

had denied the marriage with Mrs Fitzherbert. The lady was naturally offended, and, to appease her, the Prince tried to restore the matter to the uncertainty which had previously hung over it. He wished, therefore, to have some ambiguous or equivocating remark made, as if from authority, in the House of Commons ; and, with singular want of discrimination, Mr Grey was applied to for the purpose. But the unaccommodating young senator spurned the dishonourable office, and gave offence which was never forgotten or forgiven." It is further to the honour of Earl Grey, that though by no means indifferent to the pleasures of place or the possession of power, he held office, during his long political life of more than half a century, for little more than five years. He had many opportunities of being in place presented to him, had he chosen to sacrifice principle for its sake ; but he did not choose it. Very different indeed would be the present position of the party to which he belonged, had they but imitated their leader in this important respect. In these times of re-action on old Toryism, none the wiser or better for all the experience of the past, they would be by far the strongest,—not what they now are, one of the weakest parties in the country.—*July 30, 1845.*

LORD JEFFREY.

THE most eminent of our Edinburgh literati,—a man who for nearly half a century has enjoyed European celebrity as first in the realms of criticism, and a reputation at least co-extensive with his native country as a politician and a lawyer,—has passed from off the stage of mortal existence, and now lives but in the unseen world. On the evening of