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THE

NOVA-SCOTIA MAGAZINE

FOR DECEMBER, 1791.

NATURAL HISTORY of some VEGETABLE PRODUCTIONS of JUDEA.

[From the Abbe Mariti's Travels into Syria and Palestine.]

OF all the productions of Jericho, the most common is the plant balm, which, it is said, is peculiar to Judea; but this is contradicted by some travellers. I myself was convinced by ocular demonstration, that it is found in great abundance in the neighbourhood of Mecca and Medina; and we read in Josephus that it was generally believed at Jericho, that it was brought to Jerusalem by the Queen of Sheba: an opinion which appears more than probable, when we consider that it grows without cultivation in Arabia, while in Palestine it requires the greatest care to prevent it from degenerating.

The Romans cultivated it after the destruction of Jerusalem, till the time when the Egyptians, masters of that country, transported it to Babylon.

This plant rises to the height of the pomegranate tree, to which it has a great resemblance both in its long branches and flowers. Its leaves, which are small, are of a beautiful green colour, and much like those of rue. The wood is red and gummy. It bears a small white flower of an agreeable odour; and its fruit is a small nut, covered with a dry and brown pellicle, which contains a kernel; and sometimes a second nut, full of a sharp, bitter, yellow liquor.

In the months of June, July, and August, the Arabs make a slight incision in it, from which there distils a kind of viscous juice.

Naturalists observe, that it would have been dangerous to make this incision in the plants of Palestine with any thing of iron or of steel. A sharp flint, or a piece

of a bone or glass, was used therefore for this purpose; and, beside this, it was necessary that the incision should not penetrate deeper than the bark. If it reached the wood, the shrub was in great danger of withering; but a bill might be employed for lopping the branches. The juice extracted from this plant is called opobalsamum, its fruit carpo balsamum, and its wood xilo-balsamum. The opobalsamum is the most perfect part. It is white when it comes from the tree; it then becomes green, and afterward of a gold colour; but as it grows old it is a little tarnished, and in the end assumes the appearance of honey. Its smell though strong, is agreeable; and it thickens like the turpentine of Cyprus. The opobalsamum which comes to us from Arabia, is often mixed with this turpentine, according to the accounts which I had from the natives. A great deal of it is annually transported to Europe; and yet the plants furnish only a very small quantity in the country. It is adulterated by the haggis, or Turkish pilgrims, on their return from Mecca.

People are sometimes deceived even on the spot, where the inhabitants sell for opo balsamum a juice extracted by the force of fire from the branches, the wood, and the fruit of the shrub, which is much inferior to that extracted by incisions.

However, by pouring it into a basin of water, one may easily know whether the balm be without mixture. When pure, it turns yellow, dissolves, and unites with the water; afterward disengages itself from it; and, rising to the surface, becomes as white as milk. On the contrary

trary, if it be adulterated; it falls to the bottom of the vessel, to which it adheres without changing its colour.

Mr. Lemery, in his treatise of Simples, calls this plant the Balm of Judea, following the error of all those writers who believe it to be peculiar to that country.

The palm tree was no less common in the plains of Jericho. It was called *thamar* in the Hebrew, *phanix* in the Greek language, and *Achla* by the Arabs. The tree grows readily in Syria, and rises to the height of a man, after it has been planted about five or six years.

Its trunk is remarkably scaly, owing to the branches being frequently cut when it is young, in order to make it shoot up the faster. It has no branches but at the summit, and its leaves are shaped like a sword. The branches all incline toward the earth, except the stem, which rises from the middle of the tree, and that even bends a little, in proportion as it increases in height.

Under the branches, and particularly under those which have been cut the preceding year, there spring forth large bladders, which contain the flowers. By opening them a little with precaution, they become dry without dropping from the tree. These flowers, which have a great resemblance to those of our wild jasmine, are placed one within the other, and adhere by very delicate membranes to a common pedicle.

Each flower changes into a fruit, which is at first red; afterward becomes green, till it has attained half its size; and at length grows yellow or brown, according to the quality of the balm. When fresh it is very sour; but it turns sweeter as it dries, and tastes almost like our soft apples; these fruits are called dates.

The top of the palm tree is covered with a substance called its brain, which is nothing else than the seed. It may very justly be compared to the down of the thistle, except that it is whiter, more agreeable to the taste, and contains a milky juice.

This tree is of the greatest service, as there is no part of it which the Orientals do not apply to some useful purpose. The wood, though porous, is however fit for building, as its fibres acquire great solidity and power of resistance. Panniers, and baskets for containing merchandize, destined for distant countries, such as incense, myrrh, and rice, are formed of its leaves. Its branches are employed in making cages, boxes, and even beds.—An agreeable liquor distils from its top, which may be drunk without any mixture; the natives call it *lebbi*, which signifies the

tears of the palm tree. Even the stones of the fruit are not useless; they are turned and manufactured in the same manner as bones and ivory, which they imitate in such a manner as often to deceive the most curious observer: the Mahometans carry ornaments made of them in their hands.

Several writers agree in saying, that the palm trees of Jericho and Egypt have the same properties as those of India; but as the Indians are more industrious than the inhabitants of Judea, they derive a much greater benefit from this tree. Of its wood they construct ships and masts.—They spin the bark and fibres, of which they make ropes and cloth; and they manufacture cups and vases of the fruit, after they have extracted the juice of it. 'In a word,' says Hernandez, 'the palm tree furnishes India both with its bread and its wine.'

Pliny the naturalist, has reckoned up forty nine species of the palm-tree. Some of these which I saw were extremely tall; others were lower, and had thicker trunks; some bear a fruit without a stone; others produce a soft fruit, of an oblong figure; and some have a fruit which is large and exceedingly hard.

Among the palm trees of Cyprus, I remarked one, near the town of Salines, which appeared to me very remarkable on account of one of its branches, which in size equalled the trunk. From this principal branch proceeded several smaller ones, covered with leaves like those of the top, and which produced dates, while all the rest of the tree was barren. I saw however a great number of bladders on the bark of all the branches of this palm; but I was told that the flowers they contained withered without ever yielding fruit.

Mathioli, on the authority of Theophrastus, assures us, that the male and female palm tree are equally fruitful; but this is not believed in Cyprus and Syria. In these countries there are some barren palm trees, called males, which are so necessary for the fructification of the rest, that, by carrying them away, the fecundity of a whole plantation may be destroyed. This is a certain fact, of which I had a convincing proof in the neighbourhood of Larnic.

The palm tree is propagated by planting those shoots which arise from the root, or by sowing the stones of the dates, or a part of the germ of the top, called the brain. It requires a warm climate, and a moist sandy soil, impregnated with nitre. When it is newly planted, the roots are surrounded with salt and ashes, to give it vigour,

vigour, and forward its growth; but great care must be taken to remove from it, all fat or putrid substances, as they are very prejudicial to the plant.

There is no tree known which is so durable and hardy as the palm. Braving all the severity of the weather, it preserves its original vigour for several centuries; so that the natives never remember to have seen one palm tree wither, unless it had been injured by some instrument. When this happens, the tree is cut at the root; it is then burnt on the spot; and its ashes are covered with a layer of earth, from the middle of which a new shoot soon arises, and becomes strong in the course of a few years. As the palm tree is sometimes called phoenix in the scriptures, I am inclined to believe that the fabulous history of the Arabian bird of that name reviving from its ashes, is founded on this circumstance.

This tree, as is well known, is become the symbol of every thing great and wonderful among man. It signifies victory, triumph, duration, innocence, justice, and particularly the fertility of Judea. When the Romans made themselves masters of Jerusalem, they struck some medals, on which was represented a beautiful woman sitting at the bottom of a palm tree, which she was bedewing with her tears; and below were these words; *Judea captiva*, Judea subdued.

In the plains of Jericho, and the neighbouring places, is found a tree called *zaccon* or *zaccum*,* not mentioned by any of the Oriental writers, which induces me to believe that they were not acquainted with the salutary oil extracted from its fruit.

The *zaccon* has a great resemblance to the *stue* tree. Its branches are covered with prickles, about four or five inches in length; its bark is knotty and wrinkled, and of a green colour when on the tree, but it grows yellow as it dries. Its wood is of the colour of box wood; and though it has not the same degree of hardness, it acquires in the lathe an equal polish and lustre. Its leaves are like those of the olive tree, but narrower, sharper, and of a more beautiful green colour. It bears a white odoriferous flower; its fruit is a kind of acorn; without a calyx, and inclosed in a pellicle; it yields little pulp, and shrinks almost to nothing when taken

from the tree; but it contains a stone with a kernel, which when squeezed dissolves into oil.

The Arabs set so much value on this oil, that they prefer it to that of *balm* for internal contusions, wounds, and bruises.

When the Christian caravans arrive at Jericho, troops of women may be seen advancing to meet them, in order to offer to pilgrims this salutary oil, which they sell in small bags made of skins. As it has, however, been discovered, that this oil is mixed sometimes with that of olives, it is better for those who wish to purchase it, to cause it to be prepared under their own inspection; if it costs a little more, it will be pure and unadulterated.

The manner in which I saw it made was as follows: a sufficient quantity of the fruit of the *zaccon*, perfectly ripe, was thrown into a large vessel, where the skin, the Pulp, the stone, and the kernel were bruised; and in proportion as the oil issued from them, it was put into another vessel. The remaining part was then squeezed with the hand till it became dry; after which it was thrown into a kettle of boiling water; in order to extract all its oily parts; and, having risen to the surface, it was easily taken off, without losing a single drop of it. This oil is much inferior to the former.

The oil of the *zaccon* has the taste and colour of that of sweet almonds; but it clarifies with difficulty, because the method used to extract it does not disengage it from the dregs.

I observed that the Arab women, when squeezing it out, rubbed every part of their bodies with it. Having asked them the reason, they replied, that they found it beneficial, as the oil checked the excessive perspiration occasioned by the heat of the climate, and which weakened them very much. Mr. Limery describes oil of *zaccon* as proper for dissolving thick cold humours.

Quaresmius says, that it instantly allays the severest colics; and adds, that he himself experienced this virtue in it.

I also can attest its healing power, as I was witness to a cure which it performed on a Venetian traveller. This person being hurt by a fall from his horse, he felt a severe pain in his breast, which gave him great uneasiness; but being advised to rub the place affected with oil of *zaccon*, and

* *Zaccon*, a kind of plum-tree growing in the plain of Jericho, takes its name from the churches of *Zacchæus*, near which it is found. From its fruit, which are a kind of round plums, green at first, and afterwards yellow, when ripe, is extracted an oil, used for dissolving cold viscid humours. Vide *Manuel du Naturaliste*.

to take some of it internally, which he did, in a few days his wounds were healed, and the inward pains were removed.

There grows in the gardens of Jericho a shrub known in the Hebrew language by the name of *copher*, which the Latins call *cyprus*. It is common in that island, and I have described it under the name of *kenna*.

Rose-bushes are found also in the fields here, but of a species much inferior to those so much extolled in the Bible, the flowers of which some naturalists pretend to have in their cabinets. The rose shrub of Jericho is a small plant, with a bushy root, about an inch and a half in length. It has a number of stems which diverge from the earth: they are covered with few leaves; but it is loaded with flowers, which appear red when in bud, turn paler as they expand, and at length become white entirely. These flowers appear to me to have a great resemblance to those of the elder tree; with this difference, that they are entirely destitute of smell. The stems never rise more than four or five inches from the ground.

This shrub sheds its leaves and its flowers as it withers. Its branches then bend in the middle; and becoming entwined with each other to the top, form a kind of globe. This happens during the great heats; but during moist and rainy weather they again open and expand.

In this country of ignorance and superstition, people do not judge with a philosophical eye of the alternate shutting and opening of this plant: it appears to them to be a periodical miracle, which heaven operates in order to make known the events of this world. The inhabitants of

the neighbouring cantons come and examine these shrubs when they are about to undertake a journey, to form an alliance, to conclude any affair of importance, or on the birth of a son. If the stems of the plant are open, they do not doubt of success; but they account it a bad omen to see them shut, and therefore renounce their project if it be not too late.

This plant is neither subject to rot nor to wither. It will bear to be transplanted; and thrives, without degenerating, in any kind of soil whatever. I do not know why it is called the rose of Jericho, as it did not grow originally in that plain. I am inclined to think that travellers who gave it the above name, were ignorant that it was brought from Arabia Petrea.

I observed in this district several other plants, which appeared to be worthy of notice, on account of their utility, and the odour of their flowers. I collected a great number of them, which on my return I gave to Dr. Manetti. He delivered his observations on them at a public meeting of the philosophical and botanical society of Florence.

In a word, no vegetable productions are wanting to this plain which can render it abundant and happy: beside all those which are common in Europe, it contains a great number peculiar to itself.

Josephus ascribes this great fertility to the heat of the atmosphere, and the abundance of water; the one makes plants expand, and the other refreshes them.

This plain of Jericho is covered also at present with rich crops of wheat and barley, which begins to ripen about the end of April.

On the USES that may be made of COUTCHOUC, ELASTIC GUM, or INDIAN RUBBER, in ARTS and MANUFACTURES, with an Account of the Manner of obtaining and manufacturing it.

THIS substance, called *coutechouc*, is denominated *elastic gum*, or *elastic resin*, by philosophers in Europe; but it is now generally known in the shops by the name of *Indian rubber*; a substance that few of our readers are not acquainted with. It is a firm, tough, pliable substance, greatly resembling some kinds of leather; but it possesses a degree of elasticity that cannot be equalled by any known substance in nature. It admits of being stretched out in every direction to an astonishing degree; and when the distending power is removed, it recovers its former shape and appearance. It neither can be dissolved in

water, in ardent spirits, in acids, nor alkaline liquors, in the ordinary state of our atmosphere. Oils, in some measure, act upon it; but the vitriolic æther is the only complete solvent of it that is as yet known. It is inflammable, and burns with a clear steady flame, emitting then a slight smell, not at all disagreeable. When exposed to a cold air, it is more hard and rigid than under a milder temperature, but it neither becomes fluid, nor loses its elasticity, till it is exposed to a much more intense degree of heat than is ever experienced in any climate on the globe. It may, however, be melted by a very intense degree

degree of heat; and then it assumes a thick viscid appearance, like some kinds of semi-fluid oils. And having once been reduced to that state, it cannot be again made to acquire its former consistence or elasticity.

This substance is now well known to be the inspissated juice of a tree. The natives in those regions where this tree abounds, extract the juice by making longitudinal incisions in the bark. It bleeds freely, and the juice, in a thick state of semi-fluidity, is collected into vessels placed to receive it at the bottom of the tree. It is then, by means of a brush, spread upon moulds prepared for the purpose, and suffered to dry in the sun, or before a fire, which, by evaporating the moisture, soon brings it to the state in which it is sent over to us. By adding successive layers above each other, it may be brought to any degree of thickness wanted; and by varying the form of the mould, it may be made to assume any shape or appearance you wish; which shape, as has been said, it will ever afterwards retain, if no distending force be applied to alter it.

From this simple detail of facts, it is easy to see, that the uses to which this substance may be applied in arts and manufactures are innumerable, and such as can be effected by no other known substance in nature. Yet so blind have mankind hitherto been to these advantages, that no attempts have been made in any accessible region where extensive manufactories could be established, either to cultivate the tree that produces it, or to induce the natives to send the juice in its fluid state to Europe, where it could be properly manufactured. All that has been done is, to suffer the natives to mould it into the form of a small kind of bottles, which is found to answer some purpose among themselves; and these, when brought to Europe, are applied to scarcely any other use than being cut to pieces for the purpose of effacing marks made upon paper by a black lead pencil, or that of idly amusing children by stretching it out, and observing how perfectly it again recovers its pristine form, after having been distended to a great length in any direction. We amuse ourselves with the phenomena, without profiting by it, as children used to be amused with the attraction of amber, before the phenomena of electricity were explained; but it appears that it might be applied to a variety of useful purposes.

1st. This substance so much resembles leather, that it naturally occurs, that it might be employed for the purpose of making boots. These would not only admit of being made of the neatest shape that could be imagined, but also, by being im-

pervious to water, or the other corrosive liquors above named, would be sufficient to protect men from wet, though standing in water. For seamen, fishermen, and others, who are by their business obliged to wade in water, such boots would be of the greatest utility. The feet and legs might thus be protected from the action of even acids or alkaline substances themselves, wherever that should become necessary.

2d. *Gloves* of this substance would be so soft, and pliable, as to allow the fingers perfect freedom of action, and in those kind of businesses that require artificers to put their hands among acids or corrosive liquors, they may become highly convenient.

3d. *Caps*. The uses that might be made of this substance for defending the head from wet, are infinitely various, and might prove highly beneficial. A thin covering of this substance might be made for travelling hats, which, without adding any sensible weight, would be perfectly impermeable by wet of any kind. Every other kind of covering for the head, might be thus rendered water tight, merely by giving them a slight coat of *coutchouc*, which would in no sensible degree alter their other qualities. Bathing caps in particular, could thus be made extremely commodious, and at a small expence. This could be done, by covering with a coat of *coutchouc* an elastic stocking cap, which, merely by being pulled tight over the head, would embrace every part of it all round, so as to prevent the entrance of water. The stocking and the covering being equally elastic, they would contract and expand together without any sort of difficulty.

4th. *Umbrellas*. Neck pieces of silk, or other materials, cloaks or travelling coats of any sort, that should be judged proper, could thus be rendered perfectly water tight, without destroying their pliability in the smallest degree. It would only be necessary to cover them with a coat of this soft varnish after they were made, so as to close up the seams. Buckets too, all of canvas, or any other cheap substance, might be made water tight and incorruptible, by merely covering them with this matter. Vessels also for holding water and other liquors, that would not be liable to breakage, might thus be made of any size or shape at a small expence. In short, it would take too much room to attempt to enumerate half the uses that might be made of it in the household way.

5th. In the army and navy, its uses would be still more numerous and important. Tents are an article of very great expence:

expence: the canvas for them must be of the very best quality and closest texture; and, after all, they are seldom proof against continued rain. At any rate, the vicissitudes of weather soon rot the canvas, and make a new supply in a short time be necessary. Were these tents covered with a coat of this substance, the entrance of rain through it would not only be altogether precluded, but also, the very wetting of the canvas itself would be prevented, and of course its durability be augmented to a tenfold degree. On the same principle, the sails of a ship would not only be made to hold the wind in the most complete manner, but by being covered with a thin coat of it on both sides, the sail-cloth itself could never be wetted, and of course its durability be augmented, while its flexibility would not be diminished. Other uses to which it could be applied in the army and navy, are so numerous, as not to admit of being here specified. It is only necessary barely to mention, that on a military expedition, to have a vessel capable of containing fluids, which, when empty, admits of being wrapped up like a handkerchief and put into the pocket, might on some occasions be of inestimable value; and the same at sea.

6th. *Aeroflation* is now nearly at a stand; but it is wonderful that no one ever perceived the use that might have been made of this substance for that purpose. No kind of silk, or other light substance, could ever be found, that possessed the smallest degree of elasticity; by consequence, when they ascended into the higher regions, the expansion of the gas was in danger of bursting the globe; it was therefore necessary to leave it open below to guard against that accident. A globe of coutehouc would have possessed the quality here wanted; it would have expanded as the circumstance of the case required; and while it was perfectly tight, to prevent the involuntary escape of the smallest quantity, it would have adapted itself in size to every variation of circumstances. It is true, the retentive power of this substance, when very thin, has never yet been ascertained by experience; but there is reason to believe it is very great.

7th. As this substance is inflammable, and burns with a bright flame without requiring any wick, it might be employed perhaps with great economy as torches or flambeaux. Solid balls have also been made of it, that are light, and of an amazing degree of elasticity; but what useful purpose could be made of these, does not at present appear. It might also be moulded into the form of riding whips, and would probably answer that purpose ad-

mirably well; and after they were wore out, they might be employed as torches.

8th. As a material for surgical purposes, it might be employed on many occasions. *Catheters* have already been made of it, after having been dissolved in ether, that have been found to answer the purpose wanted, and to occasion much less irritation in the parts than those of any other sort that have yet been tried; but the great price, when thus manufactured, prevents them from coming into general use. The little bottles, when applied to the breasts of women distressed with sore nipples, can be so managed, as to occasion a more gentle suction than can be effected any other way, and have therefore afforded very great relief. In short, the variety of uses to which they might be applied, as bags for injecting or for sucking, are too numerous to admit of being here so much as pointed at.

9th. *Elastic springs*. In all cases where a spring is wanted to act by its *contractive* power, no substance can be conceived more proper, than that of which we now speak, especially in cold climates; and there are innumerable cases in which it might be employed in this manner with the happiest effect, in various kinds of machinery.

10th. It is many years since Dr. Bergius at Stockholm, made some experiments on this substance in Papin's digester; by subjecting it in that way to an intense degree of heat, it is said to have been converted into a hard, elastic, horn like substance. I have not heard that these experiments have been repeated; but if, upon farther trial, this should be found to be invariably the result, it would extend the utility of this substance far beyond the limits we have hitherto thought of; but in the state of uncertainty that at present prevails on that head, it would be improper to say more.

Geographical globes are at present an article of great expence, especially when of such a size, as to admit of exhibiting a tolerable view of the earth's surface. These could be made of coutehouc of any size required, at a very moderate expence. The savages of America, whom our philosophers represent as destitute of every mental endowment, will teach us the way of proceeding.

The little bottles we import from thence are formed upon moulds of clay dried in the sun. When the coutehouc has hardened on the surface by the process already described, a little water is introduced at the mouth of the bottle, which gradually softens the clay, and in time allows it to be washed entirely out of it. A globe of clay might be easily moulded of any dimensions

mentions required, leaving at one of the poles a small protuberance for a little neck. This ball, when dry, might be covered with coutchouc till it acquired the thickness required; and for the purpose here wanted, this might be very thin. The clay might then be washed out, so as to leave it empty.

It is not much less than sixty years since Mr. de la Condamine first made known to Europeans this singular substance, which possesses qualities that obviously render it one of the most useful bodies that hath ever come to the knowledge of man, for many important purposes in life; yet the culture of the plant which affords it, has been till this moment entirely neglected by every European nation.

The tree which yields this juice is large and stately, its trunk is usually about 60 feet in height, and from 2 to 3 feet diameter. It grows naturally in Brazil, in French Guiana, and in several other provinces of South America, and also in China it is supposed.

It is called by the natives *Hevea*, and Mr. Aublet has preserved that name. He

calls it *Hevea Guianensis*. It is the *Pae Scringa*, aët Paris, an. 1761. *Jacropa foliis ternatis ellipticis integerinis subtus cassis longe petiolatis*. Lin. Its seed is a nut, of a pleasing taste, very much resembling that of a filbert, and much esteemed by the natives. The tree grows very freely, and might doubtless be easily reared, were seeds brought hither for that purpose, either in some of the rocky parts of our West India islands, or at the Cape de Verd islands, or along the coasts of Africa, where there are such extensive tracts of uninhabited country laid waste by the depopulation that our destructive trade in slaves occasions. What a difference would there be in the state of the inhabitants of that unhappy country, were they to be taught to cultivate the arts of peace, and to enrich themselves by industrious labour, instead of those cruel wars fomented by our miserable trade in slaves! Could this juice be had in abundance so near to Europe, it might be sent hither in its fluid state, in close casks or bottles, so as to be here manufactured for the purposes it were fitted to answer.

THE NEGRO EQUALLED BY FEW EUROPEANS.

(Continued from Page 643.)

AN imitator of the frivolous customs of the capital of France, Theodore had added, to the numerous train which served him, an European equerry. It will be imagined that the luxury of height had been consulted, as well as other personal qualifications, in the choice of this attendant. But Theodore little suspected that he received this person from the hands of Honoria. Anxious for the fate of her brother, she had contrived to place near him a man who would inform her of his wanderings; so as to enable her, at times, to prevent their consequences, and at others to repair the evil. A friend of Honoria had engaged him in France. The equerry, instructed in the part he had to perform, presented himself (as of his own accord) to Theodore. His figure was his immediate recommendation; and in a little time his master hid nothing from him.

I had this detail from the mouth of the equerry, who was attached to me from the instant he knew of the friendship with which Theodore's sister honoured me. He was a man of an amiable disposition. Every time Theodore came to the habitation, I saw this equerry with pleasure; except

that our conversation usually turned on the excesses of his master, for I could not be insensible to the conduct of one so nearly related to the dearest friends I had in this part of the world. After a long absence, I saw my young friend one morning enter my room. I was yet in my bed. 'Ah, is it you?' said I. 'How long have you been here?'—'We are just arrived.' 'You are welcome; but I fear some new folly brings you here.' 'Why, for this time I am not in the secret. All I know is, that it concerns a female, of whom I have scarce had a glance. I think she is a mulatto. She was conducted here in a carriage with the blinds up; and we were in another. I am persuaded, she is not content. I think, I perceived her in tears. There must be something marvellous in this matter; for during some weeks Theodore has kept her shut up in a house in the city, and has not suffered myself or any of his people to see her. This I learnt from the mistress of the house, when we went to bring her away.—Without doubt, you gave this information to Honoria?'—'Indeed I knew not what to tell her. I had no clue to the mystery.'—'No matter,

my friend. You must not delay. You think this woman suffers; and your negligence may perhaps expose the virtue of an unfortunate woman.—Well, I will obey you, and commit the affair to Honoria's prudence.'

In the evening, I took my usual walk. I met Theodore, and saluted him respectfully. I did not remark, that there was any change in his deportment to me. The equerry afterwards informed me, that no one entered the chamber in which this woman was confined, but the overseer, who carried her food. I sighed over her fate. 'How shall she escape,' said I, 'the base-ness of her besiegers?'

The next day I received, for the first time, letters from my dear Ferdinand. He had happily addressed them to Honoria, who sent them to me, accompanied by a letter, in which she informed me, that she would soon visit me herself, and that the languishing situation of her father's health had alone delayed this pleasure. Her charming billet breathed the sweet joy which filled her soul; and her love for Ferdinand gave new tenderness to the expressions of friendship.

Gracious God! at present, while, placed in the bosom of happiness, I retrace the varied scenes of an agitated life, a trembling seizes me, as I reflect on the calm which reigns in my recital from the departure of Ferdinand. Perfidious serenity! which added still more to the terror of the storm that succeeded!

While my heart was yet full with the greatest pleasure which I had experienced for a long time, I left my room with a design of walking. I met Theodore on the stair-case. I respectfully stood aside, to give him leave to pass me. He fixed his eyes on me, glaring with choler. 'What do you here?' said he fiercely. 'Away, wretch out of my sight!' and he passed me with precipitation, giving me no time to answer him. A moment I remained immovable with astonishment. 'What have I done to him? I know not.' All emotion with this scene, I left the house to take the air. At a distance I perceived the equerry, who made me a sign; and I ran to join him in a place where we could not well be observed. 'What have you done,' said he, 'to Theodore?' He is outrageous against you.—'I know nothing of it.—And I recounted to him what had happened. 'I am not happy on your account,' said he.—'What can he do to me? Am I not here under the protection of his sister and father?' 'Ah, you know not what a corrupt heart dares to do. I wish you far from hence; take my advice, and hasten to Honoria.—

'What shall I say to her? Will a little intemperate usage of her brother excuse me in this step? It would be neither generous nor decent. But what causes this alarm in you? what have you discovered?'—'Nothing certain. He called me to him at midnight; he had just left this woman. A thousand exclamations, without order, taught me that you were the object of his fury. I attempted to question him. He imposed silence; and threatened to dismiss me, if I disobeyed him. Without that, I should have been with you in the morning; but I feared to be surprised.'—'I may have passed him, without perceiving him, and without paying the respect due to him.'—'No: another idea has struck me. Have you not formerly had some intrigue with this woman, which he may have discovered, either by your language or some information from her? I know him better than you; his anger has all the taint of jealousy.' 'It is impossible: I have not spoken to any woman since my arrival at St. Domingo. Alas, my heart has other ties.'—'So much the better; I am more tranquil. Yet be advised; shun his presence. As soon as I have any thing to communicate, I will see you again.'

