

opinions of the Westminster liberals than with the eclectic and cautious politics of the "Edinburgh Review." Douglas Kinnaird, the friend of Byron and Hobhouse, was connected with Forfarshire; and Joseph Hume already avowed the principles to disseminate which the "Westminster Review" was subsequently founded. A comparative lull in political excitement prevailed for some years after the death of Lord Castlereagh, but it was only the prelude to fiercer contests. The Cabinet had even before that event become conscious that concessions must be made to the advancing spirit of the age. A weekly newspaper, the "Guardian," was originally established by Government money in London, about 1820, for the purpose of writing up the principles of the Holland-house Whigs and the persons of the Liverpool Ministry. The object was to prepare the Tory party for acquiescence in liberal measures. This extraordinary stroke of *finesse* was desisted from soon after the Queen's arrival in England; the Government subvention was withdrawn from the paper; but it had already effected enough to render possible the subsequent coalition of the Canningite Tories and the Holland-house Whigs. During the administration of Mr. Canning, and the brief and feeble Cabinets which succeeded him, the "educated Radicals"—as it had now become the fashion to call the disciples of Bentham and James Mill—had not been idle. Though not numerous, they were an active party; their leaders were men of clear views and great energy; their head-quarters were in the back shop of Francis-place at Charing-cross, but the bookselling agency of the "Westminster Review" was a most efficient missionary organization throughout the kingdom. But before these diversified influences had been fully brought into play, Rintoul had been removed from a provincial to a metropolitan sphere of action.

About the year 1825 he terminated his connexion with "Dundee Advertiser." The reasons for his taking this step have no interest for the public. He first attempted to establish a newspaper at Leith; but that experiment was soon given up. He then accepted the editorship of the London "Atlas," which had recently been started. This engagement was brought about by the mediation of Douglas Kinnaird, who had had ample opportunities of observing the ability of Rintoul as an editor, and his skill and energy as a partisan. The recommendations of Kinnaird and Hume were excellent passports to the circles of independent liberal politicians in London; but Rintoul's first care was

to collect around him an efficient literary staff. The co-operation of Hazlitt, Fonblanque, Southern, and also of able critics in the departments of music and the fine arts, was secured; and everything promised a long and prosperous career for the "Atlas." But difficulties arose between the editor and the proprietors. The engagement was rescinded. A fund was raised for the establishment of a weekly newspaper by subscription of a few friends and connections of Rintoul. His literary coadjutors, for the most part, stood true to him. He was invested with absolute power as editor; and on the 5th of July, 1828, the first number of the "Spectator" was published. His history from that day to the day of his death was the history of this journal.

We have spoken only of Rintoul the journalist. There was nothing romantic in the incidents of his steady, regulated career. Thus much, however, we may be allowed to say,—never was a kinder heart concealed under a somewhat brusque and peremptory exterior. His charity was large, but he literally obeyed the injunction not to allow his left hand to know what his right was doing. His capacity for labour was unsurpassed; but when he allowed himself a rare holiday, an hour of leisure, he had a singular faculty of entirely throwing off for the time every trace of the cares of business. That his conversation was interesting and instructive will be believed from the fact that it was courted by men like Whately, Grote, Molesworth, and Buller. That he was a just, kind, and considerate master will be believed from the fact that none wept more bitterly over his closing tomb than the principal members of his publishing establishment, who have been with him throughout the whole thirty years of the "Spectator's" existence. Mr. Rintoul married some years before he quitted Scotland, and he leaves a wife, a son and daughter. We will not intrude on the sacred grief of a household into which Death has entered for the first time after thirty years' enjoyment of perfect confidence and affection.—*Abridged from the Spectator.*

THOMAS WILSON,

The author of "The Pitman's Pay."

"At Gateshead Low Fell, on Sunday, November 14, 1773, Margaret, wife of George Wilson, of a son."

"At Gateshead Low Fell, on Sunday, May 9, 1858, Thomas Wilson, Esq., Fellow-house, aged 84."

