

Scotland—carbines of the old pattern formerly used by the cavalry, ranged in "flourishes and furbelows"—two carved eagles, richly gilt, holding the rose and crown, and surrounded by pistols—a Medusa's head, commonly called the "Witch of Endor," with pistols arranged as snakes around it—a figure of Jupiter riding in a fiery chariot, richly decorated with ancient bayonets and six military fans, drawn by eagles, and holding a thunder-bolt in his left hand—and lastly, the figure of a Hydra with seven heads, curiously carved and combined by links of pistols and bayonets. Until required for use, the arms were kept bright, but when delivered out they were blued for the land service, and blacked for the sea service.

The new horse armory, which was situated against the south wall of the White Tower, immediately opposite to the ordnance-office, was constructed from the designs, and under the superintendence of Mr. Wright. The interior presented one of the most imposing spectacles that could well be imagined; the numerous equestrian and other figures ranged here in chronological order, and accoutred in suits of armour wrought in remote ages, all combining to give interest to a scene which was probably unique. This apartment was 149 feet in length and 33 in width; it was divided longitudinally into two unequal parts by a series of pointed arches raised on a brick floor.—Behind the equestrian figures were deposited a number of cannon of ancient and highly beautiful workmanship, and along the wall in front were several pedestrian figures in the military costume of different ages, while on a recessed platform were various specimens of armour, and other accoutrements of the reign of Charles I. The intervals between the horses were occupied by 21 small cannons, which were made by order of George III. and presented to the Prince of Wales on his becoming of age.

The Spanish or Queen Elizabeth's Armory, as it was recently called, contained arms and weapons similarly disposed of, and of equally great antiquity. Among the weapons enumerated as Spanish, but not one of which could be truly assigned to that nation, were spears, lances, and pikes, some 13 feet long, halberds, musketoons, together with many instruments of torture, such as the *cravate*, or engine for locking together the head, hands, and feet; the *bilboe*, or yoke, and the thumb-screws. The cravat was used in the Tower before the Spanish Armada, and was called the *scavenger's daughter*. Among these valued relics of ancient history, scarcely one can now be found, to gratify the sight of either the antiquary or the historian.

GREAT FIRE AT ST. JOHN, N. B.

Letters from Eastport received at Boston state that St. John has been again visited with a most disastrous conflagration.—The following extract from one of the letters gives all the particulars that were known at Boston on Monday last.—A lady left St. Andrews for St. John on Monday the 15th inst., and in consequence of the heavy wind on Monday evening was unable to cross the river, and was detained at Carleton. She writes that the fire broke out on Monday evening, and has swept all South Market wharf, and the buildings, &c. down to Whitney's wharf; from Prince William street to the water, destroying the new market house, a number of ships, &c. Whether it crossed Prince William street or not was not known. Large quantities of goods were put in the market house, and all burnt; 40 vessels stated to have been burnt, including five large ships. The fire was still raging when the mail left. The fire was distinctly seen here on Monday, and also last night; in fact, it was seen here this morning at daybreak. The wind was very high last night—a gale from W.S.W.—and it is feared that a greater part of this city must have gone. It is supposed here that Barlow's building, on the corner of King street, must have taken fire from the market house, the wind blowing directly on it; and if so, where will it have stopped? Another letter from Eastport, upon the authority of passengers from New Brunswick arrived there, says that seventy-seven buildings, (stores and warehouses) and forty vessels, including five square rigged, were destroyed, with a vast amount of property.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT.—A Daughter shot by her Father.—Mr. Noble, a master mason on the Croton works, residing in Eighty-sixth street, having

heard that persons had threatened to attack his house, has recently been in the habit of keeping loaded pistols in readiness, in case of such an event. Yesterday some friends called to see him, and these pistols were lying on a chair, and one of the gentlemen, without perceiving them, sat upon them; but at the request of Mr. Noble, who said they were loaded, immediately got up, and Mr. Noble took one of them up to show it, and raised the hammer. While in this position, his finger slipped, and the hammer coming down upon the cap, which remained in the socket, the charge exploded, and, horrible to state, the ball with which the pistol was loaded, struck his daughter, Jane Noble, who was standing two or three yards off, on the right side of the head, passing through the brain, and causing instant death. The unfortunate young lady was about twenty-two years of age, and was as much beloved as her untimely end will be deplored. The father is in a state of frenzy, and it is very questionable if he ever recovers his reason.—*New York Courier.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE LOST BOY.

The following interesting fact is related by the Rev. J. STEWART, in his account of the wreck of the "Rothsay Castle":—

"Amidst these almost overwhelming distresses, involving in one general calamity, men, women, children, and even infants, it is a rest to the heart to turn for a moment to some marks of Divine mercy. I am sure, my very dear friend, the following incident, related by the father of the boy, will deeply affect you:

"He was near the helm, with his child grasping his hand, till, (the waves rolling over the quarter deck, and taking with them several persons who were standing near them,) it was no longer safe to remain there. The father took his child in his hand, and ran towards the shrouds, but the boy could not mount with him. He cried out, therefore, 'Father, father, do not leave me!' But, finding that his son could not climb with him, and that his own life was in danger, he withdrew his hand.

