

MUSIC OF NATURE IN NORWAY.—Still as everything is to the eye, sometimes for a hundred miles together, along these deep sea valleys, there is rarely silence. The ear is kept awake by thousands of voices. In the summer there are cataracts leaping from ledge to ledge of the rocks, and there is the bleating of the kids that browse there, and the flap of the great eagle's wings, as it dashes abroad from its eyrie, and the cries of whole clouds of sea birds which inhabit the isles; and all of these sounds are mingled and multiplied by the strong echoes, until they become a din as loud as that of a city. Even at night, when the flocks are in the fold, and the birds at roost, and the echoes themselves seem to be asleep, there is occasionally a sweet music heard, too soft for even the listening ear to catch by day. Every breath of summer wind that steals through the pine forests wakes this music as it goes. The stiff, spiny leaves of the fir and pine vibrates with the breeze, like the strings of a musical instrument; so that every breath of the night-wind in the Norwegian forest wakens a myriad of tiny harps, and this gentle and mournful music may be heard in gushes, the whole night through. This music of course ceases when each tree becomes laden with snow; but yet there is a sound in the midst of the longest winter night. There is a rumble of some avalanche, after a drifting storm, a mass of snow, too heavy to keep its place, slides and tumbles from the mountain peak. There is also, now and then, a loud crack of the ice in the nearest glacier; and, as many declare, there is a cracking to be heard by those who listen, when the northern lights are shooting and blazing across the sky. Nor is this all. Wherever there is a nook between the rocks on the shore where a man may build a house and clear a field or two—wherever there is a platform beside the cataract where the sawyer may plant his mill, and make a path to join some road, there is a human habitation, and the sounds that belong to it; thence, in winter nights come music and laughter, and the tread of dancers, and the hum of many voices. The Norwegians are a sociable and hospitable people; and they hold their gay meetings in defiance of their Arctic climate, through every season of the year.

THE CAREER OF QUEEN VICTORIA.—Lord Morpeth, in one of his addresses to the electors of the West Riding of Yorkshire, England, uttered the following passage: "Reference has been frequently made to the reigns of our female sovereigns, and indeed every Englishman must fondly look back to the wisdom of Elizabeth, and the victories of Anne. But, in shaping the desired career of their fair and young successor, Victoria, we do not wish that her name should rise above the wrecks of an Armada; we do not seek to emblazon her throne with the trophies of such fields as Blenheim, or the yet more transcendent Waterloo. Let her have glories, but such as are not drained from the treasury, or dimmed with the blood of her people. Let hers be the glories of peace, of industry, of commerce, and of genius; of justice made more accessible; of education made more universal; of virtue more honoured; of religion more beloved; of holding forth the earliest gospel light to the unawakened nations; the glories that arise from gratitude for benefits conferred; and the blessings of a loyal and chivalrous, because a contented people."

THE MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS OF INTELLECT.—The following beautiful similitude between the varied aspect which the intellect of men presents, and the physical peculiarities of the earth's surface, is forcibly illustrated by Macaulay, the eloquent essayist and historian, in his paper on Dryden, originally published in the *Edinburgh Review*:—

"Society has its great men and its little men, as the earth has its mountains and its valleys. But the inequalities of intellect, like the inequalities of the surface of our globe, bear so small a proportion to the mass, that, in calculating its great revolutions, they may safely be neglected. The sun illuminates the hills, while it is still below the horizon; and truth is discovered by the highest minds a little before it becomes manifest to the multitude. This is the extent of their superiority. They are the first to catch and reflect a light, which, without their assistance, must, in a short time, be visible to those who lie far beneath it."—*Macaulay's Essays, American Edition*, p. 36.

The habits of artificial life follow far behind the impulses of nature.

HISTORY is defined to be: Philosophy teaching by examples.—*Tytler*.—It is one of the solid foundations of oratory; and derives its value from that fundamental law of our nature by which we are inclined to judge of the future by the past. Were the analogy between past and coming events destroyed, history would be of little use.—*Stewart's M. Phil., Pt. II., § 4, Div. II.*—Stones, rude and sculptured tumuli, and mounds of earth, are the monuments of history among a rude and barbarous people; and columns, triumphal arches, coins, &c., among a more refined. The books of Moses are the earliest records of history; next to them the writings of Sanchoniatho.—*Tytler*.—True history contemplates "man" as its sole and great theme; man divided into nations, &c., but as a unit; it sweeps in all ages from the creation to the present epoch; it regards the dire conflicts which have devastated the world, as spots upon its brightness, and, viewing man as a perfectable being, traces his progress through all time in social, moral, and religious advancement. The history of man is then the history of civilization.—*Am. Review, May, 1843, p. 229.*

ANIMALCULES ON HUMAN TEETH.—Dr. H. J. Bowditch, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, states as the results of many microscopic examinations of the accumulations on the teeth of healthy persons, that of 49 individuals, most of whom were very particular in the care of their teeth, animal and vegetable products were found in every instance except two. In those cases the brush was used three times a day, and a thread was passed between the teeth daily. Windsor soap was also used by one of these two persons, with the brush. Dr. Bowditch tried the effect of various substances, in destroying the animalcules, and especially tobacco, by which they seemed to be in no way incommoded. Soapsuds and chlorine toothwash invariably destroyed them.

INSANITY AND GENIUS.—It is a remarkable circumstance, well known to those who have made insanity a special study, that it is in those families, the members of which are most distinguished for their intellectual qualities, that the greater number of insane are found.—*Dr. Winslow.*

DEDICATION OF NEW SCHOOL-HOUSES.—The erection of a good school-house is, for the community where it is located, an important event, and one which deserves to be marked by dedicatory services. Such occasions bring out many to hear the interests of education advocated, who can be reached by no other means. Every new school house in Canada, however humble, should be dedicated to the uses of education by appropriate ceremonies.

DR. CHANNING says: "The greatest man is he who chooses the right with invincible resolution, who resists the sorest temptation from within and without, who bears the heaviest burthens cheerfully, who is calmest in storms and most fearless under menace and frowns, and whose reliance on truth, on God, is most unflinching."

"In Arabia as in Greece," says Gibbon, the historian, "the perfection of language outstripped the refinement of manners, and her speech could diversify the four score names of honey, the two hundred of a serpent, the five hundred of a lion, the thousand of a sword, at a time when this copious dictionary was entrusted to the memory of an illiterate people"

Southy has said, that a sweeter verse never was composed than this:—

"Verse sweetens toil, however rude the sound;
All at her work the village maiden sings,
Nor, while she turns the giddy wheel around,
Resolves the sad vicissitudes of things."

"*Enthusiasts* are men of one idea. *Heroes* are men of one design. They who prosper in the world are usually men of one maxim." An old gentleman chanced to say to Mr. Shore, (afterwards Lord Teignmouth) "Make yourself useful, and you will succeed." He did so, and succeeded. This is an illustration of the last remark. Unremitting perseverance in the pursuit of only one ruling object, to which all the sowers of the mind and body are constantly directed, will usually succeed, unless those powers are very inferior in their kind.