

out in the finest attire, perfumed with essences, and every part of her body painted with figures of flowers, trees, houses, antelopes and other animals. Instead of receiving a marriage portion, the husband pays for his wife, the sum varying according to rank and circumstances. Among the Arabs of Sinai it is from five to ten dollars; but sometimes thirty if the girl is handsome and well connected. At Mecca the price paid for respectable maidens is from forty to three hundred dollars; and on the borders of Syria young men obtain their master's daughters by serving a number of years. Part of the money only is paid down; the rest remaining over as a kind of debt, or as a security in case of a divorce.—The price of a widow is never more than half, and generally but a third of what is paid for a virgin.

#### CONFINING JURORS FROM MEAT AND DRINK.

The Gothic nations were famous of old for the quantities of food and drink which they consumed. The ancient Germans, and their Saxon descendants in England, were remarkable for their hearty meals. Gluttony and drunkenness were so very common, that those vices were not thought disgraceful, and Tacitus represents the former as capable of being as easily overcome by strong drink as by arms. Intemperance was so general and habitual, that no one was thought to be fit for serious business after dinner; and under this persuasion it was enacted in the laws, that judges should hear and determine cases fasting, and not after dinner. An Italian author, in his Antiquities, plainly affirms that this regulation was framed for the purpose of avoiding the unsound decrees consequent upon intoxication; and Dr. Gilbert Stuart very patiently and ingeniously affirms, in his Historical Dissertation concerning the antiquity of the British Constitution, p. 238, that from this propensity of the older Britons to indulge excessively in eating and drinking, has proceeded the restriction upon jurors and jurymen, to refrain from meat and drink, and to be even held in custody until they had agreed upon their verdict.

#### LORD TOWNSHEND.

During Lord Townshend's residence in Dublin, as vice-roj, he often went in disguise through the city. He had heard much of the wit of a shoe-black, known by the name of Blind Peter, whose stand was always at the Globe Coffee-house door; having found him out, he stopped to get his boots cleaned; which was no sooner done than his lordship asked Peter to give him change for half a guinea.—“Half a guinea! your honour,” said the ragged wit, “change for half a guinea from me! Sir, you may as well ask a Highlander for a knee-buckle.” His Lordship was so well pleased, that he left him the bit of gold, and walked off.

#### WINTER GARDENS IN PRUSSIA.

At Berlin there are four extensive winter gardens, in which the appearance of a perpetual summer is kept up. They are simply large green-houses, or orangeries, with paved floors, a lofty ceiling, and upright windows in front—the air heated by stoves, supplied with fuel from without. On the floor are placed, here and there, large orange trees, myrtles, and various New Holland plants, in boxes. Round the stems of the trees tables are formed, which are used for refreshments for the guests, and for pamphlets and newspapers.—There are also clumps of trees and of flowering plants, and sometimes pine apples and fruit trees. The gardens abound with moveable tables and seats, and there is generally music, a writer of poetry, a reader, a lecturer;

short plays have even been acted on them on the Sundays. In the evening the whole is illuminated, and in certain days of the week the music and illumination is on a grander scale. In some of these orangeries there are separate saloons for billiards, for ladies who object to the smoke of tobacco, for cards and select parties. In the morning part of the day the gardens are chiefly resorted to by old gentlemen, who read the papers, talk politics, and drink coffee.—In the evening they are crowded by ladies and gentlemen, and refreshments of various kinds are taken; and it is quite common for company to call in after the play to meet their friends, or take refreshments. There is nothing of the kind in any other country of Europe to be compared to those gardens.

#### COATS OF ARMS.

The arms of France are three golden lilies, supported by two angels in the habits of Levites, each holding a banner. The crest is an open crown. The battle cry of France is ‘Montjoy St. Denis,’ and the inscription of the Oriflamme or Royal Banner, is ‘Lilla non laborant neque ment.—The lilies toil not, neither do they spin.

The arms of the Pope, as sovereign of the lands of the church, are a head-piece of gold, surmounted with a cross pearly and garnished with three royal crowns, together with the two keys of St. Peter placed *in situ*.

The arms of Venice are a winged Lion, holding under one of his paws a covered book.

The arms of the Grand Seignior are a crescent, crested with a turban, and charged with three heron's plumes; bearing the proud motto ‘Donce totum impleat orbem,’ implying that the crescent shall continue to enlarge itself until it covereth the earth.—But the Turkish moon is on the wane and not on the increase.

The arms of Persia are a couching lion looking at the sun as it rises over his back.

The arms of the King of Abyssinia are a lion rampant, with the motto ‘The lion of the tribe of Judah is victorious.’

Perhaps the proudest of all arms, with the most appropriate motto, are those of the State of New York; the rising sun; the motto ‘Excelsior,’ higher. It implies continued and unchecked elevation. Were the motto in the superlative it would imply that the elevation had ceased and that declension must follow.

#### GRENADIERS.

29th June, 1678, Mr. Evelyn enters in his diary—“Now were brought into service a new sort of soldiers called Grenadiers, who were dextrous in flinging hand grenades, every one having a pouch full; they had furred caps with coped crowns like Janizaries, which made them look very fierce; and some had long hoods hanging down behind, as we picture fools; their clothes being likewise py-bald, yellow and red.” Grenadiers derived their name from being trained to throw grenades. In battle, after throwing this missile firework, upon the word “Fall on,” they rushed with hatchets upon the enemy. They were not confined to the infantry. Besides grenades in pouches, and axes, they were armed with firelocks, slings, swords and daggers. Bayonets were first appropriated to the grenadiers and dragoons.”

#### NATIONAL TRAITS.

Every nation has its traits:—the Spaniards sleep on every affair of importance—the Italians fiddle—the Germans smoke—the French praise every thing—the British eat—and the Americans talk upon every thing.

• Fosbroke's Ency. of Antiquities.