

POETRY.

THE DANCE OF BISHOPS;
OR,
THE EPISCOPAL QUADRILLE.
A DREAM.

"Solemn dances were, on great festivals and celebrations, admitted among the primitive Christians, in which even the Bishops and dignified Clergy were performers. Scaliger says, that the first Bishops were called *Præsules*,* for no other reason than that they led off these dances."—*Cyclopaedia, Art. Dance.*

I had such a dream,—a frightful dream,—
Though funny to wags, perhaps 'twill seem,
By all who regard the Church, like us,
'Twill be thought exceedingly ominous!

As reading in bed I lay last night,—
Which (being insured) is my delight,—
I happened to doze off just as I got to
The singular fact which forms my motto.
Only think, thought I, as I dozed away,
Of a party of churchmen dancing the hay!
Clerks, curates, and rectors, capering all,
With a neat-legged bishop to open the ball!
Scarce had my eye-lids time to close,
When the scene I had fancied before me rose,—
An Episcopal hop, on a scale so grand,
As my dazzled eye-lids could hardly stand.
For, Britain and Erin clubb'd their sees
To make it a Dance of Dignities,
And I saw,—oh, brightest of church events!—
A quadrille of the two Establishments,
Bishop to bishop, *vis-a-vis*,
Dancing away prodigiously!

There was Bristol capering up to Derry,
And Cork with London making merry,
While huge Llandaff, with a See so so,
Was to dear old Dublin pointing his toe.
There was Chester, hatch'd by woman's smile,
Performing a *chain de Dames* in style;
While he who, where'er the Lords' House dozes
Can waken them up by citing Moses,
The portly Tuam was all in a hurry
To set, *en avant*, to Canterbury.

Meantime, while pamphlets stuff'd his pockets,
(All out of date, like spent sky-rockets)
Our Exeter stood out to caper
As high on the floor as he doth on paper,—
Much like a dapper Dancing Dervise,
Who pirouettes his whole church-service,—
Performing 'midst those reverend souls,
Such entrecoats, such cabrioles,
Such balloons, such—*rigmaroles*,
Now high, now low, now this, now that.
That none could guess what the dev'l he'd be at;
Tho', watching his various steps, some thought
That a step in the Church was all he sought.

But alas, alas! while thus so gay,
These reverend dancers frisk'd away,
Nor Paul himself (Not the Saint, but he
Of the Opera-House) could briskeer be,
There gather'd a gleam around their glee,—
A shadow, which came and went so fast,
That ere you could say "tis there," 'twas past,
And, lo, when the scene again was clear'd,
Ten of the dancers had disappear'd!
Ten able-bodied quadrillers swept
From the hallow'd floor, where last they stept,
While twelve was all that footed it still,
On the Irish side of that grand quadrille!

Nor this the worst:—still danced they on,
But the pomp was sadden'd, the smile was gone,
And again, from time to time, the same,
Ill-omened darkness round them came,—
While still, as the light broke out anew,
Their ranks look'd less by a dozen or two;
Till at last there were only found
Just Bishops enough for a four-hands-round;
And when I awoke, impatient getting,
I left the last holy pair *poussetting*!

Nota bene.—As ladies in years, it seems,
Have the happiest knack at solving dreams,
I shall leave to my ancient feminine friends
Of the *Standard* to say, what this portends.

* Literally, First Dancers.
† "And what does Moses say?" One of the ejaculations with which this eminent prelate enlivened his famous speech on the Catholic question.

‡ A description of the method of executing this step may be useful to future performers in the same line:—
"Ce pas est composé de deux mouvements différens, savoir, *plier*, et sauter sur son pied, et se rejeter sur l'autre."—*Dictionnaire de Danse, Art. Contre-temps.*

CONFERENCE OF THE WEST INDIA
BODY WITH MR. STANLEY.

On Friday last a committee of West India proprietors, particularly those of Jamaica, waited on the Secretary for the Colonial Department, and, after a long discussion, the conference was adjourned to Saturday, when another long discussion took place, but no satisfactory arrangement, as far as relates to the West India proprietors, was arrived at.

