mortalised for the discovery of the art of fattening them on bran and other articles; and Horace informs us they were served up, broiled upon silver gridirons, to give a relish to wine. Oysters were brought from our coasts to Rome, and frozen oysters were much extolled. Grasshoppers, locusts, and various insects, were equally acceptable to our first gastronomic legislators. Acorns, similar to those now eaten in Spain, formed part of a Roman dessert; the best were brought from Naples and Tarentum. It does not appear that the ancients had a great variety in their vegetable diet; condiments to stimulate the sluggish appetite seemed to be their principal research."—*Curiosities of Medical Experience.*

THE NUMBER SEVEN.

Our scriptures abound with innumerable instances of the authorized use of this number. Enoch, the *seventh* after Adam was translated to heaven. At the deluge Noah received *seven* days' notice of its commencement; and was commanded to select clean beasts and fowls by *sevens*, while the unclean were only admitted by pairs. On the *seventh* month the ark rested on Ararat, and Noah despatched his dove at the distance of *seven* days each time. The *seven* years of plenty and *seven* years of famine were denoted by Pharaoh's dream of *seven* fat and *seven* lean beasts, and *seven* ears of good and *seven* ears of blighted corn. In the Jewish economy, the *seventh* year was directed to be a sabbath of rest, and a grand jubilee commenced at the end of *seven* times *seven* years. Job and Balaam each offered sacrifices, by the express command of God, consisting of *seven* bullocks and *seven* rams; and this was, undoubtedly, comformable with the usual practice of Jewish antiquity. Bishop Horsley says, that 'much of the Jewish ritual was governed by the number *seven*.' The golden candlestick had *seven* branches, supporting *seven* burning lamps. When atonement was to be made for the sin of a priest, or of the congregation, the veil was to be sprinkled with the blood of the offering; and the mercy-seat was to be sprinkled *seven* times on the great day of annual expiation. The festivals of the the Jews were celebrated each for *seven* days successively; and among the extraordinary sacrifices were *seven* or twice *seven* lambs. When the ark of the covenant was brought from the house of Obed-Edom to Jerusalem, the sacrifice on that great occasion was *seven* bullocks and *seven* rams. The destruction of Jericho was miraculously effected by the use of this number; for *seven* priests, bearing *seven* rams' horns for trumpets, were directed by the Almighty to compass the city *seven* days, and on the *seventh*, to proceed round it seven times, when the walls should fall into ruin. Solomon was *seven* years building the temple; which was dedicated in the *seventh* month, and the public festival lasted *seven* days. The punishment of Nebuchadnezzar was, that he should be banished *seven* years from human society. The whole machinery of the Apocalypse is conducted on precisely the same principle. It contains *seven* synchronisms, which were preceded by a succession of woes, addressed to *seven* churches, recorded in a book with *seven* seals, denounced by *seven* angels to the sound of *seven* trumpets, and revealed by *seven* thunders or oracular voices. The wrath of God against the idolatrous world is let loose by seven angels, having seven plagues inclosed in *seven* golden vials. Idolatry is represented under the figure of a scarlet-coloured beast, having *seven* heads; and *seven* idolatrous kings, or *seven* forms of polytheism are pointed out for destruction.—*Freemason's Quarterly Review.*

CORK.—M. Dutrochet having made some observations on the formation of cork in the *Quercus suber*, has communicated them to the French Academy of Sciences. It has been always stated, that this substance is a developement of the layer of cellular tissue exterior to the fibrous layers of the bark, but M. Dutrochet differs from this general opinion. He says that since the researches of M. Adolphe Bronguiart, it is admitted that the tegumentary covering of vegetables is composed of two parts, viz. the epidermis or cuticle, and composite membrane formed of cells which increase internally, by the production of new cells. The young stems of the *Quercus suber* have no cork, but it is the enormous developement of the internal surface of the cellular tegument, or membrane, which forms the cork in more adult trees.

A PORTRAIT.

Her close lips
Were delicate as the tinted pencilling
Of veins upon a flower; and on her cheek
The timid blood had faintly melted through,
Like something that was half afraid of light.
There was no slighter print upon the grass,
Then her elastic step! and in her frame
There was a perfect symmetry that seemed
Ærial as a bird's.

