

older writers were so puzzled to discover how lime and potash got into plants, and it seems also to be this chiefly which is so vaguely treated of in the older books on gardening, &c., under the names of *extractive*, *vegetable extract*, *mucilaginous matter*, and the like. Saussure, for instance, filled a large vessel with turf, and moistened it thoroughly with pure water; when putting 10,000 parts of it by weight under a heavy press, and filtering and evaporating the fluid, he obtained 26 parts of what he termed *extract*, from 10,000 parts of well dunged and rich kitchen garden mould, he obtained ten parts of *extract*; and from 10,000 parts of good corn-field mould, he obtained four parts of *extract*.

Mr Polydore Boullay found that the liquid manure drained from dung-hills contains a large portion of humic acid, which accounts for its fertilising properties, so well known in China and on the Continent; and he found it also in peat earth, and in varying proportions in all sorts of turf. It appears probable, from Gay-Lussac having found a similar acid, on decomposing the prussic acid, that the humic acid may be found in animal blood, and, if so, it will account for its utility as a manure for vines, &c. Döbereiner found the gallic acid convertible into the humic, from which indeed it only appears to differ in its water of crystallisation. (To be Continued.)

VARIETY.

THE HUNDRED LARGEST CITIES IN THE WORLD—A recent German publication gives the following curious calculation respecting the hundred most populous cities in the world: These are Jeddo, in Japan 1,650,000 inhabitants; Pekin 1,500,000; London, 1,300,000; Hans Ischen 1,000,000; Calcutta 900,000; Madras 817,000; Nankin 800,000; Congo Ischen 800,000; Paris 717,000; West Chans 600,000; Constantinople 497,000; Banares 530,000; Kio 520,000; Su Ischem 497,000; Hough Ischem 500,000, &c. &c. The fortieth in the list is Berlin, containing 190,000; and the last, Bristol, 87,000. Among the hundred cities, two contain a million and a half, two upwards of a million, nine from half a million to a million, twenty-three from two hundred thousand to five hundred thousand, and fifty-six from one hundred thousand to two hundred thousand, and six from eighty-seven thousand to one hundred thousand. Of these one hundred cities, fifty-eight are in Asia, and thirty-two are in Europe, of which four are in Germany, four in France, five in Italy, eight in England, and three in Spain; the remaining ten are divided between Africa and America.

AN ESTIMATE OF COURAGE.—A wide spread hypocrisy has resulted from the so-far false light in which we view courage and cowardice. All of us tacitly or openly claim to be considered men of courage. An imputation of the reverse would rouse the veriest coward in the world into a temporary paroxysm of bravery. Yet that much cowardice exists, is a matter beyond doubt. An honest soldier, after many years' service in one of the bravest armies in the world, has avowed his opinion that it is greatly more predominant than courage. "That body," says he, "which possesses the most confidence on coming to the charge, will be successful. In the whole course of my military career, I never saw two bodies of any size cross bayonets. I have heard that such a thing occurred at the battle of Maida; but it will require stronger evidence than I have yet seen to make me believe it. Before such a collision takes place, one side always gives way; and I hold it as a maxim in warfare, that, if one body will only stand still, another of equal size will not come up to it. Any one who has seen a charge by the best troops will be convinced of this fact. Before the assailing body arrives within twenty paces of their enemy, it will be found to be divided into three

parts, the first composed of your rash, daring fellows, who outstrip their companions; the next, of your steady hands, who will do their duty and no more; and the last of those who would stay behind if they could. Fear is the most powerful of human passions, and is more evinced than the world generally supposes. We hear of armies and corps 'covering themselves with glory,' but we seldom hear of them covering themselves from the fire of the enemy. Yet doubtless any man who has seen much service has observed more of fear than of courage—witness the difficulty often experienced in getting men from under cover into an exposed situation. What stooping, and hobbling, and running back! Indeed I have seen a great deal more to make me ashamed of my species than proud of it. Individuals may be found, certainly, in whom fear seems scarcely to exist; but in bodies it is always apparent."—*Chambers' Journal*.

PERSIAN WIT.—When Abbas the Great was hunting in the little town of Netheny, which lies in a narrow valley between two mountains, he met, one morning, as the day dawned, an uncommonly ugly man, at the sight of whom his horse started. Being nearly dismounted, and deeming it a bad omen, he called out in a rage to have his head struck off. The poor peasant, whom they had seized, and were on the point of executing, prayed that he might be informed of his crime. "Your crime," said the king, "is your unlucky countenance, which is the first object I saw this morning, and which had nearly caused me to fall from my horse." "Alas!" said the man, "by this reckoning, what term must I apply to your majesty's countenance, which was the first object that my eyes met this morning, and which is to cause my death?" The king smiled at the wit of the reply, ordered the man to be released, and gave him a present, instead of taking off his head.—*Sketches of Persia*.

