

"MANY HAVE BEEN RUINED BY BUYING GOOD PENNYWORTHS."

She was accused of conspiracy with the Queen, dragged to the prison of La Force, and taken before the bloody tribunal. When questioned about the Queen she answered with the greatest dignity and calmness. Some of the judges wished to spare her on account of her youth and beauty, but this was overruled by the more bloodthirsty, and she was taken back to her cell, and in solitary confinement, she was made a "Septembrizer"—having executed their bloody work at the other prisons—arrived at La Force, they speedily found their way to the cell of the Princess, and, exhibiting to her the horrors of her life if she would swear hatred to the royal family. This she nobly refused to do, and was instantly dragged out over a pile of dead bodies, standing up to her ankles in blood. She was ordered to cry "Vive la Nation!" Speechless with horror she was unable to speak, and was instantly struck down and surful to relate, it was one of her own servants, whom she had loaded with kindnesses, who struck the first blow. Her head was then cut off, her body torn in pieces, and the fragments put on the end of pikes and paraded through different parts of the city. The head (which according to the custom of the time, was carefully powdered), was raised on a lance and first carried to the Palace of the Duke of Orleans (the father of Louis Philippe—later known by his republican appellation of "Epée") who rose from dinner and looked for some minutes in silence upon the ghastly spectacle. Madame Buffon, his favourite, and some other companions of his pleasures, were with him at the time. "My God!" exclaimed she, "will this carry my head through the streets!" The head was next conveyed to the Temple, and paraded before the windows of Louis XVI. The king, ignorant of what had passed, sat hearing the tumult, at the desire of one of the commissioners of the municipality, proceeded to the window, when he recognised by her beautiful hair the head of his once lovely friend; but to the credit of humanity, it must be said, that another commissioner, more humane, tried to prevent the king from beholding the ghastly sight.

During the progress of this revolutionary outbreak, a contention arose amongst the wretches that the foremost only got a stroke at the prisoners as they emerged from their cells, and it was arranged that the unhappy "aristocrats," as they were called, should run the gauntlet through a long avenue of murderers. The women also made a formal demand to the Commune for lights to see the massacre, and this request being granted, benches were arranged "Pour les Messieurs" and "Pour les Dames" to witness the spectacle; and as each successive prisoner emerged from the prison-gate, yells of joy arose from the wretches, and when the victim fell they danced around him like cannibals. It was decreed also "that whoever labours in a prison shall receive a louis from the funds of the Commune," but when the assassins applied for this promised reward, and it was found the funds were not sufficient to discharge these claims, only twenty-four francs were given. "Do you think I have only earned twenty-four francs?" said a young man, a baker by trade, "I have slain forty men, and my work was surpassed by a negro who had slain about two hundred!"

These narrations seem incredible, yet the bills showing the amount the assassin received, and the list of names who destroyed in the recent Revolution; and in this latter Revolution it would have been well had the historian been spared the melancholy task of recording that the evidence were not wanting to indicate that the great and numerous horrors of the first revolution would most probably have been equalled by this later one: if the stronger arm of the well-disposed military had not succeeded in arresting its fearful course.

A DISAPPOINTMENT!

(5).—JOHN HOME, author of the once popular tragedy of "Douglas," was a Scotch clergyman. When his tragedy was first performed at Edinburgh, in 1756, it gave such offence to the presbytery, that the author, to avoid ecclesiastical censure, resigned his living, and ever afterwards appeared and acted as a layman.

It is related of an Englishman who was a great admirer of Home's tragedy of "Douglas," that being in Edinburgh, he thought he should like to see the author of his favourite tragedy. He accordingly called at Home's modest tenement, and, knocking at the door, was answered by a laicé that Mr. Home was not in, as he had gone into the highlands.—"But," she added, "his horse was in."—Not seeing the great he, the Englishman thought Mr. Home would do, and he was therefore ushered in, and much to his surprise, was introduced to an old lady who had her head wrapped up in flannel, and who was engaged in connecting a tumbler of hot water and water, being in the act of grating into it a few grains of nutmeg. The Englishman, who was a man of some rank, and soon expelled, for in vain he tried to engage her in a topic of conversation, but found her hopelessly stupid and ignorant on all topics that he could suggest. He then asked if he had heard of the peace that had just been concluded with France, when she said "Oh, yes; I've heard of the peace." "Oh come, come!" thought the Englishman, "I will make a great change in many things; we must all be thankful for it." The old lady paused to reflect, and at length said, "Do you think it will make any difference in the price of nutmegs?" The gentleman, uttering an expression that could not be construed into a blessing, hastily retired!

