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THE
CANADIAN MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY REPOSITORY.

No. XVIII.

DECEMBER, 1824.

VOL. III.

(For the Canadian Magazine.)

ON THE AGRICULTURE OF CANADA.

Mr. Editor,

In my last letter to you I proposed some alteration in the system of Husbandry, at present practised in Canada. I was well aware that these could only be considered in the light of suggestions, for it is not in the nature of things that they should be immediately acted upon. There are causes which operate in preventing the adoption of changes in agriculture, more powerfully than in any other science with which we are acquainted. There are circumstances in this science which act in direct opposition to innovations, and which require more time and greater efforts to overcome than in any other business in which man is engaged. That farmers are opposed to changes in all countries is a fact warranted by experience and for which there are many reasons may be adduced. The gains of this class of men only come in once a year; on these gains the farmer is dependant for his very existence, and hence if by following one plan he has found his returns sure and adequate to his wants, he is unwilling to adopt a change from the fear that it might prove unsuccessful, and occasion a disappointment, perhaps total ruin. The merchant may try an adventure in a new direction, and even if it fails, he has at the time another fortunate speculation going on from whence he reaps a profit equal to cover the loss sustained by the former. The same is the case with the mechanic and artist, their returns come often, so that in the failure of any new scheme they may try, they only lose a short period of their time. The nature of the life a farmer leads, confined as it were to one spot, introduces in his mind a train of ideas hostile to changes or innovations. Men in other situations of life go more abroad in the

world, see more diversity of proceedings, and have their views enlarged by a contemplation of the various plans followed in other countries: and when they see in one place a successful deviation from the course they have pursued they will readily adopt it. This fact was well known to the celebrated Mr. Young, a writer on husbandry, of the greatest value for many observations his interesting work contains. He recommends the farmer when his crops are secured to mount his horse and take a jaunt through the country among his brother farmers, with whom he may have an interchange of opinions, and may gather information beneficial for him in his future pursuits. It is in this way that agricultural societies are instrumental in promoting the business of farming—and the intercourse farmers have with each other at fairs operates in the same manner.

But notwithstanding these causes which operate so strongly against innovations in the business of husbandry, experience has shown that it is not less capable of improvement than other sciences. Of late years there has been more progress made in improving agriculture than in any other occupation in which mankind are engaged; a fact which proves that these impeding causes to its amelioration are not invincible; and gives encouragement to those desirous to introduce beneficial changes to persist in their endeavours.

Having, as before stated, in a former paper, suggested some changes in the system of agriculture now followed in Canada—as an argument in favour of the adoption of those changes it may not be improper to enquire into the reasons for their necessity. It must be fresh in the remembrance of many of your readers that during the late European war there was in Canada, an unnatural demand for bread stuffs.—The farmer found a crop of wheat the most valuable article he could raise, and this state of affairs gave rise to the slovenly method of husbandry now followed. The moment his wheat was threshed the grower could find a ready sale for it; the shop-keepers would readily advance him goods and money for it, and at such a price as induced the farmer to persevere in sowing wheat year after year to the neglect of every other species of grain crop—and the disregard of laying down his ground in grass or fallow. This line of proceeding has been followed by its natural and inevitable consequences, namely, *converting the farms into one continued bed of weeds.*

But although this pernicious practice of farming be still followed; the time and circumstances best suited for it are now passed away.—The shop-keeper feels no longer an interest in buying wheat; nor is there any market for it either at home or abroad; and there is a necessity for the cultivator directing his attention to other objects. I would not here be understood as wishing to discontinue the growth of wheat; it would be highly impolite to discourage the cultivation of any article that can find a ready sale, but it is obvious that at present there is more wheat raised than is necessary: and far more land occupied for this crop than would be required to produce the same quantity as at present were the changes in the system of husbandry I formerly mentioned adopted. In the District of Montreal as much wheat could be raised upon one fourth the extent of ground occupied

for this purpose, as there is grown at present, were that ground properly prepared by green crops in the manner I mentioned.

The wisest policy any country can pursue is to render itself as independent as possible of foreign supplies; and more particularly when the soil and climate of a country are adapted for the growth of those things she stands most in need of. It cannot be denied that Lower Canada possesses the requisites of soil and climate to enable her to raise sufficient beef and pork for her own consumption; on the contrary it may confidently be asserted that she could raise an immense surplus of these articles for exportation—Query, why is not this done? Simply because the proper method for doing it is not put in practice by her farmers: and which is the reason of my suggesting the changes in her husbandry. Whenever this takes place, whenever the farming interest of this Province shall adopt the plan of cultivation I have recommended—then and not till then will Canada become independent of the large supplies of beef, pork, butter and cheese, which are at present furnished from the United States. It deserves however to be remarked that these changes in our husbandry to be effectual must be general. A small proportion of our cultivators adopting them may individually reap the benefit of the improved system, and partly supply our home market with these necessaries, but to wholly supply our consumption or to furnish a surplus for exportation the change must be adopted by all our farming interest: for till this is done we cannot expect to contend with the United States farmer either in the Canada market or elsewhere. Those of experience in the line; and who have tried both places agree in their testimony that Canada is preferable to the more southern States, or even to some of the eastern States, for rearing and fattening cattle. The more temperate heat of our climate in summer and the more frequent rains, produces a luxuriance and richness in the grass of this country superior to what is found in those places where the scorching heat of the sun is more intense. The cold and longer duration of Canada winters, if it calls upon the farmer to provide more shelter and a greater quantity of provender for his live stock, makes the species of breed proper for the country, more hardy and easier fattened. With these facts staring us full in the face, I would ask, is not a change in our system of agriculture necessary? Is it not a reproach to be dependent for these supplies upon a country less fit for raising them than our own? When we see every year thousands of cattle, a considerable portion of the pork we use, and a large quantity of the produce of the dairy, brought from another country; and when we are aware that the defect lies in our present improper system of husbandry; it certainly becomes the bounden duty of every person connected with the landed interest of the country to use his utmost efforts to introduce those changes which will free the country from this burden.—Let us suppose this accomplished it requires no great foresight to predict the great benefits it would bring us. Instead of the cash paid for these necessaries being carried out of the country it would circulate among all classes at home. The capital thus lost to us by the present method would be expended on our own soil, and our agricul-

ture be improved more and more. The industrious farmer would thus reap the fair reward of his toil; and an encouraging prospect be thus opened up to stimulate him to farther exertion.

CRESINUS.

ON BOTANY.

CHAP. I.

ON THE STRUCTURE OF PLANTS.

Mr. Editor.

In conformity with my plan as described in your last number, I now resume the subject of the study of Botany, commencing with that part of the science which properly forms the first object of attention to the beginner, namely, *The structure of Plants*. In treating on this part of the subject it is necessary to reduce it into as few divisions as possible, in order not to perplex and distract the attention of the juvenile student, with too many terms which often tend more to confuse than illustrate the elementary parts of a science. But as the classification of plants depends upon the structure of some parts of them it is necessary for the student to be well acquainted with the structure of those parts, as without this knowledge he would never be able to place any plant he might meet with under its proper class, order or species—and without his being able to do this he could never learn and retain in his mind the names of all the various plants which the vegetable world presents to his view, far less could he in scientific language give a correct description of any new plant which accident might throw in his way.

Botanists have described three parts as essentially necessary to every vegetable body. 1st. A *root* comprehending all that part which is placed under ground. 2d. A *stem* which includes the stalks, branches and leaves. 3d. The *parts of fructification* which include the flower in all its stages from its first appearance till its decay and the seeds and seed vessels from their first formation till they be perfectly ripe.

I shall adopt this division and arrangement in describing these different parts; and although they at first view seem not to include every part of a plant, an acquaintance with them will be found to comprehend all that is essential for the beginner to know.

