

HEATON-HOUSE.

This elegant structure, the seat of the Earl of Wilton, is situate in a fine part of the county, at the distance of four miles north-east from Manchester. The noble proprietor is a lineal descendant of the ancient Barons of Malpas, and is second son of the Marquis of Westminster. He is a Peer of Parliament, though his elder brother, Lord Belgrave, is only a member of the House of Commons.

The Heaton estate, forming part of the township of Little Heaton, in the parish of Prestwich, came into the hands of the Egerton family, in the reign of Queen Anne. The present noble possessor, being the sixth in regular descent, inherits this princely domain from his great-grandfather, Sir John Egerton, Bart. of Wrine Hall, Staffordshire, who, in the reign of James II., married Elizabeth, sister (and subsequently sole heiress) of Edward Holland, Esq. of Heaton and Denton, the last male of a very ancient family, which had the honour, at various times, of uniting itself, not only to the peerage, but with royalty itself.

The mansion, which is a modern stone edifice, built by the first Earl of Wilton, the grandfather of the present proprietor, from designs by the late Samuel Wyatt, Esq., occupies a commanding situation, in the midst of an extensive park, abounding with trees and plantations, and containing a capital private race-course, on which races are annually run.

The south front, represented in the annexed plate, consists of a centre and two wings connected by a corridor; the main building projects in a semi-circular form, the frieze of which is supported by four columns of the Ionic order, and is crowned by a dome; the wings are octangular, with pilasters of the same order. Immediately in front are two pedestals with recumbent lions, and, before it, spreads a beautiful lawn, adorned with beds of flowers and shrubs.

On the north front, the architectural decoration is of a bolder character; the pediment, which is plain, is supported by four noble columns of the Composite order; the whole contains one principal and one upper story, and is entirely built with fine free-stone.

On an apparently inconsiderable eminence, at no great distance from the house, stands a small circular temple, from which are obtained extensive views into Yorkshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Staffordshire.

IRLAM-HALL, NEAR MANCHESTER.

Irlam is a hamlet, in the township of Barton and parish of Eccles, situate eight miles west-south-west of Manchester.

Irlam-Hall, the property of John Greaves, Esq., one of His Majesty's justices of the peace, and deputy-lieutenant of the county, stands at a short distance from this hamlet.