

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
County of Cumberland,
AND SOME
PLACES ADJACENT,
FROM THE
EARLIEST ACCOUNTS TO THE PRESENT TIME:

COMPREHENDING

The Local History of the County ;

ITS ANTIQUITIES, THE ORIGIN, GENEALOGY, AND PRESENT STATE OF THE
PRINCIPAL FAMILIES,

WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ;

ITS MINES, MINERALS, AND PLANTS, WITH OTHER CURIOSITIES,
EITHER OF NATURE OR OF ART.

Particular Attention is paid to, and a just Account given of every Improvement in Agriculture,
Manufactures, &c. &c.

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

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MDCCXCIV.

Adjoining to Lorton, on the west side of the fell, lies

WHINFELL,

another parcel of the honour of Cockermouth. †—It was part of the possessions of the Duke of Wharton, was sold to the late Duke of Somerset, and descended, with the other estates, to the present Earl of Egremont.

There are in the chapelry of Lorton four districts, viz. Lorton, which is before mentioned, Wythorp, Brackenthwaite, and Buttermere.

The chapel of LORTON is dedicated to St. Cuthbert, and is presented to by Lord Londale, who derives his title by purchase from the Fletchers of Hutton. ‖—Stipend 20l. per annum.

WYTHORP lies to the north-east, and has a chapel of ease. ‡ It descends to the lake of Bassenthwaite, and was parcel of the waste of Allerdale above Derwent, and stands between Embleton and Thornthwaite.

“ Wythorpe,

† In the 35th King Henry VIII. it was held by three coparceners, Curwen, Eggesfield, and Middleton, by knights' service, 6s. 8d. cornage, homage and fealty, seawake, and pature of the serjeants.

‖ There are four chapelwardens for the four districts in this parish, one for each.

‡ The chapel of Wythorp was certified at 2l. 7s. part voluntary contribution, other part derived from the wills of donors.—The name of Wythorp is supposed to be derived from the *wythes* or willows growing there. By the inquisition of knights' fees, 35th King Henry VIII. John Lowther held Wythorp by the third part of a knight's fee, as of the honour of Cockermouth. Free-rent 1d. or a red rose, homage, fealty, and suit of court at Cockermouth from three weeks to three weeks.—Stipend of the chapel 22l. per annum.

Lorton, including the Chapelrys of Buttermere and Wythorp.

The tillable and inclosed lands here bear a small proportion to the mountainous part, the valley of Buttermere in particular is low, narrow, and crooked; the vale of Lorton is of considerable breadth, level and beautiful; in Wythorp it is neither extensive nor level.

SOIL AND PRODUCE.] In Buttermere the soil is gravelly. It is also dry and gravelly in Brackenthwaite. About Lorton the soil is chiefly a light loam, deep and very fertile, producing all sorts of grain, turnips and potatoes. In Wythorp the soil is chiefly clay, and rather wet. The crops oats.

SHEEP AND CATTLE.] In the places now under our notice, about 10,500 sheep are kept, of a heavier breed than some in the neighbourhood, particularly those at Lowswater. Horses are also in general of good stature; and black cattle weigh upon an average ten stone and a half per quarter.

LAKES.] In Buttermere lake are pike, trout, bafs, eels and char. The lake about half a mile in breadth.

RIVERS.] The river Cocker bounds the west side of Buttermere and Lorton; it contains trout, and salmon in the spawning season. This river rises near the black-lead mines in Borrowdale, whence it supplies Buttermere lake, and from thence it flows through Crummock lake. The eastern part of Wythorp touches Bassenthwaite water. In these parts are several small brooks and springs.

ROADS.] No very public ones, except that which leads from Kefwick to Cockermouth by Whinlatter, and that which passes through Wythorp.

QUARRIES.] No freestone, limestone, or coal.—Excellent slate quarries in Buttermere.

RENTS.] On an average at Lorton 16s. per acre; much less in Buttermere and Wythorp.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.] Proceeding from Buttermere, where the mountains are very high, steep, and rocky on every side, we pass through Brackenthwaite, there we find a mountain on the right, and the river Cocker on the left; and other mountains in succession. The ground is dry and gravelly, the road good, the lands slope towards the river. On the skirts of the mountains grow fern and brushwood; many trees in hedge-rows, and several small coppices scattered.