* The Duke of Orleans not only voted for the death of his cousin Louis XVI., but was present at his execution (himself afterwards sharing the same fate).

ON THE USE OF RICHES.

(16).—THE venerable Lord Bathurst, dying at the age of ninety-one, acted a distinguished part in four reigns. He was anxious to behold his son, well-stricken in years, sitting on the woolsack as Lord Chancellor—being the only individual, except the father of Sir Thomas More, on whom such a felicity was ever conferred. The author of "Tristram Shandy," in speaking of Lord Bathurst, said of him:—

"This nobleman, I say, is a prodigy; for at eighty-five he has all the wit and prudence of a man of thirty; a disposition to be pleased, and a power to please others, beyond what ever I knew—added to which, a man of learning, courtesy, and feeling."

The aged peer, whilst possessing the most elegant tastes, and the most jovial manners, offered a striking contrast to his son Henry (the Lord Chancellor, who was rather stentorian, and of a reserved disposition—and sometimes when the son had retired after supper, the father would rub his hands, and say to himself, "Now tint the old gentleman is gone to bed, let his legs sleep, and enjoy ourselves!" It was to Lord Bathurst that Pope alluded, "On the Use of Riches," was inscribed.

Be the same to, value riches, with the art
To enjoy them and the virtue to impart
Not merely, but ambitiously pursued,
Not easy to, nor raised by servitude;
To balance fortune by a just expense,
And in economy magnificence;
With splendour charity, with plenty health;
O, teach us, BATHURST, yet unpolled by wealth!
That secret rare between the extremes to move,
Of mad good-nature and of mean self-love."

AN ELEVATED SITUATION!

(23).—THE following anecdote of that eminent judge, SIR FREDERICK POLLOCK, is related by Sir Edward Foss, in his "Judges of England":—

"Frederick Pollock was born on September 23, 1783. In his early years he lost much time at three metropolitan and suburban schools, in which he told his father that he learned nothing. On being taken away from the last, he remained at home for sixteen months, employing them in very miscellaneous reading, principally devoted to English literature, chemistry, physiology, and other scientific subjects. He was then placed under Dr. Roberts at St. Paul's school. A story is related on good authority, that young Pollock, desiring that he was wasting his time there, as he intended to go to the bar, intimating to the head-master that he should not stay; and that the doctor, who was distrustful of keeping so promising a lad, thereupon became so cross and disagreeable, that one day the youth wrote him a note, saying he would not return. The doctor, ignorant of the cordial note on which the father and son lived together, sent the note to the father, who called on him to express his regret at his son's determination, adding that he had advised him not to send the note. Upon which the doctor broke out, 'Ah, sir, you'll live to see that boy hanged!' The doctor, on meeting Mrs. Pollock some years after his pupil had obtained university honours and professional success, congratulated her on her son's good fortune, adding, quite unconscious of the humorous contrast—'Ah! madam, I always said he'd fill an elevated situation.'"

It may also be interesting to give the following extract from the same work:—

"Of the chief baron's legal and judicial merits these pages profess not to speak. But at the end of two-and-twenty years from his appointment, and of near eighty-three from his birth, it may be allowed to record that he was to be found in his place exercising all the functions of his arduous office as efficiently as when he was at first appointed; frequently called upon to preside in most important cases, and never shrank from undertaking them; tempering his determination so as unnecessarily to hurt the feelings of those against whom he was obliged to decide; and ever acting towards his brethren on the bench, and the counsel at the bar of his court, so as to be a general favourite. On July 13, 1856, he retired from his position, having at the bench attained the most advanced age then known in our law before him; Lord Mansfield, though a little older when he actually resigned, having refrained from attending the court for two years before he was only eighty-one years old. To the last Sir Frederick never excused himself from his daily duties, but enjoyed the conflict of mind which arose from an important argument, and in which his faculties called forth in addressing a jury. His merits were recognised by the immediate grant of a baronetcy. Having suffered little from attacks of indigestion, and in the course of his former activity, he may be truly said to enjoy a green old age. Sir Frederick has been twice married. He had thirteen children by each of his wives no less than when he was only twenty survive, ten by the first union, and ten by the second. He can boast of a more numerous issue than is usually the lot of humanity. Besides his twenty children, he counts fifty-four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren; and he has had the gratification of seeing his eldest son's eldest son the first man of his year at his own alma mater."