

POETRY.

THE BACHELOR.

—THE Bachelor, lonely, and depressed—

No gentle one near him, no home to endear him,
In sorrow to cheer him, no friend if no guest;
No children to climb up—'twould take all my rhyme up
And take too much time up, to tell his despair;
Cross housekeeper, meeting him, cheating him, beating
Bills pouring, maids scouring, devouring his fare (him,

He has no one to put on a sleeve or neck button—
Shirts mangled to rags, drawers stringless at knee,
The cook, to his grief, too, spoils pudding and beef too,
With overdone, underdone, undone is he.
No son, still a treasure in business or leisure,
No daughter, with pleasure, new joys to prepare,
But old maids and cousins, and souls' cash in dozens,
Relieving him soon of his bachelor's fate.

He calls children apes, sir, (the fox and the grapes, sir)
And fair would he wed when his locks are like snow;
But widows throw scorn out, and tell him he's worn out
And maidens, deriding, cry, "No, my love, no!"
Old age comes with sorrow, with wrinkle, with furrow,
No hope in to-morrow—none sympathy spares;
And when unfit to rise up, he looks to the skies up,
None close his old eyes up—he dies, and who cares?

MISCELLANEOUS

A FOX YARN.

(From Jacob Faithful)

I RECOLLECT once when I was very near eaten alive by foxes, and that in a very singular manner. I was then mate of a Greenland ship. We had been on the fishing ground for twelve months, and had twelve fish on board. Finding we were doing well, we fixed our ice-anchors upon a very large iceberg, drifting up and down with it, and taking fish as we fell in with them. One morning we had just cast loose the carcass of a fish which we had cut up, when the man in the crew's nest, on the look out for another 'fall,' cried out that a large polar bear and her cub were swimming over to the iceberg, against the side of which, and about half a mile from us, the carcass of the whale was beating. As we had nothing to do, seven of us immediately started in chase; we had intended to have gone after the foxes, which had gathered there in hundreds, to prey upon the dead whale. It was then quite calm; we soon came up with the bear who at first was for making off, but as the cub could not get on over the rough ice, as well as the old one, she at last turned round to bay. We shot the cub to make sure of her, and it did make sure of the dam not leaving us till either she or we perished in the conflict. I never shall forget her moaning over the cub, as it lay bleeding on the ice, while we fired but let after bullet into her. At last she turned round, gave a roar and a gnashing snarl, which you might have heard a mile, and, with her eyes flashing fire, darted upon us. We received her in a body, all close together, with our lances to her breast, but she was so large and so strong, that she beat us all back, and two of us fell, fortunately the others held their ground, and she was then at an end, three bullets were put into her chest which brought her down. I never saw such a large beast in my life. I don't wish to make her out larger than she really was, but I have seen many a bullock in Smithfield which would not weigh two thirds of her. Well, after that, we had some trouble in despatching her, and while we were so employed, the wind blew up in gusts to the northward, and the snow fell heavy. The men were on returning to the ship immediately, which certainly was the wisest thing for us all to do, but I thought that the snow storm would blow over in a short time, and not wishing to loose so fine a skin, resolved to remain and flay the beast, for I knew if left there a few hours, as the foxes could not get hold of the carcass of the whale,

which had not grounded, that they would soon finish the bear and cub, and the skins be worth nothing. Well, the other men went back to the ship, and as it was, the snow storm came on so thick, that they lost their way, and would never have found her, if it was not that the bell was kept tolling for a guide to them. I soon found that I had done a very foolish thing: instead of the storm blowing over, the snow came down thicker and thicker; and before I had taken a quarter of the skin off, I was becoming cold and numbed, and then I was unable to regain the ship: and with every prospect of being frozen to death before the storm was over. At last, I knew what was my only chance. I had flayed all the belly of the bear, but had not cut her open. I ripped her up, tore out all her inside, and contrived to get into her body, where I lay, and having closed up the entrance hole, was warm and comfortable, for the animal heat had not yet been extinguished. This manoeuvre, no doubt saved my life, and I have heard that the French soldiers did the same in their unfortunate Russian campaign, killing their horses, getting made to protect them from the dreadful weather. Well, Jacob, I had not lain more than half an hour, when I knew by sundry tugs and jerks at my new invented hurricane-house, that the foxes were busy—and so they were, sure enough. There must have been hundreds of them, for they were at work in all directions, and some pushed their noses into the opening where I had crept in; but I contrived to get out my knife and saw their noses across whenever they touched me, otherwise I should have been eaten up in a very short time. There were so many of them, and they were so ravenous, that they soon got through the bear's thick skin, and were tearing away at the flesh. Now I was not so much afraid of their eating me, as I thought that if I jumped up and discovered myself, they would have all fled. No saying, though; two or three hundred ravenous devils take courage when together; but I was afraid that they would devour my covering from the weather, and then I should perish with the cold; and I also was afraid of having pieces nipped out of me, which would of course oblige me to quit my retreat. At last daylight was made through the upper part of the carcass, and I was only protected by the ribs of the animal, between which every now and then their noses dived and nipped my seal skin jacket. I was just thinking of shouting to frighten them away, when I heard the report of half a dozen muskets, and some of the bullets struck the carcass, but fortunately did not hit me. I immediately hallooed as loud as I could, and the men hearing me, ceased firing. They had fired at the foxes, little thinking that I was inside the bear. I crawled out, the storm was over, and the men of the ship had come back to look for me. My brother, who was also a mate on board of the vessel, who had been with the first party, had joined them in the search, but with little hopes of finding me alive. He hugged me in his arms, covered as I was with blood. He's dead now, poor fellow! Now, that's the story, Jacob.—*Capt. Murryat.*

