

who regard the genies as equal to God. The Mussulmans distinguish the djins or genies from demons, but regard them as perverso beings incapable of conversion. They believe that the first were created of pure fire and that they inhabited the earth a long time before the creation of Adam, that they multiplied by generation, and that Iblis was of this species. Mention is made in Oriental literature of a species of fae or sybils called Tacouin. Formerly they uttered oracles, and gave aid to men against demons and giants. Hence it was that Caherman gained a victory, through their assistance, over a terrible giant with four heads, named Sayfayan. Mussulman mythologists say they were provided with wings, that their beauty was uncommon, and that they had the human form. They pretend besides that there have been several Suleimans (universal monarchs) Suleiman Raad, Suleiman Daki, Suleiman Schadi, and other celebrated names. We read besides, in the Caherman Nameh, the Caherman Katil (the slayer) found in the county of the Schadankiam, an ornamental column with the inscription, "I am Suleiman Hakki the monarch of my age; I have fought the powerful giant Anihalous." We close this somewhat lengthy notice with an extract from M. Timoni, having reference to Iblis.

"Seif Zafer Behary, a Persian writer, relates in his work entitled, *Durr el Medjalis* (The Pearl of the Assembled), that the Sofi called Sofian Sauri had every day an interview with Iblis. He told him one day that his manner of acting with regard to Adam surprised him greatly. 'I have heard tell,' said he, 'and I have read it myself in the *Alkbars* (histories) that during a lapse of sixty and ten thousand years thou hast served God in each of his heavens, and that, on the seven worlds, there is not a finger's breadth on which thou hast not served the Eternal. How, then, hast thou raised against Him the standard of revolt?' 'When one cherishes a person,' replied Iblis 'We love not to associate another with him; for to act thus is not to concentrate affection upon a single being; it is to partake it between two different beings; such was the case in which I found myself. When God told us that he would create a vicar upon earth, whose offences would be dear in His eyes, the angels demanded of Him, why He had the intention of giving life to such servants. God imposed upon us silence, saying that we were ignorant of His intentions. Adam having been drawn from the bosom of nothing, we received the order to adore him. Then I felt the love of God inflame me more and more, and I said to God: 'There is no one worthy of adoration but Thou; I shall bow before no one but Thou.' The Sofi knew not how to reply to the discourse. Then from a corner of his palace issued a voice, which said: 'Wherefore doth thou keep silence? Reply to him, He is dear to Me who has not transgressed by the entreaties of his friend. I have commanded him, it is true, to prostrate himself before Adam; but it is to Me, myself, that is really addressed the act of adoration. My intention in giving him this order was to put his obedience to proof; but he has refused to obey our commandment when we commanded to our creatures to adore. in the Kaaba, the handful of earth (of which we formed Adam), no one should have replied 'We shall not worship at the Kaaba without seeing Thee in the midst of this temple;' for they know very well that this homage was only a figure and a symbol, and that in reality it referred but to the sole Creator.' On hearing these words, Iblis became quite black, and immediately took to precipitate flight.—*Clerical Journal*.

Souvenirs of Travel. By MADAME OCTAVIA WALTON LE VERT. In Two Volumes. New York: S. H. Gorzel & Co.

Royalty itself was not inaccessible to our authoress; such were the pre-eminent advantages she enjoyed, during her sojourn in the British metropolis. She owed that advantage, mainly it would appear, to the then American Minister at the Court of St. James's, Mr. Ingersoll, whom she describes as "a fine specimen of a fine, frank, honest, agreeable, and intelligent American gentleman. His niece, Miss Wilcock," she adds, "an interesting woman, dispenses the hospitality of his mansion in Portland Place, with a graceful cordiality very captivating to her country people, and extremely admired by the distinguished circles of society who often assemble there." Through Mr. Ingersoll, it would seem, she obtained access to what she calls "the brilliant spectacle of a State ball," given by Queen Victoria. She thus describes

A STATE BALL, AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

At nine, our excellent Minister and his niece, with the attaché of our legation, called for me, and in our respective carriages we drove through St. James's

Park to Buckingham Palace. Long lines of soldiers were drawn up near the entrance, and gentlemen in elegant costume ushered us into the cloak-room. We stood some time looking at the distinguished and royal personages as they entered; only those, and the members of the Queen's household, and the diplomatic corps, passed that way. After a brief delay, we ascended the great staircase; on each side of the marble steps, masses of flowers were placed, so arranged they formed immense beds of gorgeous hue.

