

EPITAPH TO EBENEZER ELLIOT.

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

Stop, Mortal! Here thy Brother lies,
The Poet of the Poor,
His books were rivers, woody and skies,
The rainbow and the sun;
His teachers were the torn heart's wall,
The tyrant and the slave,
The street, the factory, the jail,
The police and the grave!
Sin met thy brother every where!
And is thy brother blamed?
From passion, danger, doubt, and care,
He no exemption claim'd

The meanest thing, earth's feeblest worm,
He feared to scorn or hate
But honoured in a peasant's form
The equid of the great,
He bless'd the Steward, whose wealth makes
The poor man's little more,
Yet leathed the haughty wretch that takes
From plundered labour's store,
A hand to do, a head to plan,
A heart to feel and dare—
Toll man's worst foes here lies the man
Who drew them as they are.

JOHN ADAMS AND DR FRANKLIN IN ONE BED.

In the third volume of the Works of John Adams, just published in a handsome octavo form by Messrs Little & Brown, we find a singular incident described in the journal of that great patriot and statesman, which occurred during a journey made to Staten Island by Mr. Adams, Franklin and Rutledge, in 1776, as a communique of Congress to wait on Lord Howe.

The tavern was so full we could with difficulty obtain entertainment. At Brunswick but one bed could be obtained for Doctor Franklin and me, in a chamber little larger than the bed, without a chimney, and with only one small window. The window was open, and I who was an invalid, and afraid of the air in the night, shut it close. "O" says Franklin, "don't shut the window; we shall be suffocated." I answered, I was afraid of the evening air. Dr. Franklin replied, "The air within this chamber will soon be, and indeed is now, worse than that without doors. Come open the window and come to bed, and I will convince you. I believe you are not acquainted with my theory of colds."

"Opening the windows and leaping into bed, I said I had read his letters to Dr. Cooper, in which he had advanced that nobody ever got cold by going into a cold church or any other cold air, but the theory was so little consistent with my experience, that I thought it a paradox. However, I had so much curiosity to hear his reason that I would run the risk of a cold."

The doctor then began to harangue upon air and cold, and respiration and perspiration with which I was so much amused that I soon fell asleep, and left him and his philosophy together but I believe they were equally sound and insensible within a few minutes after me, for the last words I heard were pronounced as if he was more than half asleep. I remember little of the lecture, except that the human body, by respiration and perspiration, destroys a gallon of air in a minute; that two such persons as were now in that chamber, would consume all the air in it in an hour or two; that by breathing over again the matter thrown off by the lungs and the skin, we would inhale the real cause of colds, not from abroad, but within.

I am not inclined to introduce here a dissertation on this subject. There is much truth, I believe, in some things he advanced, but they warrant not the assertion that a cold is never taken from cold air. I have often asked him whether a person heated with exercise going suddenly into cold air, or standing still in a current of it, might not have his pores suddenly contracted, his perspiration stopped and that matter thrown into circulation or cast upon the lungs, which he acknowledged was the cause of colds. To this he never could give a satisfactory answer, and I have heard that in the opinion of his own able physician, Dr. Jones, he fell a sacrifice at last, not to the stone, but to his own neglect, having caught a violent cold which quite choked him, by sitting for some time by an open window, with the cool wind blowing upon him.

SCULPTURES FROM NINEVEH.

Through the kindness of a friend, we yesterday had an opportunity of examining some fine specimens of the ruins of Nineveh. They were forwarded to this country

by Rev. D. W. Marsh, a Missionary of the American Board at Mosul, and were received at the Agency of the Board in this city, a few days since, by the arrival of the bark *Cornelia*, from Beirut and Smyrna. We believe that no other specimens of the kind have arrived in the United States; and these will therefore be looked upon with peculiar interest.

Mosul is situated on the opposite bank of the river Tigris from the site of Nineveh, and the sculptures forwarded by Mr. Marsh, were obtained directly from the ruins. They are twelve in number; or, more properly, there are six or eight specimens, in a state of fair preservation. The largest slab is broken into several fragments, but the outlines of the figures are so preserved as to be readily restored. Although the designs are not uniformly legible, the works were evidently intended for ornaments to private dwellings, or the more elegant public edifices. In several instances, the marks of the chisel are still fresh apparently, as on the day they were cut; and the beauty and delicacy of the workmanship is such as to excite the unbounded admiration of the beholder.

The material upon which the inscriptions are portrayed, is a soft greyish marble or limestone. Some of the specimens consist of earth or burnt clay, resembling brick.

One of the smaller pieces, broken into an irregular shape, contains a representation of the warrior in his chariot. The head and bust are perfect, but a portion only of the chariot and bow are preserved. The upper rim of the chariot wheel is very perfect. The chiseling of this specimen is exquisite and the stone retains its polish with a remarkable degree of endurance. The mode of dressing the head in the time of the Assyrians, may be studied here to excellent advantage.

Another slab represents a man in the act of running, and apparently in pursuit of an enemy. The head of the principal figure is deficient. We noticed in this specimen, a remarkably accurate delineation of muscular development.

A war-horse, fully caparisoned, forms the subject of another representation. The head and neck are nearly perfect, but the body is lost. In the man the trappings by the hand of time are scarcely visible.

