

CURIOSITIES FOR THE CURIOUS.

THE PROSING BORE.—This is a long-winded animal. Ask of him the time of day at two o'clock in the afternoon, and, ten to one, it will be half-past three ere you receive the information. He will—But as, in this case, an illustration will be more satisfactory than a description, I will exhibit a specimen which I lately caught, alive and in fine condition. Jack Endless.

I met him, the other day, as he was coming out of his house in Bedford Square. Having heard that his Aunt Tabitha, who lives at Kensington, had been unwell, I said, "Jack, how is your Aunt?"

"I'll tell you," replied he. "Yesterday, I said to Mrs. Endless, I have a great mind to take a walk to Kensington and ask how my Aunt is. 'Do, my dear,' said she. Well; I say to my footman, Ridgway, bring me my hat—gloves—and cane, and my cloak. Well; he brings them—out I go."

"But how's your Aunt?"

"I'll tell you. I go by the way of Drury Lane, and, just by the stage-door of the theatre, I meet Hugh Snave. Capital fellow—makes up pleasant parties—by the bye, he hasn't asked me to dinner for a long while. Well; as he is going to Piccadilly, I take his arm, and we walk together—through Leicester Square—along Coventry Street—till we come to the corner of Albermarle Street—not at the pickle-shop—the farther corner. There—we part."

But how's your Aunt?"

"I'll tell you. On I go. At the corner of Half-moon Street, thinks I, if it hadn't been so late I would have called at Mrs. Stuart's—but I won't. Apsley House—out came a gentleman—thought it was the Duke—it wasn't. Hyde-Park Corner—great improvement! I remember the old ugly toll-gate there."

"My dear fellow, so do I. But, to the point: all I desire to know is, how's your Aunt?"

"I'll tell you. On I go. Well; just opposite Sloan Street I happened to meet—"

Describing his walk, step by step; naming every person of his acquaintance he chanced to meet; mentioning every shop-window he stopped to look into, at length, after a wearisome narration, three-quarters of an hour long, I am brought to his Aunt's door.

"Well; there I am. Take the knocker—knock. No answer—knock again."

"But, plague on it! how's your Aunt?"

"I'll tell you. Knock a third time, and ring. At length, the door is opened. Thomas, said I, I have knocked three times. Don't like it. Why? I'll tell you. People don't like being kept in the cold, knock, knock, knock. Very angry. Mistress visible. Yes, Sir, said he; she's in the drawing-room. Well; up I go, Tap at the door. Go in. There sits the old lady, in her easy chair, taking a basin of sago, with a little white wine in it, and a rusk."

"Once more, and only once more, how's your Aunt?"

"Why—to give you a short answer—as well as can be expected."—*Bentley's Miscellany.*

SHOTS.—A Scotchman giving evidence at the bar of the House of Lords, in the affair of Captain Porteus, and telling of the variety of shots which were fired upon that unhappy occasion, was asked, by the Duke of Newcastle what kind of shot it was. "Why," said the man in his broad dialect, "such as they shoot fools (fowls) with, and the like." "What kind of fools?" said the Duke, smiling at the word. "Why, my lord, dukes, (ducks) and sickin' o' fools."

POPULATION OF EUROPE.—Since the battle of Waterloo, the population of the different States of Europe has increased in a considerable ratio—and probably Europe never contained so many inhabitants as at the present time. It is estimated by Charles Dupin, in a work lately published in Paris, that if the principal States in Europe continue to increase in population, as they have for the last several years, France will double its population in one hundred and five years; Austria in sixty-nine years; Russia in sixty-six years; the Sicilies in sixty-three years; the Low Countries in fifty-six years; Great Britain in forty-two years, and Prussia in twenty six years. There is every reason to believe, that as a general rule, the means of subsistence have increased in proportion to the augmentation of the population.

TAKING A SODA POWDER.—An individual who had never seen the process of mixing a soda powder performed, was ordered by his physician to drink soda water. A box of powders was accordingly obtained from the druggists, and the acid dissolved in one tumbler and the soda in another, as per directions. With sundry contortions of the face the acid was turned off, and then the soda was poured into his stomach after it. The acid and alkali meeting in that confined region, and finding it too small for their lively operations, boiled over as a matter of course. The poor fellow thought it was certainly his day of doom when he felt the pother within him, and found the foam spouting from his mouth and nose like steam from a safety valve. The next time he took a soda powder he was like the Irishman when he caught a second snake—'He let it alone.'—*Baltimore Visitor.*

