

POETRY.

THE FLOWER OF THE DESERT.

BY MRS. HEMANS.

"Who does not recollect the exultation of Vaillant over a flower in the torrid wastes of Africa?—The affecting mention of the influence of a flower upon his mind, by Mungo Park, in a time of suffering and dependency, in the heart of the same savage country, is familiar to every one."—HOWITT'S Book of the Seasons.

Why art thou thus in thy beauty cast,
O lonely, loneliest flower?

Where the sound of song hath never pass'd,
From human heart or bower?

I pity thee, for thy heart of love,
For thy glowing heart, that fain
Would breathe out joy with each wind to rove—
In vain lost thing! in vain!

I pity thee for thy wasted bloom,
For thy glory's fleeting hour,
For the desert place, thy living tomb—
O lonely, loneliest flower!

I said,—but a low voice made reply:
"Lament not for the flower!
Though its blossoms all unmark'd must die,
They have had a glorious dower.

"Though it bloom afar from the minstrel's way,
And the paths where lovers tread,
Yet strength and hope, like an inborn day,
By its odours have been shed.

"Yes! dew more sweet than ever fell
O'er island of the blest,
Were shaken forth from its perfumed bell,
On a suffering human breast.

"A wanderer came as a stricken deer,
O'er the waste of burning sand,
He bore the wound of an Arab spear,
He fled from a ruthless band.

"And dreams of home, in a troubled tide,
Swept o'er his darkening eye,
As he lay down by the fountain side,
In his mute despair to die.

"But his glance was caught by the desert flower,
The precious boon of heaven!
And sudden hope, like a vernal shower,
To his fainting heart was given.

"For the bright flower spoke of One above;
Of the Presence, felt to brood,
With a spirit of pervading love,
O'er the wildest solitude.

"Oh! the seed was thrown these wastes among,
In blest and gracious hour!
For the lorn one rose, in the heart made strong,
By the lonely, loneliest flower!"

MISCELLANY.

POWER OF REGULATING DREAMS.

Dreams can be produced by whispering into the ears when a person is asleep. One of the most curious, as well as authentic examples of this kind has been referred to by several writers: I find the particulars in a paper by Dr. Gregory, and they were related to him by a gentleman who witnessed them. The subject of it was an officer in the expedition to Louisburg, in 1758, who had this peculiarity in so remarkable a degree that his companions in the transport were in the constant habit of amusing themselves at his expense. They could produce in him any kind of a dream, by whispering into his ear, especially if this was done by a friend with whose voice he was familiar. At one time they conducted him

through the whole progress of a quarrel, which ended in a duel; and, when the parties were supposed to be met, a pistol was put into his hand, which he fired, and was awakened by the report. On another occasion they found him asleep on the top of a locker or bunker, in the cabin, when they made him believe he had fallen overboard, and exhorted him to save himself by swimming. They then told him that a shark was pursuing him, and entreated him to dive for life. He instantly did so, with such force as to throw himself entirely from the locker upon the cabin floor, by which he was much bruised, and awakened of course. After the landing of the army at Louisburg his friends found him asleep in his tent, and evidently much annoyed by the cannonading. They then made him believe that he was engaged, when he expressed a great fear, and showed an evident disposition to run away. Against this they remonstrated, but, at the same time, increased his fears by imitating the groans of the wounded and the dying; and when he asked, as he often did, who was down, they named his particular friends. At last they told him that the man next himself in the line had fallen, when he instantly sprang from his bed, rushed out of the tent, and was roused from his danger and dream together by falling over the tent ropes. A remarkable circumstance in this case was that after these experiments, he had no distinct recollection of his dreams, but only a confused feeling of oppression or fatigue; and used to tell his friend that he was sure that he was playing some trick upon him.

NEW WAY OF APPLYING LEECHES.—"Well, my good woman," said the doctor, "how is your husband to-day? Better, no doubt."

"Oh, yes, surely," said the woman. "He is as well as ever, and gone to the field."

"I thought so," continued the doctor. "The leeches have cured him. Wonderful effect they have. You got the leeches of course."

"Oh yes, they did him a great deal of good, though he could not take them all."

"Take them all! Why my good woman, how did you apply them?"

"Oh, I managed nicely said the wife. "For variety's sake, I boiled one-half and made a fry of the other. The first he got down very well, but the second made him very sick. But what he took was quite enough," continued she, seeing some horror in the doctor's countenance, "for he was better the next morning, and to-day he is quite well."

"Umph!" said the doctor, with a sapient shake of the head. "If they have cured him, that is sufficient, but they would have been better applied externally."

The woman replied that she would do so the next time; and I doubt not that if ever fate throws a score of unfortunate leeches into her power again, she will make a poultice of them.

LAW ELOQUENCE IN KENTUCKY.—The following powerful, elegant, sublime, and classical appeal was made in a court of justice somewhere in Kentucky, by one of the "learned heads" of the bar.—"Gentlemen of the Jury, do you think my client, who lives in the pleasant valley of Kentucky, where the lands is rich and the soil are fertile, would be guilty of stealing eleven little skeins of colting? I think not, I reckon not, I calculate not. And I guess gentlemen of the jury, that you had better bring my client in not guilty, for if you convict him he and his son Josh will lick the whole of you."

An American paper argues that as "it takes all sorts of people to make a world," so, by a parity of reasoning, it must take "all sorts of a fellow" to make a newspaper.

AMERICAN BOYS.—An American of 10 or 12 years of age is as much of a young man as an European at sixteen; and when arrived at that age, he is as useful in business, and as much to be relied on as a German at 24, or a Frenchman at 50. Business is the very soul of an American; he pursues it, not as a means of procuring for himself and his family the necessary comforts of life but as the fountain of all human felicity.—From the earliest hour in the morning, until late at night, the streets are thronged by men of all trades and professions, each following his vocation like a *perpetuum mobile*, as if he dreamed not of a cessation from labor, or the possibility of becoming fatigued. Neither is this hurry of business confined to the large cities—it communicates itself to every village and hamlet, and extends to, and penetrates the western forests. It is as if all America were but one gigantic workshop, over the entrance of which there is the blazing inscription, "No admission here except on Business."

DEATH BY SMOKING.—The following incident will exhibit the destructive effects of smoking tobacco. The young man of whom we speak was an acquaintance of ours, and for a considerable time attended an academy, located in the place of our ministerial labors, in New York. He and a fellow student undertook to see who could smoke the greatest quantity of tobacco at a sitting. We are not certain which surpassed the other, in their feat. But this young man who foolishly made the experiment, and who smoked eighteen pipes of tobacco, lost his life by it. His physical powers were so prostrated that he could not recover his strength. He was carried home to his father's house, and lingered a while, and then died—died as a fool dieth, and disappointed the fond hopes of benevolent parents.

The effects of tobacco are of the same nature on others, but by "moderate use" the system is not thus prostrated at once. Time is given for recovery and restoration from the destructive effects.—*Am. paper.*

We occasionally hear a simpering, double refined young lady boasting that she never labored, and could not, for the life of her, make a pudding, as though ignorance of these matters was a mark of gentility.—There can be no greater proof of silly arrogance than such remarks.

REJOICING AT A FALL.—An Irishman being told that the price of bread had been lowered, exclaimed—"this is the first time that I ever rejoiced at the fall of my best friend."

A hypocrite is the worst condition of any man on earth; he is hated of the world because of his profession, and hated of God because he has no more than a profession.

WEALTH ALWAYS AT HAND.—Why do you desire riches and grandeur? Because you think they will bring happiness with them. The very thing you want is now in your power—you have only to study contentment.

If the mistress would scold less, she would have less reason for scolding.

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