Mr. Griffiths's Remarks

Upon the Letter,

Signed

George Cumberland.

Windsor:
Printed by C. Knight, Castle-Street.

1797.
REMARKS.

&c. &c. &c.

"All ha'n't Brains as large as those
"Which a Calf's head does inclose,"

RABELAIS.

—is a motto that must apologize for my inadequate ability to contend, by means of the Press, with the vaunting Author of a Letter addressed to me, with the name of GEORGE CUMBERLAND subscribed.

This curious and flimsy Work, is full of Absurdity, Falsehood, and Scurrility,—terms
terms very applicable to the daftardly Author, whose pitiful design, the Letter itself sufficiently exposes: Intomuch, that I do not feel myself induced to humour the Three-penny Writer with any other notice of it, than by a short declaration, to disarm him of his baseless and affectedly pathetic Story of North, the Bricklayer.

By his Report, it would seem that I had wantonly disturbed this man's family, by going to his Hut, in a hard frost, and with threats, endeavoured to force them from thence into the Snow: It would seem that this was my first visit to them; and that they were established in their possession according to law.

I therefore declare, that at a time when this man was occupying a very comfortable House, on Englefield-Green, from whence, as the season was severely cold, there was no hazard of his being driven, he chose to attempt to erect a House upon the Common, directly upon the footway between one of my gates and my next neighbour's garden, without
without the consent of the Lord of the Manor, or of the Inhabitants adjoining.—I opposed this attempt so early as when he was clearing the surface of the ground.

Mr. Secker, my Solicitor, at Windsor, was employed to warn him from proceeding to occupy that spot, so as to obstruct my way; and in short, the man was frequently desired to retire from his design, before, and immediately after, that he had set some detached posts in the ground.—By this time it became rumoured, that he was only the Agent of some other Person.

At length he removed his Family, in the hardest Frost, from the House at Englefield Green; and it is not doubted, from the well-known humanity of its owner, that his quitting it, during that inclement Season, was voluntary, and to place them in a Hut in a very exposed state.

It was then become impossible for me to act against the Building; and from the moment when I saw the Family therein, I contented
contented myself with advising them to endeavour to get the consent of the Inhabitants, to their settling upon a less objectionable piece of waste: I found them one day perfectly disposed to adopt my advice; I was told of a tract they had made choice of, but I refused to hear any description of it, because as I deemed it sufficient that they asked the consent of the adjacent Inhabitants, I would not be said, or thought, to have placed them in an objectionable spot.

The next time I saw North, I found he had changed his mind, and would not remove. I thought I had discovered the cause,—and the Letter addressed to me, now avows that it was George Cumberland, who has, in an officious and secret manner, advised them not to remove at my sole mandate.

In the Coffee-Room, I mentioned my suspicion to him, in a manner that could not be misunderstood: He has annexed a Copy of the Letter he wrote to me, asking for an Apology,
Apology, which he says I did not answer.—
The Gentlemen present in the room, Messrs. Pearson and H. Proctor, know, I may suppose, that I said enough to him to render it easy for him to obtain what he terms Justice; which renders such request as he then sent, quite superfluous.

It is plain, that he has preferred his pen; and seems to have no ill opinion of his skill in flourishing with it. Yet, though the hand writing may be his boast, I cannot but notice an unnatural coalition of styles in the Advertisement, that speaks in puritanical cant of "Saving Union," &c. and in the Letter, that with envious acrimony, declares my "ponderous mansion oppresses the damp clay;" because the proprietor is deemed to have wealth.

I shall continue to act up to the motto of the Arms of my Family, viz.

**FIDES SPECTATOR AUROR.**

As
As the political allusions are formed upon a false statement of my expressions, I shall not make any Remarks on them.

HENRY GRIFFITHS.

Old Windsor,
Monday, 27th Feb. 1797.