

POETRY.

THE WIDOW AND HER CHILD.

BY MRS ARDY.

'O! mother, dear mother, what dreams of delight
Have brightened and gladdened my slumbers to night!
Methought the kind father we mourn for as dead,
He returned to our dwelling and stood by my bed.

'He questioned me much of the paths I had trod,
Of affection to you, and obedience to God;
My answers he scorned quite rejoiced to obtain,
And said, "Soon, dearest boy, I shall meet you again."

The mother felt faint and disponding of heart;
She looked on the child, and she knew they must part,
For the flush on his cheek, and the light on his eye,
Foretold that her sweet one was destined to die.

One murmuring thought on her trial she cast,
But she sunk on her knees—the temptation had past,
And she sobbed forth, while clasping the hand of her
son,

'The will of our gracious Creator be done!'

Night came—the fair boy was reposing in sleep,
His mother sat near him to watch and to weep;
The volume of life her sad vigils beguiled,
And she turned o'er us pages, and looked on her child.

On his red lip a smile now appeared to arise,
And he suddenly opened his dark radiant eyes,
He stretched forth his arms, as though called to his
home,

And softly he murmured 'Dear father, I come!'

Life fled at that moment—all cares were in vain;
Friends came at the tidings, a sorrowing train;
They wept for the sweet playful child they had known,
But more for the widow deserted and lone.

Yet not without hope her affliction deplore,
For the God who has taken can also restore;
And the desolate widow has trust in his love,
Who can call her to join her dear lost ones above.

MISCELLANY.

MR. GEORGE COMBE, AND THE SCIENCE OF PHRENOLOGY.—Mr Combe has at length concluded his course of Lectures on Phrenology. We do not pretend to any very profound knowledge of the science nor have we paid sufficient attention to it, to warrant us in arriving at a positive conclusion either against or in favour of it. With regard to Mr Combe's *essai* in Manchester, it must have been successful beyond the most sanguine expectations of its promoters. As respects ourselves, we freely confess we were not prepared to see so much interest excited, to see such numbers crowd to the lectures, or to hear them so highly and generally extolled. However slight the feeling in favour of phrenology may have been previous to Mr C.'s visit, one thing is quite certain, he has given it an impulse which must inevitably tend to render the science extensively popular, and to increase the number of its votaries. As a lecturer, Mr Combe is not surpassed by any one we have hitherto heard. His enunciation is distinct, his manner easy, and his language classical and elegant, coupled with great fluency of delivery. He is a very close and highly philosophical reasoner, and it is quite evident that he possesses a logical understanding of the highest order. We never heard any one more happy at explanation and illustration, and the gravity with which he relates the drollest and most laughable anecdotes is quite irresistible; in short if we did not wish to be defeated in a discussion of phrenology, most assuredly we should not make choice of Mr Combe for an opponent.—*Manchester Cour.*

THE KILT.—Last week, some of the Forty-Second Highlanders, while walking along the

New Docks, attracted the notice of the crew of a foreign vessel at present lying there. They had not been in Scotland before, and were lost in astonishment at the sight of the kilt. On being told that it was the fashion of the country to which they belong, they inquired with much *navete*, if, while the man wore the petticoat, *de frons* wore the trowser?—*Scotsman.*

USE OF ANTS.—A sample of ingenious barbaric simplicity met us on the same journey. We passed some Arabs who were sitting naked on the ground, with their habiliments spread out beside them. "What does this mean?" I inquired. I was told that their garments were purposely spread upon ants' hillocks; and that the ants, after devouring all the vermin which they find on the clothes, retire from them well satisfied into their nest. How instructive it is to see the world!—*Campbell's Letters from the South.*

SLIDEN DISSOLUTION.—Among the items of our news collector's budget of Saturday, is the fact that owing to the extreme heat of the weather, a corpulent gentleman in Washington Street, was observed to sink down into his boots, even as an exhausted tallow candle into its socket! Upon the bystanders hastening to the spot, the boots were found filled with *whale oil*, from which it is inferred that the unfortunate defunct belonged to Nantucket.

COLUMN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

OF VALUE.—PART I.

Gold and Silver are the most convenient metals to use as money, because they take up but little room in proportion to their value. Hence they are called the *precious Metals*.

But why should gold and silver be of so much more value than Iron? For they are not nearly so useful. We should be very ill off without knives, and scissors, and spades, and hatchets; and these could not be made so well from any thing as from iron: and silver or gold would make very bad tools indeed.

