

POETRY.

THE CAST-AWAY SHIP.

Her mighty sails the breezes swell,
And fast she leaves the lessening land,
And from the shore the last farewell
Is waved by many a snowy hand;
And weeping eyes are on the main
Until its verge she wanders o'er;
But from that hour of parting pain,
Oh! she was never heard of more!

When on her wide and trackless path
Of desolation, doomed to flee,
Saw, sank she mid the blinding wrath
Of racking cold and rolling sea—
Or—where the land but mocks the eye—
Went drifting on a fatal shore?
Vain guesses all! Her destiny
Is dark! She ne'er was heard of more!

The moon had twelve times changed her form
From glowing orb to crescent wane,
'Mid skies of calm and scowl of storm,
Since from her port that ship had gone;
But ocean keeps its secret well;
And though we know that all is o'er,
No eye hath seen—no tongue can tell
Her fate; she ne'er was heard of more!

Oh! were her tale of sorrow known,
'Twere something to the broken heart;
The pangs of doubt would then be gone,
And Fancy's endless dreams depart!
It may not be;—there is no ray
By which her doom we may explore;
We only know—she sailed away,
And ne'er was seen or heard of more!

MISCELLANY.

LOVE OF DRESS.—The love of ornament is the ruling passion of the sex. So it has ever been, and so it ever will be. There's not a woman who lives who does not regard the matter of dress as a most important consideration. Even the old and decrepit, or the young and unsexily, will try on a dashing bonnet or a handsome shawl with a flutter of the heart that speaks plainer than a thousand words the delight it occasions. This is partly the result of education and habit. The first toy a girl generally gets is a doll, and the first thing she learns is to dress it in the most attractive manner. These infantine idols are kept clothed in rich vestments, and the little worshipper learns the value of such externals by their influence upon herself. To aid this impression, the mother, the nurse, and the governess use their best endeavors, by making a new sash or a pretty cap the most desirable rewards, and the resumption of a cast off frock, or a soiled pair of shoes the most dreaded punishments. As the child increases in years, the knowledge that superiority in dress is the passport to general admiration gains strength. The girl views it as a means of securing attention, and the woman relies upon its assistance to strengthen her power over the other sex, or increase her influence with her own. Dress is the pivot on which every feminine action often turns.

THE DUTCH BOOR OF SOUTH AFRICA.—The boor, absolute master of these wide domains, covers them with flocks and herds, the care of which he commits to his Hottentots,—obtaining thus the entire disposal of his own time, which he devotes to the most listless indolence. He makes neither milk nor butter; nor does he produce either wine, fruits or vegetables. The pipe never quits his mouth, except to take his snuff or glass of brandy, and to eat three meals of mutton soaked in the fat of the large-tailed sheep, without vegetables or even bread. The good lady of the house, equally disdainful of toil, remains almost as immovable as the chair on which she sits, having before her a table always covered with hot coffee. The daughters sit round with their hands folded, resembling articles of furniture rather than youthful and living beings. No diversion, no event, breaks the monotony of this insulated existence; nor does knowledge for them ever unfold her ample page. A schoolmaster, indeed, usually forms part of the establishment; but as he is thought too much to maintain one for teaching only, he is expected to make himself useful in sundry other capacities. Mr. Barrow even saw one of this learned fraternity yoked in a plough.

Amid such varied avocations, these instructors cannot be expected to convey to their pupils more than the mere elements of reading and writing. At the same time, hospitality knows scarcely any limits. With the exception of their nearest neighbours, with whom they are probably involved in boundary-feuds, any person, from any quarter, is welcome. The stranger opens the door, shakes hands with the master, kisses the mistress, sits down, and makes himself completely at home.—*Edinburgh Cabinet Library.*

CURING HAMS.—A subscriber hands us the following receipt as a superior one for curing hams, which has until recently been held as a secret, and now for the first time published. Take 3 oz. saltpetre, and one large teaspoonful of pearlsh to 16 lb. of ham, and molasses in the proportion of one gallon to the hoghead. Make the salt pickle as strong as possible, dissolve all the above ingredients, put them in the pickle, and pour it on the hams. Let them remain in the pickle under weight, for six weeks, and smoke them during the cold weather. They will keep an indefinite period, and equal in flavor to any in the world.—*Harbor Reflector.*

EARLY FRUGALITY.—In early childhood you lay the foundation of poverty or riches, in the habits you give your children. Teach them to save everything;—not for their own use, for that would make them selfish—but for some use.—Teach them to share every thing with their playmates; but never allow them to destroy anything. I once visited a family where the most exact economy was observed; yet nothing was mean or uncomfortable. It is the character of true economy to be as comfortable with a little, as others are with much. In this family, when the father brought home a package, the older children would, of their own accord, put away the paper and twine neatly, instead of throwing them in the fire, or tearing them to pieces. If the little ones wanted a piece of twine to spin a top, there it was in readiness, and when they threw it upon the floor, the older children had no need to be told to put it again in its place.