Section first, of Roots.—The root of a plant has been by philosophers defined “that part of it by which it imbibes nourishment from the soil; and which fixes it to one spot,” but although the accuracy of this cannot be doubted; viewing the subject as a Botanist, the former definition namely “that part of a plant which is under ground” seems to be all that is requisite.

Writers on this science have enumerated a great many varieties of roots, but for the beginner it is totally unnecessary to enter upon all the minute distinctions they have mentioned. There appears to be only five distinct kinds possessing sufficient marks of discrimination to

merit his attention, and he will find almost all he will ever meet with in nature, referable to one or other of these.

The first is the *spindle shaped root*, examples of which are met with in the common carrot and parsnip.

Second. The *Creeping root*, so denominated from its creeping along the ground and sending up stems at different distances. Of this kind we find examples in the strawberry, and couch grass, &c.— It deserves to be mentioned that some of the plants which have been described by Botanists as having roots of this kind creep horizontally along the surface of the ground, and only send down a root at every point where a stem rises. In which case the creeping part commonly called a runner ought not to be classed among roots, being to all intents and purposes a stem.

The third description of roots are termed *branched roots*, which are separated into an indefinite number of branches, sometimes spreading under ground to a great extent. This is the most common kind in nature, being found in all trees and in many of the grasses.

The *Tuberose root* forms the fourth kind; and is composed of a knob attached to the stem by long filaments. A specimen of this sort is seen in the common potatoe. Under this description of root and as a variety of it, many writers have classed all those plants which have a knob, with a spindle shaped root descending from it, as in the Dutch lettuce and common turnip, while some Botanists have contended that where the stem or leaves are not attached to the knob by filaments and where there is a spindle shaped root descending from the knob they ought not to belong to this class of roots. The point seems not yet to be completely settled. I would for the sake of simplifying the subject to a student be inclined to yield to the former opinion and class both kinds under the name Tuberose roots, as no mistake or confusion can arise from such an arrangement.

The fifth and last kind of root deserving to be noticed, as forming a class is termed the *Bulbous Root*, consisting of a round bulb thickest at its lower end, from whence it generally sends forth a number of fine filaments as observed in the Onion and Narcissus. Of this description of roots we find two distinct varieties, one composed of scales overlapping each other like slates or tiles, as seen in the Bulbiferous lilly, the other formed of distinct coats placed within each other as in the onion.

The marks which distinguish these five different kinds of roots from each other are so obvious, that it is hardly possible for the most superficial observer to mistake a root belonging to the one kind for one of the other. The only two which have the least resemblance to each other, and where any such mistake has a chance of happening is in the Tuberose and Bulbous roots. But in addition to the differences between these which we above mentioned, it ought to be borne in mind that the knobs of the Tuberose roots have commonly small cavities in them from whence the buds spring, whereas the Bulbous roots are themselves buds and protrude the stem from the top of the bulb. Keeping these characteristic marks of each class in view, the Botanical student by a very moderate degree of attention will find no difficulty in recognising any plant he may meet with, as far as depends upon the formation of its root.

Section second, of Stems.—Under the term stem is included in the fullest sense every part of a plant which cannot be considered as belonging to the root or parts of fructification, as above described. In order to assist the memory of the beginner, and perhaps with the view of simplifying the subject it has been customary to separate this part of it into two heads; the first descriptive of the stems and branches; and the second including an account of the leaves, tendrils and prickles called by Botanists the *fulcra* of plants. Pursuing this plan I shall first direct the students attention to the *stems and branches*. These seem by nature intended for the double purpose, of facilitating the growth and ripening of the seeds, and to aid in their dissemination by elevating them above the surface of the ground. We find the earliest writers on Botany dividing all kinds of stems into two great classes. The first termed *herbaceous* which decay every winter and spring up again in the season of vegetation from the roots. These in common language are called reeds or straws and are peculiar to grasses and plants of the smallest size. The second sort is the *Ligneous* or woody stem which suffers no change in the winter season except being stripped of its leaves. These in common language are called Trunks, and belong to the trees and largest sized plants. This is the only division of vegetable bodies founded upon their nature and quality, necessary to be noticed by the Botanist, and although from this characteristic being so obvious to the senses, we might expect it would become the first discriminating mark which early writers on this science would attempt to class plants by; a farther attention to the subject has long since shown its total inutility for this purpose; and the division of plants into the herbaceous and ligneous is now never thought of unless in describing some new or rare plant with which few have opportunities of becoming acquainted. More modern writers on this subject have adopted three different modes of classing and describing the stems of plants. Some have adopted what may be termed the superficial character of stems, and arranged them all under three different classes according to it. First, The *simple stem* which includes all those which grow without branches, knots or joints upon them—whether they be naked or covered with leaves, plain or furrowed.

Second the *Branched stem*, a species of stem sufficiently described by its name.

Third *jointed or knotted stems* among which are placed a great number of plants of all sises, for although many of those which have knots or joints upon them have also branches, they are described as belonging to this class, from the knots or joints being their most conspicuous characteristic.

Other writers have chosen to discriminate the stems of plants, from the position in which they grow, and have on this principle divided all of them into four classes, viz.

First the *Erect Stem*, which grows perpendicular or nearly so, and is by far the most common kind to be met with in nature.

Second, The *declining stem*. Under this class is included all such as bend in their growth, also the nodding stem which has its top pointing towards the horizon: as well as all, who after growing to a

certain height, bend to the ground and send forth other shoots which in their turn become stems.

Third, The *procumbent stem*, under which denomination is ranked all those which run flat upon the ground. Some of these send out shoots at certain distances; from which they have been by some writers considered as belonging to a distinct class to which they have given the name of creeping stems; but this is only an unnecessary degree of complexity.

Fourth, The *climbing stem*. To this class belongs all those that require any prop or support to enable them to sustain their own weight. Some of these effect this by twining round the trunks of trees or any other object that stands within their reach; while others send forth tendrils which lay hold of whatever comes in their way for support.

Another and perhaps a mode of classifying the stems of plants preferable to either of the above depends upon the shape of the stem itself; and such Botanists as have adopted this mode have recognised four different kinds of stems, all varying in their shape. First, The *Round stem* comprising all the plants in which the stem is of a cylindrical shape and which is the most common form of stems with which we are acquainted.

Second, The *half round stem* whose figure is clearly described by its name.

Third, The *flat stem*, which appears as if compressed and flattened on both sides.

Fourth, The *Angular stem*, so called when there is one or more angles upon it.

In addition to all these different methods of arranging and describing stems, in some of the older works on this science, there has been attempts made to designate the different stems, by the substances with which they were covered; hence we meet with one class termed leafy stems, another prickly stems &c. But although this degree of minuteness may be very proper when the Botanist gives an accurate description of any plant; it is not necessary for the purposes of classification.

(To be Continued.)

HOW TO CHOOSE A WIFE.

“ Good Sir, if you’ll show the best of your skill,
 To pick a virtuous creature,
 Then pick such a wife, as you’ll love for life,
 Of a comely grace and feature.
 The noblest part let it be her heart,
 Without deceit or cunning,
 With a noble wit and all things fit,
 With a tongue that’s never running;
 The hair of her head it must not be red,
 But fair and brown as a berry;
 Her forehead high with a crystal eye,
 Her lips as red as a cherry.

ON MEMORY.