"When morning came, the father was conveyed on shore, with some other passengers who were preserved, and as he was landing, he said within himself, 'How can I see my wife, without having our boy with me?' When, however, the child's parent let go his hand, his heavenly Father did not leave him. He was washed off the deck, but happily clung to a part of the wreck, on which some other passengers were floating. With them he was miraculously saved. When he was landing, not knowing of his father's safety, he said, 'It is of no use to take me ashore, now I have lost my father.' He was, however, carried, much exhausted, to the same house where his father had been sent, and actually placed in the same bed, unknown to either until clasped in each other's arms.

"When we read the interesting fact regarding this poor ship-boy, let us remember the words of David, 'When my father and mother forsake me, then the Lord taketh me up.'"

THE CROCODILE OF THE NILE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *United States Gazette*, writing from Egypt, makes mention of the Crocodile of the Nile, as follows:—

"Yesterday, for the first time, we saw a crocodile. This ancient of the Nile has been gradually retreating from the lower part of the river, and he is now rarely found below Minyeh, one hundred and sixty miles to the south of Cairo. We passed great numbers of them yesterday and today. We counted no less than eight on one sand bank, dozing in the sun. They were attended by their inseparable companion on land, the trochilus of Herodotus, and siksak of the Arabs. The siksak still performs the same friendly offices for the crocodile as in the days of Herodotus.

"It is a small bird, with a long pointed bill, and armed at the point of each shoulder of the wings with a sharp talon. According to the Arabs, when the crocodile is basking on the sand, with his mouth open, vermin creep in, which

cause him so much pain, that he is unable to close it again. The siksak pursues his tormentors into his throat, and destroys them. The crocodile, forgetting the presence of his friends, sometimes closes his mouth, and imprisons his benefactor. The siksak immediately extending its wings, pricks his throat, and obliges him to open it, and thus escapes. This group of crocodiles appeared to be members of the same family. Two of the smallest, about four feet long, were gambolling in the sand in great glee, around their venerable parents, who were stretched out upon the sand full twenty-five feet in length. At the approach of the boat, the siksaks uttered an admonitory cry, and the whole party made for the water with all possible speed. We poured in a shower of shot and musket balls upon them. It rattled upon their backs like hail, and just as harmlessly."

AN AMERICAN PANTHER.

An enormous animal of this species was killed in Sidney, on Saturday last, about seven miles from this place, by a party of men who were out fox hunting. They came upon and followed his tracks about three miles, when they overtook him in the woods, and fired upon him at the distance of about fifteen feet, without any apparent effect. He retreated some fifty rods, and stopped. Two of the party again approached to within about ten feet, and fired again, when he turned and came at his pursuers with the utmost ferocity; but fortunately a hound which they had with them seized him behind, and caused him again to retreat a short distance. After firing a dozen rounds of shot and balls, they so disabled him as to allow them to approach and knock him on the head with an axe. He measured seven and a half feet in length, and twelve and a half inches round the fore arm, and weighed nearly 200 pounds. He has been exhibited in this town, and is considered the most formidable animal ever taken in our forests. He had not long been in that vicinity, and it is surprising how an animal of this kind could have penetrated into so populous a territory without being sooner discovered and hunted down.—*Kennebec Journal.*

HOME.

THE only fountain in the wilderness of life, where man drinks of water totally unmixed with bitterness, is that which gushes for him in the calm and shady recess of domestic life. Pleasure may heat the heart with artificial excitement, may delude it with its golden dreams, war may eradicate its fine fibres, and diminish its sensitiveness, but it is domestic love that can render it truly happy.

ECLIPSES IN 1842.—There will be five eclipses next year—viz., three of the sun, and two of the moon. On January the 11th, there will be an annular eclipse of the sun, invisible at Greenwich; Jan. 26, a partial eclipse of the moon, visible; July 8, a partial eclipse of the sun, visible; July 22, partial eclipse of the moon, invisible; and Dec. 31, an annular eclipse of the sun, invisible.

NATURE AND EDUCATION.

I THINK that as in bodies some are more strong, and better able to bear fatigue than others; even so among minds may be observed the same difference; some of them being by nature endowed with more fortitude, are able to face danger with greater resolution. For we may observe that all who live under the same laws and follow the same customs are not equally valiant. Nevertheless, I doubt not but education and instruction may give strength to that gift nature has bestowed on us. The same difference is likewise observable in every other instance—and so far as any man exceedeth another in natural endowments, so may he proportionably, by exercise and meditation, make a swifter progress towards perfection. From whence it follows, that not only the man to whom nature hath been less kind, but likewise he whom she hath endowed the most liberally, ought constantly to apply himself with care and assiduity to whatsoever it may be he wishes to excel in.—*Socrates in Xenophon.*

THE last best fruit which comes to late perfection even in the kindest soul, is tenderness toward the hard, forbearance toward the unforbearing, warmth of heart toward the cold, philanthropy toward the misanthropic.—*Jean Paul Richter.*

THEY run to seed with the fool, but turn to sage with the wise.