

POETRY.

THE PIRATE BOTHWELL TO HIS BARQUE.

Ho---spread thy white wings to the breeze,
Thou terror of the deep!
Swift o'er the high and heaving seas
In gallant bearing sweep;
And far and wide, from strand to strand,
Thy Master's might make known,
Whose sceptre is his own good brand,---
Thy quarter-deck his throne.

The past---the past---the perish'd past!
What gloomy clouds up-roll
Thick from its ruins to o'ercast
The hope-deserted soul!
Why must the shades of buried time
Still haunt our altered life,
Till goaded on by Care to Crime,
We drown them in the strife?
An out-cast from my home, to bear
An execrated name,
Deem they this spirit to Despair
Can stoop from all its Fame?
So let them deem---till with my sword,
Upon the crimson'd flood,
My answer shall be darkly scored
In characters of blood.

Fame yet shall long and loudly speak
Of Bothwell and his slaughters,
To blanch full many a rosy cheek
'Mong Scotland's lovely daughters;
For many a pale and panting lip
Shall bear a wild tale back,
From many a sacked and shattered ship
That crossed my ravaging track.
With womb of fire, the thunder-cloud
Scowls grimly overhead,
Till bursting from its lurid shroud,
The red death-bolts are sped;---
Meet type for thee, my own brave barque,
Bearing thy fiery crew,
To fix their foes with deadly mark,
And ruin round them strew.

Then spread thy white wings to the breeze,
Thou terror of the deep!
Swift o'er the high and heaving seas,
In gallant bearing sweep;
And far and wide, from strand to strand,
Thy master's rule make known,
Whose sceptre is his own good brand,
Thy quarter-deck his throne.

REMEDY FOR THE DRY ROT.

MR. KYAN'S PATENT.

(From the last Number of the London
Quarterly Review.)
(Concluded.)

Mr. Faraday, of the authority of whose name we need not say any thing, expressed himself in the outset of his lecture of the 22d February last, as having been very soon impressed that this theory, and the practice thereon founded, would, in all probability, stand the test of experiment. The subject appeared so important in itself, and the doctrine of the new application so just *ex facie*, that he took considerable pains in examining into the matter---visiting from time to time the tanks of the patentee's establishment, watching the progress of the experiments at Woolwich, and also trying the thing for himself in a variety of ways, in his own laboratory. He proceeded to narrate, in the first place, the history of the experiments which had been made in London and at Woolwich, as to separate pieces of wood, and to exhibit to his audience abundant specimens of the result. The display was a most curious one,---but

'Segnius irritant animos demissa per aures
Quam quæ sunt oculis subjecta fidelibus;'

and we shall content ourselves with a very brief and imperfect repetition of things, which certainly must have left an extraordinary impression on the mind of every eye-witness.

The "fungus pit," at Woolwich, is a subterranean chamber, lined with wood in the worst possible stages of corruption; it is kept extremely damp, generates carbonic acid gas in profusion, and, in short, forms, as its name implies, a perfect hot-bed for the growth of all those fungi that used to be considered as the causes, but which are only the most usual symptoms, of dry-rot. It is a proverb among the people of the dock-yard, that a month in the hole is worse for a bit of timber, than ten years in almost any possible situation out of it:---and the government, pestered with the eternal applications of the rot doctors, have hitherto found their safety-valve in this fungus-pit. Mr. Knowles concluded one of his chapters with a distinct statement that no prepared timber, exposed during twelve months to the action of this ordeal, had, unless insulated by some other substance, "entirely resist the influence of the gas." We have ourselves visited this noxious place, and seen an hour and a half elapse, after opening the trap-door, before a candle would burn six inches beneath the surface. Blocks of timber---oak, elm, pine, beech, &c.---prepared with the solution of sublimate, have now, as Mr. Faraday said, and as the printed documents before us prove distinctly, stood the test of the fungus-pit, without exhibiting the slightest symptom of decay, during no less a period, some of them, than *five years*; and these, instead of being insulated by means

of some heterogeneous substance, had been lying on the fungus-spread floor of the dungeon, each with an unmedicated fragment of the very same tree, and of the like bulk, close by its side---every one of which unprepared pieces was found, at the opening of the pit in rapid progress to decomposition. The results of various experiments, instituted by Sir Robert Smirke, the eminent architect, with a view to his own professional business, were in like manner detailed, and his evidence as to the power of timbers prepared in this manner to resist the action of dropping eaves, &c., during a course of time sufficient to bring utter decay upon unprepared ones similarly exposed, was not less satisfactory than the upshot of the long trials at Woolwich.

The *primâ facie* efficacy of the application was illustrated, as some thought, even more remarkably, by the exhibition of pieces of canvass, and even of delicate calico cloth, which had been placed during from two to three months on the floor of the fungus pit. The prepared pieces came out perfectly sound, while of the unmedicated counterparts, there remained nothing but a few mildewed strings that fell to pieces at the touch.