ANECDOTE OF NAPOLEON AT ST. HELENA.—We passed the Briers, a small white house, with out-buildings and fields, in a

valley; several hundred feet above the sea. Here it will be remembered that Napoleon sojourned for some time, until Longwood was prepared for his reception, and here he lived on friendly terms with the family of Mr. Balcombe, the late proprietor. Miss Balcombe was a great favorite with the emperor: she was very young; and Napoleon used to condescend to romp with her. However, one day she drew his sword, and got him up in a corner, lungeing at him and preventing his escape. "Now," said she with glee, "I have the greatest man in the world at my mercy." The emperor, it is said, was so annoyed at this sally, that he never spoke to her afterwards.—*Alexander's Colonies of Western Africa.*

The *Zion's-Herald* gives an account of a man whose arm became paralytic by sleeping in church.—That is certainly a solemn caution against sleeping in church; but if every one's arm was to become paralytic who followed the same amusement, there would be a crippled set of us about the streets.

INEFFABLY CHARMING.—To ask a person in company to read an article of your own writing, and to hear them read it off with proper emphasis and pronunciation until they come to the cream of the joke—then blunder over a word and spoil the whole joke.

MUDDY WIT.—A black servant not 100 miles from St. Andrews, being examined in Church Catechism, by the minister of the parish, was asked 'What are you made of, Jack?' He said 'Of mud, massa.' On being told he should say—'of dust,' he replied, 'No massa, it no do, no tick togedder!'

MUSICAL NOTATION.—It is a curious fact that while the ordinary hand-writings of the natives of the various kingdoms in Europe differ materially, musical notes are written in nearly the same form by all the professors of the science throughout the Continent, with the exception of some placing the dot before the stem, and others after it; in England the latter mode prevails, in regard to crotchets and quavers, but the reverse with minims, generally speaking.—*The Musical World.*

DR. JOHNSON IN PETTICOATS.—An old newspaper records the saying of a young lady, somewhere in the country, who, being asked at a tea table if she used sugar, replied:—

'I have an invincible repugnance to sugar, for, according to my cogitations upon the subject, the suavity of the sugar, nullifies the flavority of the tea, and renders it vastly obnoxious.'

HOW TO PRESERVE HEALTH.—Take precious care of your precious health—but how, as the housewives say, to make it keep? Why, then, don't cure and smoke-dry it—or pickle it in everlasting acids, like the Germans. Don't bury it in a potato-bit, like the Irish. Don't preserve it in spirits, like the Barbadians. Don't salt it down, like the Newfoundlanders. Don't pack it in ice, like Captain Back. Don't parboil it in hot baths. Don't bottle it, like gooseberries. Don't pot it—and don't hang it. A rope is a bad *cordon saintaire*.—Above all, don't despond about it. Let not anxiety have 'thoe on the hip.' Consider your health as your best friend, and think as well of it, in spite of all foibles, as you can. For instance, never dream, though you may have 'clever back,' of galloping consumption, or indulge in the Meltonian belief that you are going the pace. Never fancy, every time you cough, that you are going to cough-pot. Hold up, as the shooter says, over the heaviest ground. Despondency, in a nice case, is the over-weight that may make you kick the beam and the bucket both at once. In short, as with other cases, never meet trouble half way, but let him have the whole walk for his pains; though it should be a Scotch mile and a bittock. I have even known him to give up his visit in sight of the house. Besides the best fence against care is a 'ha! ha!'—wherefore, take care to have one all around you wherever you can. Let your 'lungs crow like Chanticleer,' and as like a game cock as possible. It expands the chest, enlarges the heart, quickens the circulation, and 'like a trumpet, makes the spirits dance.'—*Hood's Own.*

THE VALUE OF A WIG.—A Southern paper relates the following story of an officer in the army, who having lost his hair during an illness contracted at New Orleans, provided himself with a handsome wig before starting on a late campaign in Florida. In an engagement with the Seminoles, he was wounded, and fell to the ground unable to rise. The red enemy who wounded him came up for his scalp. The officer feigned himself dead, and breathed as low and softly as possible. The Indian bent over him, drew his knife, passed fearfully and quickly around the head of his victim; and then with a savage war 'whoop!' bounded with his bloodless trophy into an everglade. The officer afterwards got back in safety to the camp, and relates with much glee the story of the loss of his wig.

