

Dryden and Pope. The poem by which his name is principally known to the public will always remain among the classical pieces of English literature, while some of his smaller poems will never cease to hang in the memory of men while the English language is understood. It must have been by an extraordinary combination of position, of intellectual and social qualities, of prudence and of wisdom, that the same man who was the friendly rival of Byron, Wordsworth, and Scott, talked finance with Huskisson and Peel upon equal terms, exchanged *bon mots* with Talleyrand, and was the friend of all the eminent men and of many of the indigent and miserable who flourished and suffered during three parts of a century."

#### COUNT VALERIAN KRASINSKI.

The Edinburgh papers announce the death of this venerable and distinguished foreigner, which took place on the 22d December. He has resided in Edinburgh for the last eight years, and was familiarly known to its literary circles, where his singularly comprehensive stores of historic knowledge, his extraordinary memory, and his pleasing and courteous manners, ever made him a welcome guest. He belonged to one of the noblest of Polish families, was a native of the ancient Polish province of White Russia, and took a leading part in the Revolution of 1830. On the termination of the struggle, the Count came in 1831, among the crowd of exiles who sought refuge in Britain, and the last work which occupied him was the preparation of a final appeal to the British nation on the subject of Poland. His advocacy of Polish restoration, however, was not revolutionary, but conservative. His first literary production during his exile was a translation of Borolowski's "Court of Sigismund Augustus," an historical romance. Next appeared his "History of the Polish Reformation,"—a work which at once established Count Krasinski's reputation as one of the most eminent historical writers of the day, and which having subsequently been translated into German and French, acquired for him European renown, and won for him flattering notices from the most distinguished men of letters in all countries, as well as from crowned heads, among whom was the late King of Prussia, who bestowed upon him the gold medal for literary merit. In 1847 he delivered in Edinburgh a course of lectures on "Panslavism and Germanism," which were shortly afterwards published. His "Religious History of the Slavonic Nations" appeared in 1853. Early last year he commenced the publication, in parts, of a "History of Poland," the materials for which he had long had in preparation. Besides the works now mentioned, Count Krasinski contributed occasionally to some leading periodicals. Though often subjected to great privations, he ever resolutely rejected the most brilliant offers made to him by Russia, and even declined the more flattering and honorable overtures made to him by the King of Prussia, preferring a life of honest, though not painless, independence in a free country to the golden chains of the destroyer of his native land, or even the service of a monarch whose country has borne an unenviable part in the history of that destruction.

#### SIR GEORGE BALLINGALL.

The death of Sir George Ballingall, M.D., Professor of Military Surgery in the University of Edinburgh, took place on the 4th of December last, at his country residence, Altamount, near Blairgowrie. He had filled the chair of Military Surgery in the University for thirty two years, his appointment dating from 1823. He was a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh; a Fellow of the Royal Society; an Honorary Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland; and