripsit Richardus Dawes, A. M. Coll. Emman. apud Cantabrigienses non ita pridem Socius; hodie Ludo Literario et Gerontocomio apud Novocastrenses Præfectus. Cantabrigiæ Typis academicis excudit J. Bentham. Veneunt apud Gul. Thurlbourn Cantab. et Johan. Beecroft, Lond. MDCCXLV.*" The volume is in octavo, and contains 356 pages, of which 8 at the end are taken up with "Addenda et Corrigenda," besides the leaf containing the title page, vii pages of preface, and another leaf for the title of the 5 sections into which the work is divided. Mr. Hubbard, who was Senior Fellow of Emmanuel, and Dr. Mason, of Trinity College, assisted in carrying the work through the press; and Bishop Burgess, says, that Dr. Farmer, who was Master of Emmanuel, showed him a MS. of Dawes, which contained the substance of the Miscellanea, which their author had enriched with a vast store of erudition in his printed work.

published a Collection of the Fragments of Callimachus with Annotations, to which he appended the remains of Theognis. The edition upon the whole has been considered good. But Dawes despised the editor's learning; and, therefore, assailed his literary fame in this section. He had, indeed, in the first section, said, of the great champion against the genuineness of the Epistles attributed to Phalaris, that "he knew nothing of Greek, but from indexes": and, though he took care not to differ with him, in print, till he was dead, it is still to be borne in mind that it required great boldness and consciousness of his own powers and attainments to assail the literary memory of a man, who had reigned so many years over the republic of classical learning in England. This section, however, abating its severity, must always be considered as a master-piece of grammar and profound criticism: bitter and sarcastic at its beginning; as it proceeds, ironical in its interrogatories and contemptuous in its exclamations; and, at its end, overpowering and triumphant. His observations on some of the Greek moods and tenses, contain distinctions, which were unknown to grammarians before his time.

IV. *An Essay both on the prosodical and analogical Power of the Consonant, or aspiration, Vau, as it is retained in the text of Homer.* This section also is a master-piece of investigation, in which the origin and power of the *Vau*, or Æolic Digamma F, are clearly traced and illustrated; and in which some of Bentley's notions are successfully ridiculed and refuted. The Digamma was pronounced like the English W. It was a favourite subject of its author, and, in illustration of it, he brought such a force of clear and convincing evidence, as to obtain among the scholars of his day, the epithet of ÆOLIC DIGAMMA DAWES. It is, however, certain that some of his positions in this section are incorrect, especially where he affirms, against Bentley, that Homer wrote in the Ionic, and not in the Æolic dialect, a subject which the Bishop of Salisbury has treated and settled with great skill in his commentary on this chapter.

V. *The Design of the Ictus or Accents observed by the Attic Greeks. Select Emendations to each of the Plays of Aristophanes. Miscellaneous Observations on Euripides, Sophocles and Æschylus.* This section occupies nearly half the book, and contains much information, especially in

prosody, which was, in a great measure, new to the critical world when it was published. Reiske, an author who knew well enough how to blow hot and cold on the same subject, has observed of the whole book, that it is rich in excellent matter from beginning to end, but that in the fifth section, which is the best, the Greek dramatists, and Aristophanes especially, are touched with such a masterly hand, that he who wishes to feast on the honey of Attic comedy must never want this work. "The great Valkner too, and his excellent disciples, Pierson and Koen, have spoken of it in terms of distinguished commendation." Bowyer and others, in consideration of the author's intimate acquaintance with the niceties and elegances of the Greek language, conferred on him the epithet of *Ελληνικώτατος*, and Mr. Tate has also very justly observed, that Dawes's "contributions to metrical knowledge can never be estimated too highly," while of himself it may with equal justice be said, that, on this nice, curious, and scholar-like subject, he has, in his "Introduction to the principal tragic and common Metres," taken the most accurate survey that has hitherto been made of it, and reduced it into a clear and comprehensive form; and in his "*Canones Dawesiani xi*," has, with great skill, extracted the principal of Dawes's doctrines on the subject of Greek Syntax, and illustrated them with admirable force and fulness of examples.*

To these testimonies of learned men to the excellence of the *Miscellanea Critica*, numerous others, both of our own and foreign countries, might be advanced from the memoir on its author by Dr. Kippis, and from the elaborate prefaces to it by Dr. Burgess and Mr. Kidd. Brunck held it in the highest estimation, and recommended it in the warmest terms to every scholar; and the works of Musgrave, Tyrwhitt, and Porson are scattered with encomiums upon it: but the reception it met with in its author's life time, and the high reputation in which it has ever since been holden by scholars are still more strongly shown, by the number of editions it has gone through.

