

frozen and even the Mediterranean, about Genoa; and the cotton and orange groves suffer extremely in the lowest parts of Italy.

In 1710 the winter was so intense that people travelled across the straits from Copenhagen to the province of Sema, in Sweden.

In 1726, in Scotland, multitudes of cattle and sheep were buried in the snow.

In 1740 the winter was scarcely inferior to that of 1712. The snow lay ten feet deep in Spain and Portugal. The Zuyder Zee was frozen over, and thousands of people went over it. All the lakes in England froze.

In 1741 the winter was very cold. Snow fell in Portugal to the depth of twenty-three feet on a level.

In 1754 and 1755, the winters were very severe and cold. In England the strongest ale, exposed to the air in a glass, was covered with ice one-eighth of an inch thick.

In 1771, the Elbe was frozen to the bottom.

In 1776, the Danube bore ice five feet deep below Vienna. Vast numbers of the feathered and finny tribe perished.

The winters of 1774 and 1775 were uncommonly severe. The Little Belt was frozen over.

From 1800 to 1812 also, the winters were remarkably cold, particularly the latter in Russia, which proved so disastrous to the French army.

ANECDOTES OF STOTHARD THE PAINTER.

A work recently published in England,—"The Life of Thomas Stothard, R. A., by Mrs. Bray"—gives the following among other reminiscences of the artist:—

Few things in nature were considered below the attention of his most observant mind. If he wanted to make himself acquainted with any natural object, he always drew it. If any of his children asked him a question, relating to a bird or animal, he instantly took up the pencil and sketched, by way of illustrating the explanation he gave in reply. As to himself, in order to more fully understand what might be required if he had occasion to introduce an animal in a picture, he would often draw even the skeleton of it. One, of the entire elephant, where every bone is most carefully distinguished, is still in the possession of his son Alfred. It is in pen and ink. Several of his fine studies from living creatures, such as the lion, the tiger, the leopard, &c., are to be found in the collections of the admirers of his works. In sketching animals, he was as remarkable for observing the grace and form of action as in drawing the human figure.

He was beginning to paint the figure of a reclining sylph, when a difficulty arose in his own mind, how best to represent such a being of fancy. A friend who was present said, "Give the sylph a butterfly's wing, and there you have it." "That I will," exclaimed Stothard; "and to be correct I will paint the wing from the butterfly itself." He immediately called forth, extended his walk to the fields some miles distant, and caught one of those beautiful insects: it was of the class called the peacock. Our artist brought it carefully home, and commenced sketching it, but not in the painting room; and leaving it on the table, a servant (I know not if it were the Irish damsel) swept the pretty little creature away, before its portrait was finished.

On learning his loss, away went Stothard once more to the fields to seek another butterfly. But at this time one of the tortoise-shell tribe crossed his path, and was secured. He was astonished at the combination of colour that presented itself to him in this small but exquisite work of the Creator, and from that moment determined to enter upon a new and delightful field—the study of the insect department of natural history. He became a hunter of outflies; the more he caught, the greater beauty did he trace in their infinite variety, and he would often say that no one knew what he owed to these insects—they had taught him the finest combinations in that difficult branch of art, coloring.

Not however, in butterflies only, but in every thing, Stothard was an indefatigable student of na-

ture. He went no where without a sketch book, and nothing struck his eye or his fancy but it was transferred to it; he recommended this practice to others, with the injunction never to alter anything when absent from the object drawn; he said that, unless this rule was observed, all the spirit of the sketch would be lost. In his walks to Iwer, (about eighteen miles from London,) whether he often went accompanied by his son Alfred, to visit his aged aunt, Mrs. Hales after they had passed Acton, he would say, "Now, let us leave the high road and away to the fields and the hedges; we shall find there some beautiful plants, well worth seeking." No sooner had they done so than the sketch book and color box was brought forth from his pocket, and many a wild plant, with its delicate formation of leaf and flower, was carefully copied on the spot. This was done with a fine pen filled with the tints required; the springing of the tendrils from the stem, and every elegant bend and turn of the leaves or the drooping of a bell, was observed and depicted with the utmost beauty.

TRUE MORAL COURAGE.

Never be ashamed of thy birth, or thy parents, or thy trade, or thy present employment, for the meanness or poverty of any of them; and when there is an occasion to speak of them, such an occasion as would invite you to speak of anything that pleases you, omit it not, but speak as readily and indifferently of thy meanness as of thy greatness. Prometheus, the first King of Bohemia, kept his country-shoes always by him, to remember from whence he was raised; and Agathacles, by the furniture of his table, confessed that, from a potter, he was raised to be the King of Sicily.

THE SCOTTISH SHEPHERD.