Although my conscience did not reproach me; I could not conquer my uneasiness: I began to know the human heart sufficiently, to dread the designs of a man without principle. I resolved on the only thing which prudence seemed to dictate. It was to confine myself to my apartment, excepting at the hours of repast, and those which I allowed to the pleasure of walking; till the volatile character of Theodore should lead him from this place; or the promised visit of Honoria should deliver me from this voluntary imprisonment. Vain precautions! The villain had already sworn my ruin.

I passed two days in great anxiety. I could not see the equerry. He knew that he was watched, and did not dare to come near me. I ate as usual with the overseer, who affected a profound silence on all that passed around us. I had not again met with Theodore, so that I knew not if he had forgotten his resentment. The second day in the evening we were at table. He entered: each rose out of respect. He seemed in a frenzy. His hair was scattered, his dress in disorder, his eyes were on fire, and his face glowing with rage. 'What does this vile slave do here?' he cried. 'Why is he not with the wretches of his species? Call the commander,' (the negro who conducts the others to work). 'If all the white people were just,' said I to him with some emotion, 'you would

not have the power of treating me as a slave. As it is, I am not yours: I owe my accommodation in this place to those who alone have a right to command here.' 'Who commands here, if not I?' said he passionately. 'Your father still lives.' I replied, raising my voice. The overseer then said, with a hypocritical tone, under which he sought to conceal his triumph: 'He is right, my lord; your father has confided him to my care; and he is a worthy youth.' I interrupted him with disdain. 'Spare your eulogiums: a worthy man debases himself, when he suffers the wicked to praise him.' The commander entered; the vile overseer, whom my last words had irritated, cried: 'my lord, the rascal braves you. He forgets his respect to me too; order him to chastisement.' 'I do:' replied Theodore, foaming with wrath. No longer master of myself, at the hazard of whatever might happen, I flew to a hanger which lay on the table. I seized it. 'Tremble, wretches!' I cried. 'The rash villain, who dares approach me, will I immolate at my feet.' Rarely does courage sustain vice. My gesture, my elevated voice, the forces of my body fully developed by passion, held them all enchanted with terror. Theodore and the overseer flew to separate corners of the room; and the former in a low timid tone, said only—'commander, lead him away.' As he made no haste to obey, I contemplated, for some moments, pride and baseness subdued. 'These then,' said I to myself, 'are the passions of Europeans. Injustice, ferocity, and cowardice!' This reflexion calmed me. Pity returned in behalf of Theodore. 'Recover yourself,' said I to him. 'I will never forget that Honoria is your sister: but do you never forget, that, when you menace a negro, you force him to recollect that he is a man. Lead, commander: I follow you.' Without quitting the hanger, I passed with a firm step between Theodore and the overseer, and went out with the negro.

Little as it will be expected, I had resolved from the moment my recollection returned, to submit myself with the other negroes, to the usual labour of the plantation; rather than hurry to any further excess, the son of M. de C——, the brother of Honoria.

I suffered myself, then, to be conducted to the habitation of my unfortunate countrymen. They were slaves, but they had feeling minds: and their humanity was a striking contrast to the scene which had lately passed in the apartment of the overseer. They surrounded me: they endeavoured to console me. They had seen me

in an enviable situation, compared with their condition. They did not exult at the stroke which had reduced me to their own level. They thought only of my wretchedness.

'Oh good negro!' said they to me, 'good negro! you gave us comfort when you were fortunate: do not be unhappy now. We will labour for you. You will be no longer rich as we have seen you; but every day you shall have an hundred hands to dry up your tears.'

Till this moment the remains of rage had restrained those tears. They now flowed abundantly: and the kind affection was the sole cause of them. One of these poor people threw himself on my neck.—'Is it thus that Europeans treat you?' said he. 'You, their saviour!' I recognized him to be one of those whom I had seen on board of Urban's vessel. He had recollected me on my first appearance on the plantation; and had recounted the adventure to his fellow sufferers. 'Do not afflict him,' cried several voices 'with the remembrance of what is past. He then did no more than his duty. We will not less commiserate his present griefs.' Thus passed the night. They feared to take any repose. They dreaded to deliver me alone, to praying reflexions. They were each emulous to present to me the best of the poor refreshments they had.— They wished to know what had befallen me since my arrival at the island. They entered with enthusiasm into all my feelings.

At length, day appeared. This night, which I had found rather soothing than terrifying by the sensibility of my good countrymen—this night glided away as a dream. When the hour of labour approached, the commander said, sorrowfully to me: 'My friend, you must change these clothes for others more suitable to the work you must perform.' 'You will leave me the hanger?' I replied hastily. 'Well,' said he, 'whatever may be the consequences, I will not take it away: and if ever I raise my hand against you, let me be the first victim of it.' The negroes assembled; and we marched to the work of the day.

I expected the unworthy overseer would come to enjoy his triumph; and contemplate me in a state of humiliation. I was deceived: neither he nor his protector appeared. They were occupied with a scene more agreeable to their raging passions. I thank thee, O heaven, for my profound ignorance of actions which passed almost under my eyes. Great God! to what excess had my fury arisen, had I then penetrated into this frightful mystery!

I passed this day, without pain, new as my occupation was. At night I was led back with the other negroes to their dwelling, and soon fell into a deep sleep, from which I was awakened by the equerry. 'I have escaped,' said he, 'to bid you farewell. We depart for the city by day break. I will snatch the first opportunity to inform Honoria of what has passed.—Rely on my zeal; and do not afflict yourself. Your enemies have paid no more regard to your effects than to yourself. I found an opportunity to conceal some of Ferdinand's letters. Those will console you. I am ignorant of what happened yesterday; but it must be something extraordinary; for we were all kept at a distance from the house, except Theodore's great Indian moor. He has a depraved heart, and I would not ask him any questions. I am weary of this life; yet I support it out of respect to Honoria. But I may be discovered; and must bid you adieu.'

I had but just time to press his hand; for he fled without waiting for my thanks. I was charmed with the good disposition of this young man. Theodore had received from the hands of fortune, birth, riches, and all the exterior graces of person. Compare him with this poor Frenchman, confined to a condition so little worthy of him. Where is the honest man who would not rather be the servant than the master? Of little value, then, are brilliant possessions when they serve only to increase the depravity of their proud possessors.

I remained eight and forty hours without hearing any thing further. The overseer had not come to view the labour of the negroes; a circumstance which, till then had never happened. I attributed this to his cowardice. 'He trembles to meet me,' said I. 'He does not suspect, that a man can forget an injury.'

Among the letters of Ferdinand, I could not find that of Honoria. The loss grieved me. My tranquility began to leave me, notwithstanding the promises of Honoria, and the assurance of the equerry. The thought of escaping occurred; and I deliberated often concerning it. 'Do I not,' said I, 'expose myself to every thing which the caprice, the vengeance of this overseer may inflict on me? Yet I feel I cannot suffer myself to be struck.' The reflexion made such an impression on my mind that my resolution was taken. It was evening; and I deferred my flight only for a few hours necessary repose.

My agitation subsided, and I slept calmly. About three I was awakened by a voice, which said: 'Itanoko, fly, or you are lost.' It was my friend the equerry

who spoke. 'I have brought you,' continued he, 'some other clothes, and a little money. Fly to Honoria. The least delay may be death.'

In an instant I was on my feet, embraced him, and put on the dress he had brought. 'I thought,' said he, while I was employed, 'that we had to deal with a mere debauchee; he is a monster! But you are ready: follow me; I will conduct you.'

We went out, and were soon beyond the walls of the habitation. 'Know,' said the equerry, as we proceeded, 'that Theodore, on reaching the city, alighted at the house of Urban. I was with him. He sought to conceal his baseness under the appearance of honour. 'Aid me to avenge my injuries and your own,' said he to Urban. 'My perfidious sister has betrayed your son; has condescended to an odious intrigue, with a slave of my father. Come, and bathe your hands in the blood of this wretch. I charge myself with executing justice on a sister who dishonours my name. He then presented a letter to him. I recognized the writing. It was that of Honoria.'

'Ah!' cried I, 'that you could not save the letter which Honoria sent me. It must be that.' 'I believe it; but hear me,' said he. 'Urban looked on the billet with astonishment. 'How!' cried he, 'Itanoko! is he yet in this country!—What shall I say to my son?' 'No matter; you shall be revenged. I will myself drag him to justice,' 'You may imagine,' said my friend, 'how obscure this discourse must be to me. I am ignorant of all but your danger; which the horrible joy of Theodore too clearly pointed out. He embraced Urban with transport; and we have returned here without a moment's delay. Urban follows in a few hours. To increase the rage of Theodora, the unfortunate female has fled. While he abandons himself to despair, and the vile overseer endures the first effects of his frenzy, I have flown to you: and thank God! I have saved you.'

'I see the danger. Theodore has maliciously interpreted some expressions in the letter of Honoria, that result from the friendship with which the honours me.—Unworthy as he is, must he, to destroy me, outrage the reputation of his sister. But why? What have I done to him?—And the discourse of Urban: to what can that relate? Yet it is of no moment: at present: at present, I feel only your generous protection. May God recompense you! But see, that is your way. Adieu! Press forward. I return; and will mislead Theodore as to your route, should he attempt

attempt to pursue you.—'But have you no fears for yourself?' 'I have done my duty. Let him know it: this is the only lesson I can give him. Adieu! for the last time: already the day appears.' He took my hand. I could scarcely say 'adieu,' so much did his goodness overwhelm me.

I proceeded; but I was absorbed in reflexions. The hatred of Theodore, however unjust, affected me less than that of Urban. 'This young man,' said I, 'is corrupted by dissipation. I am a stranger to him; and perhaps I have, in some way, offended him: so little is necessary to inflame the passions of a man who is in the habit of yielding to them. But Urban! Urban! Ah God! cannot I be avenged of the monster?

Still I pressed forward. I had not yet left the desert plain, which I must traverse to gain the inhabited cantons. The dawn enabled me sufficiently to distinguish objects. Suddenly I heard some piercing cries, which proceeded from a part of the plain to the left of my road. I stood still. I listened. The cries became more vehement; but I perceived no one. A ridge, which the sand had formed at a little distance from me, hid that part of the plain. Humanity closed my eyes on the danger which I ran by turning aside. I spring like an arrow towards the place.—In a minute I am on the other side of the ridge: I see a man on horseback, closely pressed by two negroes, who attack him with fury. I run to his aid. When I am about twenty five feet from him, I see—Oh heavens! I see Urban! the detested Urban, ready to sink beneath the fury of the negroes. What a moment for a man eager for vengeance! I stood still. 'Let him perish,' said I. 'A thirst for my blood has brought him hither. But he is the father of Ferdinand.' It struck into my mind like lightning. I rush upon the negroes. 'Fly, wretches!' I cry with eagerness. They see me. Terror seizes them; and they instantly take to flight.

'Take courage,' said I to Urban. I see the blood pouring from various parts of him. He fixes his eyes on me, and falls. I have but just time to receive him in my arms.

Alas! such was my heart, at this sight, pity subdued every particle of my resentment. He had received, among others, a deep wound on his side; but his fainting had staid the blood. The equerry had put a small flask of brandy in my pocket; I tore an handkerchief which I had, and wetting part of it with the brandy, placed it on his wound; the rest of the liquor I poured into his mouth, and soon he opened his eyes.

When I imagined he was sufficiently strong to support the effort, I said to him, 'rise, remount your horse, I will conduct you.' I felt that already I had done too much for prudence, but enough for my heart. I placed him on his horse, took the bridle, and proceeded towards the plantation; we were about a league distant from it. During the whole way, Urban did not speak. Was it shame? Was it hatred? Was it repentance? I could not tell. Some sighs escaped him, but that was all.

When I perceived the plantation so near as to place me in immediate danger, I said to him: 'I hope you have sufficient strength to reach the dwelling. You shall not see Itanoko there. He spares you that shame. Adieu! I turned round and ran to regain my former route.

Heaven regarded this little effort of my virtue, and instantly marked it by a decided recompense. Theodore had discovered my departure; and, presuming that I fled toward Honoria, had dispatched five of his vile agents after me, who would infallibly have overtaken me, had I not turned aside to the succour of Urban. Missing me, they concluded I had taken another route, and turned back, while I was yet assisting Urban: so that, on my regaining my road, instead of their pursuing my track, I was treading that which they had just left.

In the wounds which Urban had just received, he met with part of that punishment which his bad faith and avarice so justly merited. In one of his voyages to the coast of Guinea, he had surprised two negroes sleeping, and had made himself master of their persons. On his return, he had sold them to an inhabitant of St. Domingo. Discontented with their new master, and burning with revenge against Urban, they had deserted, and fled into the mountains, of which I have spoken. They sometimes left their retreat to receive some poor provisions which were secretly given them by neighbouring plantations. It was in one of these excursions that these very negroes met with Urban. His sight recalled the remembrance of his perfidy, rendered more odious by the hardships they endured. They rushed suddenly upon him, and without my unlooked for appearance, they had completed their work of vengeance.

Naturally agile, and pressed by the fear of being pursued, I hurried on, and arrived early at the city. My presence, the condition in which I was, and the terror of my countenance, alarmed Honoria. 'O God!' said she, 'what brings you here? Do you come to meet your ruin?' I could no longer hesitate. Notwithstanding

ing the pain which my narrative must give her, I related, without reserve, all that had passed. She heard me with astonishment, with dread, with pity. She could only say, 'My brother! Who! my brother!' Silence followed, and she seemed confounded by the sentiments which crowded upon her. Then suddenly she cried, 'Itanoko, by the friendship which you owe me, for ever conceal this fatal tale from Ferdinand. Do not expose me to the anguish of seeing a lover avenge himself and me on this brother. Conceal it too from my father. Alas! he has but a few days to live. He has opened his eyes on the disorders of his son, which cut short his remaining days. He dies with remorse for the share he has in them.'

Tears came to her relief. Unhappy indeed was the situation of this virtuous woman. Far distant from her lover—on the eve of losing a tender father—of falling into the hands of a brother, whose frightful villainy was now fully unveiled to her! How could she look on the future? To what could she say it would lead?

'And you,' said she, 'what will become of you! where shall we now conceal you?' 'Can I not,' said I, 'remain here, protected by your presence?' 'No, unfortunate Itanoko. No,' said she, 'you cannot. I should probably have the grief of seeing you conducted to punishment from which neither your own innocence nor my credit could possibly save you.' 'What do you tell me!' cried I. 'Alas!' answered she, 'I did not imagine I should be yet compelled to reveal this fatal secret; but it can be no longer concealed. Listen, and tremble.'

'You recollect the day in which Ferdinand, for your and my misery, was compelled to leave us. You came to see me, after bidding adieu to him, and spoke of the visit which Urban had made to the Spanish captain. That visit did not alarm you. I judged very differently, and instantly perceived the designs of Urban. You will recollect also, that two days only intervened between this visit and the morning, in which Duménil conducted you from Urban's house. You know what followed. Now hear that which has yet been hidden from you. Scarcely had you left me, when I paid a visit to the Spanish consul, with whom we were intimate. I explained the reasons of my visit; and, according to what you had told me, described the vessel to him; so that he could not mistake it. He promised not only to inform himself if the Spanish captain had bought you from Urban, but also to exert his influence with the captain to induce him to desist from a measure which would

so greatly afflict me. Contented with these assurances, I retired to wait for the result of his enquiry.

'On the morning of the second day I received a letter from the consul: here it is, I will read it to you.'

'Madam,

'YOU perfectly penetrated into the intentions of M. Urban: in fact, he did sell the slave, in whose behalf you interest yourself, to Alonzo Texeira. The price, according to a verbal agreement between them, was to be four thousand francs. I explained myself to my countryman; and, as soon as he was informed of your motives, he resolved to finish his bargain, and afterwards to leave you to dispose, at your pleasure, of this slave, rendered precious by the price which was placed on him, and still more by the respect with which you honour him. But judge of the surprise and indignation of Texeira. He presented himself last night, to M. Urban, to pay the money and take away the slave. He received no other answer from M. Urban, but that he had found a better price; and that the agreement not being in writing, passed for nothing in his eyes. Texeira withdrew, confounded to find himself the dupe of this man: but still more hurt, I believe, at losing the opportunity of serving you. As to myself, madam, I am sufficiently chagrined in seeing myself unable to oblige you, and in finding myself opposed in the sentiments of devotion, with which I am,

'Madam, yours, &c.

'JAGO DE ZUNIGA.'

'You will conceive,' said Honoria, 'the vexation which this letter gave me. The thread of the intrigue had escaped me: where should I again find it? My uneasiness was so much greater, as the answer of Urban to Texeira seemed to announce that a second bargain was concluded. I consulted my father: all his experience was insufficient to furnish me with any advice which I could reasonably adopt.'

I was yet in this incertitude, when, the next day about noon, being in my balcony, I perceived Duménil. He had been long my father's friend; was a worthy man; and, by his condition, possessed great commercial connexions. I was instantly seized with a desire of making my embarrassment known to him. I beckoned him; he entered the house; I ran to meet him and informed him of the whole affair. The moment I mentioned Urban, he hastily demanded your name. 'Itanoko,' said I. 'Be satisfied, then; he is at my house.'—'At your house! By what chance?'—'I will tell you. A broker, one of my particular friends, fell sick, and requested

to see me. I attended him; and he informed me, that a stranger who had arrived at the port a few days since, was bargaining with Urban for a slave called Itanoko; that he was charged with the negotiation, and had an order from the stranger, to agree to any price which should be demanded; that he had seen Urban, and at once had offered him four thousand francs, which he refused, because he had already been offered that sum; and, that, after some conversation, they finally agreed for five thousand francs. My friend then showed the agreement signed by Urban. 'To-morrow morning,' continued he, 'the slave is to be delivered to me; but, as I am indisposed, I must beg you to take my place. Here are five drafts of an hundred pistoles each, with which you will terminate the affair. You will also have the goodness to keep the slave with you till evening, and if possible avoid Urban's knowing where you take him: for such is the request of his new master.' I accepted the commission; this morning executed it; and have just left Itanoko, who has no suspicion of what has passed, or what further awaits him.

'You do not know this stranger then?' said I to Duménil. 'No;' answered he. 'Indeed he seems to have a wish to be concealed: and perhaps it might be indelicate to attempt to penetrate further into the matter. But whoever he is, the price which he has given for this slave, should announce him to be rich; and he can scarcely be expected to relinquish his purchase. 'How then,' said I, 'how shall I act? Ferdinand will be inconsolable; and the poor Itanoko—assuredly it will be his death.' I then recounted to him in few words, the manner in which you had been enslaved, and the service you had rendered Urban in return for his perfidy.'

'I see but one way,' said he: 'I should refrain from proposing it, if I had less knowledge of your discretion; and the means are dangerous (so Itanoko, if he do not consent to conceal himself for some time.' 'I will answer,' said I, 'that in the name of Ferdinand I can impose any conditions on him.' Then, replied Duménil, 'the only resource is to declare, that he has escaped and deserted. You will perceive, that I cannot prevent my friend from making his deposition before a judge; and hence the danger of Itanoko. We wait the departure of this stranger, to inform my friend of the truth. When he knows the motive on which we have acted, I am persuaded he will withdraw his complaint from the court of justice, as he will see that it is void.'

'Ah! you restore me to life,' cried I. 'There is yet another difficulty,' returned Duménil. 'My reputation must be preserved free from the shade of suspicion.—The money which I paid to Urban for Itanoko, was received from this stranger: we cannot, in honour—' 'I understand you,' said my father, who was present at this conversation. 'I will bring you the five thousand francs, and you will return it to your friend, who will reimburse the stranger.' 'After that,' said Duménil, 'I think there can be no further objection. God will pardon a little treachery, which has no design but to save an unfortunate being from chains; and to preserve him for all the happiness which friendship has in store for him.'

Duménil quitted us to put this project in execution. You will now see in what situation things were, when we sent you to the plantation; which we then concealed from you, lest your indignation, on learning the conduct of Urban, should produce such violence as to betray you, and defeat the success of all our wishes for your safety.

Urban designed to sell you to the Spaniard, and had actually sold you to the stranger, with the certainty of your not remaining at St. Domingo, that you might not have an opportunity to inform his son of the baseness of this vile action; and he now firmly persuaded himself that you were gone, never more to return to this coast. But an excuse must be made to his son for your absence; the depravity of his heart did not fail to furnish him with it. Duménil anxious to shorten your exile did not lose sight of his friend; and about eight days after, was informed that the stranger had suddenly departed, hurried away by some accident, which no one could explain. Informed of this, I engaged Duménil to bring his friend to dine with my father. We discovered the artifice to him; he was good enough to admit of our motives, as an excuse for our conduct. After dinner, they went to the judge to withdraw the information against you. He consented; but said, 'this step will be of little use to the unfortunate slave; for at the request of M. Urban, I have condemned him for contumacy; as the time for his return has expired.' They were petrified with astonishment. 'Probably,' said the judge, 'M. Urban has afterward bought this slave, and that he has also fled from him; for his information is posterior to yours; or, which seems more likely, that there may be two slaves of the same name. However, I have only discharged my duty. You know I am obliged to take the information

mation of the person who calls himself the master of the slave.

'Dumenil returned with an account of this new misfortune. My only resource was, to inform Ferdinand of all that had happened. It was four months before I received his answer; and you will imagine my distress during that period. Each minute I trembled, lest I should see you dragged to the death which my fatal friendship had prepared for you; for, notwithstanding the kind of desert in which you were confined, you might be discovered: then how should we be able to prove, that you had not deserted from Urban. His acquittal for the five thousand francs had been immediately sent by Dumenil to his friend, and by him to the stranger; nor had they thought of withdrawing it, when he was reimbursed.— Thus, there was no solid proof of your innocence, but the testimony of Dumenil, who was alone when he received you from the hands of Urban: but, by our laws, this testimony is insufficient to acquit a slave so situated. The letters of Ferdinand, it is true, had unfolded Urban's conduct; but his presence alone could compel him to do you justice. He informed me, that, by examining the dates, he perceived that Urban had written to him of your pretended flight, on the day in which he sold you. Undoubtedly he gave Ferdinand this false intelligence, hoping he should never see you again: and when he made the deposition with the judge, respecting your pretended flight, we can scarcely suspect him of the black design of destroying you.

'Ferdinand conjures me, by all that is sacred, still to preserve you. But what can be done, now that you are at the mercy of Urban? Will he not sacrifice you, rather than avow to his son, and to the courts of justice, the baseness of his conduct?—Alas!—I alone have placed you in his power. Inevitable seems your ruin: as inevitable is mine.'

'Ah!' said I, 'these reproaches, with which your virtue oppresses you, are honourable and flattering to me; yet do not regard the ill success of your precautions. Without these, I should have had but a feeble idea of the extent of your goodness. But this is the moment for courage. A resolution must be taken, and it must be prompt. If Urban die, will he have time to recal his imposture? If he live, will he have the generosity to do it? In either case, the crisis is alarming. I see but one way to escape; to embark instantly for Europe, and join Ferdinand.'

'That may be practicable,' said Honoria. 'Vessels sail daily. But pardon my

feelings: the money, that was restored to the stranger, was my father's; and we should abuse his confidence, if we take any resolution without consulting him.'— 'Alas!' replied I, 'how shall we discover this embarrassment, without displaying all the depravity of his son! I cannot consent to it.'

We were both silent. 'I have yet the means,' cried I, swiftly 'recollecting myself. I quit you but for a moment. I will return with money to reimburse your father.' Without explanation, without a word, I left the house, and flew to father Bruno.

It was nearly six months since I had seen him; that is to say, since the departure of Ferdinand. During this interval, I had written often to him. My letters, which spoke only of the goodness of Honoria and her father, persuaded him that I was far removed from all care, under their protection. The old man was delighted to see me: but his joy was soon changed to sorrow, when I recounted to him what had lately happened to me, and all that I had learned from Honoria. Finally, informed him of my design to join Ferdinand; and, having spoken of the impossibility of doing that, without repaying M. de C——, I requested him to give me the two thousand crowns which my dear Ferdinand had deposited in his hands, for any such extremity.

Bruno fell at my feet without sensation. 'Oh heavens! Oh my friend! Oh my father!' cried I with wild distraction. I threw myself upon him. I embraced him; wept over him; raised him in my arms; and placed him on his bed. He was long without uttering a word. He took my hands, and bathed them with his tears; then raised his arms, his eyes, towards heaven. I stood amazed with conjecture.

'Oh God! thou who knowest my heart, oh pardon me! Ah, my dear Itanoko, fly me; fly from a criminal man.'— 'Criminal!'—'Desperately criminal. My friend, I have betrayed the confidence of Ferdinand! your confidence! I have violated the sanctity of a deposit. I have disregarded that which even depravity reveres as sacred. I had this money: I have it no longer.'—'Well! do I not know the uprightness of your mind? Whence spring these reproaches? This gold was Ferdinand's: it was mine: it was yours. You have made some happy use of it. Let us thank the mercy of God, who has made you the instrument of his compassion.'

'Alas!' said the poor old man, 'in this light did I view the action; but falsely did I see it. The single, the only virtue was faithfully to have preserved the depo-

fit. However noble the application of it in other circumstances, it was no less a crime, resulting as it did from the violation of my faith. Can the best feelings of the mind be permitted to open the gates of injustice? I did not then feel the truth; but now it presses on me with unresisted violence.'

'And if you have erred,' said I, folding him in my arms, 'will not your unfeigned, your unconstrained repentance efface this momentary wandering?' 'Ah!' answered he, 'every thing which could tempt the feelings of a humane mind, seemed to unite in leading me astray, and drawing me into this snare. You know my sedentary life. The duties of my calling and study form my whole employ. If I need relaxation from those studies, I visit the prisons; listen to the unfortunate; console their minds; and, by this innocent pleasure, soften the austerity of my life. Some months since—it was, if I remember right, a few days after the first letter, which acquainted me with your peaceful retreat at the plantations of M. de C——) I say, it is some months since that I one day as usual entered the prison. I remarked a negro whom I had not seen there before. I accosted him, and, being somewhat at a loss to explain the motive which led me to speak to him, I asked him, with an air of indifference, the name of his master. 'I have no master,' he answered with a haughty tone. 'I know of none, but friends and enemies.' The reply excited my curiosity. 'Have you been long in St. Domingo!' said I.—'You speak French fluently. Did you learn it in France?'—'No.'—'What has brought you into prison?'—'Injustice.'

'Astonished with his laconic answers, and wishing to lead him to a further conversation, I said to him, 'your replies are very abrupt! It is kindness alone which induces me to speak to you: (he looked at me with a disdainful smile) and you ought to be a little polite.'—'That is what I am not willing to be.'—'But why?'—'Because I do not wish to be barbarous.'—'The consequence is not just.'—'Extremely just. There are none so polite as white people.'

