Of Food, and of Feeding the Poor. iv. Of Chimney Fire­places. V. Account of several Public Institutions formed in Bavaria, vi. On the Management of Fire, and the Eco­nomy of Fuel. vii. On the Propagation of Heat in Fluids, extending to Liquids the doctrine which he had before ad­vanced respecting Elastic Fluids, viii. On the Propaga­tion of Heat in various Substances. Phil. Trans, ix. Ex­perimental Inquiry concerning the Source of Heat excited by Friction, x. On Kitchen Fire-places and Kitchen Uten­sils. xi. On Chimney Fire-places, xii. On the Salubrity of Warm Rooms in Cold Weather, xiii. On the Salubrity of Bathing, and the Construction of Warm Baths, xiv. Supplementary Observations on the Management of Fires. XV. On the Use of Steam for Transporting Heat. xvi. On the Management of Light in Illumination, with an Account of a new Portable Lamp, xvii. On the Source of the Light manifested in the Combustion of Inflammable Bodies, xviii. On the excellent Qualities of Coffee, and the Art of making it in Perfection.

16. There are several little papers on Steam Kitchens, on the Strength of Soft Materials, and on some other simi­lar subjects, in the first numbers of the Journals of the Royal Institution. 8. Lond. 1800.

17. The series of investigations relating to Heat and Light, which Count Rumford began to communicate to the Royal Society, were continued, and rather more fully de­tailed, in several of the volumes of the Memoirs of the In­stitute, Mathematical Class ; into which they were of course admitted as the productions of a foreign associate. The first of these is in the sixth volume. 4. Par. 1806, p. 71, containing a Description of a new Instrument; a Thermo­scope, or a Differential Thermometer, resembling that of Leslie. ( 18.) The second, p.74. Researches on Heat; show­ing the Effect of the Difference of Surface on Radiation. (19.) iii. P. 88. Further Experiments; on the Effect of blackening the Surface. (20.) iv. P. 97. Researches continued ; on the different Properties of Bodies with re­spect to Radiation, and to Conducting Power. (21.) v. P. 106. Further Researches; some good Experiments on the Passage of Heat through Solids. (22.) vi. P. 123. Experi­ments on the Heat of the Solar Rays ; which was found not to be affected by their convergence or divergence, or by their having met in a focus and crossed each other. (23.)

vii. Vol. vii. i. 1806, p. 78. Remarks on the Tempera­ture of Water at the Maximum of Density; making it 41° of Fahrenheit, or 5° centigrade. Phil. Trans. 1804. (24.)

viii. Vol. viii. i. 1807, p. 223. On the Dispersion of the Light of Lamps by Screens of Ground Glass, Silk, and so forth, with a Description of a new Lamp. (25.) ix. P. 249. On the Cooling of Liquids in Vases of Porcelain, gilt and not gilt; showing the utility of gilding them externally, with some good reasoning on the nature of heat.

26. He was latterly engaged in composing a work on the Nature and Effects of Order, which he never complet­ed, although no person was better qualified to write on the subject.

Count Rumford certainly possessed considerable facility of invention, and there was a very laudable spirit of origi­nality in his views and modes of reasoning, although he had never leisure to acquire profound learning in any depart­ment of study. “ In person he was above the middle size, with a dignified and pleasing expression of countenance, and a mildness in his manner and his tone of voice. He was ambitious of fame and distinction, and had too great a propensity to dictate,” without sufficiently regarding the opinions of others who were of equal authority with him­

self. His mode of life was abstemious, and his health was even supposed to have suffered from too great abstinence, though his regimen was much more the result of medical opinions respecting his health, than of his own peculiar taste for temperance.@@1 (l. l.)

THOMSON, James, a poet of great eminence, was born in the parish of Ednam and county of Roxburgh, on the 11th of September 1700. His father was minister of that parish, which is contiguous to Kelso. The maiden name of his mother was Beatrix Trotter, and she was co-heiress of a small demesne in the county. In Dr Johnson’s life of the poet she is called Hume ; a mistake which is pointed out by Boswell, who supplied the great biographer with some materials for his narrative, which he either forgot or ne­glected. Mrs Thomson presented her husband with nine children, whose maintenance and education may have been a pleasing, but could not be a light burden, to parents cir­cumstanced as they were. At an early age James showed great aptitude for learning; and Mr Riccarton,@@2 a neighbour­ing clergyman, furnished him with books, and took upon himself the chief direction of his studies. The elementary branches of knowledge Thomson acquired at Jedburgh school. There he was inoculated with the love of versify­ing ; but how his thoughts were directed into that channel, does not appear. Mediocrity is easily satisfied with its own attainments, and cherishes its mean performances with pious care. After the first gaze of parental fondness, the *mens divinior* turns from its offspring with indifference or aver­sion, and endeavours to breathe life into a more perfect progeny. On the first day of every year, Thomson com­mitted to the flames all the poetical effusions of the preced­ing twelvemonth. The master could perceive in his pupil no indications of superior capacity ; but schoolmasters are not unfrequently the most fallible of all prophets. One youth, who was to enter upon a career of glory, often dwin­dles into insignificance ; and another, who has been con­signed to perpetual obscurity, as often covers his oracular preceptor with confusion by arriving at distinction.

From Jedburgh school Thomson was removed to the university of Edinburgh. After he had prosecuted his studies there for two years, he received a hasty summons to attend his father in his last extremity, but did not arrive in time to receive his dying benediction. His mother now removed with her family to Edinburgh ; and in order to carry this arrangement into effect, it became necessary for her to raise money by the mortgage of her little estate. Although somewhat of an enthusiast in religious matters, she conducted her domestic affairs with great prudence and economy, and lived to see her son distinguished by the fa­vour of the great. The friends of Thomson were desirous that he should direct his views towards the church ; but he does not appear to have had any great predilection for the clerical profession. At college he remained unnoticed, until Mr Hamilton, the professor of divinity, bestowed a mixture of praise and censure upon a probationary exer­cise of his, explanatory of one of the psalms. The profes­sor commended the fervour of his sentiments and the ma­jesty of his diction ; but added, that if he wished to be of any use as a preacher of the gospel, he must descend to the level of vulgar understandings. Whether the commenda­tion was cold, and the reproof warm, or whether Thomson had anticipated unqualified applause, and was disgusted by the modification with which it was administered, he now abandoned all thoughts of continuing his theological studies. His discourse had been censured as too poetical ; and the poems which he handed about at this time were condemn­

@@@, Pictet, Bibliothèque Britannique. Baldwin's Literary Journal. Gentleman’s Magazine, vol. lxxxiv. Aikin’s General Biography, vol. x. Chalmers’s Biographical Dictionary, vol. xxix.

@@@\* So the name is given by Dr Murdoch ; but it may perhaps be doubted whether this was not the same individual whose works were pub­lished under the following title : “ The Works of the lnte Reverend Mr Robert Riccaltoun, Minister of the Gospel at Hobkirk." Edinb. 1771-2, 3 vols. 8vo. The parishes of Hobkirk and Ednam are within a very moderate distance of each other.