Another represents a flowering plant, or a badge of royalty, shaped like a palm; the use of which is not clearly understood. It is evidently constituted insignia of office, and overshadows a chariot, in which is standing a warrior fully equipped for battle. Behind him are a number of other heads with invisible bodies. Above these figures is a heavy line in bass relief, supporting a new series of representations. In this upper portion, only human feet are visible.

The largest specimen is also a representation of the warlike preparations of the people, in whose days these curious works were wrought. The design is clearly intended for a picture of soldiers on their way. Two shields, circular in form, and admirably preserved in outline and finish, occupy the centre. Behind these appear the heads of two or three warriors crowned by conical caps, and protected by ear flaps. There is a remarkable variety in the styles of head dress observable in these specimens. One charioteer wears a flat turban shaped head covering, and others are furnished with peaked, square, and otherwise diversified forms. In the largest slab, the same representation of a palm shaped standard occurs.

Besides these there are two fine specimens, of the uniform or arrow-headed character, which are preserved in great perfection. The inscriptions are such that they cannot be represented by ordinary types, and of course cannot be translated without difficulty. The characters are deeply cut in a species of burnt clay, and are from a quarter to an eighth of an inch in depth. They will form an interesting study for the antiquarian.

These interesting relics of a bygone age, and departed splendor, are invested with a melancholy interest. The hands that fashioned them have decayed with the lapse of years, but the imperishable marble remains, as a memento of the age of opulence in Nineveh. The untiring exertions of Mr. Layard have opened a field of novel interest, and the few specimens of Assyrian art which have thus reached a world once unknown, will be prized as invaluable acquisitions to our archaeological archives.

PETRA.

Unlike Jerusalem, whose many revolutions fill the page of history with their burthen of glory and guilt, and whose final destiny is yet a subject of mysterious

interest, with Petra are connected neither great nor deathless names; her associations, like those of Tyre and Palmyra, are principally commercial, and them, too, never again is she destined to be from ruin. But were the Book of Job, as some count a production of Edomite origin, depicting the city of that land at a period when Jerusalem was yet founded, what a halo would not this cast over the late Idumea and her perished capital, a monument of her past genius and greatness, nobler than the proud her rock hewn temples, and lasting as the hills themselves! And whatever may be the conflicting opinions of the commentators—assigning the poem, they do, to different authors and periods, from Me to Isaiah—the best critics have at least, admitted there is about some portions of it a breadth and simplicity of style which breathes the very air of the infancy of the world, which seems like the unstudied and majestic utterance of the first inspired fathers of mankind. If we are thus to regard it, its incidental notices of arts, wealth, and refinement of the people among whom it was composed, point to a state of civilization as equalling at the same period that of the Egyptians themselves—in regard to their ideas of the natural attributes of Almighty, indeed, far higher; and if supposition be rejected, the fertility and populousness of Edom, at the time when the Israelites sought to pass through its desiles, are apparent from the very terms of their request. "Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy fields, or through the vineyards, neither will we dig thy wells; we will go by the king's highway." Edom came out against him, with much people, with a strong hand."

How fallen is Edom now! Could the Jewish people who animated with national hatred and the same wrong, poured out the burthen of denunciation upon Edom, awake and behold her utter ruin, they would weep at the fulfillment of their prophecies. "The terriblest hath deceived thee, and the pride of thy heart. O thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, that holdest the height of the hill, though thou shalt make thy nest as high as the eagle, I will bring thee down from thence: saith the Lord. Edom shall be desolation: every one that goeth by shall be astonished, and shall hiss at the plagues thereof. No man shall abide there, neither shall a son of man dwell in it."

The Great Wall in China—I passed the great wall which divides China from Tartary, and will serve to be considered as a wonder of the world. The Chinese say that it is more than ten thousand miles in length, which is equal to more than three thousand miles; but I have been assured that it does not exceed 15 hundred. Its course is not always even, sometimes descending into deep valleys, at others rising to the tops of lofty mountains. Its height constantly varies, but is much greater in certain situations especially in the valleys, whilst in some places it does not rise higher than fifteen feet. In some parts this wall is built entirely of stone, in others of brick, in others of stone and brick mixed, and such is its breadth, that carriages drive along the top with ease. I was informed that the interior of the wall was filled up with earth, and that it was built of that breadth not only for convenience in time of war, but also to facilitate the transport of materials when it was building, as it would otherwise have been impossible to carry it over steep and precipitous spots. It would, in fact, have been beneath the advanced civilization of the Chinese to build a national barrier, passing over rocks, ravines, and mountains, without providing a passage for horse and foot soldiers. Examining this work I was greatly astonished to find that although it was built more than eighteen hundred years ago, it is so perfect that it does not appear to have been finished above a century. It is decayed only in a few places, and these dilapidations the Tartars are now in possession of China, do not trouble themselves to repair. They only preserve and defend the gates through which there is much traffic. Under the present Chinese government one million of soldiers are employed to guard and garrison this marvellous work.

Another Survivor of the Battle of Bunker Hill—A subscriber to the "Journal" informs us of another survivor of the battle of Bunker Hill, Deacon Enos Blane, who resides in Kindig, N. H. He is nearly one hundred years old, and when our informant saw him last, some months since, was able to attend a town meeting. He was an active participant in the stirring scenes of '76.—*Journal*.