Arriving at LORTON, we find ourselves in the midst of a level and fertile vale; the mountains opening considerably, and not so high as those to the southward. The quickset hedges are good, and the fields

“ Wythorpe, *salium convallis*, was a waste, parcel of Allerdale above Darwent, and consequently within the barony of Egremont. It lies upon Darwent, where it becomes a great lake, between Embelthwaite and Thornthwaite. Dame Alice Lucy, the second daughter and coheir of Richard Lucy, and wife to Alan de Multon, second son to Thomas Multon, who married the widow of Richard Lucy, gave Wythorpe and half of Whinfell, now Lorton, the eighth part of Broughton, and certain corn out of Aspatrik mill, and three messuages and thirty acres of land in Caldbeck, unto John Lucy her son by the said Alan Multon, whom she named Lucy, and not Multon, because that Lucy was the greater family; and for that her elder sister, Annabel, who married Lambert Multon, did continue the name and arms of Thomas Multon their father, in the family of Egremont: she caused her children to be named Lucy, and gave the Lucies' coat to her posterity. She reserved of Wythorpe a penny rent service, or a pair of spurs; and, after it was inhabited, it was worth 10l. per annum.—The residue was worth 8l. 2s. 2d. and there she reserved a rent service of 3d. per annum. The said John Lucy lived in the time of King Henry III. and King Edward I. and died in the time of King Edward II. about the 8th year of his reign. Hugh Lowther, the son of Hugh Lowther, enjoyed Wythorpe; for in the 8th year of King Edward II. Christian, the widow of the said John Lucy, sued him for her dower in Wythorpe. It descended in the issue male of the Lowthers unto Sir Richard Lowther, now Knight, according to the following pedigree:—Hugh Lowther, who died 10th King Edward III.—Hugh Lowther, Knt. son of Henry, died 44th King Edward III.—Hugh Lowther, son of Sir Hugh and Margaret his wife, temp. King Edward III.—Robert Lowther died 8th King Henry VI.—Hugh Lowther, who died 15th King Edward IV.—John Lowther temp. King Henry VIII.

“ Sir Richard Lowther, temp. Elizabeth, who sold the same in the 4th year of King James, A. D. 1606, unto Richard Fletcher of Cockermouth, chapman, (the son of Thomas, the son of Henry Fletcher) who now enjoyeth the same to him and his heirs for ever, and holdeth by the said services, of Henry now Earl of Northumberland, as heir to Henry the first of that name Earl of Northumberland, to whom Maud Lucy his wife, and last heir of the Lucies' lands of that name, in the 20th year of Richard II. gave the feignory of Allerdale.”*

“ Thomas Fletcher, the father of this Richard, who purchased Wythorpe, was a tradesman in Cockermouth, and so was Richard his son after him, whereby they gathered together a great estate. But Richard traded not long, being content

are regular and beautiful. Clumps of trees are here and there interspersed in the inclosures, and the skirts of the mountains are clothed with wood. The mountains here are not so awful, they bear a smoother, and more pleasing aspect. Here and there fine streams of water flow from the hills and feed the river. The yew tree delights in this situation; it is common even on the sides of the fells: in High Lorton there is one of a surprising size, spreading its branches on every side to a great distance, covering with its shade above three hundred feet in circuit.

The village of Lorton is well built, but the houses are too near to each other.

Wythorpe is situated higher and is colder; the lands very uneven and irregular: some considerable woodland lies in that district. In general the fields are fenced with good thriving quick-wood. The fells or commons in Wythorpe are neither very high nor rocky.

GAME.] Moor-game or grouse, hares and partridge.—HOUSMAN'S NOTES.

* Denton's MS.