The deputation said they were anxious to afford assistance to the Government, and they had sought the conference in consequence of their entertaining a strong opinion that the Legislature of Jamaica would reject the bill if accompanied by any compulsory provisions. It was admitted that the West India proprietors were entitled to compensation, but that compensation was not to be given to them unless the Legislature of Jamaica passed the act for carrying the abolition of slavery into effect. Now, if the colonial Legislature chose not to pass the act, then the West India proprietors would be shut out from their property without being recompensed for the loss of that property.—We understand that Mr. Stanley replied, that the British public could not be called on to grant the compensation, unless effective measures were taken for carrying into effect the object for which the grant was

made,—viz., the abolition of slavery. The deputation having observed on the impolicy of imposing the abolition of slavery, not on its own rights, and of forcing the colonial Legislatures to pass the act, urged the rejection of the first and second clauses, which virtually abolished all slavery. Such a change would produce great excitement in the Island of Jamaica, and no preparation had been made to meet it. There was no magisterial authority imposed in case of a refusal to work. Mr. Stanley said that special magistrates would proceed to the West Indies immediately after the passing of the bill. The deputation objected to those clauses which made a difference in the duration of the apprenticeship of the two classes of slaves—the prædial and the non-prædial.—Those clauses, they said, would produce great dissatisfaction.

Mr. Stanley replied, that the labour of the prædial slave was limited to 45 hours; but the labour of the non-prædial slave was not limited; therefore the non-prædial labourer ought to remain in apprenticeship only half the time; besides, the non-prædial class was better fitted for liberty. As to the hardship on the proprietors, it would be subject to redress by the commissioners to be appointed for paying over the compensation.

The deputation then made objections to some of the minor clauses—such as those provided for cases of intestacy, for alienating the services of the apprentices, &c. The deputation also objected to several clauses, such as those relating to religious toleration, the salaries of magistrates, &c., on the ground that they interfered with the rights of the Legislative Assembly of Jamaica.—The deputation had a long argument with the Right Hon. Secretary on paying the compensation on the principle of *per capita*, but the Right Hon. Secretary, although he took notes on this and the other points, gave not the slightest intimation that the Government would yield to the West India proprietors.—The deputation then strongly pressed the Right Hon. Secretary to undertake the whole legislature of the colonies, as the proprietors were convinced the colonial Legislature would not pass the bill as it at present stood.

Mr. Secretary Stanley replied, how was it possible to legislate for the different colonies which had so many different interests?

The deputation replied, that Jamaica contained half of the slave population, and that it would be better to pass one act for Jamaica, and another for the smaller colonies.—The Legislatures of the latter were not likely to oppose the bill, but the case was very different with regard to Jamaica.

Mr. Stanley assured the deputation that all their points should be taken into the most serious consideration, and the deputation retired.

SELECTIONS.

A KENTUCKIAN'S NOTIONS OF INDEPENDENCE.—"Well, Colonel," said Bushfield, "I've let go the willows at last. I can't go it any longer here." "Why, what's the matter?" asked the other. "O, every thing is getting so dense here, that a man can't turn round, or say his soul's his own. There's that interloper that has located himself just under my nose, about five miles off, I caught him in the very fact of shooting a deer on my side the river, I'll be goy blamed if I didn't colonel. Well, what would you have a man do? I challenged him to take a shot at from a hundred yards to meeting muzzles. But he's as mean as *gar-broath*. He said he'd bought the land of Uncle Sam, and had as good a right to shoot there as the old man himself. This was more than a dead *possum* could stand. I wish I may be shot if I didn't lick him as slick as a whistle in less than no time. Well, by George, would you believe it? he took the law of me! Only think of the feller's impudence, colonel, to take the law of a gentleman! I paid him 50 dollars for licking him; but if I don't give him a hundred dollars' worth the next time we meet, I'm a coward, anyhow." The colonel condoled with him, but, at the same time, advised him to submit to the laws. "Laws! none of your laws for me, colonel. I can't live where there's law or lawyers, and a feller don't know whether he's right or wrong without looking into a law-book. They don't seem to know any more about conscience than I do about law. Now, for my part, I do just what I think right, and that's what I call going according to conscience. But, colonel," continued he, with a queer chuckle, "I've got into a worse scrape than that business with the squatter." "No! I'm sorry for that—what is it?" "Why, you must know, not long after you went away, there came a man riding along here, that I calculate had just thrown off his moccasins, with another feller behind him in a laced hat, and for all the world dressed like a militia officer. Well, I hailed them in here, for I like to do as you would in your own house; and he came too like a good feller. But the captain, as I took him to be, hung fire, and staid out with the horses. So I went and took hold of him, like a snapping-turtle, and says I, 'Captain, one would think you had never been inside a gentleman's door before.' But he held back, like all wrath, and wouldn't take any thing. So says I, 'Stranger, I'm a peaceable man anyhow, but maybe you don't know what it is

