

## MORNING MEDITATIONS.

BY THOMAS HOOD.

Let Taylor preach, upon a morning breezy,  
How well to rise while night and larks are dying—  
For my part, getting up seems not as easy  
By half as lying.

What if the lark does carol in the sky,  
Soaring beyond the sight to find him out—  
Wherefore art thou to rise at such a fly?  
I'm not a trout!

Talk not of bees and such like hums,  
The smell of sweet herbs at the morning prime—  
Only lie long enough, and bed becomes  
A bed of time.

To me Dan Phœbus and his car are nought,  
His steeds that paw impatiently about,—  
Let them enjoy, say I, as horses ought,  
The first turn-out!

Right beautiful the dewy mends appear,  
Rosprinkled by the rosy-fingered girl—  
What then,—if I prefer my pillow beer  
To early pearl?

My stomach is not ruled by other men's,  
And, grumbling for a reason, quaintly begs,  
Wherefore should master rise before the hens  
Have laid the eggs?

Why from a comfortable pillow start,  
To see faint flashes in the east awaken,—  
A fig, say I, for any streaky part,  
Excepting bacon!

An early riser Mr. Gray has drawn,  
Who used to haste the dewy grass among,  
To meet the sun upon the upland lawn—  
Well—he died young!

With charwomen such early hours agree,  
And sweeps that earn betimes their lute and sup,  
But I'm no climbing boy, and need not be  
All up—all up!

So here I'll lie, my morning calls deferring,  
Till something nearer to the stroke of noon,—  
A man that's fond preceeciously of stirring,  
Must be a spoon!

Amaranth for 1839.

From Urquhart's Spirit of the East.

## EUROPEAN AND TURKISH HABITS CONTRASTED.

Europeans commemorate the laying of the foundation stone;  
Turks celebrate the covering in of the roof.

Amongst the Turks, a beard is a mark of dignity; with us of  
negligence.

Shaving the head is, with them, a custom; with us a punish-  
ment.

We take off our gloves before our sovereign; they cover their  
hands with their sleeves.

We enter an apartment with our heads uncovered; they enter  
an apartment with the feet uncovered.

With them, the men have their necks and their arms naked;  
with us women have their arms and necks naked.

With us, the women parade in gay colours, and the men in  
sombre; with them, in both cases, it is the reverse.

With us, the men ogle the women; in Turkey, the women  
ogle the men.

With us, the lady looks shy and bashful; in Turkey, it is the  
gentleman.

In Europe, a lady cannot visit a gentleman; in Turkey, she  
can. In Turkey, a gentleman cannot visit a lady; in Europe,  
he can.

There the ladies always wear trousers, and the gentlemen  
sometimes petticoats.

With us, the red cap is the symbol of licence; with them, it is  
the hat.

In our rooms the roof is white and the wall is coloured; with  
them the wall is white, and the roof is coloured.

In Turkey there are gradations of social rank without privileges;  
in England there are privileges without corresponding social dis-  
tinctions.

With us, social forms and etiquette supersede domestic ties;  
with them the etiquette of relationship supersedes that of society.

With us the schoolmaster appeals to the authority of the par-  
ent; with them the parent has to appeal to the superior  
authority and responsibility of the schoolmaster.

With us a student is punished by being "confined to chapel;"  
with them the scholar is punished by being excluded from the  
mosque.

Amongst us masters require characters with their servants; in  
Turkey servants inquire into the character of masters.

We consider dancing a polite recreation; they consider it a  
disgraceful avocation.

An Englishman will be astonished at what he calls the absence  
of public credit in Turkey; the Turk will be amazed at our na-  
tional debt.

The first will despise the Turks for having no organization to

facilitate exchange; the Turk will be astounded to perceive in  
England laws to impede the circulation of commerce.

The Turks will wonder how government can be carried on  
with divided opinions: the Englishman will not believe that,  
without opposition, independence can exist.

In Turkey, commotion may exist without disaffection; in Eng-  
land, disaffection exists without commotion.