These two events, of birth and death,

rounded the long life of one of the most remarkable of our townsmen, either in the present or any other age. Born of humble parents on the Fell, the first offspring of their union, he was sent at an early age into the mine, to assist in enlarging their narrow means; and we have heard him relate, with painful recollection, how he had too much work in the week, and too much chapel on the Sabbath, his pious parents rousing him before breakfast for the Wesleyan meeting-house. Of school-education, which he valued highly in after-life, he had necessarily little; and hence his peculiar anxiety, constantly and practically manifested, to confer on others an advantage which he had so slightly enjoyed himself.

At nineteen years of age, as he related to his neighbours on the Fell, he was a hewer in the mine. At sixteen he had sought more congenial occupation, in which he might profit by the culture which he had won by the nightly sacrifice of needful rest; but he failed in the attempt, and returned to his darksome drudgery. But a teacher was subsequently wanted, while he was still in his teens, at Galloping-green, a mile away from his father's cottage, and he thought himself fortunate in obtaining the appointment. His next step, in 1793, was to Shieldrow, where the owners of the colliery furnished the schoolmaster with a room and fuel—substantial rewards for a village Dominie. It was at this time (using the words of a memoir which appeared in the "Northern Tribune,") that he first saw the "Diaries," which, during a period of sixty years, were a constant attraction to him, and to which, for a great portion of that time, he contributed. Here he acquired a knowledge of Lat'n by instruction received in an engine-house, from a keeper of one of the engines at Sir John Eden's colliery, a very superior man, of the name of John Gray. In 1795 he experienced a great loss in the death of his affectionate mother. In 1798—his time ever since leaving colliery-work having been divided between acquiring knowledge and endeavouring so to better his position as to be able more extensively to acquire it—he succeeded in obtaining a clerkship in the office of Mr. Thomas Robson, a wharfinger on the Quayside, a gentleman born within two hundred yards of his (Mr. Wilson's) father's house, and who had himself in his youth been connected with coal-mining. Here, however, the hours were long and the remuneration small; so much so, indeed, as to make Mr. Wilson ready enough to become schoolmaster again, rather than lose the chance

of increasing his knowledge. He consequently left Robson, and set up a school at Benwell; but an opportunity of obtaining a commercial situation having presented itself in 1799, he accepted it, and entered the office of Mr. John Head, an eminent merchant and underwriter in Newcastle. With Mr. Head he remained until the beginning of 1803, when he removed to the counting-house of Losh, Lubbin, and Co., with whom and their representatives he remained until 1805, when he entered into partnership with the present Mr. William Losh; and which firm, in 1807, on the junction with it of the late Mr. Alderman Thomas Bell, was changed into Losh, Wilson, and Bell, and remained so until Mr. Wilson's death, increasing as it went on, and at present occupying one of the highest positions amongst the manufacturing and mercantile establishments in the kingdom.

Mr. Wilson married Mrs. Mary Fell in 1810; and after living for several years in Newcastle, accomplished what had always been to him a dear object—the possession of a residence on the spot where he was born, and which was associated so intimately with all his most cheerful as well as most painful recollections.

In 1839 he met with the greatest calamity of his life, in the loss of his wife, whose kindness, charity, and sociability will long be remembered, with his own, on "The Fell."

His leisure time was largely devoted to books (of which he had great and varied store), and to poetry; and his remarkable productions, the "Pitman's Pay," &c., &c., have obtained, not a mere local, but a national reputation. His works, originally scattered over the pages of the "Newcastle Magazine" and other periodicals, were published in a collected form and in a handsome volume in 1843; and few are the libraries, in the North of England at least, in which the homely pictures which he has painted are not to be found.

An ardent but unobtrusive politician, he was a reader of the "Examiner," the "Edinburgh Review," and other political and literary periodical works from the beginning, and had them perfect on his shelves. When his books were numbered by thousands, he would shew his friends his earliest catalogue, stitched in brown paper, comprising "Tom Hickathrift" and other "cheap books," with the prices he had paid for them, the total cost (proudly counted up at the end) amounting to no more than a few shillings.

