minstar-hall), and ſome other immaterial peculiarities, hard­ly more than are to be found in many counties of England itſelf.

*New Wales.* See *New Britain.*

*New South-Wales.* See *New Holland.*

*Prince of Wales.* See *Royal Family.*

*Walking Leaf.* See *Mantis Sytifolia.*

WALL, in architecture, the principal part of a building, as ſerving both to incloſe it, and to ſupport the roof, floors, &c.—Walls are distinguished into various kinds, from the matter whereof they consist ; as plastered or mud-walls, brick­walls, stone-walls, flint or boulder-walls, and boarded-walls. See Architecture.

*Cob* or *Mud Wall.* In those parts of England where stone is scarce, it is uſual to make walls and houſes of mud, or, as it is called in Devonſhire, *cob;* which is a composition of earth and straw, wet up ſomewhat like mortar, but well beat and trod together. When a wall is making, after being raiſed to a certain height, it is allowed time to pitch or settle before the work is resumed. Some value themſelves on their ſkill in building with this composition ; the price, when materials are found, is generally in Devonshire 3s. per perch of 16½ feet ; but a stone foundation costs more. Houſes built with this, being covered with thatch, are very dry and warm ; a cob-wall, if in a good situation, will last 50 or 60 years or more. When pulled down, they are uſed as ma­nure, and new earth employed to rebuild with.

WALLACE (Sir William), a gallant general of the Scots, who endeavoured to reſcue his country from the English yoke ; but being taken priſoner, he was unjustly tried by the Engliſh laws, condemned, and executed as a traitor to Edward I. in 1304. See Scotland, n⁰ 103, *et seq.*

WALLACHIA. See Walachia.

WALLER (Edmund), a celebrated English poet, was the ſon of Robert Waller, Eſq; of Agmondesham in Buckinghamſhire, by Anne, the sister of the great Hamden, who distinguished himſelf ſo much in the beginning of the civil wars. He was born in 1605 ; and his father dying when he was very young, the care of his education fell to his mother, who ſent him to Eton school. He was after­wards ſent to King’s college in Cambridge, where he must have been very assiduous in his studies, since, at ſixteen or ſeventeen years of age, he was choſen into the last parlia­ment of King James I. and ſerved as burgeſs for Agmondeſham. He began to exerciſe his poetical talent ſo early as the year 1623 ; as appears from his verſes “ upon the danger his majesty (being prince) eſcaped in the road of St Andero ;” for there Prince Charles, returning from Spain that year, had like to have been call away. It was not, however, Mr Waller’s wit, his fine parts, or his poetry, that ſo much occasioned him to be first publicly known, as his carrying off the daughter and ſole heireſs of a rich citizen, against a rival whoſe interest was eſpouſed by the court. It is not known at what time he married his first lady; but he was a widower before he was 25, when he began to have a passion for Sacharissa, which was a fictitious name for the lady Dorothy Sidney, daughter to the earl of Leicester, and afterwards wife to the earl of Sunderland. He was now known at court, caressed by all who had any relish for wit and polite literature ; and was one of the famous club of which Lord Falkland, Mr Chillingworth, and other emi­nent men, were members. He was returned burgeſs for Agmondesham in the parliament which met in April 1640. An intermission of parliaments having diſgusted the nation, and raised jealousies against the designs of the court, which would be ſure to diſcover themſelves whenever the king came to aſk for a supply, Mr Waller was one of the first who condemned the preceding meaſures. He ſhowed him. ſelf in opposition to the court, and made a ſpeech in the houſe on this occasion ; from which we may gather ſome notion of his general principles in government ; wherein, however, he afterwards proved very variable and inconstant. He oppoſed the court also in the long parliament which met in November following, and was thoſen to impeach Judge Crawley, which he did in a warm and eloquent ſpeech, July 16th 1641. This ſpeech was so highly applauded, that 20,000 copies of it were sold in one day. In 1642, he was one of the commissioners appointed by the parliament to preſent their propositions of peace to the king at Oxford. In 1643, he was deeply engaged in a deſign to reduce the city of London and the tower to the 1ervice of the king ; for which he was tried and condemned, together with Mr Tomkins his brother-in-law, and Mr Challoner. The two latter suffered death ; but Mr Waller obtained a reprieve ; he was, however, ſentenced to ſuffer a year s impriſonment, and to pay a fine of 10,000 l. After this, he became par­ticularly attached to Oliver Cromwell, upon whom he wrote a very handſome panegyric. He alſo wrote a noble poem on the death of that great man.

At the Restoration, he was treated with great civility by Charles II. who always made him one of the party in his diversions at the duke of Buckingham’s and other places. He wrote a panegyric upon his majesty’s return ; which be­ing thought to fall much short of that he had before written on Oliver Cromwell, the king one day asked him in raillery, “ How is it, Waller, that you wrote a better encomium on Cromwell than on me ?” “ May it please your majesty,” anſwered he, “ we poets generally ſucceed bell in fiction.” He sat in ſeveral parliaments after the Restoration, and continued in the full vigour of his genius to the end of his life, his natural vivacity bearing him up, and making his com­pany agreeable to the last. He died of a dropſy in 1687, and was interred in the church-yard of Beaconsfield, where a monument is erected to his memory. Mr Waller has been honoured as the most elegant and harmonious versifier of his time, and a great refiner of the English language. The best edition of his works, containing poems, ſpeeches, letters, &c*.* is that publiſhed in quarto by Mr Fenton, in 1730.

WALLIS (Dr John), a celebrated mathematician, was educated at Cambridge; where he became fellow of Queen’s college, and continued ſo till, by his marriage, he vacated his fellowship. In 1640, he received holy orders, and be­came chaplain to the lady Vere. While he lived in this fa­mily, he cultivated the art of deciphering ; and it is ſaid, that the elector of Brandenburg, for whom he explained ſeveral letters written in ciphers, ſent him a gold chain and medal. In 1643 he published, “ Truth tried; or, Animadversions on the lord Brooke’s treatiſe, called *The Nature of Truth, &c.”.* The next year he was choſen one of the scribes or secretaries to the assembly of divines at Westminster. Dr Peter Turner, Savilian professor of geometry in Oxford, be­ing ejected by the parliament-visitors in 1649, Mr Wallis was appointed to ſucceed him in that place. In 1653 he published at Oxford a Grammar of the English Tongue in Latin. In 1655 he entered the lists with Mr Hobbes; and their controversy lasted a considerable time. In 1657 the Doctor published his Mathematical Works. Upon the death of Dr Langbaine, he was choſen custos archivorum of the university. After the Restoration he met with great reſpect, the king himſelf entertaining a favourable opinion of him on account of ſome ſervices he had done both to his royal father and himſelf. He was therefore confirmed in his places, admitted one of the king’s chaplains in ordinary, and appointed one of the divines empowered to review the