This is one of those powers or faculties of the mind which has been by philosophers ranked among what they call the internal senses;—because although it may be exercised, or called into action by the intervention of some external object; such an intervention is not always necessary to produce the operation of that power denominated memory. This faculty appears to be in a certain degree common to the brute creation as well as to man; for if a horse in a difficult part of the road has encountered any risk he will on the return to the same spot exhibit symptoms of fear, from a recollection of the danger he was exposed to. Some metaphysicians have tried to distinguish this power of memory in brutes from the memory of man, by conceiving that in the former it is always necessary to have some external object presented to the view to call it into operation, whereas in the latter as above stated this is not always the case.—This opinion is however liable to some objections—and instead of the memory of brutes differing from that of man, by requiring some external impression to bring it into action; it is perhaps more correct to consider the difference arising from the degree of retention in the memories of the two. Any brute animal when separated from its young will for a time retain the recollection of it and endeavour to rejoin it even when there is no external impression to preserve the remembrance, but this feeling in the brute will not last so long as in man. Some instances have happened which would appear to oppose this opinion; if however they be correctly examined they will be found rather to give it confirmation. We have heard of two animals when confined together for a length of time acquiring such a degree of attachment that when one happened to die the other pined away and refused all food, soon dying from the intensity of grief which the recollection of the other produced.—Here however there is the operation of external causes, to preserve the remembrance. [The survivor is left in the same cage, the association of ideas arising from seeing the space now empty which was formerly occupied by his companion; and many other things serve to keep up the action of memory. Well authenticated accounts have been given of dogs from the strength of their attachment, keeping up a remembrance of their masters for a long time and watching at their graves, or on the spots where they had died. But in such cases, the prolongation of the power of memory was also affected by external impressions: from the spot and surrounding objects, in the same manner as the horse remembered the place where he had been in danger. Upon the whole therefore, as far as our observation goes it may be concluded that although the brute creation in common with man possesses to a certain degree the faculty of memory; without the aid of external impressions it is not so strong as in man.

The faculty of memory may be defined that power by which we can recall perceptions long past in the same order in which they were first presented, and retain, contemplate or dismiss them as we please. Perceptions excited by the application of external objects are in their nature futile and perishable, and soon pass away. But if the same

object be again applied to the organ, it not only renews the perception; but the person remembers the former sensation which it produced, that is to say he knows that he felt the same before. This is the first and most simple species of memory, and is the first effort of this faculty which is discernable in early life, as when an infant of six months old recognises its parents or nurse but avoids strangers. For the sake of distinguishing this part of the sense from its more perfect state it is commonly called the faculty of *remembrance*, although it is undeniably the first principles of perfect memory. In some cases sensations which have long since fallen asleep, as it were, or have completely passed away, are renewed without any object being applied to the external organ of sense, and without any obvious internal cause, even when the person is not thinking or wishing to think of them.—remembrances of this kind are more nearly allied to perfect memory than the former, although not completely an instance of the action of that faculty, according to the above definition of it, for here the perceptions return involuntarily, whereas it is one of the properties of memory to recall them at pleasure and in the same order as they were first presented. As one faculty of perfect memory is to recall perceptions long past, it is obvious this cannot happen in early life, for in that period there are no long past perceptions to recall. But if memory be defective in the art of recalling what is past in childhood, we find it is more acute strong and tenacious of such impressions as it receives, at that time. This faculty encreases in youth and in manhood, the memory is in its fullest vigour, and perfect enjoyment of all its powers. In the decline of life it decreases; in both the faculty of retaining and recalling perceptions. In old age it becomes very weak or nearly obliterated, so as to quickly lose any new impression; but retaining such as it had received in youth during the season it was most tenacious. In extreme old age, however, it not unfrequently becomes completely gone, so that all images both new and old are rapidly effaced, or make no impression on the memory. The memory is far more acute and tenacious in some men than others, even when their ages are the same. In all it is capable of improvement by being carefully cultivated and judiciously exercised; but in doing so, care must be taken not to continue the exercise of it too long, or it will have the effect exactly the reverse of what is intended. As the body may be over fatigued by too long protracted exercise or the imposition of a duty beyond its strength—so by protracting the exercise of memory, or by prescribing a task beyond what it is capable of performing, a confusion of ideas will be introduced, and no one will make a sufficient impression to be retained. As the faculty of memory varies in different men, so it will vary in the same individual at different times; without this change being the effect of age. At one time we find the images called up by memory presenting themselves slowly and with a deliberateness which gives time for their being examined, although perhaps they are less vivid; at another they pass by with such rapidity that they can hardly be contemplated or recognised. This difference depends upon various circumstances. It will be affected by the state of bodily health, and the frame of mind the person enjoys at the time. When the body is in an irritable state or when there is what is term-

ed an increased sensibility, whether that arises from, the excitement of fever; exercise, or bodily pain, the ideas will pass with an increased rapidity, and make little impression on the memory. And when the body is in a torpid situation, heavy and oppressed the reverse will be the case. In young boys, where they are of a sprightly and lively disposition, the memory is rapid, and the ideas pass through the mind without affording time to contemplate them, and this among other causes produces that instability of action and immaturity of judgment peculiar to their age. The state of the mind at the time has a powerful effect upon the memory; when overloaded with cares or oppressed with important concerns, the mind is far less adapted for the exercise of the memory than when in a calm and tranquil state, so that the ideas can be contemplated with leisure.

The memory is a faculty which acts during sleep, but not correctly, and in such a state it is incapable of measuring time. When a person is roused from sleep by any sudden noise, or by being called he will waken up and the memory will recall the impression which the noise or calling made upon him, but it will appear as if it had passed long before. Neither is the memory subservient to the will during sleep, nor can it in this state present images in their proper order, as in a healthy person when awake. In short, although it may be said, and justly too that memory acts during sleep; it is at such a time only a faint and imperfect glimmer of impressions which have been previously made during our waking hours, presented without regard to order and completely beyond the controul of the will—differing in many respects from the operation of the same sense upon the person when awake.

The perceptions which make the strongest and most last lasting impressions upon the memory, are such as are strong, new and frequently repeated; or such perceptions as produce the sensations of pleasure or pain or effect the mind in any unusual way. This is the general idea with regard to these perceptions which operate most powerfully on memory; but there is an exception to this rule. A perception may act so strongly upon the feeling as to prevent the ideas being examined as they pass through the mind, and when they are gone, the rapidity with which they passed prevented the memory laying hold of them. I remember an instance of an affectionate mother seeing a darling child fall from a window. The perception which first impressed her mind was to rush down stairs after him, this she did and from the intervention of different impeding obstacles in her way some time must have elapsed before she could reach the street where the infant was. This she did, but no effort of memory could recall the way in which she came down: and although she might have descended by various routes, she could never recall to memory the way by which she went. On another occasion when in the depth of winter a neighbour's house caught fire; the mother with her two infant babes escaped from the flames, through the snow, to a house in the vicinity. On her way to the latter place she was met by the owner of the dwelling to which she was flying who cheered her on the way and conducted her to his house: next day she had no recollection of having met with him, or having seen him. From which I conclude

that in certain situations where the memory is otherways perfect the actions and perceptions may pass through the mind, with so great velocity that they make no sufficient impression to enable the memory to recall them.

The order or arrangement of things is always grateful to the memory, because it is by this order that we are enabled to recall any event back after it has passed away. The chief parts of science and judgment are their order and arrangement; and memory which enables us to recall these is the foundation of science. Without order and arrangement memory might exist, but it would be vague and useless; hence we may say that whatever mutual aid these give to each other, the one could not be effected without the other, and the latter would be of no use without the former.

THE ITINERANT.

No. VIII.

