BIOGRAPHYCAL SKETCH.

Miss LINWOOD.

WERE any fculptor of the prefent day to give to his figures the correctnefs and character, energy and eafe, which we fee difplayed in thofe unrivalled models of ancient art which were wrought in Greece, we fhould clafs him as the Shakefpeare of his profeffion, conceive that he had difcovered the fcafe by which fome writers have fuppofed the ancient fculptors performed thefe prodigies of art, and venerate his name for having reftored an art the world had long loft, and defpaired of retrieving.

A portion of the praife which would be beftowed on fuch a man, is certainly due to the lady whofe name is at the head of this article; for fhe has awakened from its long fleep an art which gave birth to painting, and the needle is, in her hands, become a formidable rival to the pencil. She has realifed, in the moft glowing colours, thofe fplendid wonders that were recorded by Homer, and other ancient poets; for that the *labours of the loom*, fo often alluded to by bards of other days,

" When purple hangings cloth'd the palace walls."

were *the art of making pictures in tapestry*, there can be no doubt.

The progrefs of this branch of the arts in Great Britain is curious. In the firft famples, or rather famplers, when it was in its infancy, we fee the Lord's prayer, or the ten commandments, furmounted by Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, or Daniel in the den of the lions; which, in maffy Gothic frames, were wont to decorate the walls of our ancient gentry. The firft curious pieces of needle-work that I recollect to have feen recorded, are a fuite of chair bottoms, worked by, and under the direction of, Queen Mary, confifting of fome heavy trophies in honor of her heroic hufband. Thofe were, probably, laboured, loaded, and taftelefs, and almoft all the early fpecimens that we have feen may be very fairly put in the fame clafs.

Since the acceffion of our prefent king, the art has awakened from its long fleep. In the beginning of his reign, the wife of Worlidge, the painter, copied fome prints in needle-work, which, though dry and feeble, excited attention, and were noticed in fome of the public prints of that day by complimentary verfes.

Some five and twenty years ago, feveral of the orphan daughters of clergymen, patronized and protected by her majefty, and under the direction of Mrs. Wright, wrought in needle-work fome bed-furniture, and feveral other things which bear with tafte and elegance.

To thefe may be added the works of Mrs. Knowles, who, to fome of her fruit-pieces, has given

" The glow of nature, and the bloom of fpring "

We might grace this lift with many other names; but to Mifs Linwood it was referved to produce a collection, which, confidering its magnitude and excellence, muft be deemed a monument, not only of uncommon genius, but of an induftry and perfeverance which furpaffes the long labours of Penelope at her procraftinated web. Her works exhibit an honorable hiftory of that part of her life which is paft; but as her talents entitle her to a place in this mifcellany, and as many of the many thoufands who have vifited the exhibition in Hanover-fquare, will naturally wifh to know fome particulars of the creator of *that world of wonders*, we have endeavored to procure all the information we could (and it is very flender) of the artift who produced it.

Her family is of Northamptonfhire, where they have refided for fome ages in fituations highly refpectable. She was born in Warwickfhire, and has, from her very early years, refided in Leicefter.

Like many other perfons who have had a bias to what has marked and done honor to their future lives by very trivial caufes, this lady owes her firft thought of an art, in which fhe has fo highly diftinguifhed herfelf, to a very trifling circumftance.

About the year 1792, a friend fent her a large collection of prints in the various ftiles of ftroke, mezzotinto, &c. They were left with no other view than that of affording her a few days amufement. Infpecting them with the eye of genius, fhe conceived that the force of an engraving might be united with the foftnefs of a mezzotinto. Unacquainted with the ufe of aqua fortis in etching, a ftranger to the mode of fcraping a mezzotinto, and totally ignorant of the art of engraving in ftroke, and the whole ufe of the burin, fhe had no inftrument but her needle to make the experiment. With that fhe endeavored to realize and embody her firft idea, by copying fuch prints as moft ftruck her attention, with the rovings of black and puce coloured filk upon white farfnet. The needle, in her hands, became like the fpear of Ithuriel; fhe touched the ground-work, her figures affumed form and ftarted into life.