“ with the acquests of his father.—He was afterwards knighted,|| and purcha-
 “ fed divers lands besides Cockermouth of George Fletcher of Tallentire, his
 “ coufin-german, (the son of Lancelot, the son of Henry their common grand-
 “ father.) He also purchased Hutton of and seated himself there, which,
 “ after his death, descended to Henry Fletcher his son, who purchased a baronet’s
 “ patent, An. Car. and was after slain at Chester fight, in the quarrel of that king,
 “ leaving his estate and honour to Sir George Fletcher, Baronet, his son and heir,
 “ who now (1687) enjoys the same, and hath made considerable additions to both.
 “ His mother was a daughter of Dalston, of Dalston. He married the lady
 “ daughter to Lord Colraine, by whom he had issue Henry his eldest son;
 “ and after her death, he married the Lady Mary, daughter to the Earl of
 “ Annandale, in Scotland, and widow to George Graham, of Netherby, Baronet,
 “ by whom he has issue George, his second son. Sir George Fletcher died 23d
 “ July, 1700, was succeeded by Sir Henry Fletcher, Baronet, his eldest son.—
 “ Sir Henry turned Papist, and died in a convent in Flanders. He settled his
 “ estate upon Thomas Fletcher, of Moresby, for life; remainder to the issue of his
 “ body; remainder to Henry Vane, second son of Mr. Vane, of Long Newton,
 “ com. Durham, who enjoyed the same.”—GILPIN.

This was a mesne manor of the honour of Cockermouth. There are demesne lands, with a capital mansion or hall-house, called *Wythorp-Hall*, appertaining thereto.* From this place southward, there is a continued range of high mountains as far as Blackcomb, near Millum, which extend south-east into the barony of Kendal and Furness.

BRACKENTHWAITE lies to the south, in the way which travellers take to the lakes of Buttermere and Lowwater. It is said by some to derive its name from the brackens or fern that abound there. Being part of the possessions of the Moresbies, was purchased by Thomas Multon, who took the name of Lucy, and in that family it continued, till it passed by the heiress to the Piercies. After the gift to the crown by the eighth Earl of Northumberland, it was granted to Lord Grey of Wilton, and another,§ from whom by sale it passed to one Richard Robinson, clerk; and, in the descriptions, Dale-hoves and Thwaite are named, and all lands, &c. in Brackenthwaite, and all rents, &c. in the office or collection of the steward of Brackenthwaite. In the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary, a licence issued to enable John Robinson to alienate to Thomas Stanley, Esq. and the Stanleys conveyed to the Fishers.

BUTTERMERE is another of the chapelries under Lorton.† The village is situated in a deep vale, which, by reason of the mountains environing it, is very crooked, affording a vast variety of pastoral scenes. The mountains are lofty, barren, and shaken; and as they spread, they form a gloomy theatre, in which two

|| This Richard Fletcher entertained Mary Queen of Scots with great hospitality at Cockermouth, on her road from Workington to Carlisle, for which, on the accession of her son James to the crown of England, he was created knight and baronet.—THE EDITORS.

* A customary manor, the tenants pay arbitrary fines and heriots.

§ In the 3d King Edward VI. a licence issued to alienate.

† Certified at 1l. paid by contribution of the inhabitants; also this chapel and Wythorp were served by readers, except that the curate of Lorton officiated there three or four times in the year.—Now 26l. per annum.

great lakes are collected. In these waters char are taken, and most excellent trout. The river Cocker rises among the hills, and feeds these lakes.

This is parcel of the manor of Derwent fells, holden of the honour of Cockermouth, and was granted by the crown to Lord Grey, with Brackenthwaite, and passed therewith in the several subsequent sales.†

As the lake of Buttermere is one of the scenes which are so much admired, and has been described by public writers, we will present the reader with extracts from such works as have chiefly possessed the public attention,

Mr. West recommended the ride to Buttermere to be made by the vale of Newlands. He says, those “ who visit the vale of Kefwick, and view the lake “ from Castlerigg, Latrigg, Swinside, and the vicarage, imagine inaccessible “ mountains only remain beyond the line of that amazing tract. But whoever “ takes a ride up Newlands vale, will be agreeably surprized with some of the finest “ solemn pastoral scenes they have yet beheld.”

We cannot proceed without noticing the ancient workings of a copper mine in the vale of Newlands, at a place called *Goldscope*; an old shaft is said to extend from the top of the hill to its base, where it reaches a level, cut through from side to side of the mount, and a stream of water from Bankbeck was conveyed to turn a drawing machine. There is a tradition here, that the mine was wrought in the reign of King Henry VIII. and for some time afterwards; but the ore producing gold, the mine was considered as a royal mine, and a dispute was agitated between the crown and the Duke of Somers, lord of the manor, which occasioned the works to be discontinued. In the year 1757, some adventurers expended about 100l. and drained the works, but did not find the metal of that quality or of a quantity sufficient to encourage them to proceed.

