

The warriors, as they are termed, or principal men of the nation, to the number of one hundred and eighty, were seated on the ground in a large circle, and within that, about fifteen or twenty chiefs were ranged in a circle around the Bishop and his attendant clergy, for whom chairs had been provided in the centre. One of the chiefs then rose and explained, through an interpreter, the object of this council, which was to obtain his advice in relation to some difficulties at present existing in a remote part of the tribe. The Bishop gave them the solicited advice, in a most friendly and affectionate manner; and after he sat down, the council was addressed by "the chief orator of their nation," in a most animated, and eloquent manner. The whole scene was highly picturesque, and would have afforded an admirable subject for the pencil of the artist. The chiefs and warriors, ranged after their ancient custom in concentric circles around their spiritual "Father," listening with respectful and profound attention to his christian council; the numerous little groups of Indian women and children, scattered all around, and as near the outer circle as they could conveniently approach, and where they might hear the different speakers,—the beautiful grove, waving its rich foliage above their heads,—the luxuriant fields of grain around, the fruit of their own labor and industry, formed altogether a picture on which the eye of the christian or the painter might repose with delight. At the conclusion of the council, the head chief presented the Bishop with a string of Wampum, in the name of the whole tribe, as a token of respect, and a solemn pledge of their unshaken fidelity. The Bishop made an address to the Indians on the above occasion.

WATER.—There are few things endowed with more marvellous properties, or which are less studied or understood, than water. The artist indeed appreciates its value in one respect, as an element of the picturesque, capable of giving life and splendour to the landscape. The lover of rural nature is also sensible to its charms; whether it murmurs in a brook, rolls in a foaming cataract, or expands into the silvery mirror of a lake. Hence the Painter and the Poet have vied with each other to celebrate these emanations of creative kindness. But higher and deeper thoughts than any which external beauty can suggest, fill the mind that contemplates the internal constitution of this protean liquid. Though in a mass it is incompressible, and able to burst a passage through the strongest metal or rock, yet its particles form a fluid assemblage, softer than ermine, and yielding to the lightest touch. Obedient to the laws of gravitation, it enjoys singular prerogatives. Each invisible atom presses solely for itself, neither giving nor taking assistance from its associates. It weighs, not only like solids, from above downwards, but laterally and upwards, with equivalent gravity. Possessed of perfect mobility, it never wearies in its journey, till it reaches the level plane of repose. Without shape, it is susceptible of every figure, and the parent of myriads of crystalline forms. Capable of being aggregated in an ocean mass, yet renouncing its cohesive attraction before the feeblest power, it becomes divisible into the rarest exhalation. It exerts at one time an impulsive force, nearly irresistible, before which even the mountain bows its head, and crumbles into dust; and at another it gives way to the light canoe. Just dense enough to float the pine and afford a buoyant high-way for ships, it is rare enough to permit the fleetest motions of its finny tribes. Had it been more attenuated, it would not have served the navigator; and if either denser or rarer, in a very slight degree, fish could not have swam in it.

This water, by its mysterious tenuity, loosens the indurated soil, enters the invisible pores of plants, passes freely through all their vessels, expands in the filmy blossom, and is an element of the fleeting aroma. But these fluid particles can be chained together in the firmest cohesion—in which state it may exhibit either the hardness of rock, or the softness of other-down. Enormous blocks of water thus stand in immoveable columns, surmounting the loftiest, pinnacles of our globe. How different are these from the soft, insinuating liquid which is the circulating medium of all organic life!

Let us now search still more minutely into the mystery of water. In its purest form we view it as

a compound of spherical atoms of oxygen and hydrogen, not confessedly blended, but joined in definite proportions—not placed in absolute contact, but closely adjoining each other by select points or poles of slight mutual attraction. Hence these all glide over one another, so as to pass through microscopic orifices, and recede at the least inequality of pressure. It is this constitution which makes its mass permeable to fish and floating bodies.

The plain and vulgar element is now seen to be a most artificial assemblage of the basis of vital and inflammable airs—substances, in their isolated state, endowed with no plain or vulgar properties, associated by chemical attraction with the element of coal, the three compose the concrete matter of the vegetable world, from the heart of the oak tree to the essence of the rose. If into this triple alliance be introduced azote, already spoken of as the main constituent of the atmosphere, that fourfold partnership will result which constitutes the basis of all animal substance, whatever organic shape it may assume, muscle, tendon, ligament, nerve blood-vessel, horn, hair, drain, blood, or bile.

VEGETABLE BAROMETERS.—A French paper before us states that numerous plants afford true and convenient hints concerning the weather, which it may be agreeable to some to be informed of. Chickweed is said always to close its blossoms some time before a rain; so that when they are observed open, one may calculate on dry weather for at least several hours. As long as they continue to unfold and display themselves, the whole may be depended upon. If on the contrary the flowers withdraw themselves into their green envelope, the pedestrian need wish no better hint to take his umbrella on his walk. All kinds of clover, we are further informed, close up their leaves at the approach of a storm; and this is so marked a characteristic of that family of plants, that they are often denominated "the farmer's barometer." The same practice is observed in tulips, and the greater part of the flowers with yellow blossoms, in preparation for rain. Wild Sorrell does the same in France; and in other countries the mountain ebony, the acacia and sensitive plants generally, do the same.

