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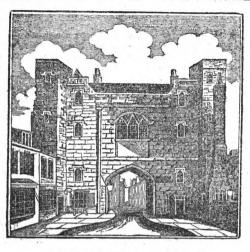
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By SYLVANUS URBAN, GENT.

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law to the late Viscount Melville; and elder brother to Lieut.-Gen. Sir Alexander Hope, G. C. B. Knight in Parliament

for the Shire of Linlithgow.

The deceased was born Oct. 16, 1768, the eldest son of John the second Earl of Hopetoun, by his third marriage with Lady Betty Leslie, second daughter of Alexander fifth Earl of Leven and Melville. He was appointed Cornet in the third dragoons in 1785, and Lieutenant in 1788. He served as Aid-de-camp to Lieutenant-General Leslie on the North British staff in 1789 and 1790. He reeeived a company in the 37th foot in 1791, and in March 1793 accompanied his regiment to the Continent, and served the campaigns under the Duke of York. He succeeded to a Majority in the 37th in April following; to a Lieut .-Colonelcy in 1794. In October 1795, he embarked for the West Indies, but in the following February disembarked at Portsmouth, having been twice driven back by stress of weather. In 1797 and 1798 he served in Portugal and at Gibraltar ; and on his passage to England, in the latter year, he was taken prisoner and detained three months. In April 1799, he was appointed Lieur.-Colonel in the 28th light dragoons, and in December following removed to the 7th dragoon guards; be received the brevet of Colonel Jan. 1, 1800. From September that year to May 1801 he commanded the troops in South Wales, and from June till October 1801 a brigade of cavalry in the North district. From May 1803 to April 1804, he was Brigadier-General in Jersev, and afterwards in England till Oct. 1805, when he received the rank of Maior-General. From Nov. 1805 to June 1808, he commanded the garrison of Canterbury, and afterwards a brigade of cavalry on the coast of Kent. He attained the rank of Lieur .- General Jan. 1, 1812, and was appointed Colonel-commandant of the 5th battalion of the 60th foot in 1813, and brevet General in 1825.

SIR WM. CONGREVE, BART. F.R. S. May ... At Toulouse, aged 56, Sir William Congreve, second Baronet of Walton in Staffordshire, Knight of St. Anne of Russia, M. P. for Plymouth, senior Equerry to the King, Comptroller of the Royal Laboratory and Superintendant of the Military Repository at Woolwich, and F. R. S.

This celebrated member of the world of science was of a junior branch of the Congreves, of Congreve, in Staffprdshire, William has been a fayourite name of the family ever since the celebrated poet, who was descended from a common an-

cestor in the time of Charles I.) acquired his literary fame. The deceased was born May 20, 1772, the eldest son of Lieut-Gen. Sir William Congreve, the first Baronet, by his first wife Rebecca Elmston. The General died in 1814 in possession of the same offices at Woolwich as his son has ever since filled. The latter entered early into the same branch of military service as his father had pursued. He had in 1816 attained the rank of Lieut.-Colonel in the Artillery; and was then Equerry to the Prince Regent. Retaining the latter honourable appointment, he had retired in 1820 from his military rank.

It was in 1808 that he first invented that formidable engine of warfare, the Congreve rocket, which he succeeded in establishing as a permanent instrument of the military and naval tactics of the country, and which foreign nations have found it imperatively necessary to adopt. Having been tried and approved, it was used by Lord Cochrane in Basque Roads, in the expedition against Walcheren, in attacks on several places in Spain, at Waterloo, and with most serviceable effect in the attack on Algiers. For the effect of the Congreve rockets at the battle of Leipsic in 1813, the order of St. Anne of the 2d class was conferred on Sir William by the Emperor of Russia. and when the Emperor visited England in 1814 be was particularly interested by an exhibition of their powers at Wool's wich (see a particular account in vol. LXXXIV. i. 615.) Sir William had a private factory at West Ham in Essex. The rockets have also been emrloyed in a modified form, in the whale fishery.

But the Congreve rocket, though the most important, was only one of very many scientific inventions by which Sir William benefited himself and the world: On several of these he published treatises. In 1812 he issued an "Elementary Treatise on the Mounting of Naval Ordnance; shewing the true principles of construction for the carriages of every species of Ordnance," 4to.

In 1811 Sir William Congreve was elected Fellow of the Royal Society. In 1812 he was returned to Parliament for Gatton, and in 1820 and 1826 for Plymouth. He succeeded his father in the Baronetey April 30, 1814.