Dr. Burgess, the present Bishop of Salisbury, in 1781, published a new edition of it, which he dedicated to Thomas Tyrwhitt, the illustrious

* Gibson's Theatre of the Greeks. Camb. 1827, p. 386 and 450.

editor of Aristotle's *Poetics*, and annotator upon the works of Chaucer and Shakspeare. It was enriched with a new preface of 42 pages containing notices respecting Dawes's life and a luminous review of the *Miscellanea Critica*, to which he appended 188 pages of annotations and six copious and useful indexes of matters treated upon in the original text of Dawes and in the editor's own prefaces and appendix. This edition issued from the Clarendon Press: it was a juvenile undertaking, and raised its editor into high celebrity among critics and scholars. The indexes to it are a proof of the high estimation in which Dr. Burgess held that species of literary keys: and of the disregard he had for Dawes's sneer over the memory of Bentley—that he knew nothing of Greek but from indexes. This edition by Dr. Burgess was reprinted at Leipsic in 1800.

In 1817 Mr. Kidd, the learned editor of *Opuscula Ruhnkeniana*, gave the public a fourth edition of this work accompanied with considerable additions to the notes upon the text and the notices respecting the author's life by the Bishop of Salisbury; and in 1827 a fifth edition of the original work in which the prefaces are still further enlarged, the notes enriched with new reasoning and illustrations, and a curious appendix given of the author's proposals for printing his Greek translation of the first book of *Paradise Lost*, the letter to Dr. Taylor already noticed, and extracts from advertisements and pamphlets, which originated in disputes with the people of Newcastle after the publication of the *Miscellanea Critica*.

But, after witnessing the flattering reception the *Miscellanea Critica* met with, at its first appearance, and, seeing it soon ranked among the best standard books, and largely and luminously commented upon, it is only justice to observe that it is not without its peculiarities and faults. Dr. Burgess has noticed the inconvenience of its method of joining two words in one, instead of using the apostrophe where the laws of verse require that a letter or syllable should be omitted where a word ending with a vowel, is succeeded by one beginning with a vowel, as γαρ for γ'αρ, γεγενησθαι for γεγενησθ'αι, ης for η εις, besides the omission of the accents on Greek words, and other similar peculiarities, which might not meet

adepts in Greek in the form of difficulties, but could not fail to impede and perplex the way of a tyro. Mr. Tate has also observed that “a very useful article might be formed under the name ‘*ERRORES DAWESIANI* ;’” for “the detection of ingenious error in clever men affords instruction as well as amusement, if properly considered. The quick may learn modesty and the slow may derive encouragement from the same lesson.”— (*Gibson’s Theatre of the Greeks*, p. 351.) Perhaps the greatest fault of the book is its style, which by being over curiously and artificially constructed is often difficult, and sometimes obscure. It is rapid, forcible, and pure, but like a full stream rushing over a confined and inclining bed, it sometimes becomes too deep to be translucent to ordinary eyes. It is more copious than graceful. The sentences are dressed in such succinct and idiomatic brevity, that one, who wishes to admire the beauty of its reasoning, must not be a stranger to the niceties of phraseology in fashion among the Latin authors of the Augustan age. The book, at any rate, can be useful only to scholars ; and, commercially speaking, its Latin garb may have procured it a more extensive circulation, in foreign countries, than it could have obtained if it had been originally published in English ; but, when it is considered that the true intent of critical books is to give facility to students in obtaining a knowledge of the subjects they treat upon, it cannot but be matter of regret that such knowledge should often be clouded and obscured by an affectation of acquaintance with uncommon words and modes of phraseology : and that Mr. Dawes’s book did not appear at first in English is to be still more deeply regretted, since we have become acquainted with his masterly style of writing in that language, in his letter to Dr. Taylor. Is there no one to be found with leisure and ability to translate this excellent work, and thereby to give to minds that travel slowly through the literature of Greece and Rome, accompanied as they go with grammarians and lexicographers for their guides, some opportunity of beholding and enjoying the beauties of that rich and ever-varying scenery, which charm the fleet and wing-footed sons of Hermes in their aerial excursions over the gardens of ancient Hellenic and Roman poetry ?

In closing the view of Dawes’s critical labours, it is natural to turn

to himself, and observe with what effect upon his own mind he watched their reception in the world. Had he firmness to sit in the complacent enjoyment of self-approbation, conscious of the benefits he had conferred upon his own profession, and regardless alike of the approving voice of genuine learning, the detraction of envy, and the common-place criticisms of the multitude of the wise? There were times when neither admiration, nor envy, nor vulgar wisdom, could find any pleasure in his company; when mercy and pity were the only beings that could be gratified by visiting him; when praise fell upon him as cheerlessly as sunshine comes over sorrow. Dr. Keppis has observed that the peculiarities of conduct, by which he was distinguished at the universities, "probably arose from a dash of insanity in his constitution." I wish I could have dashed this assertion out of the page of history, and thrown a veil of everlasting oblivion over it. For who is there who does not feel the best and holiest sympathies of his nature afflicted, and shudder, when he recollects how many powerful minds, the sun of whose genius could have dimmed all the intellectual constellations around them, have nevertheless been subjected to have their understandings darkened by this "heaviest of human afflictions," and themselves made the sport of ignorance and folly.