'I knew not what to answer. At length, again, I said, 'what have you done to bring you to prison?'—'My duty.'—'Then you must soon leave it.'—'I know not.'—'Have you not been told what will be your fate?'—'Suppose so?'—'Then what is it?'—'Death.'

'He quitted me, and retired to the further part of the prison. Respect restrained me from intruding, further upon him at that time: but his figure, a certain

elevation in his manners, and the singular turn of his conversation, interested me strongly. Without losing sight of him, I mingled with the other negro prisoners. The affection with which they caressed me, the gratitude they expressed for the trifling services which I had rendered them, placed a scene before his eyes which he did not expect. It seemed at once to extinguish the effects of prejudice in him. I saw him make a movement as if to approach me: but, as I judged it the best means of increasing this desire of confidence, I passed, and went out without seeming to notice him.

'The keeper of the prison could give me no further information than that he had violently ill-treated a young man of distinction: 'and that, you know,' said he, 'is a capital offence in a negro.' The next day I went again to visit him. I had not deceived myself; he was the first to accost me. 'If you be not offended,' said he, 'I wish to converse with you.'—'I am not easily offended with the unfortunate. I pity them.'—'Yesterday, I took you for an European. To-day, I consider you as a man: for they tell me you are good.'—'It is my duty to render services to others; and now that you know me, say, what is your crime? and what can I do for you?'—'My crime! I have not committed any. I accompanied a friend to this island; He is also a white man; and, like you, he is good. I will not tell you the business which led us here. It is the secret of other men, and must remain sacred with me. My friend brought his daughter with him. She was oppressed with great sorrows; but it will be of no avail to speak of them. While her father pursued the object of his voyage, I sought to amuse her; and, for that purpose, sometimes conducted her on shore: for we still made the ship our abode. I remarked that a young man regarded us with particular attention. I was no way uneasy; for I was ignorant of your manners; and did not know, that the attentions of a white man to a female were the symptoms of a crime. One day, we retired somewhat later than usual; we were but a few paces from our canoe. This young man approached us; and taking my companion under his arm, offered to lead her away. She shrieked. 'What have you to do with this woman,' said I? 'Insolent rascal!' cried the European youth; 'dare to come near me, and I will crush you to pieces.' Without attending to him, I advanced to deliver my companion. He retreated a step, and raised his cane to strike me. I had despised his injurious language; but could not bear this menace; and, with a blow laid him

at my feet. I then proceeded with my companion towards our canoe. A number of people, surrounded us; some of them seized upon this terrified woman; others overpowered me with their united strength; and dragged me to this horrible dwelling, in which you have found me. If what I have done be here called a crime, you must have received other notions from nature than we have. I defended the daughter of my friend; I defended my title of man, which the threat of an equal dared to impeach: and my heart tells me that I have done right.—'Have you been faithful in your relation? Have you told me the truth?'—'I never speak falsely.—'But why has not your friend the European interfered in your behalf?'—'He has departed, as I am informed.'—'Departed without succouring, without seeing you? This is not the conduct of an honest man.'—'Forbear to accuse him. If he have done thus, it was because he was compelled to do so. I rely on his virtues—not on appearances.'

'I could not but look upon him with surprise and respect. 'Do you wonder to find common sense in a negro?' said he. 'Perhaps so; here you are surrounded by negroes, and no people know them less than you do. They tell me, notwithstanding, that you decide boldly on the character of negro nations. You must be infatuated: who ever thought of judging of a man who is free by a slave?'

'You see, my dear Itanoko, here was a noble display of innocence, frankness, and

simplicity. The number of my visits to this youth served to confirm my esteem for him. I saw his judge. He appeared to be informed of the truth. I plainly represented to him, that this man had committed no crime; and that in condemning him, he would condemn innocence. 'What would you have me do?' said he. 'I am pressed by the law: all I can do is to delay the proceedings. Meanwhile, see his adversary. Let him desist from the prosecution; and I will be eager to restore this unfortunate youth to liberty.' 'Who is the prosecutor?' said I. 'A young man of vitiated manners, answered the judge; 'but of an esteemed family. It is Theodore de C——.'

'You will feel how the name afflicted me. My respect for Honoria, for her venerable father, increased my zeal to spare their family the shame of a crime with which Theodore would stain it. I visited him; saw him often; pressed him; but in vain. He was deaf to reason, humanity, and religion.

'These obstacles gave further energy to my resolution, I determined to inform Honoria and her father of the act of violence, which Theodore had committed, at the hazard of all the uneasiness which it might cause them; every consideration sinking, in my judgment, before the superior obligation of preventing a deed of injustice. I was about to execute this resolve, when chance presented another mode which seemed to be infallible.'

AN UNCOMMON INSTANCE OF LONGEVITY.

[From the *Biographical Magazine*.]

IN one of the foreign Journals, published in the month of October last, we find the following account of an old man, who has attained to the great age of 118: 'The phenomenon of a life extended beyond the ordinary bounds, interests us for two reasons; because it prolongs our hopes, and excites our reflections. We imagine that we see nature suspending its general laws, and performing a miracle, which we all flatter ourselves may be operated in our favor. Besides this, we affix to the fond idea of a long existence, the striking ideas of strength and antiquity, and we behold a veteran, who has withstood the power of years, with the same respect and veneration, as a column defaced by time, but still raising its head amidst

surrounding ruins. In a journey, which I lately made, I twice enjoyed this spectacle, but in a different manner. Being at the castle of St. Julian, situated in the bosom of the mountains of the *Franche-Comte*, and not far distant from those of Jura, and the Alps, I imagined that I was walking in the path of ages, and, I thought, I perceived marks of their passage in that multitude of rocks, half undermined, which seemed to nod on their summits, and to threaten destruction by their fall. There formerly, the Roman, the Gallic, and the Teutonic armies passed. Whilst I was admiring the antiquity of this place, and, on this occasion, observing the contrast which is always formed between the short duration of man, and the long duration of things,

things, I was told of an old man, aged 118, who lived at the distance of a league from St. Julian, on the estate of Montaigu. Thinking that this wonder was exaggerated, as generally happens, I wished to examine the truth of it, and the clergyman of St. Julian, and that of Montaigu, conducted me to the house in which the old man lodged.

When we arrived, we found him seated on a stone-bench at the door, where he every day goes to repose, or rather to revive himself in the rays of the sun. When we first saw him he was asleep. His sleep seemed to be very profound; his respiration was easy; his pulse beat very regularly; the veins of his forehead were of a lively and transparent blue colour, and his whole appearance was remarkably calm and venerable. Hair, white as snow, fell carelessly over his neck, and was scattered over his cheeks, upon which were displayed the vivid tints of youth and healthfulness. I for some time surveyed, with the utmost attention, this old man, while enjoying his sleep; but when those around awakened him, in order that he might speak to me, he appeared to be less blooming and less beautiful; that is to say, not so fresh when awake as when asleep. He could with difficulty lift his eye-lids, and in the open day, he scarcely receives light enough to direct his steps. I found also that he was deaf, and that he did not hear, unless when one spoke in his ears with a loud voice. He had been in this state only for about three years. At the age of 115, he seemed to be no more than eighty, and at 110 he could perform almost any labour. In the meadows he cut grass at the head of the mowers, whom he astonished by his vigor, and animated by his activity; and at table he distinguished himself, no less by his appetite, than by his songs, which he sung with a full and strong voice. At the same age, having conceived a desire of re-visiting the place of his nativity, he repaired thither at a time when the inhabitants carried on a law-suit against their Lord, respecting a cross which he had erected at a great dis-

tance from boundaries till then acknowledged by custom and tradition, and which consequently would have deprived them of a considerable portion of common. When the old man arrived, he heard mention made of this process, and as he had been a witness of the past, he became also a judge of the present. Having conducted a great number of the inhabitants who accompanied him, to a high pile of stones, situated at the distance of a league, he began to remove them, and discovered the ancient and real cross, which had occasioned the law suit, and which also brought it to conclusion.

This old man, we are told, whose name is John Jacob, was born at Charmé, a bailliwick of Orgelet, on the 10th of Nov. 1669. Mr. de Caumartin de St. Ange, Intendant of Franche-Comte, having in the year 1785 heard of him, and having satisfied himself respecting his age, and learned that he had need of assistance, he proposed to the Minister of the Finances, to grant him a pension of 200 livres, to enable him to terminate his long career in peace, and to add to it a present of 1200 more. This proposal was agreed to in the month of September 1785, and since that period he has enjoyed this mark of beneficence conferred upon old age. On the 20th of October, last year, he was conducted to Paris, and presented to the King, who viewed him with equal attention and surprize, and who treated with much kindness this extraordinary man, who has been a subject to Louis XIV and Louis XV, as well as to himself. Though reduced almost to a state of vegetation, he still vegetates with pleasure; and he has retained three passions, vanity, anger, and avarice, which are those, undoubtedly, that continue longest, but with these he unites gratitude, a virtue which generally dies young.

By the manner in which he blessed the King, it appeared that he had a heart still young and tender. This old man was to be seen at Paris in November last, in the new street called *des Bons-Enfants*, in the passage of *Palais-royal*.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE WHALE FISHERY AND SEAL CATCHING.

[From the American Museum.]

IT has been verified by experience, that whales change their places of resort, in consequence of the continual warfare against them. At the first settlement of

this country, whales were commonly found on these coasts, and not unfrequently driven ashore. The whale fishery carried on by the Dutch, English, and

our countrymen in the northern seas, was formerly very productive; but of late years, vessels frequently returned home without the least success. The present route of whales is along the Brazil coast; and they are still tending southward, so that there can be little doubt, but in a few years the whale fishery will be prosecuted in as high a southern, as it has been in a northern latitude.

A very serious inconvenience will arise from this change, which is indeed already experienced; and more particularly when vessels are unsuccessful, which often happens. That is, the extreme length of the voyage, which occasions an increase of the expenses of outfit. To remedy in an essential manner, this very serious inconvenience, which may eventually discourage this valuable branch of fishery, the following hints are suggested.

From some late voyages to the Faulkland islands, which have been sufficiently successful to prove the experiment, there can be no doubt, but by connecting the two objects of whaling and sealing, a very profitable voyage would be made. Should the whaling voyage prove successful, the vessel returns home to a sure and certain market. If only partially successful, or totally unsuccessful, let the vessel run to Faulkland islands, and undertake the killing of seals, which are to be found in different parts of those innumerable inlets and islands. A knowledge of their haunts, notwithstanding the pretensions to the contrary, can be readily acquired, by persevering search. Seals abound in vast numbers, and keep together in herds. They are so harmless and tame, as to suffer themselves to be knocked down with clubs, the only weapons used in killing them. The point is to get between them and the shore, when in a rookery, as it is phrased, of 1500 seals, not ten will escape: and a crew of twelve men will sometimes kill as many or more in one day. The Nantucket and eastern part of Long island whalers, will find themselves peculiarly adapted for this business, as, being accustomed to live ashore as well as follow the sea—hunting is familiar to them. Many advantages are lost by the inexperience of the crews in this trade, and the novelty of the business. They are generally at first so terrified with the grinning and howling of the seals, as to suffer a few to break thro' the line, which intercepts their communication with the sea, which if once accomplished, it is almost impossible to prevent the whole herd from escaping. Great resolution and alertness are therefore required; and the latter being a qualification which ordinary seamen are seldom re-

markable for ashore, will prove the superior advantages of our eastern whalers, in this particular, which is a very essential one.

Seal catching has hitherto been prosecuted merely for the sake of the skins. The hair-seals are serviceable for leather, especially the smaller kind, which are in great estimation for fine shoes. The fur seals are an object of remittance to Canton, and though hitherto sold from a half to three quarters of a dollar, per skin, will, no doubt, upon a fair experiment of a China market, bring more. The skin of the fur-seal with the fur on, when properly dressed, makes exceeding handsome waistcoat patterns, and might be introduced for that purpose. They are of a more durable nature, and would be very serviceable, especially to labourers, having all the advantages without the inconveniences of leather.

There is another advantage to be derived, which has hitherto been overlooked, and that is, the making of oil from the seals, which are remarkably fat and oily. There can be no doubt at all, but a very considerable benefit would arise on this score, and no persons can be better qualified to make the experiment than the eastern whalers. The crew of a vessel will be at very little expense for provisions, except bread; as great plenty of hogs are to be taken with dogs; and wild fowl, such as ducks, geese, &c. are so abundant and tame, as to be knocked down with clubs, and afford a very good sustenance. Their feathers may likewise be saved, and afford another object of profit.

By wintering in these islands, frequent chances offer, of going out with boats, and taking whales, which approach very near. Likewise great quantities of oil may be made from sea lions, and a large fish called the black fish, which are very plenty, and so large, as to afford from two to three barrels each.

By exploring this hitherto little frequented part of the world, other advantages may possibly be found; but that arising from sealing, is already proved from actual experiment. Seals likewise abound on the opposite shores of Patagonia, where the trade may be carried on without any difficulties, but what may arise from a coast, as yet little navigated.

The writer of these observations has been induced to offer them solely from a motive of communicating to his fellow citizens at large, a branch of commerce, that promises considerable benefit to the United States, conceiving it to be the duty of every person to add, as far as is in his power, to the common stock of national

onal profit and happiness. The remarks are founded upon an actual knowledge of facts. The few voyages, which have hitherto been made, have been conducted with an affected secrecy. It is impossible however to withhold for any length of time, what is necessarily imparted to ma-

ny. To blend the two voyages of whaling and sealing, appears to be extremely feasible, and likely to produce a sure success; and every means, that may tend to promote the navigation of the United States, will, however humbly represented, be, no doubt, candidly accepted.

NORTH-WEST PASSAGE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the many fruitless attempts that have been made to discover a north west passage into the South Seas, it would seem that this important geographical question is not yet fully decided; for at a meeting of the Academy of Sciences, Paris, held on the 13th of November last, M. Bauche, first geographer to the king, read a curious memoir concerning the north-west passage. M. de Mendoza, an intelligent Captain of a vessel in the service of Spain, charged with the care of former establishments favourable to the marine, has made a careful examination of the archives of several departments; there he has found the relation of a voyage made in the year 1598, by Lorenzo Herrera de Maldonado.—There it appears, that at the entry into Davis's Straits, north lat. 60S, and 28 of longitude, counting from the first meridian, he

turned to the west, leaving Hudson's Bay on the south, and Baffin's Bay on the north. Arrived at lat. 65 and 297, he went towards the north by the Straits of Labrador, till he reached 76 and 278; and finding himself in the icy sea, he turned south-west to lat. 60 and 235, where he found a strait, which separates Asia from America, by which he entered into the South Sea, which he called the Straits of Anian. This passage ought to be, according to M. Bauche, between William's Sound and Mount St. Elias. The Russians and Captain Cooke have not observed it, because it is very narrow. But it to be wished, that this important discovery should be verified, which has been overlooked for two centuries, in spite of the attempts that have been made on these coasts. M. Bauche calls this passage the Straits of Ferrer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NOVA-SCOTIA MAGAZINE

SIR,

AS there are considerable quantities of a Root, collected in these parts, and sold in this town by the name of Sarsaparilla which is not Sarsaparilla, it might be of some service to have it publicly known; for as the genuine Sarsaparilla is supposed to be a medicine of some efficacy, and is often used; it may be a thing of bad consequence to have another very different root (the medicinal properties of which, if it has any, are not yet ascertained) given to us instead of it: And however much the root that is sold here resembles the Sarsaparilla, yet that it is not the produce of a plant of the same species or genus, or even of the same class will be evident by comparing this with Linnæus's account of that.

The Sarsaparilla is a species of the Smilax, of the Dioecia Hexandria class:—the female plant is Trigenia.

The Root that is sold here, is a species of the Aralia, of the Pentandria Pentagynia class.

Our root is perhaps better for feeding cattle and hogs than for medicine; hogs will thrive upon it, and cattle are exceeding fond of it; and as the roots often run on the surface of the earth among the rotten leaves, they learn to dig and tear it up for themselves. I have known them live upon it for many days together, which I think is rather an argument against its having any power as a medicine; for that which may be taken by a cow, to the quantity of perhaps half a hundred weight in a day, and have no other effect than that of common food, can doubtless, have no great effect in the small way that it is taken in medicine, either upon man or beast.

A FARMER.

PARTICULARS of a singular VOYAGE, performed by HYPOLITUS STEPANOFF, from KAMSCHATKA to MACAO, and from thence to BATAVIA.*

[From the Biographical Magazine.]

HYPOLITUS STEPANOFF, according to his own relation, was a Russian gentleman, possessed of considerable landed property in the country, and from his youth had served in the guards of Ismailof, which were those that attended the Empress; but in the year 1762, being a captain in that corps, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the army, he requested leave to resign, on account of the revolution, which had dethroned Peter III.

At first he resolved to live privately, and within the compass of his fortune; † but he was prevented from pursuing this plan; for the Empress having ordered every province in her territories to send two deputies to court, to assist in forming a new code of laws, he was chosen by the province of Moscow, as its representative for that purpose; and on this account he set out for Peterburgh. When the assembly had deliberated for two months, a dispute of a very serious nature arose between him and one of the most respectable of the deputies, which terminated by his being thrown into prison, and afterward sent into banishment to Kamschatka. After a journey which lasted ten months, he arrived in October 1770, with four other exiles, at a small place in that country called Bargeretzkoj, where he remained eight months in the greatest misery. In concert with several of his companions, he here formed the bold resolution of embarking in some small vessel, with a design of reaching the Chinese coast, opposite to the straits of Baricherevsky, and from thence making his way to some port in Europe. To accomplish this scheme, it was necessary to embrace the first opportunity of embarking with the greatest privacy, and without noise, in one of these small two masted vessels, which are em-

ployed on the coasts, where the inhabitants go in quest of beavers. They intended first to make for Guam, one of the Ladron islands, belonging to the Spaniards. The governor of the place, having thought proper, in the spring time, to treat his prisoners with more than usual severity, Stepanoff assembled all those whom he knew to be favourable to his design, and who had resolved to accompany him in his flight; they amounted in number to thirty two. They agreed to seize all the inhabitants from whom they apprehended any danger; and the execution of this enterprise appeared to be so much easier, as the place was neither fortified nor provided with any defence, except three pieces of cannon, and six soldiers. On the 27th of April, they commenced their attempt. Having taken possession of the Imperial treasure, and all the ammunition, and having disarmed the soldiers, they travelled over land to Tschekatka, situated at the distance of forty wersts from Bargeretzkoj. On the 1st of May, they arrived at this place, where they found their vessel, which they immediately began to free from the surrounding ice; ‡ and having equipped it for a sea voyage, they called it the St. Peter. In eleven days, every thing being ready, they elected a commander, and the whole crew then consisted of eight slaves, thirty-two free persons, one merchant, one pilot, nine sailors, one chancellor, one secretary, seven natives of Kamschatka, one native of the Kurile isles, two Russian boys, four married women, and two servants of the pilot Tschurin, amounting in all to seventy people.

On the 12th of May, they set sail, amidst the noise of cannon, and steered north-east, in order to avoid the coast: but soon

* Extracted from a particular relation, written by himself in the Russian language, and translated from the original. Communicated to the editors of one of the Foreign Journals, by James Jasper Moxler, Member of the Dutch and Zealandic societies, formerly a clergyman at Batavia, and now at Bunschoten.

† He possessed, according to his own account, the village of Iowalon, in the province of Moscow, that of Inkelkoy, in the province of Perseben, that of Starby, in the province of Kesaan, and that of Chlebov, in the province of Tschchengork.

‡ Stepanoff reckons 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ wersts to make a German mile.

§ Though the coasts near Kamschatka are often free from ice, before the beginning of April, this place cannot be so, on account of large high mountains, which intercept the rays of the sun, and prevent them from exerting all their force, till the month of June.

soon after, the weather being bad, and the wind contrary, they pursued their course in a northern direction, and then towards the east—After two days sail, they discovered one of the Kurile isles, which they left on the right. Next day, a violent wind arising, accompanied by a thick fog, they were in danger of being lost: on this account they resolved to anchor, and having hoisted out a small boat, made of whale skin, sent a few men to examine the coast, and to search for a safe landing place. As they found a bay, the entrance of which was three fathom in depth, they cast anchor in it, and remained in that situation, from the 18th of May to the 12th of June, when they again prepared for their departure; and having baked some bread, and dried their biscuit, they continued their voyage towards the south-east, with a fair wind, the sea being now and then calm, and the tide favourable, especially from the forty-eighth degree of northern latitude. According to their own reckoning, they were between the Ladrone and the Marian islands, when their provisions began to fall short, and they had then nothing else to subsist on but a small quantity of meal, and some putrid water in leaky casks.

As all the crew began to murmur, they changed their course, with a view of making the coasts of China or of Japan. For two days successively they pursued the same route, with a fair wind, but a furious tempest coming upon them from the south-east, in the evening, they reefed all their sails, except the mizen sail, which in an hour after was torn to pieces by the wind. They were obliged then to leave the vessel at the mercy of the wind and the waves; the heavens appeared overcast, the rain poured down in torrents, and the violence of the storm increased every moment, the billows sometimes rising to the clouds, and threatening to swallow them up. The vessel having sprung a leak, they shifted the ballast, and endeavoured to stop it in the best manner they could. The third day, the wind

became more furious, and shattered their vessel in a dreadful manner; but Providence saved them from this imminent danger. On the fourth day, the wind began to grow a little calmer, and the day following, the weather being much clearer, they found themselves in the 33d degree of north latitude. Soon after they discovered land, and imagining it to be Nagasaki,* they resolved to make themselves pass for Dutchmen, and hoisting a green flag,† in the evening cast anchor in forty fathoms water, near a part of the coast where they observed a great many fires.

Next morning, Stepanoff embarked early with Major Wimbla, and eight men in a boat, to seek some bay on the coast, where they might procure a supply of fresh water. They could not, however, land without being perceived by the inhabitants, who were enabled to distinguish them by their light of the fires. This was the first time they had ever seen the Japanese. Being surrounded by a crowd of these people, they pretended to be Dutchmen,‡ and immediately a sign was made to them, to proceed along the coast farther to the north. The Japanese becoming a little more familiar with them, began to examine the arms and dress of these strangers, who made them a present of some pieces of silk stuff, a few shirts, and ribbands; but when Stepanoff saw them approaching in too great numbers, he returned to his vessel, leaving six men on shore. When he had provided himself with a sufficient quantity of fresh water and rice, which the Japanese brought him, he again set sail, and coasted along the isles towards the north, with a view of finding a place where he and his companions might land in safety. About evening, they observed several canoes coming towards them, the people in which shewed them a harbour, where they entered on the 10th of July, by the assistance of the Japanese themselves; for at that time it was a perfect calm. Here they were again supplied with fresh water and rice,

* This place, by means of a bridge, has a communication with the Island of Desima where the officers belonging to the Dutch East-India Company reside.

† The translator in a note says, he cannot comprehend, how they could make themselves pass for Dutchmen, by hoisting a green flag.

‡ It is well known, that of all Christian nations, the Dutch alone, since the expulsion of the Portuguese, have the liberty of touching at Japan, and of trading, but only under the name of Dutchmen, and not under that of Christians, whom the Japanese abhor so much, that they dare not land books, concerning the Christian religion, under pain of death.

rice, but four canoes kept guard continually around the vessel, and these, after a certain space, were relieved by others.

On the 11th of July, Stepanoff and his commander quitted their vessel intending to make a little excursion on shore, but they were met by several canoes filled with Japanese, who gave them to understand by their signs, that they had come to prevent their design, the execution of which would have cost them their lives. The Russians, therefore, put about, and returned on board, where they got their casks ready for receiving water. On the 12th the Japanese brought them water, but in such a quantity as was scarcely sufficient for one day, and they would not permit them to procure any farther supply. The Russians immediately ordered their casks to be carried on shore, under a guard of armed men; but the Japanese prevented them, by bringing enough of rain water, to serve them for two days.

When the vessel was sufficiently stocked with fresh water and rice, they again set sail, directing their course south east; and at the end of seven days, they discovered unknown land. Having approached the coast, they found a bay, in which they came to anchor, and where they remained till the first of August. This country was the island of Usmasky, situated in the twenty eighth degree of north latitude.— After procuring here biscuit and fresh water, they continued their voyage, and after sailing ten days, discovered more land in the twenty-fourth degree of north latitude. This they imagined to be the island of Tarmova, but there being a calm, they did not reach it until the third day, and anchored in forty fathoms water. Part of the crew, who had been sent on shore with a boat, returned soon after, and informed the rest, that the inhabitants had fired upon them; on this account they immediately departed, cruising along the coast, and keeping on a south-east course. Meeting with contrary winds, and a strong current, which drove them from their course, they arrived at the pro-

montory of an island, and having approached near to the shore, they saw coming towards them several canoes, filled with the natives, who shewed them a bay, which they entered, and where they provided themselves with water. Next morning, they went in quest of more, but some of their company having amused themselves too long in a rivulet, where they went to bathe, they were surprised by the inhabitants, and assassinated. Stepanoff immediately made a descent on the coast, at the head of thirty men, to revenge the death of his unfortunate companions; but three or four thousand of the inhabitants, armed after their own manner, came to oppose them. The Russians, dividing themselves into three bodies, marched boldly forward to meet the enemy, and having killed several of them on the spot, dispersed the rest, and burnt almost a thousand of their huts or houses. After this signal victory, they returned to their vessel, and departed on the 20th of August.

Their intention was to make for Manilla, but contrary winds obliged them to proceed to the north. Next day they steered east, and in six days they discovered land. Coasting along the shore, they arrived first at Tschin-China, a place belonging to the Chinese, where they refreshed themselves for five days, and having procured water, and a coasting pilot, pursued their voyage till the 22d of September, when they arrived safe at Macao, without losing any more of their people than the three who had been assassinated. Here they sold their vessel for 3960 Dutch florins. Some unlucky circumstances occasioned Stepanoff to be arrested at Macao; but he was released very soon after. Having in vain attempted to get himself sent to Lisbon, in order to prove his innocence, he obtained from the governor a certificate, respecting his conduct, and at the same time permission to go to Batavia, where he arrived, and died in great misery and distress, in the month of July, 1772.

ON THE SLAVE TRADE.

[By Dr. Franklin]

READING in the newspapers, the speech of Mr. Jackson in Congress against meddling with the affair of slavery, or attempting to mend the condition of slaves, it put me in mind of a similar one,

made about one hundred years since, by Sidi Mehemet Ibrahim, a member of the divan of Algiers, which may be seen in Martin's account of his consulship, anno 1687. It was against granting the petition

on of the sect called erika or purists, who prayed for the abolition of piracy and slavery, as being unjust. Mr. Jackson does not quote it; perhaps he has not seen it. If therefore some of its reasonings are to be found in his eloquent speech, it may only shew that men's interests and intellects operate and are operated on with surprising similarity in all countries and climates, whenever they are under similar circumstances. The African's speech, as translated, is as follows:

'Allah Bismillah, &c. God is great, and Mahomet is his prophet.

