

confounded with Robert Taylor, the Devil's Chaplain, and even with Isaac Taylor! The origin of the story about the sacrifice, which has more than once been taken seriously, was probably no more than a good-natured jest.

Let us now endeavour to chronicle the various publications of this extraordinary man. They are all of them in a certain degree rare, and some of them are so in an exceptional degree:—

No date.

History of the Restoration of the Platonic Theology. London. 4to.

1780.

Elements of a new method of Reasoning in Geometry. London, 1780. 4to.

1786.

A short Essay on the Propagation and Dispersion of Animals and Vegetables. Being chiefly intended as an answer to a Letter lately published, and supposed to be written by a Gentleman of Exeter, in favor of Equivocal Generation. London, 1786. This is included in Mr. Sandford's list, but is not by Taylor but by Elford, and is a reply to William Jackson of Exeter.

1787.

The Mystical Initiations; or, Hymns of Orpheus. Translated from the original Greek; with a Preliminary Dissertation on the Life and Theology of Orpheus. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the author, 1787, 1 vol., 12mo.

1787.

Concerning the Beautiful, or, A Paraphrased Translation from the Greek of Plotinus, Ennead 1. Book VI. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the author, 1787, 1 vol., 12mo.

1790 or 1791.

A Dissertation on the Eleusinian and Bacchic Mysteries. Amsterdam. Printed and sold by J. Weitstein. 8vo. This was no doubt printed in London. The Dissertation, with additions, appeared also in the *Pamphleteer*, Vol. VIII., 1816.

1792.

An Essay on the Beautiful. From the Greek of Plotinus, London, printed for the author, 1792, 1 vol., 12mo.

1792.

The Phædrus of Plato. A dialogue concerning Beauty and Love. Translated from the Greek. London, 1792, 1 vol., 4to.

1792.

Commentaries of Proclus, Philosophical and Mathematical, on the First Book of Euclid's Elements; to which are added, A History of the Restoration of the Platonic Theology by the Latter Platonists; and a translation from the Greek of Proclus's Theological Elements. Dedicated "To the Sacred Majesty of Truth." London, printed for the author, 1792, 2 vols., 4to.

1792

The Rights of Brutes. London, 1792, 1 vol., 12mo. Said to be a satire on Paine's Rights of Man.

1792.

The Hymns of Orpheus. Translated from original Greek, with a Preliminary Dissertation on the Life and Theology of Orpheus. London, Printed for the author, 1792, 1 vol., 8vo.

1793.

Two Orations of Emperor Julian. One to the Sovereign Sun, and the other to the Mother of the Gods; Translated from the Greek. With Notes, and a copious Introduction, in which some of the greatest arcana of the Grecian Theology are unfolded. London, 1793, 1 vol., 8vo.

1793.

The Cratylus, Phædo, Parmenides, and Timæus of Plato. Translated from the Greek by Thomas Taylor. With notes on the Cratylus, and an explanatory introduction to each dialogue. London, 1793, 1 vol., 8vo.

1793.

Sallust on the Gods and the World; and the Pythagoric Sentences of Demophilus. Translated from the Greek; and Five Hymns, by Proclus, in the original Greek, with a poetical version. To which are added Five Hymns by the translator. London, 1793, 1 vol., 8vo. The version of Demophilus is reprinted in the *Philobiblion*, New York, 1862, vol. 1, p. 152.

1794.

The Description of Greece. Translated from the Greek. With notes, in which much of the Mythology of the Greeks is unfolded from a theory which has been for many ages unknown, and illustrated with maps and views elegantly engraved. London, 1794, 3 vols., 8vo. For this Taylor received £60—the only one of his works for which he was paid by the booksellers or the public. A second edition appeared in 1824.

1794.

Five Books of Plotinus, viz. : On Felicity ; On the Nature and Origin of Evil ; On Providence ; On Nature, Contemplation, and The One ; and on the Descent of the Soul. Translated from the Greek, with an Introduction, containing Additional Information on these Important Subjects. By Thomas Taylor. London, 1794, 1 vol., 8vo.

1794.

Abridgement of the History of the West Indies. By Bryan Edwards, M.P. London, 1794, 3 vols., 8vo.

1795.

