

freight their vessels at Formosa with sugar, which they dispose of at different ports to the northward, returning home with cargoes of drugs. They maintain commercial relations with Manilla, Tonquin, and Cochinchina and Siam; and many of the junks annually go to procure goods of British manufacture. The port has not always been closed against European vessels; as, according to the records of the East India Company, we find that 'the King of Tywan, on taking Amoy in 1675, issued a proclamation inviting both Chinese and foreign merchants to trade thither, exempting them from the payment of all duties for three years.' In consequence of this, numerous vessels went; but the exemption was soon revoked. The town was then taken by the Tartars, six years afterwards; but the Europeans still resorted to it until 1734, when the exactions of the Mandarins deterred them.

ANECDOTE OF THE REIGNING KING OF PRUSSIA.

We have much pleasure in laying before our readers an interesting anecdote, which has been communicated to us by a gentleman who has recently returned from Berlin. Some time since an effort was made to get rid of a windmill, the close approximation of which to the Royal palace rendered it in some degree a nuisance, and certainly an eyesore. Overtures were accordingly made to the sturdy yeoman for the purchase of the obnoxious property; but whether it was that the man was possessed of a strong spirit of obstancy, or was really too deeply attached to his old family habitation, the result was that the offers, though tempting, were again and again refused. There are generally some individuals attached to a Court who are ready to suggest remedies, direct or indirect, for inconveniences or annoyances offered to Royalty. Accordingly, upon a hint from some minion, a law suit was commenced against the obstinate miller for the recovery of certain sums alleged to be due for arrears of an impost on that portion of Crown land which it was suggested was occupied by the mill in question. The sturdy holder of the "toll dish" was not wholly without friends or funds, and he prepared vigorously to take his stand in defence of his rights. The question came in due time before the courts of law, and the plaintiff, having completely failed to establish any right on behalf of the Crown, the miller obtained a verdict in his favour, with a declaration for payment of his costs in the suit. This was certainly no small triumph, and merrily went round the unfurled sails of the old mill, and well pleased, no doubt, was the rough owner with the sound, as they went whirling and whizzing under the influence of the gale, which certainly seemed to blow strongly in his favour. But he was not the first who has found that when drawn into a lawsuit, particularly with so formidable an opponent, a man is more likely to "gain a loss" than escape scotfree. What with extra expenses, interruption of business, and rejoicings after the victory, the miller found himself pressed by considerable difficulties, and after in vain struggling a few months against the pressure he at length took a manly resolution, gained access to the monarch's presence, and, after roughly apologizing for having thwarted His Majesty's wishes frankly stated that his wants alone had rendered him compliant, but that he was prepared to accept the sum originally offered for the property. The King, after a few minutes conversation, handed a draught for a considerable amount to the applicant, and

said, "I think, my honest friend, that you will find that sufficient to meet the emergency; if not come and talk to me again upon the subject. As to the mill, I assure you I will have none of it. The sight of it gives me more pleasure than it ever occasioned pain; for I see in it an object which assures me of a guarantee for the safety of my people, and a pledge for my own happiness by its demonstration of the existence of a power and a principle higher than the authority of the Crown, and more valuable than all the privileges of royalty."—*London Paper.*

LITERARY DISPUTE.—Mr J. Garnier, a gentleman connected with German literature, was brought before Mr. Combe, charged by the Rev. Dr Worthington (as we understood), editor and publisher of the *Foreign Quarterly Review* of No. 3 Meeklenburgh square, with having broken a pane of glass in his parlour window, under the following ludicrous circumstances:—The prosecutor stated that he was seated at his table, dining in the parlour, when he heard a pane of glass smash in the window, which induced him to proceed outside to ascertain the cause, when, being informed that the defendant who was walking away, had broken it desigredly, he followed him and gave him into custody.—Defendant (much excited): I called for my article. I have applied for it repeatedly, and I can get no answer, or my article, and I called again and broke the window. He complained that his letters had not been answered when he applied for the MS. of an article which he furnished to the *Foreign Quarterly*, upon Gervena's German Grammar, which in point of courtesy he expected should be done.—Dr Worthington admitted that such an article had been received from the defendant about three months ago, but said there were others connected with the publication who ought to be applied to.—Mr Combe said he must pay 3s. 6d.—Defendant: I did break the window with my hat, and then I knocked at the door. He said he would not pay and was taken from the bar.—We understand he subsequently paid the money and was liberated.

NEW YORK AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.—The country through which we passed to Stonington is near the railway, low and marshy; higher up it is rough and stony, and covered with copse and young pines, the timber having evidently been cut down for use. This was invariably the feature of the country, with here and there a patch of fifty or sixty acres taken in from the woods and improved. The fields are small, poor in soil, and enclosed with rough stone dikes. After quitting the railway I had an opportunity of seeing the country between Stonington and New York. I now found myself in a magnificent city containing about 300,000 inhabitants—the streets spacious, particularly the foot-paths, which appear to be double the width of those even in the more modern parts of London—the Broadway, three miles in length, and many of the streets one and two miles. All is activity and bustle, and here, with the English language in his ears, one may easily fancy himself in London. The streets are quite as much crowded as those in London, with foot-passengers; and the shops are large and elegant, but there is not the same crowd of carriages, waggons, carts or other vehicles, and there are but few gentlemen's carriages to be seen.—*Captain Barclays Tour in the United States.*