with the form, and evading the spirit of the response, they sent the lame and eccentric poet to Sparta. By the force of his genius, he speedily effaced the first impressions oc­casioned by the meanness of his personal appearance ; but his victories were achieved by the lyre and not by the sword. He composed various poems in praise of valour and patriotism, and breathed a new spirit into the rude sol­diers of Sparta. When they had been thrice repulsed, and their leaders were on the point of ordering a retreat, Tyr­tæus, by loudly reciting his noble verses, roused the droop­ing courage of the army to such a height, that every warrior prepared to conquer or die. In the anticipation that they might all perish on that bloody field, they each fastened on the right arm a ticket, containing his own name and that of his lather, lest, in the general mass of carnage, it might be impossible to recognise their mangled bodies. The Messenians fought with great valour and determination, but the Lacedæmonians at length obtained the victory. When civil discords afterwards arose at Sparta, they were dispelled by the potent song of Tyrtæus. As a reward of his eminent services, he was admitted to the rights and privileges of a citizen. According to the statement of Lycurgus, they passed a law, enjoining as a preparation for battle, that the soldiers were to assemble at the king’s tent, in order to lis­ten to the recitation of this poet’s verses, so well calculated to inspire them with a contempt of danger and death.@@1 Of the literary history of Greece, very few portions are so sin­gular as that which we have now detailed ; nor must it be forgotten that the people among whom poetry effected such wonders, were never distinguished by the cultivation of literature.

Of the fragments of Tyrtaeus, the earliest edition is sup­posed to be that which M. Aurogallus published along with the Hymns of Callimachus, Basil. 1532, 4to. They were afterwards inserted in various collections, those of Tume­bus, Winterton, Brunck, Gaisford, and others. A separate edition was published by Dr Moor, Glasg. 1759, 4to. Two editions, much more elaborate, were published by Klotz, Bremæ, 1764, 8vo, Altemb. 1707, 8vo. This second im­pression contains various additions and improvements. But the most valuable edition that has yet appeared is included in a volume bearing the title of “ Jo. Valentini Franckii, Philos. D. Callinus ; sive, Quæstionis de Origine Carminis Elegiaci Tractatio critica. Accedunt Tyrtaei Reliquiæ, cum proœmio et critica annotatione.” Altonæ et Lipsiæ, 1816, 8vo. The fragments of Tyrtæus, almost entirely in elegiac verse, are eleven in number, but only two of them extend to any considerable length. One of them consists of a single verse. The fragment beginning M*έχgις τευ xατἀxεισθε*; which is frequently printed among those of Tyrtæus, is by the best critics assigned to Callinus.

TYRWHITT, Τηομas, a distinguished scholar, was born in London on the 29th of March 1730. His father Dr Robert Tyrwhitt, descended from an ancient baronet’s family in Lincolnshire, was at that time rector of St James’s, Westminster; but this benefice he resigned in 1732, on being appointed a canon residentiary of St Paul’s. With this preferment, he held the prebend of Kentishtown, and the archdeaconry of London. In 1740 he became a canon of Windsor ; and, if his life had been prolonged, he might perhaps have attained to a higher station in the church ; but he died on the 15th of June 1742, at the early age of forty- four. By his wife, the eldest daughter of Bishop Gibson, he left a numerous family, with only a moderate provision. His eldest son Thomas was sent to a school at Kensington, after he had completed the sixth year of his age. In Janu­ary 1741 he was removed to Eton, where he first displayed that ardent love of literature for which he continued through life to be eminently distinguished. It was said of Tyrwhitt that he never was a boy, his calm and contemplative dis­position always leading him to manly and scholar-like pur­suits. After residing at Eton for six years, he was in 1747 entered of Queen’s College, Oxford. He took the degree of A. B. in 1750 ; and having been elected to a fellowship of Merton in August 1755, he took that of A. M. in the ensu­ing year.

He had previously hired chambers in the Temple, and applied himself to the study of the law ; but in December 1756 he was appointed under secretary at war, the principal secretary being his friend and patron Lord Barrington. In August 1762 he obtained the more lucrative office of clerk of the House of Commons, and he then resigned his fellowship. “ If the fatigues of the clerkship,’’ says one biographer, “had not proved too much for his constitution, it is thought that some of the higher offices of the state were within his reach.” He resigned his office in January 1768, and passed the remainder of his life in learned retire­ment. In 1784 he was elected a curator of the British Museum, and was zealous in discharging the duties con­nected with this honourable appointment. To the Museum he bequeathed a portion of his valuable library, compre­hending such books as it did not already possess. His constitution had never been robust; and having been at­tacked by two violent disorders, he expired on the l5th of August 1786, in the fifty-seventh year of his age. He died at his house in Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, and was interred, as his father had also been, in St George’s Chapel, Windsor. He left behind him the character of a learned and amiable man. “ In private life,” we are informed, “he was a man of great liberality, of which some striking in­stances are given. In one year it is said he gave away L.2000, and for such generous exertions he had the ability as well as the inclination, for he had no luxuries, no follies, and no vices to maintain. Of such a man it is unnecessary to add, that he died lamented by all who knew the worth of his friendship, or enjoyed the honour of his acquaintance.”

Tyrwhitt was a man of solid as well as extensive erudition ; well acquainted with the modern, and eminently skilled in the ancient languages. He was an able Grecian ; and his name is held in much respect by the scholars of the con­tinent. He distinguished himself by his sound judgment and critical sagacity ; nor was he less distinguished by the modesty and candour which he carried into all his inquiries. He bore no resemblance to those verbal critics who seem to have dipped their pens in gall whenever they enter upon the discussion of a controverted point, however minute.

His earliest publication was “ An Epistle to Florio at Oxford.” Lond. 1749, 4to. This was followed by “Trans­lations in Verse.” 1752, 4to. Here Pope’s Messiah and Philips’s Splendid Shilling appear in Latin, and the eighth Isthmian ode of Pindar in English. His next work, which is but of small extent, is entitled “ Observations and Conjectures on some Passages of Shakspeare.” Oxford, 1766, 8vo. On the same poet he afterwards communi­cated various annotations to Steevens and Reed, for their editions of 1778 and 1785. His edition of another English poet brought him a considerable increase of reputation : “ The Canterbury Tales of Chaucer. To which are added, an essay on his language and versification ; an introduc­tory discourse ; and notes.” Lond. 1775-8, 5 vols. 8vo. Oxf. 1798, 2 vols. 4to. Lond. 1830, 5 vols. 8vo. He afterwards lent his aid to the publication of “ Poems, sup­posed to have been written at Bristol, by Thomas Rowley and others, in the fifteenth century ; the greatest part now first published from the most authentic copies, with an en­graved specimen of one of the MSS. To which are added

@@@1 Oratores Attici, torn. iv. p. 451. edit. Dobson.