The lecture stated, on the authority of Mr. Kyan, that cubes of oak, Memel pine, &c., containing each 216 cubic inches, imbibed, notwithstanding the difference of their structures, as nearly as can be measured, the very same quantity of the solution---about five ounces each; a quantity so small, that the expense of the operation is a mere trifle, compared with the result. The process is of course rapid in a plank, compared with a solid log. Fir deals take in their quantum within forty-eight hours---a beam of oak is not saturated under a month; but what is a month, when we think of the years always considered necessary for the seasoning of timber in the usual process of drying?

There remained to be answered certain important questions---to one of which we have already alluded. How long will the antiseptic virtue of this medicated timber abide in it? Will not the corrosive sublimate, essentially a poison, be disengaged from the vegetable body with which it has combined, under exposure to air and moisture? And if this be the case, will not the wood lose its protection against the usual sources of dry rot, while, at the same time, the disengaged poison mingles with and contaminates the atmosphere breathed by the ship's crew?

Mr. Faraday proceeded to a very ingenious series of experiments, in which these startling doubts had led him to engage; and the issue of which, as far as they go, is satisfactory. Mr. Kyan stated that, on the contact of corrosive sublimate with any vegetable juice containing albumen, a new combination, a *tertium quid* results; and upon this view Mr. Faraday experimented. He found that prepared canvass, and calico, when washed in water until a certainty was obtained that that fluid would remove nothing more, still gave mercury to weak nitric acid; the presence of mercurial compound, proof against water, was thus, he thought, established---and he inferred that it could involve, under ordinary circumstances of exposure, no noxious vapour whatever.

Enough has, we hope, been said to attract the notice of distant readers, to a subject which appears to be fixing every day more firmly the attention of the scientific circles in the metropolis. Whether the process of Mr. Kyan is as yet entitled to be sanctioned by the use of government in our public establishments---and whether the example of Sir Robert Smirke, who has applied timber thus medicated in various new buildings under his charge, (in the Temple for instance,) will of itself be sufficient to stimulate the researches of his professional rivals, we do not pretend to say; but shall conclude with a very few observations on the benefits, national and domestic, which could not fail to result from the discovery and general adoption of a cheap, safe, and efficacious preventative of dry rot.

A single and simple fact, stated in three words, will perhaps bring the matter home to the reader's imaginations, as readily as any given number of calculations and estimates. The Benbow was built in 1813; dry rot infected her; and she was repaired in 1818, at Portsmouth, without ever having been at sea, at the expense of £45,000.

If the new or perfected invention, of which we have been treating, should answer even to the extent which Mr. Faraday said he considered to have been already placed beyond all doubt, it is obvious that the saving to the nation would be most important. Indeed, if it should come to no more than sparing us the expense of having all our ships timber felled many years before it is used, that, on so large a stock, would be no trivial saving. But we confess, when we think of five years in the fungus-pit having left neither spot nor blemish on any one of the nine specimens, we are inclined to consider this as a very subordinate feature of the case.

In buildings on shore, more particularly large and public ones, only occasionally heated by fires, the effects of this timber-pest have of late been almost as destructive and costly as in the fleet and the dock-yard.---The palace of Kew, a very recent structure,

was obliged to be levelled to the ground solely from this cause: we believe we might say very nearly the same of the Royal Lodge in Windsor Park, demolished, all but a single room, immediately after the death of its founder King George IV.; and we fear there is truth in the prevalent report, that the malady has already manifested itself in the newly restored parts of Windsor Castle itself. In the churches lately erected in and about London, the damage caused in this way is known to be enormous; and we think Sir R. Smirke deserves much credit for taking the lead among his professional brethren in giving a full trial to an invention which, to say the least of it, appears to hold out a fair promise of striking at the roots of this great and growing mischief.

There are many persons who have examined into this affair, and formed expectations more extensive than we have as yet hinted at. According to them the *alburnum*, which is at the present chipped off all timbers before they are applied to the purposes of ship building, on account of its being more liable to dry rot than the heart-wood which it encircles, is thus liable only from its greater porosity and the consequent more ready exposure of its albumen to the action of heat and moisture; but, if saturated with the solution of sublimate, will be just as secure against dry rot as heart-wood, and available accordingly for a variety of naval purposes. They say the same as to larch and other woods, hitherto little used, in consequence chiefly of their porosity; and if they are right, (which in theory they seem to be,) the prospect held out to our planters, especially those in the north of Scotland, and we may add to the Canadian timber-trade, is certainly a most favourable one. The greater porosity of the American pine is, no doubt, the principal, if not the only source of its inferior estimation, as compared with that of the Baltic.

Mr. Faraday concluded his very interesting lecture on this subject, with some observations on the fears expressed by certain timber merchants, that, if the new invention should be found to realize such expectations as these, the demand for their commodity would be much abridged. He answered, that if wood-work lasted longer than it does, it would be used much more extensively; that the demand for out-houses, sheds, and inclosures of all sorts would be prodigious; and that what most interested him in the whole affair was the prospect of great additional space and comfort being given to the domestic accommodation of the poorer classes. "I am inclined," he said, "to think, that the cottage will feel the benefit more than the palace."

SELECTIONS.