—————"From this day forth
I'll use you for my mirth, yea, for my laughter
When you are waspish,"

was a threat, the bitterness of which, from the morbid irritability of his mind, poor Dawes too often tasted. "He fancied that all his friends had slighted him or used him ill: and of the jealousy of his temper he has left a remarkable instance on a very trifling occasion. His printer, by an unfortunate mistake in a passage of *Terentianus Maurus*, which Mr. Dawes had produced in order to correct, had inserted a comma that destroyed the merit of the emendation. In consequence of this involuntary error, our author in the addenda to his *Miscellanea* has expressed himself with great indignation. He declares he could not conjecture what fault he had committed against the printer, that he should envy him the honour, whatever it was, that was due to his

correction : and he adds, that he knows not how it happened, that for several years past he had been ill used by those from whom he had deserved better treatment.”*

Dr. Parr told Mr. Tate that the Emanuel men of Dawes's standing were all Tories little short of Jacobites. Hence, in the violence of party spirit, they carried their dislike to Bentley to the greatest height. Old Harry Hubbard who was senior fellow of that college, and an excellent man, but no lover of the Georges, in conjunction with Dr. Mason, assisted, as has been observed, in carrying the *Miscellanea* through the press. But I do not see that Dawes's uncourtly mode of speaking of Bentley is to be attributed to bitterness of party feeling. His odes on the death of George the First, the accession of George the Second, and the marriage of Frederick Prince of Wales, if they are to be attributed to honest feeling, are proofs of his attachment to the interest of the House of Brunswick. Besides which, he says himself that after he had given a specimen of his severity over his own errors, he hoped it would be taken as a proof, that as often as he had occasion to differ from learned men and to charge them with errors, it was not done from a wish to detract from their true merits, but solely for the improvement of genuine learning. I would, therefore, attribute his complaints against the defection and ingratitude of his friends, as well as his asperity of criticism, to the saddening effects of temporary delusion : when he was in his better moments and his reason was fully capable of resolving the darkest critical difficulties, there was still a gloom and despondency over all the views that connected him with humanity. It was on this account that his “situation at Newcastle was neither so happy nor so useful as might have been expected :” this failure in his office as a schoolmaster “was,” as Dr. Kippis remarks, “owing to the excentricity of his disposition ; and, indeed, to his imagination being in some respects disturbed.”— “With the Corporation” of that town “he had got involved in altercations, and he adopted a singular method of displaying his resentment or rather his contempt ; for in teaching the boys at school, he made them translate the Greek word for *Ass* into *Alderman*, which some of the lads

* Kippis.

did seriously, though otherwise well instructed,”*—“a practice, which habit rendered so inveterate, that some of his pupils inadvertently used the same expression with very ludicrous effect in their public college exercises.”†

I have not yet been able to discover the immediate cause of his quarrels with the Corporation. Probably, as Dr. Kippis observes, it was connected with his occasionally unfortunate state of mind and consequent desertion of his school. With the helm of his own understanding shattered and weak, when he once got into disputes with his patrons, and supposed that he saw others, from whom he might have expected gratitude and kindness, treating him with coldness and neglect, it is not to be wondered, that he should be blown into an ocean of difficulties by the storm of his own poignant wit and irascible temper.

Of the ill treatment, which he imagined he experienced from some of his townsmen, he has left us an account in a pamphlet, which he published under the title of *Extracts from a MS. Pamphlet intitled the TITLE TATTLE MONGERS, No. I.*§ This curious performance, with “the titles of the EXTRACTS” had been weekly announced in the *Newcastle Courant* from April 5 to May 31 in 1746. I have been favoured with a sight of it from the valuable collection of local books and manuscripts of an intelligent member of this society; and after reading it over more than once, I have had no eyes or judgment to find any symptoms of its being the produce of a disordered intellect. It certainly was not prudent to publish it at all: but one of his mottos,

“*Multa diuque tuli; tandem patientia victa est,*”

shows that he had suffered indignities till his patience was conquered;

* Kippis.

† Surtees' Hist. Dur. ii. 84.

§ It is in 12mo. “printed at Newcastle upon Tyne in the year MDCCXLVII. by John White.” pp. 40. A copy of it, No. 1211, sold for 4l. 5s. at Mr. Brockett's sale. Under “the titles of the Extracts on page 2” it contains the following “N. B. There will soon be sent to press No. II. consisting of, 1. The principal contents of some letters from Philarchus to Polemarchon, &c., with a commentary. 2. Professor Fungus's lecture on PRUDENCE alias Scoundrelism; with notes.— And soon after that, No. III., consisting of characters of some of the *gentlemen* of the corporation of Logopoiion, alias *the Vengeful Brotherhood, or Fungus Clan.*” Besides which, an advertisement in the *Newcastle Courant*, in April and May 1747, announces in addition to the three “Extracts” published

and, after that was done, I apprehend few in a similar situation could have found a more effectual engine for assailing their enemies, and scattering among them the bitter arrows of irony and scorn than Mr. Dawes invented in the *Tittle Tattle Mongers*. That parts of it are of a most uncourty nature is no argument against its fitness for the purpose for which it was intended. A good general adapts his mode of attack to the nature of the fortress he has to reduce, and our author, finding no other mode of silencing the disturbers of his peace, made a laughing stock of their pretensions to judge on learned matters; and threw contempt and humiliation with unsparring hand on all their pursuits and acquirements. His second motto is

“ Turno tempus erit : magno cum optaverit emptum
Intactum Pallanta.”

