

## LIFE AND DEATH.

When the imperial despot of Persia, surveyed the myriads of his vassals, whom he had assembled for the invasion and conquest of Greece, we are told by the father of profane history, (Herodotus) that the monarch's heart, at first distended with pride, but immediately afterwards sunk within him, and turned to tears of anguish at the thought that within one hundred years from that day, not one of all the countless numbers of his host would remain in the land of the living.

The brevity of human life, had afforded a melancholy contemplation to wiser and better men than Xerxes, in ages long before that of his own existence. It is still the subject of reflection or of Christian resignation to the living man of the present age. It will continue such, so long as the race of man shall exist upon earth.

But it is the condition of our nature to look before and after. The Persian tyrant looked forward, and lamented the shortness of life; but in that century which bounded his mental vision, he knew not what was to come to pass, for weal or wo, to the race whose transitory nature he deplored, and his own purposes, happily baffled by the elements which he with absurd presumption would have chastised, were of the most odious and detestable character.

Reflections upon the shortness of time allotted to individual man upon this planet, may be turned to more useful account, by connecting them with those that are to come. The family of man is placed upon this congregated ball to earn an improved condition hereafter by improving his own condition here—and his duty of improvement is not less a social than a selfish principle. We are bound to exert all the faculties bestowed upon us by our Maker, to improve our own condition, by improving that of our fellow men, and precepts that we should love our neighbor as ourselves, and that we should do to others, as we would that they should do unto us, are but examples of that duty of co-operation to the improvement of his kind, which is the first law of God to man, unfolded alike in the volumes of nature and of inspiration.—By John Quincy Adams.

**CHINESE SUPERSTITIONS.**—Self-torture, under almost all superstitious religions, is supposed to confer on the sufferer a peculiar merit. Though not carried to the same extravagant height in China as in India, it is still extensively practised, and is made subservient to the interests of spiritual begging. Nienhof heard of a reputed saint, who continually wore iron chains, till the flesh became a receptacle for worms, which he saw with pleasure deriving nourishment from his person. The same traveller observed a man, who, muttering to himself, violently struck his head against a stone; and two others who furiously beat their heads against each other. These last operations were considered as establishing a decided claim for alms. Le Comte met with a young aspirant, who had shut himself up, and was carried about in a sort of sedan-chair, the interior of which was set round with nails, so that he could not move on the one side or the other without being wounded. He persuaded the people that these spikes, in proportion to the tortures which they inflicted, acquired a supernatural virtue, rendering them well worth the moderate price of sixpence. The Frenchman, having some of them tendered to him, endeavoured, in a discourse of some length, to expose the wild delusion under which the youth laboured, exhorting him to renounce it. The other replied, with true Chinese equanimity, that he felt exceedingly obliged for so much good advice, but would be still more indebted to him if he would purchase a dozen of his nails, the spiritual value of which he continued to extol in the most extravagant terms.—The priests of Fo, and particularly the ministers of the idol-temples, appear also to claim the power of bestowing temporal good and evil, and particularly of curing diseases—pretensions which, of course, prove often fallacious. A man, whose favourite daughter was ill, had paid large sums at a neighbouring temple, and obtained, in return, promises of a speedy recovery, which were so far from being realised, that the disease continued to make progress till it came to a fatal termination. The father, in despair, being deterred upon revenge, raised an action at law against the god, arguing that having received much money under promise of effecting the cure, he had either pretended to a power which he did not possess, or having that power, had not exerted it; in either case the fraud was manifest. As the judge, however, delayed proceedings until he should receive instructions from court, many remonstrances were made to the plaintiff upon the danger of prosecuting his suit against this supernatural defendant; but grief had made him reckless. A subpoena was therefore issued against the god, and the charges being fully proved, he was vanquished the kingdom, and his temple demolished.—Edinburgh Cabinet Library.

