the 6th of August 1766, and received his academical edu­cation at Caius College, Cambridge, where he took his de­gree of M. D. in 1793.

He first settled as a medical practitioner at Bury St Edmund’s ; but meeting with little success, he removed to London, where however he was not more fortunate in his profession. The office of physician to St George’s Hospi­tal falling vacant, he was one of the candidates for the ap­pointment ; and on the election of his rival, Dr Pemberton, he was so much chagrined by his defeat, that he resolved to abandon the profession of medicine, and expressed his determination never again to write a prescription, were it even for his own father ; and from this time his attention was wholly directed to natural science. Although almost every branch of science at different times engaged the at­tention of Dr Wollaston, chemistry was that to which he was most ardently devoted ; and it is on his important dis­coveries in this department of natural philosophy that his reputation will chiefly rest. In pursuing his inquiries, he usually made his experiments on very small specimens of the substance which he wished to analyse. He possessed an uncommon neatness of hand, and invented the most inge­nious methods of determining the properties and consti­tuents of very minute quantities of matter. Among the de­licate instruments which he was accustomed to make, was a sliding rule of chemical equivalents, and a galvanic battery of such small dimensions that it was contained in a thimble. He produced wire of platina so extremely fine as to be al­most imperceptible to the naked eye. To him we are in­debted for the discovery of the malleability of platinum, a discovery which is supposed to have yielded him above L.30,000 ; and he is likewise said to have derived great pe­cuniary advantages from several of his other discoveries and inventions, which, as they were generally of a practically useful nature, were calculated to produce a lucrative return.

Dr Wollaston was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1793, and second secretary on the 30th November 1806. His communications to the Philosophical Transactions were numerous and important. On the 30th November 1828, the Royal Society awarded to him one of the royal medals for his essay “ On a method of rendering Platina malleable.” Towards the end of 1828 he was seized with the disorder of which he died, and which was afterwards ascertained to be an effusion of blood in the ventricles of the brain. Feeling that his end was approaching, and being anxious that the knowledge of his discoveries and inventions should be pre­served for the benefit of his fellow-creatures, he devoted his numbered hours, in the midst of pain and disease, to dictate such information as he thought worthy of being preserved.

At the time of his death, which occurred on the 22d. December 1828, Dr Wollaston was senior fellow of Caius College. In February 18'29, Dr Fitton, as president of the Geological Society, of which Dr Wollaston was for some time one of the vice-presidents, concluded his an­nual address with the following encomium on this eminent individual : “ It would be difficult to name a man who so well combined the qualities of an English gentleman and a philosopher, or whose life better deserves the eulogium given by the first of our orators to one of our most dis­tinguished public characters ; for it was marked by a con­stant wish and endeavour to be useful to mankind.”

WOLOGDA, one of those large divisions into which the European part of the Russian empire is formed, and com­monly denominated a government or stadtholdership. The extent is given differently by several authors; but as Storch seems the preferable authority, it is here given according to his representation, at 151,074 square miles. It extends in north latitude from 58° 23’ to 64° 56', and in east longitude from 38° 47’ to 57° 10'. It is bounded on the north by Archangel, on the north-east by Tobolsk, on the south-east by Perm and by Wiatka, on the south by Kostroma, on the south-west by Jaroslaw, on the west by Novogorod, and on the north-west by Olonetz.

The surface of this province is a most extensive plain, on the eastern side touching the Ural Mountains, a few branches or spurs from which penetrate into the north-east part. Besides these, no hills are to be seen, and but few elevations, but immeasurable woods, broad heaths and mo­rasses, small lakes, and especially a most abundant supply of water in streams of all dimensions. The soil is of vari­ous qualities, clayey, loamy, and sandy, and in some parts there is good marl. There are however some tracts of good alluvial soil to be found over the worst subsoils. In most parts it is capable of cultivation, but the best portions are the south-west parts of the province. Cultivation in the whole province requires watchfulness with respect both to the weather, the nature of the soil, the rotation of crops, and the nature and quantity of manure ; but, with the greatest attention to them, it is not common to obtain more than five times the quantity of the seed that is sown, even of rye, which is the most extensive crop; whereas in barley and oats not three times the seed are commonly obtained. Besides those kinds of grain, a little winter wheat is sown, and some pease. It is only in very good years that sufficient corn for the consumption is grown. According to Storch, the annual quantity of rye and wheat together does not exceed four English bushels for each person. Flax and hemp succeed better than either kind of grain. In some of the divisions beyond the Dwina, no other corn but barley is attempted to be raised. In the north­east part no fruit is grown ; but in the south-west, in the gardens, apples and cherries come to a tolerable degree of ripeness. The cultivation of potatoes has of late years been introduced or extended, and affords a prospect of in­creasing the means of subsistence.

The manufacturing industry is not considerable, and only extends to common necessaries, such as woollen and linen goods, from their own sheep and flax. A little paper, some glass and earthenware, and a few metal articles, form the chief part of the products, exclusive of the leather, and of the brandy, which is distilled from corn in prodigious quan­tities. During the long nights of winter, spinning flax or wool is the constant occupation of the females, and hence much yarn is produced and sold to other districts.

The trade is chiefly in domestic articles ; and these are sent by the rivers or canals in summer, or on sledges in winter, to St Petersburg or Moscow, by merchants residing in the large towns. They are tallow candles, tar, peltry, feathers, isinglass, marts, hogs’ bristles, turpentine, potash, and some wooden furniture. There is a transit-trade, by which the productions of Siberia are exchanged with those of Archangel. The number of persons employed in inter­nal navigation is very great ; and besides these, others, living on the rivers that are not navigable, are employed in summer in forming rafts of timber, which are floated down by the stream till they reach the barges destined to convey them to the places where the timber is wanted.

The principal rivers are, lst, The Dwina, which is com­posed of several rivulets, which, when united, first receives that name within the province. It then receives the waters of the Wytschegda, the Sysola, the Wym, the Keltma, and the Ustjuga. After leaving the province, it is increased by the great stream of the Vaga and its tributary brooks, and runs to the sea at Archangel. 2d, The Petschora, a con­siderable river rising from the Ural Mountains, and forming a means of intercourse between Tobolsk, Wologda, and Perm. It is navigable during the whole summer, with a depth of from twelve to fourteen feet. There is also a canal, constructed in 1786, which connects the waters of the rivers that run to the Caspian with those that run to the Frozen Ocean. There arc many lakes, some of them