RECIPE FOR COLD WEATHER.—Shut the door; make your house tight; get a stove; plenty of dry wood; don't leave the door open; put a spring on it; if any one stands holding the door wide open while he tells you a long yarn, knock him down with the poker. We have but one thing more to add, and that is—*shut the door!!!*

For the Pearl.

NATIONAL ANTHEM,

OR, A VOICE FROM BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

By William M. Leggett.

GOD of our fathers, hear—
Answer a Nation's pray'r—
Speak from between
The lofty Cherubim,
Glorious with Seraphim,
And bless the diadem
Of Britain's Queen!

Oh may our Isle renown'd,
Star of the Nations 'round,
Peerless be seen—
And while her proud display
Lights kingdoms far away,
Still may her brightest ray
Shine round the Queen!

GOD of our fathers, hear—
Be to old England's pray'r
What Thou hast been!
Should righteous cause impel,
May brilliant conquests tell,
Heros invincible,
True to their Queen!

Millions of voices raise
The patriot burst of praise:
Nor intervene
One tone of discord, where
Name we "*Victoria;*"
But be each Briton's pray'r
GOD save the Queen!

New Brunswick, 1838.

MILITARY STRATAGEM.—Few generals have been more distinguished for their military stratagems, than the Norwegian king, Harald Hardrada, who lost his life in the battle of Stamford Bridge, in 1066, when in alliance with the exiled Northumbrian Earl Tostig—an alliance which, by drawing off the forces of the last of our Anglo-Saxon monarchs to the north, greatly facilitated the Norman invasion. Harald Hardrada, in his youth, led a life of strange adventure in the East, and fought for some time under the banner of the Byzantine emperors. On one of his expeditions to Sicily, he got possession of a town by a singular stratagem, which is thus related by Snorri Sturluson, in his Heimskringla:—"When Harald arrived in Sicily he began to ravage the country, and came with his army to a populous town, to which he laid siege. The walls, however, were so strong, that he began to doubt whether it would be possible to make a breach in them; and the burghers had plenty of provisions, and everything which they needed for their defence. Harald, therefore, ordered his fowlers to catch the small birds, that nested in the town, and flew to the forest during the day in quest of food. He then caused splinters of inflammable wood, smeared with wax and sulphur, to be fastened on their backs, and enkindled. The birds, when set at liberty, flew immediately to the town to revisit their young and their nests, on the roofs of the houses, which were thatched with reeds and straw. The fire fell from the birds on the thatch, and although each bore but a small quantity, their number was so great, that one house after another began to burn, until the the whole town was in flames. The inhabitants then came out, and implored mercy, and Harald thus got possession of the town."

THE RICHMOND MAIDS OF HONOUR.—One of his practical jokes, played off upon one of the ladies of our party, I must set down. She had never been at Richmond before, or if she had, knew none of the little peculiarities attached to it. He desired the waiter after dinner to bring some 'maids of honour'—those cheesecakes for which the place has been time out of mind so celebrated. The lady stared, and then laughed; Daly saw her surprise, and elicited all he wanted—her innocent question of 'What do you mean by maids of honour?' 'Dear me,' said he, don't you know that this is so courtly a place, and so completely under the influence of state etiquette, that everything in Richmond is called after the functionaries of the palace? What are called cheesecakes elsewhere, are here called maids of honour; a capon is called a lord chamberlain; a goose is a lord steward; a roast pig is a master of the horse; a pair of ducks, *grooms of the bedchamber*: and a gooseberry tart, a gentleman usher of the black rod; and so on.' The unsophisticated lady was taken in; and with all the confidence which Daly's gravity inspired, when she actually saw the maids of honour make their appearance in the shape of the cheesecakes, she convulsed the whole party, by turning to the waiter and desiring him, in a sweet but decided tone, to bring her a gentleman usher of the black rod, if they had one in the house, quite cold.—*Theodore Hook.*

WOOLWICH ARSENAL.—"After twenty-two years of profound and almost undisturbed peace, during which time many thousands have been condemned and sold, there are still in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich nearly 24,000 pieces of ordnance, and this is but a small portion of the mighty resources of the British nation. Of the above number nearly 3,000 are of gun metal, and the remaining 21,000 of iron. This mass of destruction is divided into pieces of 202 different natures and lengths. There are also in the Arsenal nearly three millions of cannon balls and bomb shells. * * * It is said, that when the allied Sovereigns came to England, and visited the Arsenal, they imagined that some wooden imitations of artillery had been made to deceive them, and when convinced of the reality of the spectacle before them, they could hardly find language to express their surprise.

