

Eternal City, the Bay of Naples, Caprea, Messina, and the gloomy forests and everlasting fires of Ætna. There are few things in fiction more sparkling or more beautiful than the scene in which Og of Basan, having found a being more lovely than the dreams of his imagination, yields up his whole soul to those unutterable raptures that at the command of love, swell almost to bursting the breast of genius. Such are these "Memoirs of Extraordinary Painters" and if we mistake not, our readers will hasten to an imaginative repast of no common poignancy and sweetness.

SUGAR THE FINEST FOOD FOR ANIMALS.

—Not only do the inhabitants of every part of the globe delight in sugar when obtainable, but all animated beings; the beasts of the field, the fowls of the air, insects, and even fish have an exquisite enjoyment in the consumption of sweets, and a distaste to the contrary; in fact sugar is the alimentary ingredient of every vegetable substance, encumbered with greater or less proportion of bulky innutritious matter. A small quantity of sugar will sustain life, and enable the animal frame to undergo corporeal (I may add mental, from personal experience) fatigue better than any other substance; often have I travelled with the Arab over the burning desert, or with the wild Afric through his romantic country, and when wearied with fatigue and a noontide sun, we have sat ourselves beneath an umbrageous canopy, and I have shared with my companion his travelling provender, a few small balls of sugar mixed with spices and hardened into a paste with flour. Invariably have I found two or three of these balls and a draught of water the best possible restorative, and even a stimulus to renewed exertion. During the crop time in the West Indies the negroes, although then hard worked, become fat, healthy, and cheerful, and the horses, mules, cattle &c., on the estate, partaking of the refuse of the sugar house renew their plumpness and strength. In Cochinchina, not only are the buffaloes, horses, elephants, &c., all fattened with sugar, but the body guard of the king are allowed a sum of money daily with which they must buy sugar canes and eat a certain quantity to preserve their good looks and *embonpoint*; there are about 500 of these household troops, and their handsome appearance does honour to their food and to their royal master. Indeed in Cochinchina rice and sugar is the ordinary breakfast of people of all ages and stations; and the people not only preserve all their fruits in sugar, but even the greater part of their leguminous vegetables, gourds, cucumbers, radishes, artichokes, the grain of the lotus, and the thick fleshy leaves of the aloes. I have eaten in India, after a 6 months' voyage mutton-killed in Leadenhall market, preserved in a cask of sugar, and as fresh as the day it was placed in the shambles. [In the curing of meat I believe a portion of sugar is mixed with saltpetre and salt.] The Kandyans of Ceylon preserve their venison in earthen pots of honey, and after being thus kept two or three years its flavour would delight Epicurus himself.—In tropical climes the fresh juice of the cane is the most efficient remedy for various diseases, while its healing virtues are felt when applied to ulcers and sores. Sir John Pringle says the plague was never known to visit any country where sugar composes a material part of the diet of the inhabitants.—Drs. Rush, Cullen, and other eminent physicians, are of opinion that the frequency of malignant fevers of all kinds is lessened by the use of sugar; in disorders of the breast it forms an excellent demulcent, as also in weakness and acid defluxions in other parts of the body. The celebrated Dr. Franklin found great relief from the sickening pain of the stone, by drinking half a pint of syrup of coarse brown sugar before bed time, which he declared gave as much, if not more relief than a dose of opium. That dreadful malady once so prevalent on shipboard, scurvy, has been completely and instantaneously stopped by putting the afflicted on a sugar diet. The diseases arising from worms, to which children are subject, are prevented by the use of sugar, the love of which seems implanted by nature in them: as to the unfounded assertion of its injuring the teeth, let those who make it visit the sugar plantations and look at the negroes and their children, whose teeth are daily employed in the mastication of sugar, and they will be convinced of the statement. I might add many other facts relative to this delightful nutriment; I conclude however, with observing, that I have tamed the most vicious and savage horses with sugar, and have seen the most ferocious animals domesticated by means of feeding them with an article which our baneful fiscal restrictions and erroneous commercial policy has checked the use of in England where millions pine, sicken and perish for want of nutriment.—*Martin's History of the British Colonies.*

