

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

SELECT POETRY.

FRIENDS.

Friend after friend departs;
Who hath not lost a friend?
There is no union here of hearts
That finds not here an end:
Were this frail world our only rest,
Living or dying, none were blest.

Beyond the flight of time,
Beyond this vale of death,
There surely is some blessed clime,
Where life is not a breath;
Nor life's affections transient fire,
Whose sparks fly upward and expire.

There is a world above,
Where parting is unknown,
A whole eternity of love,
Formed for the good alone;
And faith beholds the dying here
Translated to that happier sphere.

Thus star by star declines,
Till all are passed away,
As morning high and higher shines
To pure and perfect day:
Nor sink those stars in empty night;
But hide themselves in heaven's own light.

MRS. JUDSON'S BURIAL AT ST. HELENA.

Mournfully, tenderly,
Bear onward the dead,
Where the warrior has lain,
Let the Christian be laid;
No place more befitting,
O Rock of the sea!
Never such treasure
Was hidden in thee.

Mournfully, tenderly,
Solemn and slow,
Tears are bedewing
The path as ye go;
Kindred and strangers
Are mourners to-day;
Gently—so, gently,
O bear her away.

Mournfully, tenderly,
Gaze on that brow;
Beautiful is it
In quietude now;
One look! and then settle
The loved to her rest,
The ocean beneath her,
The turf on her breast.

So have ye buried her—
Up! and depart
To life and to duty
With undimmed heart:
Fear not—for the love
Of the stranger will keep
The casket that lies
In the rock of the deep.

Peace! peace to thy bosom,
Thou servant of God!
The vale thou art treading
Thou hast before trod;
Precious dust thou hast laid
By the Hopia tree,
And treasures as precious
In the Rock of the sea.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EXTRACT FROM THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN LONDON.

BY MR. RUSH.

We shall conclude with the following entertaining account of the after-dinner pastimes at Gloucester House, then the residence of the lamented Canning:—

It would not have been easy to assemble a company better fitted to make a dinner-party agreeable, or to have brought them together at a better moment. Parliament having just risen, Mr. Canning, and his two colleagues of the cabinet, Mr. Huskisson and Mr. Robinson, seemed like birds let out of a cage. There was much small talk, some of it very sprightly. Ten o'clock arrived, with little disposition to rise from table. Mr. Canning proposed that we should play 'Twenty Questions.' This was new to me and the other members of the diplomatic corps present, though we had all been in England a good while. The game consisted in endeavours to find out your thoughts by asking twenty questions. The questions were to be put plainly, though in the alternative if desired; the answers to be also plain and direct. The object of your thoughts not to be an abstract idea, or any thing so occult, or scientific, or technical, as not to be supposed to enter into the knowledge of the company; but something well known to the present

day, or to general history. It might be any name of renown, ancient or modern man or woman; or any work or memorial of art well known but not a mere event, as a battle, for instance. Those were mentioned as among the general rules of the game, serving to denote its character. It was agreed that Mr. Canning, assisted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who sat next to him, should put the questions; and that I, assisted by Lord Granville, who sat next to me, should give the answers. Lord Granville and myself were, consequently, to have the thought or secret in common; and it was well understood, that the discovery of it, if made, was to be the fair result of mental inference from the questions and answers, not of signs passing, or hocus pocus of any description, with these as the preliminaries, and the parties sitting face to face, on opposite sides of the table, we began the battle.

First question (by Mr. Canning).—Does what you have thought of belong to the animal or vegetable kingdom? Answer.—To the vegetable.

Second question.—Is it manufactured, or unmanufactured? Manufactured.

Third.—Is it a solid or a liquid? A solid. [How could it be a liquid, said one of the company, slyly, unless vegetable soup.]

Fourth.—Is it a thing entire in itself, or in parts? Entire.

Fifth.—Is it for private use or public? Public.

Sixth.—Does it exist in England, or out of it? In England.

Seventh.—Is it single, or are there others of the same kind? Single.

Eighth.—Is it historical, or only existent at present? Both.

Ninth.—For ornament or use? Both.

Tenth.—Has it any connexion with the person of the King? No.

Eleventh.—Is it carried, or does it support itself? The former.

Twelfth.—Does it pass by succession? [Neither Lord Granville nor myself being quite certain on this point, the question was not answered; but, as it was thought that the very hesitation to answer might serve to shed light upon the secret, it was agreed that the question should be counted as one, in the progress of the game.]

Thirteenth.—Was it used at the coronation? Yes.

Fourteenth.—In the Hall or Abbey? Probably in both; certainly in the Hall.

Fifteenth.—Does it belong specially to the ceremony of the coronation, or is it used at other times? It is used at other times.

Sixteenth.—Is it exclusively of a vegetable nature, or is it not, in some parts, a compound of a vegetable and a mineral? Exclusively of a vegetable nature.