A European, in Turkey, will consider the administration of  
justice defective; a Turk, in Europe, will consider the principles  
of law unjust.

The first would esteem property, in Turkey, insecure against  
violence; the second would consider property, in England, in-  
secure against law.

The first would marvel how, without lawyers, law can be ad-  
ministered; the second would marvel how, with lawyers, justice  
can be obtained.

The first would be startled at the want of a check upon the  
central government; the second would be amazed at the absence  
of control over the local administration.

We cannot conceive immutability in the principles of the state  
compatible with well-being; they cannot conceive that which is  
good and just capable of change.

The Englishman will esteem the Turk unhappy because he has  
no public amusements; the Turk will reckon the man miserable  
who lacks amusements from home.

The Englishman will look on the Turk as destitute of taste,  
because he has no pictures; the Turk will consider the English-  
man destitute of feeling, from his disregard of nature.

The Turk will be disgusted at our haughty treatment of our  
inferiors; the Englishman will revolt at the purchase of slaves.

They will reciprocally call each other fanatic in religion—dis-  
solute in morals—uncleanly in habits—unhappy in the develop-  
ment of their sympathies and their tastes—destitute severally of  
their political freedom—each will consider the other unfit for  
good society.

The European will term the Turk pompous and sullen; the  
Turk will call the European flippant and vulgar.

It may therefore be imagined how interesting, friendly, and  
harmonious, must be the intercourse between the two.

*A Scene in Court.*—"I call upon you," said the counsellor,  
"to state distinctly upon what authority are you prepared to  
swear to the mare's age?" "Under what authority?" said the  
hostler interrogatively. "You are to reply, and not to repeat  
the question put to you." "I doesn't consider a man's bound  
to answer a question afore he's time to turn it in his mind."

"Nothing can be more simple, Sir, than the question put. I again  
repeat it. Under what authority do you swear to the animal's  
age?" "The best authority," responded the witness gruffly.  
"Then why such evasion? Why not state it at once?" "Well,  
then, if you must have it—" "Must I will have it," vociferated  
the counsellor, interrupting the witness. "Well, then, if you  
must and will have it," rejoined the hostler with imperturbable  
gravity, "why, then, I had it myself from the mare's own  
mouth." A simultaneous burst of laughter rang through the  
court. The judge on his bench could with difficulty confine his  
risible muscles to judicial decorum.—*Captain Glascock's*  
"*Land Sharks and Sea Gulls.*"

Lord Mansfield being willing to save a man who stole a watch,  
desired the jury to value it at tenpence; upon which the prose-  
cutor cried out, "Tenpence, my Lord! why, the very fashion  
of it cost me five pounds."—"Oh," said his lordship, "we  
must not hang a man for fashion's sake."

*An Expensive Toy.*—The *Nouveliste* observes, that the con-  
veyance of the luxur obelisk to France, cost nearly a million.  
The law of the 27th of June, 1833, granted 300,000 francs for  
the embellishments of the Place de la Concord, and the laying  
down of the obelisk, in addition to the 40,000 francs voted in the  
budget of 1832. In 1835, M. Thiers demanded 140,000 francs  
for conveying the monument from the river-bank to the centre of  
the place. This conveyance, the laying down, and the acces-  
sories, cost 560,000 francs; the granite base cost upwards of  
190,000 francs, so that altogether the monolith has stood the  
country in an expense of more than 1,700,000 francs.

