

POETRY.

JACK AND JOAN.

MATHEW PRIOR, an English poet at the beginning of the eighteenth century, was matchless for his rapid and light occasional verses. As a specimen of his neat and lively manner, and the kind of artificiality which was popular in his time, may be given his mock epitaph on a couple who seem to have passed through life in a very unostentatious manner.

INTER'D beneath this marble stone,
Lie sauntering Jack and idle Joan.
While rolling threescore years and one
D d round the globe their courses run
If human things went ill or well;
If changing empires rose or fell,
The morning past, the evening came,
And found this couple just the same.
They walk'd and ate, good folk. What then
Why then they walk'd and ate again;
They soundly slept the night away;
They did just nothing all the day.
Nor sister either had nor brother;
They seem'd just talk'd for each other.
Their Moral and Oeconomy
Most perfectly they made agree;
Each virtue kept its proper ground,
Nor trespass'd on the other's ground.
They neither punish'd nor rewarded
Nor fame nor censure they regarded.
He cared not what the footmen did,
Her maids she never praised nor chid.
So every servant took his course,
And, bad at first, they all grew worse.
Slothful disorder fill'd his stable,
And sluttish plenty deck'd her table.
Their beer was strong; their wine was port;
Their meal was large; their grace was short.
They gave the poor the rammant meat,
Just when it grew not fit to eat.
They paid the church and parish rate,
And took, but read not, the receipt;
For which they claim'd their Sunday's due,
Of slumbering in an upper pew.
No man's defects sought they to know;
So never trade themselves a foe.
No man's good deeds did they commend;
So never raised themselves a friend.
Nor cherish'd they relations poor;
That might decrease their present store;
Nor barn nor house did they repair;
That might oblige their future heir.
They neither added nor confounded;
They neither wanted nor abounded.
Nor tear nor smile did they employ
At news of public grief or joy.
When bells were rung and bonfires made,
If ask'd, they ne'er denied their aid;
Their jug was to the ringers carried,
Whoever either died or married.
Their billet at the fire was found,
Whoever was deposed or crown'd.
Nor good, nor bad, nor fools, nor wise,
They would not learn, nor could advise.
Without love, hatred, joy, or fear,
They led—a kind of—as it were.
Nor wish'd, nor cared, nor laugh'd, nor cried;
And so they lived, and so they died.

MISCELLANY.

EXTRAORDINARY DIVING.—As no particular account has yet been published of the ingenious manner in which Mr. Deane, and his assistant Mr. Tell, are now endeavouring to recover the cargo of the *Intrinsic*, lost off Kilee, the following may be of interest to our readers:—The *Intrinsic*, it may be remembered, was wrecked some hundred yards off what is called the look-out cliff. Here it is that Mr. Tell descends on his submarine inquiry. His appearance before going down is exceedingly gro-

tesque, owing to the quantity of clothes in which he is enveloped, and the very large helmet he wears. His first dress is composed of flannel to preserve warmth, and is doubled; he has got outside this a large pair of water-proof Indian rubber trowsers, reaching as high as the chest, with short sleeves of about a foot in length; it grows gradually tighter towards the extremity of the legs, each of which terminates in a boot. He next wears a jacket of the same composition, reaching somewhat below the waist, round which a large belt of basket work, covered with green baize, is tightly bound; this jacket has got a collar as high as the ears, which he tightens with a handkerchief. The wrists are bound so tight as to render it scarcely bearable until he has gone under water, when all annoyance vanishes. To protect the Indian rubber he wears over it a suit of coarse canvass, which is bound round him with straps of leather, and like wise terminates in boots. He has also large worsted stockings & a pair of very strong shoes, with a quantity of sheet lead in each. The helmet is made of a metal resembling tarnished steel. It is very large, with a view of affording room for a sufficient quantity of air inside, and resembles, somewhat a human bust, being made to rest on the shoulders, back, and chest. The tube through which a constant supply of fresh air is conveyed from above, is attached to the back of it, and through a valve in the front, immediately below the mouth, he emits the used air. There are three glasses—one at either side, and the third in front, about three inches in diameter, through which we understand he can plainly discern every object below. To the extremity of this helmet are attached two breadths of canvass bound round the body with straps, and from his neck he has got suspended two large weights, each probably two stones or over,—the one resting on the back, and the other on the chest. There are for the purpose of facilitating his descent. From the side of the pilot boat from which he descends, is let down a rope ladder, with weights to the ends of it, and on this he walks down. Every provision is made for his safety, a rope being tied round his waist, by which on a signal being given, he can immediately be drawn up. He has been known to remain below for as long a period as eight hours without any apparent difficulty. Owing to the inclemency of the weather for some days back, these gentlemen have been obliged to suspend their exertions, but will resume when the sea is less troubled. They also propose going down to the wreck of a brig lost off Battle Island some years since, and laden with a very valuable cargo of gold dust and elephant's teeth. It is said that this wreck has been frequently seen by the fishermen at low water.—*Clare Journal*.

