miles from that city. The chief articles conveyed by it to London are corn and hops, and the produce of an oyster-fishery near to it. It has a large parish church. The po­pulation amounted in 1801 to 1205, in 1811 to 1249, in 1821 to 1611, and 1831 to 1926.

WHITSUN Farthings, otherwise called *Smoke-far­things,* or *Quadrantes Pentecostales,* a composition for of­ferings which were anciently made in Whitsun-week, by every man in England who occupied a house with a chim­ney, to the cathedral church of the diocese in which he lived.

WHITSUN Island, in the South Pacific Ocean, disco­vered by Captain Wallis in 1767, about four miles long and three wide. Long. 137. 56. W. Lat. 19. 26. S.

WHITSUNDAY, a solemn festival of the Christian church, observed on the fiftieth day after Easter, in me­mory of the descent of the Holy Ghost upon the apostles in the visible appearance of fiery cloven tongues, and of those miraculous powers which were then conferred upon them. It is called *Whitsunday,* or *White Sunday,* because this being one of the stated times for baptism in the ancient church, those who were baptized put on white garments, as types of that spiritual purity which they received i n baptism. As the descent of thc Holy Ghost upon the apostles happened upon the day which the Jews called *Pentecost,* this festival retained the name of *Pentecost* among the Christians.

WhitsundayCape, on the south side of the island of Kodiak, in the North Pacific Ocean. Long. 208. 4. E. Lat. 58. 14. N.

Whitsunday Island, or *Pentecost,* one of the New He­brides, in the South Pacific Ocean, about thirty miles long by eight broad. Long. 168. 20. E. Lat. 15. 41. S.

WhitsundAy’s Passage, a strait so called by Captain Cook, from the day on which he sailed through it in 1770, between Cumberland Island and the coast of New Holland.

WHITSUNTIDE Bay, the passage which separates the islands of Kodiak and St Hermogenes, which lie about sixty miles from the entrance of Cook’s Inlet, in the North Pacific Ocean. It was so called by Cook, who was not aware that the land was here divided into two islands, and what he supposed to be a bay was the strait by which they were separated.

WHITTLESEY, a town of the county of Cambridge, in the isle of Ely. It stands on the great Bedford Level, seventy-six miles from London and twenty-six from Cam­bridge. It contains two parishes, St Andrew’s and St Mary’s, each with a church. It stands on a rich but insalu­brious district ; and near to it is the Mere, or lake of its name, formed by a branch of the river Nen, and numerous drains from the fens in Huntingdonshire. It is between five and six miles in length, and from two to three in breadth, and abounds in excellent fish. The population amounted in 1821 to 5276, and in 1831 to 6019.

WHYE, a town of Hindustan, province of Bejapoor, si­tuated near the source of the river Krishna, and one of the places of Hindu pilgrimage. It now belongs to the Bri­tish. Long. 74. 5. E. Lat. 18. 0. N.

WHYMEA Bay, on the north coast of the island of Woahoo. It was here that Mr Hergest, commander, Mr Gooch, astronomer, and a seaman of the Dædalus, going out with stores for Captain Vancouver, was seized by some of the inhabitants and killed in 1792. Long. 202. 51. E. Lat. 21. 38. N.

Whymea Road, on the south west-coast of the island of Attowai.

WHYTATAKEE, an island in the South Pacific Ocean, discovered by Captain Bligh of the Bounty. Long. 159. 41. W. Lat. 18. 52. S.

WHYTT, Robert, an eminent physician, born at Edin­burgh on the 6th September 1714, was the son of Robert Whytt, Esq. of Bennochy, advocate. This gentleman died six months before the birth of this son, who had also the misfortune to be deprived of his mother before he had attained the seventh year of his age. After receiving the first rudiments of school-education, he was sent to the uni­versity of St Andrews ; and after the usual course of in­struction there, in classical, philosophical, and mathematical learning, he came to Edinburgh, where he entered upon the study of medicine under those eminent medical teachers Monro, Rutherford, St Clair, Plummer, Altson, and Innes. After learning what was to be acquired at this university, in the prosecution of his studies he visited foreign coun­tries ; and after attending the most eminent teachers at London, Paris, and Leyden, he took the degree of doctor of physic at Reims in 1736, being then in the twenty-se­cond year of his age. Upon his return to his native coun­try, he had the same degree conferred upon him by the uni­versity of St Andrews, where he had before taken, with ap­plause, the degree of master of arts.

Not long afterwards, in the year 1737, he was admitted a licentiate by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh ; and the year following he was raised to the rank of a fel­low. From the time of his admission as a licentiate, he entered upon the practice of physic at Edinburgh ; and thc reputation which he acquired for medical learning, pointed him out as a fit successor in the first vacant chair in the university. Accordingly, when Dr St Clair resigned his academical appointments, Dr Whytt was elected his suc­cessor on the 20th of June 1746, and began his first course of the institutions of medicine at the commencement of the next winter session. In 1752, he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of London ; in 1761, he was appointed first physician to the king in Scotland; and in 1764, he was chosen president of the Royal College of Physicians at Edin­burgh.

But the fame which Dr Whytt acquired as a practitioner and teacher of medicine, was not a little increased by the information which he communicated to the medical world in different publications. His celebrity as an author was still more extensive than his reputation as a professor. His first publication, “ An Essay on the Vital and other In­voluntary Motions of Animals,” although it had been begun soon after he had finished his course of medical educa­tion, did not come from the press till 1751, an interval of fifteen years from the time when he had finished his aca­demical course, and taken his doctor’s degree ; but the delay of this publication was fully compensated by the mat­ter which it contained, and the improved form under which it appeared. The next subject which employed the pen of Dr Whytt was one of a nature more immediately prac­tical. His “ Essay on the Virtues of Lime-Water and Soap in thc Cure of the Stone” first made its appearance in a separate volume in 1752. His third work, entitled “ Phy­siological Essays,’’ was first published in the year 1755. This treatise consisted of two parts : lst, “ An Inquiry into the Causes which promote the Circulation of thc Fluids in the very small Vessels of Animals;” and 2dly, “ Observa­tions on the Sensibility and Irritability of the Parts of Men and other Animals, occasioned by Dr Haller’s treatise on that subject.” The former of these may be considered as an extension and farther illustration of the sentiments which he had already delivered in his Essay on the Vital Motions, while the latter was on a subject of a contro­versial nature. In both he displayed that acuteness of intellect and strength of judgment which appeared in his former writings.

From the time when his Physiological Essays were pub­lished, several years were probably employed by the au­thor in preparing for the press a larger and perhaps a more important work than any yet mentioned, his “ Obser­vations on the Nature, Causes, and Cure of those Disorders which are commonly called *nervous, hypochondriac,* and