The place we now approached with the intention of landing was on the south side of this noble river. The bank here presents a gradual ascent for the space of about one hundred and fifty yards from the water's edge, not so steep as to render the access difficult, but of a sufficient elevation to exhibit the objects on the top in a commanding aspect, and at the same time to hide the interior of the ground from the view on approaching this bank by the river. On landing and ascending to the top of the acclivity where the house was situated, a scene opens to view of the most gratifying nature to the eye of the agriculturist, and not without interest to the admirer of nature. The ground which from this point slopes gently down to the water, is covered with orchards and gardens—while the beautiful extensive river which here stretches to more than a mile across presents to the mind an idea of grandure, when compared with our largest rivers in the old country; and gliding past with an imperceptible motion, imposes a tranquilizing effect on the beholder. While the opposite bank, with the high lands in the interior presents a back ground to the picture, such as we see in some of the finest compositions by our most celebrated landscape painters. The distance across the river is sufficient to soften the rugged inequalities, in a closs view of a mountain scene, without being so remote as to render the outline indistinct. Turning to the interior; the agriculturist will find an interesting scene for him.—The soil is a dark loam, seemingly well adapted from its richness, for the purposes of the grain farmer. The fields extend in one flat unbroken level as far as they have been yet cleared of their native forests. This part of the country seems to have been long settled, for where the timber has been cut down the stumps and roots have decayed, (a process which I understand is left to time to accomplish,) so that there is not an inequality or any one object, save the fences, to break the view to the edge of the wood-land. The farm house had a

more substantial appearance than the other buildings I had seen on my journey. It was built of stone; high, narrow and heavy looking, in the old Flemish and German style. With the exterior of the habitation, the occupant or more properly speaking the landlord, exactly corresponded in figure. He was a tall starch figure—with a stiff upright formal gait and a hard honest-like Germanic visage. On enquiry I found he was a German by birth, and had with many of his countrymen emigrated to the United States, when they were British Provinces, but at the time they revolted from the parent country, his loyalty outstripping his other considerations, he came to Canada. In the same manner there are numbers of these Germans and Dutch who are yet to be found in different parts of Canada; and it is observed that from the fruits of their industrious and sober habits, almost all these persons have succeeded and become rich, in the different callings to which they have turned their attention. Some of them have devoted their time to Commerce, others as Tavernkeepers, and not a few as farmers; and in some cases, as in that of the present individual both the latter callings were united. It is a singular remark made by some old traveller that “the Germans [always are more fortunate as emigrants to a foreign country than when they reside in their own;” to what this is owing I need not enquire, certain it is they possess many qualities which are calculated to make them good settlers: and for quiet orderly conduct, sobriety in their habits, industry in any employment they undertake, the German peasantry will yield to no other people on earth. Besides these qualifications which are eminently calculated to ensure them success in any pursuit, there are other peculiarities which belong to this nation. They are eminently conspicuous for their honesty in all their dealings; this gives them a reputation which will secure for them a confidence and a credit which others cannot receive. They are remarkable for a preservation and strict adherence to the peculiarities of their nation. A German, let him go where he will—and let his absence from his native country be ever so long protracted, he will still retain a something which tells at the first glance of what country he is a native. Philosophers and Physicians have said that the organs of voice, acquire such a peculiar formation from the first language we learn that they cannot be modified to speak any other, but in an accent termed foreign. Every one knows that in the pronunciation of the German language where every letter is sounded fully and freely, all the vocal muscles are brought into operation. Reasoning from this fact, I should be inclined to think the exercise which a German’s organs of speech receives from their first work would give them a pliability which would render the pronunciation of any other language easy to them. This however is not the case. They will readily and quickly learn to speak a foreign language, but never with the correct accent. Indeed Germans are notorious for their faculty of acquiring foreign languages; but this is attributable to their indefatigable attention to any pursuit to which they direct their time and talents; it has nothing to do with the accent in which they speak any language they learn. The singularity of the circumstance entirely arises from the fact of a German learning in the first instance a language in which all the organs of ar-

tication are employed, but his being unable afterwards to adapt these organs to pronounce any other language correctly. Methinks I hear my reader exclaim pshaw! what has a journey up the Ottawa to do with the difficulty or ease with which a German can speak any language? Stop my learned reader, remember what I promised at the outset. I professed myself an Itinerant, I told you I had been born with the requisite qualifications and propensities to form one.—I also gave you to understand in pretty plain terms that my course was not to be bounded by the common occurrences to which other tourists confine their journals and narratives. I claim the right I then bespoke, and maintain that by the privilege I then sought my narrations are not to be cramped nor my descriptions confined to any one class, order, genus or species of things. Rest assured that I shall “omit nought of what befell”—and must be indulged in my erratic aberrations when I choose to deviate from the usual course.—Even the great Luminary who first calculated the orbit of a comet and predicted its return (which by the bye if I recollect was within 99 years of the time at which some comet or other did appear) would be defeated in his prognostics were he to attempt to predicate my journey or confine my subject to any known course.

I sat myself down on the step of a ladder, which leaned against the front of the house to enjoy the luxuriant prospect, and indulge in the tranquilizing mood it suggested. The house, as the reader may have already suspected, pointed to the inland, and had its back to the river; a position which I perceive is preferred by these old German farmers in Canada, but for what reason I could never discover. I remember once speaking to an intelligent friend on this subject—he was equally at a loss to account for this hydrophobian propensity in the Germans—unless, (he remarked,) “it was to preserve as far as possible a distinction between them and their old neighbours, the Dutch, who resemble the ducks and other webfooted animals in their predilection for water.” Though this opinion was delivered in a tone approximating to the ridiculous, yet the fact of the existance of these very opposite predilections, cannot be denied and must be owing to some cause not yet discovered. The attachment of a Dutchman for water is so great that if he can find a pool, marsh or quagmire on his farm, he is sure to place his house fronting it or perhaps in the very midst of it.*

* In corroboration of the above national peculiarity, the following anecdote has been related on good authority. At the time some of the military settlements were forming in this country; frequent applications were made to the Quarter Master General for lands. Many lots after being granted, were rejected by those to whom they had been given; on finding they were swampy, and of course both difficult to clear of timber, and unfit for cultivation but at a heavy expence, even after being cleared. One in particular had been declared a complete swamp, and avoided by all who were looking out for lands. One day a Dutchman accompanied by his family applied to the proper officer, wishing to be located to a lot of land, without at first specifying any particular spot—and on the officer enquiring where he wished to get his lands, he replied that “he wants to be located in the vaterish” which was no sooner said than done—and this applicant was accordingly located upon the very lot which had been rejected as a swamp by all who had before examined it; and where he now resides much pleased in the selection.—*Edit.*

Exactly the reverse of this aquatic propensity takes place in the German; he will sacrifice the pleasures of a delightful prospect; as in the case of the house where I now am, and rather than have a beautiful expanse of water in his view, place his house with its back to it, & fronting a dead level plain, without a single object to break the weariness of the scene. Some have ascribed the predilection of the Dutch for water to their extreme cleanliness, and that they wished to be near it for the purpose of frequent ablution, but this is not the true cause. The Germans are a cleanly people as well as the Dutch; and besides it is not for clean water the latter always evinces his desire, but rather for moisture; for a bog or stinking pool, if nothing else can be found will satisfy a Dutchman.—But damp he must have in some shape or other. When in Holland I have sometimes thought the Dutchman preferred a moist atmosphere to a dry, because the former might possess some superior fitness for condensing the smoke of his tobacco pipe. But were this the case, how could the Dutch have left to any other nation the all important discovery of the steam engine: where the process of condensation has so much to do? *Peccavi!* I am wandering again. My reveries on the step of the ladder were broken in upon by the tall spectre form of mine host, who having arranged the rest of the company by showing the Major and his Lady into the parlour and left the rest to shift for themselves, now approached your humble servant and with as much swavity of visage and manner as he could assume, politely asked me to walk in. To his kind invitation I made a suitable return and gave him to understand, I would comply with his request in a few minutes. Soon after entering the house I found such of the crew and passengers as chose, indulging in *pleno cyatho* well replenished by the assiduous landlord. Proceeding to the inner apartment I found the Major and his lady there. The room possessed all the requisites of genuine German comfort, large and lofty, and furnished with articles of the true old-fashioned stamp. The chairs narrow in the seats and lofty in the backs, cushioned and covered with a sort of tapstry which bore all the emblematic figures of the heathen mythology. Around the walls at regular intervals were placed old wainscot tables whose jetty gloss had been preserved for years, by the labours of the landlady and her *fille de chambre*. Dependant on the walls were the pictures of many antient worthies, whose visages had become so begrimed by time that hardly a trace of their original colour could be discerned. These were interspersed with old German maps and other *etceteras* too tedious to mention. Still the apartment was arranged with a degree of care, which if it could not call forth the encomiums of taste, extorted the approbation of visitors—for the cleanliness and order in which every thing was arranged plainly told that all had been done from a desire to please.