Entering the state apartments, we tarried in the yellow drawing-room until 10 o'clock. Then the guests withdrew from the centre of the room, leaving a clear space like an avenue between the hedges of splendidly dressed women. As we stood in eager expectation, the plate-glass doors of the saloon were thrown open; the Lord Chamberlain, with a golden rod in his hand, walked in backwards, the band struck up "God save the Queen," and Victoria, sovereign over many millions, entered.

By her side was the Queen of Hanover, then the Crown Princess of Prussia, and the Duchess of Gloucester. Next came the Duchess of Kent, and the Princess Mary of Cambridge; the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess of Hohenlohe, the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, and the Duchess of Sutherland; then all the maids of honor and ladies in waiting. After these came Prince Albert, and the King of Hanover; the Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and the Duke of Coburg Gotha; the Duke of Mecklenburg Stralitz, and the Prince of Hohenlohe; the Duke of Cambridge, noble lords, gentlemen in waiting, foreign ambassadors and ministers.

Queen Victoria moved gracefully along, smiling and bowing in a kind, cordial manner, to the right and to the left. Reaching the throne-room, she ascended the canopied "haut pas," where she seated herself, surrounded by her royal guests. The throne-room was a spacious and noble saloon, hung with crimson satin, the lofty ceiling supported by marble columns, and richly emblazoned; while around it was a frieze, also of white marble, representing the "wars of the roses." It was brightly illuminated by the light that came from crystal globes and golden candelabra.

Dazzling was the scene around me, resplendent as day with flashing diamonds and sparkling gems.—There were more than two thousand guests; every lady in magnificent toilette, and every gentleman in court-dress or in uniform. Soon delightful music from Jullien's band (led by the famous composer himself) filled the grand apartment with its exquisite strains.—Then the Lord Chamberlain waved his golden wand, the crowd drew back, and a large quadrille was formed, which consisted of her Majesty and all her royal visitors.

Queen Victoria is much handsomer than painters have represented her. She is not tall, but her form is of graceful symmetry: and her bust, arms, and feet, are beautiful. A bright and beaming smile lights up her face. Then there is such an air of honest, earnest goodness about her—a genial manner, so lovely and lovable—"my heart was quickly won," and sincerely could I have exclaimed, like her own loyal subjects, "God save the Queen."

During the dancing of the second quadrille, the Lord Chamberlain was introduced to me, and after some pleasant words were exchanged, he remarked: "As you are the only person here not present at the last drawing-room, I will have the pleasure, Madam, of presenting you to her Majesty."

Of course I was delighted at this unexpected and unusual compliment; as presentations at a state-ball are not frequent. When the dance was over, and the Queen seated again, the Lord Chamberlain waved his wand of authority, and the company drew back, leaving a space vacant in front of the throne; then I approached, and was presented to her Majesty, who advanced and greeted me in the most gracious and kind manner, smiling sweetly as I curtsied low before her, and then passed on to the group of distinguished and royal personages who encircled her throne.

That presentation was a bright and enchanting incident to me, and my heart bounded with glad and grateful emotions, as I gazed upon the amiable and lovely Queen. She is indeed worthy of the almost adoring affection her people have for her.

A PROPHECY OF ENGLISH RULE IN INDIA.—A nephew of George Canning, we find it stated in one of our exchanges, wrote a remarkable poem, under the title 'India,' some four and twenty years ago.—The writer had enjoyed many advantages for studying the native character,—and he sums up the result of official experience at Delhi, Bareilly, Cawnpore, in the following prophetic lines:—

There needs but some surpassing act of wrong
To break the patience that has bent so long;
There needs but some short sudden burst of ire
May chance to set the general thought on fire;
There needs but some fair prospect of relief,
Enough to seize the general belief,
Some holy juggle, some absurd caprice,
To raise one common struggle for release.