'Have these erika considered the consequences of granting their petition? If we cease our cruises against the christians, how shall we be furnished with the commodities their countries produce, and which are so necessary for us? If we forbear to make slaves of their people, who, in this hot climate, are to cultivate our lands? Who are to perform the common labours of our city, and of our families? Must we not then be our own slaves? And is there not more compassion and more favour due to us mussulmen, than to those christian dogs? We have now above fifty thousand slaves in and near Algiers. This number, if not kept up by fresh supplies, will soon diminish, and be gradually annihilated. If then we cease taking and plundering the infidel ships, and making slaves of the seamen and passengers, our lands will become of no value, for want of cultivation; the rents of houses in the city will sink one half; and the revenues of government, arising from its share of prizes, must be totally destroyed. And for what? to gratify the whim of a whimsical sect, who would have us not only forbear making more slaves, but even manumit those we have. But who is to indemnify their masters for their loss? Will the state do it? Is our treasury sufficient? Will the erika do it? Can they do it? Or would they, to do what they think justice to the slaves, do a greater injustice to the owners? And if we set our slaves free, what is to be done with them? Few of them will return to their native countries: they know too well the greater hardships they must there be subject to: they will not embrace our holy religion: they will not adopt our manners: our people will not pollute themselves by intermarrying with them: must we maintain them as beggars in our streets; or suffer our properties to be the prey of their pillage? for men, accustomed to slavery, will not work for a livelihood, when not compelled.—And what is there so pitiable in their present condition? Were they not slaves in their own countries? Are not Spain,

Portugal and France and the Italian States, governed by despots, who hold all their subjects in slavery, without exception? Even England treats her sailors as slaves, for they are, whenever the government pleases, seized and confined in ships of war, condemned not only to work, but to fight for small wages, or a mere subsistence, not better than our slaves are allowed by us. Is their condition then made worse by their falling into our hands? No; they have only exchanged one slavery for another: and I may say a better: for here they are brought into a land where the sun of Islamism gives forth its light, and shines in full splendor, and they have an opportunity of making themselves acquainted with the true doctrine, and thereby saving their immortal souls. Those, who remain at home, have not that happiness. Sending the slaves home, then, would be sending them out of light into darkness.

I repeat the question, what is to be done with them? I heard it suggested, that they may be planted in the wilderness, where there is plenty of land for them to subsist on, and where they may flourish as a free state.—But they are, I doubt, too little disposed to labour without compulsion, as well as too ignorant to establish good government: and the wild Arabs would soon molest and destroy, or again enslave them. While serving us, we take care to provide them with every thing: and they are treated with humanity. The labourers in their own countries, are, as I am informed, worse fed, lodged, and clothed. The condition of most of them is therefore already mended, and requires no farther improvement. Here there lives are in safety.—They are not liable to be impressed for soldiers, and forced to cut one another's christian throats, as in the wars of their own countries.—If some of the religious mad bigots, who now tease us with their silly petitions, have, in a fit of blind zeal, freed their slaves, it was not generosity, it was not humanity that moved them to the action; it was from the conscious burden of a load of sins, and hope from the supposed merits of so good a work, to be excused from damnation.—How grossly are they mistaken, in imagining slavery to be disallowed by the Alcoran! are not the two precepts, to quote no more, 'Masters, treat your slaves with kindness: slaves, serve your masters with cheerfulness and fidelity,' clear proofs to the contrary? Nor can the plundering of infidels be in that sacred book forbidden; since it is well known from it, that God has given the world, and all that it contains, to his faithful mussulmen, who are to enjoy it,

of right, as fast as they can conquer it. Let us then hear no more of this detestable proposition, the manumission of christian slaves, the adoption of which would, by depreciating our lands and houses, and thereby depriving to many good citizens of their properties, create universal discontent, and provoke insurrections, to the endangering of government, and producing general confusion. I have, therefore, no doubt, but this wise council will prefer the comfort and happiness of a whole nation of true believers, to the whim of a few *ciika*, and dismiss their petition.

The result was, as Martin tells us, that

the doctrine that plundering and enslaving the Christians is unjust, is at best problematical; but that it is the interest of this state to continue the practice, is clear: therefore let the petition be rejected.

And it was rejected accordingly.

And since like motives are apt to produce in the minds of men like opinions and resolutions, may we not venture to predict, from this account, that the petitions to the parliament of England for abolishing the slave trade, to say nothing of other legislatures, and the debates upon them, will have a similar conclusion?

AN IDEA OF LUXURY.

A PEOPLE living strangers to luxury, and confining themselves to the first simple gifts which nature bestows, living naked, without any settled habitation, without agriculture, continues ever, while they so exist, in the same state of weakness, indigence, and stupidity. A more active people, studying to improve their situation, become daily more and more enlightened, and are constantly gathering strength and wealth, so long as moral causes do not impede their progress. Hence then occurs the following plain reasoning:

The idea of building a house, and that of raising plants for food, are dictated by that natural instinct which leads man to profit by his genius, employing it to procure himself conveniences. From these first ideas, flow a thousand others as a consequence of the same principle, and all together produce the formation of great societies and their power. Hence arise arts, manufactures, trades, and all the luxuries of life, that constitute the strength and power of a nation.

To reason closely, gilded ceilings, bronzes, porcelain, are, in fact, no more luxuries, than shoes or stockings. In Poland, in Hungary, and in some parts of Scotland, in the peasantry, in common, cover not their feet or legs with any thing; whenever they do, it is by way of dress, as white gloves are worn by us. Men and women there take long journeys bare footed, even when the country is covered with snow. All is relative; shoes to a person who never wore any, are a very troublesome superfluity. A precious vase upon a chimney piece, is an agreeable superfluity. Ornaments that decorate the house, the clothes, or the furniture of the rich, are perhaps less superfluities to them,

than the money would be, with which they would purchase them, if they had no further use to convert them to.

It is idle to talk of one thing as being more a luxury than another. All superfluities are luxuries; and what is not immediately necessary, is superfluous. Of course, every thing that is not essential to our existence, is luxury. He who, not finding himself at ease, when sleeping on the ground, contrived to weave the first mat of rushes for his repose, consulted his indulgence as much as he who since composed the bed of down. They each made use of those materials they could get. It was a circumstance only that prevented the one, as well as the other, from accomplishing the object of his wishes.

If I may, without luxury, cover myself with a sheep skin, merely cut and made into a form to fit me, and enable me to use my limbs—if I may also, without being reproached with luxury, carry my ingenuity further, make me a coat with the wool of this animal coarsely spun—do I deserve to be called luxurious, if I spin this wool finer, weave it better, and clothe myself with a better kind of stuff? I make use only of my abilities and my understanding to answer my intention in the best manner possible, which is, to clothe myself conveniently and comfortably. As soon then as I am allowed to make use of art, be it ever so little, to procure me any one enjoyment—upon what principles would they prohibit my employing all the art, of which I am capable? Would they allege that luxury consists in cleverness of execution?

And, if I may, without luxury, make use of the wool, a part of one animal; I may equally, without incurring reproach, employ

employ the parts of any other animal, or any thing convertible into clothes, whether it be goats beard, flax, cotton, or silk. These materials bear all the same rank in nature: and when I can obtain them, I may indifferently use them as I please: one is in itself no more a luxury than another. The same may be said of every thing I use. The materials of which a thing is made, are no more a luxury than the thing itself. Gold and lead, diamonds and flints are productions of the earth, intrinsically equal. My choice only is reprehensible or not, according as the qualities of the materials I use, do or do not

answer my intentions. In considering things absolutely, there is no other rule to go by.

If then useful inventions, and those that are merely pleasurable, partake (as is evident they do) of the same principle— if all things that are not immediately necessary, be luxuries, it is ridiculous to condemn either this or that; a manufacture of the most trifling article is not without its advantages to the state, as it tends to create that disbursement from which the state draws its resources, and as it employs a number of hands.

LIFE OF MONTESQUIEU.

CHARLES de Secondat, Baron de Montesquieu, of a distinguished family in Guienne, was born at the castle of Brede, near Bourdeaux, on the 18th of January, 1689. Scarcely had he advanced beyond the period of infancy, when the philosophical turn of his mind began to appear. At the age of twenty he prepared materials for his *Spirit of Laws*, by making concise extracts from those immense volumes, which compose the *Body of Civil Law*. An uncle by the mother's side, who was a president of the parliament of Bourdeaux, having bequeathed to him his whole wealth, as well as his office, our young philosopher was admitted to the latter in 1716.

Six years after, in 1722, his company having appointed him to present a remonstrance and petition against a new tax, he displayed so much zeal and eloquence upon the occasion as to obtain its suppression. A year before, he had finished his *Persian Letters*, which he began in the country, and completed at such hours of relaxation as he could procure from the duties of his office. This profound work, under an air of lightness, announced to France and to all Europe, a writer superior to his works. The Persian here satyrises in a very delicate and energetical manner our vices and foibles, and ridicules with equal success our prejudices and capricious tastes. He gives the justest and most animated picture of the manners of the French; his pencil is soft and bold, and in its strokes it bears every mark of originality. All these letters, however, have not equal strength. There are some of them, says Voltaire, very pretty, others frivolous, and the detail respecting what passes in the seraglio of Usbec in Isphahan can interest the French

reader very little. The author also may be reproached with advancing certain literary, moral and political paradoxes.

The success of the Persian letters opened to Montesquieu the doors of the French academy, though of all the authors who have levelled their wit at that company, there is none who made so free in that respect. The death of Mr. Sacy, the translator of Pliny, having left a vacancy, our philosopher, who had resigned his office, and who wished now to devote himself entirely to literary pursuits, offered himself as a candidate. Cardinal Fleury, who had been informed by some zealots of the pleasantries which the Persian had written against the tenets, the discipline, and ministers of the Christian religion, refused to consent to his being admitted. It will not appear strange, that the Minister, who was himself a member of the church, should start some difficulties, if we call to mind the letter in which Usbec makes so eloquent and dangerous an apology for suicide, and others, in which several reflections are thrown out against the bishops and the Pope.

Montesquieu, finding what effect his exclusion, and the motives assigned for it, would have upon himself and his family, pursued a very dexterous method to obtain the Cardinal's consent. It is pretended, says Voltaire, that he caused a new edition of his book to be printed in a few days, in which every thing that could be condemned by a cardinal or a minister was either softened or suppressed. He then carried the work to Cardinal Fleury, who, as he seldom read, only perused a part of it. This air of confidence, supported by some people of credit, and above all, by his friend the Marshal

D'Estres, then director of the Academy, gained over the Cardinal, and Montesquieu was received. His discourse upon this occasion, which though short, is replete with energy and learning, was pronounced on the 24th of January, 1723.

The design which Montesquieu had formed of painting the character of different nations in his *Spirit of Laws*, obliged him to go and reside some time in them. After having travelled over Germany, Hungary, Italy, Switzerland and Holland, he continued near two years in England, where he was courted by the learned, and esteemed by the Queen, who was still more worthy than they, to converse with the author of the *Persian Letters*. From different observations, which he made in the course of his travels, it resulted, that Germany was a country for travelling in, Italy for residing in, and France for living in.

When Montesquieu returned to his native country, he put the last hand to his work on the *Causes of the Greatness and Fall of the Roman Empire*. Delicate reflections and strong painting, gave a merit of novelty to this subject, which has been handled so often before, and by so many able writers. A Roman, with the soul of the great Cornelle, added to that of Tacitus, would have produced nothing better in the most flourishing periods of the republic. This political history of the rise and decline of the Romans, written for the use of statesmen and philosophers, appeared in 1734, in duodecimo.

The illustrious writer considers as the causes of the greatness of the Romans, their love of liberty, their being capable of enduring labour; and their attachment to their country; the severity of their military discipline, and the maxim they always observed of never making peace but after a victory. The causes of their fall, he says, were the great increase of the Roman empire; the right of citizens granted to so many nations, the corruption introduced by the luxury of Asia, the proscriptions of Sylla, the obligation under which they were of changing their principles by changing their government, in that series of monsters which succeeded one another almost without interruption, from Tiberius to Constantine, and lastly, the division of the empire, and transferring the seat of it to Constantinople.

That force and strength of genius which shine forth in Montesquieu's work on the Grandeur and Fall of the Romans, were still more displayed in his *Spirit of Laws*, published in 1748, in two volumes quarto. In this work, which may be called rather the *Spirit of Nations* than the *Spirit of Laws*, the author distinguishes three

sorts of government, the republican, the monarchical, and the despotic. The republican is that where the people in a body, or in part have the sovereign power; the monarchical that where one governs alone, but according to certain rules, and the despotic, that where the will of one person rules every thing, without any other law whatever. In these different governments, the laws ought to be according to their nature, or to that which constitutes them, and to their principle, or that which supports and makes them act—an important distinction, the key of a number of laws, and from which the author draws many consequences. The principal laws respecting the nature of a democracy are, that the people should, in certain points, be the monarch, and in others subjects; that they should have the right of choosing, and judging their magistrates, and that the magistrates upon certain occasions should decide. The nature of monarchy requires, that there should be many intermediate ranks and powers between the monarch and the people, and a depository body of laws, as mediator between the subjects and the prince. The nature of despotism requires, that the tyrant should exercise his authority, either by himself alone, or the person who represents him. With regard to the principles of these three governments, that of democracy is a love of republicanism, that is to say, of equality, which the author expresses by the vague term of *virtue*. In monarchies, where one alone confers dignity, and bestows rewards, and where it is usual to confound the state with the monarch, the principle is *honour*, that is to say, ambition and the love of fame.—Lastly, under despotism, it is *fear*. The more vigorous these principles are the firmer the government will be; and the more they change or are corrupted, the more it verges towards destruction. The laws which legislators make ought to be agreeable to the principles of these different governments. In republics, to preserve equality of rank and promote frugality; in monarchy, to support the nobility, without crushing the people, and in despotic governments to keep all ranks equally silent. If we except despotism, which exists no where, such as the author paints it, these governments are attended with certain advantages. The republican is properest for small states, and the monarchical for great. The republican is more subject to excess, and the monarchical to abuse. The republican has more energy in the execution of its laws, and the monarchical more expedition.—The difference of the principles of these three

three governments ought to produce a difference in the number and object of their laws. But the common law of all moderate, and consequently just governments, is the political liberty which each citizen ought to enjoy. This liberty is not the absurd licence of doing whatever people wish, but the power of doing what the laws permit. Complete liberty has its inconveniences, as well as complete slavery, and in general, human nature accommodates itself best to a middle state.— After these general observations on the different governments, the author examines the rewards offered in them, the punishments decreed, the virtues cultivated, the faults committed, the education given, the luxury that prevails, the money that is current, and the religion that is professed. He compares the commerce of one people with that of another; that of the ancients with that of the moderns; and that of Europe with the other three parts of the world. He examines also what religions are best suited to certain climates and certain governments.

The present century has not produced a work in which there are more profound ideas and new thoughts. The most interesting part of the history of all times and of all places, is dispersed throughout the whole with much art, in order to clear up his principles; and says in the author's hands, become perfectly clear and luminous. His style, without being correct, is nervous. 'It does not shine,' says a certain author, 'it warms; it consists of ideas, which press upon one another, and not of phrases, which destroy each other; it is like a wrestler, almost in the attitude of contending.' Striking images, flights of genius and of wit, curious and agreeable facts, little known, all concur to beguile the fatigue of perusing a long work. This performance may be justly called *the code of the laws of nations*, and its author, *the legislator of mankind*. It may be easily seen, that it is the production of a free mind, and of a heart filled with that general benevolence which comprehends all men. It is on account of these sentiments that Montesquieu has been pardoned for reducing every thing to one system, in a matter where one ought to reason without indulging the imagination, and for having given too much influence to climate and physical causes, in preference to moral; for having formed an irregular whole, a broken chain with the finest parts, and the most beautiful links; and for having too often drawn conclusions from particular to general things. We are sorry to find in this master-piece, long digressions on the feudal

law; examples taken from travellers of very little credit; paradoxes instead of truths; pleasantries, where there should have been reflections; and what is more to be lamented, certain principles of deism and irreligion. Some have been offended with the indeterminate titles which he gives to the greater number of his chapters; such as, *General Idea, Consequence, Problem, Reflection, Continuation of the same subject*, &c. He has also been reproached on account of his chapters having too little connection with those which precede or follow them; and on account of his vague and confused ideas, forced terms of expression, and a stiff, and sometimes laboured, style. But if he does not always please the grammarians, he always furnishes subject for the meditation of the philosopher; either by making them enter into his reflections, or by giving them cause to combat them. No one has reflected more than he, on the nature, principles, manner, climate, extent, power, and particular character of states; on their good and bad laws; on the effects of their rewards and punishments; and on their religion, education, and commerce. The article of Alexander contains profound and well connected observations; that of Charlemagne exhibits, in two pages, more political principles than all the books of Balthasar Gracian; and that, on the slavery of the negroes, reflections, so much the more agreeable, as they are concealed by the veil of a very pleasant irony. His view of the English government, displays the hand of a master; and our commercial and philosophical nation testified its gratitude to him on this account, in 1752. Mr. Daffier, celebrated by the medals which he struck in honour of several illustrious men, came from London to Paris in order to strike one of him.

If the Spirit of Laws, however, procured him respect among foreign nations, it raised up the critics against him in his own. The Abbe Dehonnaire gave the signal by a pitiful pamphlet, written in a style half serious, and half burlesque. The ecclesiastical gazetteer, who shrewdly saw in the Spirit of Laws, one of those productions, which the Bull of Unigenitus has multiplied so much, directed two sheets against the author; one to prove that he was an atheist, which he could convince no one; and the other to demonstrate that he was a deist, which his writings had given too much reason to suspect. But the illustrious magistrate, in his defence of the Spirit of Laws, rendered his adversary ridiculous and odious. This pamphlet, as an ingenious author has said, is *reasoned*. In the same manner did Socrates plead

plead before his judges. The graces are there united to justness of thought, the brilliant to the solid, and vivacity of style to close reasoning: But whatever ingenuity and truth there may be in this defence, the author has not justified himself respecting all the reproaches of his adversary. The Sorbonne, excited by the cries of the news monger, undertook to examine the Spirit of Laws; and found several things in it worthy of reprehension. Their censure, so long expected, did not however appear; and, in all probability, never will. The best of all criticisms, if we should judge from the impression that it made on the author, would have been that of M. Dupin, former general, who had a choice and a large library, which he had abilities to use. Montesquieu having gone to complain to the Marchioness de Pompadour at the time when there were no more than five or six copies distributed to some friends, that lady sent for M. Dupin, and told him, that she had taken the Spirit of Laws; as well as its author, under her protection; and that it would be necessary to recal all the copies, and burn the whole edition.

The vexation arising from various criticisms whether just or unjust, and the life which Montesquieu was obliged to lead at Paris, tended greatly to hurt his constitution, which was naturally delicate. In the beginning of February 1755, he was attacked by a disorder of the breast. Both the court and the city were alarmed at his illness; and the king sent the duke de Nivernois, to enquire after his health. In his last moments Montesquieu spoke and acted like a man, who wished to appear both a Christian and a philosopher. 'I have always respected religion,' says he; 'the morality of the gospel is the finest present that God could have given to man;' and as father Routh an Irish Jesuit, to whom he confessed, pressed him to deliver up the corrections which he had made to his Persian Letters, he gave his manuscript to the Duchess of Aiguillon, telling her, I will sacrifice every thing to reason and religion, but nothing to the Jesuits. Examined with my friends, whether this ought to appear. This illustrious friend never quitted him, until the moment he lost the use of his senses, and when her presence could be of no far-

ther use to his repose; for one day, while the duchess was gone to dinner, father Routh arrived, and having found Montesquieu alone with his secretary, he ordered the latter to quit the apartment, and then locked the door. When the duchess returned, approaching the door, and hearing Montesquieu speaking with emotion, she knocked, and the Jesuit opened it: 'Why,' said she, 'should you torment a dying man?' The President then addressing her said, 'Behold, madam, father Routh, who wishes to oblige me to deliver up the key of my cabinet, in order that he may get possession of my papers.' The duchess then reproaching the confessor, he replied, 'Madam, I must obey my superiors;' upon which he was dismissed without effecting his purpose. This was the Jesuit who, after Montesquieu's death, published a letter, in which he makes that illustrious writer say, that it was a taste for something new and singular; a desire of being considered as a genius superior to prejudices and common maxims; a wish to please, and to merit the applauses of those people who give the lead to public esteem; and who never grant their suffrages more freely, than when one seems to authorise them to shake off the yoke of all dependence and constraint, that had made him take up arms against religion. Whatever truth there may have been in this confession, belied perhaps, too slightly by the friends of the author of the Spirit of Laws, the detail into which we have entered, is too curious in many respects, not to carry its excuse along with it.

Montesquieu died on the 10th of February, 1755, at the age of 66, regretted as much on account of his genius, as of his personal qualities. He was a man of extensive generosity,* and as amiable in society as great in his works. His mildness, his cheerfulness, and his politeness, were always conspicuous. His conversation lively, engaging, and instructing, intermixed with witticisms and pertinent remarks, was interrupted by fits of absence, which he never affected, and which always pleased. The answer which he made to a person who had related some wonderful circumstance, or one which that great man believed to be so, is well known. The narrator, every time Montesquieu seemed to doubt, solemnly pro-

* The beneficent action which he did at Marseilles, in giving his purse to a young waterman, and privately consigning a sum of money into the hands of a banker to redeem the father of this unfortunate man, taken by a Barbary pirate, and kept as a slave in Africa, has been published in different journals, and gave rise to a theatrical piece, represented with success in 1782, under the title of *The Anonymous Kindness*.

tested that he spoke truth; at length he exclaimed, 'I will give you my head!' — 'I accept the present,' said Montesquieu; 'small presents preserve friendship.' Being an economist without avarice, he was unacquainted with pomp, he had no occasion for it to render himself conspicuous: He was much sought after by the great; but their company was not necessary to his happiness; he shunned them as often as he could, and retired to his country seat.

This celebrated man, so simple in his manners, has been seen under a tree, at Brede, conversing with the peasants in the gibberish of the country, settling their disputes and relieving their distresses. If he appeared sometimes too jealous of his territorial rights; if he was more attached than any philosopher ought to be to the prerogatives of birth, one readily excused these weaknesses, which were those of Montagne, and several other sages. Montesquieu was extremely kind to his domestics. It happened, however, one day, that he scolded them very severely, but turning immediately, with a smile, towards a person who had been a witness to this scene, 'these,' said he, 'are watches which require sometimes to be wound up.' After his death, a collection of his works was published in three volumes, quarto. In this collection there are some small treatises, of which we have made no men-

tion. The most remarkable is the *Temple of Gnidas*, a kind of poem in prose, in which the author delineates a pleasing and animated, but sometimes too voluptuous, too fine, and too highly finished picture of the simplicity and delicacy of love. This romance has all the lightness of prose, and all the graces of poetry. We find also, at the end of Montesquieu's works, a Fragment on Taste, in which there are many new ideas, and some obscure. Mr. de Secundat, the worthy son of this great man, preserved in his library, six volumes, in quarto of manuscripts, under the title of *Materials for the Spirit of Laws*, and detached parts of the *History of Theodoric, King of the Ostrogoths*. But the public will never have the pleasure of seeing these fragments, nor the *History of Louis XI.* which his illustrious father threw into the fire through mistake. In 1753, Mr. De Leyre, published, in duodecimo, a work entitled the *Genius of Montesquieu*. This is a choice selection of the most beautiful thoughts scattered throughout the different works of this writer, who had himself approved the idea of such an abridgement. 'The reader will find,' says the compiler, 'only detached links of a long chain; but they are links of gold.' In 1767, *Montesquieu's Familiar Letters*, were published in one volume, duodecimo. Some of these are curious, but others are only letters of compliment.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE SAGACITY OF THE SPIDER.

AMONG all the insects, the spider appears to possess the greatest sagacity, and is at the same time, formed by nature to be in a state to combat not only with other insects, but also against those of its own species. Its head and breast are covered with a very strong coat of mail, impenetrable to the attacks of other insects; its belly is enveloped with a soft and flexible skin, which eludes the sting of the wasp; its limbs are articulated, like those of the craw fish, each of them having at their extremities large nails, which serve to keep its assailants at a distance. The eyes of the spider are large, transparent, and covered with a scaly transparent substance: below its mouth are claws, or nippers, (forceps) which serve it either to destroy, or to make sure of the prey which has fallen into its claws or into its web.

This insect seems to place still more confidence in its web than in its arms, either offensive or defensive; we know not what

art it employs in forming the snare. Nature has furnished it with a glutinous liquor, which it spins to what size it pleases, either by opening or contracting the sphincter muscles. In order to spin its thread, as soon as it begins its operations, it presses out a drop of the liquor, which, as it dries, forms the thread it draws out, as it diverges from its first position. When it reaches its intended distance, it draws this thread with its claws to stretch it properly, and fix it to the wall as it did before it set off.

Thus it secures many threads parallel to each other, which serves it as a warp for its web. To form its woof it does the same thing transverse, by fixing one end to its outward threads, which is always the strongest, and the other to the wall. All these threads being nearly prepared, or spun, are glutinous: for which reason, they adhere to every thing they touch; and those parts, which are the most sub-

ject to be torn, the spider secures by doubling them sometimes even six times.

The domestic spider usually renews its web in three days, although those which have before been made have not been destroyed. It has been observed, that a large spider of that species frequently goes round its web, and examines it in every place; that it frequently comes from its hole, and retires to it again. Let us hear what an attentive observer says, who has made many particular observations on the species of insect of which we are now speaking.

The chief enemy of the domestic spider, which this gentleman had a convenient opportunity of observing even in its hole, was another spider of a much larger size. The latter, not being able to spin any more web, came to invade the property of its neighbour; a terrible combat immediately ensued, in which victory seemed to incline to the side of the usurper; for the industrious spider was obliged to take refuge in its hole. After this the conqueror employed every method to draw the other from its retreat; it appeared to go away, but returned again quickly, and seeing all his artifices were in vain, it began to destroy the web of the vanquished; this brought on another combat, in which the laborious spider had the good fortune to slay its antagonist.

Then, in peaceable possession of what so justly belonged to it, it passed three days in repairing the breaches done its web, and without taking any nourishment that our observer could perceive. After some time, a large blue fly fell into the net, and struggled violently to get loose; the spider at first let it alone, but, seeing that it was too strong for its web, it came out of its hole, and in less than a minute, so completely enveloped the fly in a new thread, that it had not the least use of its limbs, and, thus secured, dragged it into its retreat.

Thus the spider lived in this manner in a precarious state, for which nature seemed to have prepared it; it subsisted on this fly for a week. One day a wasp was thrown into the web; the spider, according to custom, ran towards it; but seeing what kind of enemy it had to combat, soon broke all the string which confined it, and did every thing in its power to get clear of so formidable an antagonist. As soon as the wasp was at liberty, I expected that the spider would have repaired the

breaches made in the web, but they were irreparable; for it abandoned them entirely, and began a new one, which it ended in the usual time.

To see how many webs a spider was capable of furnishing, this new web was destroyed; it made another, which was likewise demolished; it now seemed exhausted, for it spun no more. The artifices it used, although deprived of its chief protection, are surprising: I observed it to draw up its claws, and then it looked like a ball. It remained for some hours immovable, but always on its guard; when a fly approached near enough to it, it darted upon it, and seldom missed.

At last, as if disgusted with this kind of life, it determined to invade the possessions of another spider. It made an attack on a neighbouring fortification with much vigour, but was repulsed. Far from being discouraged by this repulse, it laid siege to another for three days, at the end of which it killed the proprietor, and took possession of the premises.