I omitted to mention one circumstance which occurred on entering the house, and in my passage through the ante-chamber. From some whisperers I overheard, I found a plan was laying by a part of the crew, in which they were joined by some of the passengers to get a few of the landlords apples which hung so temptingly on the trees, as we ascended the banks. This with the crew was no unusual thing; for they seldom failed to taste his fruit *en passant*. The frequency of

these depredations put the old German on his guard, and as he had several times detected them in this schoolboy trick, some precaution was required for a successful repetition; and this was the reason of the crew communicating the secret to the passengers: in order that the latter might keep the old landlord in occupation in the house, while the former made a descent upon his apple trees. It was soon agreed upon, and the chief preliminary being settled, namely, that there should be a fair division of the spoil; each party repaired to the post assigned them. The two Americans though not in the secret contributed unwittingly to the success of the stratagem. They called for a glass of sling each; which they *more solito* drank at the bar; and kept the old gentleman in conversation on the common events of the time and neighbourhood, while the rest were busied pilfering his apples.—“Roguary never succeeds in all its wishes” is an old saying frequently verified and here an instance of the truth of the maxim occurred for while the boatmen and younger passengers were busied in the orchard filling their hats, hands and pockets, they were descried by the lady of the mansion from an upper window, and the alarm given in her native German to her husband below, with all the power of voice she could exert. Out he sallied and scared away the depredators; but not before they had in part succeeded, although the spoil was too small for a division, and those who had not shared in the labour of course reaped but little of the reward. On the old German's return to the house, the frown raised by the loss of his apples was partly hidden by the smile at the successful detection of the thieves. He chuckled at the thoughts of having found out a way of watching them which they did not discover; and by which he hoped to prevent their attempts in future; and perhaps the recollection that it was exactly such a frolic, as he himself would have joined in, during the “hay-day of the blood” served to lessen his resentment against the performers.

The commotion which the attack on the orchard had created was soon over; and after a very brief consultation between the Major, Mr. S. and myself, it was agreed, (as we had still a long journey to perform before we could reach another Tavern,) to take something to eat where we were. Reader have you ever undergone the penalty of waiting while your dinner was preparing for you in an Inn but little frequented? If so you know what it is to have that highly extolled christian virtue of patience put to the test. Here we had an arduous trial in this way. The old German, which by the bye is another peculiarity of that people; acted as his own cook, butler, waiter; and I believe performed the whole duties of his establishment in his own proper person. His slow stiff and steady gait but ill accorded with our impatience to go on, and the reiterated requests of the Captain of the boat to get under way. All urging or wish to expedite the business or our parts were unavailing; nothing could move the German from his usual slow pace. And we had either to bear with his tardy movements, and wait quietly for our dinner, or get on board and go without. What added to the vexation attendant on our delay; a fine breeze had sprung up in a favourable direction—and we

regretted every puff of it which passed without propelling us on our route.

After a tedious hour dinner was produced—and despatched in less than half the time. Little conversation of importance occurred in the interval, before dinner, and still less during the repast—we may therefore be considered as reseated in the boat and again under way.

THE ARRIVAL AND SURPRISE.

It was in a beautiful evening in the month of September, that sweet season in the climate of Canada, when the scorching rays of the summer sun yield to the more refreshing but still genial temperature of the autumn, the following incident occurred. Three travellers fatigued, not with rough roads, nor the jolting of a crazy vehicle, but the dull monotony of a long voyage in an open boat upon one of those noble rivers with which the country abounds, arrived at an Inn in a newly formed village in the centre of the woods in Canada. Of the trio who composed this groupe, one was a little middle aged man whose acquaintance with the world had superinduced upon the habits of early green youth, a manner which bespoke him at home wherever he went. He had besides a fearless air which seem'd to say he had met with some hard rubs in the thorny path of life; and intimated with equal precision that he had borne them. In short he was one of those who would rather meet an enemy "in vengeful ire" than a friend to solicit a boon from.—Another of the travellers was a dark swarthy man whose visage had it received the stamp of prevalent violent passions would have marked decision firmness and even determined action at any moment: as it was, it showed he had floated down the stream of life to his present day (aged perhaps 50) in scenes of tranquillity and success.—His flat round contour manifested he had endured no vigils—and suffered no privations either for conscience sake, or in acquiescence with any prescribed formula. His laughing and pleased countenance evinced a heart at ease, a conscience at peace with his God, and a mind satisfied with what he had done in the scenes of life in which he had moved. The third and last of the party was a young girl not exceeding 18 years of age and of a highly interesting appearance, her countenance from the fatigue and tedious nature of their journey was pale, which when contrasted with the deep and broad flash of a full dark eye, was displayed with additional effect. Her form had that light and sylphlike air common to her age; her face was that fine oval, not so much elongated as the modern Italian beauties of the present day, but such as a painter would have at once set down as belonging to a Grecian class. The party now approached the banks of the lake, at the point where they designed to repose for the night. The village had been commenced only a year or two preceding the time they arrived; but still there were in it some of those marks of permanency and grandure already begun. The situation was chosen with all the attention to taste and prosperity which foresight could dictate. It was placed on the banks of one of the

finest rivers on this vast continent and at a point where it spread out into a wide expanse forming a beautiful lake. The scite was on the gentle declivity which shelved down to the water's edge; while rushing through it was a small rivulet, which fell in beautiful natural cascades, as if impatient to mingle its waters in the larger lake; while the impetuosity with which it hurried on made it applicable, when the time should come to assist the labours of man in driving hydraulic machinery; and at the present moment it conveyed a cheering and enlivening effect to the scene. But few buildings were yet erected; for this village was only the child of yesterday; among these stood one, on the most conspicuous, and by far the most welcome to the eyes of our travellers,—it was the Inn or Tavern as denoted by a high gibbet looking pole which stood at the door with a board swung from a cross beam at the top and which vibrating with the breeze seemed to fann the passengers towards the house. At a little distance from this stood the blacksmith's shop, where in the darkning of the twilight the workmen still busied at the forge might have conveyed to the passing traveller the indefinite idea of the workshop of Cyclops while their brawney forms passed and repassed their fires—shining brilliant amidst the contrasted gloom of the surrounding woods. The shoe maker, that highly important individual in every village establishment had not yet obtained “a local habitation,” and was for the present accomodated with a corner in the kitchen or great hall of the Inn, where he hammered lustily in his vocation. The tailor in those embryo cities is not so essential an appendage—for while the merchant (called in the phraseology of the country, “the store-keeper”) could bring to the spot “ready made clothes to sell” every industrious female helpmate was adequate to repair the breaches of tear and wear in her own family. A little higher up the ascent, and placed in a more commanding and conspicuous position stood the house of “the Captain,” the first man in the village—who by virtue of his rank in life, which gave him a right to command, and clothed with a commission as a justice of the peace; which gave the sanction of law to his orders—was considered as the premier, president, director, adviser and supreme judge, over this infant settlement. A few other habitations, erected on scattered lots, by individuals; some living by the milk of their cows—some by the cabbages their little gardens produced—and some by the means of daily labour, constituted the whole of this nucleus, which may in time become an extensive rich and flourishing city. Our travellers quitting their boat soon made their way to the Inn, and on reaching it found the usual evening coterie assembled round the blazing hearth. There were no guests, for the weekly return of the boat, in a country where no roads are opened through the forest, was the only conveyance by which travellers could easily reach this remote spot. Still the group assembled here was not devoid of interest. In one corner sat the son of Crispin, formerly mentioned; who still pallied his hammer and awl—and in the intervals between each peg and stitch, joined in the conversation.—Next to him was the store-keeper, who having “shut up shop” for the day was lolling carelessly on his chair, having pois'd it on the two back legs, while the key of his shop dangling from

