

house of the poor. The great and eternal law of death is executed there in an awful silence; and then the survivors go, each his way, upon his own especial duty, which is marked out to him, and which he must perform, or perhaps he and the family utterly perish.—*Trials of Margaret Lyndsay.*

In the "Persian Tales" there is a story of an atrocious Khan of the Tartars, who, having heard that the Son of the Sun and the Moon had spoken something of him not much to the purpose, sent word to his celestial highness that he required a sum of money in satisfaction. The Son of the Sun and the Moon called his mandarins, and it was resolved thus:—"The Son of the Sun and the Moon may say any thing he pleases of any body. Let it be a decree!" The Khan, however, was determined to have his account settled on better terms than these, and attacked the subjects of his celestial highness without mercy; whereupon the mandarins were again called, and they resolved, in like manner, thus:—"If the Khan proceeds further, he and all his people shall be put in the stocks. Let it be a decree!" The Khan, nevertheless, did proceed; and while the Son of the Sun and the Moon was down in the country, laid his hand upon sufficient to meet his demand. Some disloyal knaves said that his celestial highness had stopped out of the way, because he was afraid that he had got into an ugly business after all; but, be that as it may, without calling the mandarins, he wrote with his own hand—"As the Khan has paid himself, there is an end of the matter; let it be a decree!" and he forthwith sent a trusty servant in the dark to ransom the plunder out of the Khan's hands.

A CONVENT IN LONDON.—In the lower part of Bermondsey, just before reaching Rotherhithe, there has lately been erected a nunnery, to which a Roman Catholic chaplain is attached. The building is surrounded by a high brick wall. It is built in the ancient Gothic style of architecture, and is said to be an imitation of a celebrated establishment of the kind near Madrid.

HARBOUR OF REFUGE.—It is understood that her Majesty's government have approved of the Report of the Commissioners of Survey appointed by the Admiralty to examine the coast, for the purpose of forming "Harbours of Refuge" for her Majesty's steamers and other vessels; and that Margate and Rye have been definitively resolved upon. The works are to be commenced early in the ensuing spring.

PORTRAIT OF MEMMET ALI.—A PEN-AND-INK SKETCH, BY HORACE VERNET.—Mehemet is small in stature, his beard is white, his face dark, his skin tanned, his eye vivid, his movements quick, his speech abrupt, his air sarcastic and *spirituel*. He laughs freely when he has launched some sarcasm—a pleasure which he gave himself freely in our presence, and always when the conversation turned on politics.

DEATH FROM A SLIGHT CAUSE.—On Wednesday an inquest was held before Mr. Baker, on the body of a female child, who died in consequence of her brother having, by accident, run a fork into her arm. She concealed the circumstance to save him from punishment, and an abscess forming, caused her death.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN THE FRENCH COLONIES.—The *Temps* says that, in virtue of the ordonnance regulating the employment of the 65,000*l.* voted by the Chambers for the measures preparatory to the abolition of slavery in the colonies, thirty-three priests are to be sent out, and thirteen chapels are to be established.

The Earl of Ludlow has, in the most handsome manner, presented to the Duke of Bedford (late Marquis Tavistock) one hundred thousand pounds on his grace's accession to the title, accompanying the noble gift with a letter, stating that it was his intention to have left his grace that amount in his will, but he now thought it better to save the legacy duty.

There is a valley near Kentimere, in Westmoreland, where it is stated the original language of the Danish inhabitants is still retained in so high a degree of purity, that a native of Denmark, at the present time, is able to hold a ready conversation with the peasantry in his own language.

A female sailor, Mary Ann Arnold, said to be a daughter of a lieutenant of the royal navy, has been discovered doing the work of a sailor boy on board the "Robert Small," East Indiaman, now at the Cape of Good Hope. She has been a sailor, it seems, in different ships for some time, and is, now she has resumed her female attire, a pretty girl of fifteen.

The third Book of Milton entire, and a selection of the Odes of Horace, were on Wednesday recited by the boys of the upper sixth class of King's College School, in the theatre, and in the presence of the principal and a numerous assembly.