The spider does not dart down on the little flies immediately, which are taken in its web, for, at first view, terror gives the fly strength to endeavour to disengage itself; but patiently attends till it has exhausted its strength in unavailing efforts: in this manner it is always sure of its prey.

This spider lived for three years, and each year changed its skin. The gentleman who made these remarks, says it sometimes snatched off one of the animal's claws, which was replaced by a new one in two or three days. The spider, at first, was fearful when he came near it, but afterwards it became familiar, and if he touched any part of its web, it would put itself into a state of offence or defence.

The male spider was observed to be much smaller than the female, and they are oviparous; when they have laid their eggs, they envelope them carefully in a piece of their web; and, if they are obliged to fly, exert themselves to carry the eggs with them, and often perish victims to an attachment to their brood. As soon as the little ones are hatched, they begin to spin, and appear to grow even to the eye. If they have the good fortune to catch a fly, which they are able to do twenty-four hours after birth, they seize on it voraciously; but sometimes the young live three or four days without any nourishment, and this does not prevent their encreasing in bulk every day.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LAKE OF KILLARNEY, AND MUCRUSS GARDENS.

[Written to a Lady by the late W. Ockenden, Esq.]

YOUR Ladyship must have heard the lake of Killarney often mentioned among your Irish acquaintance, as those gentlemen very generally esteem it one of the capital ornaments of their country. It is not long since I was engaged with a small party from Limerick on purpose to see it; and I do assure you that the beauties we beheld there appeared so very striking, and the voyage we made upon it looked so very like enchantment, that I cannot help flattering myself you must be surpris'd and pleas'd with an account of it.

We arriv'd at the town which gives name to the lake towards evening; and our principal entertainment after supper was in hearing little pieces of history told over, very necessary to be known by adventurers going to embark upon this romantic piece of water.

There liv'd in the largest island (for there are several islands on the lake) many hundred years ago, a petty prince, named *O'Donoghue*, who was lord of the whole lake, the surrounding shore, and a large district of neighbouring country.

He manifest'd, during his stay upon earth, great munificence, great humanity, and great wisdom: for, by his profound knowledge in all the secret powers of nature, he wrought wonders as miraculous as any tradition has recorded, of saints by the aid of angels, or of sorcerers by the assistance of dæmons; and among many other astonishing performances, he render'd his person immortal. After having continued a long time upon the surface of the globe without growing old, he one day at Rose-castle (the place where he most usually resided) took leave of his friends, and rising from the floor like some aerial existence, pass'd through the window, shot horizontally to a considerable distance from the castle, and then descend'd. The water, unfolding at his approach, gave him entrance down to the subaqueous regions; and then, to the inexpressible astonishment of all beholders, closed over his head, as they believ'd, for ever: But in this they were mistak'n.

He return'd again some years after, revisiting—not, like Hamlet's ghost, the glimpses of the moon, making night hideous, but the radiance of the sun, making day joyful, to those at least who saw him: Since which time he has continued to make very frequent expeditions to these upper regions; sometimes three or four

in a year; but sometimes three or four years pass without his once appearing, which the bordering inhabitants have always look'd on as a mark of very bad times.

It was fear'd that this would be the third year he would suffer to elapse without his once cheering their eyes with his presence. But a few weeks since he again appear'd, to the inexpressible joy of all, and was seen by numbers in the middle of the day. I had the curiosity, before I left Killarney, to visit one of the witnesses to this very marvellous fact.

The account she gives is, That returning with a kinswoman to her house at the head of the lake, they both beheld a fine gentleman mounted upon a black horse, ascend thro' the water with a numerous retinue on foot; who all mov'd together along the surface towards a small island, near which they again descend'd under water. This account is confirm'd in time, place, and circumstances, by many more spectators from the side of the lake, who are all ready to swear, and not improbably, to suffer death, in support of their testimony.

His approach is sometimes preceded by music inconceivably harmonious; sometimes by thunder inexpressibly loud; but ofteneft without any kind of warning whatever. He always rises through the surface of the lake, and generally amuses himself upon it, but not constantly; for there is a farmer now alive, who declares, as I am told, that riding one evening near the lower end of the lake, he was overtaken by a gentleman, who seem'd under thirty years of age, very handsome in his person, very sumptuous in his apparel, and very affable in his conversation. After having travell'd for some time together, the nobleman, (for such he judg'd him to be by his appearance) observ'd, that as night was approaching, the town far off, and lodging not easy to be had, he should be welcome to take a bed that night at his house, which he said was not very distant.

The invitation was readily accepted; they approach'd the lake together; and both their horses mov'd upon the surface without sinking, to the infinite amazement of the farmer, who thence perceiv'd the stranger to be no less than the great *O'Donoghue*. They rode a considerable distance from shore, and then descend'd into a delightful country under water,

lay that night in a house much larger in size and much more richly furnished, than even Lord Kenmare's at Killarney.

Thus far in the history of O'Donoghoe it was necessary to proceed, previous to the history of our voyage upon the lake, for reasons that will soon be very obvious.

The present proprietor of O'Donoghoe's dominions is Lord Kenmare, a gentleman, by universal good character, of as much spirit, taste, and politeness, as any man in the three kingdoms. I had not the honour of his acquaintance; but ventured to send him a card, expressing our great desire to see the lake; and his lordship in return most obligingly furnished us with a six-oared boat ready manned, and all the apparatus necessary for our voyage. We put a cold dinner on board, together with a proper quantity of liquor, and embarked by eight o'clock in the morning. The weather was fair; the wind was still; the lake was smooth; and the boat, impelled by the oars, 'cut swiftly through the clear expanse,' till we reached Innisfallen, an island of large extent, containing twenty English acres, and lying half a league from shore.

It appeared very beautiful to us from the boat, bordered round with rock, and covered high with trees.

We landed near the remains of an old fabric, built for the business of religion a thousand years ago, but now turned into a room for the purpose of pleasure.

It stands upon a rock, looks down upon the water, is in part shagged with ivy, and the whole buried in a wood. From hence, pursuing our way along a shady walk, which the noble proprietor has lately carried round the whole circumference, we passed by a great variety of ground, small hills, gentle descents, little brays, rising promontories, all formed by the natural irregularity of the island. Some of the interior parts have been ploughed up, where the richness of the soil, and the luxuriance of the vegetation, are indeed surprising; but all the rest still retains the pleasing wildness of a forest.

There are various eminences in different parts of this most truly Fortunate Isle, commanding several beautiful views over different parts of the lake. To the north-west there is one, surveying an expanse of water four miles in length and three in breadth, bounded on the right hand by the cultivated hills of Aghador, and on the left by snaggy mountains. There is another to the south-west, which, extending two miles across the lake, terminates in the woody shoulder of Mount Glens: but the finest lies south-east, where the

eye is lost in a labyrinth of water, winding round a multitude of islands, rising one beyond another; some rocky and bare, and some tufted with trees; which, thick on every side, hang wavering over the lake.

On re-embarking, I expressed great desire to pursue our voyage through that liquid maze which looked so singularly pleasant: but our admiral assured me that it was a maze in appearance only; for on going among the islands, which seemed to form it, they would be found much farther apart than what they showed to our low distant view, glancing along the surface of the water.

From Innisfallen we therefore steered another course; and after two miles of very pleasant navigation, with the open part of the lake on our right hand, and the islands clustering on our left, we approached those Alpine hills which hang upon the southern edge of the water; and were quite transported with a marvellous scene of pure nature, which there arose before us, more exquisite than I had ever seen, either in France, Italy, or England:—it is formed by the side of Mount Glens, which bends a little hollowing, very rocky, extremely steep, and is covered quite up with great variety of trees, as oak, beech, and mountain ash, most beautifully blended with holly, yew, and arbutus, rooted in the rock a thousand feet above the surface of the water. We rested upon our oars within the bowery bosom of this sublime theatre (for so I call it, though the curve is small) and remained there some time, enraptured with the beauties we beheld.

Departing with reluctance, we coasted along upon a broken shore to the mouth of a considerable river, which comes from another large piece of water among the mountains above, and, after many turnings and windings in the course of five miles running, unites the two lakes by a navigable communication. We rowed up this serpentine stream, in some places very gentle, in others extremely rapid; and pursuing our way through very uncommon scenes of wildness, such as rocks clad with the strawberry or arbutus tree, shooting up through the crevices of the marble, we approached another tall mountain, called the *Eagle's Nest*. It begins to rise from the edge of the water in a steep slope, covered with forest trees mixed with ever-greens; above which it rises perpendicular in rock, quite naked, except some tufts of ivy fringing the edge of the cliffs;—from thence the mountain again grows slipping; and covered with grass, terminates in an obtuse pike, more than two thousand feet above the water.

Here

Here we again rested upon our oars, to mark the flight of numerous eagles (the chief inhabitants of those lofty regions,) which was slow, solemn and very high; to view the marble chasm in the perpendicular side of the mountain, in which they had formed their nests; and to admire the many noble objects which presented themselves on every hand in this stupendous scene; when suddenly, to our inexpressible amazement, we were surprised with music, sweeter than any I had ever heard before, which seemed to rise from the rock at which we gazed; and, breaking upon us in short melodious strains, filled the very soul with transport.

Angels from the sky, or fairies from the mountain, or O'Donoghoe from the river, was what we expected every moment to appear before us: but after a quarter of an hour's fixed attention, all our raptures were dispersed by a clap of thunder most astonishingly loud; which, bursting from the same direction whence the music had lately seemed to flow, rent the mountain with its roar, and filled us with the apprehension of being instantly buried in a chaos of hill, wood and water: But the horror was as suddenly dissipated by the return of the same soothing strains which had before entranced us.

This music, which immediately succeeded the thunder, seemed more soft and lulling than the first. But our ecstasies were very short; being soon lost in another clap, still louder than that which had preceded, and which again burst suddenly upon us; again awaking us to terror; when, lo! a third return of music, superlatively sweet indeed, restored our senses, and re-entranced our hearts. It lasted some time—and a most solemn silence ensued.

We waited now motionless and awe-struck, for what wonders might follow next in this region of enchantment! We gazed at the wood, the rock, the mountain, and the river, with alternate hope and fear; hope, while the music dwelt upon our thoughts; and fear, while we remembered the thunder: However, the music being last, our hopes were strongest; and we expected, with a pleasing impatience, some very marvellous event.—In vain—no angel appeared to delight our eyes! no demon to alarm us with new terrors! no Donoghoe to gratify our curiosity! So that at last, abandoning our fruitless attention, we took up our oars, and pursued our course along the serpentine river, labouring against a strong current; and passed at length under the arch of a stone-bridge, rendered venerable, in

some degree, by time. After several miles meandering, we entered the Upper Lake between two rocks, through a very narrow passage called *Coleman's Eye*.

The second piece of water, much smaller than the first, is thick spread with very odd figured islands, and inclosed quite round with tall mountains, rising for the most part from the edge of the water. It appears of an oblong shape, and at some little distance, above the upper end, the whole river that feeds it is formed by nature into a large cascade, which makes a most glorious appearance, tumbling down the bosom of the mountain, and glittering between the trees, with which it is on both sides very richly embroidered. It falls more than two hundred feet perpendicular, flowering in its descent, and divided into two sheets, until, striking against some small craggy rocks which project from the mountain side, it then forms three sheets, and roars and foams, and rushes to the bottom.

The vast height of the descent, the variety of streams, and the richness of shade on both sides, have made that great traveller Dr. Pococke, bishop of Ossory, deem it the most beautiful cataract he ever saw in any part of the world. There might have been no occasion of appealing to his Lordship's high authority in this case, had I not been prevented from viewing this admirable object myself, in that complete manner I intended, by a shower of rain, which obliged us to return before we had enjoyed the sight many minutes.

Our boatmen now reversed their course, and rowed back with all the expedition that unceasing bad weather could excite. We landed at the place where we had first embarked and completed our voyage before night, after having had the whole mystery of the music and thunder, as we passed the Eagle's Nest, explained to us as follows:

The situation of the mountain on one side of the river, and the place from which we viewed it being at the foot of a small hill on the other side, have already been described. I shall therefore proceed to inform you, that at a short distance, upon a chosen spot of ground, open to the mountain, but covered from us by the interposition of a small hill, a French-horn and a small piece of cannon were secretly planted, where, while we were feasting our eyes upon the sublime scene which lay before us, the music played, and the sound, cut off by the small hill from our immediate hearing, was reflected by the perpendicular rock, and poured upon us in full echo from the mountains, with all the wonderful sweetness before-mentioned: which

which last circumstance still remains very surprising to me; for, in all other echoes I have heard, the reflected sounds have been constantly lower, fainter, and less distinct than the sounds themselves; but here the echo preserves all the strength, brilliancy, and clearness of original music; at the same time that it sounded in the ear with improved and exalted degrees of melody, which it is as hard to describe as to account for.

The mystery of the music being thus laid open, that of the thunder will be easily understood; for during our fixed attention, the cannon was suddenly discharged, and the loud report it then made being echoed and re-echoed from the surrounding rocks and mountains, stunned us with all the terrifying roar and peals of real thunder, from which it could not be distinguished.

The next day we visited the environs of the lake, and viewed those scenes by land we had no opportunity of surveying by water.

We began our view of these environs with Mucruss Gardens, the property of Edward Herbert, Esquire. They lie, or rather hang, upon the east end of the lake; and consist of a most uncommon mixture of large rocks, shady valleys, and opening lawns, extremely lively in their verdure. The rocks are high, craggy, and their tops covered for the most part with variety of young wood: the valleys narrow, embowered in many places by the branches shooting from the craggs on either side, wind round the rocks and unite the lawns with a number of serpentine communications. The whole of these striking particulars are so happily disposed by nature, as to form a real wilderness; but vastly superior in grandeur, elegance, and beauty, to every thing of the kind yet attempted by art, even with profusion of expence.

The celebrated bishop Berkley, when he first saw this delightful rural scene, could not help crying out, with surprise and ecstacy, "Another Louis Quatorze may make another Versailles; but the hand of the Deity only can make another Mucruss."

On entering these gardens, we were immediately conducted to a natural terras, extending upon the verge of the lake near half a mile, rising and falling in its course according to the original unevenness of the ground over which it passes.—We pursued our way along this undulating walk, (to use a favourite epithet of poor Mr. Southcot's) till we came to the summit of a large mount, most romantically raised by the hand of nature, lofty, craggy, and woody, commanding the whole extent of

the wilderness one way and looking down upon the lake the other, from a rocky precipice, quite naked, except a few spindling branches of yew and arbutus; which having crept through the crevices of the marble rock, hang dangling down (not without a pleasing effect) towards the water.

From the eminence the prospect is amazingly fine indeed, extending over the lake among that beautiful cluster of tufted islands, the opposite sides of which we had, during our voyage, gazed on with so much rapture from Innisfallen. They hence seemed to us about a league distant. Nearer to the shore we beheld a sprinkling of naked rocks and smaller islands, which, rising through the water, diversified the view, and greatly improved the picture; these, by the oddly pleasing rudeness of their sides, and those by the rich variety of evergreens intermingled on their heads. For the sake of viewing this capital scene in the most advantageous manner, a stone structure is intended here to be built, either in the temple or the castle style; which, when completed, cannot fail of proving a great ornament to the gardens, lake, and country.

We stood upon this closed spot a considerable time, till the increasing heat of the day obliged us to descend, and seek the cool shelter of the wilderness. Here we seated ourselves upon a curious natural bench of stone, rendered very inviting by a soft covering of moss at the foot of a rock, whose shaggy brow projecting forward, shaded us completely from the sun. Having sufficiently rested ourselves in this recess, our wanderings through the valleys, and over the lawns, till we came to a walk, which led us, winding by an easy ascent, to the top of one of the tallest rocks in the whole improvement, and gave us another prospect of the lake, less ample indeed, but not less beautiful; for though the wilderness here intervened between us and the water, and covered the largest part of the lake; yet, our view being to great advantage over the tops of the trees, that pleasing circumstance made ample reparation for the loss of all the water those trees concealed.

Looking forward from hence my eye was caught by a grove of clustering stately trees, in the centre of which we could distinguish the lofty ruins of an old tower rising up to a mighty height. This, the gardener told us, was the remains of an old abbey built many centuries ago, and dedicated to St. Finain. As it is now a part of Mr. Herbert's estate, and bordering within a furlong of his gardens, I make no doubt, but one time or other it will

will be taken into them; Then, should the principal walk, which at present has no particular point or building to terminate it, be carried into this grove, it will have a most noble effect, and Mucrus's garden, on the northern side, be rendered

quite complete, and, taken altogether, the most delightful and romantic situation any where to be found.

I am, &c.

W. OCKENDEN.

A REMARKABLE CASE OF ABSTINENCE.

[Communicated by Robert Willar, M.D.]

A Young man of a studious and melancholic turn of mind, was affected, during the years 1784 5, with symptoms of indigestion, particularly with sharp pains in the stomach, and a constant sensation of heat internally.

He thought proper, in the year 1786, to begin a severe course of abstinence, hoping, as he informed me, thus to relieve those disagreeable complaints; but from other circumstances, it appears that some mistaken notions in religion principally induced him to form this resolution.

In consequence of it he suddenly withdrew from business, and the society of his friends, took lodgings in an obscure street, and entered upon his plan; which was, to abstain from all solid food, and only to moisten his mouth, from time to time, with water slightly flavoured with juice of oranges. After three days of abstinence, the craving, or desire for food, which was at first very troublesome, left him entirely: he then pursued his studies and meditations without farther inconvenience. He used no manner of exercise; and slept very little, spending most of the night in writing. The quantity of water used each day was from half a pint to a pint. Two oranges served him for a week: I inquired whether he chewed the pulp; but found that he had only squeezed the juice into the water to give it an agreeable flavour.

He made urine in moderate quantity, always clear and without sediment. He had a natural stool on the 2d day of this course, and again on the 40th day, but after that no more, though he persisted twenty days longer without any variation in his plan.—During the last ten days of it, his strength failed very rapidly; when he found himself unable to rise from his bed, he began to be somewhat alarmed. Hitherto he had flattered himself that his support was preternatural; and indulged his imagination with the prospect of some great event, which he expected would follow this extraordinary abstinence. But

his delusion at length vanished: he found himself gradually wasting and sinking to the grave.

His friends, about the same time, having discovered his retreat, prevailed upon him to admit the visits of a respectable clergyman in the neighbourhood. This gentleman, with great address and judgment, pointed out the fallacy of his visionary ideas; and finally obtained his assent to any plan that might be conducive to his recovery. I was therefore called on to prescribe the mode of treatment, and accordingly visited him, on the 61 day of his fast, March 23, 1786.

He was at that time emaciated to a most astonishing degree, the muscles of the face being entirely shrunk: his cheek-bones and processus zygomatici stood prominent and distinct, affording a most ghastly appearance: his abdomen was concave, the umbilicus seeming to be retracted, from the collapsed state of the intestines; the skin and abdominal muscles were shrunk below the brim of the pelvis, and under the ribs, leaving the space vacant betwixt the ossa ilia, the lower ribs, and spine. His limbs were reduced to the greatest possible degree of tenuity; the ossa ischia, the internal trochanters, and all the processes, of the bones being easily distinguishable.

His whole appearance suggested the idea of a skeleton, prepared by drying the muscles upon it, in their natural situations.

I found him labouring under great imbecility of mind. He had undertaken, during this retirement, to copy the bible in short hand; and this work he had executed very nearly as far as the 2d Book of Kings, with short arguments prefixed to each chapter. He shewed me several improvements he had made in that kind of writing, particularly in the abbreviations. He had also with great diligence put together parallel passages, and traced particular subjects through the whole scriptures, noting their application in different in-

stances, and adding observations of his own. The clergyman, who examined this performance, told me he had proceeded regularly at first, with some ingenuity and judgment; but that afterwards he became obscure, and seemed to be left in endless confusion.

March 23d. He was directed to drink a pint of barley water and two cups of panada, which agreed very well with his stomach. He had a little feverish heat in the first part of the night, but slept better than usual.

March 24th. He had this day some mutton tea, the taste of which was most delicious to him, and particularly provoked his appetite. His pulse was 72, small and temperate.

On the 25th, he took a pint of milk for breakfast; a pint of mutton-broth boiled with barley; for dinner; and as much rice milk for supper, at his own request. He had considerable cravings for food all that day, and would have taken much more than his allowance.

26th. In the morning he drank tea, and ate a quantity of bread and butter, which he got off from the table in the nurse's absence. Some time after he became sick, and vomited once or twice without much straining. About noon he had a figured natural stool, and presently after two or three loose motions. His urine was of a natural colour, with a light encorema in the middle. His skin always remained dry.

I saw him in the evening, apparently much better; his pulse was at 90, and firmer. He was sitting up in an easy chair, as he found himself somewhat stronger. He spoke now of his complaints like an hypochondriac; thought his eyes and tongue were diminished and wasted away. He said, the sensation of heat in the stomach had never left him, notwithstanding his spare diet. He talked however sensibly enough, and indeed with some acuteness on general subjects; but was soon fatigued by conversation.

27th. He took a little light bread pudding at dinner, and had two eggs for supper; with the taste of these he was particularly pleased. Every thing agreed well with him; he rested well; was more cheerful, and often expressed to me the satisfaction he felt in being freed from his strange delusions.

On the 28th, he seemed recovering apace; his cheeks were more full; his limbs had so far regained their strength, that he could easily walk across the room. He did not sleep much in the foregoing night, nor had a stool during the day. He said that the pain of his stomach had left

him, which circumstance contributed much to enliven his spirits.

On the 29th, I found the scene entirely changed; he began to lose his recollection in the preceding evening; and before midnight became quite frantic and unmanageable. His pulse was increased in frequency, with considerable heat on the skin, and tremors. He continued raving and talking very incoherently, as he had done during the night. A strong purgative draught, and two clysters administered in the course of the day, produced but little evacuation.

He remained nearly in the same state of mind as above mentioned, scarce ever sleeping, and taking very little nourishment, till the 2d of April, when a considerable quantity of loose feculent matter was brought away by a clyster. Soon after he became sullen, and took no notice of what passed about him.

He was removed at this time into the country, so that I did not visit him again till the 6th of April.

He appeared then emaciated to a greater degree, if possible, than when I at first saw him. His pulse was small and feeble, beating 120 strokes in a minute.

April 7 and 8, he took whatever nourishment was offered to him; knew those around him, and spoke sensibly, but faintly.

On the 9th, in the morning, he died, quite exhausted.

The duration of this young gentleman's fast is, I believe, longer than any recorded in the annals of Physic. He could scarcely have been supported through it, except from an enthusiastic turn of mind, nearly bordering on insanity; the effect of which, in fortifying the body against cold and hunger, is well known to Physicians.

In the *Memoires de l'Academie des Sciences*, 1769, we have the case of a madman recorded, who lived 47 days without taking any thing but a pint and a half of water per day. He stood constantly in the same position for 38 days of that time; but during the remaining eight, he was obliged to lie down through weakness; and then took nothing, refusing even water.

When he first began to eat again, he recovered his reason for a time, but soon relapsed.

In the *Edinburgh Medical Essays*, vol. vi. a case is related of a young girl, who fasted at one time, 34 days, at another time, 54 days, from a spasm, of some obstruction of the œsophagus.

M. Pouteau, in his *Ouvrages Posthumes*, mentions a young lady, thirteen years old, who,

who, being unable to keep solid aliment on her stomach, subsisted eighteen months on syrup of capillaire mixed with water, and in that time grew two inches and a half.

Several other remarkable instances of abstinence may be found in different works, particularly in Stalpart Vander Wiel's *Observ. Rar. Cent. post. pars pr. obs. xv.* in the *Philosophical Transactions*, vol. 67. and in the *Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester*: vol. 2. p. 467; but few conclusions of importance, with regard to medical practice, can be deduced from such extraordinary cases. It is not, however, amiss to have ascertained for what length of time

the human constitution is able to support itself under abstinence.

M. Ponteau, in the work just now mentioned, has made one observation on this subject which deserves attention. He thinks the virus of cancer may be eradicated by a water diet, and proposes a plan for that purpose, in which the patient must persist for two months. He assures us, that health and strength are afterwards recoverable by a proper regimen. In one person a complete cure was made by this plan. In others who could not be prevailed upon to follow it more than one month, he says, the disease appeared to be very much mitigated.

STORY OF ERASTUS AND ELIZA.

ERASTUS, at the expiration of his clerkship to a merchant, saw himself in possession of a fortune, which a few years, with success, might have increased to the height of his ambition. He made a favourable impression on the heart of the fair Eliza, his master's daughter, and married her soon after he was settled, with the consent of her father, who retired from business, and passed the remainder of his days in ease and calmness. They had but a few years enjoyed the happiness they imparted to each other, before Erastus, by unexpected losses, and the bankruptcy of a house abroad, was robbed of all his fortune. He now for ever looked on the lovely Eliza with pain. Canst thou still love the man who has reduced thee to poverty? Indeed thou canst, said he, pressing her hand with all imaginable tenderness. Heaven knows I have not brought my misfortunes on myself—we must not repine, and yet so lovely a family—at which time he cast his eyes on his little rogues who were playing on the carpet, and then on his Eliza. He saw the tear flow down her cheek, and wept. Whatever she could suggest to give him ease, she spoke with all the tenderness imaginable; we will not weep then, my Eliza, perhaps we may yet know happier hours. The attention of the little ones was drawn by their tears. One asked the mother why she wept; and another with inquisitive love, why papa cried: Erastus kissed them, and said he would weep no more, bad them be good, and heaven would bless them. Thus passed their hours till his affairs were settled, when he paid to the utmost what he owed to mankind; such was his character, that

many offered him money, which he declined, as he had already found, that industry could not insure success. By others he was advised to go abroad, and look into the affairs of the house, by the bankruptcy of which he had so considerably suffered. This he resolved on. When he told his intention to Eliza, she wept at the thoughts of parting; she dreaded the danger he would be exposed to more than poverty itself, and would not listen to him, unless he would consent to her accompanying him on the voyage. Alas! thou best of women, you forget your condition; Eliza cannot think, that any thing but the hopes of bettering our fortunes, could prevail on me to leave her. Were I to wait till the time was past, when you might accompany me without hazarding your life, the delay might be dangerous; even then thy tender limbs could but poorly endure the fatigue. I go, that Eliza, her little ones, and that infant, which soon will claim its share of my affection, may never taste the bitter cup of poverty. The little remainder of our fortunes I will leave with thee; if that should be exhausted, which heaven forbid, before I am enabled to congratulate thee on our happier circumstances, sure then thou couldst not know the misery of absolute want: Thy Erastus still has friends; I have been unfortunate, my Eliza, but not base. By arguments of this kind he prevailed on her to acquiesce in his design. Support yourself in my absence, said he, we shall not long labour under misfortunes, we have not deserved. If any thing advantageous should happen to fix me abroad, will you follow me? Will—how can Erastus doubt it,

it, said the lovely wife; with you no climate can be displeasing, without you no circumstances can make me happy. Thou dear, dear woman, said he, clasping her in his arms, how have I deserved thy love? At length the time came which was to separate them from each other; no words can express the pain they felt at parting; Erastus, who had, without knowing it, supported himself, by endeavouring to support his Eliza, wept when he embraced his best of wives. The tears choked his voice, when he told his little ones to be dutiful to their mother. At the last embrace he would have spoke, but found the effort vain, he gazed on her for a few moments, with a look, which may much easier be conceived than described, and silent left her in all the grief a human breast can know. Eliza now retired to one of the invidious, where her thoughts were generally employed upon Erastus; sometimes when they had wandered from their usual subject, they were recalled to one of the little ones asking where papa was? Upon which she could not help pointing out the distant hills, and saying, that he was a thousand times more distant than they were, an idea but seldom awakened without producing tears. Happily for her, she received a letter from him with assurances of his welfare, at a time when she most wanted consolation; and some months after came to her hands the following.