[From the New York Sun.]

ATTEMPTED SALE OF A WIFE.—On Saturday afternoon, an Englishman, who said his name was Jehiel Jones, that he was a mason by trade, and had arrived here with his wife and family early the present month, made his appearance in the vicinity of the horse market with his wife whom he had tied by the arm with a handkerchief, and who walked a little in his rear with downcast eyes, and her hands clenched before her. Behind them both followed three little children, apparently of the ages of 5, 4 and 3 years, the middle one a boy, barefooted and in rags.—The clothing of the mother, who was in her stocking feet, tho' ragged, appeared cleanly; her hair was smoothly disposed of, and her appearance was decidedly to her advantage. She might have been 28 years old, but not more; her husband was perhaps five years her senior. In this fashion they walked about in the vicinity of the market more than an hour before they were spoken to by any person, though the singulari-

ty of their appearance and movements attracted the notice of a good many. Curiosity finally prompted several individuals to accost them, and in reply to their queries, Jones stated that he had brought his wife there to sell, to provide means for rescuing the children from starvation. He was somewhat surprised when told that such things were not tolerated here, and said it was often done in England, even against the consent of the wife; and as Mrs. Jones had acceded to the measure for the sake of her starving little ones, he appeared to think it particularly hard that it could not be done here. Quite a large collection of persons, attracted by the novelty of the thing, soon gathered about them, amongst whom a contribution, amounting to nearly six dollars, was made and presented to them—which sum they appeared to consider almost a princely fortune. One of the gentlemen present gave this distressed family a shelter in his barn, till something better could be done for them, and they were soon supplied by families in the vicinity with food and covering sufficient to make them comfortable over Sunday. It appeared from their statement that they had been transmitted to this country by the parish authorities of Bristol, by whom they had been maintained for several months, a white swelling on his leg having disabled the father from labour. He is now, however, recovered from his lameness, and will soon be able to go to work—of which he will have abundance and good pay.

MANNERS OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.—The following is said to be an extract from the Journal of Miss Elizabeth Woodville, kept previous to her first marriage with Lord Grey. She was afterwards Queen to Edward III.:

Monday morning.—Rose at four o'clock, and helped Catherine to milk the cows, Rachel (the other dairy maid) having scalded her hand in so bad a manner the night before. Made a poultice for Rachel, and gave Robin a penny to get something from the apothecary. Six o'clock.—The buttock of beef too much boiled, and beer a little of the stalest. Mem.—To talk with the cook about the first fault, and to mend the second myself, by tapping a fresh barrel directly. Seven.—Went to walk with the lady (my mother) in the court-yard; fed twenty-five men and women; child Roger severely for expressing some ill will at attending us with the broken meat. Eight.—Went into the paddock behind the house, with my maid Dorothy; caught Thump (the little pony) myself, and rode a matter of six miles, without saddle or bridle. Ten.—Went to dinner. Eleven.—Rose from the table, the company all desirous of walking in the fields. John Grey would lift me over every stile. Three.—Poor farmer Robinson's house burnt down by accidental fire. John Grey proposed a subscription among the company, and gave no less a sum than four pounds with this benevolent intent. Mem.—Never saw him look so comely as at that moment. Four.—Went to prayers. Six.—Fed the hogs and Poultry. Seven.—Supper on the table; delayed till that hour on account of farmer Robinson's misfortune. Nine.—The company fast asleep. These late hours very disagreeable.

The Rev. Mr. Small of Darien, Georgia, U. S. has run off with \$8,700 belonging to the Savings' Bank of that place.—*Portland Argus*.

AGENTS
FOR THE BEE.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.—Mr DENNIS REDDIN.
Miramichi—ROVD. JOHN MCCURDY.
St. John, N. B.—Mr. A. R. TRURO.
Halifax—Messrs. A. & W. MCKINLAY.
Truro—Mr. CHARLES BLANCHARD.
Antigonish—Mr. ROBERT PURVIS.
Guysboro'—ROBERT HARTSHORNE, Esq.
Tatmagouche—Mr. JAMES CAMPBELL.
Wallace—DANIEL MCFARLANE, Esq.
Arichat—JOHN S. BALLAINE, Esq.