

POETRY

THE DYING WIDOW.

From the poems of Miller the basket maker.

Those cold white curtain-folds displace,
That form I would no longer see;
They have assumed my husband's face,
And all night long it looked at me;
I wished it not to go away,
Yet trembled while it did remain;
I closed my eyes and tried to pray—
Alas! I tried in vain.

I know my head is very weak,
I've seen what fancy can create;
I long have felt too low to speak,—
Oh! I have thought too much of late.
I have a few requests to make:
Just wipe those blinding tears away;—
I know your love, and for my sake
You will them all obey.

My child has scarce a mouth been dead,
My husband has been dead but five;
What dreary hours since then have fled!
I wonder I am yet alive.
My child! through him Death aimed the
blow,
And from that hour I did decline;
His coffin, when my head lies low,
I would have placed on mine.

Those letters which my husband sent
Before he perished in the deep;—
What hours in reading them I've spent!
Whole nights, in which I could not sleep;
Oh! they are worn with many a tear,
Scarce fit for other eyes to see;
But oft when sad they did me cheer—
Pray bury them with me.

This little cap my Henry wore
The very day before he died;
And shall I never kiss it more—
When dead, you'll place it by my side.
I know these thoughts are weak, but, oh!
What will my vacant heart not crave?
And as none else can love them so,
I'll bear them to my grave.

The miniature that still I wear,
When dead I would not have removed;
'Tis on my heart—oh! leave it there,
To find its way to where I loved;
My husband threw it round my neck,
Long, long before he called me bride;
And I was told that 'midst the wreck,
He kissed mine ere he died.

There's little that I care for now,
Except this simple wedding ring;
I faithfully have kept my vow,
And feel not an accusing sting;
I never yet have laid it by
A moment since my bridal day;
Where he first placed it let it lie:
Oh! take it not away!

Now wrap me in my wedding gown,
You scarce can tell how cold I feel;
And smooth my ruffled pillow down:
Oh! how my clouded senses reel;
Great God! support me to the last!
Oh! let more air into the room;
The struggle now is nearly past,
Husband and child! I come!

A MINERALOGICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

In connecting a Meteorological Memoir with the Geology and Mineralogy of this Province, I cannot omit some variations of the barometer, which occur at different seasons and at different places. They are not deduced from a regular series of experiments but are the result of observations made chiefly in the months of December and January, when a mission, connected with scientific research, afforded me an opportunity of taking the highest elevation of the mercury. As these variations were diurnal, the annual mean is, necessarily, unascertained; but as this branch of scientific enquiry has many claims to attention, any data or result of observations that may be in the possession of individuals throughout the Province, will be proportionately appreciated, if placed within the access of the public.

Were the variations of the barometer carefully determined in different elevations of this and the adjacent Provinces, their height above the level of the sea would be correctly ascertained, and many other important circumstances, connected with the gravity of the atmosphere, discovered.

The range of the barometer is found to be greatest from the 36th to 50th of latitude,—consequently this section of America will exhibit a mean point, proportionate to this calculation.

The general opinion is, that the range becomes greater from the equator to the poles; but a recent author has advanced some experiments, which limit any further increase beyond the 50th of north latitude, and this fact is confirmed from the result of some observations made in Quebec in the winter of 1816, wherein the range was not found greater than even in much lower latitudes.

The following are the mean points, at two different elevations in this Province, about 300 miles from the sea coast, and as the range is greater in the continent of America than in corresponding latitudes in Europe, I will exhibit a comparison of a few latitudes, nearly parallel to our own—

For the two winter months, December and January:—
At highest, 29° 74 usually in January.
At lowest, 27° 90 only occurs in Dec.

Difference, 1° 84
Mean between the extremes, 27° 97.
For the first ten days in the month of June:—
At highest, 28° 46.
At lowest, 28° 60 one day only.

Difference, 80.
Mean between the extremes, 27° 80.
According to these experiments, it appears that the mean height of the barometer in this Province, is as great as can occur in more northern latitudes, or even at the poles.—From observations made by a recent traveller in Russia, at places in the 60th of north latitude, the greatest mean height of the barometer never exceeded 28.8, and the lowest mean, 27.

In conducting the above experiments, a small variation occurred from the difference of the elevations where the barometer was exposed, but I never found it exceed half an inch.

To exhibit the comparison between this latitude and others corresponding, the following scale is drawn up:—

Place.	Lat.	Weight of the Barometer.	Range
New Bruns	45 20	27 97	1/2 In.
Marseilles	43 17	27 0	3/4 ..
Genoa ..	44 0	26 93	1 ..
Lyons ..	45 22	27 0	10-12
Paris	48 0	27 0	1 1/2 ..