Encouraged by the applaufe which was beftowed on her firft works, fhe made copies of a ftill larger fize; and the emprefs of Ruffia being then confidered as the grand protector of genius, and feeming defirous of making her court the repofitory of every great work of art that was produced in Europe, Mifs Linwood was advifed to prefent a fpecimen to the emprefs. Not knowing the extent of her own powers, nor having then a thought of making a collection, fhe confented, and configned a large picture to Peterfburgh, which, in October 1783, was prefented to her Imperial majefty by her then favorite general Landfkoy. She expreffed the higheft admiration of the performance, faid it was an exquifite work, and, in that branch of art, unqueftionably the fineft in the world, and ordered Lankfkoy to make fuch a prefent to the artift as fhould be worthy of the work, and of herfelf. But death countermanded the commands of the emprefs, for the general departed this life a few weeks afterwards, nor dared any one in the court of Peterfburgh to mention either his name, or aught in which he had been a party, to the Imperial Catharine. But, however neglected the artift, the picture is highly diftinguifhed, and now occupies a favorite fituation in the emperor's palace.

The firft attempt Mifs Linwood made to imitate paintings was in 1785, and fhe fo far fucceeded, that in 1786, fhe fubmitted to the fociety for the encouragement of arts, &c. the St. Peter, from Guido; the head of Lear, from Sir Jofhua Reynolds; and a hare, from the Houghton collection. For this the fociety voted her a medal, on which is engraven, between two branches of laurel, "EXCELLENT IMITATIONS OF PICTURES IN NEEDLE-WORK." The writer of this article remembers to have feen, and much admired thefe exquifite fpecimens of the art.

Between that period and 1789, fhe made great additions to her collection, and, in that year, copied the Salvator Mundi, from a picture, by Guido, in the collection of the Earl of Exeter; for which exquifite production, the writer has been informed, on authority which he confides in, fhe was once offered the immenfe fum of three thoufand guineas.

In ancient times it was cuftomary for ladies to prefent fcarfs to their favorite heroes; but *days of chivalry are no more*; Mifs Linwood has, however, had the honor of having wrought the firft banner that has been offered to any affociation, fince the commencement of the prefent hoftilities, and of having, in the year 1794, prefented it to the united corps of cavalry and yeomanry of Leicefterfhire. It is her own compofition, extremely well thought, and finifhed with a neatnefs that has been rarely united with fo much force.

To return to the art which this lady profeffes, we have been informed that fhe was never regularly inftructed in drawing, but certain it is that fhe has uncommon merit in painting, both in crayons, diftemper, and colours; draws with accuracy, tafte and fpirit, and in her paintings at the Leicefter ball-room, &c. the perfpective is precifely correct.

Her firft thought of making an exhibition of her own paintings originated in fome pictures which fhe fome years fince fent to the Royal Academy, being refufed admiffion; as by a law, which like that of the Medes and Perfians, *altereth not*, they reject every thing in needle-work.

To enumerate the various merits of her exhibition is fcarcely neceffary; it is before the public, and the attention with which it has been honored, reflects equal praife on the tafte of the metropolis and the talents of the artift.

From the late and the prefent prefident of the Royal Academy, and almoft every other artift of eminence in the kingdom, her works have received the higheft and moft generous praife; and Sir Jufhua Reynolds gave a fanction to his approbation, by pointing out which of his own pictures would have the beft effect in her copies. From him, as well as the late lords Exeter, Gainsborough, &c. &c. fhe has many capital paintings, of which her imitations are now in Hanover-fquare.

She is now adding to her collection, by copying two (the Woodman in a ftorm, and the Shepherd's Boy) from the late inimitable Gainfborough, lent to her by Colonel Edward Noel, and two (Lady Jane Grey, and Ephraim and Manaffeh) from Northcote.

The following elegant ftanzes were written by a lady, and a fhort time fince inferted in the Monthly Magazine.