It seems sometimes odd enough that while young ladies are so sedulously taught all the accomplishments that a husband disregards, they are never taught the great one he would prize. They are taught to be *exhibitors*; he wants a *companion*. He wants neither a singing animal, nor a dancing animal; he wants a talking animal. But to talk they are never taught: all they know of it is slander, and that "comes by nature."---*Go-dolphin*.

PARLIAMENT A CENTURY AGO.---The night of the Committee, my brother Walpole had got two or three invalids at his house, designing to carry them into the house through his door, as they were too ill to go round by Westminster Hall: the patriots, who have rather more contrivances than their predecessors of Grecian and Roman memory, had taken the precaution of stopping the keyhole with sand. How Livy's eloquence would have been hampered, if there had been back-doors and keyholes to the Temple of Concord? At eleven at night we divided, and threw out this famous committee by 253 to 250, the greatest number that ever was in the house, and the greatest number that ever lost a question. It was a most shocking sight to see the sick and dead brought in on both sides! Men on crutches, and Sir William Gordou from his bed, with a blister on his head, and flannel hanging out from under his wig. I could scarce pity him for his ingratitude. The day before the Westminster petition, Sir Charles Wager gave his son a ship, and the next day the father came down and voted against him.---*Walpole's Correspondence*.

WHIG AND TORY.---Your Tory is a tough, stout, unflinching, impenetrable, and immovable fellow; one that will "stand" indeed, but not "deliver," as he has made others do---one that will not let us "bring him along," when we would escort him with all convenient quiet and gentleness---one that scorns to be coerced, fond as he is of coercion, and that will not be tempted, charm we ever so wisely. Now your Whig, on the contrary, though he would be what his rival, the Tory, is, if he could---cannot. He is infirm of purpose---and lets "I dare not," wait upon "I would." He is a weak, shallow, vacillating---albeit, a cunning creature. He will not "move on" of his own free will and accord, but he may be made to move.---He is insensible neither to force nor flattery. He may be led at one time, and driven at another. He will do anything when the

time comes, rather than give up office---a thing which he will never dream of venturing upon, except just at the moment when he knows the people are ready to lift him irresistibly up again into the place he had pretended to relinquish. It is with Whigs, as with Whigs---they are all more or less to be worried and agitated into the liberal course they pretend to love: (vide the debate of March 18th---the "modifications" in the court martial clause, the softening-down, the givings-way---the adoption of Mr. Abercrombie's suggestion, that a sort of standing commission should be sent into disturbed districts, to try offenders, in lieu of courts-martial)---while your Tory, pledged not to stir an inch, sticks to his pledges with a fidelity "worthy of a better fate," and clings to his position as though the ground he stands on were not already crumbling under his feet.---*True Sun*.

THE SMALL PLANETS.---No doubt the most remarkable of their peculiarities must lie in this condition of their state. A man placed on one of them would spring with ease 60 feet high, and sustain no greater shock in his descent than he does on the earth from leaping a yard. On such planets, giants might exist; and those enormous animals, which on earth require the buoyant power of water to counteract their weight, might there be denizens of the land. But of such speculation there is no end.---*Sir J. Herschel on Astronomy.---Cabinet Cyclopadia*.

AN INCUMBENT DUTY.---"Talking of Church Reform," said a chum of our fat friend, Theodore, to wit, "I really think that clergymen ought to reside on their livings." "Yes," replied Hook, "it is certainly incumbent on them to do so."

NOTICES.

NORA CREINA.

PACKET-BOAT BETWEEN CARBONEAR
AND PORTUGAL COVE.

JAMES DOYLE, in returning his best thanks to the Public for the patronage and support he has uniformly received, begs to solicit a continuation of the same favours in future, having purchased the above new and commodious Packet-Boat, to ply between *Carbonear* and *Portugal Cove*, and, at considerable expense, fitting up her Cabin in superior style, with Four Sleeping-berths, &c.---DOYLE will also keep constantly on board, for the accommodation of Passengers, Spirits, Wines, Refreshments, &c. of the best quality.

The NORA CREINA will, until further notice start from *Carbonear* on the Mornings of MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY, positively at 9 o'Clock; and the Packet-Man will leave *St. John's* on the Mornings of TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY, at 8 o'Clock, in order that the Boat may sail from the Cove at 12 o'Clock on each of those days.

TERMS AS USUAL.

Letters, Packages, &c. will be received at the *Newfoundlander Office*.

Carbonear, April 10, 1833.

DESIRABLE CONVEYANCE
TO AND FROM
HARBOUR-GRACE.

THE Public are respectfully informed that the Packet Boat EXPRESS, has just commenced her usual trips between HARBOUR-GRACE and PORTUGAL COVE, leaving the former place every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY Mornings at 9 o'Clock, and PORTUGAL COVE the succeeding Days at Noon, Sundays excepted, wind and weather permitting.

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The Public are also respectfully notified that no accounts can be kept for Passages or Postages; nor will the Proprietors be accountable for any Specie or other Monies which may be put on board.

Letters left at the Offices of the Subscribers, will be regularly transmitted.

A. DRYSDALE,
Agent, Harbour-Grace.
PERCHARD & BOAG,
Agents, St. John's

Harbour-Grace, April 5, 1833.

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