My dearest ELIZA,

'You will naturally believe I write this with the utmost joy, since I can inform my dearest wife, that I am now settled in such a way, as may soon make up for our late ill fortune. A more particular account I reserve till I am happy in thy conversation. I have sent a bill, tho' I cannot suppose you want it, that nothing may possibly detain you from my arms. Haste to a husband, who loves you better than himself, and believe that absence has made you dearer to him than ever.'

Eliza no sooner received this welcome letter, than she began to prepare for her departure; by the first vessel therefore that was ready she set sail, and took with her a female servant to assist her in the care of the children. She found no other, scarce indeed so many inconveniencies as she expected, which arose from the humanity of the captain, who, unlike most of his brethren, compassionated the inconveniencies which attend those who are unaccustomed to the sea. The wish'd for shore was now in view, and Eliza's heart excited at the thoughts of her approaching happiness. Scarce, however, was she landed, before her spirits sunk at the ap-

pearance of a funeral which passed by her; her ill hoding fancy immediately suggested to her that it might possibly be her husband; she could not avoid enquiring who it was, when she heard, that it was a stranger, whose name was Erastus. The colour left her cheek, she fainted in the arms of her maid, and recovering, found herself in the house of a stranger, whose hospitality was awakened by the appearance of her distress. Was it for this, said she, I passed the dangers of the sea? Unhappy woman, in having escaped its perils! Alas! I promised myself some years of uninterrupted happiness! Go! heaven, my sorrows will end but with my life! Thus did she exclaim in broken sentences, till again she sunk her fainting head, and found herself supported, at her recovery, by the husband she imagined to be no more. At first she spoke to him with an incoherent wildness, which indicated the disorder of her mind; till at length grown calmer, she said was it delusion all?—And do I live once more to behold the man I love? It was, it was Eliza, said he, pressing her to his bosom thy husband lives, and we shall now be blessed. As soon as their excess of joy was somewhat abated, Eliza desired an account of what had happened to him since he left her; and asked if he knew how she came to receive that melancholy information, which made her the most miserable of human beings. As soon, my dear, said he, as I came over, I found that the affairs of the house were not, by much, in so bad a way as was first imagined, and, some time after, received a larger sum from it than ever I expected. This, and an opportunity which now presented itself of my settling greatly to my advantage, gave me excessive spirits, and I began to hope, as I wrote to my Eliza, that happier hours might now await us. It was not long after my writing that letter, which had thee hasten to my arms, that a stranger came to this part of the island, in hopes of improving his health. Amongst others I went to pay him my respects. Can you conceive what pleasure, mingled with surprise and pain, I felt, when in this stranger I beheld a brother? This was that brother whom Eliza has heard me mention. He was banished by my father for some indiscretions of youth, and left his native country with the little fortune which had been given him by his grandfather. He settled in a distant part of this island, where he made a conquest (for his person was remarkably fine) of a widow, who possessed one of the largest estates upon it. He was overjoyed to see me. I cannot much longer continue here,

said

said he; I am going to the eternal abode appointed for human nature. Since my banishment from my father's house, heaven has blest me with success. I am told he forgave me with his dying breath: Good old man!—You are now, Erastus, the only remaining of our family: I little dreamt of ever seeing you again; but heaven is kind. The terrors of dissolution are lessened at sight of thee. It is not an unpleasing reflection, that thy friendly hand will close my eyes. Beware, Erastus, nor misemploy the wealth that it will be in my power to leave thee; it was got with honour. I can scarcely advise thee to marry; it is to the loss of the best of wives, which was soon followed by that of an only child, that I owe my present disorder. We were happy. She was the best of women. At these words Erastus fixed his eyes upon Eliza. May heaven continue our lives, said he, may we never know the pang of separation till age has silver'd o'er our heads, and then it must be short. The brother asked Erastus what accident had brought him to that part of the world; and told him, that, upon the first appearance of his illness, he had wrote to England, to enquire whether he was still living; and that he had already made a will in his favour, and left him whatever fortune he possessed. It was not long after his arrival, returned Erastus, that he died, and left me an estate even beyond the ambition of my wishes. It was his funeral

you met; it was Erastus they were bearing to the grave, but not Eliza's Erastus. He lives to be once more happy with the partner of his joys. At these words, he pressed her to his bosom, with a warmth expressive of the most perfect love. Upon my return from the funeral, I was told by some one whom I met, the story of a woman's fainting, with such circumstances, as made me think it was thee. I hastened to the house, where the hospitable stranger had conducted thee, and found thee sunk into the arms of thy maid. Shall I tell my Eliza, that even this circumstance at present affords me a degree of pleasure? Indeed it does; it convinces me that I still am blest with thy tenderest love, without which, as my Eliza once said to me, no circumstances could make me happy. Erastus was now possessed of a fortune, which might enable him to pass his remaining days independent of the cares of business. He sold his estates to advantage, and returned to his native country, where he now lives in all the felicity of elegant ease. The greatest part of their time they spend in the country, and now and then a winter in the rational amusements of the town. Wealthy without arrogance, economists without avarice, and liberal without profusion; universally beloved by those who have any connection with them, and admired by the few who are happy in their intimacy.

SPEECH OF AN INDIAN.

AS the English army was passing towards Quebec, in the year 1759, along a soft savanna, between a mountain and a lake, one of the petty chiefs of the inland regions stood upon a rock, surrounded by his clan, and from behind the shelter of the bushes contemplated the art and regularity of European war. It was Evening; the tents were pitched. He observed the security with which the troops rested in the night, and the order with which the march was renewed in the morning. He continued to pursue them with his eyes till they could be seen no longer, and then stood for some time silent and pensive.

Then turning to his followers, 'My children, (said he) I have often heard that there was a time when our ancestors were absolute lords of the woods, the meadows, and the lakes, wherever the eye can reach or the foot can pass.

A new race of men entered our country from the great ocean: They enclosed themselves in habitations of stone, which our ancestors could neither enter by violence, nor destroy by fire: They issued from these fastnesses, sometimes covered like the armadillo with shells, from which the lance rebounded on its striker, and sometimes carried on mighty beasts, which had never been seen in our vales or forests, of such strength and swiftness that flight and opposition were vain alike. Those invaders ranged over the continent slaughtering in their rage those that resisted, and those that submitted in their mirth. Of those that remained, some were buried in caverns, and condemned to dig metals for their masters; some were employed in tilling the ground, of which foreign tyrants devour the produce; and when the sword and the mines have destroyed the natives, they supply their place

place by human beings of another colour, brought from some distant country to perish here under toil and torture.

Some there are, who boast their humanity, that content themselves to seize our chafes and fisheries, who drive us from every tract of ground where fertility and pleasantness invite them to settle, and make no war upon us except when we intrude upon our own lands.

Others pretend to have purchased a right of residence and tyranny; but surely the insolence of such bargains is more offensive than the avowed and open dominion of force.

But the time perhaps is now approaching when the pride of usurpation shall be crushed, and the cruelties of invasion shall be revenged. The sons of rapacity have now drawn their swords upon each other,

and referred their claims to the decision of war: Let us look unconcernedly upon the slaughter, and remember that the death of every European delivers the country from a tyrant and a robber; for what is the claim of either nation but the claim of the vulture to the leveret, and the tyger to the lamb? Let them then continue to dispute their title to regions which they cannot people, to purchase by danger and blood the empty dignity of dominion over mountains which they will never climb, and rivers which they will never pass. Let us endeavour, in the mean time, to learn their discipline, and to forge their weapons; and when they shall be weakened with mutual slaughter, let us rush down upon them, force their remains to take shelter in their ships, and reign once more in our native country.

LETTER respecting an ITALIAN PRIEST, killed by an ELECTRIC COMMOTION, the CAUSE of which resided in his own BODY.

WE read in one of the Journals of Florence, an extract of a letter from Mr. Joseph Battaglia, surgeon at Ponte Eosio, which contains the following relation, as curious as it is interesting to those who apply to the study of philosophy.

Don G. Maria Bertholi, a priest residing at Mount Valere, in the district of Livizzano, went to the fair of Filetto, on account of some business he had to transact, and after spending the whole day in going about the neighbouring country, in order to execute commissions, in the evening he walked towards Fenille, and stopped at the house of one of his brothers-in-law, who resided there. No sooner had he arrived, than he desired to be conducted to his apartment, where he put a handkerchief between his shoulder and his shirt, and when every body retired, he began to repeat his breviary. A few minutes after a loud noise was heard in Mr. Bertholi's chamber, and his cries having alarmed the family, they hastened to the spot, where they found him extended on the floor, and surrounded by a faint flame, which retired to a greater distance in proportion as it was approached, and at length disappeared entirely. Having conveyed him to bed, such assistance as seemed necessary was given him. Next morning I was called, and after examining the patient carefully, I found that the teguments of the right arm were almost entirely detached from the flesh, and hang-

ing loose, as well as the skin of the lower part of it. In the space contained between the shoulders and the thigh, the teguments were as much injured as those of the right arm. The first thing, therefore, to be done, was to take away those pieces of skin, and perceiving a mortification was begun in that part of the right hand which had received the greatest hurt, I scarified it without loss of time; but notwithstanding this precaution, I found it next day as I had suspected the preceding evening, entirely sphacelous. On my third visit, all the other wounded parts appeared to be in the same condition. The patient complained of an ardent thirst, and was agitated with dreadful convulsions. He voided by stool bilious putrid matter, and was distressed by a continual vomiting, accompanied with a violent fever and delirium. At length the fourth day, after a comatose sleep of two hours, he expired. During my last visit, whilst he was sunk in the lethargic sleep of which I have spoken, I observed with astonishment, that putrefaction had already made so great progress, that his body exhaled an insupportable smell. I saw the worms which issued from it crawling on the bed, and the nails of his fingers drop off themselves; so that I thought it needless to attempt any thing farther, whilst he was in this deplorable condition.

Having taken care to get every possible information from the patient himself respecting what had happened to him, he told me,

me, that he had felt a stroke, as if somebody had given him a blow over the right arm with a large club, and that at the same time, he had seen a spark of fire attach itself to his shirt, which in a moment was reduced to ashes, though the fire did not in the least injure the wristbands. The handkerchief which he had placed upon his shoulders, between his shirt and the skin, was perfectly entire, without the least appearance of burning, his drawers were untouched, but his night cap was destroyed, though a single hair of his head was not hurt.

That this flame, under the form of elementary fire, burnt the skin, reduced the shirt to ashes, and entirely consumed the night cap, without in the least touching the hair, is a fact which I affirm to be true; besides, every symptom that appeared on the body of the deceased, announced severe burning. The night was calm, and the circumambient air very pure; no bituminous smell could be perceived in the chamber, nor was there the least trace, of fire or of smoke. A lamp, however, which had been full of oil was found dry, and the wick almost in ashes. We cannot reasonably suppose this fatal accident to have been occasioned by any external cause, and I have no doubt, that if Maffei were still alive, he would take advantage of it, to support an opinion which he entertained, that lightning is sometimes kindled within the human body, and destroys it.

The above observations respecting Mr. Bertholi, naturally bring to our remembrance the fate of the unfortunate Countess Cornelia Bandi, of Verona, concerning whom the Canon Bianchini has published the details collected by Dr. Cromwel Mortimer, Fellow of the Royal Society of London, with some similar facts, to which we may add others more recent, such as the observations which Mr. Merille and Mr. Murairé inserted in the *Journal de Médecine*, for the months of February and May, 1783.

The authors of these observations, almost of the same nature, remark, that those subjected to such accidents were for the most part advanced in years, remarkably fat, and had been much addicted to the use of spirituous liquors, either in their drink, or applied in frictions to the body; whence they have concluded, that these people had perished by their whole substance spontaneously taking fire, the principal seat of which had been the entrails or the epigastric viscera, and that the exciting cause was naturally found in the phlogiston of the animal humors, called forth by that of the spirituous liquors combined with the latter.

It is indeed known, and it is an interesting article in the doctrine of the ancient philosophers, which modern physiologists have above all well elucidated, that the material principle of original heat is an internal fire, capable of acquiring, when excited by several adventitious causes, a certain force and energy which produce a degree of deflagration in the animal body, carried sometimes even to incineration.

But the case of the unhappy Bertholi, presents particular circumstances which distinguish it from the preceding observations, and seem to refer it to another principle than that of a spontaneous burning. Indeed Mr. Battaglia seems decidedly inclined to attribute this phenomenon to that cause, but to his opinion we may oppose doubts founded upon the following considerations: First, it is demonstrated, that this priest, whose age and constitution we are unacquainted with, experienced a strong electric shock; that he perceived at the same time a spark of fire, by which his shirt, his drawers, and his cap were entirely consumed, without injuring his hair, his wristbands, or the handkerchief placed between his shoulders and his shirt; that a sphacelus soon after appeared in his right hand, which had principally sustained the shock, and there was besides a laceration of the skin of the whole arm, and the corresponding side of the body, without the least apparent symptom of pain in the patient, who was found after the accident surrounded by a light flame, which vanished on the approach of the people of the house. But these different marks indicate much less the effects of a fire kindled internally, than the destructive action of a flame coming from a highly electric atmosphere; though it is reasonable to think, that this igneous matter, or phlogiston, which we have supposed to be the principle of animal heat, encreased by the electric fire of the atmosphere, and strengthened by the latter, concurred in part by its expansion to produce those effects which were observed on the body of the patient. In the second place, besides the speedy putrid degeneration of the solids and fluids, this dissolution of the vital chain, which connects the particles one with the other, or establishes their cohesion, and which in the like cases shews itself more particularly on the tissue of the flesh, was observed on Mr. Bertholi, as it has been observed on animals subjected to the electric spark, in a number of well known experiments, and particularly in those made by the illustrious Abbe Fontana.

Are there then fulminating atmospheres,

or lightning without detestation, and noise, as formidable in their effects as ordinary thunder? And is this a scourge of a new kind, which man, already exposed to so many causes of destruction, which surround and attack him, has also to dread? This is a problem, the solution of which we must leave to Dr. Franklin, that eminent philosopher and politician, who drew from Nature the secret of the thunder, and who, after exploring the interests of mankind, as well as the meteors of the air, was one of the grand conductors of the glory and liberty of his country.

As the following phenomenon seems to be somewhat similar to that above related, it may not be improper to subjoin it here. On the 21st of April, 1781, the first battalion of the brigade of Savoy set out from Tortona, in order to go to Arti, at a time when the weather was excessive hot. On the 22d, having made rather a forced march, the soldiers suffered a great deal from the ardor of the sun, so that at the village of Serre, where they halted, one

of them, named Bocquet, a man twenty-five years of age, whose skin being hard and thick, had not perspired, sent forth a loud cry, which seemed to announce some very extraordinary commotion, and instantly fell down. Mr. Bianet, surgeon-major to the regiment, being instantly called, found the patient in convulsions. When he was carried to the hospital, the upper part of his body to the thighs, appeared to be withered and black, and in a gangrenous state. Mr. Bianet employed scarifications, but without effect; it was impossible to make him swallow any thing, and it was found necessary to abandon him to his dismal fate. His body soon exhald a putrid smell, and he died at the end of five hours. That his disorder might not be communicated to others, he was interred together with his clothes. Upon enquiry after his death, it was found, that this man was addicted to the constant use of spirituous liquors, and that he had even drank of them to excess during the march.

DELIA DRAMA.

[By Mr. Pratt.]

MANY are the examples reprehended privately and publicly, of the ill effects of novel reading, and of lavishing the hours of youth in over-running the trash of a modern library, while the more obvious, and equally fatal mischief, of running over the *Play boufes*, passes unnoticed; and being a licensed diversion, is permitted to go on without its being exhibited as an object of danger.—It will be the business of this Essay to prove, that the vilest romances which ever caricatured humanity, are not worse in their tendencies, nor more malignant in their effects, than several tragedies and comedies—more especially to that part of the people of England to whom we entrust the management of our domestic concerns, namely, our wives and daughters. I will tell you a cursed story about this business.

I am the father of an only daughter, who two years ago deserted a good house—for a barn! Yes, it was about two winters ago my Delia saw the tragedy of *Macbeth* advertised in the bills for Drury-Lane Theatre, and over-persuaded me upon the subject, till I was fool enough to leave *Mincing-Lane*, and order my coach then for the first time since *Garrick's* re-

turn from Italy) to the play-house. Now, be it known unto all men, that I ever thought a play the most absurd of all absurdities—and of all the species of them, the thing called a *tragedy* was the most my aversion. What can be more silly, than to see a parcel of fellows thump one another's bosoms—wring their good white handkerchiefs to pieces—twist about their limbs into a parcel of merry Andrew postures—and then, to complete the jest, stab each other with a tin poignard; or drink poison out of an empty bowl?—Then prithee, who the devil struts as they do on the stage? Who holds long conversation in words that are set, as it were, to the tune of *Ti-dum-di-dum di*? The lines jingle like a child's coral, and are all measured out so as to be of a length—even to the size of a syllable. People ought to be ashamed of themselves for playing such pranks with the English language. Then, again, can any thing be more unnatural, than a man's making his exit, as they call it, with a bouncing brace of verses in rhyme; which then must be mouthed out, forsooth, so as to set the audience clapping, rapping, and roaring, that the fellow may go off, like a squib, with a crackle.

cracker at his tail?—And all this time we talk of nature, and pretend to love her as she appears on the stage; when this very practice of applauding by bounce and bel-low plainly tells us, that 'tis all joke—and if you would, you cannot be deceived. Zoods! can't people sit still and be happy, without making such a damn'd noise?

None of these sentiments, alas! how-ever well founded in the wisdom of Min-cing Lane, had ever any weight with my daughter; who still insisted, that stage-plays were the most instructive, most edi-fying, and *delightfullest* entertainments in the world. A play-bill warmed her to the very soul. She knew the names and me-rits of all the actors; was enchanted with the love of one, the rage of another, the jealousy of a third, the madness of a fourth; and I have even caught her with a small edition of the Fair Penitent laid within a prayer-book at church; and she has been mumbling forth 'Be dumb for ever!' while the clerk was giving out the psalm.—The diabolical actions and un-heard of impudence of that jade Lady Macbeth made such an impression on her, that, forgetting all Christian decency, she cried out in the ecstasy of her soul, that the Thane of Cawdor was a 'lilly livered boy,—and she was ready to take her oath of it—that his lady should 'bring forth men children only;'—and that

Till Birnam wood shall come to Dunfinane,

she should never look upon the like of Mrs. Yates; who, it seems, performed the part of this bloody minded lady.

Upon her coming home, it happened that our maid servant had mislaid my velvet night cap; upon which, when I began to expoistulate in the plain rational language of an angry man, the poor stage struck Delia rose up, and, throwing her-self in a strange posture, cried out in a sepulchral tone of voice,

Father,

Thou canst not say I did it—

Why dost thou shake thy periwig at me?

—Take any shape but that,

And I will challenge thee to the utmost.

'You challenge me!—Hold your nonsense, girl (said I,) and help Mary to find my cap.—I'll not budge,' quoth she.

As we were sitting sociably over a snug supper, an old and ever welcome neigh-bour came to ask how we were entertained; and the good man had scarce opened the door, before my hussy as she was, drop-ped her knife and fork, jumped from her seat, and exclaimed.

—The Table's set;—

which is just as much as to say, 'I had rather have your room than your com-pany.' My friend was started, and, fear-ful of disturbing the family, went out; upon which she observed,

—Why, so—being gone,

I am myself—I am a girl again.

'Aye that you are, sure enough, (said I), and a cursed saucy girl too. You may take your leave of play-houses, I promise you, Miss,—My neighbour, imagining that a little absence had settled matters, re-entered; but alas! this made my poor daughter ten times worse; for she now lost all civility and in an angry scream holloed out,

*Avant! and quit my sight! let the earth
hide thee!*

Thy bones are marrowless; thy blood is cold;

Thou hast no speculation in those eyes

Which thou dost glare withal—

and all this without the least provocation on the part of my friend Grogram.—

My worthy neighbour, believing her to be distracted, did not take any offence; but said all he could to soothe and bring her about; upon which the girl, as if a little recollecting herself, said with a gentle tone of voice, yet with still the same tra-gical pomp of language.

May it please your Highness, sit.

She called Mr. George Grogram the cloth-merchant, 'your Highness!—and after that, in a still milder key, but with great wildness of action, and much reeling about, as she were tipsy, she cried,

*Sit, worthy friend!—I'm often thus, my
Lord!*

(Now she made a Lord of him)

*My father knows I've been so from my youth's
Pray keep your seat—*

The fit is momentary—On a thought

I shall be well again—If you much note me,

You will offend me, and extend my passion—

Feed, and regard me not.—

Comforted by this assurance; we all sat down to the table; where, however, we were not long suffered to remain in tran-quility, before this mad girl started up, and running to my friend Grogram, just as he was going to drink his porter, caught hold of his wrist, and exclaimed,

*Are you a man?
O proper stuff!*

Then, upon my reprobating this conduct,
she struck her hand upon her heart, and
said,

If I stand here, I saw him.——

(*'Saw who, you ignoramus? said I. She
went on)*

*You, I know, father, will say, 'Fie for
shame!'*

But what of that? You are old and choleric,

I now intreated her with more gentleness
to banish this nonsense from her head, and
to behave like a rational creature; telling
her, I knew, if she had a mind to it, she
could be as agreeable as Mr. any body's
daughter. This soothed her very sensibly,
and I began (for she was my darling)
again to look upon her with pleasure; but
upon her perceiving my eyes for some time
directed towards her, she assumed an air
of recollection, called a dimple into her
check, and again began to spout——

I do forget myself (said she):

Do not muse at me, my worthy friends!

I have a strange infirmity, which is nothing

*To those that know me.—Come love and health
to all!*

I drink the general joy of the whole table.

After which, hending her body in a thea-
trical way, and clenching the porter-pot,
she went on in the following manner:

——Think of this, good peers,

But as a thing of custom: 'tis no oiber;

Only it spoils the pleasure of the time.

Here she flourished the porter-pot, and
drank to us very courteously. We ad-
mitted her apology, and all went on vastly
well, till my friend unluckily mentioned
our evening's amusement at the play-
house; upon which the distracted Delia
set down the porter-pot and catching my
friend who sat next her, again by the
hand, delivered herself as follows, in
words half her own and half Shake-
speare's but with the utmost vehemence of
utterance and action;

I will to morrow,

Believe I will, go to the manager——

*There will I speak—for now I am bent to
know,*

*By the best means, the worst for mine own
good.*

All causes shall give way unto the stage.

*I am in stage matters steep so far,
That should I wish to think of it no more,
Returning to the duties of a daughter,
Would be as tedious as impossible.*

By this time she was black in the face, and
we both began to be afraid of her: Gro-
gram got to the end of the room. Seeing
her melancholy situation, and perceiving
that she grew worse, I pathetically persua-
ded her to go to bed; but even here she
threw tragedy at me;

*Yes, you say right, my father:
I lack the sense of all nature's—sleep.*

The maid now came to tell us there had
been a fire in the next street, which was
not even yet quite out. Starting up, and
dashing her plate on the floor,

Cool it (says Delia) with a baboon's blood:

Then the charm is firm and good——

throwing a large piece of bread into the
fire, in imitation of the witches tossing
their enchanted nonsense into the cauldron,

'Go to bed, hussy,' (said I,) 'and cool
your poor distracted senses: go to bed, I
say.' On this she perfectly maddened, and
I thought would have knocked Grogram
down with the pocker.

——I will not be commanded——(says she)

I'll be an actress, Grogram: deny me this,

And an eternal curse falls on you——

Yes, my father, even on thee,

Thou venerable good old man!

For being author of a wretch like me.

Here she broke off abruptly; and looking
on the maid, fell into a passion, and bid
her get out of the room, for a secret,
black, and midnight hag, as she was;
and when I threatened to disherit her if
she ever went upon the stage, she gave
such a twist with her face, and so goggled
with her eyes, that she frightened me, and
then burst out again with the damndest
nonsense that ever was heard;

Oh! I could play the woman with my eyes,

And braggart with my tongue. But, gentle

Heaven!

Cut short all intermission; front to front

Bring me this manager;

Whom my arr's legth set him; then,

Is trembling I exhibit—then press me

The baby of a girl. Let him, ah! hear me.

And, after having spouted, if he scape me,

May Heaven destroy his patent!

'Upon my word, Miss Delia, (said I),
this is mighty fine. You are acting a
very

very pretty part here. You play away nobly. But let me tell you hussy'—
Here she had the impudence to interrupt me with another cursed speech, striding round the table like a mad princess:

*Thou say'st truly, Gentles—I do play well.
This tune goes mainly. Come, go with me—
Go to your manager—My powers are ready—*

*My lick is nothing but my leave—Della
Is ripe for acting, and the Gods above
Have given me instruments of voice and figure.
And now, my friends, receive what cheer
you may:*

This night is long—but next week I will play

'The devil you will, Madam! (said I): then not a farthing of my property shall you finger, I can assure you. A stage player indeed—No, no—you are mad enough already. Here, take the candle, and troop to your chamber. Go this minute, I say—Here,' I had no sooner given her the candle, than she rose up, and shut her eyes, held the light at arm's length, and began to rub her hand—Lady Macbeth-like:

*Yet here's a spot—O, damned spot!
All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten
This little hand.*

'Get away, then, and wash it (said I), and be cursed to you, and don't put me in a passion.' Here she sighed most bitterly

Oh! oh! oh!

Some time afterwards she made towards the door, which I opened; and then she ran side long out of the room, still shutting her eyes, and cried,

*There's knocking at the gate—
Go, go, go, go—
Come, come, come, come—
To bed, to bed, to bed.*

Here, than keaver, she made here exit for the night. The next day she ran away from me, and really put her threats in execution; and is now to be seen, in the course of the year, at all the barns, booths, and fairs of Great-Britain and Ireland.

ORIGIN OF IDOLATRY IN THE EAST.

[From Wood's Account of the ancient City of Balbec.]

UNDER whatever name the ancient divinity of the temple at Balbec was invoked, whether the Baal of sacred, or the Belus of profane history, whether called Jupiter or Apollo, it is certain the object of worship was the sun; the structure of whose temples at Palmyra and Heliopolis differs from that of all others we have seen, in some particulars, which may be the subject of a separate enquiry into the mythology.

At present we shall only observe, as travellers through those ancient seats of idolatry, that we imagined we could discover in many of the deviations from the true object of worship, something in the climate, soil, or situation of each country; which had great influence in establishing its particular mode of superstition.

If we apply this observation to the country and religion of Syria, and examine the worship of the sun, moon, and stars, called in scripture Baal, Astaroth, and the host of heaven, we may perhaps not only see that early superstition, which misled the inhabitants of a flat country, enjoying a constant serenity of sky, was naturally produced; but we may also observe something of the origin and progress of that error, in a certain connection between those objects of worship, considered

physically, and their characters as divinities.

