

of the Tartar tribes upon the route, as well as the Catholic and Protestant colonies on the banks of the Wolga. After a short stay at Astrachan, he returned northwards as far as Tzaritzin, and thence travelled through the Steppes of the Don by Tcherkask, Taganrog, Ehaterinodar, the Caucasus, and the Crimæa, reaching Odessa about the middle of November; from thence he travelled by the route of Brody and Cracow to Vienna, where he spent the remainder of the winter of 1823-4. 1824.

The journals kept during this period evince a very remarkable spirit of inquiry and desire of information for so young a traveller. They are full of acute and accurate remarks on the manners, habits, and character of the inhabitants of these countries, as well as their resources, economical and commercial.

The spring of 1824 was passed in the fascinating society of Vienna, and indeed it was with some difficulty that the remonstrances of his friends drew him from thence. He left it at the end of April, and reached Paris, where his mother was then confined by illness, only just in time to receive the last blessing of that most affectionate and devoted parent, whose decease took place on the 18th of May. After the funeral, Mr. C. Thomson returned to London, where he thenceforward permanently fixed himself, taking his share in the business of the counting-house, and occasionally conducting it wholly himself, in the absence of his elder brother and partner, Andrew.