Before I proceed to offer some remarks upon the effect of this variable climate on health and vegetation, I propose connecting with the Meteorology of the Province, a theory of Prognostics (predicting the weather), adapted, as near as possible, to the whole of the North East section of America. The indications are altogether independent of those collected from the barometer, thermometer and hygrometer, being isolated, and the greater part peculiar to this country.

1. Mists on the low grounds, which disappear as the sun rises, indicate dry weather; but when covering or skirting the tops of highlands, forbodes rain the day following.

2. Vapor arising from lakes, and visible, is a sure sign of rain.

3. When the leaves on shrubs and forest trees are long in falling, a severe winter may be expected, as these show the summer to have been wet.

4. In the three summer months, June, July and August, when it rains immediately after a shift of wind, lightning and thunder will follow.

5. When either of the three winter months, December, January and February, has been rainy and open, the spring will be cold and late.

6. If the winter is dry and severe, the spring will be wet and forward.—Late showers in the autumn, announce winter at hand.

7. A mild winter usually follows a dry summer.

8. If a south wind succeeds a north wind, rain commonly follows, but continues not long.

9. Thunder is seldom followed by clear weather.

10. Rain will follow a sudden change from cold to heat.

11. If the middle of July is fair or rainy, the next six weeks will be similar.

12. If May is rainy, September will be dry.

13. If the first days of November are warm and rainy, January and February will be cold and dry.

14. The rain coming from the south, with a high wind, will not cease out by a north wind.

15. The Aurora Borealis announces fair weather, oftener than high winds.

16. If a rain begins an hour or two after sun-rise, it will commonly continue all day.

17. When no storm occurs immediately before or after the vernal equinox, the ensuing summer is dry, at least five times out of six.

18. Six or eight days of fine weather in succession, with the occurrence of a south west wind, are commonly followed by a long drought.

In addition to the above meteorological theory of our climate, the Indians have long observed, that the degree of cold during the winter, are in proportion to the quantity of rain which falls during the autumn.

That the colder the early part of the spring is, the more favourable it proves to the fruits of the earth, as a frost generally follows in April and May, when the spring has opened warm.

In winter, our prevailing wind, in fair weather, is the north west, and in wet, north east, while a change is attended often with a slight rain, resembling the "spray from a cataract of water."

In the spring and summer, our most pleasant winds are the south west, and west north west;—the former brings usually refreshing showers, and moderates the heat of the weather, provided it is succeeded by a north west wind.

ROMANCE OF REAL LIFE.—Married, July 15, at St. George's Exeter, Mr. Joshua Stokes, of Sindbury, to Mrs. Ann Drake Faltridge, of Exeter. It is not a little singular, that these parties who are now getting in years, were acquainted in their youth, and about to be united in the bonds of wedlock; a difference, however, took place and they parted. After a while each got married, and in the lapse of years became single, when the courtship was again renewed, with precisely the same result as before—a quarrel and second separation. Each again got married, and having become once more single, they resolved to put it out of the power of caprice or aught but death, to separate them more, by indissolubly uniting themselves in the silken bonds of Hymen.

RISE TO ORDER.—Mr. A.—"I rise to order. The conduct of Mr. B. is disgraceful." Mr. B.—"I rise to order. Mr. A. is a great liar." Mr. C.—"I rise to order.—Mr. A. and Mr. B. are both wrong. In fact, their language is unparliamentary; indeed, they are two blackguards." Mr. D.—"I rise to order. You (to Mr. C.) are a great liar." Mr. C.—"I rise to order. You're another." Mr. B. (with great agitation, and rising to order)—"You are all a set of low vagabonds." The Speaker—"Really, *Gentlemen*, this is beneath the dignity of the House, and I must call upon you to retract your offensive expressions." Mr. C.—"Certainly, if Mr. A. did not mean what he said, I could not mean what I said; for, as what I said depends on what he said, though I called him a scoundrel, liar and blackguard, yet I most willingly retract those expressions as far as any thing personal could be understood, as having reference to the honorable members." Mr. B.—"Then I am perfectly satisfied." Mr. A.—"And I." Mr. D.—"And I."

COURT OF THE MERRY MONARCH.—Charles the Second was the King's house, at Winchester, with the Dukes of York, Monmouth, and Lauderdale, Lord Rochester, and Sir Alexander Fraser, his physician. The Duke of York was dull, Monmouth silly, Lauderdale hideously ugly, and Fraser notoriously ignorant. The afternoon was stupid; and Charles desired Rochester to enliven it. In a few minutes Rochester produced the following impromptu:—
Lauderdale the pretty,
And Monmouth the witty,
And Fraser the learned physician;
There's the Duke for a jest,
And, to crown all the rest,
There's Charles for a great politician.

This gives a strong idea of the ease of Charles's societies, and it is odd to meet any thing new about a time so well known.