Thus the pomp and magnificence with which the sun was worshipped in Syria and Chaldea, the name of Baal, which in the eastern language signifies lord or master, and the human victims sacrificed to him, seem altogether to mark an awful reverence paid rather to his power than to his beneficence, in a country where the violence of his heat is destructive to vegetation, as it is in many other respects very troublesome to the inhabitants.

But the deification of the inferior gods of the firmament seems to have taken its rise from different principles, in which love seems to have been more predominant than fear; at the same time that their worship has the stronger characteristics of its Syrian extraction than that of Baal, if the following observation be well founded.

Not only the extensive plain and unclouded sky have been long since observed to point this out, but we imagine that the manner in which the inhabitants of this country live, and which is as uniform as their climate, or their soil, hath greatly contributed to direct their attention to these objects.

It hath ever been a custom with them, equally connected with health and pleasure, to pass the nights in summer-upon the house-tops, which for this very purpose are made flat, and divided from each other by walls. We found this way of sleeping extremely agreeable; as we thereby enjoyed the cool air, above the reach of gnats and vapours, without any other covering than the canopy of the heavens, which unavoidably presents itself in different pleasing forms, upon every interruption of rest, when silence and solitude strongly dispose the mind to contemplation.

No where could we discover in the face of the heavens more beauties, nor on the earth fewer, than in our night travels thro' the deserts of Arabia; where it is impossible not to be struck with this contrast: A boundless dreary waste, without tree or water, mountain or valley, or the least variety of colours, offers a tedious sameness to the wearied traveller; who is agreeably relieved by looking up to that cheerful moving picture, which measures his time during his course, and lights up his way.

The warm fancy of the Arab soon felt the transition from wild admiration, to superstitious respect, and the passions were engaged before the judgment was consulted. The Jews in their passage thro' this wilderness (where we are told in the scriptures they carried the star of their God, Amos v. 26. which St. Jerom supposes to have been Lucifer, worshipped in the same country in his time) seem to have caught the infection in the same manner, and their bears rovers after their idols, Ezek. xx. 16. This bewitching enthusiasm, by which they were so frequently seduced, is still more strongly characterized in the some expressive language of holy writ, which tells us, that their

eyes went a roving after their idols, Ezek. vi. 9. And an antient native of this country, a man of real piety, seems to acknowledge the danger of contemplating such beauties, and to disown his having yielded to the temptation, in the following words: *If I beheld the sun when he shined, or the moon walking in her brightness, and my heart had been secretly enticed, and my mouth have kissed my hand; this were an iniquity, &c.* Job xxxi. 26.

However unconnected the natural history of a country and its mythology may seem, yet their relation might bear a more minute examination; without running into wild conjectures. Even Egypt had some objects of divine worship, so peculiarly the growth of that soil, that they could never bear transplanting, notwithstanding the complaisance of antiquity for her absurdities.

As superstition travelled northward, she changed her garb with her country, and the picturesque mixture of hill, vale, grove, and water, in Greece, gave both to Oracles, Dryades, and Naiades, with all the varieties of that fanciful mythology, which only such a poet as Homer, in such a country as Greece, could have connected into that form and system which poetry has ever since thought proper to adopt.

We may add, that, as a further confirmation of our opinion, this same mythology, examined on the spot where Homer wrote, has several plausible and consistent circumstances, which are entirely local. Should health and leisure permit us to give the publick that more classical part of our travels, thro' those countries, which are most remarkable as the scenes of antient fable, we may illustrate, by some instances, what is here only hinted at.

STORY OF VALMORE AND JULIA.

VALMORE was descended from an antient and reputable family in Britanny. His father was a gallant officer, who had served his King and country for the space of thirty years, without receiving any other reward for his services than a distinguished reputation for bravery, and a captain's commission—which at the end of that war he resigned, and retired to his native country, and a small patrimony which he inherited, with a beloved wife, and an only child, the unfortunate hero of the present tale.

When Valmore was about ten years old, his mother died; and from that moment no other object seemed to exist on earth for Captain Valmore but his son. To the care of his education he devoted his every thought; and when the youth had reached the age of eighteen, the fond father thought his son must be happy, because he was perfectly satisfied that his principles were noble, and his heart good. He procured a commission for him from one of his former friends, in the same regiment in which he had served, equipped him properly for

the

the service, and presented him with a hundred louis d'ors, 'which (he said) he had saved from the poor, who should, from that time, be heirs to his superfluities.'

About a month before young Valmore was ordered to join his regiment, in one of his morning walks he happened to see a chariot overturn'd by the negligence of the coachman, and heard a female voice give a loud scream. He flew to offer his assistance and beheld a most beautiful girl, about sixteen, who had faint'd from the fright and shock she had sustained. He soon released her from the carriage, caught her in his arms, and bore her to a bank, before the servants who attended her could come up. A few minutes brought her to herself; and the modest confusion she expressed at finding her head leaning on the bosom of a stranger, completed the conquest which the beauties of her form and features, even in that death like state, had already begun. She expressed her gratitude in the most elegant terms, and as she had received no injury, except fright from the accident, said, 'She would accept of his arm to convey her home, as the distance to her father's house was not more than a quarter of a mile.' When arrived, she presented him as her deliverer to her mother, Madame De Forhele, who, upon learning his name, acknowledged an acquaintance with his family, and pressed him to pass the day with her and the lovely Julia, as Monsieur De Forhele was then absent.

From that time Valmore appeared both to himself and to every one who saw him, a new being; an idea of happiness, which he had never before conceived, animated his whole frame, his eyes sparkled with unusual lustre, he scarcely touched the ground as he walked, and the sound of his voice seemed to vie, for musical sprightliness, with the morning lark.

He rose before the sun next day in order to renew his visit, mounted his horse, and found himself at Monsieur Forhele's, long before any of the family were stirring. He rambled about the adjacent country, impatiently waiting for the rising of his bright luminary, and had again the happiness of passing the day under her benignant auspices. At this second interview he was introduced to Monsieur Forhele, who received him with civil reserve and distant courtesy; but our hero was by no means sensible of any peculiar slight from his behaviour, as he thought himself in every respect his equal.

The days now flew away on downy wings with Valmore, as none of them passed without seeing and conversing with his adored Julia, who now seemed to think

with him, that the hand of Providence had guided him to the spot where they first met, and that they of course destined for each other. Full of this juvenile idea, 'What hinders then (said Valmore, as he walked with Julia in the gardens of Forhele) what hinders me to avow my passion to your father, to implore his consent to our union, to our becoming the happiest pair that the blest sun can see even in his annual course.'

Before Julia could start an objection to this proposal Monsieur Forhele gave him an opportunity to try its effect, by walking towards them with a countenance full of resentment. Valmore was no physiognomist; he read no face but Julia's. He threw himself at Forhele's feet, declared the ardour of his love, and added, 'that he hoped his respectful tenderness had inspired his fair mistress with such a predilection in his favour, as to approve his passion.'

With the most insulting coldness Monsieur Forhele replied, 'Your alliance, Sir, would, doubtless, do me infinite honour; but I am both surpris'd and sorry that my daughter should have disposed of her affections without my consent, as it is not from her choice, but mine, she must receive a husband, and you are by no means the person I should chuse. I must therefore desire you to retire immediately, and never more repeat your visits here.'

When Valmore returned home, the traces of the deepest despair were visible in his countenance: his father was immediately alarmed, and tenderly enquired the cause of his affliction. As soon as the unhappy youth could give utterance to his grief, he said, 'O! Sir, receive into your bosom the sighs of a wretch who is weary of his existence, and who is no longer worthy to live, for having wanted confidence in the best of fathers! But I will repair my fault, and avow a passion which is only rendered criminal by concealment.' He then related every thing that had passed between him and Julia, and with streaming eyes implored his father to solicit Monsieur Forhele's consent to their union.

The good old gentleman, tho' softened by his son's distress, saw the folly of his pursuit, and commanded him, in the most peremptory tone, to join his regiment immediately. 'Thers (said he) my beloved Valmore may have opportunities to render himself worthy of the amiable Julia. Love makes heroes, and if your mistress deserves your attachment, fear not that even a father's power can rob you of her heart; no force can subdue a passion founded on esteem. If she can give her affections

affections to another, that ought to console you for her loss; by shewing her to be unworthy of you.

Our young soldiers's spirit was fired by this discourse; he tenderly embraced his father, said he was ready to depart that moment, and trusted that his future conduct should never deviate from the noble sentiments with which his father's precepts and example had inspired him.

It was impossible, however, that he should set out without taking leave of Julia. He was forbid the castle of Forhele; but he found means to convey a letter to her, filled with the tenderest professions of love, and ever-during constancy. In her reply she approved his resolution; called heaven to witness, that her heart should never be bestowed on any other object, though certain that the never more should see him, as her father's cruelty must quickly end her days; and begged he would forget her, though her last sigh, she vowed, should breathe the name of Valmore.

This tender billet quickly banished all the salutary advice he had received from his father; his passion was augmented by the idea of Julia's sufferings, and to forsake her in such a situation appeared dishonourable. He instantly resolved to rescue her from her father's tyranny; and at all events to become her husband and protector through life. He wrote to her to this effect, imploring her to throw herself into his arms; adding that he had a rich uncle at Falaise, in Normandy, who would, he was certain, receive and cherish them both; that under his protection they would have nothing to fear from her family; that there they should be indissolubly joined, and that the study of his whole life should be to render her happy.

The moment he had sent off this letter, his heart was torn to pieces by the idea of the deceitfulness of his conduct towards his father, and of the anguish he must feel when he should discover his son's flight; but passion triumphed over filial affection; and, to avoid the painful sight of a parent whom he loved and honoured, though he disobeyed, he took leave of him, as intending to join his regiment directly. Old Valmore was pleased at his seeming impatience to become a soldier, repeated his parental admonitions, embraced and blessed him.

Our young adventurer travelled no further than the next village, which was about a league from the castle of Forhele, and there waited the return of his messenger with Julia's answer, which was to determine both their fates. Judge of his distraction, when he read the following words:

It is over! You have removed the veil that concealed your real sentiments, and from this moment I tear asunder the ties that attached me to you. The purity of my own mind made me think your's virtuous. In that idea I found an excuse for my weakness, and gave myself up to the delightful thought of being beloved by the worthiest of men: this was a consolation for all my sorrows, and I should have cherished it to my latest hour. But you have banished this illusion, and in its room have shewn me a wretch, who would lead my unsuspecting fondness to shame and misery; that would lead me with the reproaches of my injured parents, and tempt me to disgrace a respectable family, by bringing infamy on myself.— This, inhuman as you are, is the return you make to tenderness like mine!

Though sunk in my esteem, I still pity you: my tears at this moment cannot be restrained; but I will dry their source, by banishing your idea from my heart. Adieu for ever!

'JULIA.'

The instant stroke of lightning could not have had a more sudden, nor, indeed, a much more fatal effect upon Valmore, than the perusal of these lines.

*The damps of Death bedroved his face,
He fighed, he groined, he fell!*

The good folks of the cottage where he lodged ran to his assistance, and brought him back to misery. On the instant he wrote to his offended fair one, in the following terms:

'The wretch who has offended Julia does not deserve to live! Nor will he longer endure a being which her contempt has rendered odious to him. But before he takes his everlasting leave of all his heart holds dear, examine his offence, and try if you have not misjudged him, and mistaken the innocent ardour of his passion for the artful plan of a seducer.

I cannot bear the thought, nor will I attempt to excuse what you think criminal. You have withdrawn your love; my life depended on that only. The moment I receive a confirmation of that cruel sentence, my death shall rid you of a being that must be hateful to you, and in the grave, at least, I shall elude your hate.

'Adieu for ever!'

He had no sooner dispatched his letter, than the agitation of mind he had suffered began to operate upon his body; he was seized with a fever, and became delirious in a few hours. The tender Julia almost as much distracted as he, when

when she had read his letter; she feared the violence of his resentment, at her unjust suspicions, might tempt him to destroy himself, and willingly would she have laid down her life to have saved his.

Her father and mother were at that time on a visit. What hindered her seeing him once more, granting his pardon, and bidding him farewell forever? No time was to be lost; she mounted behind his servant, and arrived at the cottage where he lay, as quick as the horse's speed could carry her. Valmore, as I have already said, was senseless; but her loved voice soon lured his reason back, and the soft tears she shed upon his cheek dispelled the fever's rage; she gave him leave to plead his pardon, as soon as his health would permit, and gave him a key which would open an entrance to her father's garden, where he should come at midnight before he set out for the army, and receive her last adieu.

Need I say that Julia's presence, as if by magic, restored the health and happiness of Valmore? He availed himself of her permission to sue his pardon at her feet on the ensuing night, and many interviews ensued; at each of which Julia became less shocked at the idea which had at first so much alarmed her prudence. To be short, she at length consented to elope, and the lovers set out accordingly for Falaise.

Valmore truly loved his mistress; his behaviour to her, therefore, during their long journey was bounded by the most respectful tenderness, which, however, could not dissipate the sorrow she felt, from the consciousness of having acted wrong. The moment they arrived at Falaise, Valmore left Julia at the inn, and flew to his uncle's house. He was received with the most cordial caresses by the old gentleman, till the impatient youth declared the occasion of his visit, and implored his parental protection for one far dearer than himself. The scene was quickly changed; instead of caresses, he was loaded with reproaches, and bade to fly with his infamous companion for ever from his sight.

At his return to the inn, Julia read her fate in Valmore's looks; he was incapable of revealing the anguish of his mind by words; he threw himself at her feet, and bathed them with tears. 'I know it all (said she;) we are completely ruined; we have offended Heaven, and deserve our punishment. I became a sharer in your guilt, from the moment I calmly listened to the fatal proposal that has undone us both. But I will not reproach you.'

The unhappy fugitives passed the night in tears, without being able to form any plan for their future conduct or subsistence; towards morning they retired to their separate chambers, and Valmore's exhausted spirits were refreshed by a profound slumber. It was late before he awoke, and the first object that struck his sight was a letter that had been thrust under the door of his chamber; he took it hastily up, and read as follows:

'Returns thanks to Heaven, my dear Valmore, for the happy resolution with which it has inspired me. Those illusions of felicity with which we flattered ourselves are vanished, and in their room the most horrid realities remain for both, if we continue together. My sight will prevent your misery, and may in time secure my repose; at least, I will bury my faults and my shame together in a cloyster. Adieu!

Strive to forget the unhappy

JULIA!

I will not pretend to describe Valmore's situation when he had read this fatal billet; suffice it to say, that it was very little short of distraction. He flew to all the adjacent convents, and made fruitless inquiries for Julia; no one could give him tidings of her. He questioned every human creature he met on the highways, if they had seen his love; and for many months continued his vain pursuit, without ever sleeping under a roof; his countenance became ferocious, and his figure squalid, so as to inspire every one who saw him with horror.

After enduring a variety of misery, and being totally devoid of the means of subsistence, he enlisted as a common soldier, in a regiment which was then going to serve in Germany. During the campaign; he sought death, even; in the cannon's mouth, in vain; all that he wished eluded his pursuit, and he dragged on a wretched existence in despite of himself. In this deplorable state he continued almost five years, till, at the conclusion of the war, the army marched into winter quarters at Frankfort.

Valmore's despair alone could withstand the joy that then universally reigned in that great city; he stunned the haunts of men, and lived in the wild woods alone. He happened, in one of his sequestered walks, to see his colonel drive by with a lady in a chariot, and he paid with fullness the usual compliment of a salute to his commander. On the instant his eyes seemed fascinated: the form of Julia appeared to his bewildered imagination, a thick darkness overshadowed his sight and he sank senseless to the earth.

The colonel ordered one of his servants to dismount, and take care of Valmore. When he came to himself, he eagerly enquired who the lady was that he had seen in the chariot? and was informed, that she was a lady of *easy virtue*, whom Mons. De Farbanne, his colonel, was remarkably fond of. He then exclaimed aloud, 'It is impossible! Dear shade, forgive the injury which for a moment my rash thoughts have done thee!'

On his return to Frankfort, the likeness between Julia and the lady he had seen, still haunted him, and he resolved to clear his doubts by an interview. The next morning he found out her house, and desired permission to see her; she immediately supposed he brought some message from his colonel, and permitted his permission to her presence. She was alone; he gazed on her till all his doubts were passed, and then with streaming eyes addressed her thus: "Ah, Julia! have these tears flowed for thy loss so long, to find thee thus! Is this the cloyster in which you wished to bury the hopeless errors of an innocent love? And didst thou leave the chaste, the tender arms of the despairing Valmore to plunge into the horrors of vice and infamy!"

Though the change, which so many years of misery had wrought in Valmore, prevented her knowing him at first, his accents and his words quickly recalled his former image to her recollection, and made her rush into his arms, exclaiming aloud. 'It is, it is, my Valmore! Then tearing herself from him, she threw herself on a couch, burst into tears, and turned away her face. 'Cruel Julia! said (Valmore) wouldst thou again deprive me of thy sight?' 'Yes (she replied), I wish to fly from thee, of all mankind, because I am unworthy of thy love, and have forfeited every claim to my own esteem, as well as thine; thy contempt, my own, and that of all that know me, is my portion. Yet heaven is my witness, that when I quitted thee, I meant to consecrate my heart to God, and in a convent expiate the crime of having disobeyed my parents, for that, thou knowest, was then the only guilt my soul was conscious of.'

'In vain did I repeatedly implore admittance at different monasteries: my dress, my youth, and even my beauty, were objections to my being received into any. I had no means of assuring them that any pension would be paid; and they seemed to consider me as a wretch who had been seduced from virtue, who might possibly carry about me the effect of my supposed crime, and disgrace their community. In consequence of these reitera-

ted disappointments. I returned to the inn where I had left you; but you had fled from thence like an arrow in the air, and left no trace behind.

'Distracted with my grief, and not knowing whither to direct my steps, I wandered on, resolving to lie down and die, when my poor feeble limbs could not convey me farther.—That hour approached, I breathed a prayer for you, and sat me down beside a little brook, hoping each sigh I drew would be my last. A chaise came driving on. I had not strength to move out of the way, though called to by the postillions. The horses stopped to water. A lady who was in the carriage gazed upon me, and became interested by my appearance; she spoke to me with kindness. I answered not but with my tears. She alighted and took me by the hand, bid me be of comfort, and pressed me to accept a seat in her carriage to the next inn, where she would endeavour by any means in her power, to be serviceable to me.

'The voice of pity soothed my breaking heart, and as well as I was able I expressed my gratitude, and accepted her offer. To be short, I acquainted her with my distressful story, concealing only my name and family. She conveyed me to her house at Rouen, and treated me like a sister. But judge of my distress, Valmore, when I discovered that my humane benefactress, though she possessed all others, was deficient in the most material virtues! A thousand times did I resolve to quit her; but the charms of her conversation, the gentleness of her manner, and, above all, her generosity and kindness to me, prevented me. Vice is contagious; spare my confusion, Valmore, and guess the rest.'

'If you have virtue enough left (said Valmore) to blush at your unhappy situation, you surely will consent to quit it. Fly, my adorable Julia! fly from the paths of vice! Renounce these gilded trappings, these marks of infamy; repent in humble poverty, strive to atone thy crimes by patient suffering, and in thy faithful lover's arms regain thy virtue.' 'Heaven (said Julia) is witness of my sincere repentance; but whither shall we fly?'

As she pronounced these words, Colonel Farbanne entered. He stood amazed at seeing Valmore, and observing that they were both dissolved in tears. Then turning to him said, 'What dost thou here? Begone, this instant!' 'Do you begone!' (said Valmore). 'Vice is forbidden now to enter here.' 'What means this insolence?' replied the colonel, and raised his

came to strike at Valmore, who at that moment drew his sword, saying, 'The very garb he wore, forbade his receiving the indignity he had offered, and bid Fanne instantly defend himself.' The colonel drew, and in a moment Valmore's too furious arm directed his weapon's point to his antagonist's heart, who fell dead on the instant.

Valmore was quickly seized, torn from his Julia's arms, who begged to accompany him, and thrown into a dungeon. A Court martial was immediately called, and he was sentenced to be shot on the next day. He received his sentence with firmness. The hope he felt of having recalled his beloved Julia to the paths of virtue sat smiling at his heart. He marched to execution between two ranks of his former fellow soldiers with a manly step, and an elevated air. His eyes alone were dry

As he approached the fatal spot, he heard a tumultuous sound. He turned his head, and saw a woman pale and her hair dishevelled, rushing through the crowd; he heard his name pronounced by a soft dying voice, and that instant Julia caught him in her arms. Exhausted and convulsed, she exclaimed, 'Thank Heaven, I have reached this spot to die at the feet of a faithful husband! Valmore, forgive me! we shall meet again!' As her pale lip received the seal of pardon, the guilty Julia sunk—and expired. Valmore threw himself upon the ground beside her, and fell into strong convulsions. Insensibly succeeded these emotions; he was remanded back to prison, and ere the next day's dawn, his spirit was released from his poor suffering clay, and free to seek the kindred soul of Julia.

TWO FRAGMENTS of ANCIENT POETRY, collected in the HIGHLANDS of SCOTLAND.

[Translated from the Gallic or Erse Language.]

I.

AUTUMN is dark on the mountains; grey mist rests on the hills. The whirlwind is heard on the heath. Dark rolls the river through the narrow plain. A tree stands alone on the hill, and marks the grave of Connal. The leaves whirl round with the wind, and strew the grave of the dead. At times are seen here the ghotts of the deceased, when the musing hunter alone stalks slowly over the heath.

Who can reach the source of thy race, O Connal? and who recount thy fathers? Thy family grew like an oak on the mountain, which meeteth the wind with its lotty head. But now it is torn from the earth. Who will supply the place of Connal?

Here was the din of arms; and here the groans of the dying. Mournful are the wars of Fingal; O Connal! it was here thou didst fall. Thine arm was like a storm; thy sword, a beam of the sky; thy height, a rock on the plain; thine eyes, a furnace of fire. Louder than a storm was thy voice, when thou confoundest the field. Warriors fell by thy sword, as the thistle by the staff of a boy.

Dargo the mighty came on like a cloud of thunder. His brows were contracted and dark; his eyes like two caves in a rock. Bright rose their swords on each side; dire was the clang of their steel.

The daughter of Rinval was near; Crimora, bright in the armour of man; her hair loose behind, her bow in her hand. She followed the youth to the war, Connal her much beloved. She drew the string on Dargo, but erring, pierced her Connal. He falls like an oak on the plain; like a rock from the shaggy hill. What shall she do, hapless maid! he bleeds; her Connal dies! All the night long she cries, and all the day, O Connal, my love, and my friend! With grief the sad mourner died.

Earth here enclosed the loveliest pair on the hill; the grass grows beneath the stones of their tomb. I sit in the mournful shade; the wind sighs through the grass; and their memory rushes on my mind. Undisturbed you now sleep together; in the tomb of the mountain you rest alone.

II.

RYNO, ALPIN.

Ryno.

THE wind and the rain are over; calm is the noon day. The clouds are divided in heaven. Over the green hills the inconstant Sun. Red through the stony vale comes down the stream of the hill, sweet are thy murmurs, O stream! but more sweet is the voice I hear: It is the voice of Alpin, the son of the song, mourning for the dead. Bent is his head

of age, and red his tearful eye. Alpin, thou son of the song, why alone on the silent hill? Why complainest thou, as a blast in the wood; as a wave on the lonely shore?

Alpin. My tears, O Ryno! are for the dead; my voice for the inhabitants of the grave. Tall thou art on the hill; fair among the sons of the plain. But thou shalt fall like Morar; and the mountains shall sit on thy tomb. The hill shall know thee no more; thy bow shall lie in the hall unstrung.

Thou wert swift, O Morar! as a roe on the hill; terrible as a meteor of fire. Thy wrath was as the storm of December; thy sword in battle, as lightning in the field. Thy voice was like a stream after rain; like thunder on the distant hills. Many fell by thy arm; they were consumed in the flames of thy wrath.

But when thou returnedst from war, how peaceful was thy brow! Thy face was like the Sun after rain; like the moon in the silence of the night; calm as the breast of the lake when the loud wind is raised.

Narrow is thy dwelling now; dark the place of thine abode. With three steps I compass thy grave, O thou who wast so great before! Four stones, with their heads of moss, are the only memorial of

thee. A tree, with scarce a leaf, long grass which whistles in the wind, mark to the hunter's eye the grave of the mighty Morar. Morar! thou art low indeed.—Thou hast no mother to mourn thee; no maid with her tears of love. Dead is she that brought thee forth; fallen is the daughter of Morglan?

Who on his staff is this? Who is this, whose head is white with age, whose eyes are red with tears, who quakes at every step?—It is thy father, O Morar, the father of none but thee. He heard of thy fame in battle; he heard of foes dispersed. He heard of Morar's fame; why did he not hear of his wound? Weep thou father of Morar! weep; but thy son heareth thee not. Deep is the sleep of the dead; low their pillow of dust. No more shall he hear thy voice; no more shall he awake at thy call. When shall it be morn in the grave, to bid the slumberer awake?

Farewel, thou bravest of men! thou conqueror in the field, but the field shall see thee no more! nor the dark wood be lightened with the splendor of thy steel. Thou hast left no son; but thy song shall preserve thy name. Future times shall hear of thee; they shall hear of the fallen Morar.

BIOGRAPHICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS ANECDOTES.

WHEN Aristides was created Quæstor, or high treasurer of Athens, he fairly laid before the Athenians what immense sums the public had been robbed of by their former treasurers, but especially by Themistocles, whom he proved to be more criminal than any of the others. This warm and honest remonstrance produced such a powerful coalition between these public plunderers, that when Aristides, at the expiration of his office, (which was annual, and elective) came to give up his accounts to the people, Themistocles publicly impeached him of the same crime, and, by the artifice of his corrupt party, procured him to be condemned and fined; but the honest, and more respectable part of the citizens highly resenting such an infamous method of proceeding, not only acquitted Aristides honourably and remitted his fine, but to show their approbation of his conduct, elected him treasurer for the following year. At his entrance upon his office the second time, he affected to appear sensible of his former

error, and, by winking at the frauds of the inferior officers, and neglecting to scrutinize into their accounts, he suffered them to plunder with impunity. These state leeches, thus gorged with the public money, grew so extremely fond of Aristides, that they employed all their interest to persuade the people to elect him a third time to that important office. On the day of election, when the voices of the Athenians were unanimous in his favour, this real patriot stood up with honest indignation, and gave the people this severe, but just reprimand. 'When,' says he, 'I discharged my duty in this office the first time, with that zeal and fidelity which every honest man owes to his country, I was vilified, insulted, and condemned. Now I have given full liberty to those robbers of the public, here present, to pilfer, and prey upon your finances at pleasure: I am, it seems, a most upright minister, and a most worthy citizen. Believe me, O Athenians! I am more ashamed of the honour which you have so unanimously

* unanimously conferred upon me this day, than of that unjust sentence which you passed upon me with so much infamy the year before. But it gives me the utmost concern, upon your account, when I see that it is easier to merit your favour and applause by flattering, and conniving at the rogueries of a pack of villains, than by a frugal and uncorrupt administration of the public revenues.' He then disclosed all the frauds and thefts which had been committed that year in the treasury, which he had privately minutated down for that purpose. The consequence was, that all these, who just before had been so loud in his praise, were struck dumb with shame and confusion; but he himself received those high encomiums, which he had so justly merited, from every honest citizen.