These copper mines were discovered, as it is said, by two Germans from Augsbourg, and a suit was depending between Queen Elizabeth and Thomas, then Earl of Northumberland, in whose lordship of Derwent fells the mines were situated. There being more gold and silver in value than copper or lead in the mines, they were adjudged to be the right of the crown, on an argument on the defendant's demurrer: and it was then pronounced as law, that where the gold and silver extracted from the copper or lead was of greater value than the copper or lead, the mine was a royal mine, and the property of the crown.

By the statute of 1st William and Mary, ch. 30, it was enacted, “ That no mine “ of tin, copper, iron, or lead, should thereafter be adjudged, reputed, or taken to “ be a royal mine, although gold or silver may be extracted out of the same,” provided that all gold or silver that should be extracted be disposed of at the mint within the Tower of London. That law not proving effectual in some cases to quiet the subject, another statute was made in the 5th year of William and Mary, ch. 6, intituled “ An act to prevent disputes and controversies concerning royal “ mines,” whereby it is enacted, that the proprietors of mines shall hold and enjoy them, “ Provided that their majesties, their heirs and successors, and all “ claiming any royal mines under them, shall or may have the ore of any such

† In the several licences of alienation, the lands are thus described:—All the lands called Birkmesfield and Gatefcath, with the appurtenances in Gatefcath and Buttermere *Dubbs*.

“ mine or mines in any part of the said kingdom of England, dominion of Wales,
 “ or town of Berwick upon Tweed, (other than tin ore in the counties of Devon
 “ and Cornwall) paying to the proprietors or owners of the said mine or mines,
 “ wherein such ore is or shall be found, *within thirty days* after the said ore is or
 “ shall be raised and laid upon the banks of the said mine or mines, and before the
 “ same be removed from thence, the rates following; that is to say, for all ore
 “ washed, made clean, and merchantable, wherein is *copper*, the rate of 16s. per
 “ ton,—and for all ore, &c. wherein there is *tin*, the rate of 40s. per ton,—and for
 “ all ore, &c. wherein there is *iron*, the rate of 40s. per ton,—and for all ore washed,
 “ made clean, and merchantable, wherein there is *lead*, the rate of 9l. per ton: and
 “ in default of payment as aforesaid, the owner may dispose of his ore.”

The mine in Newlands was said to serve not only all England, but an extensive foreign market, until the smelting-houses and works were destroyed, and most of the miners slain in the civil wars. Since that event, the works have never been revived to any account.

To return to Mr. West—He guides you down Swinfield, and points out a pleasing view, though down a narrow vale, from the gate on the right, after the traveller has passed the first houses.—“ The road continues winding through a
 “ glade, along the side of a rapid brook: at the hedge-row tree under Rawling-
 “ end, you have a new and pleasant view of the Keswick vale. About Kescadale,
 “ the last houses in Newlands, no traces of human industry appear,—*all is naked*
 “ *solitude and simple nature*. The vale now becomes a dull road or path. The
 “ lower parts *are pastured* with a motley herd, the middle tract *is assumed* by the
 “ flocks, the upper regions, to man inaccessible, are abandoned to the birds of
 “ Jove.”—We forbear to follow Mr. West’s high painting: speaking of the
 approach to Newlands hawse,—“ A mountain presents itself in front; and, among
 “ the variety of waterfalls that distinguishes this awful boundary, one catches the
 “ eye at a distance, that exceeds Lodore in height of rock and unity of fall.”—
 He then describes four mountains of a spiral form, “ the more southern called by
 “ the dalesmen *Hayrick*, another *Highcrag*, a third *Highstile*, and the fourth, from
 “ its colour, *Redpike*. Between the second and third there is a large crater, which
 “ appears to have been the focus of a volcano in some distant period of time. At
 “ present it is the reservoir of water that feeds the cataract near Buttermere.—Here
 “ all is barrenness, solitude, and silence, interrupted only by the murmurs of a rill
 “ that runs unseen in the bottom of a deep dell. The smooth verdant sides of the
 “ vast hills on the right have many furrows engraven in their sides by the winter
 “ rains; and the sable mountains in front present all the horrors of cloven rock,
 “ broken cliff, and mountain streams tumbling headlong.

