tary, Lord Sandwich had brought from Athens in the year 1739.

About the beginning of the year 1744, Bishop Thomas appointed Dr Taylor chancellor of the diocese of Lincoln. He was now occupied in preparing a most elaborate edition of Demosthenes and other Attic orators. As a specimen, he had already published the oration of Demosthenes against Midias, and that of Lycurgus against Leocrates. Cantab. 1743, 8vo. After much laborious preparation, he at length published, not the first, but the third volume of his pro­jected edition of Demosthenes, Æschines, Dinarchus, and Demades : *“* Δ*ημοσθένους,* A*ἰσχίνου, Δεινάgχου,* *xαὶ* Δ*ημάδου* *τà* σ*ωζομένα. Græce* et Latine.” Cantab. 1748, 4to. The second volume made its appearance in 1757. It contains the controversial orations of Demosthenes and Æschines, together with the epistles ascribed to the latter. The third volume includes ten orations of Demosthenes. His plan extended to five volumes, but he left it in this incomplete state. Two of his friends, Dr Jurin and Mr Markland, sup­plied him with some annotations. This, like all his other works, is splendidly printed. It was one defect of his edi­tion, that he had not bestowed sufficient care in purifying the text as it had been left by Wolfius. Reiske, a critic not remarkable for his gentleness or candour, considers his illustrations of Attic antiquities as too copious and too osten­tatious ; and he urges a further objection, that he has not to the full extent availed himself of the assistance to be de­rived from ancient grammarians, rhetoricians, and rhetori­cal lexicographers. Of his Latinity he speaks in no favour­able terms. “ Dictio Taylori Latina haud placet: obscura, affectata, putida est. Sed paucos novi Anglos, qui Latine scribere didicissent. Latinæ linguæ neglectus illi genti communis est. Et tamen Taylor, si ad alios Anglos spec­tetur, adhuc bene scribit. Melius si scisset Latine, non vituperasset Wolfium.” After the death of Taylor, his pa­pers relating to the orators were by Dr Askew transmitted to Reiske, who was then occupied with his edition of the *Oratores Graeci,* and who appears to have made a too in­discriminate use of the materials thus supplied. The repu­tation of his predecessor he treats with little tenderness or delicacy. It is however admitted by more impartial judges that Taylor possessed many eminent qualifications for the difficult task which he had undertaken. To an intimate knowledge of the Greek language he added a familiar ac­quaintance with Greek antiquities ; and his skill in ancient jurisprudence gave him a great advantage over most of those who have laboured in the same department.@@1

Dr Taylor having long continued a layman, was at length induced to take orders by the prospect of a speedy vacancy in a valuable college-living. The rectory of Lawford in Essex became vacant in April 1751 ; and being then in the forty-seventh year of his age, he preferred his claim, which was not admitted without considerable doubt and hesitation. As he held a lay fellowship, and had thus been exempted from all ecclesiastical duties in the college and university, such a claim appears to have been unprecedented, but he did not encounter any effectual opposition. He became archdeacon of Buckingham in 1753, and canon residentiary of St Paul’s in July 1757. During the latter year he was elected prolocutor of the lower house of convocation. He was also appointed commissary of Lincoln and of Stowe. Although he was so late in commencing his ecclesiastical career, he is said to have been eminent as a preacher. He printed two sermons; one preached at B⅛hop-Stortford School-Feast, 26th Aug. 1749, and the other before the House of Commons on the fast-day, 11th Feb. 1757. In 1822 they were both reprinted at the suggestion of Dr Parr, who has added notes to the first For his preferments he was chiefly indebted to Lord Granville, who was a very com­petent judge of literary merit, and who had intrusted him with superintending the education of his two grandsons, Thomas viscount Weymouth, afterwards marquis of Bath, and Henry Frederick Thynne, afterwards Lord Carteret. When the earl recommended him for the canonry, “the king said that he had never heard of Dr Taylor ; and that he un­derstood it was a good piece of preferment, and was usually given to a scholar of note. The artful statesman took the hint, and said, the doctor’s fame was celebrated all over Germany. There was no occasion to say more.” He re­signed the office of registrar in 1758, and quitted Cambridge to reside in London. When he entered into orders, he ne­cessarily ceased to be an advocate ; but, by the unanimous consent of the civilians, he usually dined four times every term at Doctors Commons.

Although he ceased to be an advocate, he did not cease to be a lawyer ; and the next considerable work which he produced bears the title of “ Elements of the Civil Law.” Camb. 1755, 4to. This work, which originated from a sug­gestion of his noble patron, exhibits great merits and no small defects. It contains very ample stores of ancient li­terature, as well as ancient jurisprudence, and many of the author’s speculations are ingenious and able. But his range of legal topics is not sufficiently extensive ; and his mode of discussion being very desultory and digressive, his materials, often highly valuable, are not always disposed to the best advantage. One of his speculations exposed him to the animadversion of an outrageous controversialist. “ It is not true,” he had taken occasion to remark, “ that the primitive Christians held their assemblies in the night time, to avoid the interruptions of the civil power ; but the converse of that proposition is true in the utmost latitude, viz. that they met with molestations from that quarter, because their as­semblies were nocturnal.”@@2 This did not coincide with the opinion of Bishop Warburton, who attacked him in that style of unmeasured abuse for which he was so eminently distinguished.@@3 His parasite Dr Hurd had likewise a ready sneer to bestow upon the civilian;@@4 and in the private cor­respondence of these two prelates, who flattered each other and abused almost all the rest of mankind, he is treated as a learned dunce.@@4 Dr Taylor, who was remarkable for his good humour, had no inclination to engage in controversy with such an antagonist as the bishop of Gloucester.

During the last ten years of his life, he seems to have experienced the usual effects of a large participation in the emoluments of the church. His career was no longer mark­ed by a succession of elaborate publications, but he kept his equipage, and lived like a prosperous gentleman. He was kind and liberal in his disposition ; and although he enjoyed a very ample income, he did not accumulate much wealth. Having only attained the sixty-sixth year of his age, he died, very generally beloved and lamented, at his residentiary house, on the 4th of April 1766. His remains were deposited in one of the vaults of St Paul’s, nearly un­der the litany-desk. To the school where he had been educated he bequeathed his large and valuable library, to­gether with the residue of his fortune, for the maintenance of an exhibitioner at St.John’s College. He however re­served to his friend Dr Askew all his MSS. and such of his

@@@, Taylor’s preface and annotations are reprinted in Dobson’s *Oratοres Attici, et, quos sic vοcant, Sophistae.* Lond. 1828, 16 tom. 8vo. “ Neque vero,” says Schümann, “ intelligi hæ orationes et explicari possunt sine accuratiore juris Attici cognitione, quam nostrorum gram­maticorum plerique nimis a professione sua alienam putant.” See the preface to “ Isaei Orationes XI. cum aliquot deperditarum Fragmen­tis. Recognovit, annotationem criticam et commentarios adjecit Georg. Frid. Schömann.” Gryphiswaldae:, 1831, 8vo.

@@@\* Taylor’s Elements of the Civil Law, p. 579.

@@@’ Warburton’s Divine Legation of Moses, vol. iii. p. xxxv.

@@@4 Hurd’s Works, vol. viii. p. 282. Tracts by Warburton and a Warburtonian, p. 223.

@@@\* Letters from a late eminent Prelate to one of his Friends, p. 225.