In 1835, when the Municipal Reform Act conferred upon Gateshead the privilege of representative local government,

Mr. Wilson was elected by his neighbours to represent them in the Town Council. At the first meeting of the council he was elected an alderman, an honour which he continued to enjoy until the year 1853, when, at his own request, he was allowed to retire into private life. During his connection with the council he was repeatedly and earnestly pressed to accept the mayoralty, (to which, if willing, he would have been unanimously elected,) but although one of his colleagues offered to do the whole official business for him, if he would only accept the office, he respectfully but firmly declined.

The deceased was a good type of the solid, sagacious, substantial Englishman, "whose word is his bond." Judicious, enterprising, persevering, his course was onward and upward from the beginning. He was so methodical and punctual, that the people of Gateshead, when they saw him pass to and fro between his house on the Fell and his office on the Quayside, "knew what o'clock it was;" and to and fro he passed, in his younger days on foot, in advancing years in his carriage, year after year for half-a-century.

His remains were interred in his family vault at St. John's, Gateshead Fell. The *cortège* which followed comprised not only his own family and relations, but the Mayor and Town Council of the borough, a great number of his other neighbours and friends, and the children, also, belonging to the school which owes so much to his kind-heartedness and liberality. All the shops on the Low Fell were also closed on the occasion, in respect to the deceased.—*Local Paper*.

LEWIS LOYD, ESQ.

• *May 13.* At Overstone-park, Northamptonshire, aged 90, Lewis Loyd, Esq., head of the banking firm of Jones, Loyd, and Co., London and Manchester, and father of Lord Overstone.

Mr. Lewis Loyd was for a period of fifty years the head of the eminent banking firm of Jones, Loyd, and Co., of Manchester and of Lothbury, London. He was the eldest son of Mr. Wm. Loyd, of Court Henry, county Carmarthen, and early in life became the pastor of a small dissenting chapel at Manchester; but having married the only daughter of a wealthy merchant of that city, the late Mr. John Jones, he was induced to enter the world of commerce. His father-in-law took him in partnership at Manchester, and he shewed great capacity in his new position. After some years, in consequence of repeated complaints on the part of their London agents as to the difficulty of keep-

ing the accounts of the firm, it was agreed that Mr. Loyd should proceed to the metropolis, and there establish a bank under the same name as the original firm. This he accordingly did, and Jones, Loyd, and Co., of Manchester, drew bills on Jones, Loyd, and Co., of Lothbury, London. The results of Mr. Loyd's energy, industry, and mercantile intelligence are to be seen directly in the prosperity of the great banking-house which bears his name, and more remotely in the elevation of his son, Mr. Samuel Jones Loyd, to the peerage, as Lord Overstone.

WILLIAM PALMER, ESQ.

April 24. In Easton-place, aged 55, William Palmer, Esq., Barrister-at-law; a gentleman widely known both in his profession and among the charitable institutions of the metropolis.

He was the second son of the late George Palmer, Esq., of Nazing-park, Essex, and for some years M.P. for the southern division of that county, by Elizabeth, younger daughter of William Bund, Esq., of Wick, county Worcester, who died in 1856. The deceased gentleman was educated at St. Mary Hall, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1825, and proceeded M.A. in 1828, as a grand-compounder. He was called to the bar at Lincoln's-inn in May, 1830. He enjoyed a large chamber practice as a conveyancer; and his opinion upon questions of real property, as to the transfer, was frequently sought by men of the highest eminence in his profession. For many years previous to his death he held the Professorship of Civil Law in Gresham College, the duties of which he discharged with equal zeal and ability. His first publication was a pamphlet entitled, "An Inquiry into the Navigation Laws," (Richardson, 1833); this he followed up by the publication of a course of his "Gresham Lectures," in 1837, (Richardson,) and also by two other works—"The Law of Wreck considered with a View to its Amendment," (Butterworth, 1844,) and "Principles of the Legal Provision for the Relief of the Poor; being Four Lectures partly read at Gresham College, in Hilary Term, 1844," (Butterworth). Mr. Palmer devoted himself very laboriously to the House of Refuge in St. Anne's, Soho, and to the management of several other kindred charitable institutions. The "Guardian," in noticing Mr. Palmer's lamented death, speaks of him as a man possessed of "a name which was honoured and respected wherever it was known. Mr. Palmer was a man whose life was given to the service of God and to good works, and one whose genuine kindness of heart and