The state of mind induced among the peasantry of the mountainous districts of Scotland, by snow storms is thus pleasingly described by the Ettrick Shepherd:—"The daily feelings naturally impressed upon the Shepherd's mind, that all his comforts are so entirely in the hands of Him who rules the elements, contributes not a little to that firm spirit of devotion for which the Scottish Shepherd is so distinguished. I know of no scene so impressing as that of a family sequestered in a long glen during the time of a winter storm; and where is the glen in the kingdom that wants such a habitation? There they are left to the protection of heaven; and they know and feel it. Throughout all the wild vicissitudes of nature, they have no hope of assistance from man, but expect to receive it from the Almighty alone. Before retiring to rest, the Shepherd uniformly goes out to examine the state of the weather, and make his report to the little dependent group within, nothing is to be seen but the conflict of the elements, nor heard but the raving of the storm. Then they all kneel around him while he commends them to the protection of heaven; and though their little hymn of praise can scarcely be heard even by themselves, as it mixes with the roar of the tempest, they never fail to rise from their devotions with their spirits cheered, and their confidence restored, and go to sleep with an exaltation of mind in which Kings and conquerors have no share.

INDIA RUBBER OVER SHOES.

Of all the uses to which India rubber is applied, none is so important and beneficial to the human family as the manufacture of it into over-shoes. A few years ago there was a strong prejudice against these shoes; they were called unhealthy and fit only for enervated men, and weak women. Well, even if they were beneficial to no others, if Indian rubber shoes had done no good to only one individual, this should have blunted the edge of prejudice. But against prejudice they have won their way into sensible and universal favour. It is well known that during rainy weather, but more especially during a thaw, when the ground has been covered with snow, the best leather boots and shoes cannot resist the entrance of moisture. People take cold more readily, we believe, by getting their feet wet and chilled

than by any other cause. How many people have we known, who being compelled by circumstances to walk the streets in sloppy weather, have contracted cold from wet feet, and finally consumption. Weakly people have suffered the most from such ill of human life, to them, especially India rubber over-shoes is one of the great blessings of physical discovery. They resist moisture,—they are impervious to wet; they keep the feet warm and dry when walking in the wet and cold penetrating snow,—and they are therefore one of the greatest comforts. There are thousands of these India rubber over shoes worn now, for one pair that were worn fifteen years ago. They tend to prolong life, by keeping the feet warm, thus preventing cold and disease, and at the same time, they pour drops of comfort into the cup of life. The great necessities of life—the main essentials to general physical happiness—are plenty of food, warm clothing, and dwellings. What would it signify if even man possessed a mountain of gold if he could not keep his feet warm? A very poor consolation indeed. We are liable to overlook many things which have been done of late years to benefit the human family, and the claims of India rubber shoes have not been so fully acknowledged as they should be.—*Scientific American.*

HOW TO COOK CABBAGE.

Chop the half of an ordinary head very fine, put it in the spider or saucepan, add two-thirds of a tea-cup of water, a table-spoonful of lard, and half a tea-spoonful of salt; cover and cook it from one hour and a half to two hours, giving it now and then a stirring. Then add two-thirds of a tea-cup of good vinegar, some pepper and salt sufficient to season it to taste. Let it be on the fire five minutes and serve up.—*Id.*

Varieties.

Don't moralize to a man who is on his back. Help him up—see him firmly on his feet, and then give him advice and means.

POVERTY may lay its chilly hand upon us, and freeze up the brightest fountain of our hopes—disappointment may meet us at every step—affliction may strike down those who are dearest to us—the foul breath of slander may attempt to sully our fair name, and tarnish our reputation—still let us be true to ourselves.

True politeness consists of an exquisite observance of the feelings of others, and an invariable respect for those feelings. By this definition it claims alliance with benevolence, and may often be found as genuine in the cottage as in the court.

FRIENDSHIP.—When we see the leaves dropping from the trees in the beginning of autumn, just such, think we, is the friendship of the world; while the sap of maintenance lasts, our friends swarm in abundance around us, but in the winter of need they leave us alone and naked. He is a fortunate man that finds a real friend in his need; but more truly happy is he, by far, that hath no need of his aid.

I would never separate myself from any man upon the difference of an opinion, or be angry with his judgment for not agreeing with me in that, from which, perhaps, within a few days, I should dissent myself.

GOOD NATURE is one of the sweetest gifts of Providence. Like the pure sunshine, it gladdens, enlivens, and cheers. In the midst of hate, revenge, sorrow, and despair, how glorious are its effects.

NEVER GO BACK—never. What you attempt, do with all your strength. Determination is omnipotent. If the prospect is somewhat darkened, put the fire of resolution to your soul, and kindle a flame that nothing but the strong arm of death can extinguish.