THE NEWS-MONGER.—Some people are never happy but in hearing or telling the news. A person being in a public house one day, asked a stranger who came in, "What news?" Says the stranger, "Why 40,000 men have risen to day. The news-monger, supposing the stranger referred to a rebellion in the country, asked him, "What do they intend to do." "Why, go to bed again, at night," said the stranger.

FROM THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—A letter dated Oahu, May 26, says,—"This place is in an uproar in consequence of an insult to the British flag recently perpetrated by the natives, in the seizure of two Catholics upon the Island, upon religious grounds. The flag was publicly burnt upon the street."

A MANUFACTURER near Faversham has discovered an improvement in the manufacture of glass, rendering it so pliable that they can make a cloth or fabric of the finest texture. They have pieces of this glass two and a half yards long, and from nine to thirty-five inches in breadth; they have also made some very fine ladies' head dresses, or ornaments, from this material, which are considered both curious and useful.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM is coming into vogue in London. One of the papers contains an account of some curious and puzzling experiments by a magnetizer, from Paris, named Dupotet.

THE English Engineer, Stephenson, has invented a locomotive, which will go with facility about eighty miles the hour.

COMING DOWN.—Genesee flour of the best brands were sold in New York on Tuesday, for \$8 25, and dull at that.

A man in Lowell, in attempting to hang himself, forgot to put the rope around his neck, and jumped off the barrel into a mud hole. He did not discover his mistake until he attempted to kick.

REMOVAL.

PETER BROWN,

TAILOR,

BEGB leave to notify his friends and the public, that he has removed to the shop next door to Mr Robert Dawson, and directly opposite to Messrs J & W. Lees, where by strict attention to business he hopes still to merit that liberal patronage he has always received since his commencing business.

ALWAYS KEPT ON HAND,

BEST SUPERFINE, WEST OF ENGLAND BROAD CLOTHS,

Kerseymeres, Pilot Cloths, Buckskins, Petershams, SILK AND COTTON VELVETS, Excellent Assortment of Silk, and Silk & Wollen Valentines,

MEZILLE AND OTHER KINDS OF VESTINGS.

All kinds of Trimmings, &c. &c. &c.

ALSO:

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF READY-MADE CLOTHING,

Suitable for the Season;

All of which he will warrant to be of the best workmanship and material, and will be sold at the following very reduced prices, for cash only, viz.

Great Coats	from 11 to 15 dollars.
Cloaks,	" 6 " 8 1-2 "
Frock Coats	" 12 " 16 "
Dress do.	" 10 " 15 "
Short do.	" 8 " 11 "
Jackets	" 6 " 8 "
100 prs trousers	" 2 " 8 "
120 assorted vests	" 1 1-2 " 4 "
Twilled flannel drawers	1 "

India Rubber Clothing, &c. &c. &c.

Pictou, October 4.

if

CO. LIT.

THAT part of the Subscriber's House at present occupied by his own family.

ALSO.

His new Shop in the stone building adjoining Mr Robson's. Entry at the first November next.

R. DAWSON.

August 27th, 1837.

CARD.

Mr JAMES FOGO, Attorney at Law, has opened office in Mr Robert Dawson's new stone building, opposite the establishment of Messrs Ross & Primrose, where he will be prepared to transact business in the various branches of his profession.

Entrance to the office, by the Western end of the Building.

May 31st

if

ALEX. McPHAIL,

BEGB respectfully to intimate to the inhabitants of Pictou, that he has OPENED SHOP,

next door to Mr. James Dawson's Book-store, Where he offers for sale, an assortment of

GOODS,

Suitable for the season.

Pictou, June 21, 1837.

BOOTS & SHOES.

ANDERSON HENDERSON,

HAVING returned from the United States, intimates to his friends and the public, that he has commenced the

SHOE-MAKING BUSINESS,

in its various branches, in the shop two doors east of store of H. Hutton, Esquire, where he is ready to execute orders with punctuality and despatch.

ON HAND:

A quantity of Buckskins, which he will make up into gentlemen's opera boots, according to order.

June 6.

if

20 SIDES NEATS' LEATHER for sale by the Subscriber, low for cash.

JAS. DAWSON.

Sept. 13, 1837.