to insult a feller by sneaking away from his hospitality here in Old Kentucky?' I held on him all the while, or he'd have gone off like one of these plaguy percussion-locks that have just come into fashion. 'Captain,' says I, 'here's your health, and may you live to be a general.' 'Captain,' says the other, 'he's no captain: he's my servant.' 'What!' says I, 'one white man be servant to another! make a nigger of himself! come, that's too bad; and I began to be a little savage. I asked one if he wasn't ashamed to make a slave of a feller-creter, and the other, if he wasn't ashamed to make a nigger of himself; and they got rather obstropolous. I don't know exactly how it came about, but we got into a fight, and I licked them both, but not until they got outside the door, for I wouldn't be uncivil anyhow. Well, what do you think? instead of settling the thing like a gentleman, the feller that had a white man for his nigger, instead of coming out fine, I'll be eternally dern'd if he didn't send a constable after me. Well, I made short work of it, and lick'd him too, anyhow. I must look out for some place, where a man can live independent, where there's no law but gentleman's law, and no niggers but black ones. I sha'n't see you again, colonel, it's most likely, so good-by all. I expect you'll be after me soon, for I look upon it to be impossible for a man in his senses to live here much longer, to be hopped like a horse and not go where he pleases.' And away he marched, with a heart as light as a feather, in search of a place where he might live according to his conscience.—*American Novel.*

BOILED FOOD.—Boiling renders substances softer and easier of digestion, and in general should be performed slowly. Mutton loses one-fifth of its weight by this process, beef one-fourth, and both one-third by roasting. Meat should not be boiled too long or too fast, as it is rendered indigestible. The younger kinds, as veal, chicken, lamb, are more wholesome when roasted. The infusion of beef, mutton, or chicken, which is prepared by slow boiling, is more palatable than the broths of these meats. It is ascertained that mutton boiled in hard water is more tender than when soft water is employed, and the same results with regard to vegetables. These, in all cases ought to be well boiled, as they should be deprived of the air they contain, which is so prejudicial to those labouring under indigestion.—*Advice on Diet and Regimen.*

APPLE TREES.—A horticulturist in Bohemia has a beautiful plantation of the best sort of apple trees, which have neither sprung from seeds nor grafting. His plan is to take shoots from the choicest sorts, insert them in a potato, and plunge both into the ground, leaving but an inch or two of the shoot above the surface. The potato nourishes the shoot whilst it pushes out roots, and the shoot gradually springs up and becomes a beautiful tree, bearing the best of fruit, without requiring to be grafted.—*Canada Record.*

PITT, EARL OF CHATHAM.—His opposition to the ministry, in a short time, became so annoying, that Sir Robert Walpole mealy deprived him of his commission. Horace Walpole also taunted him bitterly on account of his youth, although he was then thirty-two, and sneeringly observed, that the discovery of truth was little promoted by pompous diction and theatrical emotion. "I will not attempt," replied Pitt, "to determine whether youth can justly be imputed to any man as a reproach; but I will affirm, that the wretch who, after having seen the consequence of repeated errors, continues still to blunder, and whose age has only added obstinacy to stupidity, is surely the object of either abhorrence or contempt, and deserves not that his grey head should secure him from insults. Much more is he to be abhorred, who, as he has advanced in age, has succeeded from virtue, and become more wicked with less temptation; who prostitutes himself for money which he cannot enjoy, and spends the remains of his life in the ruin of his country."—*Georgian Era, Vol. 1.*

The *Morning Chronicle* now avowedly a treasury paper, in its leading article on Friday, hints that the Court is insincere in its support of the Grey administration. At this who can wonder. Look at the composition of the Court, at the least ten Tories (backbone ones) to one Whig. Why then express surprise at the hollowness of the support afforded by it to the Minister? This state of things may however be traced to the pusillanimity displayed by the premier on almost every important occasion. Were he conscious of meriting the support of the people, as he once was, and possessed of the least courage, he might dictate what terms he pleased at St. James's. He might dismiss Lord Hill from the Horse guards, remove the Tory Lords Lieutenant from their several counties and rid the interior of the palace from those swarms of Tory Lords and Ladies, who poison the minds of royalty and indispose it from any feeling in accordance with the wishes of the people. But the man who has not dared to erase from the Pension list such names as Mrs. Arbuthnot, Lady Westmeath, (the sister of the Tory Marquis of Salisbury), Rosamond Croker, now Mrs.