FACULTIES OF THE EAR.—It is extraordinary what an effort nature makes upon the loss of sight to restore the deficiency by sharpening the sense of hearing and touch; as in the case of Huber, the great naturalist, who has made so many discoveries in the

minute of insects; and also Mr Goff of Kendal an eminent botanist, who can tell the name or species of any plant or flower by the touch. Dr. Darwin informs us, in *Zoonomia*, that the late Justice Fielding, walked for the first time into his room, when he once visited him, and after speaking a few words, said "this room is twenty-two feet long, eighteen wide, and twelve high" all of which he guessed by the ear. Blind people have a peculiar method of presenting the ear, and in some instances acquire the power of moving it, when much interested. The incessant use they make of it, gives them an indescribable quickness; they judge of every thing by sound; a soft sonorous voice with them is the symbol of beauty; and so nice a discernment a blind person of the accents of speech, that through the voice he fancies he can see the soul. Sir John Fielding possessed a great faculty of this sort; and he could recollect every thief that had been brought before him by the tone or accent of his voice for more than forty years.

A question of law at present excites the attention of the medical world in Paris. A physician, celebrated for his skill in lithotomy, has recently cured the Count de la B—, formerly a minister of Charles X.—M. de la B—, after writing in vain to M. A— to fix the amount of the demand, sent him three thousand francs. M. A— in reply, stated that it was too small a remuneration for his services, and demanded ten (*diez*) thousand francs in full. M. de la B— read, or pretended to read the "ten," "six" (*six*), and sent the doctor 3000 frs. in addition to make up that sum. M. A— then renewed his demand of the ten thousand in the most positive and plain manner, and the Count in reply refused to give more than he had already done; the physician then commenced proceedings, and the matter is to be decided before a competent tribunal immediately. In a similar case, M. Dupuytren was paid by a rich banker in a way which he deemed insufficient,—only six thousand francs—and he replied in the following terms:—"I thank Mr. H— for the six thousand francs which he has this morning sent me, and I only regret that he did not avail himself of the opportunity to pay me in full."—*London Medical and Surgical Journal.*

GEORGE COLMAN AND THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.—At a fete given by his late Majesty George IV., the costume as worn at the coronation on that occasion was introduced. George Colman, who was one of the Exons on the King's Guard, his dress so adorned, attracted the attention of the Duke of Wellington, who laughing said, "Coleman, you look like Pam." "Do I, your grace? then I am the hero of *Loo*."

(From the *London Globe*, Oct. 27.)

(Private Correspondence of the NATIONAL.)

MADRID, OCT. 14.—The war has broken out in the bosom of our Administration, after a coolness of considerable duration, and discussions which were kept secret. Count Toreno and M. Moscoso are the two antagonists. The latter will no doubt be conquered in spite of the support of the Camarilla, and the Council of Regency; which support is also extended to M. Zarco de Valle, against whom public hatred has not been appeased even by the nomination of General Mina.

This intestine struggle, which is no longer a mystery to any one seems to be the prelude of a change in the Ministry. Some persons affirm that it will be thoroughly remodelled; others think that the Ministers of War and the Interior only will fall. It is generally believed that Count Torro will be the chief of the new Cabinet. He looks up to that elevated post and will obtain it.

It is high time for Mina to proceed to put himself at the head of his troops; I have just seen a letter from him, addressed to Count Toreno dated the 7th, in which he says that his re-establishment is nearly complete, that he shall soon be face to face with the insurgents. His mother and the rest of his family have returned to Pampeluna, in order to keep them out of the hands of the Carlists, who would no doubt, have endeavoured to carry them off, and keep them as hostages.

The sitting of the Procuradores of tomorrow promises to be more interesting than has been the case of late. The subject of debate will be the discussion of the petition relative to appointments made during the constitutional regime. The ministry and the opposition cannot fail to be at issue on this point. Senor Galiano is to speak for the first time. Don Agostino Arguelles presented his titles yesterday. His income which consists of a gift from the electors, may perhaps give rise to a similar debate as that on Galiano's election.

