

"We descended from the castle by a fine rocky terrace to the gardens, which occupy an extensive level spot between it and the hilly part of the park. The trees of the latter, however picturesque and natural in their effect, are almost all placed there by the hand of art. The English have certainly carried the art of gardening to its highest point, for it is the triumph of art to resemble nature so closely while it yet remains wholly art. Not only the trees, but even the turf of this park, I was told, was artificial, yet one might have thought it laid by the fairies themselves for their moonlight dances; the waters, which had all the appearance of natural lakes, the ivy that hung its rich draperies round the castle rock, and the ancient yew-trees—all had been shaped by art, yet all appeared the spontaneous work of nature.

"The flower-gardens are the pride of the place, especially as some of their contents, the heaths especially, have been brought to a point of perfection scarcely to be seen elsewhere. The plan of the whole may be considered a patriotic Scotch one, for it is laid out in the form of a St. Andrew's cross, in which the shrubberies and flowers are enclosed like jewels in a setting.

"One of the most beautiful features of English gardens is the soft velvet turf, which, far from being, as it too often is with us, a kind of forbidden ground, is generally more walked on than the gravel, except in wet weather.

"At Drummond Castle the grass is as soft and firm as the richest carpet, and the long sweeping branches of the firs fall on it with beautiful effect. I do not know whether it is from any peculiarity of climate, or, as I rather think, the result of art, but this tree appears to attain a very much finer development than in Germany, where I have usually seen the lower branches broken or withered, and the large full ones commencing half way up the stem, giving the tree a mutilated appearance. In the English parks, on the contrary, it is clothed down to the ground with long boughs, sweeping like a lady's or a peacock's train, and from which it rises like a pyramid.

"Scotland is neither absolutely nor proportionally so rich in gardens as England, but a vast majority of the English gardens are under the care of Scotchmen, whose skill in this department is much esteemed, and this is not the only one in which the progress of the 'barbarous Scots,' as they used to be called, has been truly astonishing. No country in Europe, perhaps, has made such advances in such a short period, and these are mainly attributable, it is said, to the improvements made in agriculture. 'If science once gets into the farmer's ground, sir,' said the gardener of Drummond Castle, 'it penetrates the very heart of a nation.'

The next point of interest in our author's wanderings is the 'fair city of Perth,' "surrounded by Highland scenery, and of such a stately character, that one ought to write in hexameters to describe it worthily."

Perhaps the most lively piece of description in the whole work before us, is the account of "the two great national games of Scotland, Curling and Golf," but the length of the passage prevents

us from extracting it. The Curlers of North America are particularly noticed.

"The Scots, as I have mentioned, have introduced the game into North America, and some most interesting rinks, it is said, are occasionally formed in winter upon the St. Lawrence. My friends informed me, that, in recent times, a great revolution had taken place in the constitution of those Societies; that it was in contemplation to form a great brotherhood of the rink, consisting of the keen curlers of all the clubs, "of both sides of the Tweed," and from beyond St. George's Channel and the Atlantic ocean; and, that the Society should have its correspondents, its grand matches, and its journal. Ninety clubs have already joined this Association.

"I find it stated in an annual report of the Grand Caledonian Club of 1842, that the Scotch in the North American colonies have carried their zeal for this game so far, that the curlers of Toronto sometimes challenge those of Montreal, a town four hundred miles distant, to meet them and play a evening game. They meet in friendly bonspiels, and afterwards sit down to beef and greens. 'Perhaps,' continues the report, 'we shall, ere long, have the pleasure of seeing our brothers from the other side of the Tweed come to us from famous London town to Anll Reekie, to warm their hands at Scotland's ain game o' curling, and afterwards to gladden their hearts wi' ae nicht o' true Scottish curling conviviality.' Old appropriate songs, curling songs are sung at these evening meetings. The great Caledonian Club, and others too, I believe, have even their curling antiquities; for instance, old curling stones used in former times. One of the oldest of this class that I heard of bore the date of 1613, and had been found in a moor."

Mr. Kohl, in our humble opinion, has scarcely done justice to Dunkeld; and we think those of our readers will agree with us, who have ever seen that exquisitely romantic little town, as it smiles on the stern mountains which encircle it, with a beauty past expression.

"The small town bearing this ancient Celtic name is surrounded by mountains, no longer bounding the distant horizon, but pressing closely in on every side; it is the seat of the Duke of Athol, the chief of the great clan of Murray. A former duke is celebrated for having planted 45,000 acres of land with trees, the number of which is said to amount to twelve or fifteen millions; it is, therefore, not surprising that the hills around his mansion are overshadowed by a magnificent growth of timber. From these dark hills gush out the clear crystal waters of the Tay, and flow through the pass or mouth which affords a beautiful glimpse into the Lowland country.

"The town is handsome and pleasant, and beyond it lie the great mansion and park, over the gates of which, as usual in the parks of the English nobility, the arms of the family make a conspicuous figure. The motto beneath them, that of the Murray family, was curious: 'Forth fortune, and fill the fatters,' which I understood to signify: 'Advance your fortune by making as many prisoners and slaves as possible, thereby filling the fatters.' The oldest title of the chief