

saries of life ; and as they generally are in a certain ratio one to the other, if we know the price of one we may estimate the price of the rest. Let us take wheat for instance ; in the fourteenth century a carpenter got two pence a day while wheat was nine pence per bushel, consequently he could earn a bushel of wheat in four days ; in the sixteenth century wages were doubled, they had four pence per diem, but wheat had advanced to two shillings and eight pence per bushel, consequently the man had to work eight days for a bushel of wheat, or in fact only received half as much for his labor, while nominally his wages had been doubled. At the present day a laborer earns about one shilling and six pence, while a bushel of wheat costs six shillings ; therefore a common laborer is as well off now as a carpenter was in the fourteenth century. In this Province a laborer gets about three shillings daily, and a bushel of wheat costs six shillings ; he therefore earns it by two days labor, and is twice as well off, as regards the necessaries of life, than he would be in England, besides many other advantages which an intelligent and observing man would be able to point out.

The gentlemen who have no particular profession or trade to elucidate, may lecture upon any of the more general subjects of science ; take for instance, 'Water a Paradox,' heat it, it expands, and freeze it, it expands ; in the former case heated to 510 degrees an inch of water would have a force equal to 50 atmospheres of 750 lbs., but in the latter case an inch of frozen water has a bursting force equal to 27,000 lbs. It is so easily divisible that a feather may be passed through it without difficulty, and yet it is so incompressible that a cannon ball will rebound from its surface. As weak as water is a common adage, and when left to itself it has no cohesive power to retain any shape, but mix it with limes and many other cements it changes their nature and they become as hard as rock. Water has been defined : a sepile molecule of oxygen and hydrogen, whose atomic weight is one, an octahedral dodecahedron. Decompose it into its component parts and its bulk is increased 2000 times ; this may be done by electricity, and the gases thus produced give a brilliant flame ; but until lately it was considered too dangerous to use them upon a large scale, now it is said that gas made from water is 'un fait accompli,' and the gas so produced does not cost more than three pence per 1000 cubic feet ; if so, to set the 'Thames on fire' will not be any longer considered impossible, or the attempted work of a wild visionary ; but rather that the waters of our globe are the magazines already charged with the combustibles by which this earth is to be destroyed, and only waiting for the electric stroke of the lightning from heaven to come forth, and cause the destruction of all as foretold by Peter, 3rd chapter of 2nd book and 10th verse.

There are many more trades and professions practised among you, but it would take up too much time to particularise them all, I shall therefore conclude with the schoolmaster, who I hope will be *at home* for many evenings ;