W. J. Duncan, whose researches have been most assiduous and successful.

Wodrow’s studious habits appear to have injured his health ; and during the latter years of his life his usual pursuits were often interrupted by sickness, and he at length sunk under a gradual decline on the 21 st of March 1734, in the 55th year of his age. In the year 1708 he was married to Margaret, daughter of Patrick Warner, mi­nister of Irvine, and grand-daughter of William Guthrie, minister of Fenwick, author of a well-known practical trea­tise, “ The Trial of a saving Interest in Christ.” Of a family of sixteen children, nine, with their mother, sur­vived him. His last illness he bore with much Christian fortitude and faith in the gospel, thus giving “ a testimony in his practical experience to the efficacy of those holy truths which he preached so faithfully, and vindicated so nobly by his writings.”

In the course of his researches Mr Wodrow had indus­triously formed an extensive and important collection of manuscripts, chiefly relating to ecclesiastical affairs in Scot­land. Some years after his death, the collection was offered for sale by his family. In May 1742, a portion of the MSS. was purchased by direction of the General Assembly, and this portion now remains the property of the Church. Fifty years later (in 1792) the great mass of his other MSS. and printed tracts was sold to the Faculty of Advo­cates, with the exception of his Biographical Collections (already mentioned), which were obtained about the same time by the University of Glasgow. In June 1828, the Faculty of Advocates likewise secured, what cannot fail to be esteemed an important accession to the Wodrow Ma­nuscripts, 1st, his “ Analecta,” in six volumes, closely writ­ten, being a kind of note-book or diary, in which he has pre­served a valuable and amusing record of literary intelligence, as well as remarkable occurrences, and the news of the day ; 2d, a collection of his own letters, in three volumes, closely written (the first volume not being discovered), from March 1709 to December 1731, comprising copies of nearly 600 letters, which are well worthy of publication ; and, 3d, the regular series of Letters addressed to him by literary persons, or by friends and relations, arranged by himself in chrono­logical order, in twenty-two volumes 4to, and containing up­wards of 3880 letters, between the years 1694 and 1733. In mentioning these collections, it may be proper to add, that, for illustrating the literary and ecclesiastical history of the period which they embrace, the publication of no similar works would be of greater importance than that of Wodrow’s Analecta, with an extensive but judicious selection from his Correspondence. (c, c. c.)

WODSTOCK, amarket and borough town of the county of Oxford, in the hundred of Wootton, sixty-three miles from London. It stands on a small stream that falls into the Isis. It is pleasantly situated, and contains some good houses. There are two branches of manufacture, that of fine leather gloves, and of good steel cutlery and steel ornaments ; but they are more celebrated for the finish of the work than for the extent of their productions. Wodstock returns one member to parliament. There is a good market on Tuesday. The magnificent palace of the duke of Marlborough adjoins the town. The building, the gardens, the park, with the pictures and statues that adorn it, are objects of great at­traction ; and the numerous visitors to it contribute in some degree to the prosperity of the town. The population in 1821 amounted to 1455, and in 1831 to 1380.

WOKINGHAM, a market-town of Berkshire, in the hundred of Sunning, thirty-two miles from London. It is within Windsor Forest, and the courts by which it is re­gulated are held here. It has a large market-place, which is well attended on Tuesday, an endowed school ; and near it is an hospital, founded in 1663, for a master and six brethren under the direction of the company of the drapers

in London. There is also a charity of L.50, to be paid to three maidens who have served the same master during three successive years. The population in 1821 amounted to 2490, and 1831 to 2692.

WOLEIN, a town of the Austrian province of Moravia, in the circle of Iglau. It contains 160 houses, with 1206 inhabitants, who are chiefly occupied in making woollen cloth.

WOLF, Christian, a celebrated German philosopher, was born at Breslau, on the 24th of January 1679. After having been well instructed in the rudiments of learning and science in his own country, Wolf prosecuted his studies suc­cessively in the universities of Jena and Leipzig. At the age of twenty-six he had acquired so much distinction that he was appointed professor of mathematics, and soon after­wards of philosophy in general, in the university of Halle. After Leihnitz had published his *Theodicé,* Wolf, struck with the novelty of the edifice which that philosopher had raised, assiduously laboured in the investigation of new metaphy­sical truths. He also digested the elements of mathematics in a new method, and attempted an improvement of the art of reasoning, in a treatise on the powers of the human under­standing. Upon the foundation of Leibnitz’s doctrine of monads, he formed a new system of cosmology and pneu- matology, digested and demonstrated in a mathematical method. His work, entitled Thoughts on God, the World, and the Human Soul, was published in the year 1719; to which were added, in a subsequent edition, Heads of Ethics and Policy. Wolf was now rising towards the summit of philosophical reputation, when the opinion which he enter­tained on the doctrine of necessity being deemed by his colleagues inimical to religion, and an oration which he de­livered in praise of the morality of the Chinese having given much offence, an accusation of heresy was publicly brought against him ; and though he attempted to justify himself in a treatise which he wrote on the subject of fatality, a royal mandate was issued in November 1723, requiring him to leave the Prussian dominions. Having been formerly in­vited by the landgrave of Hesse-Cassel to fill a professor­ship of mathematics and philosophy in the university of Marburg, Wolf now put himself under the patronage of that prince, who had the liberality to afford him a secure asylum. The question concerning the grounds of the cen­sure which had been passed upon him was now everywhere freely canvassed ; almost every German university was in­flamed with disputes on the subject of liberty and necessity, and the names of Wolfians and Anti-Wolfians were every­where heard. After an interval of nine years, the king of Prussia reversed his sentence of exile, and appointed him professor of the law of nature and of nations, and vice-chan­cellor of the university of Halle ; where his return was wel­comed with every expression of triumph. From this time he was employed in completing his institutes of philosophy, which he lived to accomplish in every branch except policy. In 1745 he was created a baron by the elector of Bavaria, and succeeded Ludwig in the office of chancellor of the university. He continued to enjoy these honours till the year 1754, when he expired on the 9th of April. He pos­sessed a clear and methodical understanding, which, by long exercise in mathematical investigations, was particularly fitted for the employment of digesting the several branches of knowledge into regular systems ; and his fertile powers of invention enabled him to enrich almost every field of science in which he laboured, with some valuable additions. The lucid order which appears in all his writings enables his readers to follow his conceptions with ease and certainty throughout the longest trains of reasoning. His works are partly in German and partly in Latin. His *Jus Naturae,* published from 1740 to 1748, extends to no fewer than eight volumes in quarto, and must at least be considered as an adequate specimen of the author’s perseverance.