the sea. At these small vessels load and unload. The har­bour is formed by the bay, which is about a mile in length, and half of that in breadth. It forms one of the most se­cure harbours in the north of Scotland, and affords safe an­chorage for vessels of 1000 tons burden ; and it is the chief resort for shipping in the northern isles. The wealth of the inhabitants is chiefly derived from the Greenland whalers, which touch here to complete their crews from the sailors belonging to the place, as well as to supply the vessels with provisions and stores. The Hudson Bay vessels also touch here. A number of ships and boats are built at Stromness ; and the manufacture of straw-plait is carried on to a con­siderable extent. It was erected into a borough of barony in the year 1817, and it is governed by two bailies and nine councillors. The population in 1831 amounted to 2182.

STROPHE, in ancient poetry, a certain number of verses, including a perfect sense, and making the first part of an ode.

STROUD, a town of the hundred of Shamwell, in the lathe of Aylesford and county of Kent, twenty-nine miles from London. It stands on the river Medway, over which is a bridge connecting it with Rochester, so as in appear­ance to make it merely a suburb to that city. It consists of a single long street. The church is a fine old building, which formerly belonged to the Knights Templars, who had a palace near this town. The ruins of it are still visible on the banks of the river. The inhabitants amounted in 1801 to 1172, in 1811 to 1394, in 1821 to 1461, and in 1831 to 1549.

Stroud, a town in the hundred of Bisley and county of Gloucester, 102 miles from London. It stands on a hill near the Stroud water, which empties itself into the Severn. The Stroud is brought into communication with the Thames by means of a canal. It is a considerable clothing town, especially esteemed for the excellence of its dark-blue cloths. It was created a borough by the act of 1832, and returns two members to the House of Commons. It has a well frequented market on Friday. The inhabitants amounted in 1801 to 5422, in 1811 to 5321, in 1821 to 7097, and in 1831 to 8607.

STRYPE, John, a most industrious and meritorious la­bourer in the department of ecclesiastical and literary his­tory, was born at Stepney on the first of November 1643. His father, John van Stryp, was a native of Brabant, and sought refuge in England on account of his religion. He was a merchant and silk-thrower. The son received his early education at St Paul’s school, where he remained for six years. In 1662 he proceeded to Jesus College, Cam­bridge, from which he was transferred to Catherine Hall. In 1665, he there took the degree of A.B., and that of A.M. four years afterwards. He was appointed to the perpetual curacy of Theydon-Boys, in the county of Essex, in 1669 ; but he only retained it for a few months, having been ap­pointed minister of Low Leyton, in the same county. He was elected by the parishioners, whom the patrons had left to make their own choice of a spiritual guide. His emolu­ments were not secured to him in the usual way, but by a bond for his maintenance entered into by his parishioners. Their annual subscriptions amounted to sixty-nine pounds sterling. Five years after his appointment to that parish, he was licensed by the bishop of London to preach the word of God in Low Leyton ; and the bishop’s license was the only credential which he had to produce. This undisturbed enjoy­ment of questionable rights may be attributed to the favour which the ecclesiastical dignitaries felt for a man who had made many valuable additions to the annals of the church. When far advanced in life, Strype was presented by Arch­bishop Tenison to the sinecure of Terring in Sussex. He was also appointed to the lectureship of Hackney, which he resigned in 1724. At Hackney he resided, in his old age, under the roof of Mr Harris, an apothecary, who was mar­

ried to his grand-daughter. In his house he died on the 11th of December 1737, at the patriarchal age of ninety-four.

Strype’s principal works are, The Life of Archbishop Cranmer, 1694, fol.: The Life of Sir Thomas Smith, 1698, 8vo: The Life of Dr John Aylmer, bishop of London, 1761, 8vo : The Life of Sir John Cheke, 1705, 8vo: Annals of the Reformation, 4 vols.; vol. i. 17Ô9, reprinted 1725; vol. ii. 1725; vol. iii. 1728; vol. iv. 1731 : The Life of Arch­bishop Grindal, 1710, fol. : The Life and Letters of Arch­bishop Parker, 1711, fol.: The Life of Archbishop Whit­gift, 1718, fol. : Ecclesiastical Memorials, 1721, 3 vols. fol.

The writings of Strype were for many years neglected, but they are now held in deserved estimation ; and they have all been reprinted at the Clarendon press. He is not remarkable for the methodical arrangement of his materials, nor did he ever attain to much proficiency in the art of com­position ; bût no one ever denied him the praise of diligence and fidelity. Beside these works, he published Lessons for Youth and Old Age, 1699, 12mo. He likewise published the second volume of Dr Lightfoot’s Works, in 1684 ; and an elaborate edition of Stow’s Survey of London, 1720, 2 vols. fol.

STUART, Gilbert, an eminent jurist and historian, was born at Edinburgh in the year 1742. His father, George Stuart, LL. D., had succeeded John Ker as professor of hu­manity during the preceding year. According to the tradi­tion of the university, he was an excellent Latinist, but of his proficiency he has left no public proofs. He had pre­pared an amended and enlarged edition of Ainsworth’s Latin Dictionary ; but it was never committed to the press, and its suppression may perhaps have been occasioned by the too high estimate which the professor had formed of its pe­cuniary value.

The son was educated in the public school and in the uni­versity of his native city. Of his proficiency in several branches of study, his various works afford a sufficient cri­terion. To the pursuit of jurisprudence he devoted him­self with uncommon ardour ; but although he had a strong relish for law as a science, he anticipated no delight from its practice, and he was never called to the bar. Of his early progress in this study he exhibited a very conspicuous specimen in a work published without his name ; “ An His­torical Dissertation concerning the Antiquity of the English Constitution.” Edinb. 1768, 8vo. It has been asserted that when he produced this work, he was little more than twenty years of age ; but the statement is not sufficiently accurate, for he had then attained his twenty-sixth year. For a writer of that age, or indeed of any age, it is an inge­nious and able performance. His chief favourites and mo­dels are Tacitus and Montesquieu. With no mean talents for research and disquisition, he has endeavoured to evince that “ the parts which compose our constitution arose more immediately from the forests of Germany.” The same ground had recently been occupied by the learned Dr Squire, bi­shop of St David’s ; of whose Inquiry into the Foundation of the English Constitution a second edition appeared in the year 1753. Stuart’s Dissertation, distinguished by so much vigour of intellect and maturity of juridical learning, pro­cured him from the university the degree of LL. D., which is very rarely bestowed upon so young a scholar. A second edition, bearing the author’s name, was published at Lon­don in the year 1771, and he then prefixed a dedication to the earl of Mansfield.

The dedication is dated at London in the month of Ja­nuary 1770; and before this period he had become a re­gular contributor to the Monthly Review’, with which he continued his connexion from 1768 to 1774. We like­wise find him employed as the editor of “ An Historical Treatise on the Feudal Law, and the Constitution and Laws of England ; with a Commentary on Magna Charta, and ne­cessary Illustrations of many of the English Statutes; in a