

Along the cool sequestered vale of life
They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

Yet even these bones from insult to protect,
Some frail memorial still erected nigh,
With uncouth rhymes and shapeless sculpture decked,
Implores the passing tribute of a sigh.

Their name, their years, spelt by the unlettered muse,
The place of fame and elegy supply :
And many a holy text around she strows,
That teach the rustic moralist to die.

For who, to dumb Forgetfulness a prey,
This pleasing anxious being e'er resigned,
Left the warm precincts of the cheerful day,
Nor cast one longing, lingering look behind !

On some fond breast the parting soul reties,
Some pious drops the closing eye requires :
Even from the tomb the voice of nature cries,
Even in our ashes live their wonted fires.

For thee, who, mindfull of the unhonoured dead,
Dost in these lines their artless tale relate ;
If chance, by lonely Contemplation led,
Some kindred spirit shall inquire thy fate ,

Haply some hoary-headed swain may say,
Oft have we seen him at the peep of dawn
Brushing with hasty steps the dews away,
To meet the sun upon the upland lawn.

There at the foot of yonder nodding beech,
That wreathes its old fantastic roots so high,
His listless length at noontide would he stretch,
And pore upon the brook that babbles by.

Hard by yon wood, now smiling as in scorn,
Muttering his wayward fancies he would rove ;
Now drooping, woful, wan, like one forlorn,
Or crazed with care, or crossed in hopeless love.

One morn I missed him on the 'customed hill,
Along the heath and near his favourite tree ;
Another came ; nor yet beside the rill,
Nor up the lawn, nor at the wood was he.

The next, with dirges due in sad array,
Slow through the churchway path we saw him borne .
Approach and read (for thou canst read) the lay
'Graved on the stone beneath yon aged thorn.'

THE USE OF CATECHISMS.

Oh say not, dream not, heavenly notes
To childish ears are vain,
That the young mind at random floats,
And cannot reach the strain.

Dim or unheard the words may fall,
And yet the heaven-taught mind
May learn the sacred air, and all
The harmony unwind.

Was not our Lord a little child,
Taught by degrees to pray,
By father dear, and mother mild
Instructed day by day ?

And loved He not of heaven to talk
With children in His sight,
To meet them in his daily walk,
And to his arms invite ?

What though around His throne of fire
The everlasting chant
Be wafted from the sacred choir
In glory jubilant ?

Yet stoops He, ever pleased to mark
Our rude essays of love,
Faint as the pipe of wakening lark,
Heard by some twilight grove

Yet is He near us, to survey
These bright and order'd files,
Like spring-flowers in their best array,
All silence and all smiles,

Save that each little voice in turn
Some glorious truth proclaims,
What sages would have died to learn,
Now taught by cottage dames.

And if some tones be false or low,
What are all prayers beneath
But cries of babes, who cannot know
Half the deep thought they breathe ?

KEBLE.

SCIENCE.

Convention of the American Scientific Association for 1859.

This body held its annual meeting at Springfield, Mass., under the presidency of Dr. Alexander, during the week commencing August 3rd. There was a good attendance, and many interesting and important papers were read; the whole number registered being 108. On Tuesday the 9th, after having chosen Dr. Isaac Lea of Philadelphia to be president, and Dr. B. A. Gould, jr., of Boston, to be vice president for the next year, the association adjourned to meet at Newport, Rhode Island, on the 1st of August, 1860.

It is chiefly from the reports of the meeting published in the *Springfield Republican*, that we extract the following abstracts of several papers, which may prove interesting to our readers.

METEOROLOGY.

The first paper was by Professor Henry of the Smithsonian Institute, on Meteorology. He said that extensive operations had been made in Europe and in this country, by the British admiralty, the French government, the States of New York and Pennsylvania, and by the Smithsonian Institute. The Institute had purchased many hundred instruments which had been distributed over the country, but only a series of observations extending over many years could be of value. Prof. Coffin of Lafayette College had been especially employed by the Institution: he was abundantly qualified to execute the work. The labors performed had been immense, and an idea of what progress had been made would be given. There are 350 observers in the United States who make observations three times a day. To arrive at satisfactory results the observations must also be carried on at sea. This would be done eventually, especially if the public should demand it. It was a science which required time. It was impossible, he said, to make any advance in science if it had no hypothesis. We could collect facts, but to use them we must have a place. In studying nature, we soon learn to reject what is not true and preserve what is true.

He proceeded to give some general views of meteorology. The general idea of the motion of the atmosphere was from Hadley. The moving power in meteoric changes was the sun. It was originally supposed that the currents of air flowed from the equator to the poles, but that could not be true; on account of the convergence of the meridians, there was not room for the air at the poles. There were middle systems, of intermediate currents of air. But these points were not fully established. There were exceptions in the general action which could be determined in their general bearings only by long observation.

One cause of the fitful disturbances of the atmosphere was the conversion of water into vapor. During a single shower an amount of water fell upon the Smithsonian Institute building equal to 20,000 horse-power an hour; that is to say the heat necessary to evaporate it would be equal to that required for working an engine of twenty thousand horse-power one hour. Another cause of disturbance was the motion of the earth itself upon its axis. In illustration, diagrams were given showing that the currents of air moved in circles,—that the same quantity of air that moved north must come from the north, of course not in the same track. Observations made tended to show a series of currents completely around the earth, north and south of the equator, also in the temperate latitudes, and in the Arctic circles. The calms at the equator, it was shown, were caused by the upward currents of the air,—currents coming from the north and south and rising over the equator, under the influence of heat.