

long live the brave little "Petrel," in spite of superstitious sailors, which reminds us of St. Peter's walking by faith over the troubled waters. It is a pity that the sincere repentance of Mary Magdalene should have given us such a contemptible word as "maudlin." At first it was used for penitential sorrow; then, as hypocrites learned to feign this sorrow, it gradually degenerated till now it has as bad a character as a word could have. The words "Brougham," "Macintosh," "Spencer," "D'Oyley," "Ortery," "Macadamize," and their terrible confrères, "Lynch" and "Burke," are so well known as to need no comment. "Dagverrotype" seems destined, by the force of photographic progress, to a brief career. For "Leggotype" we venture to prophesy a more enduring success. "Mesmerize" (from Mesmer) has stood its ground already for nearly a century. Galvani is immortalized in "Galvanism," and "Tontine," though not much in fashion now-a-days, still keeps in remembrance the name of Tonti and his system of annuities. We should be ungrateful to forget Mr. Thomas Blanket who did so much for humanity and who ought to be the patron saint of the North-West—if his existence be not doubtful, like those of some other saints in good repute. It has been said that the peculiar style of speech known as "gibberish" takes its origin from a distinguished Arab *savant* named Gebers, who was wont to use certain incantations in his search after the "Philosopher's stone." Such is the reward of learning and folly. One of the Hebrew prophets has bequeathed us a word which, even in the uttering of it, seems to present to our mind the whole sad tale of Israel's exile and the Holy City's desolation, "Jeremiad." To Greek and Latin mythology we are indebted for "hermeneutics" (from a Greek verb derived from Hermes, Mercury, the interpreter); and "mercurial," "jovial," "saturine," "martial," are words expressive of temperament. Pluto and Neptune have been taken into the service of rival geologists, and give us the Plutonian (fire) and Neptunian (water) theories of the earth's development. But astronomy is the great depository of mythologic nomenclature.

Lemprière and Herschel might be studied together.

In our names of the week we have almost unchanged the leading deities of Saxon heathendom, and July and August remind us of the grand names of Julius and Augustus, while the first three months of the year preserve the names of Roman gods or goddesses. It would be impossible, however, to speak in a brief popular article of all the names which science, art, theology and the uses of the common speech have embalmed in words. Sapphic, Archilochian, Archimedean, Platonic, Epicurean, Arian, Orphic, Montanist, Jacobite, Wesleyan, Lutheran, Copernican, Volcano, Bacchalian, and many others occur to us as we write; but names of animals, plants, fossils, &c., such as *Sorex Cooperia* (cooper's shrew), *turdus Sonapartii* (Bonsparte's Sandpiper), &c., which, often very clumsily, celebrate the names of the discoverers, are large enough to form a class of themselves.

A good many English words are derived from the names of places. "Cordova in Spain; once famous for its manufacture of leather, has given us, through the French "cordonnier," the word "cordwainer"—"shoemaker." Calico came originally from Calicut or Calcutta. The "damson" plum, as well as the beautifully patterned "damask" and the sabre called "damascene" or "damaskin," can be traced without difficulty to old Damascus—the patriarch of cities. The little grapes which are so extensively used for puddings, having been first imported from Corinth, became known as "currants." Muslin was one of the staple manufactures of the Turkish town of Mosul. The canopy called "baldachin" was introduced into Italy from Bagdad, which in Italian is "baldacca." D'Ypres has produced "diaper;" Bayonne the "bayonet;" Pistoja, the "pistol;" Cambridge, "cambric;" Armenia, "ermine;" Gaza, "gauze;" Cyprus, copper (through the Greek); and the famous and mythical "Navis Argo" (though some say the Italian city of Ragusa) the poetical "argosy." The peach was originally the "Persicum malum" or Persian apple," which by the Italians was softened into "pesca," whence