

subscriptions to erect a monument to his memory, which is being favourably responded to. It is proposed to place the monument on a piece of ground granted by Colonel Richardson Robertson, of Tulliebelton, on Ordie Braes, near the poet's birthplace. Nicoll's remains lie in Leith kirkyard, and are still without a stone to mark the spot.

#### MEMORIAL TO LIEUTENANT BELLOT.

A monument to the memory of the late Lieutenant Bellet, of the French navy, who perished in the last Arctic expedition, has been erected on the west wharf of Greenwich Hospital. It is a very prominent object from the river, and consists of an obelisk of Aberdeen red granite, highly polished.

#### BRITISH OBITUARY OF 1855.

Within the last twelve months what a gap has been made in the memorable roll! The sagacious and indefatigable Truro,—the earnest and philosophic Molesworth,—the enterprising Parry,—the warm-hearted and upright Inglis,—the scientific De la Beche,—the learned Gaisford,—the reforming Hume,—the harmonious Bishop,—the financial Herries,—the diplomatic Adair,—the poetical Strangford, also a diplomatist, with Ellis and Ponsonby, his fellow-labourers in the last-named category,—the gifted Lockhart,—Miss Ferrier and Adam Ferguson, connected, too, with Sir Walter Scott,—Lord Robertson, the convivial Judge,—Lord Rutherford, his acute compeer,—Miss Mitford and strong-hearted Currer Bell,—Colburn, the godfather to half the novels of the last half century,—Sibthorp the eccentric,—the travelled Buckingham,—Park the sculptor,—Gurney the short hand writer,—O. Smith, the preternatural,—the centenarian Rogers,—Black of the *Morning Chronicle*,—the life-preserving Captain Manby,—Archdeacon Hare,—Jessie Lewars, the friend of Burns,—the injured Baron de Bode,—and a long file of titled names distinguished in all the pursuits of life.—*Bentley's Miscellany*.

#### LITERARY GOSSIP.

Lady Emmeline Stuart Wortley, daughter of the Duke of Rutland, may be mentioned among the popular verse-writers recently deceased.

Sidney Dobell, the author of "Balder," and better known by his *nomme de plumé* of Sidney Yendis, is reported to be engaged on a series of Lyrics suggested by the incidents of the war. His share in the "War Sonnets" produced by the joint labors of Alexander Smith and himself may be accepted as a good foretaste of what may be expected from him.

Longfellow is engaged, it is said, on a translation of Dante, which is already so far advanced that it is expected to be ready for the press some time during the present year.

Mrs. Oliphant, the authoress of "Passages in the Life of Mrs. Margaret Maitland, of Sunnyside," which won such high and well-merited praise from Lord Jeffrey, has produced a continuation of that work under the name of "Lilliesleaf," which is spoken of by English critics as fully equal to the first. It is not generally known that this talented Scottish authoress was only in her nineteenth year (then Miss Margaret Wilson) when she produced the work which won the plaudits of the veteran critic.

Mr. Robert Chambers is now engaged on a narrative of his visit during the past summer to Iceland and the Faroe Islands. Some interesting geological observations may be anticipated from it.