“ You now approach the village of Buttermere, which is situated between the
 “ lakes, and consists of sixteen houses. The chapel here is very small, the stipend
 “ *not large*; for, though twice augmented with the queen’s bounty, it exceeds not
 “ twenty pounds per annum.”

Mr. West had an unhappy talent of speaking in the language of censure or
 ridicule of the writings of noted authors; of which we find an instance here, as
 well as in the sequel. He says—“ This is one of the cures Mr. Pennant mentions;
 “ but

“ but the perquisites of the *clog-shoes, barn-fark, whittle-gate, and goose-gate*, have
 “ no better support than in some ancient, and, probably, *idle tale*.

“ The life of the inhabitants is purely pastoral. A few hands are employed in
 “ the slate quarries; the women spin woollen yarn,—*and drink tea*. Above the
 “ village you have a view of THE UPPER LAKE, two miles in length, and
 “ short of one in breadth. It is terminated on the western side by the *ferruginous*
 “ mountain. A stripe of cultivated ground adorns the eastern shore. A group
 “ of houses, called *Gategarth*, is seated on the southern extremity, under the most
 “ extraordinary amphitheatre of mountainous rocks *that ever eye beheld*. Here
 “ we see *Honister-crag* rise to an immense height, flanked by two conic mountains,
 “ *Fleetwith* to the eastern, and *Scarf* on the western side; *a hundred mountain*
 “ *torrents* form never-failing cataracts, that thunder and foam down the centre of
 “ the rock, and form the lake below. Here the rocky scenes and mountain land-
 “ scapes are diversified and contrasted *with all that aggrandizes the object in the*
 “ *most sublime stile*.

“ Mr. Gray’s account of Barrowside, and his relation of Borrowdale, are
 “ *hyperboles; the sport of fancy he was pleased to indulge himself in*. A person that
 “ has crossed the Alps or Appenines, *will meet here only miniatures of the huge*
 “ *rocks and precipices, the vast hills and snow-topped mountains he saw there.*† And
 “ though he may observe such similarity in the stile, there is none in the danger.
 “ Skiddaw, Helvellyn, and Calthedarn, are but *dwarfs* when compared with
 “ mount Maudite, above the lake of Geneva, and the guardian mountains on the
 “ Rhone. Here, if the roads in some places be narrow and difficult, they are at least
 “ safe. No villainous banditti haunt the mountains; innocent people live in the
 “ dells. Every cottager is narrative of all he knows; and mountain virtue and
 “ pastoral hospitality are found at every farm. This constitutes a pleasing difference
 “ betwixt travelling here and on the continent, where every innholder is an extor-
 “ tioner, and every voiturin an imposing rogue.”

The next traveller who describes these scenes is Mr. Gilpin, from whose work we will make some extracts.

“ From Keswick we mounted the hills on the north-west of the lake; and, on
 “ the other side, fell into the valley of Newlands, which we traversed from end to
 “ end. It was a lovely scene, totally different from the rude valleys we had yet
 “ met with. The mountains in general on this side of the lake wear a smoother
 “ form than those either on the east or on the south. Of this smoothness of
 “ feature in the higher grounds, the lower participate. The mountain valleys
 “ we had hitherto seen, were rocky, wild, and desolate; but here the idea of terror
 “ was excluded. The valley of Newlands was even adorned with the beauties of
 “ luxuriant nature. We travelled through groves which were sometimes open
 “ and sometimes close, with a sparkling stream, the common attendant of these
 “ valleys, accompanying us through the whole scene.

“ Having been amused with this delightful scenery through the space of three
 “ miles, we entered another valley, or rather a mountain recess, called the valley
 “ of *Gascadale*. I call it a recess, because it is soon terminated by a mountain
 “ running athwart, which denies any further passage. Instead, therefore, of

† We cannot avoid noting these inconsistencies in a popular writer.

“ entering

“ entering Gascadale,† we were obliged to climb the hill which forms one of its
 “ sides : and from the summit we had a view not only of Gascadale, but of many
 “ other mountain recesses, all which participate more or less of the smoothness
 “ of the high grounds in their neighbourhood. Some of them were scooped and
 “ hollowed into beautiful forms ; in which wood only was wanting.