The two middle fingers of one hand, was beating time to the tune a young girl sung to hush a baby to sleep. The landlord with another little cherub on his knee—whose efforts were directed to “rubbing sleep from its eyes,” sat poring on the blazing fire, either cogitating on the ways and means to provide for his family, or perhaps arguing in his mind some new scheme, more likely to bring him an independence or increase his wealth than that in which he was now embarked. His wife “with frugal care” was putting aside the relics of the evening repast they had just finished.—Several other personages, of more or less note occupied their station in this circle; but these it is unnecessary to describe. Our party having entered were respectfully and kindly received. The host depositing his little charge—rose and handed chairs, while the landlady with equal assiduity attended to the young female, procuring a candle and conducting her to another room.

“Who ere has travell’d life’s dull round,
Where’ere his weary steps have been,
May sigh to think, he always found
The warmest welcome at an Inn.”—

Supper was ordered and soon made its appearance. It was with equal celerity dispatched and the party retired to repose for the night. But as the sweet Bard has express’d it

“Linden saw another sight—
When the drums beat at the dead of night
Commanding fires of death to light,
The darkness of her scenery.”

There was sufficient interest in the scene they had witnessed to awaken a reflection in the minds of our travellers had they been in a mood for it: but the influence of the air had that effect, upon them which has been felt by all who have been exposed to it. They were but a short time in bed when “when all were steep’d in nature’s sweet repose.” But what a contrast, did the confusion ensuing in a few hours present to the tranquility of the evening’s scene. At the dead hour of midnight the whole inhabitants were aroused by the appalling cry of “Fire.” It had originated from some imperfection in the chimney in the roof of the Inn. All the buildings were of wood; and at this season of the year perfectly dry as tinder. There were no engines, but few hands to carry water; and even before they had been discovered the flames had made such progress as to be completely beyond the power of all their efforts to check. In the short space of one minute the whole house was one huge mass of flame. The inmates with our travellers among them having barely time to escape with their lives.—The jostling, crowding and confusion spoiled the best efforts to render any assistance. Every man was bustling in his neighbours way. The women were shrieking, amidst the alarm; and clasping their children as their dearest treasures to their naked bosoms. While the attention of all were directed to the Inn, now reduced to a heap of living coals; a cry was set up from another quarter; another house had caught fire, belonging to one of the poorest but most industrious and

numerous families in the place. Suddenly all the exertions of the villagers were directed to it, and in time to save a few articles of furniture, some of the cloaths of the family, but too late to rescue the building from the merciless element. Thus in one short hour were two large families torn from a state of happiness where contentment smiled upon their lot, and plunged deep in misery and distress. Their little all was almost gone. The fathers bore their loss with deep anguish; the mothers by their sobs and tears evinced their distress; and the younger children struck dumb with terror, looked on the scene with half averted eyes, while their little hands clung to their weeping mothers as their only support in this dread calamity. Our travellers suffered the loss of their baggage—but escaped with part of their cloaths on their backs. This to them however, was nothing, they could replenish at the next town they came to, and the deep affliction which they witnessed in others, made them think nothing of their own losses. It was a gratifying sequel to this disastrous scene to observe the anxious exertions of their neighbours to help the sufferers. They were soon carried from the spot and sheltered in the surrounding houses where every means the kindest hearts could employ, were used to supply their present wants and alleviate their misery.—In this, all selfish feeling appeared to be forgotten; one kind soul was observed stripping the handkerchief from her own neck to wrap it round that of a sufferer—another parted with her cloak for the same purpose; and a third followed the same example; so that in a few minutes to a passing observer, those whose property had escaped unharmed would from their half naked state have been mistaken for the sufferers, in this disaster.

“The Captain” who had been early on the ground and witnessed the whole scene, was not backward in contributing his portion to the relief of such as had lost their property. He also politely asked the travellers to share the hospitality of his own house; an invitation they gladly accepted of: letting the bustle and hurry with which they had left their last lodgings apologise for the uncouth and half dressed condition in which they appeared before the captain’s lady. The latter politely equipped the young female from her own wardrobe, while the gentleman were supplied with shoes by the Captain. It was not long before day dawned, soon after which our travellers embarked. The scenes they had witnessed within the last few hours affording them subject for reflection and conversation during the remainder of their journey.

Selected Papers.

EUROPEAN MISSIONS TO THE EAST.

(From the *Literary and Statistical Magazine*.)

SIR,

In perusing t'other day Mr. Murray's new book on the History of Discovery in Asia, I was struck with the candid and entertaining manner in which he details the proceedings of the several European missions into the East, for the purpose of converting the natives to the Christian religion. My attention having been casually directed some time ago to that interesting subject, I could not refrain from making a few extracts as I went along, merely to impress the facts upon my recollection; and being desirous to communicate to others a share of the information which I have thus picked up, I naturally enough thought of your Magazine, as a vehicle very well situated to my purpose.

The first quotation respects a Danish mission composed of Moravians, the most intelligent and useful of all men who have hitherto engaged in such undertakings; but who notwithstanding, as Mr. Murray observes, found themselves constantly opposed by difficulties, which could scarcely be considered as less than insuperable.

“The Hindoos, indeed, professed respect for the Christian religion, and even viewed its ceremonies with pleasure. They held that there were twelve modes of going to heaven revealed to different races of men, and that each was bound to adhere to his own. For themselves, they declared that they had already gods much more than enough, and that there was little occasion to add to the number. Christ might save Christians, but they were content with their Mammurtijol.—Some, indeed, were obliged to own the excellence of the doctrines and precepts of Christianity, but they bitterly taunted the missionaries, on the entire contrast exhibited in the conduct of its European professors, as they themselves felt to their woeful experience. They earnestly besought them to begin with converting Christians.—The deep veneration in which ancestry was held, proved also a most formidable bar. They could not endure to hear that the religion should be false in which their forefathers had lived and died. Some even declared, that wherever these had gone they wished to go, rather than to a better place with a handful of unknown foreigners. But the mightiest of all obstacles arose from the bigotted adherence to *cast*, the privileges of which were immediately forfeited by him who became a Christian. Fire & water were forbidden to him; no one would enter the same apartment, or touch the same utensils. All the charities of kindred were dissolved among a people where they reign with almost unrivalled force. The brother thrust the brother out of the house, and the parent the child; the matrimonial connection was considered as terminated, and the husband or wife proceeded to make a

new choice. When the missionaries addressed themselves to the classes which lay beneath the influence of cast, they were met by obstacles equally powerful. These persons, benumbed by oppression, poverty, and hard labour, could not be roused to any due sense of their spiritual concerns. They declared that they would take their chance of a future life, provided they had enough to eat and drink in the present,—their gods were rice and cloth,—they were poor illiterate persons, who could scarcely find food for their bodies, and had no time to think of their souls. From these various causes, the efforts of the missionaries, though zealous, rational, and judicious, were not attended with any corresponding fruit. Their only success was produced by means of Schools, where, however, they had to support not only the masters but also the pupils, none being to be obtained, whose whole maintenance was not provided by them. These scholars, however, were not only taught Christianity themselves, but became afterwards the means of imparting it to others, so that a silent and gradual extension took place."

