

laborious farmer, who now enjoys the bountiful rewards of his toils, looks blithely to the congenial pleasures of a rustic Winter. The man of business also recollects this is the time for enjoying the most exalted blessings of the happy family circle. The student hails the season so propitious to his pursuits, when his seclusion presents such a striking contrast to the boisterous state of nature, which cannot now attract him from the substantial pleasures of his choice. And, oh! how do those rejoice at its presence among whom sickness has raged uncontrolled, and where pestilence has walked at noonday.

RELIGION.

What subject is there, which, if well considered, impresses the mind more deeply with a sense of its vast importance than Religion? Without religion we cannot be happy. There is, it is true, in the fleeting and transitory amusements of this world a degree of pleasure which some call happiness. But such happiness is like the breeze of the summer. It passes by, and we feel its breath for a moment, and then it vanishes away, and we perceive it no longer. There is no true, lasting happiness, except in the enjoyment of religion. When we possess this treasure we experience a calm and holy delight in viewing the hand of God in the beauty of nature, as it is displayed before us in the various changes which this life constantly endures. By religion we are led to look to God, in every undertaking for divine assistance. It sweetens the poor man's toil, and is his comfort in adversity. It causes the rich man to bless God in his prosperity, and rejoice in his gratitude for the blessings he is daily receiving. Religion also tends to refine and enliven society. How happy is a christian community! Joy and gladness beam upon their countenance, and peace dwells within. The family circle too is made happy by it—the bands of reciprocal affection are drawn still firmer, and rendered still more lovely. Through the influence of religion, peace, love and unity dwell around the fireside of the Christian.—*Boston Uncle Sam.*

The following touching case of Insanity is related by Mr Forbes Winslow, in an Essay on the Wanderings of the Imagination.

A young divine was one wintry day engaged in snipe shooting with a friend; in the course of their perambulations a high hedge intervened between the companions. The friend fired at a bird which unexpectedly sprang up, and lodged a part of the shot in the forehead of the clergyman; he instantly fell, and did not recover the shock for some days, so as to be deemed out of danger; when he was so it was perceived that he was mentally deranged.—He was to have been married two days subsequent to that on which the accident happened; from this peculiar combination of circumstances the phenomena of the case appeared to rise, for all sanity of mind seemed to make a full stop, as it were at this part of the current, and he soon became a mild pleasant, chronic lunatic. All his conversation was literally confined to the business of the wedding, out of this circle he never deviated, but dwelt upon every thing relating to it with minuteness, never retreating or advancing one step further for half a century, being ideally still a young, active, happy bridegroom, chiding the tardiness of time, although it brought him gently, at the age of eighty, to his grave.

PERE LA CHAISE: INTERESTING SCENE.—The *Journal des Debats* estimates that not fewer than 80,000 the number of persons who, on Tuesday last, the feast of All Saints, visited the cemetery of Pere la Chaise. The day in question being the eve of All Souls, fashion and religious usage have both consecrated this pious visitation. Notwithstanding that the rain poured in torrents, all the entrances into this beautiful cemetery were crowded from an early hour, and almost as many vehicles were seen to repair to the scene from Paris as on the occasion of Longchamps. The *Journal des Debats* avers, that there were more than 1,200 *vottures*, an enormous number, considering how compact Paris is compared with London, and how much more generally people traverse that metropolis on foot. Upon this occasion fresh wreaths of *immortelles* are laid on every tomb, and many of the small temples are redeccorated.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CHINA.—China is an empire of Asia, the most populous and ancient in the world, being 1,399 miles long and 1,030 wide. Population from 300,000,000 to 360,000,000. The capital is Peking, with 1,000,000 inhabitants; Nankin 1,000,000, and Canton 1,200,000. China produces tea, 50,000,000 pounds of which are annually exported from Canton, the only place which foreigners are allowed to visit. Silk, cotton, rice, gold, silver, and all the necessaries of life are found in China. The arts and manufactures in many branches are in high perfection, but stationary, as improvements are now prohibited. The government is a despotic monarchy. Revenue 200,000,000; army 800,000 men. The religion is similar to Buddhism, the chief god being Foh. The Chinese inculcate the morals of Confucius, their great philosopher, who was born 550 B. C. The great wall and canal of China are among the mightiest works ever achieved by man. The foreign commerce of China amounts to 35,000,000 or 40,000,000 dols. annually, the whole of which is transacted with appointed agents, called "Hong Merchants." Foreigners are allowed to live at certain stations or "factories" below Canton. The chief trade is with England. The first American ship reached China in 1784; now the annual average of United States ships visiting Canton is 32. The revenue derived from foreign commerce by the Emperor varies from 4,000,000 to 6,000,000 dols. According to Mr Dunn, opium smuggled into China, to the injury of the people, amounted to 20,000,000 dols. annually for several years past, much of which was paid in specie, which found its way to London. The Chinese language has nearly 40,000 characters or letters. The Chinese are eminent for agriculture, and once every year the Emperor ploughs a piece of land himself in presence of his people.—*Ricknell's Reporter.*

TEMPERANCE.

[SELECTED]

ADDRESS TO MR. BUCKINGHAM FROM HIS NATIVE TOWN.

The friends of Temperance in Falmouth and its neighbourhood, taking advantage of Mr. Buckingham's visit to the place of his birth, held a public meeting in the Town hall on Christmas day, for the purpose of presenting an address to that gentleman. The hall was crowded to excess. Mr. J. Palmer rose, and read the following address. Mr. Buckingham standing at the right hand of the chairman:

"Respected Sir,—We, the Officers and Members of the Falmouth Tee-total and Useful Knowledge Societies,