

to be noticed, but they contribute much to diversify the scenery. Cattle and corn, flax and hemp, are the principal products of the surface: those of the interior of the earth are marble of various kinds, West of the Northern Lake; ochre, in its Eastern banks; lead, West of the Northern part of Lough Derriveragh; extremely rich iron ore on the western part; jasper, in the South of the barony of Moydoe; with fine slate, in the barony of Ardagh.

The county of **Louth** is bounded by Eastmeath, on the South and South West, by Monaghan and Cavan on the West, on the North by the counties of Armagh and Down, and by the Irish Channel on the East. Its greatest extent from North to South is about 21 Irish miles, and from east to west about 16 Irish miles. Its surface comprises 126,960 acres, Irish plantation measure, including bogs, mountains and waste. It contains four baronies, Ferrard, Atherdee, Louth and Dundalk, which are divided into 61 parishes. The soil is uneven, and thickly interspersed with high hills, which add not a little to the beauty of the scenery. This, like many other counties in Ireland, is extremely fecund. The fragments of its ancient monuments are numerous, on which can be traced evident marks of magnificence, as it constituted the centre of the English pale originally extending from Wicklow on the South to Dunluce in the North. Its principal rivers are the Boyne, which separates the counties of Eastmeath, for a short distance, and Louth, the Dee, the Fane, the Lagan, the Dundalk, and the Jenisborough, which traverse this county from west to east, and discharge their waters into the Irish Channel. Ochres and fuller's earth are the principal mineral productions of this county.

In giving these brief accounts of each county in the province of Leinster, we have had occasion frequently to mention the bogs which abound in this fourth great division of Ireland; it may not be unacceptable to our readers to give the following remarks, as it has been erroneously stated that the exhalation derivable from these bogs is prejudicial to health.

The bog waters, far from emitting putrid exhalations like stagnant pools and marshes, are of an antiseptic and strongly astringent quality, as appears from their preserving for ages and even adding to the durability of timber, which is found universally buried under their surfaces, and from their converting to a sort of leather the skins of men and animals who have had the misfortune of being lost, and remaining in them for any length of time.

HISTORICAL

ACCOUNT OF DUBLIN.

THE CITY OF DUBLIN and capital of Ireland is situated at the mouth of the river Liffey, which empties itself into a large and beautiful bay, in the Irish Sea, considered to be equal in fine and picturesque scenery to the celebrated Bay of Naples, and in some respects its superior. The beauties of this entrance into Dublin are heightened by the grand elevation of the country towards the south of the city, which increases until it terminates in the wild magnificence of the Wicklow mountains, where the fine pointed cone of the *Sugar Loaf* forms a most sublime object in this diversified landscape, the beauties of which are not surpassed in any country in Europe. To the north of the bay the country rises with an imperceptible ascent, presenting a wide prospect of rich cultivation, the rugged hills of Howth forming the extremity of the northern boundary of Dublin Bay, surrounded by this beautiful scenery, opens gradually to the view—the noble city, crowded in the perspective with lofty spires and domes, with numerous shipping moored in the harbour, altogether so happily combined, as to form one of the most delightful of nature's views, highly improved by affluence and taste.

It is the opinion of antiquaries that the first site of Dublin was on the south side of the river, where

the castle now stands, and also that its earliest inhabitants were a very few of the southern Irish, joined at different periods by people from the North of the island, and adventurers from Wales, whose principal employment at that early period was fishing. The progressive increase of population, industry and wealth, and the commodious situation of the port soon disposed the inhabitants to commercial pursuits, and after experiencing many fluctuations Dublin has at length arrived at its present state of consequence and grandeur.

EXTENT AND SITUATION.

When the Danes enclosed the city with walls, the extent, it is supposed, was not more than a mile, but so many of the ancient streets have been long since annihilated, and others so much improved and rebuilt, that it is utterly impossible now to say where some of them stood at that distant period; indeed, so late as the year 1535, there was a small harbour near Cork Hill, and a strand of considerable length, which was not embanked till the reign of Charles II. is now the site of Essex-street, Crane-lane, Temple-bar, and Fleet-street. The tide also flowed to the extent of two miles over ground which is now covered with elegant streets and quays: viz. Batchelor's walk, Or-

mond-quay, Arran-quay, Ellis's-quay, and many other parts that now form nearly the centre of this fine city: indeed, so rapid has been its increase to this period, that it is now about ten miles in circumference, and contains nearly 200,000 inhabitants.

The situation of Dublin, too, is, perhaps, as happily fixed as it is possible for the mind to imagine. This city is built in an extensive valley, of gentle and pleasing declivity, with ranges of hills and mountains on the north and south, which present to the view a diversified and most delightful scene; the lands are rich and highly cultivated, interspersed with pleasant villages, and seats of nobility and gentry, which cannot be exceeded in taste and elegance. Such is the delightful vicinity of this ancient but now elegant city, embellished by the gently flowing Liffey, separating it into two nearly equal parts, with ranges of noble houses on either side, and many superb bridges across the river, the water of which has been collected by art and indefatigable industry, so as to make it a safe and commodious receptacle for shipping, adding greatly to the delightful scenery of the capital of Ireland.

