

was fresh: if the former, the destruction of river fish would follow as a matter of course; if the latter, the dilution of the sea, with such a vast mass of contrary element, must prove equally fatal.

Nor did it appear to have entered into the calculation of the advocates of a universal deluge overtopping the highest mountains, how vast a body of water would be required, amounting to many times the quantity already existing in the various oceans and rivers of the earth. Had rain descended for a much greater length of time, it could but raise the ocean a few inches. Many, putting their own construction upon the breaking up of the fountains of the great deep, had broached the theory of a vast reservoir occupying the centre of the earth. Such a supposition was excusable in a more defective state of science, but could not stand now.

In conclusion, the Rev. Doctor assured his hearers of his most implicit reliance upon the testimony of Scripture, justly and fairly interpreted, and his entire confidence that the sacred book would come out of every ordeal, to which scientific research would subject it, unimpeached and unimpaired. He trusted it would be found that he had not tortured the Scriptures to make them speak the language of science; and he looked forward, with feelings both of anxiety and confidence, to future lectures, in which he should examine with minute attention the statements of Holy Writ. The lecture was, as usual, concluded with prayer."

For the Pearl.

THE MINIATURE, OR REMINISCENCE.

On a visit to the Province of Nova Scotia in the month of July, a few years since, I rambled down to the landing place of the Team Boat that plied between Halifax and Dartmouth, with an intention of visiting Dartmouth. As the boat was just getting under weigh at the latter place, I had a few minutes leisure on my hands, and on looking around, my eye settled on two young chimney sweepers, with carpet cloaks thrown over their shoulders *a la Roman*, and armed with brush and scraper; sitting on a floating piece of timber detached from the wharf, and placed there as a fender to diminish the concussion of the boat. They were eagerly peering into the pellucid water of the harbour at the effect of their skill to entice the finny tribe that could be seen playing around the bottom to bite at their baited pin-hooks. I was becoming anxious about their precarious situation, as the boat was drawing nigh, when my attention and sensibility were excited by a sudden start and exclamation;—turning around I saw the fine commanding figure of a gentleman, who had retreated a few steps from the edge of the wharf, where he had been standing beside me unobserved; and was in the act of raising his cap to obtain fresh air. I stretched forth my hand to support him, as his whole frame appeared agitated—he thanked me cordially and observed, "I must appear ridiculous, but I never can stand near the edge of water and look into it, without being overcome by a dizziness in my head, and I had nigh fainted and fallen in the water, but for the sudden exertion of starting back." I cast my eye at his bland and noble countenance, and observed that his brow was deeply scarred; a hasty glance at his dress, figure and deportment, convinced me at once of his being a soldier, and that those were honourable wounds received in his country's service, and proved to be sabre cuts, which had occasioned the weakness that so nearly placed him in a very unpleasant situation. Our attention was now directed to the boat which was running in the frame, where but a few moments previous I had seen the sooty gents, who were now seen scampering up the wharf, looking back occasionally and showing their ivory, with a broad laugh at having disappointed some wags who had endeavoured to keep them on the fender for the purpose of giving them an ablution. We stepped on board and took a full survey of the accommodation, machinery, and arrangements of the establishment, and heard a paucyric on the unremitting exertions of the Proprietors, with all the difficulties they had to encounter in keeping the establishment efficient, and the diabolical attempt of H— to kill the horses used in propelling the machinery, who wounded them as they passed round in succession. The boat having now fully got under weigh, we had taken our stand on the gallery, and leaning on the railing to view the beautiful and opening scenery of the spacious and noble harbour of Halifax and Bedford Basin. His Majesty's ship Jupiter, 50 guns, bearing the flag of Rear Admiral Lake, with streamers waving in the wind, was laying off the Naval Yard, with mast upon mast to the very sky scraper, triumphantly proud—an epitome of Old England's glory. The sun had gained its meridian, and shone with an effulgence almost peculiar to an American climate—serene, joyous and happy; we reciprocated the good feeling by pointing out objects worthy of notice to each other "and snuffing the caller air," the wind blowing a pleasant breeze from the north-west. At this moment the Jupiter's boat passing under our stern with measured stroke, and being just the haying season of the year, caused an involuntary recitation of a few lines from a noble poet—

"There breathes a living fragrance from the shore
Of flowers yet fresh with Childhood on the ear,
Drips the light drop of the suspended oar."