That this attack had the effect of creating fear and shame is plain from the impression of the pamphlet, which contained it, having been as far as possible bought up and destroyed. Very few copies of it got into circulation. Indeed the learning and criticisms, with which its raillery and satire are blended, made it unintelligible to general readers, and consequently limited its circulation to a few.

The first extract is on “the Origin of the Names *Neusowanasa* and in No. I. “IV, the character of Porcus. *Porcus with a pen in his hand*, recommended as a proverbial expression to answer the latin *Assinus ad Lyram*. V. the character of Strepsodicus.” And the same Newspaper from October 10 to November 14, 1747, has the following advertisement :—

“ SPEEDILY WILL BE PUBLISHED,

“ I. Philonoi Antipolypragmonis Epistola ad juvenum *αλαζονοχαυνοφλυαρον* Antonium Askew, M. B. Coll. Emman. apud Cantabrigienses, non ita pridem Pseudo-Socio-Commensalem, Æschyli editiones promissorem. In qua ὁ δεινα obiter *festivum caput*, ex suis virtutibus ornatur.

‘ Quid dignum tanto feret hic promissor hiatu?

‘ Parturiunt montes, nascetur ridiculus mus,

. ‘ Quod medicorum est

‘ Promittant medici. ΗΟΚ.

‘ Ω Ζευ! ὄση μεν την αλαζονειαν κομιζει, ὄσην δε την αμαθιαν! LUC,

‘ Te miror, Antoni.’ CIC.

“ II. Consilii a *Pantolmo Thrasonida*, Academix Panalazonicæ alumno, undecimum ætatis annum agente, de Lycophrone edendo suscepti declaratio.

‘ οἱ θεοι της γηγενεις

‘ Αλαζονευομενοι ποθ, υπερηκοντισαν.’ ARISTOPH.”

These advertisements, in an abridged form, and some extracts from the “*Tittle Tattle Mongers*” are given with notes in Kidd’s last edition of the “*Miscellanea Critica*.”

Logopoiion with a general character of the Logopoiions." The former of which names means, *Queen of Islands*, and the latter the town of *Tittle Tattle*. Both of them, he says, were imposed by Homer, who made an expedition to this island and visited most of its principal towns. He then proceeds to state the process of reasoning by which some of the genii of Logopoiion came to discover the derivation of these names, the result of which was, that a Logopoiion, a Log o' wood, a sow, and an ass were tantamount contemptuous expressions, imposed upon their town and country by one Philhomerus purely in contempt and abuse of them. After this he introduces certain gentlemen and ladies of Logopoiion under feigned names. Who the ladies were who had a heart to break a bruised reed and could render themselves worthy of being noted and remarked upon by Dawes's critical pen, he has left us no light to assist in discovering; and we will not take up a taper to go on so ungallant and invidious an errand as to search for their real names. Dr. Adam Askew, whom he designates by the names of *Polypragmon* and *Fungus*, was, as a physician in Newcastle and to great distances around it, as Mr. Nichol has remarked, the Radcliffe of his day. He realized a great fortune. Few are now alive who remembered him; but many amusing anecdotes are still told of him about Newcastle, which represent him as a character full of life, pleasantry, and bustle; very prompt and decisive in all his proceedings; but no way remarkable, when he chose, for urbanity of manners or choice of words. Dawes in this *Extract* speaking of himself says, his nose was somewhat apish; and that this Socratic turn of a principal feature in his face had often been an object of Fungus's wit in conversation. Once, in particular, after racking his noddle for a month how to draw the critic's picture at full length, and after calling in the assistance of some learned friend, or perhaps an index to Martial, he produced upon a scrap of paper, a piece of daubing, subscribed with

"Non cuicunque datum est habere nasum,"

and sent it to Dawes, who, after showing that *habere nasum* has there no relation to the features, but means "sense, sagacity, and ingenuity," says—"what is still more unlucky for the pleasant animal, the line is

an epigram upon a *stupid buffoon* that fancied himself witty and probably used to exercise his precious talents upon blemishes in people's features, since this is the most abject kind of scurrility, and such as even an idiot is equal to." This Extract also contains a dash at Dr. Askew's "musical son."* and concludes with a qualifying paragraph in which he observes "that he is far from intending to suggest that Logopoiion is entirely destitute of men of real liberality, knowledge, wit, or sense." "Nay even this general description is meant to be so far limited, as not to include any person whatsoever, by whom I have not been industriously, and without provocation, insulted, molested, or depreciated."