**CURREN'S INGENUITY.**—A farmer attending a fair with a hundred pounds in his pocket took the precaution of depositing it in the hands of the landlord of the public house at which he stopped. Having occasion for it shortly afterward, he resorted to mine host for the bailment; but the landlord, too deep for the countryman, wandered

what hundred was meant, and was quite sure that no such sum had ever been lodged in his hands by the astonished rustic. After ineffectual appeals to the recollection, and finally to the honour of Bardolph, the farmer applied to Curran for advice. 'Have patience, my friend,' said the counsel; 'speak to the landlord civilly, and tell him you are convinced you must have left your money with another person. Take a friend with you, and lodge with him another hundred in the presence of your friend, and then come to me.' We must imagine and not commit to paper the vociferations of the honest dupe at such advice; however, moved by the rhetoric or authority of the worthy counsel, he followed it, and returned to his legal friend, 'And now, sir, I don't see as I'm to be better off for this, if I get my second hundred again. But how is that to be done?'—'Go and ask him for it when he is alone,' said the counsel, 'Ay, sir, but asking won't do, I'm afraid, without my witness, at any rate.'—'Never mind—take my advice,' said the counsel; 'do as I bid you, and return to me.' The farmer returned with his hundred, glad at any rate to find that safe again in his possession. 'Now, sir, I suppose I must be content; but I don't see as I'm much better off.'—'Now, then, take your friend with you and ask for the hundred pounds your friend saw you leave with him.' The wily landlord was taken off his guard, and the honest countryman returned exultingly, with both hundreds in his pockets.

Rouelle, the celebrated French chemist, was remarkable for his extraordinary absence of mind. One day in the absence of his assistant, being left to perform his experiments before a large class, alone, he said, "Gentlemen you see this caldron upon this brazier. Well, if I were to cease stirring a single moment, an explosion would ensue, which would blow us all into the air." This was no sooner said than he forgot to stir; and his prediction was accomplished; the explosion took place with a horrible crash, all the windows of the laboratory were smashed to pieces, and two hundred auditors whirled away into the garden; fortunately no serious injury was received, the greatest violence of the explosion being directed to the chimney. The forgetful stirrer himself escaped with the loss of his wig only.

## NOTICE.

**THE PARTNERSHIP** lately existing under the Firm of **DEBLOIS, MITCHELL & CO.**, being this day Dissolved, in consequence of the death of **MR. SAMUEL MITCHELL**, all persons indebted to the said Firm, or to the late Firm of **DEBLOIS & MITCHELL**, are requested to make immediate payment to the surviving Partners.

July 31, 1837.

S. W. DEBLOIS,  
J. W. MERKEL.

## NOTICE.

**THE SUBSCRIBERS** beg respectfully to acquaint their Friends and the Public in general, that the **COMMISSION & AUCTION BUSINESS**, heretofore conducted under the above Firm, will in future be managed by the Subscribers, in the Names of **DEBLOIS & MERKEL**, and they hope for a continuation of that patronage enjoyed for so many years by the several establishments with which their Senior has been connected.

July 31.

S. W. DEBLOIS,  
J. W. MERKEL.**HUGH CAMPBELL,**

No. 18, Granville St.

**RESPECTFULLY** acquaints the Public, that he has received by the late arrivals from Great Britain, a Supply of the following articles, which he sells at his usual low terms.

**CHAMPAGNE**, Claret, Burgundy, Hock: Santerre, Vin-de-Grave, Blackburn's and others sup. Madeira, Fine old Brown, and pale Sherries, fine old Port, Marsala, Teneriffe, Bucellas, Muscatel and Malaga

Fine old Cognac pale and colored, **BRANDIES**, Do. Hollands, fine old Highland Whiskey, Do. Irish Whiskey, fine old Jamaica Rum, direct from the Home Bonded Warehouse.

Assorted Liqueurs, Cherry Brandy.

Curacoa and Mareschino.

Barclay and Perkin's best London Brown Stout,

Edinburgh and Alloa **ALES**—Hodgson's pale do.

Fine light Table do., and Ginger Beer.

