riotous boy had the audacity, on one occasion, to hurl a Latin dictionary at Warton’s head.”@@1

On being placed at the head of this great school, Warton repaired to Oxford, and accumulated the degrees of B. and D. D. In 1772 he lost his wife, by whom he had six chil­dren. Such a loss was severely felt ; but he found himself helpless without the superintending care of a domestic com­panion ; and in the course of the following year he mar­ried the daughter of Robert Nicholas, Esq. a descendant of Dr Nicholas, formerly warden of Winchester. From his scholastic toils he was accustomed to seek a relaxation in fashionable as well as literary society. His vacations were frequently spent in London. Like his brother, he became a member of the famous Literary Club ; and being conspi­cuous for the vivacity and pleasantry of his conversation, the circle of his acquaintance was at once brilliant and ex­tensive. His dignified friends did not however advance him to any eminent preferment. In 1782 Bishop Lowth conferred upon him a prebend of St Paul’s and the living of Thorley in Hertfordshire, which he was permitted to ex­change for Wickham. In the course of the same year, he published the second volume of his Essay on Pope. In 1788 the interest of Lord Shannon procured him a prebend at W’inchester ; and to Lord Malmesbury he was indebted for the rectory of Easton, which, before the close of the year, he exchanged for Upham. The amount of these pre­ferments was not inconsiderable, but they came too late to be of much avail to his family. He was sixty years of age before he had any benefice, except the small livings of Winslade and Tunworth, and nearly seventy before he ob­tained those which afterwards fell to his share.

On the 23d of July 1793 he resigned his office of head­master, and afterwards retired to his rectory of Wickham. His literary ardour was not yet extinguished ; and a liberal offer from the London booksellers encouraged him to un­dertake a new edition of the works of Pope, which was pub­lished in the year 1797 in nine volumes octavo. For such a task he possessed many' qualifications, but his edition did not escape the sharpness of critical reprehension. It was assailed with sufficient virulence by Mathias, in that great repository of literary and political malignity the Pur­suits of Literature. He next undertook an edition of Dry­den, and about the year 1799 he had completed two vo­lumes, which were afterwards published. At a much ear­lier period of his life, he had projected a history of the re­vival of learning ; and about the year 1784 he issued pro­posals for publishing “ The History of Grecian, Roman, Italian, and French Poetry, in four parts.” In this work, which was to occupy two quarto volumes, he however ap­pears to have made little or no progress. All his labours and projects were terminated by an incurable disease in his kidneys; and he died on the 23d of February 1800, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. His widow survived till 1806. Besides three daughters, of whom the youngest was by his second wife, he left a son, the late John Warton, D. D. who published a work entitled “ Death-bed Scenes.”

Dr Warton was a very elegant, rather than a very pro­found scholar ; and with his classical learning he united much knowledge of modem literature, Italian and French as well as English. On subjects of criticism, he was an agreeable and instructive writer. His poems, which are but few in number, appear in the collection of Mr Chal­mers. He is a skilful versifier, and is not destitute of poe­tical fancy. (x.)

Warton, *Thomas,* the brother of Dr Warton, was bom at Basingstoke in the year 1728. He was distinguished by his very early love of letters ; and a tetrastich which he wrote at the age of nine, has been preserved by his bio­grapher. He remained under the domestic tuition of his father till he was prepared for the university. On the 16th of May 1743, he was admitted a commoner of Trinity Col­lege, Oxford, and was soon afterwards elected a scholar of that house.

He continued to cherish his love of poetry ; and in 1747 he published without his name “ The Pleasures of Melan­choly,” written two years before. On the appearance of Mason’s “ Isis, an Elegy,’’ which contains reflections on the Jacobitical principles then prevalent at Oxford, Warton was encouraged by Dr Huddesfield, president of his col­lege, to repel this attack. He accordingly published, in 1749, “ The Triumph of Isis, occasioned by Isis, an Elegy.” This poem, written at the age of twenty-one, extended his reputation. The principal of St Mary Hall, who is highly extolled for his Roman eloquence, sent the young author a present of five pounds. The same individual is likewise extolled for his patriotism. From the “ Political and Li­terary Anecdotes of his own Times,” published long after his death, it is evident that Dr King was deeply implicated in the schemes of the Jacobites ; and we may thus ascer­tain the value of the commendation bestowed upon such a “ patriot’s fire.”

Warton took the degree of A. M. on the first of Decem­ber 1750, and in the course of the following year succeed­ed to a fellowship. He was thus placed in a situation well adapted to his character and pursuits. Though not rich, he was easy and independent, and had abundant leisure for the cultivation of those elegant studies in which he delight­ed. About this period he published various poems, either in a separate form or in some of the miscellaneous collec­tions of the day. He was the editor of “ The Union, or select Scots and English Poems,” first printed at Edin­burgh in 1753. This collection, of which there are three editions, includes several of his own poems ; two of which, an ode and a pastoral, he has chosen to describe as written by a gentleman formerly of the university of Aberdeen. He afterwards published a work which evinces great know­ledge of English literature, and a very sound spirit of criticism, “ Observations on the Fairie Queene of Spenser.” Lond. 1754, 8vo. An edition, in two volumes octavo, followed in 1762. The first edition was attacked in a scurrilous pamphlet, bearing the title of “ The Observer observed ; or, Remarks on a certain curious Tract, entitled Observa­tions on the Fairie Queene of Spenser, by Thomas War­ton, A. M.” Lond. 1756, 8vo. This pamphlet, which ap­peared without the author’s name, was written by Hug­gins, the unpoetical translator of Ariosto.

In 1757, on the resignation of Mr Hawkins of Pembroke College, he was elected professor of poetry. For this office, which is only tenable for ten years, he was eminent­ly qualified by his taste as well as his learning ; and we are informed that he exerted himself to fulfil its duties, by a constant recommendation of the elegance and simplicity of the classic poets. His lectures are said to have been re­markable for elegance of diction, and justness of observa­tion. A specimen may be found in his dissertation “ De Poesi Bucolica Græcorum which was originally delivered as one of these lectures, and having afterwards been en­larged, was prefixed to his edition of Theocritus.

His next publication was an elegant little collection en­titled “ Inscriptionum Romanarum Metricarum Delectus. Accedunt notulæ.” Lond. 1758, 4to. The ancient are mixed with a few modern inscriptions. One of these, by Dr Jortin, had been printed as an ancient relique, in the Miscellaneous Observations on various Authors. Warton, who apparently entertained a doubt of its genuineness, has

@@@, Harford’s Life of Thomas Burgess, D. D. late Lord Bishop of Salisbury, p. 5. Lond. 1840, 8vo.