

that human eye could witness; but so great is the amount of privation and wretchedness endured in different parts of the world, that I hesitate to give the preference to any. Certain it is, however, that the manner of life of the poor in Edinburgh has its own very peculiar evils, which arise chiefly from the remarkable mode of building adopted in the part of the town they inhabit. The "closes" of the Old Town are probably the narrowest streets in the world. The lanes and alleys of Genoa and those of the oriental cities, are broad and spacious compared to them. Some are literally only a yard and a half or two yards across from house to house! Formerly the houses in these closes were inhabited by wealthy nobles, and many of them still bear the names of distinguished old families, such as "Morrison's Close," "Grey's Close," "Stewart's Close," &c. The old nobles built their houses in these close and narrow streets, in order to be more secure from attack, and to be able to defend and fortify the entrances of their streets more completely. Many of these closes still bear the arms of these old families over their entrances. In Blythe's Close is still shown the palace of the Queen Regent, Mary Guise. It is now in a very ruinous condition, and is inhabited from top to bottom, by numbers of poor families. In Bakehouse Close stand the old houses of the Earls of Gosford and Moray, and of the Dukes of Queensberry; the latter is now a beggar's lodging-house. Such once distinguished and now degraded houses are found in every part of the Old Town.

"I have never found the very poor in any part of the world, orderly or cleanly in their habits, for a certain degree of prosperity and comfort is necessary to awaken in any the taste for order and cleanliness. In England and Scotland a very considerable degree of worldly advantages is required, before the love of cleanliness, frugality, or order is developed. The English poor are too often dirty, disorderly, and extravagant in their habits, and of the poorest among the Scotch, this is still more invariably the case. It may be imagined, therefore, how filthy and pestilential is the very air in these closes. As neither sun nor wind can ever pierce them, they are always damp. In many places I saw heaps of dirt lying in them, which had evidently been accumulating for years. Strange irregular piles of steps, placed like ladders, on the outside, lead into the upper and inner parts of these houses, which consist of narrow passages, stone steps, and wretched holes of rooms, all forming the most irregular and intricate labyrinths. The windows of these miserable dens often command the most extensive and magnificent views through the narrow mountain clefts, called streets, over the beautiful New Town, with its hills, valleys, and gardens."

Who does not sympathise with the noble author in mourning over these sickening realities! Who does not blush to think how near the rich man's door, the poor man perishes—how lost in the pride of fallen humanity is the unselfish sense of brotherhood! But we must not omit to record our regret, that Mr. Kohl, with a readiness which seems to savour strongly of German Neology, has seized on the crying destitu-

tion, physical and spiritual, of our home population, as an argument against missionary efforts on behalf of the heathens of other lands. He should have known, that whatever has been done to alleviate the distress of the poor, has been the work of the religious community. Christianity is the best Poor-law; and we will only say, that if Mr. Kohl is indeed ignorant that a higher authority than that of man commands us to send the Gospel "to all nations," it might at all events have occurred to him, that were the maxim practically observed—that men ought not to meddle with the affairs of other people, until every thing is perfect at their own doors—we should not now enjoy the benefit of the lecture which he has thought proper to read to the Christian Ministers and People of Edinburgh.

We cannot afford space to follow our author through his interesting and intelligent account of Holyrood House, and the University. He visits the old Parliament House, and alludes to the Scottish Lawyers in a strain of compliment for which we were scarcely prepared.

"They were all young, vigorous-looking men, and wore long robes and powdered wigs. I had never seen so many learned wigs together before; but not even the wigs and gowns struck me so much as the fine appearance of the lawyers themselves; the intelligent manly beauty of their faces, and the handsome proportions and growth of their figures. The stranger will always be struck by this, wherever he sees a number of English from the upper classes assembled together. I do not believe that there is any country where the cast of countenance and figure of the upper classes, both male and female, is so beautiful and noble as in Great Britain."

Leaving Edinburgh at last reluctantly, Mr. Kohl proceeds to Stirling, steaming up "the beautiful Forth." After visiting the fine old castle of Stirling, we find him driving "through the beautiful vale of Strathmore to the castle of the Drummond Family, and its celebrated gardens."

"Six miles beyond Dunblane we passed the remains of a Roman camp, the finest and most complete thing of the kind existing in Scotland. It is more than a thousand feet long and nine hundred broad, and is surrounded by a threefold fortification of walls and ramparts. These were all overgrown with grass, and cattle were grazing upon them. Across a place where it was evident there had been a gate, a sort of triumphal arch, crowned with flowers and foliage, had lately been erected, under which Prince Albert had passed when he visited the place on his return from his peaceful expeditions to the Highlands. Agricola, returning victorious from his warlike incursions in the same direction, may possibly have passed beneath one erected in the same spot."

Our readers will be happy to accompany Mr. Kohl to the gardens of Drummond Castle.