The scope of the second and third *Extracts* is aimed at Dr. Akenside, who had been a pupil under Dawes, and with all his qualifications of genius as a poet; of religion and virtue as a man; and of vivacity and eloquent conversation as a companion; was nevertheless, haughty and disputatious; and even in the generous days of early youth, before he was twenty-four years old, had, in the opinion of his preceptor, the malice and unmanliness to introduce him into the *Pleasures of Imagination*, in the character of a surly cynic of the name of Momion. The lines in which this act of impiety is done, are as follow:—

"Thee too, facetious Momion, wandering here,
Thee, dreaded censor, oft have I beheld,
Bewildered unawares: alas! too long
Flushed with thy comic triumphs and the spoils
Of sly derision! till, on every side,
Hurling thy random bolts, offended truth
Assigned thee here thy station with the slaves

* This was Dr. Anthony Askew, the same gentleman who is ridiculed respecting his promised edition of *Æschylus*, in the proposals printed in the note p. 154. He was born in Kendal in 1722, before his father settled in Newcastle, and educated at Sedburgh and Emmanuel college. He probably got a considerable share of his education under Dawes. In 1745 he took the degree of B. D.: his proposal for publishing a new edition of *Æschylus* was printed in 1746, contained a specimen of the intended work, was dedicated to Dr. Mead, is in quarto, but now very scarce. In the same year he studied at Leyden, then went with the Embassy to Constantinople, whence he returned by Italy to Paris in 1749. In 1750 he became M. D. He had the best private collection of Greek and Latin books and manuscripts that was ever sold in England. It was unique in its day. Dr. Parr has praised him as a scholar in the *Bibliomana*.

Of folly. Thy once formidable name
Shall grace her humble records and be heard
In scoffs and mockery, bandied from the lips
Of all the vengeful brotherhood around,
So oft the patient victims of thy scorn."

On this passage the author of the *Extracts* has the following remarks :
" A certain illustrious collection of genii have thought proper to apply this character personally. The part of the brotherhood they take to themselves, and are so kind as to confer that of Momion upon Philhomerus. The poet, indeed, has absolutely denied that the character was intended personally; and has professed himself astonished at the application. But his pleading non-intention with respect to another gentleman, after having declared himself astonished at what was his doctrine, makes me entertain but a moderate opinion of his veracity. And, in this opinion, I am confirmed by the conduct of his friends, the genii, who, notwithstanding his remonstrance, persist in the application. Nay, I am apt to believe, that they, being acquainted with his *blushing diffidence*, instigated, if not hired, him to undertake so notable a prank." He then goes on to show, with great clearness and force of reasoning, that " the height of bravery to which Virgil raised the character of Turnus, was principally calculated with this view, that his hero, Æneas, might, upon his victory of Turnus, appear to a proportionably greater advantage. The same conduct had been before observed by Homer, in the case of Hector and Achilles ;" and then he enters on new ground of criticism, and " takes occasion to point out another instance of the Latin poet's artifice of making Æneas call Diomedes the bravest of the Græcians," which he thinks was done for the purpose of raising in the reader's mind such an exalted notion of Diomedes' bravery, that the character which he had to give of Æneas, in another part of the poem, " might redound to his honour in the highest possible degree." " Had the same character of Æneas proceeded from an insignificant worthless creature, nothing could have rendered the hero more ridiculous." Just so, he remarks, " the only way whereby such animals," as those against whom he was writing, " can contribute to the real praise of any person is to depreciate

him. Hence, by the way, let me recommend to the reflection of the genii, what abundant praises they have unwittingly conferred upon Philhomerus (Dawes himself); what additional lustre they have given to a fair character by endeavouring to blacken it." "I am so well acquainted with the state of the case betwixt Philhomerus and them, as to be able to affirm that he never was flushed with any triumphs over them. He may, perhaps, have chastised their stupid insolence, but he no more triumphed upon this, than upon having corrected an impudent boy."

Dr. Akenside, in the "*Pleasures of Imagination*," had the misfortune to mention "the blushing diffidence of youth," with reference to himself: and Dawes, thinking him not over highly gifted with that amiable recommendation in a young man, honours the passage with an ironical "illustration from a line of some ancient tragædian preserved by Lucian," and with frequent quotation, as,—“return we now to the poet of blushing diffidence.” But, however just his opinion of the Doctor’s diffidence might be, his estimate of his poem, when he called it, “such a cob-web as the *Pleasures of Imagination*” was certainly illiberal and ill-founded. It was written at a time of life when its author was capable of comprehending and sketching out vast ideas, but wanting in judgment how to arrange and finish all the details of his pictures. In maturer years he expunged the offensive passage respecting Momion from his poem, as well as some others which Dawes had commented upon in his *Extracts*.