A substitute for coffee has recently been introduced, to some extent, in France, and is sold in Paris. The new article is a kind of pea, called in that country *Lotier a quatre angles*, which presents a leaf like that of clover, and a blossom with an agreeable smell, resembling in appearance the violet. The pod is four square. When ripe, the plant is pulled up by the roots, and dried in the sun, being kept carefully from dampness; and then the grains or pease being kept in a very dry place, or put in a stove, are laid aside for use. When two years old, and burnt and made like coffee, it is said to be little, if at all, inferior.

Wonderful provision of Nature.—There are no rivulets or springs in the Island of Ferro, except on a part of the beach which is nearly inaccessible. To supply the place of fountains, however, nature has bestowed upon this island a species of tree, unknown to all other parts of the world. It is of a moderate size, and its leaves are straight, long and ever-green. Around its summit a small cloud perpetually rests, which so drenches the leaves with moisture, that they constantly distill upon the ground a stream of fine clear water. To these trees, as to perennial springs, the inhabitants of Ferro resort, and are thus supplied with a sufficient abundance of water for themselves and their cattle.

RULE FOR CHOOSING A HUSBAND.

Eliza Embert, a young Parisian lady, resolutely discarded a gentleman to whom she was to have been married, because he ridiculed religion. Having given him a gentle reproof, he replied, "That a man of the world could not be so old-fashioned as to regard God and religion." Eliza started!—but on recovering herself said—"From this moment, Sir, when I discover that you do not regard religion, I cease to be yours. He who does not love and honour God, can never love his wife constantly and sincerely."

CONTENTMENT.—There is evidently nothing in great possessions, for without contentment they cannot make a man happy, and if he have contentment he can be happy without them.

THE HERMIT.—A wild young fellow once observing a hermit who passed his time in fasting, in prayer, and in mortification, thus addressed him: "Father," said he, "what a miserable condition is thine if there is not another world after this!"—"True, my son," answered the anchorite; "but what will be thy state if there is?" Without for a moment endeavouring to uphold or even to countenance that rigid and solitary species of devotion that leads its possessor from the duties of his nature, and to say the best of it, can only be selfish; yet the above answer conveys with it an important truth, and, may be supposed to be addressed to any of those flighty mortals that pass away their time without reflection, and drown in the giddy vortex of ceaseless dissipation the useful and serious ideas of eternity.

FEAR OF PUNISHMENT UNFRIENDLY TO TRUTH.

A certain Nobleman in Portugal had a physician who was put into the Inquisition, under suspicion of Judaism. Hearing this, he wrote to one of the inquisitors, to inform him, that the Doctor was a good Christian; and he desired that he might be set at liberty. The inquisitors returned a polite answer, that they could not oblige his lordship, for the prisoner had been tortured, and had confessed he was a Jew. The count was excessively angry. He feigned sickness; and sent to desire the inquisitorial judge to visit him. He waited on him. As soon as he arrived, the count ordered him to sit down, and wrote a confession that he was a Jew. The holy father refused. The count rung for a servant, and, on his appearing, ordered him to call sufficient help to take a red hot helmet, then in the fire, and put it upon the head of the father inquisitor. His reverence, hearing this resolute order, flew like lightning to the *ecritoir*, took the pen, wrote the confession, and signed a solemn declaration that he was a Jew. The count then reproached him with his injustice and barbarity. "My physician," said he, "hath confessed himself a Jew, as you have; with this difference, pain forced the confession from him: it was nothing but the fear of it that extorted it from you."

CHARACTER.—A man's moral character should not only be pure, but, like Cæsar's wife unsuspected.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Parliament was prorogued on the 24th June. From His Majesty's speech, delivered on that occasion by the Lord Chancellor, it appears, that the foreign relations of Great Britain are in a more favourable state than the fears of some, and perhaps the restless desires of others had suggested. His Majesty continues to receive from his Allies, and from all Foreign Powers, assurances of the most friendly nature;—Diplomatic Relations with the Ottoman Porte, have been renewed, and Plenipotentiaries from England and France, being authorised also by the Emperor of Russia to act on his behalf, were on their way to Constantinople, to negotiate for the final pacification of Greece. His Majesty continues to use his utmost endeavours to prevent the extension of hostilities in the east of Europe; and to promote the restoration of peace—he expresses his regret at the condition of the Portuguese monarchy, and his determination to use every effort to reconcile conflicting interests in that unhappy country. His Majesty also expresses his sincere hope, that the important measures adopted by Parliament in the course of the present Session, may tend under the blessing of Divine Providence, to establish the tranquility and improve the condition of Ireland; and that by strengthening the bonds of union between the several parts of the Empire, they may consolidate and promote the happiness of the people.

YELLOW FEVER.—On the 13th July, two physicians, announced the existence of several cases of yellow fever, in New Orleans.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY, June 26.—Admitted to the Degree of Bachelor of Divinity on Thursday, the Rev. E. Jacob, Fellow of Corpus, and Principal of King's College, New-Brunswick.