business would suffer at such a critical time, when the con­tests between the two parties ran so high, that the king thought fit to send the duke of York into Flanders, and the parliament to commit the lord-treasurer Danby to the Tower. After this his majesty still pressed Sir William to be secretary of state ; using as an argument for his com­pliance, that he had nobody to consult with at a time when he had the greatest need of the best advice. Notwith­standing all this, Sir William declined the king’s offer, ad­vising him to choose a council in whom he could confide, and upon whose abilities he could depend. This advice the king followed ; and the choice of the persons being con­certed between his majesty and Sir William, the old coun­cil was dissolved four days after, and the new one esta­blished, of which the latter was a member.

In 1680 the councils began again to be changed, on the king’s illness, at the end of summer, and the duke of York’s return to court. At this juncture Sir William, endeavour­ing to bring to the king’s favour and business some per­sons to whom his majesty had taken a dislike, if not an aver­sion, he met with such treatment from them as gave him a fresh distaste to the court, at which he seldom made his ap­pearance ; so that he resided principally at Sheen. Soon after this the king sent for him again ; and having proposed that he should go as ambassador into Spain, Sir William consented ; but when his equipage was almost ready, and part of the money paid down for it, the king changed his mind, and told him that he would have him defer his jour­ney till the end of the session of parliament, in which he was chosen a member for the university of Cambridge. In this session the spirit of party ran so high that it was im­possible to bring the house to any kind of temper. The duke was sent into Scotland ; but this would not satisfy them, nor any thing but a bill of exclusion, which Sir Wil­liam strenuously opposed, saying that “ his endeavour ever should be to unite the royal family, and that he would never enter into any councils to divide them.” Not long after this period, the parliament being dissolved by his majesty, without the advice of his privy council, and contrary to what he bad promised, Sir William made a bold speech against that measure ; for which he was very ill used by some of those friends who had been most earnest in promoting the last change in the ministry. Upon this he grew quite tired of public business, declined the offer he had of again serv­ing for the university in the next parliament, which was soon after called, and met at Oxford ; and seeing his majesty re­solved to govern without his parliament, and to supply his treasury through another channel, he retired to Sheen a few days after, whence he sent word by his son, that “ he would pass the rest of his days like a good subject, but would never more meddle with public affairs.” From that time Sir Wil­liam lived at this place till the end of that reign and for some time in the next ; when, having purchased a small seat called Moor Park, near Farnham in Surrey, for which he conceived a great fondness, on account of its solitude and retirement, and its healthy and pleasant situation, and be­ing much afflicted with the gout, and broken with age and infirmities, he resolved to spend the remainder of his life in this agreeable retreat. In his way thither he waited on King James, who was then at Windsor, and begged his fa­vour and protection to one “ that would always live as a good subject, but, whatever might happen, never again enter upon any public employment desiring his majesty to give no credit to any thing he might hear to the contrary. The king, who used to say that Sir William Temple’s character was always to be believed, promised him whatever he de­sired, gently reproached him for not entering into his ser­vice, which, he said, was his own fault ; and kept his word as faithfully to Sir William as Sir William did to his majes­ty, during the surprising turn of affairs that soon after fol­lowed by the arrival of the prince of Orange. At the time

of this happy revolution, in 1688, Moor Park becoming un­safe, as it lay in the way of both armies, he retired to the house at Sheen, which he had given up to his son ; to whom he refused leave, though importunately begged, to go and meet the prince of Orange at his landing ; but after King James’s abdication, when the prince reached Windsor, he went thither to wait upon his highness, and carried his son along with him. The prince pressed him to enter into his service, and to be secretary of state ; but his age and infir­mities confirming him in the resolution which he had made not to meddle any more with public affairs, he was satisfied that his son alone should enjoy his majesty’s favour. Mr John Temple was upon this appointed secretary at war ; but he had hardly been a week in that office, when he resolved to put an end to his own life. This resolution he car­ried into effect on the l4th of April 1689, by throwing him­self out of a boat, hired for that purpose, in shooting Lon­don bridge ; having first put stones into his pocket to make him sink speedily.

In 1694 Sir William had the additional affliction to lose his lady, who was a very extraordinary woman, as well as an affectionate wife. He was then considerably turned of sixty ; at which age he practised what he had so often de­clared to be his opinion, that “ an old man ought then to consider himself of no farther use in the world, except to himself and his friends.” After this he lived four years very much afflicted with the gout ; and his strength and spirits being worn out, he expired in the month of January 1698, in the seventieth year of his age. He died at Moor Park, where his heart was buried in a silver box under the sun-dial in his garden, opposite to a window from which he used to contemplate and admire the works of nature, with his sister, the ingenious Lady Gifford. This was according to his will, in pursuance of which his body was privately interred in Westminster Abbey. There a marble monu­ment was erected in 1722, after the death of his sister Lady Gifford. She resembled him in genius as well as in person, and left behind her the character of one of the best and most constant friends.

Sir William Temple’s principal works are, 1. Memoirs from 1672 to 1691. They are very useful for those who wish to be acquainted with the affairs of that period. 2. Remarks upon the State of the United Provinces. 3. An Introduction to the History of England. 4. Letters written during his last embassies. *5.* Miscellanies. He is a pleasing and popular writer ; and his style was long regarded as a model of grace and elegance.

Temple, *Templum,* a public building erected in honour of some deity, either true or false ; and in which the people meet for the purpose of religious worship. The word is formed from the Latin *templum,* which some derive from the Greek *τέμενος*, signifying the same thing. The word *templum,* in its primary sense among the old Romans, sig­nified nothing more than a place set apart and consecrated by the augurs, whether enclosed or open, in the city or in the fields. Clemens Alexandrinus and Eusebius refer the origin of temples to the sepulchres built for the dead. This notion has been illustrated and confirmed by a va­riety of testimonies by Mr Farmer in his Treatise on the Worship of Human Spirits, p. 373, &c. Herodotus and Strabo represent the Egyptians as the first who built tem­ples to the gods. The first erected in Greece is ascrib­ed to Deucalion, by Apollonius, Argonaut, lib. iii. Some ancient people performed their sacrifices in all places indif­ferently, from a persuasion that the whole world is the temple of God, and that he required no other. This was the doc­trine of the magi, followed by the Persians, the Scythians, the Numidians, and many other nations mentioned by Hero­dotus, lib. i., Strabo, lib. xv,, and Cicero in his second oration against Verres. The Persians, who worshipped the sun, be­lieved it would wrong his power to enclose him within the