Nova Scotia superior flavored Hams; Cheshire and Wiltshire Cheese, double and single refined London and Scotch Loaf Sugar, muscatel and bloom Raisins, Almonds, assorted preserved Fruits, a general assortment of Pickles and Sauces, Olive Oil, for lamps, Robinson's patent Barley and Groats, Cocoa, and West India Coffee.

Soda and wine Biscuit with a general assortment of Groceries usual in his line.

Halifax, June 17.

**HENRY G. HILL,**  
**Builder and Draughtsman.**

**RESPECTFULLY** informs his friends and the public, that he has discontinued the Cabinet business, and intends to devote his time exclusively to

**PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL BUILDING.**

He begs to offer his grateful acknowledgments to those who have hitherto patronised him, and now offers his services as an Architect, Draughtsman and Builder, and will be prepared to furnish accurate working plans, elevations and specifications for buildings of every description, and trusts by strict attention to business to insure a share of public patronage.

Residence, nearly opposite Major McColla's.  
Carpenter's shop—Argyle-street. June 10.

**MERCANTILE AND NAUTICAL**  
**ACADEMY.****THOMAS BURTON,**

**BEGS** leave to notify to his friends and the public, that he has opened an Academy in

Brunswick-Street, opposite the New Methodist Chapel, where he intends instructing youth of both sexes, in the following branches of education, viz. Orthography, Reading, Writing, English Grammar, Arithmetic, and Mathematics, generally. Likewise, Maritime and Land Surveying, Geometry, Trigonometry, Navigation, and the Italian and modern methods of Book-keeping by double entry. The strictest attention will be paid to the moral and advancement of such pupils as may be committed to his care. July 8.

**O. H. BELOHER.****BOOKSELLER & STATIONER,**OPPOSITE THE PROVINCE BUILDING,  
HALIFAX.

**HAS** received by the Acadian from Greenock, Part of his Importations for the Season—the remainder expected by the Lotus from London.

BOOK-BINDING in all its branches executed in the neatest manner.

BLANK BOOKS of all kinds constantly on hand, or made and ruled to patterns.

PAPER HANGINGS and BORDERINGS, a neat assortment, handsome patterns and low priced. A further Supply of these Articles, of rich and elegant patterns, expected from London.

PRINTING INK, in Kegs.  
June 17, 1837.

**Canvas, Pork, Beef.****EDWARD LAWSON,****AUCTIONEER AND GENERAL BROKER,**

HAS FOR SALE AT HIS STORE,

**300 BBLs. NOVA SCOTIA PORK,**

most approved brands.

25 bbls BEEF, 10 puns. HAMS,

100 bolts bleached Canvas, No. 1 to 6.

25 boxes 8x10 GLASS,

15 casks Epsom Salts,

20 casks White and Red WINES, 19 gallons,

Boxes Starch and Soap, Harness, Leather, Calf skins,

Blacking, Lines, Twines, paints, &amp;c. July 14.

**CARD.**

**D. RUFUS S. BLACK**, having completed his Studies at the Universities of Edinburgh and Paris, intends practising his profession in its various branches in Halifax and its vicinity.

Residence for the present, at Mr. M. G. Black's, Corner of George and Hollis Streets.

Advice to the Poor, gratis. 8w. July 8.

**IMPROVED AROMATIC COFFEE.**

**THE** attention of the Public is called to the above article. By the new and improved process of roasting which, the whole of the fine aromatic flavor of the berry is retained. Prepared and sold by

**LOWES & CREIGHTON,**

Grocers, &amp;c.

Corner of Granville and Buckingham Streets.

June 8, 1837.

PRINTED every Saturday, for the Proprietor. By **Wm. CUNNABELL**, at his Office, corner of Hollis and Water Streets, opposite the Store of Messrs. Hunter & Chambers. HALIFAX, N. S.

**TERMS**,—Fifteen Shillings per annum—in all cases one half to be paid in advance. No subscription taken for less than six months.