Miss Innes, of Stow, died at Edinburgh on Saturday; her fortune was calculated at a million and a quarter. Her heir at-law is William Mitchell, Esq. of Parson's Green.

The other day an eagle was shot on Bodowen farm, close to Bodorgan, Anglesey. The noble bird measured from wing to wing eight feet, and from bill to claw four feet.

The Thames Tunnel is rapidly approaching towards completion, advancing at the rate of eight feet per week. On Wednesday the Duke of Buccleuch and Mr. W. Walker, civil engineer, visited the works.

There are now at least *eight clergymen of the Church of England* who are of the Hebrew nation.

On Sunday week the Rev. Mr. Storr, rector of Otley, baptised a female by immersion in a new baptistry, which had been made by order of the clergyman, in the vestry.

According to the second report of the House of Commons committee on railways, the number of persons conveyed on the different lines in 1838 was 5,532,825.

THE PEARL.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 21, 1840.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.—English dates have been brought down to the 20th February, by the arrival of the Great Western at New York.

Her Majesty's Marriage was solemnized on the 10th of February. The much-talked-of event was celebrated with due splendour.—Rumours of Ministerial changes received currency, but on what foundation does not appear.—The first of the Steamers for the Halifax line, the *Britannia*, was launched early in February.—Appearances of a renewal of hostilities between Mehemet Ali and the Sultan, exist.—Affairs in China had a warlike aspect.—The British had gained some further successes in India.

An article on our second page gives some highly interesting particulars of the progress of the Temperance reformation in the South of Ireland.

A Gas Company has been arranged for Halifax,—capital £20,000. Many shares have been subscribed for. A Bill for incorporating the Company passed the House of Assembly.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Rev. Mr. O'Brien continued his subject of *Enquiry*, before the Mechanics' Institute, on last Wednesday evening. It was eloquently and learnedly treated. The Lecture room was crowded, but excellent order prevailed. The main object of the lecture was to exhibit the assistance which *Enquiry* has given to the establishment of the facts of Revelation. The Reverend Gentleman, in concluding, expressed the warm interest that he took in the Institute, as a means of *Enquiry*, and his readiness to zealously co-operate in its behalf. He also explained a passage of his former lecture, alluded to by a writer in last Pearl, and declared that he entirely agreed with that writer.

Mr. A. McKinlay President of the Institute, will lecture on *Electricity*, with numerous experiments, next Wednesday evening.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.—An hour was usefully spent, last Monday evening, in Recitations. Several of the members showed much talent in the department. One recitation, of a passage from *Ossian*, was a high treat.

Subject for next Monday evening—Should the laws of morality ever be transgressed for political purposes.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We are much pleased that our correspondent Delta, has taken an answer to his former enquiry in "good part." We proceed to answer further enquiries, assuring him, that if the brevity of our remarks occasion an appearance of captiousness or hypercriticism, such by no means is our desire,—and we request of him to supply the courtesy and modesty, in his imagination, which may seem wanted.

The enquiries of Delta may be thus stated:—1st. Is a certain passage of his communication very deficient in the prosody of Blank Verse? 2nd. Is not the similarity between a certain address and one in Byron's *Manfred*, very slight and allowable?

In answer to the first, we would say, that some lines of the passage are good, and some "very deficient in the prosody of Blank Verse." Commencing at the part mentioned by himself, we may point him to the 9th, 28th, 31st, 38th, 41st and 42nd lines, the reading of which, if his ear is naturally musical, will, we think, prove our assertion, without any reference to the laws of prosody. Beside these, some other errors might be mentioned, if we were in "free conference" with the author. Respecting prosody, it should be recollected, that pauses are of much consequence in metre. Some of the objections to Delta's composition, do not apply to the metre of each line taken by itself,—but to the arrangement of the sentences, or important clauses of sentences; the construction of many of these is not musical, and their terminations break the metre of the lines, and jar, like the strain of a catch singer out of time. We will give an example of what we mean in a few extemporaneous lines:—

The moon in beauty glides: along the arch
Of summer sky the cloudlets fit: while far
Above the moveless stars hold endless watch.