"The weight of the largest gun known to have been cast in the Arsenal is ninety cwt., and the smallest from two to three cwt. The brass pieces are usually much lighter, the heaviest hitherto cast weighing only thirty-six cwt. There are four air furnaces in the foundry, the largest of which will melt 325 cwt. of metal, a sufficient quantity to cast fourteen guns, and the smallest twenty cwt., which is generally used for refining. * * *

"It may not be amiss in concluding this notice of the foundry, to give a brief account of the different processes through which a gun passes before its completion. The mould, a mixture of clay, loam, sand, etc. being prepared of the requisite size, and secured by being strongly bound with iron hoops, is heated red hot in order to evaporate all latent humidity; it is then placed in the earth before the furnace, the cavities around it are filled up with clay, and the metal, when sufficiently heated, is conducted into the mould, and the casting of the gun is completed. The gun is cast solid; the next process is that of boring and turning, which are both performed by one machine and at the same time; a large bit, of the diameter wanted, is firmly fixed, against this the gun revolves, four horses being required to move it, and while the bit is thus by the constant revolution of the gun, cutting away the metal and forming the bore, the other parts of the machine are employed in turning the exterior; after this, the touch-hole being drilled, the gun is complete. It is then minutely and carefully examined in every part; magnifying glasses are applied to its exterior surface, whilst mirrors are made to reflect its interior; its inclination and relative proportions are then tried with mathematical instruments; and lastly, the gun is proved by being fully charged, and fired off at the butts."

ZOOLOGY: ANECDOTES OF ANIMAL INSTINCT.—In a paper, in the June No. of the "Bibliotheque Universelle de Geneve" (so ably edited by M. de la Rive, who read several papers at the recent meeting of the British Association), there are some curious anecdotes, tending to prove how near, if not quite, to the power of reasoning the actions of animals approach. Two men who were about to walk to Vevey, agreed to meet at an appointed place. One of them, who arrived first, fancying he was too late, resolved to push on and overtake his comrade; but his dog shewed evident symptoms of disliking this proceeding. He ran backwards and forwards, lingered behind, and, at length, totally disappeared, but speedily returned with the walking-stick of the second person in his mouth. He had come late, and sat down to wait for his friend; but the sagacity of the animal resorted to this evident means of teaching them their relative positions, and bringing them together.—Another dog, which they were trying to teach to mount a ladder, got so tired of his lesson that he ran away, but next day he returned alone to the ladder, and applied himself to the task, just as if his vanity had been piqued into learning the exercise.—A third dog, taught to carry a lantern with its owner, on winter mornings before daylight, as the latter carried milk to a neighbouring farmer, happened one day to be shut up when his master departed. When loosened, he ran after and overtook him, but perceiving that he had not the lantern, he returned to the house, and causing it to be given to him, again hastened to his accustomed *light* work.—Another, belonging to a young student, whose master, while bathing, hid among some rushes, was hallooed into the water, as if an accident had happened; when, instead of plunging in, he ran lower down the rapid stream, and took his station, watching the river, where it was most likely to bring down the body for rescue. We conclude with one fact more, relating to an animal of which we have been used to consider innocence, rather than wisdom, the characteristic. A pigeon, familiarised to the kitchen, where it was fed and caressed, one day witnessed the killing of a pullet, and it immediately flew away and never returned to the scene of slaughter! The kitchen death of a chicken is not very unlike the death of a dove; and the warning was not lost.

CAUCASIAN SUGAR.—Here I was made acquainted with their manner of procuring sugar, which is derived from the walnut tree, that flourishes here in extraordinary perfection. During spring, just as the sap is rising, the trunk is pierced, and a spigot left in it for some time, when this is withdrawn, a clear sweet liquor flows out, which is left to coagulate; and on some occasions they refine it. For diseases of the lungs, and general debility, they consider it a most valuable medicine. Clarified honey, bleached in the sun, till it becomes quite white, is also a substitute for sugar.—*Spencer's Circassia.*