TRANCE.—There is, at this time, a young woman aged 18, residing at Needlesworth, near St. Ives's, who has been in a trance of sleep for twelve days; she keeps quite warm, except her feet, and they are cold and stiff. Last week her father brought her down stairs into a warmer room, thinking it might be the means of rousing her, but it had not the desired effect. On Monday last she opened her eyes, and made a motion with her hand for something to drink, which being given her, she became convulsed for a short time, and then sank into her former state of torpor, in which she has continued ever since.—*Cambridge Chron.*

EXTRAORDINARY INCREASE OF A GRAIN OF WHEAT.—In a commune of the department of the Meuse, in 1819, a stalk of wheat was shown, bearing 56 shoots, and each of these a beautiful ear. This extraordinary plant was the produce of a grain of wheat dropt by accident, and confirms what has been said in favour of the method of sowing corn thinly, to make it shoot well, and consequently to save a great deal of seed. Taking the number of grains on each of these ears at 35 on the average, the return for the original seed was 1960. We read in the "*Art de multiplier les Grains*," by M. Francois de Neufchateau, who quotes the *Ephemerides* of Vallemont, that in 1671 a stem of barley grew in Silesia to a very great height, and that it produced 15 large and 90 small ears, all very full; that Denis, physician to the King of France, had obtained from a single grain of wheat above 200 ears; and that the *Freres de la Doctrine Chretienne* at Paris possessed a bouquet of barley with 249 stems, which yielded 18,000 grains.

SILVER PLATE, JEWELRY, &c.

THE Subscriber begs leave to inform his friends and the public, that he continues to manufacture Silver plate, of all descriptions, of the purest quality, on very low terms. He has now on hand, a good supply of Silver table, desert, and tea spoons, Forks, Sugar Tongs, Mustard and Salt Spoons, Soup and Gravy Ladles. Jewelry neatly repaired. The highest price given for old Gold and Silver.

EDWIN STERNS,

April 20. 3m. Corner Buckingham & Barrington Streets.

NOTICE

IS hereby given, that the Copartnership heretofore existing between the Subscribers, under the firm of LOWES & CREIGHTON, is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

All debts due to and owing by the said Copartnership will be received and paid by P. W. CREIGHTON.

GEORGE LOWES,
PHILIP W. CREIGHTON.

Halifax, 9th April, 1838.

P. W. CREIGHTON begs to inform his friends and the public that he has entered into Copartnership with Mr. M. A. NEWTON, under the firm of

NEWTON & CREIGHTON.

And they purpose continuing the above business as heretofore carried on under the firm of Lowes and Creighton, and beg to solicit a continuance of their support.

April 9th, 1838.

TURNBULL & FOUND,
TAILORS,

RESPECTFULLY inform their friends, and the Public, that they have commenced business in the above line, in the house adjoining Mr. Northcock, in Granville Street, where all orders in the line will be thankfully received and punctually attended to. Feb 17.

PROSPECTUS,

Of a New Work from the pen of WILLIAM M. LEGGETT, Wesleyan Missionary, to be entitled

THE MEMENTO,

This Publication, which is to form a Duodecimo volume of about 200 pages, will include a selection of original sermons, strictures, poems, and sacred melodies; and as the author has used every effort to render it acceptable even to the eye of criticism, his patrons may anticipate an adequate return for the small expense of three shillings and nine pence per copy.

The Memento will be neatly executed, as to the mechanical part, done up in cloth, and delivered to Subscribers through the politeness of Agents appointed for that purpose.

Bathurst, 21st. Dec. 1837.

ALSO TO BE PUBLISHED,
THE ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

Condensed and Simplified by the same Author.

This brief analysis is designed to facilitate the progress of the Student in the science of our native language, and will, doubtless, prove a valuable acquisition to Provincial schools and the Public generally. Several gentlemen of critical acumen have seen the work in MS., and honoured the fame with the most unqualified approbation.

Price 2s. per copy. 25 per cent discount allowed where one dozen, or upwards, are ordered by any one person.

P. S. Subscriptions for either of the above works received at the Pearl Office Halifax, or at the book-store of Messrs. A. & W. McKinlay 16th. Feb..

JAMES VENABLES,
BOOT AND SHOE MAKER.

BEGS leave to intimate to his Friends and the Public generally, that he has commenced the above Business in all its branches, in the shop in

Barrington Street,

Three doors south of Mr. Thomas Forrester's Stone Building, where he hopes by punctuality, moderate charges, and his endeavours to please, to merit a share of public patronage.

Halifax, April 5, 1838.

THE HALIFAX PEARL,

Will be published every Friday evening, at the printing office of Wm. Cunnabell, opposite the South end of Bedford Row, on good paper and type. Each number will contain eight large quarto pages—making at the end of the year a handsome volume of four hundred and sixteen pages, exclusive of the title-page and index.

TERMS: Fifteen shillings per annum, payable in all cases in advance, or seventeen shillings and six-pence at the expiration of six months. No subscription will be taken for a less term than six months, and no discontinuance permitted but at a regular period of Six months from the date of subscription, except at the option of the publisher.

Postmasters and other agents obtaining subscribers and forwarding the money in advance, will be entitled to receive one copy for every six names. All letters and communications must be post-paid to insure attendance. Address Thomas Taylor, Editor, Pearl Office, Halifax N. S.