FOOD OF MAN IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.—The external world appears to be wisely and benevolently adapted to the wants of man. The food afforded by the soil in each climate, evidently is adapted to the maintenance of the organic constitution of the people in health, and to the supply of the muscular energy necessary for the particular wants of the situation.—In the Arctic Regions no farinaceous food tips, but, on the question being put to Dr. Richardson, how he, accustomed to the bread and vegetables of the temperate regions, was able to endure the pure animal diet, which formed his only support on his expedition to the shores of the Polar Sea along with Captain Franklin, he replied, that the effect of the extreme dry cold to which he and his companions were constantly exposed—living, as they did, in the open air—was to produce a desire for the most stimulating food they could obtain, that bread in such a climate was not

only not desired, but comparatively impatient, as an article of diet, that pure animal food, and the fatter the better, was the only sustenance that maintained the tone of the corporeal system; but that when it was abundant (and the quantity required was much greater than in warmer latitudes), a delightful vigour and buoyancy of mind and body were enjoyed, that rendered life highly agreeable. Now, in beautiful harmony with these wants of the human frame, these regions abound, during summer, in countless herds of deer, in rabbits, partridges, ducks, and in short, every sort of game, and also in fish; and the flesh of these, dried, constitutes delicious food in winter, when the earth is wrapped in one wide mantle of snow.

Among the Greenlanders and other Esquimaux tribes, nothing is so much relied on as the fat of the whale, the seal, or the walrus. A tallow candle and a draught of train oil are regarded as dainties; while a piece of bread is spit out, with strong indications of disgust.

In Scotland, the climate is moist and moderately cold, the greater part of the surface is mountainous, and well adapted for rearing sheep and cattle; while a certain portion consists of fertile plains, fitted for raising farinaceous food. If the same law holds in this country, the diet of the people should consist of animal and farinaceous food, the former predominating; and on such food, accordingly, the Scoteman thrives best. As we proceed to warmer latitudes, to France for instance, we find the soil and temperature less congenial to sheep and cattle, but more favourable to corn and wine; and the Frenchman flourishes in health on less of animal food than would be requisite to preserve the Scottish Highlander, in the recesses of his mountains, in a strong and alert condition. The consumption of beef in France relative to the population, is only one sixth of what it is in England.

The plains of Hindustan are too hot for the extensive rearing of the sheep and the ox, but produce rice and vegetable spices in prodigious abundance; and the native is healthy, vigorous, and active, when supplied with rice and curry, and becomes sick when obliged to live chiefly on animal diet. He is supplied with less muscular energy by this species of food, but his soil and climate require far less laborious exertion to maintain him in comfort, than those of Britain, Germany, or Russia.—*Combe's Constitution of Man.*

EXERCISE CONDUCTIVE TO HEALTH.—The natural law appears to be, that every one who desires to enjoy the pleasures of health, must expend in labour the energy which the Creator has infused into his limbs. A wide choice is left to man, as to the mode in which he shall exercise his nervous and muscular systems. The labourer, for example, digs the ground, and the squire engages in the chase; both pursuits exercise the body. The penalty for neglecting this law is imperfect digestion and disturbed sleep, debility, bodily and mental lassitude, and, if carried to a certain length, confirmed bad health and early death. The penalty for over-exerting these systems is exhaustion, mental incapacity, the desire of strong artificial stimulants (such as ardent spirits), general insensibility, grossness of feeling and perception, with disease and shortened life.

The penalties for trespassing serve to provide motives for obedience to the law; and whenever it is recognised, and the consequences are discovered to be inevitable, men will no longer shun labour as painful and ignominious.—*Id.*

AGENTS FOR THE BEE.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.—Mr. DENNIS REDDIE.
Ahranichi—Mr. H. C. D. CARMAN.
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.
Tarnagouche—Mr. WILLIAM MCCONNELL.
Wallace—DANIEL MCFARLANE, Esq.