Seventeenth.—What is its shape? [This question was objected to as too particular; and the company inclining to think so, it was withdrawn, but Mr. Canning saying it would be hard upon him to count it, as it was withdrawn the decision was in his favour on that point, and it was not counted.]

Eighteenth.—Is it decorated or simple? [We made a stand against this question also, as too particular; but the company not inclining to sustain us this time, I had to answer it, and said that it was simple.]

Nineteenth.—Is it used in the ordinary ceremonial of the House of Lords? No.

Twentieth.—Is it ever used by either House? No.

Twenty-first.—Is it generally stationary or movable? Movable. The whole number of questions being now exhausted, there was a dead pause. The interest had gone on increasing as the game advanced, until, coming to the last question, it grew to be like neck-and-neck at the close of a race. Mr. Canning was evidently under concern lest he should be foiled, as by the law of the game he would have been, if he had not now solved the enigma. He sat silent for a minute or two; then rolling his rich eye about, and with his countenance a little anxious, and in an accent by no means over-confident, he exclaimed, 'I think it must be the wand of the Lord High-Steward! And it was—EVEN so. This wand is a long, plain, white staff, not much thicker than your middle finger, and, as such, justifies all the answers given. In answering the ninth question, Lord Granville and I, who conferred together in a whisper to all answers not at once obvious, remembered that some quaint old English writers say that the Lord High-Steward carried his staff to beat off intruders from his Majesty's treasury! When at his question by referring to the rod of the Lord Chamberlain, which he said did not pass by succession, each new incumbent procuring as he supposed, a new one for himself, I said that it was not the Lord Chamberlain's rod, but the very mention of this was 'burning' as the children say when they play hide-and-seek; and in answering that it was not, I had to take care of my emphasis. The questions were put in the rapid manner in which they will be read; but sometimes after considerable intervals, not of silence—for they were enlivened by occasional remarks thrown in by the company, all of whom grew intent upon the pastime as it advanced, though Mr. Canning alone put the questions, and I alone gave out the answers. It lasted up-

wards of an hour, the wine ceasing to go round. On Mr. Canning's success, for it was touch-and-go with him, there was a burst of approbation, we of the diplomatic corps saying, that we must be very careful not to let him ask us too many questions at the Foreign Office, lest he should find out every secret that we had!

(FROM THE LIVERPOOL MERCURY.)

The Mayor received yesterday afternoon a telegraphic despatch announcing the death of the Duchess of Gloucester, an event which has been hourly expected for the last few days. Immediately on the receipt of the mournful intelligence the royal standard was hoisted half-mast high at the Town Hall. Her Royal Highness the Princess Mary, Duchess of Gloucester and Edinburgh, and Countess of Connaught, was the fourth daughter and last surviving child of his late Majesty George III, and aunt to Queen Victoria. She was born on the 25th of April 1776, and on Saturday last entered the 82nd year of her age. On the 22nd July, 1816, she married her cousin, Prince William Frederick, second Duke of Gloucester, who died November 30, 1834 and his titles became extinct.

At last the Neufchatel dispute seems to be nearly at an end. The Federal Council of Switzerland has by an unanimous vote authorised the acceptance of the proposition of the four disinterested Powers. According to the semi-official Swiss journal, the "Bund," the King of Prussia will get a part at least of the money which he originally demanded from Switzerland; he is to have 1,000,000 francs, but this is not conceded as an indemnity for the civil list, or as an indemnity for anything whatever, it is simply a money payment without any assigned reason. The proposed stipulation that this payment should be made exclusively by the Helvetic Confederation, and that Neufchatel should not contribute to it is also excluded. Nor is anything to be said in the treaty of the title of Prince of Neufchatel. The King of Prussia must keep it and wear it if he likes, but Switzerland will not acknowledge it.

The Piedmontese Senate, in its sittings of the 25th ult., voted the Bill for the fortification of Alessandria by a majority of 45 to 8.

A serious misunderstanding has arisen between the Sardinian Cabinet and the municipality of Genoa touching the portion of entrance dues which are to be paid into the royal treasury. The law fixes the sum at 800,000*l.*; the communal council in its last sitting virtually refused to pay the tax by voting only 90,000*l.*, after which the whole council resigned. It is believed that the Government will send a royal commissioner to take charge of the municipal affairs of the city until the council be reorganised. This resistance of Genoa is attributed to the strong hostility of the merchants of that city to the proposition for changing the naval arsenal from Genoa to Spezia.

The Debates of Wednesday published an analysis of the Royal Speech which will be read by General Narvaez in the Queen's name on the 1st of May at the opening of the Spanish Cortes. The speech is drawn up by M. Pidal. It will announce the re-establishment of a good understanding between Spain and Rome, and renewal of friendly relations with the court of Russia. The hope is expressed that the difference with Mexico will be amicably settled but not unless the honour of Spain is satisfied and the interests of Spaniards in Mexico guaranteed in future and an indemnity paid to those who have suffered. Should the conditions put not be granted, Spain, despite her sincere wish for peace will not hesitate to have recourse to coercive measures. The Queen calls the attention of the Cortes to the internal condition of the country. Peace and order prevail everywhere. A veil of oblivion is to be thrown over the past. A series of political and financial reforms will be promised.