However, there can be no doubt as to the election of Arguelles.

It is positively asserted that the Marquis of Milafiores, who has obtained leave of absence, will not return to London and that he will be succeeded by General Don Miguel Ricardo de Alaxa, whose position is a singu-

lar one; for having been aide-de-camp to the Duke of Wellington during the war of independence, he is intimately connected with the English Tories, and yet he professes to entertain sincerely liberal principles.

A debate took place yesterday in the Procuradores with respect to the employment of strangers in the service of Spain in the course of which Martinez de la Rosa informed the house that an agreement had been made with the British officer next in order to Admiral Napier to take the command of the steam-boats lately purchased for Spain. M. Trueba, who was so well received in England was the reporter to the commission, and made a violent declamation against the admission of strangers into civil or military offices, and instanced the Conde de Espana as one of those foreigners admitted to power who were a curse to the country. The project of law agreed upon consists of four articles.

1.—That no stranger shall command a division, brigade, or regiment, nor vessel of war, nor be employed in the Royal guard, unless he has served 25 years, including the war of independence, and that of 1823.

2.—That no stranger shall obtain military employment from that of Sub-Lieutenant to that of Colonel who has not served 15 effective years.

3.—That no stranger shall obtain civil employment in any branch of the royal nomination and the pay of the state without having resided 25 years in Spain, or being married to a Spaniard, or having served 10 years in the career of arms without any blot in the note of his services.

Our Bayonne correspondent, under date the 21st. inst., states that Don Carlos was on the 14th within two leagues of Bilbao, at the head of the Biscayan insurgents. In an encounter with the garrison of Elsondo, on the 19th the Carlists had 50 men killed and wounded. A party consisting of forty soldiers who were escorting a deputy from Biscay, as well as a sister of El Pastor, were intercepted and taken prisoners by the Carlists, who butchered them with horrible attendant circumstances.

BRUSSELS, Oct. 22.—The *Mercure* states on authority in which it places entire confidence, that a direct intercourse between Belgium and Holland is going to be established. The following are the particulars contained in its last number:—"M. Deseuw, captain of a Dutch ship, having asked of the authorities of his country permission to navigate from Holland to Belgium by way of Batz, that is to say directly, the Governor of Zealand, with whom the captain has had some intercourse on this subject, assured him that from the month of November next, the Dutch government would admit without difficulty and would protect all Belgian vessels without a white flag; that the Belgian government would be desired to use reciprocity towards the Dutch ships conforming to the same conditions; that the navigation would be by way of Batz as before (8-30); lastly, that the Belgian captains would pay for a license in Holland, and the Dutch captains in Belgium. Captain Deseuw affirms the truth of this fact, which is so important to merchants, and adds that he had been told by the same governor that when this arrangement had been once made and accepted by the two cabinets things would remain in *statu quo* for ten years.

The *Journal d'Anvers*, copying the above article, adds:—"We have a proof of the pacific disposition between the two countries in the establishment of regular diligences between Antwerp and Brera, by way of Westwiel which we believe will begin to ply on Sunday next, and at length re-open a communication which has been so long interrupted.

The *Messenger de Cand* says that diplomatic negotiations are on foot for taking off the sequestration of the property of the House of Orange, and that it is probable we shall soon have official information of it.

BRUSSELS, Oct. 23.—The *Belge* says "The journalists and editors of the journals that are published in this country are invited to meet on Wednesday the 29th for the purpose of agreeing to a petition to the Chambers to abolish the stamp duty on newspapers

The Earl of Kenmare and Lord Killeen, two Catholic Noblemen, have been appointed Irish Privy Councillors, the first of that creed so appointed for the last century and a half. The Earl of Dunmore, the Earl of Leitrim, and Dominick Brown, Esq., M. P. have also been appointed to the Irish Privy Council.

An article in the *Diario di Roma* of the 11 October, in stating that the Pope had visited Don Miguel on the 9th, adds that his Holiness addressed him as "His Most Faithful Majesty Don Miguel the First." Don Miguel left Rome on the same day for the north of Italy, in order to be married to the daughter of the Duc de Modena. Another rumour, however, states that he had gone to

Genoa, with an intention of making another attempt on Portugal.