“ The valley of Gascadale had nothing to recommend it but novelty ; a dead
 “ mountain recess, environed on every side, except the entrance, by smooth sloping
 “ hills which are adorned neither with wood, nor rock, nor broken ground, but
 “ sweep down from side to side, with the greatest regularity. At the head of this
 “ recess is a grand cascade.”—We have no description of this waterfall, the fogs
 interfecting the traveller’s view.

“ The mountain over which we passed is called the *Hawse*, or stoppage, the
 “ valley being closed, and no other way left. This *Hawse*, though not so steep as
 “ the mountain which led us to Watenlath, was of much longer continuance, and
 “ in some parts carried us very near the edges of the precipices.

“ As we began to descend, we breathed a purer air, and got a sight of the
 “ landscape before us. It was a scene unlike what we had just passed.—Three
 “ broad mountains, sloping into each other, formed a tripartite valley, centring
 “ in one point. The surface of each mountain was smooth to its summit ; through
 “ two of the divisions of the valley ran different streams, each of them as unfringed
 “ and simple as the mountains they severed. These streams, uniting in the centre,
 “ formed a third. These smooth coated mountains are great sources of plenty ;
 “ they are the nurseries of sheep, which are bred here and fattened in the valleys.

“ The life of a shepherd in this country is not an Arcadian life. His occupation
 “ subjects him to many difficulties, in the winter especially, when he is often
 “ obliged to attend his flock on the bleak side of a mountain, which engages him
 “ in many a painful vigil. And when the mountains are covered with snow,
 “ which is frequently the case, his employment becomes a dangerous one. It
 “ seldom happens but that some part of his flock is snowed up ; and in preserving
 “ their lives, he must often expose his own.

“ After winding about two miles along the edge of one of these smooth moun-
 “ tains, we dropped at once into a beautiful vale, called

THE VALE OF BUTTERMERE.

“ the bottom of which was adorned by a lake of the same name. This lake is
 “ small ; about a mile and a half in length, and a quarter of a mile in breadth ; of an
 “ oblong form, sweeping at one end round a woody promontory. The scenery
 “ about it is grand and beautiful. On the western side a long range of mountainous
 “ declivity stretches from end to end ; falling every where precipitately into the
 “ water, at least it had that appearance to the eye, though on the spot probably a
 “ margin of meadow might extend from the bottom of the mountain. The
 “ eastern side of the lake is woody, and contrasts happily with the western. Near
 “ the bottom of this lake, is the loftiest cascade we had ever seen. It hardly, I

† *Vallis Caprearum*.—Many of the places among the mountains retain names allusive to the *goats*
 which were depastured thereon.—THE EDITORS.

“ think, falls through a less descent than three or four hundred yards, appearing
 “ at a distance like a white ribband bisecting the mountain. The people of the
 “ country, alluding to the whiteness of its foam, call it *Sour-milk-force*.

“ The vale of Buttermere is rather confined in that part which the lake occupies.
 “ Below it extends a considerable way. *Gafgarthdale* opens at the head of the
 “ lake. Here we found two valleys formed by a mountain on each side and one
 “ in the middle. The right hand valley was closed by a *barrow*: the left led to
 “ the scenes we sought after. The transition here is abrupt. We had been
 “ travelling all the morning among mountains perfectly smooth, covered with
 “ herbage; and now found ourselves suddenly among crags and rocks and precipi-
 “ cices, as wild and hideous as any we had seen.

“ *GATESGARTHDALE*, into which we soon entered, is indeed a very tremendous
 “ scene. It had a peculiar character. Its features were its own. It was not a
 “ vista like the valley of Watenlath, nor had it any of the sudden turns of the
 “ valley of Borrowdale, but it wound slowly and solemnly in one large segment.
 “ It was wider also than either of those valleys; being at least half a quarter of a
 “ mile from side to side. The area of this valley is in general concave; the sides
 “ almost perpendicular, composed of a kind of broken craggy rock, the ruins of
 “ which every where strew the valley; and give it still more the image of desolation.
 “ The river also which runs through it, and is the principal supply of the lake, is
 “ as wild as the valley itself.

“ As we proceeded, the grandeur of the valley increased. But we found the
 “ mountains so overhung with clouds, that we could form little judgment of their
 “ height. Our guide told us they were twice as high as we could see. The middle
 “ of the valley is adorned, as these valleys in some part often are, by a craggy hill;
 “ on the top of which stands the fragment of a rock, that looks, in *Ossian's* language,
 “ like *the stone of Power*, the rude deity of desolation, to which the scene is sacred.