Barrow, *cum multis aliis*, of similar gender and genus, we are fearful will never show spirit enough, to uphold the cause of the people against any designs the Court may be disposed to adopt. It is we believe from other quarters, than from a Grey Cabinet, that the people must look for a real redress of grievances.—*News.*

EFFECTS OF AIR ON LIGHT.—Were it not for the reflecting and scattering power of the atmosphere, no objects would be visible to us out of direct sunshine; every shadow of a passing cloud be pitchy darkness; the stars would be visible all day, and every apartment, into which the sun had no direct admission, would be involved in nocturnal obscurity. This scattering action of the atmosphere on the solar light, it should be observed, is greatly increased by the irregularity of temperature caused by the same luminary in its different parts, which, during the day time, throws it into a constant state of undulation, and, by thus bringing together masses of air of very unequal temperatures, produces partial reflections and refractions at their common boundaries, by which much light is turned aside from the direct course, and diverted to the purposes of general illumination.—*Sir J. Herschel on Astronomy—Cabinet Cyclopaedia.*

QUICK LETTER DELIVERY.—The late Duke of Queensbury undertook, for a heavy bet, to convey a letter fifty miles. The letter was enclosed in a cricket ball, and thrown from one to the other of twenty-four expert cricketer, and delivered within the time.—*Quarterly Review.*

HERALDRY.—Of Anstis, garter King at arms. It was to him Lord Chesterfield said, "You foolish man, you do not know your own foolish business." * * * I have had the old Vere pedigree lately in my hands, which derives that house from Lucius Verus—but I am now grown to bear no descent but my Lord Chesterfield's, who has placed among the portraits of his ancestors two old heads, inscribed *Adam de Stanhope* and *Eve de Stanhope*—the ridicule is admirable. Old Peter Leneve, the herald, who thought ridicule consisted in not being of an old family, made this epitaph, and it was a good one, for young Craggs, whose father had been a footman, *Here lies the last who died before the first of his family!* Pray mind, how I string old stories to-day; This old Craggs, who was angry with Arthur More, who had worn a livery too, and who was getting into a coach with him, turned about, and said, "Why! Arthur, I am always going to get up behind; are not you?"—*Walpole's Memoirs.*

GENERATION OF THE EEL.—This *veraxa questio*, which has occupied the attention of naturalists from Aristotle downwards, has been set at rest by Mr. Quarell, in a paper read at a late meeting of the British Association at Cambridge who has proved by actual examinations and dissections carried on through eighteen months in succession, upon specimens of eels procured from different parts of the country, that it is oviparous, having melt and roe like other fishes. He has traced them down to the brackish water whither they go generally, though not universally, to deposit their spawn, and he has followed the young in their extraordinary spring journeys up the great rivers and into the brooks and rivulets in which they seek out for themselves appropriate haunts. In numbers they are immensurable—the shoals advance up the stream forming a black line along the shore; nor are these journeys confined to the water—they cross fields, and climb posts and pales, in order to reach the place of their destination.

ROYAL ANECDOTES.—Mr. Shee, of Pall-mall, had the honour of making suits for an illustrious heir apparent. The prince being one day at dinner with his royal mother at Buckingham-house, his gentleman-in-waiting entering, said, "Please your royal highness, *Shee* is come." "What, George!" exclaimed her Majesty, "under my very nose! *She* shall not be admitted!"—When the same illustrious personage was hunting over Wingfield plain, he came to a watery lane.—Meeting with a countryman, he inquired of him if that was a road? "Yes," answered Hodge, "a road for ducks."

The Chinese have a great number of very short, but very expressive maxims, among which we find the following:—"The tongue of women is their sword, and they never suffer it to grow rusty."

In the country where the women have no taste for finery, the men have no taste for the arts: and the fine arts are never cultivated with success but in those countries where the women possess graces.

The man of genius has only his single voice, or vote, in council, but he has also his knowledge and talents, which make him master of many others.

Why are those women who are virtuous always less witty than those who are not so? The mania of projects is the mania of people who have nothing to lose.

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