Expansion of Liquor in the Thermometer, with regard to the degree of Heat.

In 1721 he married Miss Bridges of Wallington, in the county of Surrey, a young lady of good family, but of small fortune ; and this marriage occasioned a rupture with his father, whose consent he had never obtained. The death of his wife in 1725, and that of an infant son, whom the parents regarded as the presage and pledge of reconciliation with the father, and who actually proved such, deeply af­fected his sensibility. During the two succeeding years he resided with his father at Bifrons, where “ the musical parties, so agreeable to his taste and early proficiency, and the affectionate attentions of a numerous family welcoming an amiable brother, so long estranged by paternal resent­ment, not only soothed his sorrows, but ultimately engaged him to a scene of country retirement, and domesticated and fixed his habits of life.” In 1725, with the full approbation of his father and family, he married Sabetta, daughter of John Sawbridge, Esq. of Olantigh, in Kent. In 1729, on the death of his father, he succeeded to the family estate of Bifrons. In the following year he lost his wife in child­bed. The daughter whose birth occasioned this melancholy event survived, and became the mother of Sir William Young, to whom we owe these notices of his grandfather.

In the interval that elapsed between the years 1721 and 1730, no production of Taylor appears in the Philosophical Transactions ; nor in the course of that time did he publish any work. His biographer has found no traces of his learn­ed labour, excepting a Treatise of Logarithms, which was committed to his friend Lord Paisley (afterward Aber- corne), in order to be prepared for the press, but which probably was never printed. His health was now much impaired; relaxation became necessary, and he was divert­ed by new connections from the habit of severe study, which had distinguished the early period of his life, and which had contributed to contract its duration. Happy in the social circle of domestic enjoyment, and devoting his atten­tion to business or amusement as they occurred, his appli­cation and his literary emulation seem to have declined. He did not long survive the loss of his second wife ; and his remaining days were days of increasing imbecility and sorrow. The essay entitled *contemplatio Philosophica,* pub­lished by Sir William Young in 1793, appears to have been written about this time, and probably with a view to ab­stract his mind from painful recollections and regret. It was the effort of a strong mind, and is a most remarkable example of the close logic of the mathematician applied to metaphysics. But the blow had sunk too deep for study to afford more than temporary relief. The very resource was hurtful, and intense study but accelerated the decline of his health. His friends offered every comfort ; in parti­cular Lord Bolingbroke pressed his consolation, and sought to call his mind from regret of domestic endearments to social friendship at Dawley. The attention and kindness of his friends, however, could not ward off the approaches of dissolution. Having survived his second wife little more than a year, he died of a decline in the forty-sixth year of his age, December the 29th, 1731, and was buried in the churchyard of St Ann’s, Soho.

Taylor, *John,* a very learned philologer and civilian, was a native of Shrewsbury, and was baptized on the 22d of June 1704. His father followed the useful trade of a barber, and the son was destined for the same occupation ; but such was his early and unconquerable love of books, that his father was in utter despair of ever making *Jack* a cunning shaver, when his strong predilection for literature recommended him to the patronage of a gentleman of for­tune, Edward Owen, of Condover, Esq., to whom he was chiefly indebted for the advantages of an academical edu­cation. He was sent to St John’s College, Cambridge ; and is supposed to have been assisted by one of the exhi­bitions founded in that college for the pupils of Shrewsbury school. He took the degree of A. B. in 1724, and that of A. M. in 1728. At the university he speedily distinguish­ed himself by his classical attainments, and especially by his masterly knowledge of the Greek language. He became a fellow and tutor of his college, and was thus placed in a situation of easy competence, extremely favourable to his pursuits. His academical establishment had been render­ed more important by an irreconcilable difference with Mr Owen, whose friendship he had forfeited by refusing to drink a Jacobite toast on his bare knees. He was a Tory without being a Jacobite. The Condover family then en­joyed great patronage in the church ; and the dissolution of this connection might perhaps occasion a change in Tay­lor’s views.

On the 30th of January 1730 he was appointed to de­liver the Latin oration then annually pronounced in St Mary’s before the university ; and at the ensuing com­mencement, in the month of July, he was selected to recite the music speech. He was a frequent writer of familiar verses ; and several of his juvenile poems have been print­ed by Mr Nichols.@@1 In 1731 he undertook to assist Dr Jortin as a contributor to the “ Miscellaneous Observations on Authors, ancient and modern.” For this publication he wrote several articles, signed *cantabrigiensis,* and one without a signature, entitled “ Animadversiones in Luciani Asinum.” In 1732 he was appointed librarian, and after­wards registrar, of the university. The office of librarian he only retained for a short time. He first distinguished himself among the scholars of the age by the publication of “ Lysiæ Orationes et Fragmenta, Græce et Latine.” Lond. 1739, 4to. To his own illustrations he added the conjectures of his friend Jeremiah Markland, an excellent Grecian. This elegant publication was followed by an oc­tavo edition, printed at Cambridge in 1740, and the editor’s notes are there given in an abridged form.

Taylor had obtained one of the two law-fellowships in his college ; and, according to the academic phraseology, he proceeded in the law-line, and took the degree of LL. D. in the year 1741. On this occasion he wrote an elaborate dissertation, which was soon afterwards published under the title of“ Commentarius ad L. Decemviralem de inope De­bitore in partis dissecando.” Cantab. 1742, 4to. In the interpretation of this law, he has adopted the opinion of Bynkershoek, that the creditors were entitled to divide, not the body, but the goods of the insolvent debtor ; but this opinion, which has likewise been maintained by other civi­lians, can neither be reconciled with the obvious meaning of the words, nor with the ancient mode of understanding them. On the 15th of February 1741-2, Dr Taylor was admitted an advocate at Doctors Commons. It does not appear that he ever engaged in the practice of the bar ; but a design was about this time entertained of initiating him in public business, as under-secretary of state to Lord Car­teret, afterwards Earl Granville. It was fortunate for the cause of learning that he was not thus diverted from his more genial pursuits ; and, after a short interval, he exhi­bited a new proof of his profound knowledge of classical an­tiquity, by the publication of his “ Marmor Sandvicense, cum commentario et notis.” Cantab. 1743, 4to. The very ancient marble, on which he supplies so learned a commen­

@@@, Two Music Speeches at Cambridge, spoken at Public Commencements in the years 1714 and 1730, by Roger Long, Μ. A. of Trinity College, and John Taylor, Μ. A. of St John’s. To which are added Dr Taylor’s Latin Speech at St Mary’s, on the 30th of January 1730 ; several of his juvenile Poems ; some minor Essays in prose ; and Specimens of bis Epistolary Correspondence. To the whole are prefixed memoirs of Dr Taylor and Dr Long. Lond. 1819, 8vo.