

—“Ah, monsieur, I sal be ver mooch glad, if I can hav zat house *so long as I please*—eh, monsieur.”

“O certainly, certainly, sir.”—*Tres bien, monsieur!* I sal valk rite to your offees,—an you sal give me vat you sal call the lease for zat maison, jes *so long as I sal vant ze house*. Eh, monsieur.”

“Certainly, sir. You can stay there your lifetime, if you like.”—Ah, monsieur—I hav ver mooch tanks for zis accommodation.”

The old leases were destroyed and a new one was delivered in form to the French gentleman, giving him possession of the premises for “*such period as the lessee may desire the same, he paying the rent thereof promptly, &c.*”

The next morning our crafty landlord was passing the house just as the Frenchman's last load of furniture was being started from the door; and, an hour afterwards, a messenger called on him with a “legal tender,” for the rent for eight days, accompanied with a note as follows:

“*Monsieur*,—I have bin shmoke—I have bin drowned—I have been frees to death, in ze house vat I av hire of you for ze period as I may desire. I hav stay in ze dam house ‘*jes so long as I please*,’ and ze bearer of zis will give you ze key! *Bon jour, monsieur.*”

It is needless to add that our Yankee landlord has never since been known to give up “a bird in the hand for one in the bush.”—*Boston Times*.

LEWIS GALVANI.

An Italian physiologist, celebrated as the discoverer of animal electricity, or galvanism. He was born in 1737, at Bologna, where in early life he became reader in anatomy to the Institute in that city. Accident led him to the discovery which has perpetuated his name.

His wife labouring under constitutional debility, some frogs had been skinned to compose a restorative soup for her use; they happened to be placed in the laboratory of the professor, on the same table with an electrical machine, when one of the assistants by chance touching with a scalpel the nerves of the leg of a frog lying not far from the conductor, the muscles of the limb were observed to be immediately agitated with strong convulsions. Madame Galvani, who was present, went and informed her husband of this singular phenomenon. He repeated the experiment, and ascertained that the convulsion occurred only when a spark was drawn from the conductor while the scalpel touched the nerve. His subsequent inquiries induced him to ascribe the convulsive motion to the influence of a peculiar fluid or principal, which he supposes to be secreted by the brain, and distributed by the nerves through different parts of the body. To this principle he gave the appellation of animal electricity, and considered it as the cause of muscular motion.

Subsequent researches have led to conclusions inconsistent with the hypothesis of Galvani; and animal electricity or galvanism (as it has been denominated in honour of the discoverer) is now considered as depending on the operation of the same cause which produces other electric

phenomena. Galvani continued his inquiries, and made experiments on the electricity of the torpedo, and on the electric-motive effects of the contact of different metals; but he did not materially extend the limits of his original discovery.—*Aikin's Gen. Biog.*

SIR JAMES MACKINTOSH.

Sir James was subject to certain Parson-Adams-like habits of forgetfulness of common things and lesser proprieties, and this brought down upon him no slight share of taunt and ridicule. It happened on his arrival at Bombay, that there was no house ready for his reception, and it would be a fortnight before a residence in the fort could be prepared for him. Mr. Jonathan Duncan, the governor of the presidency, therefore; with great kindness, offered his garden-house, called Sans Pareil, for the temporary accommodation of Sir James and his family. But months and months elapsed, till a twelvemonth had actually revolved: Mackintosh and his wife during all this time found themselves so comfortable in their quarters, that they forgot completely the limited tenure on which they held them; appearing, by a singular illusion, not to have the slightest suspicion of Mr. Duncan's proprietorship, notwithstanding some pretty intelligible hints on the subject from that gentleman, but communicated with his usual delicacy and politeness. At last politeness and delicacy were out of the question, and the poor governor was driven to the necessity of taking forcible possession of his own property. This was partly indolence, partly absence of mind on the part of Sir James. He was constitutionally averse to every sort of exertion, and especially that of quitting any place where he found himself comfortable. Before he went out to India, he made a trip to Scotland with his lady; and having taken up his abode for the night at an inn in Perthshire, not far from the beautiful park of the late Lord Melville, then Mr. Dundas, sent a request to Lady Jane Dundas (Mr. Dundas being absent) for permission to see the house and grounds, which was most civilly granted. Mr. Dundas being expected in the evening, her ladyship politely pressed them to stay to dinner, and pass the night, their accommodations at the inn not being of the first description. Mr. Dundas returned the same day; and though their politics were as adverse as possible, was so charmed with the variety of Mackintosh's conversation, that he requested his guests to prolong their visit for two or three days. So liberal, however, was the interpretation they put upon the invitation, that the two or three days were protracted into as many months; during which every species of hint was most ineffectually given, till their hosts told them, with many polite apologies, that they expected visitors with a numerous retinue, and could therefore no longer accommodate Mr. and Mrs. Mackintosh.

Anglo-India, Social and Political.