Bernier, too, a French missionary, had to combat with the same difficulties; and, paradoxical as it may appear, the greatest obstacle always arose from the extreme liberality of the priesthood as to matters of belief, and from their invincible adherence to the mere ceremonies of their religion. The Bramins are ready to admit any doctrine, however mysterious, and to subscribe to any tenet, however revolting, provided no attempt be made to interfere with these usages in the weighty concerns of shaving the head, abstaining from knives and forks, and their faith in the sanctifying nature of cow-dung.

"When he endeavoured to press upon them the absurdities involved in these various dogmas, they never, he says, made any return but that of some pretty comparisons, fitted only to cast dust in the eyes of the ignorant. When he pointed out the impossibility of many of their observances being practised in any country except their own, they replied, that it was never intended for any other, and that they do not even receive a proselyte into their communion. They by no means asserted, therefore, that our religion was false, but thought it might be good and of divine authority, so far as respected us; 'but they will not hear that our religion should be the general religion for the whole earth; and their's a fable and pure device.'"

The failure of the attempt on the part of the Portuguese to introduce Christianity into Japan, is very generally known; but as your readers may not be acquainted with the details of that celebrated mission, I have transcribed one extract more.

"Guzman, the leading historian of the Japanese missions, begins with some general views of that country and its people. The Japanese (he says) do all things in a manner opposite to Europeans. When we take off our hats, they take off their shoes; we rise up to receive a visitor, they sit down; we dislike to see a man's bald head, they are at the greatest pains to extirpate the hair, having only a small tuft on the crown.—In regard to religion, the historian grieves to observe, that though the Devil obtains high reverence over all the East, it is in Japan that he reigns with supreme and almost unrivalled sway. After this it is somewhat wonderful that he should immediately proceed

to lament, with more than usual emphasis, the almost total impossibility of distinguishing between *his* ceremonies, and those of the Catholic Church. The clergy wear the same dress; they have monistaries, male and female; and the rosary is continually in their hands. They preach from a raised place like a pulpit, proving that no one can be saved out of their sect.

“Japan had the honour of being the great theatre of the labours of St. Francis Xavier, the great apostle of the east, and in fact an exceedingly worthy and pious man.—He states himself to find in this situation only two advantages; first, that whereas in every other place there was some social enjoyment or outward comfort, here nothing of that nature occurred to distract the exclusive attention due to his functions. The next comfort was, that the religion which he taught appeared to be the object of an enmity so deadly, as to afford full assurance of severe suffering, and even a distant hope of the crown of martyrdom. It appears in fact, that the strangeness and poverty of his aspect and attire made him become the object of public derision; he was considered as a madman, and the boys amused themselves by pelting him with stones.—He repaired to Amanguchi, (having left Firando, where he was so ill entreated,) where he obtained an introduction to the king or governor, who was so greatly delighted with these new objects, that he granted him favour and full liberty to preach.—A brilliant career now opened to the missionaries; they found free access to all the neighbouring districts of Bungo, Arima, Satzuna, &c.—In a district called Cochinozu, the Jesuits appear to have obtained not only the full establishment of their own religion, but the entire prohibition of every other. The author of the *Oriente Conquistado* relates the following exploit with peculiar triumph:—There was a rock in the sea, separated from the continent by a narrow channel, containing an excavated shrine, which was an object of deep veneration and frequent pilgrimage from this part of Japan. Hither the Bonzes in their distress had conveyed the most sacred of their images, to be reserved until happier times. The Jesuits, however, determined to storm this unhallowed repository. The Bonzes had destroyed the bridge, thrown by a difficult operation over the gulph which alone communicated with it, and had done every thing possible to render the approach inaccessible. A large body of Japanese Christians, however, armed with proper instruments, repaired the bridge, and cut a way to the cavern, whose black and horrible aspect resembled the mouth-of hell. They entered fearless, and found within it a hundred huge and horrible statues, with an altar, and various other superstitious symbols. The Jesuits instantly applied hammers to the marble, and fire to the altar, and in a few hours, instead of this pompous display of idolatrous worship, there remained nothing but stones and ashes.

“Notwithstanding these prosperous beginnings, the zeal of the grandees who had embraced the Catholic faith began quickly to cool. The first point of discussion arose here as else where, from the conscientious urgency of the missionaries for the dismissal of the vast train of wives which each of them thought fit to maintain. They were very willing, it is said, to believe well, provided this particular point of

practice were not dwelt upon; they wished to be Christians in their creed, but heathens in their lives. A military chief of the name of Combacundono having got to the head of affairs, issued an order that every missionary should within three weeks depart from the empire. The Jesuits having humbly solicited to know the motive of such unheard-of rigour, rescript was delivered to them, in which it was stated, 'that they terrified the people out of their old customs and modes of worship, and introduced the service of the devil in their stead; moreover they eat horses and cows, a proceeding altogether contrary to reason, these animals being exceedingly useful to the state.' The missionaries replied; 'that they had come from a distant region of the globe, with no possible motive but the good of the Japanese; that they had no means, even if they had the inclination, to do any thing which could justly give umbrage to the ruling power.' The eating of horse flesh they denied *in toto*; and even that of cows, unless in a very limited degree, when it appeared at the tables of the Portuguese merchants. They allege, that the real source of the enmity arose from the inclinations of the Emperor towards the fair sex, the most beautiful of whom his agents were diligently instructed to collect from every quarter of the empire.

"The Jesuits found, notwithstanding, that by remaining quiet, they could still maintain their place. Ill fortune, however, decreed that at this moment a detachment of Barefoot friars arrived from the Philippines. These new recruits, besides being quite ignorant of Japan, by no means possessed the prudence and mildness of the Jesuits. The latter strongly represented to them, that the only tenure, on which they could remain, or have any success in Japan, was by avoiding every public exhibition of themselves, and the ceremonies of their religion. The lofty mind of the the Barefoots, however, held in utter disdain any such compromise. They immediately began publicly preaching, and celebrating the Catholic rites, without any regard to the remonstrances made by the governor. A Portuguese ship being at the same crisis stranded on the coast, was found to contain a huge quantity of arms, a circumstance which so deeply excited the anger of the Emperor, that he began with ordering that every missionary should be instantly sent out of the country; then recollecting how vain every order of that effect had hitherto proved; he declared, that since he could not make them depart this kingdom, he would at least make them depart this life, and directed that the whole should be instantly put to death. Gradually cooling, however, he listened to intercession in their favour, and ordered only that six Barefoot friars, three Jesuits, and a few Japanese, should be crucified, and that twenty-four should have one ear cut off. All their seminaries and establishments were at the same time broken up; yet they still individually lurked; and the death of the Emperor, which soon after took place, enabled them again to lift up their heads. New persecutors, however soon arose, and during a space of forty years, Japan furnished continual additions to the list of Catholic martyrs. By an unremitting system of torture and death, the Portuguese and the religion which they taught were completely rooted out of Japan. Even now, in all the seaports,

it is annually renounced with the most frightful ceremonies, and by trampling under foot all the Catholic images."

The measure of success attending the exertions of the missionaries in British India, has not yet been very accurately ascertained; people, on this subject, as on many others, being found to speak from their wishes rather than from facts clearly brought to light. It cannot, however, fail to prove a serious obstacle to the progress of Christianity in the meantime, that the missionaries have to feed all they convert, and that even in the schools established by them, they are bound to provide food and clothing, not only for the masters, but for all the pupils likewise, until these last can be settled in the world. This state of things has led, not unnaturally, to the taunting remark, that "rice and cloth are the gods" of the Hindoo Christians; and you will find, by referring to some recent documents from that country, that certain converts to our faith complain loudly, that with regard to the substantial articles now named, the missionaries have not at all times fulfilled their promises. The following petition lately fell into my hands, which, as it throws some light on the facts just referred to, may perhaps appear to you worthy of insertion.