It is still, however, to be borne in mind that the circumstance of this pamphlet having never been answered affords no ground of reason to believe that its author’s conduct in his School was correct, or that the préjudice of the people of Logopoiion was unjustly excited against him. That he was very highly talented as a grammarian every one must allow. But to preside with success over a great public school, requires the rare union of many qualifications—great industry and steadiness in conduct and opinion, patience and evenness of temper, firmness, dignity of deportment, discrimination of character, a highly stored and comprehensive mind, an accurate and retentive memory, fluency in lecturing, great delight in communicating knowledge, great art in rousing the curiosity and exciting the most highly gifted faculties of his pupils,

as well as great ambition in seeing them rise into offices of usefulness and honour. That Mr. Dawes was deficient in some of these excellencies, and consequently failed in attaining eminence and distinction in the way of life in which he set out, was no just cause of humiliation to himself, or of triumph to others. What is there less uncommon than for persons to form a mistaken estimate of their own powers? His faults seem to have been, a blindness to his own infirmities, blaming every body but himself for want of success, and pertinaciously adhering to office when he found himself unpopular. His situation at Newcastle, I apprehend, was this :—he was found, from causes he could neither see nor controul, to be unsteady in his attention to his school, resentful of all interference with his management, and cuttingly satirical : but he was also firmly seated in his office, and a giant and a king where he was. He knew that no man in the neighbourhood dared to measure a lance with him in learning ; and he, therefore, among his scholars, threw out his wit unsparingly on all he suspected of opposing him. Some mode, however, was to be taken of removing him ; and a natural, but cruel one was applied. The marble which stands for ages unchanged among atmospheric tempests, effervesces and bursts by the application of a simple acid : and here, the body, which the powerful levers of law and reason could not stir, moved like a feather before the breath of ridicule. From the playful style of the *Extracts* it does not, however, appear that the lash of derision afflicted his mind with any intense suffering.—They were written in the heat of his quarrel with the Corporation : but so far from indulging in complaints of ill usage, their tone is that of scoffing and contempt. The war that was waged against him seems to have stirred his irascible and indignant, more than painful and humiliating feelings.

On the 22d of September, 1746, he made a proposal to resign the office of master of the school, upon which the Corporation offered him an annuity of £80. for his life, on condition of his resigning both that situation and the mastership of St. Mary's Hospital, which offer he seems to have declined ; for on the 10th of January, 1748, he made new proposals to the Common Council of terms of resignation, but of what nature does

not appear. The negotiation, however, was closed on the 26th of January, 1749, by the Corporation granting him an annuity of £80. for his life, and allowing him to receive a stipulated fine on all renewals of property belonging to the Hospital, in which one life had fallen in. On the 25th of September following, his annuity was secured to him by a bond, under the common seal, and he resigned both offices accordingly. The papers containing his correspondence with his patrons, are among the archives of the Corporation.

After resigning the school he retired to a house on the banks of the Tyne, at Heworth Shore, where, at that time, only three or four families resided. This house stood in a pleasant garden on the east side of the rivulet, which divides the Felling and Heworth lands, and close adjoining the west side of the garden of the house of the late Mr. Richard Kell. At present the garden is quite destroyed, and its western verge can only be traced by a row of elm trees. In his time, the banks of the Tyne, in that neighbourhood, were, on both sides, covered with oak wood, and the situation selected by Dawes for his retreat was retired and sweet. His chief amusement was rowing a boat on the Tyne; and, when he was well, he walked much in the lanes near his house. His companions were few and selected; but here, as in Cambridge, not always chosen on account of their high rank, but with minds congenial to his own. He brewed good ale, and a humourous and eccentric blacksmith at the adjoining hamlet of Bill Quay frequently partook of it. A person, who remembered him well, told me, that for one year he went and resided at the neat but retired village of Monckton, the reputed birth place of the venerable Bede; but soon returned to his former habitation at Heworth Shore. The same person also said, that her father, who was a weaver at Heworth, and of the name of Bowes, used to shave him three times a week, and that he always knew on entering his room, whether he was disturbed in his mind or not; for when he spoke he was right; but, if he was silent, he was in a low state; and, in these melancholy moments, he would take the razor very gently out of Bowes's hand and draw it as gently across his sleeve, without doing him any harm; but, to use the words of the same narrator, "while he was doing so, a

could fear used to come over my father, lest, when he was in that low state of mind, he might not be always safe with a razor in his hand. My father attended him during all the time he lived both at Heworth Shore and at Monckton; and, when he found him well, would not uncommonly stay a whole day with him."

He was of a strong frame of body, tall, and corpulent; and his hair, which was thick and flowing, was snowy white; on account of which the children of the neighbourhood (rude savages!) used to run after him, calling out, "White head! White head!" which often made him angry, and lift his stick at them. According to his own account, as has been noticed, he had "some degree of the Socratic Simotees," or flatness of nose which is "mentioned by Zenophon and Plato," and which had "been at least fifty times an object of" his medical friend, "Mr. Fungus's wit in conversation." I have often heard a gentleman say, that he has seen the children about Heworth Shore, as they passed Mr. Dawes, crossing their noses with their finger and thumb, a dirty trick, which he abhorred, but which they had no doubt been taught by their Newcastle neighbours, for the sole purpose of tormenting him. His wrath, however, never fell with a heavy hand upon the varlets who teased him; for after he had shaken his stick at them, if he had any copper in his pocket, he delighted in throwing it among them, and enjoying the scramble it occasioned. Mr. Brewster, in his memoir of the Rev. Hugh Moises, M. A., the able and successful follower of Mr. Dawes, in the Grammar School of Newcastle, has the following anecdote concerning our author, during his residence at Heworth Shore. Mr. Brewster "remembered to have heard a friend of his say, that he had visited Mr. Dawes after his removal to Heworth, and that, though he could not, perhaps, be pronounced absolutely insane, his eccentricity was of that lively kind, both in words and actions, as to leave the impression that *great wits and madness* are proverbial: but, though in spite of the proverb, there does not exist any real connection between them, an elevation of mind, of whatever nature, will always produce an elevation of expression, which was remarkably the case at my friend's interview with Mr. Dawes."

