

POETRY.

THE LINK OF NATURE.

There is a kindred tie which knits
 The mightiest tree that grows,
 To each unheaded leafy gem,
 That near it buds or blows.
 The same first cause created both,
 Nor deemed the transient flower
 Was less unworthy of His care,
 And all-sustaining power.
 The same bright sun is felt by each,
 The same soft whispering breeze ;
 The light and nurturing dews of heaven,
 They share a like in these.
 But though united thus they seem,
 Equal they cannot be ;
 We look for beauty in the flower,
 And shelter from the tree.
 What would it boot the fragrant buds,
 To be upraised and share
 The dazzling honours of the great,
 The storms they could not bear ?
 The might, too, of the lofty trees,
 If it were once laid low,
 What would preserve the lowly flowers,
 When chilling blasts should blow ?
 'Tis thus in nature as in life,
 Each has a separate lot ;
 To some is given a gilded home,
 To some a peaceful cot.

HISTORICAL REFLECTION.

Great changes in human affairs never take place from trivial causes. The most important effects, indeed, are often apparently owing to inconsiderable springs ; but the train has been laid in all such cases by a long course of human events, and the last only puts the torch to its extremity.—A fit of passion in Mrs. Masham arrested the course of Marlborough's victories, and preserved the tottering kingdom of France ; a charge of a few squadrons of horse, under Kellermann, at Marengo, fixed Napoleon on the consular throne ; and another, with no greater force, against the flank of the old guard, at Waterloo, chained him to the rock of St. Helena. Superficial observers lament the subjection of human affairs to the caprice of fortune or the casualties of chance ; but a more enlarged observation teaches us to recognise in these apparently trivial events the operation of general laws ; and the last link in a chain of causes which have all conspired to produce the general result. Mrs. Masham's passion was the ultimate cause of Marlborough's overthrow ; but that event had been prepared by the accumulating jealousy of the nation during the whole tide of his victories, and her indignation was but the drop which made the cup overflow ; Killermann's charge, indeed, fixed Napoleon on the throne, but it was the sufferings of the revolution, the glories of the Italian campaigns, the triumphs of the pyramids, which induced the nation to hail his usurpation with joy ; the charge of the 10th and 18th hussars broke the last

column of the Imperial array, but the foundation of the triumph of Wellington had been laid by the long series of his Peninsular victories and the bloody catastrophe of the Moscow campaign.—*Alison.*

DESCRIPTION OF NEW-YORK.

About three quarters of a mile off from Castle Garden, a prospect presents itself of rare beauty and interest ; you have at once before you, a view up the wide and noble Hudson, with its high and majestic banks to the west, and the numerous masts along its eastern bank, down toward the sea, over the quarantine ground, and the beautiful bay out to where the sharp line of the horizon bounds the plain of vision ; whilst the charming and well-wharved battery lies right before you, with its regular walks and fine foliage, through which may be seen a crescent of neat houses, and close alongside innumerable masts on the western side of the Sound, while on the eastern shore, rises a steep bank crowded with the horses of a busy sister city. To your right, some what in the rear, you have Staten Island, with her gently sloping hills, capped with country seats ; to your left, the Jersey shores, with smaller bays and inlets, and another city ; and all the three waters strewed with vessels of all sizes and destinations, some slowly ploughing the waves, all sails set, aloft and aloft, with a drowsy breeze, some speeded by man's ingenuity, some riding and resting at anchor in the stream, some in the service of peaceful commerce, some with a heavy burden of metal, some are coming up from the Narrows, after a long passage ; you can see it by the rust which the sea has washed from the iron of the shrouds, and which now stains her sides as she comes from beyond one of the distant fellow capes, thrown out into the sea to mark where the Atlantic ceases ; here you perceive some as they are towed down by the steamboats, there you see the schooners beating up the river, with their large canvas, like a wide-winged gull's, at a distance, so many in number that they are spread out like the tents of an Arabian camp on the even surface ; here the heavy laden Indiaman, the racing packet, the nimble cutter from the Chesapeake, the gazelle of the waters, and the fleet and eager news boat, defying even the swift pilot, with his inclining masts, and sailing closer to the wind than vessels ever did before, and the skiffs of the fisherman, the flat of the patient oysterman, and the buoyant yacht to carry buoyant youths ; and between all these vessels move the quick ferriers, like busy spiders to and fro. It is indeed an enchanting sight ! what man loves and what he dares ; nature in all her fulness, freedom, and grandeur, and nature, tamed by man—all is here collected in one spot.

MATRIMONIAL LOTTERY.

On the 21st day of December last, I was passing through the State of South Carolina, and in the Town of —, where I had

an acquaintance, on whom I called.—I was quickly informed that the family was invited to a wedding at a neighbouring house, an on being requested, I changed my clothes and went with them. As soon as the young couple were married, the company was seated and the most profound silence ensued—(the man of the house being religious.) A young lawyer then rose, and addressed the company very handsomely, and finishing his discourse begged leave to offer a new scheme of matrimony, which he believed and hoped would be beneficial. On obtaining leave, he proposed :—That one man in the company should be selected as President ; that this president should be duly sworn to keep entirely secret all communications that should be forwarded to his official department that night ; and that each unmarried gentleman and lady should write his or her name on a piece of paper, and under it place the person's name with whom they wished to marry ;—then hand it to the president for inspection ; and if any gentleman and lady had reciprocally chosen each other, the president was to inform each of the result ; and those who had not been reciprocal in their choices were kept entirely secret.

After the appointment of the president the communications were accordingly handed up to the chair, and it was found that twelve young gentlemen and ladies had reciprocated choices ; but whom they had chosen remained a secret to all but themselves and the president. The conversation changed, and the company retired.

Now hear the conclusion. I passed through the same place on the 14th March following, and was informed that eleven of twelve matches had been solemnized, and the young gentlemen of eight couples of the eleven had declared their diffidence was so great that they certainly should not have addressed their respective wives, if the above scheme had not been introduced.

Gentlemen under twenty, and ladies under fourteen were excluded as unmarriageable.—*American Paper.*

ANECDOTE OF SIR ISAAC NEWTON.

The following anecdote is an example of the wildness of this great and learned man. Sir Isaac Newton had a little dog named Diamond ; and one day, being called from his study into another room, Diamond was left behind. His master, when he came back, found that the dog had thrown a lighted candle down among some of his papers which he had been working at for years ; they were in flammation, and almost burnt to ashes. Newton could not hope to retrieve his loss for he was not then very young, yet without striking the dog, or being at all in a passion with him, he only said to him, "Oh Diamond, Diamond! thou little knowest the mischief thou hast done."

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