Each of these lines of ten syllables, taken by itself, and without attending to the punctuation, is metrical enough. Read as they should be, music, poetry, and sense will appear most rudely handled.

An answer to Delta's second enquiry,—we agree with him, that it would be a wretched kind of criticism that would cry out "plagiarism" and "servile imitation," because some phrases in an article

were similar to phrases in any other work. Words and thoughts will often resemble what has appeared before, and no harm done; and it would be as fair to charge want of originality on a painter, because he used the colours that others used, as to blame a poet because some of his forms of expression could be found in Byron or Scott. But when an *address*, which is delivered by a moody character, to the spirit of a beloved female—has the same kind of verse, and in many instances the same forms of speech, as the address of Byron's *Manfred*, we may be excused for doubting the propriety of so close a resemblance in an *original* article: It looks too like an adaptation merely.

In conclusion, we express a confidence that Delta will pardon our plainness,—and assure him that the lines published in a late Pearl, and which he says bear a close resemblance to *Childe Harold*, were not written by the person mentioned.

The February Packet arrived off the harbour last evening,—the Dartmouth Steamer went down and brought up the Mail. She brings no news so late as that on hand.

MARRIED.

On the 5th March, by the Rev. Mr. Breare, Mr. R. Woodroffe, to Mrs. Catherine Campbell, both of Halifax.

At Portipique, 14th ult. by the Rev. George Simmons, Mr. William Hill, to Sarah, second daughter of James Spencer, Esq.

At Economy, 15th ult. by the Rev. Abel Marsh, Mr. Hugh Walker, to Rebecca Higgins.

At Upper Stewiacke, on the 7th of March, by the Rev. Mr. Burnet, Mr. Joseph McMullon, to Miss Rebecca Graham, second daughter of Mr. William Graham, Tailor, of that place.

At Economy, March 3, by the Rev. Andrew Kerr, Mr. Andrew Fulton, to Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. James Crowe.

At Economy, March 4, by the Rev. Noah B. Keelar, Capt. William Helt, to Miss Mary Ann, eldest daughter of John Barss, Esq. of Mount Shingleton.

At Five Islands, March 5, by Rev. Abel Marsh, Mr. Robert Wadman, Teacher, to Miss Martha, daughter of Joseph Corbett, Esq.

At the Gut of Canso, on the 17th Feby. by the Rev. Dugald McKiehan, Mr. John Skinner, to Miss Jane Cameron, both of that place.

DIED.

At Five Islands, on the 29th Feb. after 3 or 4 days illness, Mrs. Mary Keever, wife of Mr. James Corbett, in the 33d year of her age.

At Sydney, on Thursday the 27th ult. Mr. Andrew Sellon, of that place, aged 67 years, much regretted.

At Lower Horton, on Wednesday the 11th inst. of disease of the heart, Thomas William, son of James Hamilton, Esq. aged 33 years; he bore his sufferings with patience and resignation to the will of his heavenly Father; his many inestimable qualities endeared him to a numerous circle of relatives and acquaintances.

On Thursday morning, of a lingering illness, Mary, fourth daughter of Mr. C. Curran of Windsor, in the 21st year of her age. At Windsor, on the 11th inst. in the 43rd year of her age, Sophia, wife of Mr. Thomas McLatchy, leaving a large family and a numerous circle of friends to mourn her loss. She bore a protracted illness with much patience and died in hope of a glorious immortality.

At Chester, Dec. 12' 1839. Mrs. Ann Barbary Refus, on her passage from Chester to Wilmot about one hour before the vessel arrived.—At the same place on Feby. 4, 1840, Mr. James Smith, aged 26 years. Mr. S. was carrying a stick of green wood on his shoulder, from 7 to 9 inches in diameter, 11 feet long, his feet slipped within a few paces of his father's door, and the pole fell on his head. He expired in about 15 minutes after he was carried into the house by his bereaved parents. "How frail a thing is man."—At the same place on 5th March Dr. William Karney, aged 37 years, leaving a disconsolate widow and three children to mourn their loss. Dr. K. is much lamented by the inhabitants of Chester. He was the only regular Practitioner in that place.

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ARTHUR W. GODFREY.

February 22.