Some suspicions have been thrown upon his belief of the truth of

Christianity.* Dr. Kippis says, that he occasionally, at the University, took such liberties, on certain topics, as gave great offence to those about him; but does not mention what these topics were. In his *Extracts*, Mr. Dawes makes a dash at the clergy, through the sides of Dr. Aken-side, where he concludes his illustration of that "poet's' *blushing* diffidence," with observing—that "there is no room for being surprised at its having been experienced by private persons—by the clergy, as some think, in general, and by part of the nobility—since it has not scrupled to make free with Omnipotence itself. Witness, that modest simile in the Epistle to Curio, v. 33, which must shock any reader that is not habituated to profaneness and blasphemy—

" *Calm as the Judge of Truth*, at length I come,
" To weigh thy merits, and pronounce thy doom."

" *Coelum ipsum petimus stultitia.*" These lines are omitted in the edition of Akenside's Poems, in 1772. But an inference, which I think may be drawn from the observations which precede them is this, that Dawes considered that Akenside was here guilty of making free with Omnipotence, just as the clergy are habitually guilty of profaneness and blasphemy in many of the doctrines which they uphold. This, however, may be considered as a forced construction; and it is best no doubt on this subject to say with Mr. Kidd, "judex esto Deus, sapientissimus et maxime benignus pectoris humani scrutator."

Another inference may, I think, be drawn from the *Extracts*.—That, while they are the sparkling and effervescence of a scholar that treated insult with derision and scorn, their lofty and disdainful tone was breathed from a mind which, though it was rough, was proud and virtuous; which set all imputations of moral blame at defiance; and honestly and obstinately adhered to the conduct and opinions it considered right.

Had he carefully weighed all his powers with reference to his own happiness and usefulness in the world, he ought never to have quitted his college, but to have endeavoured to increase his reputation and his means of supporting himself by his critical labours. Employed in this

* Kidd's Misc. Crit. Pref. p. vi.

manner, he would have been less liable to be harassed with the crosses and indignities of vulgar opinion, than he was as a schoolmaster; and his labours would have been both useful and lasting.

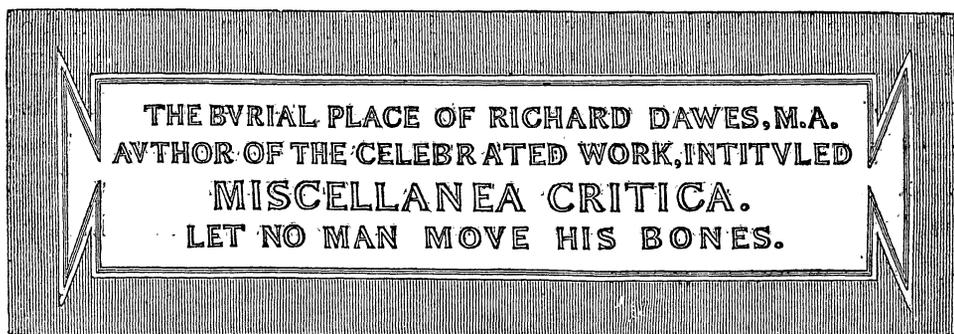
Of his books and inedited manuscripts, I hoped long ago to have got some certain information; but my enquiries have hitherto been unsuccessful. Dr. Burgess says, that some of his manuscript books were in the collection of Dr. Anthony Askew, who purchased them and the rest of his books. No notice, however, is taken of any work that had belonged to him in the sale catalogue of Dr. Askew's printed books; and I have been unable to obtain a sight of the catalogue of his Collection of MSS. The impression on my mind respecting them is, that they were disposed of in the manner I have mentioned in the beginning of this memoir. If Dr. Askew got the manuscript of the "*Emendationes in Poetas Græcos*," mentioned in the letter to Dr. Taylor, it is to be hoped that he suffered them to share a better fate than to put them into the evil hands of Reiske, as he did those of his friend Dr. Taylor.

