

ship thought fit to understand the messenger, and said he was extremely glad to hear the fever had quite left him, and desired to see him. When John came in, "Well, John," said his Lordship, "I hope this bout is over." "Ah, my Lord," said John, "I humbly ask your Lordship's pardon, and I promise never to commit the same fault again." "Ay, ay," said my Lord, "you say right, nobody can prevent sickness: and if you should be ill again, John, I shall see it, though, perhaps, you would not complain; and I promise you that you shall have always the same advice and attendance that you have had now."—"God bless your Lordship," said John, "I hope there will be no need." "So do I," said the Earl; "but as long as you perform your duty to me, John, I will do mine to you, never fear." John then withdrew, and so dreaded the discipline he had undergone, that he was never known to be drunk afterwards.

PORT WINE.

The following extracts are made from a pamphlet entitled, "A word or two on Port Wine, by JOSEPH JAMES FORRESTER." Mr. Forrester, is, we believe, a wine grower himself, and he exposes many of the adulterations practised in Oporto, before the wines are shipped for England. He says:—

"Of the Port sent to England, a very large proportion hardly deserves to be called wine at all, and still less Port Wine." Page 11.

"Persons of refinement, whose palates were not hardened, or made incapable of judging of the nature of wine, and whose stomachs were not proof against such mixtures, as will hereafter be described, naturally abandoned the use of what is called 'Port,' which they reasonably enough understand to mean a fiery compound of sweets, colours, and alcohol." Page 11.

"When the wine is about half fermented, it is transferred from the vat to tunnels, and brandy, several degrees above proof, is thrown in, in the proportion of twelve to twenty-four gallons to the pipe of must by which the fermentation is greatly checked." Page 14.

"About two months afterwards, the mixture is coloured thus: a quantity of dried elder berries is put into coarse bags; these are placed in vats, and a part of the wine to be coloured being thrown over them; they are trodden by men till the whole of the coloring matter is expressed; from twenty-eight to fifty-six pounds of dried elder berries being used to the pipe of wine! Another addition of brandy of from four to six gallons per pipe, is now made to the mixture, which is then allowed to rest for about two months. At the end of this time it is, if sold,—which it is tolerably sure to be after such judicious treatment!—transferred to Oporto, where it is sacked two or three times and receives probably, two gallons more brandy per pipe; and it is then considered fit to be shipped to England, its being about nine months old; and, at the time of shipment, one gallon more of brandy is usually added to each pipe. The Wine! thus having received at least twenty-six gallons of brandy per pipe, is considered by the merchant sufficiently strong—an opinion which the writer, at least, is not prepared to dispute." Page 15.

We commend the above to the serious consideration of those who solemnly abjure "ardent spirits," or "distilled liquors," and yet drink glass after glass of "PORT WINE" without any remorse of conscience.

CHARACTER OF THE SWEDES.

The national character is admirable, and the manners of the people, except in one unhappy particular, worthy of general imitation. Brave, kindhearted, and hospitable; sincere in their devotion; enlightened, when duly instructed, in their intellects; gentle in their dispositions; obedient to the laws, and yet jealous of their own rights,—the Swedish peasantry exhibit as fair a specimen of European rural civilization as is to be met with in the whole domains of the family of Japhet. But one fatal indulgence has well nigh obliterated all these advantages, and let in upon this simple, kindhearted people, the whole catalogue of human sins. Drinking is universal; the liberty of distilling in every separate house, on paying a trifling duty to Government for the right to use a still, has, from time immemorial, been established among the whole peasantry of the country; and at this moment there are no less than one hundred and fifty thousand of these manufactories of "liquid hell-fire," as they have been well denominated, which distil annually thirty millions of gallons of spirits for the consumption of three millions of people. The consequences of this calamitous facility in producing and obtaining spirituous liquors have been to the last degree disastrous. Notwithstanding the small number of manufactures which are established in the country, the general simplicity of rural life, the absence of great towns, and the moderate size of its capital, which contains only eighty thousand inhabitants, the average amount of crime over all Sweden equals that of the most depraved cities in Great Britain. The illegitimate births are to the legitimate over the whole country, as one to thirteen; while in the capital, they have reached the astonishing number of one to two and three-tenths, exceeding even the proportion of Paris itself. So fearfully does this destructive passion for ardent spirits inflame the blood, and generate crime, even in the coldest latitudes.—*Alison's History of Europe.*

THE BOAT OF LIFE.—By THOMAS MOORE.

Let's take this world as some wide scene,
Through which, in frail but buoyant boat,
With skies now rude, and now serene,
Together thou and I must float;
Beholding oft, on either shore,
Bright spots where we should love to stay;
But Time ples swift his flying oar,
And on we speed—away, away!

Should chilling winds and rain come on,
We'll raise our awning 'gainst the shower;
Sit closer till the storm is gone,
And smiling, wait a summer hour.
And if that sunnier hour should shine,
We'll know its brightness cannot stay,
And, happy while 'tis thine and mine,
Complain not when it fades away.

Thus reach we both, at last, that fall
Down which Life's currents all must go—
The dark, the brilliant, destined all
To sink into the void below.
Nor ev'n that hour shall want its charms,
If side by side, still fond we keep
And calmly, in each other's arms
Together link'd, go down the steep.

—English Paper.