"Byron, by the powers," exclaimed my companion with a side step to the left; and *sans ceremonie* asked if I were a Nova

Scotian. I said that I had not that honour, but nearly allied, being from the Sister Province of New Brunswick. He observed, "I have anxiously wished to meet with some person from that Province, as some of my early associations are connected with it; do you know the P***, and pray do you recollect A. P.?" I answered that I did, and some of my early impressions were received from him when he was acting as usher at the Academy in Fredericton under James Christopher Fertileta Bremer, who at that time combined all the duties of Professorship, in *propria persona*, except the assistance afforded him by this amiable and accomplished young man, who had completed a then New Brunswick education, and was waiting for some public situation to offer. He resumed and said, "I was appointed aide-de-camp to Sir Charles McCartney, Governor of Sierra Leone, where I met this young man, who was private secretary to Sir Charles W. formed an indissoluble friendship, and had our quarters together; for in that unhealthy and inhospitable climate but few comforts can be obtained. Sir Charles was as indulgent as a fond father; he supplied us with many luxuries that we could not otherwise have obtained; he gave directions to his steward to furnish us with wine from his own stores. We would occasionally get the steward to bring us a few bottles from the roof of the castle where it had been exposed to the rays of the sun, which had the effect of enriching and giving mellowness to the wine. As there was but little in the country for the roving and amorous eye of youth to rest upon, young L— would sometimes visit us at our quarters, where we sat in the evening and talked over the days of our early youth and scenes gone by; and with rapture would I sit and gaze on a miniature A. P*** had with him, taken for his sister Isabella! So susceptible is the heart of youth to first love, that the beautiful features portrayed on the miniature, and glowing description given by my friend of his amiable sister, that I found my mind's eye resting on the ideal appearance of a lady in another quarter of the globe. She was my idol. Surely often would we anticipate the pleasure we might yet enjoy on coming to New Brunswick, which we had determined soon to do. I pledged his sister over many a glass of wine, and he pledged her to me for a loving wife. Amidst our most joyous and vivid anticipations, the scene was suddenly changed—my beloved friend sunk under the frightful and deadly ravages of a Sierra Leone climate. He presented to me the miniature and some trifling mementos, and wished that I would see his parents; and that it was his most ardent wish that I should obtain the hand of Isabella in marriage. I told him it was the nearest wish of my heart. He left us sincerely regretted by Sir Charles and suite, and highly respected by all. He was buried with military honours. I continued some months with the Governor; but the tie of friendship being severed in the death of my companion, and my mind constantly dwelling on the beautiful image of the amiable Isabella, I at last became discontented, and requested to be recalled to join my regiment in England, which I at last obtained, and was in anxious expectation of being ordered to America; but alas! the Continent was our destination. Among all the fascinating personages and scenes that I mixed with in my native country, I still warmly cherished the image of my lovely Isabella, as her miniature and brother's description had led me to conceive. Many were the hard fought battles and hair breadth escapes that I encountered, (as his honourable scars fully bore testimony.) We returned to England, and lying there a few months, a rumour prevailed in the regiment that our next destination would be America. My heart alternately bounded with hope and joy, or sunk with fear and despondency, so great a prize will not remain undrawn; but love predominated—I must, I shall have her. The order came; it was for America surely, but oh, dreadful! one of the Windward Islands of the West Indies! but we might possibly be exchanged, it is nearer certainty, for we shall then be in the same quarter of the globe. After a tedious passage and great anxiety we arrived, and having got ourselves suited with lodgings, began to participate in the amusements enjoyed by the residents of those tropical climates. I had an invitation to dine, and met a party at Capt. S*** of the R. A. I attended early; and on coming to the hall door which stood open, as is actually necessary in those enervating climates, or to have a Venetian lattice, I saw two little cherubs running about the hall enjoying the cool air. I stood paralyzed. The miniature, the clear and ruddy complexion, the auburn hair, dark hazel eye, and dimpled cheek—can it be possible! It must be. Oh no. My heart clung to hope. I was ushered in, and all anxiety, I waited for an éclaircissement. The lady of the house shortly after appeared. My God! it was reality—Isabella. Vain foolish man that I was to adhere to a shadow, a miniature.