On Miss Linwood's admirable Pictures in Needle-Work.

WHEN Egypt's fons, a rude untutor'd race,
Learn'd with wild forms, the obelisk to grace,
And mould the idol god in ductile earth,
The loom and polifh'd needle took their birth.
When doom'd to dull obfcurity no more,
Fair Science reign'd on each furrounding fhore,
And ftretch'd her arm o'er Greece and early Rome,
Still in her train appear'd the labours of the loom.
When Gothic night o'erwhelm'd the chearful day,
And furious man, creation's favage lord,
Knew but the hunter's fpear, the murderer's fword;
Our fofter fex embofs'd the broider'd veft,
In flowery robe the blooming hero dreft;
Or rang'd in tap'ftry's glowing colours bright,
The mimic crefts, and long embattled fight.
Now learning's better fun-beam fhone anew,
And Gothic horrors gloomy night withdrew;
Again Prometheus wak'd the fenfelefs clay,
Grace, beauty, order, leap'd to fecond day.
Moft did the manly arts its influence feel,
The pencil cha'd the houfwife's humble fteel;
Rent was the aged tap'ftry from the wall,
Exulting genius gloried in its fall;
To monftrous fhapes, and hideous forms uncouth
Succeeded n ture i angeli t th.
The artift, m , awoke the vi o 's lay,
And women's labour crumbled in decay.
Then LINWOOD rofe, infpir'd at once to give
The matchlefs grace that bids the picture live;
With the o d air, the lovely lafting die,
That fills at once and charms, the wondering eye.
Hail! better Amazon, to thee belong
The critic's plaudits and the poet's fong,
To thee may fame no barren laurels bring,
But flowery wreaths that bud each rifing fpring.

City of Wafhington,

Commissioners Office,
2d October, 1801.