REMEDY FOR THE LOCK JAW.—We are informed by a friend that a sure preventive against this terrible disease is to take some soft soap, and mix it with a sufficient quantity of pulverised chalk, so as to make it of the consistency of buckwheat batter; keep the chalk moistened with a fresh supply of soap until the wound begins to discharge, and the patient finds relief. Our friend stated to us that implicit confidence may be placed in what he says, that he has known several cases where this remedy has been successfully applied. So simple and so valuable a remedy, within the reach of every person, ought to be universally known.—*N. Y. Ec. Post.*

RAIL ROADS IN THE UNITED STATES.—It is estimated on good authority, that at this time, the rail roads in the United States, either actually under contract, or in progress of being surveyed, amount to more than three thousand miles. Each yard of the highest iron rails, fit for a rail road, weighs sixtytwo and half pounds. As there are 1760 yards in a mile, each mile of rail road with a double track, will require 228 tons of rails, besides chains, screw and bolts, amounting in the whole to at least 250 tons of iron per mile—250 multiplied by 8000, is 750,000 tons of iron, that will shortly be used in the United States, in the construction of rail roads.

Such is the demand for rail road iron in England for the American market, that common bar iron, which one year ago was worth only £6 10s in Wales is now worth £9 10s at the Welsh works; as appears by the British Prices Current.

It is now stated in the New York papers that at this time contracts have been actually made in England by American Houses, for 400,000 tons of rail road iron, to be shipped to this country.

£9 10s sterling is about \$45 of our money; but rail road iron costs more than common bar iron, and is at this time worth at least \$50 per ton, at the works in Wales or Staffordshire. 400,000 tons of iron at \$50 per ton, twenty millions of dollars, that the people of the United States are bound to pay the English by their present contracts for rail road iron. If all the projected rail roads of this country shall be laid down with British iron, we shall pay to the English nation within the next seven years, at least fifty millions of dollars for rail road iron.

And yet, we have in our mountains both iron ore and coal, of the best quality, and in quantities sufficient to yield iron for the whole world.—*Penn. Tel.*

SINGULAR ACCIDENT—REWARD OF CRUELTY.—As a spinner of St. Alban's, a few days ago, was endeavouring to hit with a stick her favourite cat, which was in the act of carrying off a beefsteak, the lady struck her arm with so much force on the sharp edge of a barrel as to break both the bones of her arm half way between the wrist and elbow. Fuss narrowly escaped a broken back.

FLANNELS.—As the genial sunshine of spring advances those accustomed to wearing flannel undergarments are too much disposed to lay them suddenly aside. This is an error of great magnitude. Keep them on till the east wind is no longer elaborated; till the flowers are blooming in the fields, and a uniform atmospheric temperature is established. A multitude annually are hurried to an early grave, in the very meridian of life, in consequence of not understanding, or by neglecting this simple and important advice.—*Medical Journal.*

EXTRAORDINARY FACT.—One of the most extraordinary instances of perseverance ever recorded, is related in a late publication in England. The discovery of the process of splitting bars of iron, for the making of nails, was first made in Sweden, and the consequence of this advance in the art was most disastrous to the manufacturers in England. An individual who lived in the neighbourhood of the works at Stourbridge, by the name of Foley, was all at once missed, and was not seen again for three or four years. He had mentally resolved to ascertain by what means the process of splitting bars of iron was accomplished; and without communicating his intention to a single individual, he proceeded to Hull, and thence, without funds, worked his way to the Swedish Iron port. Arrived in Sweden, he took up the occupation of a fiddler, and after a time, he became a universal favourite with the workmen; and from the apparent entire absence of intelligence, or any thing like ultimate object, he was received into the works, to every part of which he had access. He took the advantage thus offered, and having stored his memory with observations on all the combinations, he disappeared from among his kind friends, as he had appeared, no one knew whence or whether. On his return to England, he communicated his information to some friends, and by their aid the necessary buildings were erected, and machinery provided. When, at length, everything was prepared, and it was found that the machinery would not act; at all events, it did not answer the sole end of its erection; it would not split the bars of iron. Foley disappeared again, and it was concluded that shame and mortification at his failure had driven him away forever. Not so; again, though somewhat more speedily, he found his way to the Swedish iron works, where he was received most joyfully, and to make sure of their fiddler, he was lodged in the splitting mill itself. Here was the end and aim of his failure. He now made drawings, or rude tracings; and having abided an ample time to verify his observations, and to impress them clearly and vividly on his mind, he made his way to the port and once more returned to England. This time he was completely successful, and by the results of his experience enriched himself, and greatly benefited his countrymen.—*Hebworthport Herald.*

BALLOONING.—Dr. Ayme, in a recent essay which he read at the French Institute, endeavours to prove that it is possible to obtain such a hold on the upper atmosphere as to be able to direct a balloon with all the steadiness and certainty of a boat moving on the waters. This he proposes to accomplish by means of oars and levers to be attached to the ear, and which are to be made of oiled skin or cloth, capable of containing an adequate quantity of hydrogen gas, the specific gravity of which, being lighter than the air, would obtain a hold on the natural fluid, as they would meet with the same resistance as the balloon does itself.

The Temperance Societies in America are becoming very extensive, and the magistracy have devised a plan for the cure of drunkenness which is beneficial to the country. In order to clear the grounds, the offender is ordered to dig up the stump of a tree every time that he gets intoxicated.—*English paper.* (John Bull, we think, is rather premature in his remarks on the magisterial laws of America; if however, such laws were passed, they would probably supersede the use of the mechanical power to eradicate stumps, for which a prize medal was reserved.)

IMPORTANT TO THE LADIES.—A letter from an American lady in England says, that during her stay of some months, she had not yet seen a lady with earrings; and this is the very centre of fashion—London!

AGENTS FOR THE BEE.

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