



THE PURSUIT OF LITERATURE UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

1873—MAY—31 days.

THE MOON'S CHANGES.

First Quar. 4th, 12-33 mn. Last Quar. 19th, 11-0 mn.
Full Moon. 12th, 11-48 mn. New Moon. 26th, 9-29 mn.

		Sun Rises & Sets.	Moon Rises & Sets.	Age.
1 Th	Prince Arthur born, 1850.	4 33r	Sets A.M.	5
2 F	William Beckford died at Bath, 1814.—"It seemed nothing to him to take down a palace with which he was dissatisfied, and build up a new one!"	7 23s	0 56	6
3 S		4 30r	1 38	7
4 S	3rd Sunday after Easter.	7 26s	2 10	8
5 M	Seventeen persons burnt at St. Oystes, Essex, for witchcraft, 1676.	4 26r	2 33	9
6 Tu	The great Battle of Prague (the first in the Seven Years' War, 1757.	7 28s	2 49	10
7 W	Until the reign of George IV. the crime of burglary was punished by death.	4 22r	3 4	11
8 Th	Lady Anne Barnard died, 1825.	7 32s	3 17	12
9 F	In 1748 there was a famine throughout Great Britain; and again in 1755 and 1801.	4 19r	3 30	13
10 S	Tasman discovered Van Dieman's Land (part of which is now called Tasmania), 1642.	7 35s	3 41	14
11 S	4th Sunday after Easter.	4 16r	3 55	15
12 M	"Mornington v. Wellesley" and "Wellesley v. Mornington," a twenty-nine years' suit in Chancery, decided, 1808. The costs, it is said, amounted to above £30,000.	7 38s	Rises P.M.	16
13 Tu	Dr. Jenner made the first experiment in vaccination by transferring the pus from the pustule of a milkmaid who had caught the cow-pox from the cows, 1796. For his discovery he received £10,000 from Parliament in 1802; and £20,000 in 1807.	4 13r	9 25	17
14 W		7 41s	10 43	18
15 Th		4 10r	11 50	19
16 F		7 44s	After Mid- night	20
17 S	Anne Boleyn beheaded, 1536.	4 7r	A.M.	21
18 S	Rogation Sunday.	7 47s	1 19	22
19 M	The King and Queen of the Sandwich Islands paid a visit to England, and were well received, 1824. But both taking the measles they died in London.	4 4r	1 48	23
20 Tu	The Marquis of Montrose (Royalist) executed at Edinburgh, 1633.	7 49s	2 7	24
21 W		4 1r	2 24	25
22 Th	Holy Thursday.	7 52s	2 38	26
23 F	Scheele died, 1786.	3 59r	2 54	27
24 S	Queen Victoria born, 1819.	7 56s	3 9	28
25 S	Sunday after Ascension.	3 56r	3 28	29
26 M	[Dr. Paley died, 1805.	7 59s	Sets P.M.	30
27 Tu	"Mist in May, and heat in June, Make the harvest right soon."	3 54r	9 43	1
28 W	OLD PROVERB.	8 1s	10 45	2
29 Th	Sir Humphry Davy died, 1829.	3 52r	11 34	3
30 F	Cardinal Beaton (persecutor of the Reformers) assassinated at St. Andrews, 1546.	8 3s	After Mid- night	4
31 S	[Francis fired a pistol at the Queen, 1842.	3 50r	0 10	5

NOTES TO THE ABOVE ILLUSTRATION.

JAMES TYTLER was the son of a clergyman of the Scottish church, residing at Brechin, in the county of Angus, and brother to the celebrated Dr. Tytler (translator of "*Callimachus*.").

Young Tytler derived his principal instruction from his father, who was a good classical scholar; added to this, the boy became well grounded in biblical literature and scholastic theology—but the study of medicine seemed to be the one most in accordance with his tastes, and he was therefore apprenticed for some time to a surgeon in Forfar, and afterwards settled as an apothecary at Leith. In spite of his employment which brought him in a tolerable income) he was one of those unfortunate persons who could not keep away want from his door, and in 1772 he was obliged to take sanctuary within the precincts of Holyrood-house (where debtors are safe from arrest). Whilst in the "precincts of the sanctuary," he met with a severe trial, for his wife, doubtless tired of her unhappy lot, and the troubles she had undergone, left him, taking with her their five children, and returned to her relatives.

Being unsuccessful in everything that he had hitherto put his hand to, and for which there was no doubt an assignable cause, Tytler next turned his attention to literature, and began his career by a work entitled "*Essays on the most important subjects of Natural and Revealed Religion*." This publication was issued from the debtors' prison—and what was most singular about it was, that having by some means or other learnt the art and mystery of printing, he was enabled to place the type together, and he not only did that, but he composed the matter entirely from his own conceptions, without a manuscript before him; and after he had done this, he proceeded to print off the work he had executed—and this at a press of his own construction. This singular work, which was to have been published in two volumes, was, however, left unfinished. The booksellers afterwards engaged him, and kept him constantly employed in composition, abridgments, translations, and miscellaneous essays.

Tytler was the principal editor of the "*Encyclopædia Britannica*," (the first part of which was issued a hundred years since), for which important and well-known work he not only finished a large proportion of the scientific histories and treatises, but almost all the minor articles. He had a room given to him in the printing-office, where he performed the office of compiler and corrector of the press, at a salary of sixteen shillings a week! He next commenced a periodical called the "*Weekly*

" Robert Burns, who was contemporary with Tytler, in a remark in one of the Scotch songs, mentions him as an "obscure, impelling, but extraordinary body, commonly known by the name of 'Balloon Tytler,' from his having projected a balloon. A mortal who, though he trudges about Edinburgh as a common printer, with lenky shoes, a sky-lighted hat, and linen breeches, as unlike George-by-the-Grace-of-God, and Solomon-the-son-of-David, yet the same drunken mortal is author and compiler of three-fourths of Elliot's pompous '*Encyclopædia Britannica*,' which he composed at half-a-guinea a week."