

POETRY.

DAN THE DESTROYER.

A ROMANTIC BALLAD.*
BY A MAD TORY POET.

"The Irish Fiend."—*Vile Times.*

He comes, the destroyer from Erin's meek isle,
To do all the mischief he can;
To flatter and smile, and bamboozle the while,
Sure there never was known such a monster of guile,
As the Dragon-of-Wantley-like Dan!

He can swallow a church for his luncheon, and sup
On the steeple, as I am a sinner;
He loves, like a leech, a fat bishop to cup,
Can gobble, at once, a whole Government up,
Which he calls a mere Cabinet dinner!

Flames burst from his mouth, as from Anchero's
shores,

His laugh's a gun sateraine cough;
He's a tail whose glib joints he can number by scores,
All sulphur and brimstone; and, oh, when he roars,
You may hear him at least a mile off.

His wig is all snakes, and the sight of his nose
Would cause a weak lady to faint;
He's claws 'stead of sugar, and scalds on his toes.
And his leer so malign, as Sir Francis well knows,
There's none but a Raphael can paint

Oh, trim up your whiskers, my Siphocip, and fly
To our aid from the Carlton D'van,
Discreetest Sir Bob, moderation, lay by.
Wax valiant, my Colbourn, become our Sir Guy,
And kill us this dragon-like Dan.

Yes, kill him, or else, when you fancy, so gay,
He has run to the end of his tether,
He will open his mouth, on some fine sunny day,
And, when they're all looking a different way,
Swallow King, Lords, and Commons together!

* See Southey's Poems of 'Thalaba the Destroyer.'

MISCELLANY.

EXTRAORDINARY FECUNDITY.—We mentioned some time ago that a pair of Canaries, belonging to Mr. Colin McBeath, gardener, had, during the season, produced no less than five broods—that the female was then hatching five eggs in her sixth nest, and promised, from her having no appearance of moulting, to reward the care and attention of her protector with a seventh brood. These expectations have been fully realized. The sixth nest of five eggs was hatched upon the 4th of December last, and the whole of the five birds are now stout and healthy. The seventh nest, consisting of four birds, were hatched on the 4th of the present month, exactly two months after the sixth. This is a longer period between the hatchings of the broods than usually happens in the summer months; but this loss of time was fully compensated by the two last nests having produced more birds than any of the three previous. It is not unlikely but these birds will proceed uninterruptedly with the labours of incubation, until next moulting season. It is well known that Canaries, under good management, do wonders in this way; but skilful bird-fanciers take care to prevent this, being well aware that the life of the dam generally becomes the forfeit of such incessant devotedness to parental cares.—*Stirling Journal.*

THE LAW OF CONTRARIES.—Dr. Morrison, who is one of the most zealous friends of King's College, Aberdeen, strenuously insists that no professor shall be allowed to teach even Mathematics, unless he subscribe the Confession of Faith: on the other hand, the gentlemen who have the management of King's College, London, will not elect an able Professor of *Matrica*

Medica, because he adheres to the Confession of Faith. At the meeting of Presbytery on Tuesday, Dr. Morrison and his friends talked long and loud about the danger of allowing any but sworn members of the Church of Scotland to take part in the education of the people. The London gentlemen seem disposed to act on a principle the very reverse. The *Courier* says—"If we are not misinformed, Dr. Webster, who has been lecturing most successfully to a far more numerous class than has hitherto attended the *Matrica Medica* course, at King's College, has been excluded from being a Candidate for the chair, on account of his being a Presbyterian, the son of a clergyman of the Established Church of Scotland." Now, we put to any reasonable man—to any person who knows that two and two make four, whether that law can be just and proper which shuts a man out of a Professorship in King's College, London, because he adheres to the creed which he must subscribe before he obtain a Professorship in King's College, Aberdeen. Yet such is the glorious system of religious tests, which the Tories of England and the bigots of Scotland are determined to defend!—*Aberdeen Herald.*

BREAD CUTTING MACHINE.—We had yesterday the pleasure of examining a newly invented machine for cutting loaf bread, the credit of which is due to Mr. Blaikie, an ingenious gun-maker in Glasgow. It is being exhibited at present in a house in East Register Street. In its machinery it is quite plain and simple; and nothing could well be more easy and satisfactory than its operation. The loaf being placed in the proper receptacle, the operator raises the handle of the machine, when, by a simultaneous motion of the internal machinery, the loaf is shifted forward to the proper place, the size of the slices having been previously determined by the fixing the index hand of the regulator at the desired distance. The handle being then brought down, the slice falls into a box beneath. A quart loaf may be cut in this manner in half a minute; and cut too, as smooth and even as polished marble, and without breaking it into crumbs as is unavoidably the case by cutting bread in the ordinary way. Mr. Blaikie's object, we understand, in bringing it to Edinburgh is, to procure as many orders as shall secure him a reasonable remuneration for the trouble and outlay incurred in prosecuting the invention. Already he has had a considerable number of orders; and we are sure that so useful an article only requires to be known to be generally adopted, especially in hotels, inns, and in the houses of private gentlemen. We would recommend such to take the opportunity of Mr. Blaikie's visit to this city to examine it for themselves.—*Scotsman*, Edinburgh, February 20.