*Wholesale Destruction of Reptiles.*—A husbandman, at Hol-  
well, discovered two adders basking in the sun. He called to a  
companion, who instantly disabled them by an application of the  
stick. Immediately a slow-worm made its appearance, which  
met a similar fate. On putting them on a stick to convey them  
home, four young adders escaped from the mouth of one of them  
which were destroyed. The vipers were then ripped up, and,  
from the first, six more adders were destroyed; from the second  
10, and from the interior of the slow-worm eight were taken,  
making in the whole 28 young and three old ones. The old ad-  
ders measured two feet eight inches in length; and another, sup-  
posed to be the male, has been often seen in the same locality.  
A valuable cow, which had been grazing in the same field, some  
time since lost its life from the bite of one of these reptiles.—*Sher-*  
*bourne Journal, Sept. 28.*

*A Blind Whist Player.*—A blind gentleman, with whom I am  
very intimate, has frequently played a rubber at whist in my  
house, with more quickness and accuracy than either of his com-  
petitors. His cards, which he carries with him, are so very  
minutely marked by the point of a needle, that though I have  
often sat by him, I have never observed the marks; yet with the  
utmost quickness he sorts and plays his cards, the other parties of  
course announcing what card they have put down.—*Correspon-*  
*dent of the Medical Gazette.*

*A Churchwarden.*—A medical gentleman was lately called in  
to attend the dying functionary, who was not conversant with  
expressions out of the vulgar tongue. "I have a great soreness  
in my breast," said the warden. "That arises," said the doctor,  
"from a febrile affection in the thorax. But, pray let me ask  
you, do you expectorate?"—"Expect a rate!" said the church-  
warden, "No, sir, thank God, that parish business is settled—  
I made a rate last week."

*Newspapers.*—The largest collection known belonged to the  
late Dr. Burney, comprising a numerous and rare series of these  
periodicals from the year 1603 to 1818, amounting in the whole  
to 700 volumes, and valued at 1,000 guineas. These important  
documents for the illustration of history were purchased by the  
Government for the British Museum, and, together with complete  
sets of all the newspapers, published from 1818 to the present  
time, consisting of more than 3,000 volumes, form a record of  
public events not to be paralleled in any other library in the  
world.

Nimrod says,—"The greatest stake on record, depending on a  
single heat, was 5,200 guineas. This was won by Dorimont, a  
horse, four years old, the property of the Earl of Upper Ossory,  
at Newmarket, in 1776. This fortunate animal, the Bay Mid-  
dleton of that day, also won for his noble owner, the same sea-  
son, in matches and sweepstakes, eight other races, making the  
sum, in hard cash, 7,899 guineas, and the Grosvenor stakes and  
Clermont cup. The grand stakes already made to be run at  
Goodwood, in 1839, has 23 subscribers at 300 sovereigns, half  
forfeit; £6,900, if all run, but £4,000 at least.

*Spel House at Hamburg.*—The spel houses (says a recent  
traveller) are the usual resort of young men, who go there after  
the performances at the theatre are over, which is closed at half-  
past nine. The house called the *Gas-lights*, the best known in  
Hamburg, consists of a long low room, with an orchestra at one  
end, and rooms for refreshment at the other; the charge for admittance  
is about a franc, which is paid at the door. The company  
consists of parties quadrilling or waltzing; the women are  
generally well-dressed, but the men have a strange appearance,  
dancing in surtouts, with boots on, and long hair hanging over  
their ears. On certain days, the artisans take their wives and  
daughters to the different spel houses, to waltz.

*Curious Tradition.*—In the memoir of Miss Jennings there is  
one of the most singular anecdotes to be found in the chronicles  
of romance:—"There is a curious tradition respecting her (Vis-  
countess Dillon) still preserved among the peasantry of the country  
in which she resided. It is related that, on the death of Lord  
Dillon, she inhabited Laughlin castle, then only one of the num-  
erous castles and palaces possessed by the Irish Dillons. This  
princely feudal edifice covered two acres of land; and, with  
the estate around it, was assigned to her as her jointure, but with  
the proviso, that she should reside during her life in the castle.  
The lady, in her widowhood, was seized with a passion for a  
young Englishman; and being unable to detain him with her, or  
to follow him to England as long as her castle existed, she deter-  
mined on the wildest and boldest project that ever entered the  
head of an impetuous woman borne away by the violence of pas-  
sion: she ordered a banquet to be spread in her garden, then  
fired the castle, and feasted by the light of the blazing pile. After  
supper, and while the towers were yet burning, she set off for  
England with her lover."

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