

is should always be borne in mind, that skilled labour rises in value in a compound progression over unskilled labour. It is better to pay three guineas per week to one skilled workman, than a guinea each to three unskilled workmen. The one can perform what he undertakes, the other cannot, and they would consequently be dear at any wages. When landmen talk of the activity and handiness of sailors, they refer, in their own minds, to the standard of what they could do themselves in the like situation, without taking the previous training into consideration. Thus, a man might be a very bad rope-dancer, professionally, who yet might be far more skilful than any of the lookers on, who did not profess the art. To conclude, I shall be rejoiced if Mr. Balingall's efforts are attended with success in drawing the public attention to these crying evils: and then, I doubt not, that experiment will gradually suggest the best mode of remedying them. Well trained and reasoning sailors would understand the condition of ships as to sea-worthiness, and they would refuse to go to sea in sieves.

#### THE FLOWERS OF SCOTLAND.

What are the flowers of Scotland,  
All others that excel?  
The lovely flowers of Scotland,  
All others that excel!  
The thistle's purple bonnet,  
And bonny heather bell,  
O they're the flowers of Scotland,  
All others that excel!

Though England eyes her roses,  
With pride she'll ne'er forego,  
The rose has oft been trodden  
By foot of haughty foe;  
But the thistle in her bonnet blue,  
Still nods outwair the fell,  
And dares the proudest foeman  
To tread the heather bell.

For the wee bit leaf o' Ireland,  
Alack and well-a-day!  
For ilka hand is free to pu'  
An' steal the gem away:  
But the thistle in her bonnet blue  
Still bobs aboon them a';  
At her th' bravest darena blink,  
Or gie his mou a thraw.

Up wi' the flowers o' Scotland,  
The emblems o' the free,  
Their guardians for a thousand years,  
Their guardians still we'll be.  
A foe had better brave the deil  
Within his rocky cell,  
Than our thistle's purple bonnet,  
Or bonny heather bell.

#### CHARLES II.

In the diary of Mr. Pepys, who, in the reign of Charles II., as secretary to the navy and military secretary, was constantly at Whitehall, and well acquainted with its affairs, there are numerous traits of the king's public and private conduct, and the manners of the court.

#### EXTRACTS FROM PEPPY'S DIARY.

1663. May 15. "The King desires nothing but pleasures, and hates the very sight or thought of business. If any of the sober counsellors give him good advice, and move him in any thing that is to his good and honour, the other

part which are his counsellors of pleasure, take him when he is with my lady Castlemaine, and in a humour of delight, and then persuade him that he ought not to hear nor listen to the advice of those old dotards or counsellors that were heretofore his enemies, when, God knows, it is they that now-a-days do most study his honour."

1666. December 8. "Mr. Cowley heard Tom Killigrew publicly tell the king that his matters were coming into a very ill state, but that yet there was a way to help all. Says he, 'There is a good, honest, able man, that I could name, that if your majesty would employ, and command to see all well executed, all things would soon be mended; and this is one Charles Stuart, who now spends his time in employing his lips about the court, and hath no other employment; but, if you would give him this employment, he were the fittest man in the world to perform it.' The king do not profit by any of this, but lays all aside, and remembers nothing, but to his pleasures again; which is a sorrowful consolation."

14. "Met my good friend, Mr. Evelyn, and walked with him a good while, lamenting our condition for want of good council, and the king's misdoing of his business and servants."

19. For the want of pay to the household "many of the music are ready to starve, they being five years behind hand: nay, Evans, the famous man upon the lute, having not his equal in the world, did the other day die for mere want, and was fain to be buried at the alms of the parish, and carried to his grave in the dark, at night, without one link, but that Mr. Hingston met it by chance, and did give 12d. to buy two or three."

1667. April 26. "Took a turn with Mr. Evelyn, with whom I walked two hours, talking of the badness of the government, where nothing but wickedness, and wicked men and women, commanded the king: it is not in his nature to gainsay any thing that relates to his pleasures. Mr. Evelyn tells me of several of the menial servants of the court lacking bread, that have not received a farthing wages since the king's coming in. Want of paper at the council the other day; Woolly being to have found it, and, being called, did tell the king to his face the reason of it."

June 23. "Mr. Povey tells me his opinion that it is out of possibility for us to escape being undone, there being nothing in our power to do that is necessary for the saving us: a lazy prince, no councils, no money, no reputation, at home or abroad. The king hath taken ten times more care and pains in making friends between lady Castlemaine and Mrs. Stewart, when they have fallen out, than ever he did to save the kingdom; nay, upon any falling out between my lady Castlemaine's nurse and her woman, my lady C. hath often said she would make the king to make them friends and be quiet, which the king hath been fain to do."

July 27. "Went to visit Sir G. Cartwright. He tells me that the court is in a fair way to ruin all for their pleasures; and that he himself hath taken the liberty to tell the king the necessity of having, at least, a show of religion in the government, and sobriety, and that it was that that did set up and keep up Oliver."

29. "The king made a short, and no very pleasing speech to the house of commons, not at all giving them thanks for their readiness to come up to town at this busy time; but told them that he did think he should have had occasion for them, but had none—and, therefore, he did dismiss them till October; and that he did wonder any should offer to bring in a suspicion that he intended to rule by an army, and so bade them go and settle the minds of the country in that particular. Thus they are dismissed, to their general great distaste, to see themselves so fooled, and the nation certain of ruin; while the king, they see, is only governed by his women, and rogues about him. They do