The river from Ringsend and North Wall is enclosed by fine walls of granite to a distance of more than three miles westward, extending quite through the city. Below the Custom House a fine spacious dock is now constructing, and near to Ringsend are extensive docks capable of holding several hundred sail of vessels, equally capacious with those of Liverpool. The *Light-house*, which is situated at the extreme end of an immense wall that stretches for three miles into the sea, excites universal admiration. This great work confines the Channel on each side, and forms a safe harbour for shipping in the front of an open sea. On the left, approaching from the bay, is Dunleary, where a new harbour and pier are forming,—an undertaking of the greatest magnitude, which does honour to the nation. This place is now called Kingstown, by order of his Majesty George IV. who embarked from it after his visit to Ireland, on the 3d September, 1821, in which harbour the Royal Fleet lay at anchor, detained by contrary winds, until the 7th, when the royal visitor took his final departure. In memory of this event, an appropriate testimonial is raised here; it is a handsome erection of fine stone, similar to an obelisk, built upon a rude elevated rock, and altogether has a pleasing effect. On the right is the beautiful village of Clontarf whose gently rising shores and elegant white houses give a pleasing diversity to the scene. A short distance beyond this village, towards Howth, an immense wall is constructing, which already runs near a mile across the water, towards the Pigeon House. This expensive undertaking is with the hopes of lessening the dangers of a bank, called the North Bull, which at present is so fatal to shipping in boisterous weather.

PUBLIC EDIFICES, STATUES AND MONUMENTS.

It is impossible, within the limits of this publication, to notice all the national and public structures of Dublin, in the manner which they deserve; nor can we say, which of the numerous architectural beauties should be placed first in order; but as the *Custom House* presents itself to the traveller's view on his arrival in Dublin by way of Liverpool or Holyhead, it solicits our first attention. This magnificent pile of building, situated on the north side of the river, a short distance below Carlisle Bridge, was begun to be built in the year 1781, and was finished in 1791: it is 375 feet in length, and 200 feet in depth, having four elegantly designed fronts. In the centre of the building rises a noble and stupendous dome, 125 feet in height, on the top of which is a colossal statue of Commerce, 16 feet high; on various other parts of this amazing structure are many beautifully sculptured emblematical figures, with other ornamental embellishments. In the front opposite the river, are arcades on each side of the grand entrance, the portico of which is supported by massive pillars of the most chaste and beautiful design. The building of this monument of national taste cost 255,000*l.* The architect was James Gandon, Esq.

At a short distance from the Custom House, on the same side of the river, is the *King's Tobacco Warehouse*. This building is of immense size, vaulted underneath in a most ingenious and complete manner, the vaults being nearly as light as if above ground. The entire roof of this extensive building is of cast iron, supported by numerous pillars of the same metal; the stones underneath are also supported by iron work and pillars. It is the largest building of the kind in Europe; but, unfortunately, after the completion of this expensive structure, the quantity of metal used in its erection was found to attract the sun so greatly, that no tobacco or any other foreign produce could be stored in it without spoiling, consequently, it is not employed for the purpose it was intended.

The *Bank of Ireland*, formerly the Parliament House, is situated in College Green. This building is of Portland stone, and supposed to stand unrivalled in taste and elegant architecture. The entire structure, which is of a circular form, covers an acre and a half of ground; the front is adorned with a magnificent arcade, with a fine lofty portico, supported by numerous Ionic columns. This superb arcade is 147 feet in extent. The interior of this beautiful pile corresponds in elegance and accommodation to its external grandeur, and presents a highly-finished, full-length statue of his present Majesty, placed on a pedestal, on which are two emblematical figures of Religion and Justice. There is also a fine bust of his Grace the Duke of Wellington. This building, of the whole, is of peculiar beauty. It was begun in 1729, and was ten years in erecting; the roof is flat, and will admit a full regiment of soldiers to act in case of necessity.

Trinity College, which is very near the National Bank, fronts towards College Green; it is a superb edifice, consisting of two noble and spacious quadrangles. There are attached an elegant Chapel and Museum. The Library is a beautiful room, capable of containing 90,000 volumes, in complete arrangement. There is also a Printing House annexed to the College. In the rear are fine and healthful Pleasure Grounds for the recreation of the students, and respectable persons are allowed to walk there at any time. The College in front extends about 300 feet, and 600 feet in depth. Adjoining the Pleasure Grounds is an Anatomical Lecture House, containing a collection of appropriate wax work, most ingeniously displaying the various stages of gestation. This collection is the performance of a French lady, and is considered of great value. The College altogether (particularly the front, which is of fine Portland-stone and of the Corinthian order) has the appearance of a royal palace. This College is the only University in the kingdom, and by its vast endowments one of the richest in Europe; it was first projected in the year 1311, but did not begin to flourish until the reign of Queen Elizabeth, who granted it a charter. James I. endowed it with large estates in the province of Ulster, and in the year 1637 Charles I. was a great benefactor to it, and granted it a new charter and statutes. In the establishment are a Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Provost, Vice Provost, twenty-two Fellows, and five Royal Professors of Divinity, Common Law, Civil Law, Physic and the Greek Language; there are also other Professorships, of Mathematics, Oriental Languages, Oratory, History, Natural Philosophy, &c. in addition to these, Sir Patrick Dunn founded three others, of Physic, Pharmacy and Chirurgery. The number of students is between 3 & 400 annually. Trinity College has lately been enlarged, by some extensive and elegant stone buildings being erected, on that side nearly facing Hawkins-street, and which much embellish that part of the city. At some little distance, opposite to this fine Institution, in College Green, is a most beautiful *brass equestrian Statue of William III.* raised on a massy marble pedestal. The *Royal Exchange*, which fronts Parliament-street, is a costly edifice, and has a grand effect when viewed from Essex Bridge; this fine structure was ten years in completing, and cost 40,000*l.* It is built of Portland stone, nearly of a square form, supporting a noble dome on its centre.