to the interest of a writer. Compliments came in form from all quarters, and the idea of being encouraged to persevere in undertaking which I had begun.—Among other persons of eminence to whom the first volume had been communicated, we find the name of Mr. Hume, whose letters, with the answer to it, we shall insert for the entertainment of our readers.

COPY.

"MADAM,

"THE agreeable present which you were so good as to make me, did not come to hand till a few days ago; it had been picked up with some of Lord Herford's baggage, and was too long on the road: I should not otherwise have been so long wanting to express my thanks for the pleasure your performance has given me; and also for the obliging manner in which you mention my sentiments. I find, indeed, that you often do me the honor to keep me in your eye, during the course of your narration; and I flatter myself that we differ less in facts, than in our interpretation and construction of them. Perhaps also I have the misfortune to differ from you in some original principles, which will not be easy to adjust between us. For as I look upon all kinds of subdivision of power, from the monarchy of France to the free democracy of some Swiss Cantons, to be equally legal, if established by custom and authority; I cannot but think, that the mixed monarchy of England, such as it was left by Queen Elizabeth, was a lawful form of government, and carried obligations to obedience and allegiance; at least it must be acknowledged, that the princes and ministers who supported that form, tho' somewhat arbitrarily, could not incur much blame on that account; and that there is more reason to make an apology for their antagonists than for them. I grant, that the cause of liberty, which you, Madam, with the Pym's and Hampden's have adopted, is noble and generous; but most of the partisans of that cause, in the last century, disgraced it, by their violence, and also by their cant, hypocrisy, and bigotry, which, more than the principles of civil liberty, seem to have been the motive of all their actions. Had those principles always appeared in the amiable light which they receive both from your pen and writings, it would have been impossible to refit them; and however much inclined to indulgence towards the first James and Charles, I should have been the first to condemn those monarchs for not yielding to them. But let you think that the air of this place has infected me with the style of gallantry, I beg leave to conclude, by expressing my great esteem of your history, and my great personal respect for yourself. I beg my compliments to the doctor; and am, Madam, with great sincerity,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Paris, 10th March, 1764.

David Hume."

AnswertoMr. Hume's Letter.

"SIR,

"YOUR polite letter came to hand on the 26th instant. I am highly indebted to you for the obliging manner in which you mentioned my first production. The length of time it was upon the road will occasion you the trouble of a letter from the doctor, who wrote to give you intelligence of the time of its departure. You do me the honour to mention some of your political opinions: I am afraid, indeed, we differ much in some original principles, which may not be proper to discuss in a letter. Every kind of government may be legal, but none are not equally expedient; and an individual, who rigorously maintains and enlarges his power, in opposition to the inclination and welfare of a people, is, in my opinion, highly criminal. Your position, that all governments established by custom and authority carry with them obligations to submission and allegiance, does, I am afraid, involve all reformers in unavoidable guilt, since opposition to established error must needs be opposition to authority.

"You do me the honour to unite me in sentiments to those two excellent patriots Hampden and Pym; and end your letter in a high strain of gallantry, which I do not attribute to the French air, since those who have had the pleasure of conversing with Mr. Hume know, that he unites with the utmost candor, all that engaging politeness which marks the gentleman, as well as the philosopher.

But, gravity apart, I think the arbitrary princes of the Stuart line took an effectual way to secure themselves from female opposers; since cropping off ears close to the head, flitting of noses, and branding of foreheads, must needs be as formidable to women, as Caesar's attack on the face was to the Roman petit-maitres. It is with great pleasure that your friends hear of that respectful at-
tention you meet with in France. On your return to Great-Britain, I sincerely with you may find that we follow so good an example, and that you may in this country experience the distinction due to so rare a merit. I do myself the honour to express all imaginable esteem for so great an ornament to the republic of letters, with all respect which is due on other regards,

I am, Sir, &c.

Catherine Macaulay." St. James's Place.

It is unnecessary to observe, that this celebrated Scotch historian, in the present correspondence, is manifestly inferior to the lady, at least in argument.

Two years after the appearance of the first volume, the public received a second with equal approbation, and not less profit to the author. The next year, 1766, Dr. Macauley died, sincerely lamented by his friends, and equally so by his widow, who testified her affection for him by a character, drawn up in the form of an epitaph, and which having hitherto been unpublished, we shall give to the reader below. In a short time she resumed her studies, and in 1767 produced a third volume; also in the same year a pamphlet, intitled Remarks on some Opinions of Mr. Hobbes, written with great freedom and acuteness. The fourth volume of her history appeared in 1769; and, about the same time, a second edition of her Remarks on Hobbes, to which was subjoined, a sketch of a democratical form of government, in a letter to Signor Paoli. At this juncture, the spirit of party raged with the utmost violence, and Mr. Burke, having put forth a pamphlet, the obvious design of which was to expose the dangerous designs of a profligate junct of courtiers, supported by the mere authority of the crown, against the liberties of the constitution, but at the same time misleading the people on the subject of the more complicated and specious, though no less dangerous, manoeuvres of aristocratic faction and party, founded on, and supported by the corrupt principle of self-interest; our authoress stood forth, the advocate of the people, and answered and exposed this formidable, and at that time popular, antagonist, in a pamphlet, which soon ran through several editions. The next year a fifth volume of the history was published, and shortly after the whole reprinted in 8vo. This seems to have been the most honourable period of her life. An infirm state of health, occasioned her going to reside at Bath, where she soon became known to the Rev. Dr. Wilson, a divine, who, at a very advanced age, engaged with great eagerness in the political feuds of the day, and rendered first himself, and afterwards the lady, truly ridiculous, by the unaccountable frolicks, of his attachment. He purchased, and presented her

* E P I T A P H *

The Virtues of his Life were too numerous to be contained in an Epitaph:

Let it suffice to observe,

That in his Character were comprehended,

Pure Morality, untinged by Superstition;

An ineffable Sweetness of Temper,

which Sickness and Death could not discompose;

The Excellencies which flowed from a good Heart,

and a sound Understanding;

With the peculiar Graces of Genius and Learning,

And every social Virtue,

in the highest Degree of Perfection.

He lived an Ornament to his Family;

an Honor to his Country:

And departed this Life,

when he had attained the Age of Fifty Years,

On the Sixteenth of September, 1766,

To the inexpressible Sorrow of his Family,

his Friends,

and a numerous Train of Mourners,

The Objects of his Charity, Benevolence, and Generosity.

† Thoughts on the causes of the present discontents.

with