It is said a great literary curiosity has recently been discovered. The identical copy of "Junius's Letters," in two volumes, bound in vellum, by Mr. Woodfall, the publisher, at the express wish of the author, which copy is particularly alluded to in the *variorum* edition of these letters, published by George Woodfall, Esq., a few years ago.—*Chronicle.*

Medora Byron, a natural daughter of the noble poet, is about to emerge from obscurity, like a young eagle from its shell. She intends to wing her first flight in the drama, it appears, and taking the exile Knowles's vacated ground, the Victoria theatre she sent (anonymous) the MS. of a musical dramatic romance. Glossop and his managerial adjuncts, without knowing the author, immediately accepted it for representation.

DEATH OF THE DUCHESS DOWAGER OF NEWCASTLE.—Died on Saturday evening, at eight o'clock in the morning, after an illness of four days, at her seat at Ranby Hall, near East Retford, Anna Maria, Duchess Dowager of Newcastle. Her Grace was the fifth and youngest daughter of William, second Earl of Harrington; was born on the 31st March, 1760, and married on the 25th of January, 1782, to Thomas, third Duke of Newcastle, who dying in 1795, her Grace remained a widow until 1810, when she was again united in marriage to Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Gregan Cranford, G. C. B., who died in 1821. Her unbounded generosity and extensive charities have obtained for her a name more lasting and imperishable than all the honours which rank and titles could bestow. To her, sect, opinion, parish, county, made no difference, as hundreds of the recipients of her bounty, within several miles of her residence, can now testify with sorrow.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have recently issued a new establishment for the complements of his Majesty's ships, by which the crews are considerably reduced—generally to the extent of 1 in 15; in some cases a few more marines are allowed to be embarked, and an option is also given to the respective captains to bear on the books one man instead of two boys, if they should choose to do so, so that the measure, both as regards wages and victualling, may be considered one of economy.—*Naval and Military Gazette.*

CHOLERA IN FRANCE.—We are in great alarm about the Cholera at Poitiers. It commits dreadful ravages in the department of the Charante, and many of the inhabitants have abandoned their homes. The streets appear deserted, and all business is at an end. Several families have arrived here, flying from the scourge. At Rochefort a few cases have shown themselves, but as yet they have been confined to the hospitals. The island of Rhe has undergone an awful visitation. A few days ago the number of deaths amounted to one thousand one hundred, and it still continues to lose many victims. Desolation is at its height. The people seem all in mourning, and the sorrowful expressions of their countenances speak too plainly the extent of their sufferings. Young children remain orphans, and have been taken in by neighbours and relations. The wealthier inhabitants have sought safety in flight, and while the favourites of fortune are fleeing from the danger which threatens and paralyses them, nuns and priests arrive from all quarters, braving the destroying pestilence, and deriving from religion the strength necessary to support them through so many labours and fatigues.—*Gazette de l'Ouest.*

A rail-road from Paris to Poissy is in contemplation, which will run through, or near, St. Cloud, Versailles, and St. Germain.

In July last, his Imperial Majesty, the Duke of Braganza, Regent of Portugal, addressed a letter to the King in the name of his august daughter Donna Maria conferring upon his Majesty the Grand Cross of the Tower and Sword, as a mark of esteem, friendship, and gratitude. The letter and order referred to, were presented to his Majesty yesterday, by the Chevalier de Lima, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of her Most Faithful Majesty.—*French Paper.*

At a meeting on Thursday last, in Greenwich it was agreed to form a gas light establishment for supplying Deptford, Greenwich, and their vicinities with gas; the capital, £25,000, to be raised in £1,000 shares, of £25 each.

THE STAR.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1834.

The week before last, we noticed the operations of the Northern Circuit Court at Harbour Grace, and the opinion expressed, by the Editor of the "MERCURY," as to the necessity of a resident Judge, at Harbour Grace.

We consider the Circuit Court very inefficient, as it respects their giving of cheap, equitable, and even-handed justice, to the people of this country.