

the chancel, and partly within an arched recess flanked by Corinthian columns, and ornamented by cherubim, &c., are recumbent statues of George Cole, Esq., of the Middle Temple, and Frances, his wife: the former, who died in 1624, is habited in a long black gown, and has a roll of parchment in his hand. His wife, who is in the dress of the time, died in 1633. It appears from Cole's "Escheats" (Harleian MSS., No. 758) that the above George Cole died seized of a manor in Kingston parish called Harlington, held of the king *in capite* by the fortieth part of a knight's fee. It was afterwards enclosed in the new park at Richmond; and Lysons, in his "Environns," says that "the proof of such a place having existed had considerable weight in determining the right of a public footpath through the park."

Captain George Vancouver, who made a voyage round the world, and whose name is immortalised in Vancouver's Island, was interred here in 1798; he is commemorated by a monument erected by the Hudson Bay Company. Sir Charles Stuart, the conqueror and governor of Minorca, fourth son of John, Earl of Bute, lies buried here, as also does his wife, Louisa, the daughter and co-heiress of Lord Vere Bertie. In the churchyard there is a handsome tomb, erected to the second Earl of Mount-Edgcombe, with this inscription:—"Richard, Earl of Mount-Edgcombe, is buried here, who, during a great part of his life, chose this neighbourhood for a residence, and dying at Richmond, desired that his mortal remains should not be borne to the distant tomb of his ancestors, but be deposited in this churchyard. Let us hope that his immortal part may mingle thus with rich and poor in that abode prepared by Christ alike for all who trust in Him." The date is 1839. On a tomb in the chancel, in memory of Lady Frances Caroline Douglas, daughter of the Marquis of Queensberry, are these lines:—

"Dear as thou wert, and justly dear,  
We will not weep for thee;  
One thought shall check the starting tear:  
It is that thou art free,  
And thus shall Faith's consoling pow'r  
The tears of Love restrain.  
Oh, who that saw thy parting hour,  
Would wish thee here again?"

"Triumphant in the closing eye  
The hope of Glory shone  
Joy breathed in thy expiring sigh  
To think thy fight was won.  
Gently the passing spirit fed,  
Sustained by Grace Divine,  
Oh, may such grace on me be shed,  
And make my end like thine."

Poor Mortimer Collins was buried here; and here also lie two celebrated literary characters, Agnes and Mary Berry, whom we have mentioned in our account of Twickenham as friends of Horace Walpole.\* During the last twenty years of their lives the two sisters, Mary and Agnes Berry, spent the summer regularly in what they called their "retirement" at Petersham. In July, 1836, being at Paris, Miss Berry writes in her "Journal":—"It is now that I figure Petersham and our quiet garden there as everything on earth that I most covet, and from which I no longer desire to wander. There, in the immediate neighbourhood of a friend more my child than any other can be—there I feel that I can patiently wait for the last stroke which is to send me to the neighbouring churchyard, where I have long intended to have my bones deposited." Some years, however, passed after this entry was made before the remains of Miss Berry were laid in the tomb. The grave of the two sisters is in the north-east part of the churchyard, and the inscription, from the pen of Lord Carlisle, runs as follows:—

"Mary Berry, born March, 1763; died Nov., 1852.  
Agnes Berry, born May, 1764; died Jan., 1852.

"Beneath this stone are laid the remains of these two sisters, amidst scenes which in life they had frequented and loved. Followed by the tender regret of those who close the unbroken succession of friends, devoted to them with fond affection during every step of their long career."

These venerable and excellent ladies were among the last survivors of the literary set who had frequented Strawberry Hill in its palmy days, and worshipped at the shrine of its founder. Their diaries give an excellent picture of London society in the latter half of the Georgian era. They were the daughters of Mr. Robert Berry, a Yorkshire gentleman of fortune, and they and their father were Walpole's literary executors, so that it was under their friendly supervision that his works were introduced to the world of readers.

Walpole first became acquainted with them about the year 1780, when he met them, as is generally believed, at Lord Stafford's seat in Yorkshire, Wentworth Castle. Soon after, becoming his regular correspondents, they made a journey to Italy, and finally returned to the neighbourhood of London and Richmond, in order to be within reach and call of the prince of letter-writers. Both Mason and Lord Harcourt, it seems, were jealous of their influence over the Lord of

\* See Vol. I., p. 123.