THE CHILDREN OF THE POOR.—Of all the qualities a sweet temper, is perhaps, the one least cultivated in the lower ranks of life.—The peculiar disposition is not watched; care is not taken to distinguish between the passionate child, the sulky, the obstinate, and the timid. The children of the poor are allowed a latitude of speech unknown among the higher orders, and they are free from the salutary restraint imposed by what is termed "company." When in the enjoyment of full health and strength, the ungoverned temper of the poor is one of their most striking faults, while their resignation under affliction, whether mental or bodily, is the point of all others, in which the rich might with advantage study to imitate them.—*Tales of the Peerage and the Peasantry.*

RATHER PROPHECIC.—Moore, in his *Almanac*, at the end of July and beginning of August, says, "Ah! Philippe, beware! See to thy throne rests on the affections of your people!"

A SIMILE.—Doctor Johnson being asked his opinion of a very small volume with a pompous title, replied, "that it was like placing an eight-and-forty pounder at the door of a pig-sty."

EGYPT.—The produce of cotton has this year amounted to 250,000 qtls. The average price at which it has been sold being 25 dollars. The Pasha has thus realized the sum of 6,250,000 Spanish dollars.

PRINTERS' PENSION SOCIETY.—The ninth annual aquatic excursion in aid of the funds of this laudable institution took place on Monday last. The Society has for its object the allowance of £12 a year to aged and infirm members of the trade, and £8 to their widows. It is obvious that if the claims of those individuals whom this charity is designed to protect, were more generally known to the public generally known to the public at large, the society would be more extensively patronised than it is at present. The vessel engaged for the occasion was the Mercury, Captain Busby; and, judging from the number on board, there is no doubt but that the society will reap considerable advantage from the excursion. Mr Thomas Morris one of the late committee, and one of the earliest promoters of the society, was on this occasion presented with a very handsome silver snuff box, as a testimonial of the esteem in which he is held by the trade generally, for the very efficient services he has rendered to the society. Mr Morris returned his acknowledgements for this gratifying proof of the manner in which services were appreciated by the subscribers in a neat and appropriate speech. The company appeared very highly satisfied with the pleasure of the day, and departed with their best wishes for the success of the Printers' Pension Society.

DYING REFLECTIONS.—Dr Robertson, the historian, in one of his last conversations with Dr. Erskine, expressed his joy in reflecting that his life on earth had not been altogether in vain. Epicurus a few hours only previous to his dissolution, speaking of the torments of his disorder to a friend, told him that the joy he then felt in his mind, in the review of his public instructions, stood in battle array as it were betwixt him and the sufferings which he endured. "I shall be happy," said the pious Sturm, "if at the close of life, I carry with me to the grave the merit of having been useful to society." The soul-cheering expression "I have not lived in vain," was never more appropriately used than by Lord Grenville when he brought the Slave Trade Felony Bill into the House of Lords, May 7th, 1811. His lordship then observed, that it had been his good fortune to introduce that Act into the House which was first passed for the abolition of the Slave Trade. He considered he said the most honourable act of his public life, and he might say at the close of that life, "I have not lived in vain." Almost the last words the immortal Nelson uttered were "Thank God! I have done my duty."

TEN USEFUL MAXIMS.—1. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day.

2. Never trouble others for what you can do yourself.

3. Never spend your money before you have it.

4. Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap.

5. Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst or cold.

6. We never repent of having eaten too little.

7. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.

8. How much pain have those evils cost us that never happened?

9. Take things always by their smooth handle.

10. When angry, count 10 before you speak; if very angry, 100.

A WITTY PARADOX.—A Gentleman possessing much humour, who resides in a seaport, that flourishes in seasons of national hostility, but languishes when the sword is sheathed, was asked some time since this interesting question. "Sir, do you think we shall have a war?" To this he replied, "I believe not; yet I am afraid we shall have no peace until we have a war."

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—We learn from a late account, that Professor Meinicke, of the University of Halle, a town of much celebrity in the duchy of Magdeburg, has succeeded in producing a beautiful illumination by means of electricity and a factitious air, which does not burn but only shines, inclosed in glass tubes. As electricity may be propagated *ad infinitum*, it will in future be possible, by means of a single electrical machine, and application of the proper apparatus, to light up a whole city.

ZUMALACARREGUY.—The inscription on the simple tomb of this hero consists of the following impressive words:—"The conqueror of Sola, Saarsfield, Valdez, Quesada, Rodil, and Mina, having at their command the population of Spain, and supported by the English and French governments."

ANGER OF PROVERBIAL PHRASES.—A British adventurer had got into high favour at the Court of a Turkish Pasha. One day the latter was explaining to him a part of the policy by which he hoped to add another pashalik to his dominions. "Well, right," said the obsequious dependant; "you will undoubtedly very soon have two strings to your bow." The pasha started, and our hapless countryman was never afterwards seen.