“ The vale of Buttermere, which extends many miles below the lake, is a wide
 “ variegated scene, full of rising and falling grounds, woody in many parts; well
 “ inhabited in some; fruitful and luxuriant in all. In the cheerful and healthy
 “ looks of the inhabitants, we met new proofs of the narrow limits in which all
 “ the real wants of life are comprized.”

It would only embarrass the reader's mind, to furnish more description than he
 will derive from the extracts presented to him. The one with the other compre-
 hends every material object which will strike his eye on a view. It must suffice
 for us to add, that these dales do not afford any peculiar or singular history.
 Pastoral life is smooth and full of sameness.

The under lake, called

CRUMMOCK-WATER,

is distant from the other near a mile; the intermediate ground cultivated. It
 is three miles in length, and about one mile in breadth. The sides of this lake also
 form a high contrast to each other; the one consisting of an indented margin of
 cultivated grounds and little coppices, shooting out into various promontories,
 over which a rich scene of woodland impends from the superior eminences in a
 beautiful manner. The opposite shore consists of rocks, which arise from the
 water's

water's brink with a bold front, but have not a very rugged aspect: the morning sun shining upon them has a fine effect. The terminating objects are singularly beautiful; an eminence, scattered over with a few trees, and thrown into inclosures in irregular figures, is in the front; over which stand several tenements, with the chapel of Lowswater: the back-ground consisting of the eminences of Lowfell, opposing a warm brown colouring to the verdant margin of the lake, closes the landscape beautifully.

There is a fine waterfall here, worthy the traveller's attention.

These scenes are extremely picturesque; and, in their narrower scale, afford the painter finer lessons than the larger lakes, as they comprehend greater variety of objects, drawn within the compass of the eye without shifting;—a circumstance necessary to the painter. This lake has been lately much visited by tourists.

We have attempted to say so much of this lake, as Mr. West and Mr. Gilpin have not given so perfect a description of these scenes, as of others which they had visited.

Mr. West's account of Crummock-Water is to the following purport:—
 "CRUMMOCK-WATER soon opens after you leave the village, and pass through an
 "oaken grove. A fine expanse of water sweeps away to the right under a rocky
 "promontory, Randon-knot, or Buttermere-hawse. The road serpentizes round
 "the rock, and under a rugged pyramidal craggy mountain. From the crest of
 "this rock, the whole extent of lake is discovered. On the western side, the
 "mountains rise immediately from the water's edge, bold and abrupt. Just in
 "front, between Bleacrag and Mellbreack, are two spiral hills; the hoarse resound-
 "ing noise of a water-fall is heard across the lake, concealed within the bosom of
 "the cliff, through which it has forced its way, and when viewed from the foot of
 "the fall, is a most astonishing phenomenon.

"The lake is beautified with three small isles; one of rock lies just before you.
 "The whole eastern shore is diversified with bays, the banks with scattered trees,
 "and a few inclosures, terminated by a hanging wood. At the foot of the lake a
 "high crowned hill pushes forward, fringed with trees, and sweetly laid out with
 "inclosures; and above it, on a cultivated slope, is the chapel of Lowes-Water,
 "surrounded with scattered farms; behind all, Lowfell swells his verdant front,
 "a sweet contrast to his murky neighbours, and a pleasing termination, seen from
 "the top of this rock, or from the bosom of the lake.

"The chain of pyramidal mountains, on each side of this narrow vale, are
 "extremely picturesque; they rise from distinct bases, and swell into the most
 "grotesque forms, and burst into rocky heads, ferrated here, and broken there.

"These lakes are of a much greater depth than Derwent, and may be the only
 "reason why they hold char, and the other does not. The char in the summer
 "months retire to the deeps, probably to avoid the heat. The water here is clear,
 "but not so transparent as the Derwent. The outlet is at the north-east corner, by
 "the river Cocker, over which is a handsome stone bridge of four arches."

Mr. Gilpin proceeds thus—"Following the course of the river, as far as the
 "inequalities of the ground would admit, we soon came to another lake, still more
 "beautiful than that we had left above. The two lakes bear a great resemblance