The Fable of Cupid and Psyche. Translated from the Latin of Apuleius : To which are added, a Poetical Paraphrase on the Speech of Diotima, at the Banquet of Plato ; Four Hymns, &c., &c., with an Introduction in which the meaning of the Fable is unfolded. London, printed for the author, 1795, 1 vol., 8vo.

1801.

Metaphysics of Aristotle, Translated from the Greek ; with Copious Notes, in which the Pythagoric and Platonic Dogmas respecting Numbers and Ideas are Unfolded from Antient Sources. To which is added a Dissertation on Nullities and Diverging Series. London, printed for the author, 1801. 1 vol., 4to. The dissertation was not included in the second edition, which appeared in 1812 as Vol. IX. of the translation of Aristotle. See under date 1806.

1803.

An edition of Hederic's Greek Lexicon, 4to.

1804.

The Dissertations of Maximus Tyrius. Translated from the Greek by Thomas Taylor. London, Printed for the translator, Whittingham, 1804, 2 vols., 12mo.

1804.

An Answer to Dr. Gillies's Supplement to his New Analysis of Aristotle's Works ; in which the Unfaithfulness of his Translation of Aristotle's Ethics is Unfolded. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed by C. Whittingham, for the author, 1804, 1 vol., 8vo.

1804.

Translations from the Greek, viz. :—Aristotle's Synopsis of the Virtues and Vices. The Similitudes of Demophilus. The Golden Sentences of Democrates, and the Pythagoric Symbols, with the explanations of Jamblichus. By William Bridgman, F.L.S. To which are added, The Pythagoric Sentences of Demothilus. By Mr. Thomas Taylor. London, printed for W. Bridgman, 1804, 1 vol., 12mo.

1804.

The Works of Plato. Fifty-five Dialogues and Twelve Epistles. Translated by Taylor and Sydenham, with Annotations and Copious Notes, in which is given nearly all the existing Greek MSS., Commentaries on the Philosophy of Plato, and a considerable portion of such as are already published. London, printed for Thomas Taylor, 1804, 5 vols., 4to.

1805.

Miscellanies in Prose and Verse. Containing The Triumph of the Wise Man over Fortune, according to the Doctrine of the Stoics and Platonists ; The Creed of the Platonic Philosopher ; A Panegyric on Sydenham, &c., &c., by Thomas Taylor, London, printed for the author, by C. Whittingham, 1805, 1 vol., 8vo.

1806.

Collectanea ; or, Collections consisting of Miscellanies inserted by Thomas Taylor in the *European* and *Monthly Magazines*, with an Appendix containing some Hymns by the same author never before printed.*** London : printed for the author, by C. Whittingham, Dean Street, 1806, 1 vol., 12mo. In the preface it is mentioned that the volume was printed at the request of William Meredith. It contains a paraphrase of Ocellus Lucanus on the Nature of the Universe, which appeared in the *European Magazine* in 1782, and "is the earliest of the author's publications." On p. 18 is an Address to the British Nation ; on p. 19 On a Text in Hebrews (Heb. xi., 3). On p. 24 is a

letter to the Editor of the *Monthly Magazine*, on p. 29 another; on p. 31 To the Rising Sun; on p. 34 Chaldean Oracles; followed by (p. 38) A Concise Explanation of Chaldaic Dogmas, by Psellus; on p. 45 begins the Oracles of Zoroaster; on p. 63 Chaldean Oracles delivered by Theurgists under the reign of the Emperor Marcus Antonius; on p. 80, Chaldean Oracles; on p. 111 a Letter on Sensual and Intellectual Pleasures; on p. 116 Theodosius and Constantia; on p. 121 The Dream, an Imitation of the beginning of the Eleventh Book of Apuleius; on p. 127 a Letter on the Fables of the Ancients; on p. 135, a Letter on the Name of God; on p. 137 on Alchemy; p. 139 To the Sun. The Appendix begins on p. 147. There were but fifty copies of this printed, at the expense of Mr. Meredith.

1806.

The Works of Aristotle. Translated from the Greek. With copious elucidations from the best of his Greek Commentators, viz. : Alexander Aphrodisiensis, Syrianus, Ammonius Hermæas, Priscianus, Olympiodorus, Simplicius, &c. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the translator, 1806-12; 9 vols., 4to.

1809.

The Arguments of Emperor Julian against the Christians. Translated from the Greek Fragments preserved by Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria. To which are added Extracts from the other Works of Julian relative to the Christians. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the translator, 1809, 1 vol., 8vo.