THE following anecdote is related of Sir Charles Coote, afterwards Earl of Montrath, who was a brave officer in Ireland in the reign of King Charles I. A council of war being held on an enterprise that appeared very hazardous to undertake; the relieving Geashill castle, he said, 'That if they made haste, they might easily pass the defiles and caufeways, before the enemy could assemble to oppose them: To which a person replied, 'Perhaps it might be so, but when the country was alarmed, how should they get back?' To which Sir Charles directly answered, 'I protest I never thought of that in my life: I always considered how to do my business, and when that was done I got home again as well as I could, and hitherto I have not missed of forcing my way.' His advice was followed, and the castle relieved.

THE family arms of Pope Innocent XII are three cups, which he ordered to be inverted, implying, that instead of filling, he intended to pour out and distribute, adding this motto, *Alis, non sibi.* To others, not to himself; but Paquin placed the comma after the word *non*, and thus quite altered the meaning, though with too much truth.

IN the times of Addison and Steele, players were held in greater contempt than, perhaps, they deserved. Honest Basscourt, Verbruggen, and Underhill, were extremely poor, and assumed no airs of insolence. They were contented with being merry at a city feast, with promoting the mirth of a set of cheerful companions, and gave their jest for their reckoning. At that time, it was kind to say something in defence of the poor good natured creatures, if it were only to

keep them in good humour; but at present, such encouragements are unnecessary. Our actors assume all that state off the stage, which they do on it; and to use an expression borrowed from the Green Room, every one is up in his part. I am sorry to say it, they seem to forget their real characters; more provoking still, the public seems to forget them too.

Macrobius has preserved a prologue, spoken and written by the poet Laberius, a Roman knight, whom Cæsar forced upon the stage, written with great elegance and spirit, which shows what opinion the Romans in general entertained of the the profession an actor.

Necessitas cujus cursus transversus impetum, &c.

What! no way left to shun th' inglorious stage,

And save from infamy my sinking age.

Scarce half alive, oppress'd with many a year,

What in the name of dotage drives me here?

A time there was, when glory was my guide,

Nor force nor fraud could turn my steps aside,

Unaw'd by pow'r and unappal'd by fear,

With honest thrift I held my honour dear,

But this vile hour disperses all my store,

And all my hoard of honour is no more.

For ah! too partial to my life's decline,

Cæsar persuades, submission must be mine.

Hum I obey, whom heaven itself obeys,

Hopeless of pleasing, yet inclin'd to please.

Here then at once, I welcome every shame,

And cancel all therefore a life of fame;

No more my titles shall my children tell,

The old buffoon will fit my name as well;

This day beyond its term my fate extends.

For life is ended when our honour ends.

A SURGEON of one of his Majesty's ships, a young gentleman of as much veracity as skill in his profession, relates the following little anecdote, in a letter to his friend:

'I was reading in my birth, when I heard a scratching between the linding and

side of the ship, which continuing for some time, with intervals that indicated fear, I supposed it to proceed from rats ascending,

between the ribs, to issue from an hole formed by the removal of a plank of the linding, to keep the ship sweet and airy.

This vacancy is about two feet from the deck of my birth. Sure enough, a rat soon appeared, and, after well surveying the place, retreated with the greatest caution and silence, whilst I sat quite motionless, employing no other faculty but that of

of sight: Presently the same rat returned, leading, by the ear, another rat, whom he left at a small distance from the hole thro' which they entered, and a third rat joining this kind conductor, they foraged about, and picked up all the small scraps of biscuit that lay on the floor, which they carried to the second rat, whom I now perceived to be blind, remaining just in the same spot he was brought to, and nibbling such fare as his dutil and pious providers (for I suppose they were his offspring) brought to him from the remote parts of the floor. Lost in the pleasing reflections this wonderful sagacity in this abhorred animal threw me into, a person coming hastily down the ladder, my guests were affrighted, and disappeared the way they came, taking care that the blind parent should be secured, before they, his watchful children, brought up the rear.'

JOHN BASILOWITZ, or Ivan IV. Great Duke of Muscovy, was so cruel and ferocious a prince; that he ordered the hat of an Italian ambassador to be nailed to his head, because he had presumed to be covered before him. The ambassador of the Queen of England, however, was bold enough to put on his hat in his presence; upon which Basilowitz asked him, if he knew how he had treated an ambassador for the like behaviour. 'No,' replied the intrepid Englishman; 'but I am sent hither by Queen Elizabeth; and if any insult is offered to her minister, she has spirit enough to resent it.' 'What a brave man!' exclaimed the Czar; 'which of you,' added he, to his courtiers, 'would have acted and spoken in this manner to support my honor and interells?'

THE late Dey of Algiers, was at first a common soldier, and a shoemaker at Collo. Though of so low a rank, he governed his states with principles worthy of the first Kings of Rome. In the same manner, also, he treated with the sovereigns of Europe concerning peace or war. Fatigued with throwing bombs into Algiers, in vain, the Spaniards proposed peace, and a treaty of commerce. The Dey, who on his part was not tired of making slaves, granted them their demand, but on severe terms, which no negotiation could mitigate. 'If your King does not choose peace,' said he coolly to the ambassador, 'let him make war.' He always treated the consuls of the European powers with an imperious and often insulting pride, without any regard to the sovereign whom they represented. 'What need have I of thy King?' said he, once to one of them, 'he sends me ambassadors and presents, I ask him nothing, and I send him no-

thing; he purchases my friendship; I care very little for his.'

THE Dey of Algiers acts always consistent with his principles. If it happens, that a vessel is attacked and the cargo plundered, it is in vain to ask him to make a reparation. 'What is eaten is eaten,' says he; 'when you have pulled the feathers from a fowl, and the wind has dispersed them, how can you collect them?'

ALGIERS is almost impregnable by its situation, built upon the declivity of a mountain; to reach it by land one must cross frightful hollows, where a handful of men would be able to destroy considerable armies. Towards the sea, the entrance of the harbour is defended by three strong batteries of cannon, under the direction of renegadoes or Christian slaves. The Algerines are not at all afraid of a bombardment. Besides their having nothing to lose, they can live as well under tents as between four walls. On the other hand, the Dey, greedy after riches, sees with pleasure the houses destroyed, for he builds them up on his own account, if the proprietor is not able to be at the expence. The Dey gave the following answer, on this subject to the English Ambassador. The latter having complained, and demanded satisfaction for an insult offered to one of his master's ships, he terminated his harangue by giving the Dey to understand that the King of England was able to bombard Algiers.

The Dey, who had heard him thus far with great composure, interrupting him, said, 'How much will it cost thy master to bombard Algiers?' Such a sum, replied the ambassador. 'Well, let him only send me half of it and I will raze Algiers from the foundation.'

IN Cromwell's expedition into Scotland in the year 1650, he run into a dangerous error, which he discovered somewhat of the latest, and then began to retreat towards Dunbar, the Scots pressing hard upon his rear. Finding himself distressed, he called a council of war, in which opinions were divided, till General Monk delivered his in these words: 'Sir, the Scots have numbers and the hills; those are their advantages: we have discipline and despair, two things that will make soldiers fight; and these are ours. My advice, therefore, is to attack them immediately; which if you follow, I am ready to command the van.' His proposal being accepted, he began the attack, and, as Ludlow acknowledges, was the sole instrument of that victory which gained Cromwell so great reputation.

P O E T R Y.

THE SCHOOL-BOY.

O fortunatos nimium, sua si bona norint!

BACK memory, to scenes of pleasure
 past,
 To scenes ere childhood ripen'd into man;
 When school day sports employ'd the busy
 hours,
 And ev'ning finish'd what the morn be-
 gan.

In those gay meads how gladsome have I
 play'd,
 Those meads encircled with meand'ring
 streams,
 Where lavish Flora spreads her chequer'd
 sweets,
 And Phœbus darts his lustre adding
 beams.

Oft, as the pale-ey'd regent of the night,
 Held forth her lamp; and lighten'd all
 the green,
 Have I exulting frolick'd with my mates,
 And hail'd the brightness of the silver
 scene.

Yon sloping lawns, where skips the frisky
 lamb,
 Yon herbag'd vales, and inter-twisted
 bow'rs,
 Yon velvet plains, and daisy-platted hills,
 Can sweetly testify my playful hours.

Beside that pebbled spring I oft have sat,
 And listen'd to each vernal warbler there,
 As oft well pleas'd I've puff'd the clay-
 form'd tube,
 And view'd the bubbles mount, and burst
 in air.

Can I forget how oft the race I've run,
 While hope of conquest beat in ev'ry
 vein?
 Pomona's prize has crown'd my vast suc-
 cess,
 And all have hail'd me hero of the plain.

Ne'er triumph'd more a warrior in the
 field,
 When he had vanquish'd his high daring foe
 Than I, when in my fights engag'd,
 My stubborn rival fell beneath my blow.

Then was the day (so jocund was my life)
 When I could smile at ev'ry feather'd
 toy;

When each vain trifle that might shame
 the man,
 Delighted, nor disgrac'd the laughing boy.

Where now are all those festive days of
 ease?
 Alas! fast bound in time's all girding roll;
 Yet as in thought each sport I fondly
 trace,
 The lov'd idea warms my panting soul.

When years increasing swell the age of
 man,
 How pleasing then the recollective pow'r!
 Remembrance of past joys play'd o'er in
 youth,
 Gives a fresh relish to the present hour.

Adieu that happy transit! for no more
 Those moments pleasure wing'd shall I
 behold,
 Reality no more can give them birth,
 Tho' airy fancy may the shade unfold.

Let not proud man, buoy'd up by self con-
 ceit,
 Contemn the various frolicks of the child,
 Nor wisdom seated on her aged throne,
 Deem youthful sports romantic all and
 wild.

The title bearing star, the garter'd badge,
 The coat emblazon'd, and the flowing
 gown,
 Is little more than emblematick farce,
 One half of man is childhood overgrown.

Oft now with curious retrospective eye,
 The stealing progress of the mind I view,
 I mark how slow it to perfection tends,
 Guided by pliant education's clue.

Bless'd education! all who feel its fire,
 The genial comfort it imparts, must own,
 This great distinction elevates the soul,
 And adds the richest jewel to a crown.

Where'er it spreads, it polishes the rude,
 Extracts the finer from the grosser part;
 The brutish passions gently charms away,
 And levigates the marble of the heart.

The mind, that beauteous spark of heav'n-
 ly flame,
 How by degrees it rises to a blaze!
 Its fury spent, as gradual it expires,
 Nor leaves one glimpse of its diminish'd
 rays.

So shoots a flower-bud from day to day
Slowly, till all expanded it appears,
Then fade its colours, wither all its leaves,
And time effaces what the florist rears.

Yet e'en amidst the school-boy's happy
hours,
(So sure at pleasure's side pain takes her
stand)
Oft have I fear'd Lorenzo's angry frown,
And the rod quiv'ring in his nervous
hand.

One look from him, if anger swell'd his
eyes,
My classic-searching spirit has depress'd,
One look from him, if smiles seren'd his
brow,
Again call'd forth the sun shine of my
breast,

But slight is all the terror of the school,
Match'd with the tumult of a bustling
world,
Where intermingling passions rack the
soul,
From vice to vice in restless motion hurl'd.

Here seated in her silver ax'd carr,
Proud Fortune rides with indiscreet com-
mand,
Spurns lowly Worth, who courts her to
be kind,
Yet spreads unask'd her wealth to folly's
hand.

Here, Envy pours her snakes on Merit's
head,
And low born Pride extends her ample
reign,
Here, under sly Religion's double veil,
Lurks dark Deceit with Flattery's servile
train.

Bear me from these to where contentment
dwells;
There shall each prospect harmonize each
thought;
There shall I moralize in perfect ease,
And nature's works contemplate as I
ought.

Oh, pure content! descending from above,
Parent of smiles, with sweets eternal
fraught,
Beam on the poet's breast thy kindling
blaze,
Thou guide to peace, and source of tran-
quil thought.

Admirest thy balm, or else in vain
The peddling merchant forms his airy
schemes,

In vain each head grows big with embryo
thought,
In vain the nodding politician dreams.

Fair painting's vivid art, sweet musick's
pow'r,
The gorgeous edifice, the rural cot,
The fanning gales that cool the feverish
air,
The tent umbrageous, and the shelly grot:

The soft delights of pleasure's fairy land,
And all that rolls from fortune's ample
tide,
Without thy aid remove us from our bliss,
Without thy presence vainly sooth our
pride.

Thro' thee the mind in flights excursive
roves,
Confinement's welcome to the willing
slave;
On rapid pinions fancy mounts the wind,
And poverty sleeps easy in her cave.

With thee, O let me dwell, celestial maid,
Or in the vale, or on the mountain's
brow,
There will we two, the envy of the world,
Die, as we liv'd, in friendship's holy
vow.

THE NEGRO'S COMPLAINT.

FORC'D from home and all its plea-
sures,
Afric's coast I left forlorn,
To increase a stranger's treasures,
O'er the raging billows borne.

Men from England bought and sold me,
Paid my price in paltry gold;
But tho' theirs they have enroll'd me,
Minds are never to be sold.

Still in thought as free as ever,
What are England's rights, I ask,
Me from my delights to sever,
Me to torture, me to task?

Fleecy locks and black complexion
Cannot forfeit nature's claim:
Skins may differ, but affection
Dwells in white and black the same.

Why did all creating Nature
Make the plant for which we toil?
Sighs must fan it, tears must water,
Sweat of ours must dress the soil.

Think,

Think, ye masters, iron-hearted,
Lolling at your jovial board—
Think how many backs have smarted,
For the sweets your cane affords.

Is there as ye sometimes tell us,
Is there ONE, who reigns on high ?
Has HE bid you buy and sell us,
Speaking from his throne, the sky ?

Ask him, if your knotted scourges,
Matches, blood-extorting screws,
Are the means which duty urges
Agents of his will, to use.

Hark ! he answers !—Wild tornadoes
Strewing yonder sea with wrecks,
Wasting towns, plantations, meadows,
Are the voice with which he speaks :

He, forseeing what vexations
Afric's sons would undergo,
Fix'd their tyrants' habitations.
Where his whirlwinds answer—No.

By our blood in Afric wasted,
Ere our necks receiv'd the chain—
By the mis'ries that we tasted,
Crossing in your barks the main—

By our sufferings since you brought us
To the man-degrading smart—
All sustain'd with patience, taught us
Only by a broken heart—

Deem our nation brutes no longer,
Till some reason ye shall find
Worthier of regard, and stronger,
Than the colour of our kind.

Slaves of gold, where sordid dealings
Tarnish all your boasted powers,
Prove, that you have human feelings,
Ere you proudly question ours.

ANACREON. ODE iii. imitated.

T WAS at the gloomy midnight hour,
When sleep's great God exerts his
pow'r,

When weary'd swains their eyelids close,
And sooth their limbs with soft repose,
I heard a rapping at my door,
Such as I scarce had heard before.
Who is't, said I, dares break my sleep,
And at my door such noises keep ?
When Cupid, thiv'ring, scarce could say,
' A Juckless boy has lost his way,
● haste my friend and open, pray

You need not fear, I mean no ill ;
To hurt I have not pow'r nor will ;
This dismal live long night, in vain,
I've wander'd o'er the dreary plain,
Half starv'd with cold, wet through
with rain !

With pity mov'd, I heard his moan,
Then struck a light, and gat me down :
In haste I let him in, when lo !
His hand sustain'd a silver bow ;
A pair of shining wings he wore,
And at his back a quiver bore.
As soon as I a fire had made,
My little guest I to it led ;
I warm'd his fingers with my own,
For cold they felt as any stone ;
Then wip'd, and wrung with friendly
care,

The wet out of his dripping hair.
Soon as the thankless elf was warm,
And found that he had got no harm,
' Let's try, said he, I fain would know,
Whether the wet has hurt my bow :
Then from his quiver close with speed
A shaft destin'd for the deed :
So strong his silver bow he drew,
So swift the fatal arrow flew,
It pierc'd my liver thro' and thro'.
He skipp'd and danc'd about the room,
And sneering cry'd, ' Come, landlord,
come,
And as a friend rejoice with me,
That I from every harm am free !
I safe indeed have kept my bow,
But you shall rue its being so.'

THE EASY FAIR ONE.

WHEN Fanny first gave to ear love,
And smiles consenting spread,
Each swain approach'd the giddy lass,
By youth and beauty led.

The tall, the short, the grave, the gay,
The peasant, and the cit,
To all the willing fair is kind,
For all complexions fit.

No swain e'er pass'd the blushing rose,
But smelt it as it grew ;
No bee came buzzing round the flower,
But sipt the fragrant dew.

The fond she rivets with her frowns ;
By freedom wins the cold ;
By hidden smiles she gains the young ;
By frequent smiles the old.

Yet Fanny still remains a maid,
' Tho' courted all her life ;
For none dare singly claim the fair,
Who's every body's wife.

C H R O N I C L E.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Rome, Sept. 15.

ON Thursday last, after dinner, his Holiness the Pope paid a visit to the convent of Dominicans. He was received at the gate by the principal of that order and his chief officers. He then knelt down and prayed before the altar after which he looked at the body of St. Dominique, the founder of the Dominicans. Having spent some time with these brave defenders of the Church, he returned to the Quirinal. France is the perpetual subject of conversation in Rome; all eyes, all ears, are turned towards that kingdom, and not a moment passes without hopes of hearing of a counter-revolution being effected. Such zealous adherents to the French National Assembly, as reside here are every moment disappearing, for fear of an arrest, so that the only Frenchmen now to be seen in the streets are some Bishops and Titled Noblesse without any money who are waiting for a change of affairs in their favour. In Naples the French anti-revolutionists are very numerous; the ladies particularly so, who publish their principles by large neck handkerchiefs stamped with a variety of aristocratical symbols, such as lillies, crowns, and sceptres.

Lisbon, Sept. 12. All foreigners here, who have no other residence than inns, have been summoned before the Corregidor, who has interrogated them respecting their names, their qualities, their country, and their business. Verbal processes have been drawn up in consequence of the informations taken, and orders have been given to those persons, whose business or intentions were suspected, to depart the kingdom as soon as possible. We presume that a similar procedure has taken place in all the towns of Portugal.

Paris, Oct. 14. The Queen has begun her Sunday card parties for the winter; another instance of her resolution to make the most of the new order of things.

M. la Fayette retires to his estate, in imitation of General Washington. He has imported two English families, the father of the one to superintend his farming, and the father of the other his gardening. The daughters of the gardener are well educated, and are engaged in the family to teach his children English.

The Assembly appears to be daily acquiring the temperance, discretion and

firmness, which alone are wanting to restore to the kingdom the most perfect order and confidence.

Since the revocation of the decree against emigrants, all who felt themselves restrained by that decree, have left the kingdom in multitudes. Many officers of the army have also gone off, but the privates of the regiments to which they belonged have to a man continued firm.

BRITISH NEWS.

London, Oct. 20.

THE Government of Venice is particularly careful to prevent the circulation of all writings whatever on the subject of the French Revolution. The punishment of exile to all travellers, and of death to all subjects, who meddle with State affairs, is enforced with uncommon rigour. M. Rigodeau, a merchant of Lyons, was ordered to quit the capital in 24 hours, and the State within three days, for talking of the affairs of France. Three Professors of the University of Padua, for introducing in their Lectures opinions from the Roman Juris Consultus, which were deemed to favour the principles adopted in France, were deprived of their charge, and conducted to the prison of St. Marco. Several of the nobility have lately disappeared, and several citizens been taken into custody.

The Spaniards are at length, since public affairs have taken a pacific turn, paying off several men of war, and reducing their navy to a very low peace establishment.

A number of Printfellers are turning over their old copper-plates in search of a Goddess, a Sealon, or a Nymph, sufficiently beautiful to pass for a portrait of the Dutchess of York.

A bevy of Milliners are twisting their tiffany into every shape they can devise, to form the York Cap.

The 15th instant, in the church of St. Thomas du Louvre, the Protestants offered up a solemn thanksgiving for the completion of the Constitution. A sermon was preached by M. Moron, and an hymn was sung, consisting of verses selected from the works of various Poets, and passages from the Psalms, so arranged as to have all the appearance of a regular composition.

composition. The Municipality and the Directory of Paris attended. The whole service was conducted with equal majesty and devotion. It was infinite gratification to perceive sincere Catholics join in praising God with Protestants, whom their de-luded ancestors would have thought it doing God service to burn.

The Empress of Russia has issued orders for disbanding the major part of her Asiatic forces, and for sending them home. Each man exclusive of his pay, is to have a certain quantity of agricultural implements, by which means it is hoped, that the at present barren deserts of Siberia will be cultivated on the return of the peasantry, who have been in some measure civilized, by visiting the more western and southern climes.

On the first day of the Emperor's and King of Prussia's stay at Pölnitz, both Sovereigns with their suite, dined in a grand apartment of the palace, called the Hall of Venus.

At night, all the castle was illuminated, and a new Opera was represented in the theatre of the palace. On the next day, there was again a grand dinner, after which the Emperor, first, and then the King of Prussia, received the Court, which was very numerous and splendid. Another Opera was given that night, and then a supper of 400 covers, a magnificent fire-work being exhibited immediately upon the removing of the cloth.

On the 27th, after dinner, the whole company went to Dresden, and saw the gallery of pictures. At night there was a grand masquerade at the Opera house, where more than three thousand masks assembled; the whole space of the Theatre being decorated for the occasion and illuminated with 6000 wax candles.

To the particular satisfaction of the inhabitants of Dresden, who had not been so honoured many years, all the foreign Princes danced with masks, without any distinction of persons.

On the 28th, the company separated, and thus ended an interview, which, in three days cost the Elector of Saxony ten thousand pounds.

The result of the conferences at Pölnitz appears at length to have transpired. It is reported that the Emperor was desirous that the repayment of the expences he should incur by attacking France should be secured by a mortgage upon Alsace and Lorraine, which he was to have in deposit. It is even pretended that the Princes had consented to this shameful condition; but the acceptation of Louis XVI. which by indirect insinuation was endeavoured to be prevented, changed the face of affairs.

The following are the articles which were signed by the Emperor and the King of Prussia at the above meeting.

1. The two high contracting parties shall mutually assist each other, in case of aggression, with 30,000 men, and even with the whole of their military forces, should the attacked party require it.

2. For the maintenance and exact observance of the subsisting treaties between the German Empire and France, the two Monarchs shall conjointly take those measures which shall appear most proper; they shall likewise concert together, the representations to be made to that Power on the subject of the claims of the injured Princes and if negociations do not produce all the wished for success, they shall invite all the Circles of the Empire to arm, and will themselves set the example of procuring justice by force.

3. The two high contracting parties shall settle with the Court of Petersburg, the most advantageous measures to be pursued, to secure the succession to the throne of Poland in favour of the House of the Elector of Saxony.

4. They reserve to themselves the power of exchanging part of their present or future possessions, provided the laws of the German Empire be not thereby any ways infringed.

5. They consent from the present time reciprocally to reduce their military state, as soon as their present connections with Foreign Powers shall permit them so to do.

6. The King of Prussia promises and engages not to refuse his vote in favour of the Archduke Francis when the election for a King of the Romans shall take place, and never to oppose the establishment of any of the other Archdukes.

7. His Imperial Majesty promises to employ his good offices with the Court of Petersburg, and the Diet of Poland, to induce them no longer to oppose the cession of the town of Danzig and Thorn to Prussia; in return to which his Prussian Majesty will neglect nothing to obtain from the Court of London and the States General of the United Provinces, the modifications desired by the Court of Vienna, at the convention of the Hague, relative to the Austrian Low Countries.

When the offer was made to the Elector of Saxony of the eventual succession of the Throne of Poland for himself and his hereditary descendants, it was naturally imagined that he would not accept such an offer without previously consulting the Courts the most interested in the fate of Poland, particularly two neighbouring Courts;

Courts, each politically connected with Saxony; but it was never supposed that so many obstacles could occur, or that the Republic would remain so long in a state of uncertainty in this matter.

An answer has been received from the Court of Dresden, to the note remitted to it on that subject by the Cabinet of Warsaw; but the inclination of the Elector to accept the Crown of Poland, is not expressed with that warmth that was expected.

The University of Paris has sent a requisition to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, for the purpose of obtaining a copy of the statutes and regulations upon which those learned seminaries are founded and conducted.

The colonade that is to join the grand south portico of the Parliament House, in Dublin, with the west front of that edifice, is begun and expected to be finished in the course of the present autumn. The idea of it is truly magnificent, and the Ionick pillars of which it is to be composed assort peculiarly well with the principal front to College green, long and justly admired for its architectural beauties.—When completed, the whole will form a very splendid embellishment to the capital.

Mr. Wilberforce is furnishing himself with additional evidence in favour of his slave abolition bill, which he means to bring forward a second time early next session of Parliament.

It appears upon a fair investigation of the whole commerce of the European nations to India and China at this time, that the British East India Company enjoys about 80 parts in 100 of the whole.

The new buildings to be erected by government for the accommodation of the Secretaries of State, are estimated at 160,000*l*.

The Duke of Wurtemberg is expected to return to this metropolis early in the spring, when a marriage between his Serene Highness and one of the King's daughters is expected to be solemnized.

A short time since, just after the congregation had left the Cathedral at Canterbury, after morning service, the chief part of the Gothic cornice of the great South window fell into the Church yard.—The iron cramps which had united the work, appeared to be entirely decayed through length of time.

The window in the Canterbury Cathedral, the cornice of which fell a few days since, has had hard fortune. In the time of Cromwell, it contained some of the finest painted glass in Europe; but as the head of the church tells you, "A fanatic, who was called *Blue Jack*, declaring he had

a vision directing him to break it in pieces, reared up a ladder, and ascending to the window, with a hammer in his hand, smashed the panes one by one; and exclaimed, with a loud voice, *Cursed be he that doeth the work of the Lord deceitfully.*

On the 28th ult. the ship *Marina* of Grenock, Captain Young, sailed from Shuna Bay, in Appin, Argyleshire, for Wilmington, North Carolina, with two hundred and eighty men, besides women and children, amounting in all to six hundred. There have five other vessels sailed from different ports in the Highlands this season with emigrants for America. If the emigrations continue, which we are sorry to observe is likely to be the case, owing to that country in general being turned into extensive sheep-grazing, by which the poor people are turned out of their farms, in a few years the Highlands of Scotland will be in a great measure depopulated; where were lately to be seen numerous cottages, consisting of ten or twelve families, no person is now to be seen but a solitary shepherd with his dog.

An ancient register, which may be depended on, gives us the following very mortifying instance of the brevity of human life, in an hundred persons who were born at the same time.

At the end of six years there remained only	64
At the end of 16 years,	46
At the end of 26 years,	26
At the end of 36 years,	16
At the end of 46 years,	10
At the end of 56 years,	6
At the end of 66 years,	3
And at the end of 76,	1

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

Halifax, Dec. 29.

ON Thursday last the public examination of the Halifax Grammar School commenced, and was finished on Friday. The progress made by the pupils in the several branches of their education was truly pleasing, and did honour to the abilities of the Reverend Gentleman who presides over that seminary.

MARRIED.

Dec. 3. Mr. John Jackson, to Mrs. Elizabeth Handeside.

DIED.

Nov. 17. At Windsor, Miss Frances Dewell, daughter of Benjamin Dewell Esq.

Dec. 10. Mr. Samuel Albro, aged 53.

I N D E X

TO THE FOURTH VOLUME OF THE

NOVA-SCOTIA MAGAZINE

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