Witsius was a judicious, as well as a learned and pious writer ; and some of his works continue to be held in much estimation. Of his more important publications we subjoin a notice. 1. Judaeus Christianizans circa Principia Fidei et

SS. Trinitatem: sive, Dissertatio de Principiis Fidei Ju­daeorum, &c. Traj. ad Rhen. 1661, 12mo. 2. De OEcono- mia Foederum Dei cum Hominibus libri iv. Leovard. 1677, 8vo. This treatise has frequently been printed. It was translated into English, and in that form has likewise passed through many editions. In Hervey’s Theron and Aspasia, it receives very high commendation. “ The (Economy of the Covenants is a body of divinity, in its method so well digested, in its doctrine so truly evangelical, and, what is not very usual with our systematic writers, in its language so refined and elegant, in its manner so affectionate and animating, that I would recommend it to every student of divinity.” 3. Diatribe de septem Epistolarum Apocalyp- ticarum Sensu historico ac prophetico. Franeq. 1678, 12mo.

4. Exercitationes Sacræ in Symbolum quod Apostolorum dicitur; et in Orationem Dominicam. Franeq. 1681, 4to.

5. Ægyptiaca et ∆*εχάφυλον*: sive, de Ægyptiorum Sacro­

rum cum Hebraicis Collatione libri tres ; et de decem Tri­bubus Israelis liber singularis. Accessit Diatribe de Legione Fulminatrice Christianorum sub imperatore Μ. Aurelio Antonino. Amst. 1683, 4to. In this valuable work, Wit­sius maintains, against Sir John Marsham and Dr Spencer, that the Jews did not borrow from the Egyptians any part of their religious rites and ceremonies. The Ægyptiaca are reprinted in the great collection of Ugolini, *Thesau­rus Antiquitatum Sacrarum,* tom. i. The dissertation on the thundering legion was attacked by Larroque. 6. Mis­cellanea Sacra. Traj. ad Rhen. 1692-1700, 2 tom. 4to. The first volume, including thirty additional dissertations, was reprinted at Leyden in 1695. 7. Exercitationum

Academicarum, maxima ex parte historico-critico-theologi- carum, decas. Traj. ad Rhen. 1694, 12mo. 8. Meletemata

Leidensia. Lugd. Bat. 1703, 4to. A collective edition of his works appeared at Herborn, 1712—7, 6 tom. 4to. Be­sides his Latin treatises, he published several practical works in Dutch. He was the editor of a Latin version of Godwin’s Moses and Aaron, printed at Utrecht in 1690, and of Gataker,s *Opera Critica,* printed at the same place in 1698. (x.)

WITT, JoHN DE, a celebrated Dutch statesman, was the son of Jacob de Witt, burgomaster of Dort, and was born in 1625. He became well skilled in the civil law, politics, mathematics, and other sciences, and wrote a trea­tise on the Elements of Curved Lines, published by Fran­cis Schooten. Having taken his degree of doctor of laws, he travelled into foreign courts, where he became esteemed for his genius and prudence. At his return to his native country in 1650, he became pensionary of Dort,' then coun­sellor-pensionary of Holland and West Friesland, intendant and register of the fiefs, and keeper of the great seal. He was thus at the head of affairs in Holland ; but his opposi­tion to the re-establishment of the office of stadtholder, which he thought a violation of the freedom and indepen­dence of the republic, cost him his life when the prince of Orange’s party prevailed. He and his brother Cornelius were assassinated by the populace at the Hague in 1674. He was only forty-seven years of age.

WITTENBERG, a circle of the Prussian province of Saxony, and of the government of Merseburg, extending over 330 square miles, and comprehending five cities and towns, 104 villages, and 28,700 inhabitants. The capital is the city of the same name on the river Elbe, over which is a wooden bridge of about 1000 feet in length. It is a place endeared to the Protestants of Germany, as the cradle of the reformed religion, where Luther first preached, and where he and Melanchthon were buried. It now contains five churches, 320 houses, and 6500 inhabitants, including the military and their families. The university has been removed, but the city still retains an ecclesiastical seminary. Wittenberg has suffered from the hostilities of 1813 and 1814. There is but little commerce, although some linen and woollen cloths are made, and there are several distil­leries and breweries. Long. 12. 39. 39. E. Lat. 51. 52. 45. N.

WIVELSCOMBE, a market-town of the county of So­merset, in the hundred of West Kingsbury, ten miles from Taunton and 156 from London. It stands on the river Tone. It formerly had considerable manufactories of coarse woollen goods, which have nearly disappeared by the rivalry of the northern counties. The town has a cor­poration, and is governed by a portreeve. It has a good market on Tuesday, and two annual fairs. The population amounted in 1821 to 2791, and in 1831 to 3047.

WIVENHOE, a small town of the county of Essex, in the hundred of Lexden, fifty-four miles from London. It stands on the navigable river Colne, and is the place where the Colchester oysters are shipped for the London market. It has a regular custom-house and convenient quay. The population amounted in 1821 to 1287, and in 1831 to 1714.

WLADIMIR, a province or stadtholderate in the cen­tral part of the Russian dominions in Europe. It extends in north latitude from 54° 58' to 57° 11', and in east longi­tude from 37° 32’ to 43° 11'. It is bounded on the north-west by Twer, on the north by Jaroslaw, on the north-east by Kostroma, on the east by Nishegorod, on the south by Riazan, and on the west by Moscow. It is divided into thirteen circles, and comprehends thirteen cities and 4828 villages, included in 1062 parishes. The extent is 19,338 square miles, and the population is 1,334,500 persons. They are mostly of the original Russian race, and such ad­here to the Greek church ; but there are some Poles and Germans, and a few Tartars. The greater part of the pea­santry is in a state of slavery. Of these upwards of 300,000 belong to the nobility, and about 150,000 to the emperor.

The whole is a level district, with no elevation reaching to 500 feet above the level of the sea. It has much wood, much heath land, and many morasses. The sloping of the land is towards the Wolga, which does not touch the province, but receives the waters of its several streams. The chief of these rivers is the Oka, into which the Klias- ma, that comes from Moscow, and the other streams, pour their waters. There are many lakes : the largest of them is the Plestsckeiwo, which is about five miles across, and is the means of communication between the city of Moscow and the Wolga. Peter the Great was induced to form upon it an institution for building vessels. The climate of Wladi­mir is severely cold in winter and intensely hot in summer, exceeding in both temperatures that of the adjoining pro­vince of Moscow. The rivers are generally closed by ice in the beginning of November, and do not open again till towards the end of March. Sharp night-frosts are common even in May. The chief pursuit is agriculture, but it is very slightly productive. Much of the land is clay mixed with stones, and often requires six horses to plough it, and then the product is scarcely more than three times as much as the seed that is sown. The only kinds of grain are winter rye, barley, and oats, and a small portion of summer wheat; but the whole of these do not yield, in the average of years, more than sufficient for the consumption of ten months, and supplies are obtained from the neighbouring provinces. Hemp and flax are more important products of the soil, and are extensively cultivated. The forests yield timber, potashes, and pitch. The breeding of cattle is considerable. The horses in this province are much valued, and great pains have been taken by the government to improve the breed of them.

There are some iron mines, which yield not more than from fifty to sixty quintals of iron in bars. The manufac­