

not possess nor feel. She is drowned in tears. The sweet little girl who holds on by her gown, and the girl beside grandpapa, are both too young to participate in the general regret ; and yet they, too, have an air of absence and unhappiness about them, caught, as it were, by sympathy from the others. The old man, the patriarch of the family, is one of the most striking figures in the picture. Wilkie himself has rarely produced anything more characteristically Scotch. There is a deep seriousness impressed on the somewhat rugged features, blent with a dash of sadness ; for he, too, feels that he is leaving his home and the country of his fathers. But he has thought of another and more certain home ; and the consolations which he is pressing on his daughter-in-law, whose hand he is affectionately grasping in his own, are evidently of the highest character. Venerable old man ! Divested of hopes and beliefs such as yours, the aged emigrant would be of all men the most unhappy. It has been well said by Goldsmith, that “ a mind long habituated to a certain set of objects insensibly becomes fond of seeing them, visits them from habit, and parts from them with reluctance ;” and it is chiefly from such objects that age derives its pleasures. It cannot give to novelty the feelings appropriated by recollection ; and must fare ill, therefore, in a foreign land, in the midst of what is strange, and what, from its very nature, cannot become otherwise,—in the midst, too, of hardships and privation. The old man in such circumstances must be either like the cottar of Burns,—the “ priest-like father” of the family,—or he must be by much the unhappiest member of it.

Such is an imperfect description of Mr Knott’s picture, as I have been enabled to read it. It has no doubt its faults, like every other ; but these seem mostly to be mere faults of execution, from which no young artist can be wholly free, whatever his genius,—not faults of conception. The foliage of the trees which half-embosom the cottage do not repose in