ABERDEEN.—On Monday, a gentleman, for a bet, undertook to ride 120 miles in 12 hours—the ground chosen for the purpose being from the first to the sixth milestone on the Deeside road, and completed his task in nine hours and forty minutes: having, out of that time, rested himself for about half an hour. On the same day, he dined with a party of friends, and afterwards danced at a ball. Bets having been taken that he would not, on Tuesday, perform the same feat, he accepted the offers, and, on this occasion, completed his distance in nine and a half hours. After finishing the labours of the day, this accomplished sportsman dined with the officers of the 79th regiment, and afterwards visited the Circus, from whence he was to return to sup with his friends in the barracks. There were three horses engaged in the match. *Scotch paper.*

DREADFUL EXPLOSION AT HETTON COLLIERY.—A dreadful explosion occurred on Thursday afternoon, at the Downs pit near Hetton, about

eight miles from this place. The particulars of the awful catastrophe we have just learnt. Sixteen men and boys have fallen victims, and five others have been brought to bank, dreadfully scorched, with scarcely any probability of surviving. It is impossible to assign any satisfactory reason for such an event. Upwards of one hundred persons were employed in the pit at the time it occurred, but owing to the accident being confined to one of the workings, the number of accidents was less than might have been expected. It is impossible to give an adequate description of the consternation that spread like lightning through the dwellings of the neighbouring population on hearing the melancholy tidings; crowds were to be seen hurrying to the pitmouth, anxious to ascertain whether amongst those that cast their eyes on their comrades, and earnestly asked for the cooling draught, were to be found some relation, who, recognising the face they were about to leave forever, would stretch out his hand, half consumed by the devouring element, and gently press upon them a last farewell. The sight was, indeed, beyond description. It would be improper to make any remarks upon the affair as it at present stands. No blame, we understand, can be attached to the overmen, though slight explosions have occurred at intervals for some time.—*Sunderland Herald.*

IRVINGITES.—On Sunday week, Mr. Spencer Percival, one of the apostles of this sect, had an audience of the King at Brighton. He was deputed by his fellow apostles; but the particular purport of the message with which he was charged to his Majesty has not yet transpired. We understand, from several quarters, that the sect is rapidly increasing. Several clergymen have joined it, and others are said to have become convinced of the divine authority of the new doctrines. Some of the proselytes are Methodists, whom the preachers, by laboriously inculcating the doctrine of implicit faith, have prepared for swallowing the greatest enormities in the shape of religious truth. A whole family have left the Islington Chapel and Society. A lady in the City Road congregation has announced her conversion, much to the consternation of certain persons who bore her a cupboard love. Some local preachers also have imbibed the Irvingite notions. A few days ago a Methodist in Lambeth was expelled on account of having contracted this taint.—*Christian Advocate.*

TORY LIES.—In about a month Sir R. Peel will be Prime Minister.—*London Standard*, Jan. 22.

O'Connell is the most deceitful, the most treacherous, the most vindictive, the most selfish, and the most dastardly of the human race.—*Times*, Jan. 23.

By the overland mail from India, we understand that Capt. Burnes (the Bokhara traveller) who lately went overland to Bombay within sixty days, has been again dispatched on an important mission to the Court of Sindo. He was on the 25th of October, marching on the Indus, to Hyderabad, the seat of the Court of the Emceens, who it seems have been throwing difficulties in the way of establishing a free navigation on that noble river the Indus.—*English paper.*

AGENTS
FOR THE BEE.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.—MR. DENNIS REDDIN.
Miramichi—ROVD. JOHN McCURDY.
St. John, N. B.—MR. A. R. TRURO.
Halifax—Messrs. A. & W. MCKINLAY.
Truro—MR. CHARLES BLANCHARD.
Antigonish—MR. ROBERT PURVIS.
Guysboro'—ROBERT HARTSHORNE, Esq.
Tatmagouche—MR. JAMES CAMPBELL.
Wallace—DANIEL MCFARLANE, Esq.
Arichat—JOHN S. BALLANE, Esq.