SIGNOR ORSINI ON HIS ESCAPE FROM THE CASTLE OF MANTUA.

A second lecture was delivered by Signor Felice Orsini on Wednesday evening, in the Concert Hall. The subject of the lecture was his escape from the Castle of Mantua. In the course of a few introductory observations he said that from his youth he had always had the most intense hatred towards the oppressors of his country, and had always done everything in his power to drive the Austrians from Italy, but in doing so he had often fallen into their hands, and the last time he should have been put to death had he not, by the help of God, escaped. In August 1854, he was engaged in organising an expedition against the Austrians on the Swiss frontier when the movement having failed, he was arrested. He should have been condemned to a years imprisonment, but on the morning of the 24th of August he made his escape from the gens-d'armes by prevailing upon a girl to gossip with them, so as to afford him an opportunity for so doing. In August 1854 he left Switzerland on a political mission and entered Lombardy, taking an assumed name, in order not to be discovered by the Austrian authorities. Whilst travelling in December 1854, he was recognised and discovered to the police by a Modenese Jew was again arrested, and sent to Vienna. The journey lasted 15 days, and his sufferings from cold and hunger were horrible. On arriving at

Vienna he underwent several examinations before the police authorities, who handed him over to the criminal tribunal. He did not find that his journey in Lombardy was any ground of suspicion against him, but his antecedents were known, and on the 25th of March he was sent in charge of two gendarmes and the superior police officer, to the gloomy Castle of Mantua, in order that he should be subjected to further examination. Having undergone several examinations, during which fruitless attempts were made to make him confess, it became certain that his condemnation and sentence of death must follow and he therefore resolved upon a desperate effort to escape. After seven months of imprisonment during part of which he suffered from fever, he succeeded in effecting his purpose. The manner of his escape Signor Orsini detailed in plain and unadorned language, and the narrative was one of thrilling interest. He had obtained, through the aid of a Berlin lady, possession of a pair of little saws, of the very finest steel, and with these working during the intervals of the visits of the sentries, he succeeded, in 24 days, in cutting through seven of an inner row of bars which guarded his cell window, beneath which, at a depth of 30 yards, lay the castle moat. The ingenious modes adopted by the prisoner for concealing his labours and preventing the suspicion of his goalers (whose confidence he had previously obtained by enduring his sufferings patiently) formed a remarkable portion of the lecture. When he had cut a sufficient number of the inner and outer bars of the window to allow him to escape, he made a rope of sheets and other portions of his bedding, sufficiently long to enable him to lower himself into the ditch. Having nerved himself for the task, he waited calmly, pretending to be asleep, until the sentries had paid their last visit for the night, and then he let himself down into the ditch, falling, however, to the ground, when within six yards of the bottom. He was severely hurt, and was quite unable to ascend the counterscarp, which was about 18 feet high. At five o'clock in the morning when the city gates were opened, some people went by to whom he called, saying he had been drunk the previous night and had fallen into the ditch, out of which he asked them to help him. Some refused, but others were bolder, and he was dragged out.

His deliverers conveyed him to the margin of the lake near the castle, where he hid himself until night amongst the reeds. For eight days he remained in the neighbourhood of Mantua, upon the bare ground, exposed to the weather and without medical aid: but ultimately, by the assistance of some of those who helped him out of the ditch, and who guessed at his real situation, he was enabled to correspond with friends, who provided carriages and horses at different points of the road, so that in two hours after starting he was out of the Austrian territories. In concluding his lecture, Signor Orsini said he had sworn to consecrate his life to Italy, the land to which he had devoted his youth. He left his family affection, every tie, to engage in this great work. No human power should impede him; but when he worked for the independence and liberty of Italy he did not mean to become the blind instrument of a party or of an individual. (Applause) God saved him; his friend saved him at great risk to themselves. Now he had the full possession of his physical energies, and in a year—in a few short months, perhaps—he hoped to be again on the field of battle, fighting against the oppressors of his native country. (Applause)—Mr. John Finch, Jun., moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, in an eloquent speech, and carried by acclamation, coupled with an expression of sympathy with Signor Orsini, and the best wishes of the audience for the Italian cause.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON BOARD A SHIP IN THE RIVER.—Yesterday afternoon, whilst an able seaman, named Duncan Maguiness, a native of Sydney, Nova Scotia, was standing on the rail of the barque Queen, lying in the river bound for Newfoundland, assisting to get the anchor overboard, when it fell upon him and jammed against the rail, causing instant death.

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