"Oh fearful thought, one only hope engross the human mind,
My country's call I had obey'd, and time had career'd on double quick."

On offering my arm to lead her to the dining room, the blood thrilled through my veins; I had indeed lost a prize. An explanation through the course of the entertainment took place, and interesting it was to all parties. Many were the pleasant hours I spent in the agreeable company of Capt. S. and his lady. I found her every thing my fertile imagination had pictured. Again the fell destroyer marr'd our happiness; Captain S. was seized with fever, and suddenly removed to another world. Did the idea rush across my mind? yes it did, she might yet be mine; but oh, how transitory

are all sublunary things! The lovely Isabella caught the contagion, and her spirits having received so great a depression, she too sank under the dreadful effects of the climate. Now indeed I thought my cup full; I cannot find language to express my acute feelings; but let it suffice that I was deeply affected. The orphans; what were they to do, where did their friends live, in what part of the British dominions? were the questions running through all departments. Nobody knew but myself; and if it had not been for my early acquaintance with Andrew in Sierra Leone, and the miniature, I probably should not have known, what was to be done. Our regiment was about to be exchanged, therefore I could not continue their protector. An office of Capt. S's rank in that expensive climate can do little more than maintain a wife and family; exertions were made by all the officers to send the dear children to their grand parents in New Brunswick; a passage was taken for them, stores put up, and an old soldier disbanded and sent with them as a protector, who I am since informed was faithful to his trust, and they arrived safe. Pray can you tell me any thing about them and if they are well, and do tell me if the daughter has grown up as elegant as her mother was?" I replied "She is not as tall, and has more *en bon point*, but has her mother's complexion, and penetrating eyes—indeed a handsome woman; their friends are in the most respectable circle of life, and in comfortable circumstances. They are happy as you can wish them." "Well I am determined to go to that province for the express purpose of seeing them, and on your return you may say that you saw a gentleman who takes a deep interest in their welfare."

The boat long since reached Dartmouth, and we had imperceptibly ascended an eminence, when recollecting that he had come over to make a call, he slipped his card into my hand with a very polite invitation to meet him at his quarters, bidding me good morning; on it was Captain Hyde, H. M. 98th Regt. Wherever he now is, his many virtues will ensure him friends, and his polite and generous attention will not be effaced from the recollection of his friends in the western world. P.

THE WEALTH OF NATURE.

"I feel an animating assurance that Nature will exert a perpetually increasing influence, not only as a most fertile source of pure and substantial pleasures, but also as a great moral agent."
—William Howitt.

Go, look abroad on Nature,
With heart subdued and pure,
And learn how riches may be won,
Ay, wealth that will endure—
The Flowers that bloom along our path,
What store of sweets they bear!
We call them rich because they breathe
Rich fragrance on the air.

So let thy love and thoughtfulness,
From frosts of self unbound,
Like incense from the generous Rose,
Flow out to friends around,
And this truth upon thy mind will break,
As light through clear glass pours,
That man is rich by what he gives,
But not in hoarded stores.

The wild bird hymns the morning,
With strains that float to heaven:
In hope's bright gems how rich the breast
From whence such joys are given!
That little bird, at eventide,
Forgoes to-morrow's care,
And sleeps upon the trembling branch
As God's firm shield was there.

Not thus the Lord of millions
In slumber may repose,
The weight of gold upon his soul
A fearful shadow throws;
But the bird will teach the humble heart
On Heaven its faith to buoy—
That he is rich who can rest in peace
And wake with a song of joy.

See, on the sterile mountain
A star-like Spring appears,
'Tis bright as childhood's laughing eye,
When it beams through diamond tears—
The wealth of waters from that Spring
Rolls on the sea to swell,
Yet scatters blessings on its path,
As its green-leaved watchers tell.

And thus life's stream is flowing
To death's dark shoreless sea—
Man saves no wealth from that ruthless deep
But the sum of his charity—
If thou hast bound the broken heart
And cherished the orphan pale,
And bade light beam on the darkened mind,
Thy wealth will never fail.

Sarah J. Hale.

The nimbus, or glory, drawn by painters round the heads of the saints, etc. was first used by the Cæsars and their flatterers.