BY virtue of an act of Affembly of the ftate of Maryland entitled "A further fupplement to the act concerning the Territory of Columbia and City of Wafhington," the Commiffioners will expofe to public fale for ready money, at William Rhodes's Tavern, in the faid city, on the EIGHTH day of DECEMBER next, the following Lots in the faid city, to wit: Nos 3 4 and 5 in fquare no 99, nos 1 2 4 7 8 9 14 15 and 16 in fq no 196, no 10 in fq no 347, nos 1 & 19 in fq no 635, no 4 in fq no 217, nos 8 15 16 17 18 & 19 in fq no 37, no 8 in fq no 40, no 2 in fq no 43, no 4 in fq no 59, no 1 in fq no 60, nos 2 & 3 in fq no 71, nos 1 2 3 8 9 10 11 12 19 20 21 22 28 29 & 30 in fq no 76, nos 9 & 10 in fq no 77, no 3 in fq no 83, nos 16 17 & 18 in fq no 85, nos 1 & 8 in fq no 6, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 19 & 20 in fq no 20, nos 1 2 7 8 9 10 11 25 & 26 in fq no 33, nos 15 16 17 20 24 25 26 & 27 in fq no 105, nos 9 10 & 12 in fq no 118, no 20 in fq no 141, nos 14 15 & 16 in fq no 166, no 1 in fquare north of fq no 580, no 1 in fq north of fq no 583, nos 1 & 2 in fq no 107, nos 2 & 12 in fq no 23, no 12 in fq no 288, no 2 in fq no 317, no 7 in fq no 345, no 6 in fq no 409, no 13 in fq no 535, no 3 in fq no 579 nos 4 & 14 in fq no 580, nos 2 & 18 in fq no 583, nos 5 7 8 9 10 12 13 14 15 17 18 & 19 in fq no 585, nos 9 10 12 13 14 17 & 18 in fq no 587, nos 13 & 14 in fq no 643, nos 4 and 5 in fq no 734, no 3 in fq fouth of fq no 825, no 10 in fq no 799, no 2 in fq 821, no 13 in fq 846, no 2 in fq 847, nos 12 and 13 in fq 874, nos 15 and 19 in fq 102, no 1 in fq fouth of fq no 104, nos 6 7 & 8 in fq no 120, nos 24 25 26 & 27 in fq 126, no 7 in fq 142, one half of no 18 in fq 143, nos 3 and 4 in fq 70, nos 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 & 28 in fq 173, nos 1 2 5 6 10 11 12 13 16 17 and 21 in fq 185, nos 8 9 10 and 14 in fq 256 nos 2 3 17 18 in fq no 290, nos 2 5 6 13 14 in fq no 321, nos 1 3 5 and 9 in fq 322, nos 1 2 5 6 10 11 15 and 16 in fq no 348, nos 5 6 7 12 13 14 19 20 24 25 and 26 in fq 457, no 2 in fq 2, nos 1 and 3 in fq no 7, nos 6 7 8 10 11 12 and 15 in fq 75, nos 4 5 and 6 in fq 119, nos 1 9 11 12 and 15 in fq 224 no 7 in fq 432, nos 2 and 3 in fq 796, no 6 in fq 432, no 5 in fq 461, no 2 in fq 1064, nos 1 2 3 4 6 and 7 in fq fouth of fq no 744, no 1 in fq 461, no 2 in fq 644, no 16 in fq 799, no 17 in fq 728, no 1 in fq 291, no 2 in fq 47, nos 15 and 16 in fq 198, nos 3 5 6 7 9 10 12 13 and 14 in fq 317, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 and 7 in fq 343, nos 2 3 4 5 and 6 in fq 344, nos 1 2 3 4 15 16 17 18 19 20 in fq 374, nos 1 4 5 8 9 and 12 in fq 403, nos 3 4 5 6 7 in fq 404, nos 2 3 6 7 10 and 11 in fq 427, nos 2 3 4 5 and 6 in fq 428, nos 7 8 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 and 21 in fq 534, nos 5 6 7 8 9 10 and 11 in fq no 535, no 20 in fq 585, no 15 in fq 587, no 2 in fq 643, no 2 in fq fouth of fq no 825, nos 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 and 26 in fq 826, no 2 in fq 997, no 3 in fq fouth of fq no 1019, nos 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 in fq 1020, no 2 in fq 1021, no 1 in fq 1022, nos 1 2 3 11 12 13 and 14 in fq 1023, nos 5 and 6 in fq 1024, nos 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 and 11 in fq 1045, nos 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 and 13 in fq 1046, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 and 28 in fq 1047, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 and 24 in fq 1048, nos 1 3 4 5 6 7 8 & 9 in fq 164, no 14 fq 799, nos 6 7 8 9 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 & 20 fq 847, nos 1 2 3 4 5 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 & 34 in fq 877, nos 25 26 27 28 31 and 32 fq 1048, nos 1 and 3 fq 1065, nos 1 5 6 in fq north eaft of 1065, no 1 fq 1066, nos 2 3 7 8 9 10 12 and 13 in fq 158, nos 1 4 5 6 and 7 in fq 161, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 and 18 in fq 247, nos 1 2 3 4 10 11 in fq 452, nos 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 and 14 in fq 453, no 1 in fq fouth of fq no 463, nos 3 4 5 and 6 in fq 492, nos 5 9 & 10 in fq no 493, nos 4 5 & 6 in fq no 494, nos 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 & 28 in fq 517, nos 2 4 6 & 8 in fq 518, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 & 20 in fq 529, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 & 7 in fq 537, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 & 28 in fq 538, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 & 8 in fq 565, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 & 21 in fq 567, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 & 33 in fq 568, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 & 24 in fq 569, nos 2 4 & 6 in fq 570, no 2 in fq 572, nos 2 & 3 in fq 577, nos 1 2 3 4 5 & 6 in fq 581, nos 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 & 20 in fq 584, nos 5 6 7 8 9 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 & 26 in fq 640, nos 2 3 4 5 15 16 17 18 20 21 & 22 in fq 642, nos 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 & 21 in fq eaft of fq no 642, nos 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 & 27 in fq fouth of fq no 643, nos 3 4 & 6 in fq 644, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 & 28 in fq 645, nos 1 2 & 17 in fq 1060, nos 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 24 25 26 34 35 & 36 in fq 1043, nos 2 3 4 14 15 16 17 18 in fq 1066, nos 10 11 12 13 & 14 in fq 1067, nos 1 2 3 4 11 12 & 13 in fq 1078, nos 1 & 2 in fq fouth of 1091, nos 1 2 9 10 11 & 12 in fq 1092, nos 1 2 3 14 15 16 17 18 19 & 20 in fq 1105, nos 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 & 13 in fq 1116, no 9 in fq 1117, nos 5 6 7 & 8 in fq 1123, nos 5 6 7 & 8 in fq 1130, no 3 in fq 1148, and no 4 in fq 1149.