To understand this, you must remember that it is not always the most useful things that are of the most value. Nothing is more useful than air and water; without, which we could not live. Yet these are, in most places, of no value, in the proper sense of that word; that is, no one will give any thing in exchange for them; because he can have them without.

In some places, indeed, water is scarce; and then people are glad to buy it. You may read in Scripture of many quarrels that arose about wells of water; because, in some of the Eastern countries, water is so scarce, that a well is a very important possession. But water is not more useful in those places where people are glad to buy, than it is here, where, by the bounty of Providence, it is plentiful. It is *scarcity* that gives it value. And where iron is scarce, that is of great value. Some islands which our ships have visited produce no iron; and the people there are glad to get a few nails in exchange for a hog.

But, in most countries, iron, which is the most useful of all metals, is also, through the goodness of Providence, the most plentiful. But still it is of some value; because it must be dug from the mines, smelted in furnaces, and wrought into tools, before we can make use of it. If knives and nails were produced by nature, ready made, and could be picked up every where like pebbles, they would be of no value; because every one might get them for nothing. But they would be just as useful as they are now.

Scarcity alone would not make a thing valuable, if there were no reason why any one should desire to possess it. There are some stones which are scarce, but of no value, because they have neither use nor beauty. You

would not give any thing in exchange for such a stone; not because you can easily get it, but because you have no *wish* for it.

But a stone which is scarce and beautiful, may be of great value, though it is of no use but to make an ornament for the person. Such are diamonds, and rubies, and many others. Many people will work hard to earn money enough to buy, not only food and necessary clothing, but also lace and jewels, and other articles of finery.

And they desire these things the more, because, besides being beautiful to the eye, they are reckoned a *sign of wealth* in the person who wears them. A bunch of wild flowers will often be a prettier ornament than a fine ribbon, or a jewel; but a woman likes better to wear the last, to show that she can afford the cost of them: whereas the wild flowers may be had for picking.

There is no harm in people's desire to be well dressed, according to their station in life; but it is a pity that so many should be fond of expensive finery, above their station; which often brings them to poverty. And often they spend money in ornaments, which would be better laid out in buying good useful clothes and furniture, and in keeping them clean. A mixture of finery with rags and dirt is a most disgusting sight.

You understand now, I hope, that whatever is of value, must not only be *desirable*, for its use or beauty, or some pleasure it affords but also *scarce*; that is, so *limited* in supply, that it is not to be had for nothing. And of things which are desirable, those are the most valuable which are the most limited in supply; that is, the hardest to be got.

This is the reason why silver and gold are of more value than iron. If they had been of no use or beauty at all, no one would have ever desired them; but being desirable, they are of greater value than iron, because they are so much scarcer, and harder to be got. They are found in but few places, and in small quantities. Gold, in particular, is obtained chiefly in the form of dust, by laborious washing of the sand of certain streams. It costs only as much, in labour and other expenses, to obtain about fifteen pounds of silver, as to obtain one pound of gold; and this is the cause that one pound of gold will exchange for about fifteen pounds of silver.

But besides being desirable and being scarce, there is one point more required, for a thing to have value; or (in other words) to be such, that something else may be had in exchange for it. It must be something that you can *part with* to another person. For instance, *health* is very desirable, and is what every one cannot obtain, and hence, we sometimes do speak of health as being of value; but this is not the strict use of the word value. For no one can give his health to another in exchange for something else. Many a rich man would be glad to give a thousand pounds, or perhaps ten thousand pounds, in exchange for the healthy constitution and strong limbs of a poor labourer; and perhaps the labourer would be glad to make such a bargain; but though he might cut off his limbs, he could not make them another man's. He may throw away his health (as many do) by intemperance; but he cannot transfer it; i. e. part with it to another person.

AGENTS
FOR THE BEE.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.—Mr. DENNIS REDDIN.
Miramichi—Rev. JOHN MCCUREY.
St. John, N. B.—Mr. A. R. TRURO.
Halifax—Messrs. A. & W. MCKINLAY.
Truro—Mr. CHARLES BLANCHARD.
Antigonish—Mr. ROBERT PURVIS.
Guysboro'—ROBERT HARTSHORNE, Esq.
Tatmagouche—Mr. WILLIAM MCCONNELL.
Wallace—DANIEL MCFARLANE, Esq.
Arichat—JOHN S. BALLAINE, Esq.