Think not that prodigies must rule a state,
That great revolutions spring from something great;
The softest curl that floats on beauty's brow,
The smallest leaf that flutters on the bough,
Is not more lightly easy to derange
Than human minds with cause to wish for change.
Out breaks at once the far-rebounding cry,
The standard of revolt is raised on high,
The murky cloud has glided from the sun,
The tale of England's tyranny is done,
And torturing vengeance grins as she destroys,
Till Sicil's vespers seem the game of boys.

M. De Sauley, a member of the Institute, who has passed some time in Egypt, and is very conversant with the archaeology of that country, states in the *Courrier de Paris* that an important discovery has lately been made, in one of the tombs of Memphis, of a whole library of hieratic papyri. This precious collection would most probably have been torn into bits by the lucky finders, and every fragment sold separately to the curiosity-hunting English who frequent that country, had not an Arab, an agent in the pay of the British Museum, fortunately been apprized of the matter, and bought up the whole lot in time. Mr. Birch, of the British Museum, has as yet only deciphered one of these curious manuscripts, which turns out to be neither more nor less than a complete history of the royal dynasties which are registered under the numbers 18 and 19 in Manetho's chronological canon. It is to one of those dynasties that the celebrated Sesostris belongs, and the same period comprises the history of the occupation of Egypt by the Hyksos or shepherds, who kept the Egyptian races under their sway for ages.—*Galignani*.

THE JEWISH ATONEMENT.—The most solemn of all the Jewish annual celebrations is the Atonement which was duly observed yesterday by our Hebrew population. It commenced at sundown on Sunday evening and continued until sundown last evening during which time food was interdicted to the true Israelite, and the time was spent in penitential sacrifices, prayer and praise to the Jehovah. All the synagogues were open yesterday, and but few Jews did any secular business. The following from Leviticus, chap. 16, verses 29 to 34, gives the origin of the observance:—

29. And this shall be a statute for ever unto you; that in the seventh month, on the seventh day of the month, you shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger that sojourneth with you.

30. For on that day the priest makes an atonement for you to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before the Lord.

31. It shall be a Sabbath of rest unto you, and ye shall afflict your souls by a statute forever.

34. And this shall be an everlasting statute unto you, to make an atonement for the children of Israel for their sins once a year.

Yesterday was the tenth of Tisrah, the first month of the Jewish year. On the seventeenth day of Tisrah, next Monday, she feast of the Tabernacle will commence, which continues for eight days, the two first and the two last of which are holidays — *N. Y. Herald, Sept. 29.*

ANECDOTE OF THE LATE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.—Some years ago it was proposed to him to purchase a farm in the neighborhood of Strathfieldsaye, which lay contiguous to his estate, and was, therefore, a valuable acquisition, to which he assented.—When the purchase was completed, his steward congratulated him upon having had such a bargain, as the seller was in difficulties, and forced to part with it. "What do you mean by a bargain?" said the Duke. The other replied, "It was valued at £1,100, and we have got it for £800." "In that case," said the Duke, "you will please to carry the extra £300 to the late owner, and never talk to me of cheap land again."—*Raike's Journal*.

ORIGIN OF DAHLIAS.—Baron Humboldt found the original dahlias introduced into Europe, in Mexico. A paper was read at the last meeting of the American Institute Farmer's Club, in which it is stated that dahlias were at first introduced for the root, but that proving uncatchable, the seedling flowers attracted notice, and it has been since greatly multiplied. It is said that all colors have been produced except blue, and a blue dahlia never will be grown. Neither will a blue rose ever be produced, in the opinion of the writer of the article read.

When Fenelon was almoner to Louis XIV., his Majesty was astonished to find, one Sunday, instead of a numerous congregation, only him and the priest. "What is the reason of this?" asked the King. "I caused it to be given out, sire," returned Fenelon, "that your majesty did not attend chapel to-day, that you might know who came to worship God, and who to flatter the King."

A lady correspondent of the *New York Express* proposes that "the ladies of America, the wives and daughters of the first families, should procure some suitable gift to be presented in their name to the Princess Royal of England, at her approaching nuptials.

The average number of prisoners in the prisons of the United States is 50,000, and 30,000 are discharged annually.