In 1815 appeared "A Description of the construction, properties, and varieties of the Hydru-Pneumatic Lock," for which he obtained a patent in that year, and which is now so generally adopted on canals. This invention formed a duepropitiation to the genius of Peace after the assistance his other important discovery had given to the sanguinary

means of War; and elicited many a deserved compliment to those talents which had before enabled bim to add to the military power of his country, and now to multiply the resources of its in-

ternal prosperity.

In the same year Sir William obtained a patent for a new mode of manufacturing gunpowder. This invention consisted, first, in a machine for producing as perfect a mixture as possible of the ingredients; and secondly, in an improved mode of passing the mill-cake under the press, and a new granulating machine.

. In 1819 a patent was granted to him for an improved mode of inlaying or combining different metals; and another for certain improvements in the manufacture of bank-note paper for the prevention of forgery (see a description of it in vol. xci. i. 368). In 1823 Sir William published, by order of government, a very interesting report on the Gas-light Establishments of the Metropolis (see it noticed in vol. xcIII. ii. 548).

After recounting these, his important benefits to society, it is melancholy to have to class him with those individuals of previous respectability, the influence of whose example decoyed so many weaker minds to ruin, during that mania for speculation which, two years ago, desolated with such cruelty the commercial community. On the ebbing of the tide, Sir William, like his brother senator the late Mr. Peter Moore, was washed by the current from his native shore, destined to a perpetual, although at the same time a short-lived, exile. It was on the third of May in the present year (not many days before Sir William's death) that judgment was pronounced in the Court of Chancery, on an appeal from that of the Vice-Chancellor, in the case of the Arigna Mining Company. The Lord Chancellor then stated that "the bill charged a transaction which was clearly fraudulent. Sir William Congreve entered into a treaty with one Plattery, for the sale of certain mines for 10,000% on behalf of a company of which he was to be the director. The two Clarkes afterwards associated themselves with him, and it appeared that they were desirous of securing a larger profit than they could receive as shareholders. They therefore settled that a conveyance should first be made to persons nominated by them for 10,000l. and that those nominees should afterwards convey to the company for 25,000% in order that the difference might go into the pockets of Congreve, the Clarkes, and other persons." Such is the history of the transaction as related by the Lord Chancellor on the third of May; but his

Lordship concluded by repeating, what he had before expressed, that he wished it to be understood that he had refrained from giving any opinion as to the conduet of persons who had always been characters of great respectability until they had, by their answers to the bill, explained the charges. His Lordship affirmed, however, what the Vice-Chancellor had previously ordered in the business, and overruled the demurrer, giving the parties six weeks time to answer. Whether any thing further has been settled in the business we are not at pre sentinformed.

In announcing the death of Sir William Congreve, the Moniteur French newspaper mentions a report, "that. baving foreseen for some time that war would break out in the East, he had submitted two pr jects to his Government. one for the defence of Constantinople, and the other for its destruction, according as England might be favourably or inimically disposed towards the Turks. Towards the latter part of his life," continues the same writer, " having lost the use of his legs, he had invented a chair or sofa, which enabled him to move himself about his apartment without any assistance; this machine occasionally served bim for a bed. He latterly also discovered means of propelling ships at sea, without the aid of oars, sails, or steam. The details of this plan were printed; it appeared, however, to be more ingenious than practicable. He has left a widow, several children, and an immense fortune?"-As much of this wears the air of improbability; the last assertion may be seriously doubted; and his family cannot be very large, as he was not married until the latter part of 1824. His union then took place at Wesel, in Prussia, with Isabella, widow of Henry Nisbett M'Evoy, esq. If Sir William has left a son, the child has of course sucreeded to the baronetcy; if not, it is inherited by his brother, Lieut.-Col.Thomas-Ralph Congreve.

The remains of Sir William were interred on the 16th of May in the Protestant cemetery at Toulouse.

LIEUT-GEN. RICHARDSON.

July 4. In Crauford-street, aged 84, Lieut.-Gen. William-Madox Richardson. This gentleman was in 1757 a volunteer in the Royal Navy. On the 1st of May 1758 he was present at the taking of Senegal in Africa; and on the 24th of July following he was dangerously wounded in the head by a musket-ball, in an encounter with the natives on the banks of the Senegal river. On the 1st