1812.

Philosophy of Aristotle. A Dissertation on the four books. London, printed for the author, 1812, 1 vol., 4to.

1816.

Theoretic Arithmetic; in Three Books, containing the substance of all that has been written on this subject by Theo of Smyrna, Nicomachus, Jamblichus, and Boetius. Together with some remarkable particulars respecting perfect, amicable, and other numbers, which are not to be found in the writings of any ancient or modern mathematicians. Likewise, a specimen of the manner in which the Pythagoreans philosophized about numbers,

and a development of their mystical and theological arithmetic. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the author, 1816, 1 vol., 8vo.

1816.

The Six Books of Proclus, the Platonic Successor; On the Theology of Plato, translated from the Greek; to which a Seventh Book is added, in order to supply the deficiency of another book on this subject, which was written by Proclus, but since lost. Also a translation from the Greek of Proclus' Elements of Theology. To which are added a Translation of Extracts from his Treatise, entitled Ten Doubts Concerning Providence; and a translation of Extracts from his Treatise on the Subsistence of Evil; as preserved in the Bibliotheca Graeca of Fabricius. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the author, 1816, 2 vols., 4to.

1816.

The Pamphleteer, Vol. VIII., 8vo., contains the Dissertation on the Eleusinian and Bacchic Mysteries. See under date 1791.

1817.

Select Works of Plotinus, The Great Restorer of the Philosophy of Plato; and Extracts from the Treatise of Synesius on Providence. Translated from the Greek. With an introduction containing the substance of Porphyry's Life of Plotinus. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for and sold by the author, and by Black and Son, 1817, 1 vol., 8vo.

1818.

Jamblichus' Life of Pythagoras, or Pythagoric Life. Accompanied by Fragments of the Ethical Writings of Certain Pythagorians in the Doric Dialect; and a Collection of Pythagoric Sentences from Stobæus and others, which are omitted by Gale in his *Opuscula Mythologica*, and have not been noticed by any editor. Translated from the Greek. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed by A. J. Valpy, and sold by the author, 1818, 1 vol., 8vo.

1818.

The Rhetoric, Poetic, and Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle. Translated from the Greek. By Thomas Taylor. London, 1818. 2 vols.

1820.

Miscellanies in Prose and Verse. Containing The Triumph of the Wise Man over Fortune, according to the Doctrine of the Stoics and Platonists; The Creed of the Platonic Philosopher; A Panegyric on Sydenham, &c., &c. By Thomas Taylor. Second edition, with additions. London, printed for the author, 1820, 1 vol., 16mo.

1820.

Commentaries of Proclus on the Timæus of Plato, in Five Books; containing a Treasury of Pythagoric and Platonic Physiology. Translated from the Greek. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for and sold by the author, 1810, 2 vols., 4to.

1821.

Jamblichus on the Mysteries of the Egyptians, Chaldeans, and Abyssinians. Translated from the Greek by Thomas Taylor. Chiswick, printed by C. Whittingham, for the translator, Manor Place, Walworth, 1821, 1 vol., 8vo.

1822.

The Metamorphosis, or Golden Ass, and Philosophical Works of Apuleius. Translated from the original Latin, by Thomas Taylor. London, 1822. 1 vol., 8vo.

1822.

Political Fragments of Archytus, Charondas, Zaleucus and other ancient Pythagoreans, preserved by Stobæus; and also Ethical Fragments of Hierocles, the celebrated Commentator on the Golden Pythagoric Verses, preserved by the same author. Translated from the Greek by Thomas Taylor. Chiswick, Printed by C. Whittingham, for the translator, 1822, 1 vol., 8vo.

1823.

The Elements of a New Arithmetical Notation, and of a new Arithmetic of Infinites; In Two Books; in which the series discovered by modern mathematicians, for the quadrature of the circle and hyperbola, are demonstrated to be aggregately incommensurable quantities, and a criterion is given, by which the commensurability or incommensurability of infinite series may be accurately ascertained. With an Appendix, concerning some properties of perfect, amicable, and other numbers,

no less remarkable than novel. By Thomas Taylor. London, 1823, 1 vol., 8vo.