The fale to commence at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and continue from day to day (Sundays excepted) till the whole fhall be fold, or until the further order of the Commiffioners. The higheft bidder fhall be preferred; but if he fails to pay the money offered, on the day of fale, the next higheft bidder fhall be confidered as the purchafer; provided he pays the money offered by him previous to opening the fale on the enfuing day; if he alfo fails, the fale fhall be void, the lots bid for again, expofed without further notice, and both bidders excluded from purchafing during the fale.

WILLIAM THORNTON,
ALEXANDER WHITE,
TRISTRAM DALTON.

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FOR SALE.

In pursuance of an order of the Orphans Court for the county of Washington, in the District of Columbia, will be exposed to sale on Friday the 23d of October Inst. at 10 *o'clock,* A. M. *at* ROCK-HILL, *late the residence of* GUSTAVUS SCOTT, *Esq. deceased.*

A number of Negroes, houfehold and kitchen Furniture, Horfes, Cows, and a variety of other articles. The terms of fale will be as follow:—Where the property fold to any one purchafer fhall not exceed twenty dollars, cafh; but where the property fold to any one purchafer fhall amount to more than that fum, a credit of fix months will be given, on the purchafer's paffing bond, with good fecurity, for the payment thereof, with intereft from the day of fale.

And on Tuefday following, being the 27th day of October, at 10 o'clock A. M. will be expofed at public fale, at the farm called Strawberry-Vale, fituate in Virginia, about nine miles from George-town,

A number of Negroes, Horfes, Mules, Cows, Calves, and Farming Utenfils, belonging to the eftate of the faid Guftavus Scott. The terms of fale the fame as above.

On the day of fale at Rock-hill, will likewife be fold at public vendue, one moiety of a GRIST-MILL, ftanding on Rock-Creek. Likewife a number of well fituated Lots in the City of Wafhington. Alfo, a number of Potomac, and Potomac Bridge Shares, belonging to faid eftate.—The terms will be made known on the day of fale.

ELIAS B. CALDWELL, Adm'r.
Wafhington, October 2. epts

To be Sold,

On TUESDAY *the 27th of this instant, at the dwelling place of* Mary Jackfon, *in Prince George's county, near Caldwin's Tavern, the following Property, viz.*

Six Negroes, confifting of one Negro man who is a very good carpenter, and two Negro women, and two lads about fixteen years of age, and one Negro girl, two Horfes, Plantation Utenfils, and many other articles too tedious to mention—the property of Fielding Belt, late of Prince George's county, deceafed. A credit of nine months will be given, the purchafer or purchafers to give bonds or notes, as the cafe may require, with approved fecurity, with intereft from the day of fale.

Alfo all perfons having claims againft the eftate of faid Fielding Belt, are defired to exhibit them to the fubfcribers, legally authenticated for fettlement, on or before the 10th day of Auguft next enfuing, or they will be deprived of any benefit arifing from the eftate, and all perfons indebted to faid eftate are requefted to make immediate payment, otherwife fuits will be inftituted againft them without refpect to perfons.

TOBIAS BELT and } Adminiftrators
BEAL DUVALL, }
October 5. 3t

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