Mr. Dawes died at Heworth Shore, on the 21st of March, 1766, in the house in which he had lived about 16 years, and was buried on the 23d of the same month, in Heworth chapel-yard. A tradition is still current in the neighbourhood that he grew weary of life, and ended his days by an act of suicide; but, on enquiry into the report, I found from a person who was present at the washing of his body immediately after he died, that it was a groundless slander, and that he went out of life by the uniform way of nature.*

In addition to his other afflictions, it is also somewhere intimated that he was subject in his latter days to the hardship of poverty, which, of all the evils that can befall a high and feeling mind, is the heaviest and most insupportable; but his protracted negotiation with the Common Council of Newcastle, for terms to retire from his school upon, show that he set a proper value on independence and the means of self-preservation; and his annuity of £80. a year, with the portion of fines for which he stipulated, were certainly riches to one who had no family to share his income with, who "shunned the noise of folly," and the expensive pursuits of ambition and fashionable life.

* See Surtees's Hist. Dur. vol. ii, p. 84.

His grave in Heworth chapel-yard is still marked with a head-stone of rude workmanship; but said to be the gratuitous offering of a country mason to the memory of a great scholar. The stone bears the following inscription:—"In memory of Richard Dawes, latehead master of the grammer school of Newcastle, who died the 21st of March, 1766, aged 57." Besides noticing the sin of bad spelling, Brand is severe on the "vile sculpture," and wretched taste in grouping of a trumpet, sword, and scythe, which are carved above this inscription: but, thanks to the intentions and peace to the gentle soul, who marked the spot that has the custody of Dawes's ashes. Before Heworth chapel was rebuilt, the incumbent there had the grave carefully marked with a stake, and the stone removed out of the way of injury; and, as soon as the building was completed, the frail "memorial" was moved back to its proper place, a large rolled block of bazalt laid lengthways on the grave, and the following inscription, on a plate of bronze sunk into it:—



The incumbent of Heworth also suggested to the Rev. James Tate, of Richmond, in Yorkshire, the propriety of putting up a plain marble monument to the memory of Dawes in the adjoining new chapel, promising on his part to furnish the design for it, and to take the trouble of getting it put up, if Mr. Tate would procure the means of defraying the expence of executing the plan, and write the inscription for the monument: The subscriptions amounted to £29. 8s., and the expence of putting up

the marble and basalt monuments, and of the wood cuts for this memoir, to £34. 2s., the particulars of which sums are as follow :—

| | £. | s. | | £. | s. |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----|--|-------|----|
| The Bishop of Salisbury,..... | 10 | 10 | The Marble Monument, | 25 | 0 |
| Emm. Coll. Cambridge, | 5 | 5 | Engraver and founder for the Bronze | | |
| Rev. Thomas Kidd, | 2 | 2 | Plate,..... | 3 | 2 |
| Jonathan Raine, esq., Professor Mus- | | | Wood-cut of Marble Monument,..... | 1 | 10 |
| grave, the Rev. Doctors Samuel Parr, | | | Ditto for Mould of Bronze Plate, | 1 | 10 |
| Maltby, and Samuel Butler, and the | | | Ditto of Dawes's House, | 3 | 0 |
| Rev. Messieurs G. Butler, Dobree, | | | | | |
| H. Drury, James Tate, E. Moises, and | | | | | |
| James Raine, each one guinea,..... | 11 | 11 | | | |
| Expence exceeding subscription,..... | 4 | 14 | | | |
| | <hr/> | | | <hr/> | |
| | £34 | 2 | | £34 | 2 |
| | <hr/> | | | <hr/> | |

The marble monument, of which the wood cut on the next page is a correct representation, was executed by the late Mr. Isaac Jobling, sculptor in Gateshead, and bears the following inscription :—

IN . CŒMETERIO . HVIIVS . ECCLESIE . SEPVLTVS . IAGET .
 RICARDVS . DAWES . A . M .
 COLL . EMMAN . APVD . CANTABRIGIENSES . OLIM . SOCIVS .
 LVDOQVE . LITERARIO . ET . GERONTOCOMIO . APVD . NOVOCASTRENSES .
 ANNOS . X . PRÆFECTVS .
 ACERRIMO . VIR . INGENIO .
 ET . SERMONIS . ATTICI . IVDEX . PERITISSIMVS .
 CVI . MISCELLANEA . CRITICA . VNO . LIBRO . EDITA .
 ÆTERNVM . HONOREM . APVD . GRAMMATICOS . PEPERERVNT .
 NATVS . EST . A . C . MDCCVIII . DECESSIT . MDCCLXVI .

Besides which, the incumbent of Heworth promised to draw up and print a memoir of all he could collect respecting Dawes and his writings; which, by way of redemption of his word, he has here endeavoured to do, at the first leisure moment he could spare for the purpose since the monument was completed in 1825; and he begs that others may consider this performance in the same light he is constrained to judge of it himself—as a very humble tribute to the memory of Dawes; a series of superficial gleanings from Kippis, and the *Prefaces* to Burgess's and Kidd's editions of the *Miscellanea*, interspersed here and there with a new fact, or with the inferences and reflections of one, whose pretensions to sit in judgment on his "golden book," the "decus immortale" of

English learning, Dawes would have treated with merriment, if not with indignation; but whose respect for his memory, admiration of his great critical powers, and sympathy for his sufferings, are cordial and intense.