1823

Select Works of Porphyry. Containing his Four Books on Abstinence from Animal Food; his Treatise on the Homeric Cave of the Nymphs and his Auxiliaries to the Perception of Intelligible Natures. Translated from the Greek by Thomas Taylor. With an Appendix explaining the Allegory of the Wanderings of Ulysses. By the translator. London, 1823, 1 vol., 8vo.

1824.

See Pausanias, under date 1794.

1824.

The Mystical Hymns of Orpheus. Translated from the Greek, and demonstrated to be the Invocations which were used in the Eleusinian Mysteries. By Thomas Taylor. The second edition, with considerable Emendations, Alterations, and Additions. Chiswick Press, 1824, 1 vol., 8vo.

1825.

Lost Writings of Proclus. The Fragments that remain of Proclus, surnamed the Platonic Successor. Translated from the Greek. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the author, 1825. 1 vol., 8vo.

1830.

Arguments of Celsus, Porphyry and the Emperor Julian against the Christians, and also extracts from Diodorus Siculus, Josephus, and Tacitus, relating to the Jews. Together with an Appendix containing the Oration of Libanius in Defense of the Temples of the Heathens. Translated by Dr. Lardner; and extracts from Bingham's Antiquities of the Christian Church, London, Thomas Rodd, 1830. 1 vol., 16mo.

1831.

Ocellus Lucanus, on the Nature of the Universe. Taurus, the Platonic Philosopher, on the Eternity of the World. Julius Firmicus Maternus of the Thema Mundi; in which the Positions of the Stars at the commencement of the several Mundane Periods is given. Select Theorems on the Perpetuity of Time, by Proclus. Trans-

lated from the originals, by Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the translator, 1831, 1 vol., 8vo.

1833.

Two Treatises of Proclus, the Platonic Successor; the Former consisting of Ten Doubts concerning Providence, and a Solution of those Doubts; and the latter containing a Development of the Nature of Evil. Translated from the edition of these works by Victor Cousin, by Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the translator, and sold by William Pickering. 1833, 1 vol., 8vo. Re-issued in 1841.

Thomas Taylor died at his residence at Walworth, 1 November, 1835. The cause of death was a disease of the bladder, borne with stoical resignation. Some days before his death he asked if a comet had appeared, and being answered in the affirmative, said, "Then I shall die; I was born with it and shall die with it."

He was buried in Walworth churchyard, but no stone marks the spot, and the resting place of the Platonist is unknown. (*Notes and Queries*, 7th S. IX., 194). He was an enthusiast, and only an enthusiast could have done his work. His translations represent a side of Greek thought that but for him would be unrepresented in English literature. The sneers at his command of Greek are evidently absurd, for surely no man's mind was ever more thoroughly suffused with the very essence of Neo-Platonism. Whatever failure he may have made in unessential details would be more than compensated by the fidelity with which his sympathetic mind reproduced the spirit of the Pythagorean philosophers with whom he dwelt—apart from the noise and turmoil of the age in which he had been cast. His books remain a mighty monument of disinterested devotion to philosophic study. They were produced without regard to, and hopeless of, profit. They are not addressed to popular instincts, and there is no attempt made to give them clearness of style or to present their thoughts in an attractive fashion. The gold that was in them the Platonist thought deserved the trouble of toilsome digging.

The life of Thomas Taylor, the Platonist, is one which will receive a tribute of admiration from the thoughtful. However much of an anachronism a Pagan philosopher may seem in the London of the nineteenth century of Christianity, it must be acknowledged that a man who devotes himself to poverty and

1834.

Translations from the Greek of the following Treatises of Plotinus, viz.:—On Suicide; to which is added An Extract from the Harleian MSS. of the Scholia of Olympiodorus on the Phædo of Plato respecting Suicide, accompanied by the Greek Text; Two books on Truly Existing Being; and Extracts from his Treatise on the Manner in which the Multitude of Ideas Subsists, and concerning The Good; with additional notes from Porphyry and Proclus. By Thomas Taylor. London, printed for the translator, 9, Manor Place, Walworth, 1834, 1 vol., 8vo.

study in an age and country famous for the pursuit of wealth ; who has the courage to adopt and the sincerity to avow opinions that are contrary to every prejudice of the time ; who runs the risk of persecution and imprisonment ; a man who "scorns delights and lives laborious days," is entitled to our admiration and respect. And such was Thomas Taylor, the Platonist, whose name should be remembered by all friends of learning and freedom of thought.

WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

