WOLFE, James, was born at Westerham, in the county of Kent, about the beginning of the year 1726. His father was Lieutenant-general Edward Wolfe. He went into the army when very young, and applying himself with unwearied assiduity to the study of his profession, soon became remark­able for his knowledge and his genius. He distinguished himself at the battle of Lafelt when little more than twenty, and received the highest encomiums from the commander- in-chief. After the peace he still continued to cultivate the art of war. He contrived to introduce the greatest regu­larity and the exactest discipline into his corps, and at the same time to preserve the affection of every soldier. In 1758 he was present as a brigadier-general at the siege of Louisbourg. He landed first on the island at the head of a division ; and in spite of the violence of the surf, and the force and well-directed fire of the enemy, drove them from their post with great precipitation. The surrender of the town, which happened soon after, was in a great measure owing to his activity, bravery, and skill. The fame which he acquired during this siege pointed him out to Mr Pitt, who was then minister, as the most proper person to command the army destined to attack Quebec. This was the most difficult and the most arduous undertaking of the whole war. Quebec was the capital of the French dominions in North America ; it was well fortified, situated in the midst of a hostile country, and defended by an army of 20,000 men, regulars and militia, besides a considerable number of In­dian allies. The troops selected for this expedition con­sisted of ten battalions, making up altogether about 7000 men. Such was the army destined to oppose three times their own number, defended by fortifications, in a country altogether unknown, and in a late season in that climate for military operations. But this little army, was always san­guine of success ; for they were commanded by an officer who, by a very uncommon magnanimity and nobleness of behaviour, had attached the troops so much to his person, and inspired them with such resolution and steadiness in the execution of their duty, that nothing seemed too diffi­cult for them to accomplish. The admirable skill with which his measures were planned, and the prudence and vigour with which they were executed, are well known. He landed his army on the northern shore of the river St Law­rence, in spite of the enemy, and forced them to a battle, in which they were completely defeated. The consequence of this battle was the reduction of Quebec and the conquest of Canada. In the beginning of the battle General Wolfe was wounded in the wrist by a musket-ball ; he wrapt his handkerchief round it, continued to give his orders with his usual calmness and perspicuity, and informed the soldiers that the advanced parties on the front had his orders to re­tire, and that they need not be surprised when it happened. Towards the end of the battle he received a new wound in the breast ; he immediately retired behind the rear rank, supported by a grenadier, and laid himself down on the ground. Soon after a shout was heard, and one of the officers who stood by him exclaimed, “ See how they run !" The dying hero asked with some emotion, “ Who run ?” “ The enemy,” replied the officer ; “ they give way every­where.” The general then said, “ Pray, do one of you run to Colonel Burton, and tell him to march Webb’s regiment with all speed down to Charles river, to cut off the retreat of the fugitives from the bridge. Now, God be praised, I shall die happy !” He then turned on his side, closed his eyes, and expired.

The death of General Wolfe was a national loss univer­sally lamented. He inherited from nature an animating fervour of sentiment, an intuitive perception, an extensive capacity, and a passion for glory, which stimulated him to acquire every species of military knowledge that study could comprehend, or that actual service could illustrate and con­firm. This noble warmth of disposition seldom fails to call forth and unfold all the liberal virtues of the soul. Brave above all estimation of danger; generous, gentle, compla­cent, and humane, he was the pattern of the officer, the darling of the soldier. There was a sublimity in his genius which soared above the pitch of ordinary minds ; and had his faculties been exercised to their full extent by opportunity and action, had his judgment been fully matured by age and experience, be would in all probability have rivalled in reputation the most celebrated captains of antiquity. His body was brought to England, and buried with military honours in Westminster Abbey, where a magnificent mo­nument is erected to his memory.

WOLFENBUTTEL, a city of the duchy of Brunswick, in Germany. It is the capital of the province of the same name. It stands on the river Oker, and is surround­ed with dilapidated walls. It was formerly the residence of the ruling family, but the palace is converted into a manufactory. There is a fine public library, with more than 200,000 volumes, in which is a statue of the poet Les­sing, who was librarian. This city is the principal seat of the law courts. It has three Lutheran churches, 1100 houses, and 8300 inhabitants, who carry on fabrics of linen, silk, and leather, and some breweries and distilleries. Long. 10. 25. 49. E. Lat. 52. 8. 44. N.

WOLLAMAI Cape, the east point of Philip Island, on the south coast of New Holland. Long. 145. 25. E. Lat. 38. 38. S.

WOLLASTON, William descended of an ancient family in Staffordshire, was born at Coton Clanford on the 26th of March 1659. His father was a private gentleman of small fortune. In 1674, the son was admitted a pen­sioner of Sidney College, Cambridge, where, notwithstand­ing several disadvantages, he acquired a great degree of reputation. In 1681, he commenced A. M., having previ­ously been an unsuccessful candidate for a fellowship. In 1682, seeing no prospect of preferment, he became assistant to the head-master of Birmingham school. Some time after, he obtained a small lecture about two miles distant, but did the duty the whole Sunday ; which, together with the business of a great free-school for about four years, began to break his constitution. During this space he likewise underwent a great deal of trouble and uneasiness, in order to extricate two of his brothers from some inconveniences to which their own imprudence had subjected them. In 1688 affairs took a new turn. He found himself, by a cousin’s will, entitled to a very ample estate, and came to London that same year, where he settled, choosing a private, retired, and studious life. In 1722, he printed a few copies of his celebrated work, entitled “ The Religion of Nature delineated.” It was printed for sale in 1725, and so great was its success, that more than 10,000 were sold in a very few years. He had scarcely completed his treatise when he unfortunately broke his arm ; and this accident adding strength to dis­tempers that had been growing upon him for some time, accelerated his death, which happened upon the 29th of Oc­tober 1724. He was a tender, humane, and in all respects worthy man, but is represented to have had something of the irascible in his constitution and temperament. His “ Religion of Nature delineated” exposed him to some cen­sure, as if he had disparaged Christianity by laying so much stress, as he does in this work, upon the obligations of truth, reason, and virtue, and by making no mention of revealed religion. But this censure must have been the offspring of ignorance or envy, since it appears from the introduction to his work that he intended to treat of revealed religion in a second part, which he lived not to finish.

WOLLASTON, WILLIAM Hyde, was great-grandson of the preceding, and son of the Rev. Francis Wollaston, rector of Chiselhurst, and of St Vedast, Foster-lane, and pre­centor of St David’s, who died in 1815. His father had seventeen children. William, his second son, was bom on