

of the work to a very imperfect biographical sketch, the deficiencies of which the Editor is fully aware of. The second portion, consisting of Mr. Murdoch's Narrative of Lord Sydenham's Canadian Administration, has, however, been illustrated by numerous selections from his private correspondence. And these, although necessarily for the most part but extracts, will be found, probably, not the least valuable part of the volume, as exhibiting the confidential views on subjects of great importance, of a statesman, the accuracy of whose judgment was so clearly proved by the success which followed every thing he undertook.

The Editor trusts not to have been misled by feelings of partial affection in believing that the biography of one who exercised no inconsiderable influence over the public history of this country, during the important period between 1825 and 1842, cannot fail to be generally instructive and interesting.

The public life of Lord Sydenham, indeed, offers a rare, perhaps an unexampled, instance of the rapid attainment of eminent station by the force of personal qualifications alone. Without any peculiar advantages of birth, rank, fortune, or connection, by the unaided exertions of his talents, industry, and tact, he had, before the age of forty, sat for fifteen years in Parliament—ten of them as the spontaneously selected representative of the great manufacturing capital of the country, Manchester—had been minister of state ten years, in the Cabinet five,