

Another extract from the sermon which has already been quoted, shall close this short tribute to the memory of her late Majesty; it both proves the wisdom with which she selected the objects of her bounty, and the condescension by which her favours were enhanced. It refers to one of the only two occasions on which her Majesty appeared in public, beyond the precincts of her court, since the indisposition of the King. The other was to promote a subscription for the relief of the German sufferers.

“What the eye has witnessed the heart cannot easily forget. I may therefore be permitted to look back to a recent scene, which, in the memory of those who witnessed it, will live with indelible impressions. Not many months have been numbered, and those, alas! in great extremities of bodily distress, since the collective train of some of those seminaries of religious education for the poor, which have been so happily established through the land, were drawn together from the schools of the metropolis, to receive the salutary countenance which the royal presence, and the word of approbation from that source of favour and encouragement could not fail to convey. They who heard the testimony which at that time was expressed, know well with what condescending kindness, with what warmth and cordial zeal, that extension of distinguished care and good will to the young, was marked. It was, in a manner, the concluding scene of that exemplary course in public life, which has spread such salutary influence through the several stages to which, by a gracious Providence, it has been prolonged.” P. 19.

A SKETCH OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

As this department of the Christian Remembrancer is, in an especial

manner, to be devoted to the bringing into one point of view as many of the detached labours, both of individual members of the Church of England, and of associated bodies of her Apostolic communion, in the support and propagation of Christianity, both at home and abroad, as the industry of the Editors can collect, or friends to the undertaking may furnish, and again to diffuse throughout the empire this valuable intelligence; the most appropriate introduction which the Editors can prefix to their future communications, seems to be a sketch of that venerable Establishment, comprehensively surveyed, in all its amplitude of incorporation; that, being first exhibited as a whole, and as it were in outline, to be filled up progressively by fresh details of exertion in its several parts, our readers may be better prepared to understand its contexture, and be impressed more and more, as its interesting narrative is unfolded, with its completeness for all the purposes of a Christian institution.

The Church is designated by St. Paul, “the pillar and ground of the truth;” and by its Divine Founder, addressing himself to his first disciples, the “light of the world;” and the “salt of the earth.” The important functions, then, which it has to perform, are, in the first place, to enshrine, and to make conspicuous, within its own body—the truth: the truth as it is in Jesus; the faith once delivered to the saints; the Gospel of our common salvation.

Having established the truth in unsullied lustre, and provided for its security, the next function which the Church has to perform, with reference to this sacred deposit, is to carry into effect, zealously, but discreetly, the prescribed methods for its diffusion, and for chasing from every corner of the earth, by the bright beams of its glorious light, that blackness of spiritual darkness in which, at its introduction, it found the world involved, and which is gradually retiring from before it, as it proceeds