"To the Right Reverend Father in God, Thomas, Lord Bishop of Calcutta,—The humble Petition of Rutton Ghore Kanto Doss, Needy Ramsha, Bhyrobchund Mullich, Rudhee Soha, Bokul Soha, and Gour Dhobee, for themselves and on behalf of One Hundred Christian Converts,

"SHEWETH,

"That your petitioners are by birth Hindoos, and heretofore did, as is the custom of Hindoos, perform the worship and ceremonies of their religion as laid down in the Shastras and other holy books, agreeably to the rites which have been established from time immemorial in these regions.

"That some years since certain people denominated Missionaries arrived from Europe, for the express purpose of converting the natives of this country to the Christian faith. Among these missionaries one named William C—y, better known by the designation of Doctor C—y, did, by the seductive art of persuasion, and by artful representations of the truth and efficacy of the Christian doctrines, as the only sure and certain guides to salvation, at the same time condemning the Shastras, Tantras, and Poorans of the Hindoos to be the works of Satan, and as such would inevitably lead their believers to damnation and eternal punishment,—so operated on the minds of your petitioners, that, led by their fears on the one hand, and seduced on the other hand by the hope of support and protection, which he held out to such as should embrace the Religion of Christ, your petitioners were induced to forsake the religion of their ancestors, and to suffer the ritual of baptism.

"Your petitioners, placing entire reliance and confidence on the word and faith of Dr. C—y, (for how could they suppose that a teacher of Christian morality could be found defective to his promises?) became converts to his doctrines, and were baptized, as they were taught to think into Christ his Church; but what must be the poignancy of their feelings to discover, that these flattering prospects of

support and protection are as unstable and fleeting as the visionary objects of a dream? Expelled from their caste, and expatriated their homes and families, deprived of the countenance and support of those to whom they are allied by the ties of nature, and become objects of contempt and derision to their Hindoo brethren, they in this state of humiliation experience the fallacy of those promises by which they were deluded. Condemned, like outcasts of society, to depend for a precarious subsistence on the lukewarm generosity and beneficence of strangers, to whom shall your petitioners in the overwhelmings of their affections, look up for support and protection, unless to your Lordship, who hath been selected to fill the highest and most respectable station of the Episcopacy in India?

Your petitioners, therefore, most humbly solicit your lordship's attention to their miserable condition; and with hopes of exciting your Lordship's commiseration, they humbly crave permission to approach your Lordship with this relation of their sufferings, and your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Calcutta, 16th June, 1817.

I am disposed to agree with Mr. Murray in thinking that much good will, in all probability, result from the system of instruction lately introduced at Calcutta; for literature and sound views in doctrine, have always been found to go hand in hand together. And with this impression, I should be happy to hear that all the missionaries were in the meantime converted into schoolmasters. A premature attempt to introduce the principles of our holy faith, can have no good effect upon subsequent and more judicious endeavours to christianize the East: but we cannot be in too great a hurry to teach men the elements of science, and to train their minds to sound and rational thinking, on the things of common life, and about the actual condition of the world in which they live. The following quotation will afford the best means of judging on this important subject.

Besides this extensive system of translation, missionaries have been employed at Calcutta, and at all the principal stations, in endeavouring to convert the natives by the preaching of the gospel. Although no zeal nor exertion seems to have been spared, it is to be regretted that the results, as stated in the Reports, do not appear very encouraging. They may even give rise to the doubt, whether the propagation of Christianity be destined by Providence to take place otherwise than in the train of European knowledge and ideas, which are in fact diffusing themselves so rapidly over the globe. The reports of the missionaries are perfectly candid and ingenuous: they employed no tricks, and admitted of no false semblance of conversion. The result stated is, that in the course of seventeen years, the number of baptisms in all these countries, had amounted only to twelve hundred. The latest reports do not indicate any increasing disposition to listen to the instructions of their Christian teachers. The missionary at Patna writes, "Relative to the actual fruit in the conversion of men, it pleases the Lord still to exercise our faith;" and adds, that almost the only benefit derived from their labours, was the being taught "to cease from themselves, and to expect success from Him

alone." From Surat it is stated, "the natives like the cruel yoke of the Brahmins,, better than the easy yoke of Christ." From Rangoon a complaint is made, "There is no Burman convert coming in to tell us what great things the Lord has done for his soul." The Mahratta resident observes, that his hopes had been raised, but that several of whom he had once been sanguine "had gone back to their idol worship, not having found religion profitable to their worldly interests." In regard to Serampore, the head-quarters of the mission, where there labours had been continued assiduously for many years, the exact result is not stated. It is only mentioned as strongly impressing the conviction, that no extensive conversion can be hoped, without some previous tincture of general knowledge and instruction. These observations seem to have led to the plan of establishing schools, from which, perhaps, much greater benefits may be expected, than from any other method which has been employed. Several of them appear, as those established by the Tranquebar missionaries, where the scholars are entirely maintained and provided for by the master. Of course, the parents from whom they are obtained must be poor, and somewhat indifferent as to the lot of their children; though it is to be hoped their apathy is seldom so entire, as that of a father who brought two sons to a missionary at Columbo. On being asked if he wished them to be instructed in the Christian religion, he replied, "I have delivered them to you, you may sell them, or kill them, or do what you like with them." Schools on a more liberal footing, and for higher classes, have been recently established at Calcutta. In these it is intended to make no demand of conversion, or even of any departure from the rules of caste. It is merely proposed to communicate instruction in the general principles of religion and morality, and the first elements of useful knowledge. It is imagined, that even to correct their extravagant ideas on the subject of geography and history, may pave the way for sound views on other subjects. Hopes are expressed, that when they cease to consider Mount Mera as 20,000 miles high, and the world as a flower, of which India is the cup, and other countries the leaves, their minds may become more open to rational views on the subject of religion. A knowledge of sacred, and even of profane history, may afford them the means of comprehending the evidences of our holy faith. If the seed is not sown, the ground at least is prepared for it. This measure is only in progress, nor is there yet time to estimate its effects; but we cannot help considering it as one, of all others, best calculated to improve the condition of our India subjects."

I remain, your obedient servant.

N. B.

An account of the customs and manners peculiar to some of the tribes of the North American Indians, extracted from "Henry's Travels in the Indian Territories."

Continued from page 432.

It is the characteristic of all ignorant persons to attempt by the aid of spells and enchantments to lift up the veil of futurity and to seek to know what is in the womb of time. Among Indians as well as others this is practised. Their want of experience of the past leads them to entertain doubts concerning the future; and instead of taking the necessary precautions, to insure success, they will be either deterred from, or urged on to the performance of any great undertaking; according to the answer they may receive from the oracle which they consult on the occasion. Even the proceedings of individuals or families will be regulated by this. Omens and dreams are matters of peculiar attention with them. Sometimes after an expensive preparation has been made for some expedition or hunting party, and even after they have proceeded so far on their destined route, an unfavourable dream which one of them chances to have, will upset the whole plan and induce them to alter the course of their journey, perhaps to abandon the project entirely. This is the slavery of superstition in which the ignorant mind is always bound, and which is often witnessell among nations who claim the character of being civilized. It is the same feeling which induces the Indians before proceeding upon any undertaking which may be influential on them as a nation and of which the following is an instance. After the French had ceded Canada to the Crown of England, sometime elapsed before the various Indian nations could be brought to acknowledge the King of Britain as their new father. It was however effected without much bloodshed. The accomplishment of this enterprise was intrusted to Sir William Johnson, and after a part of these Indians had submitted to him, he made a feast upon the occasion, and dispatched messengers to the rest, asking them to join him. The arrival of these was of course a matter of great importance among the more remote tribes, and many of them before they would consent to enter upon any arrangement, or give an answer to Sir William's messenger, had recourse to their oracles of the highest class, to learn from them what would be the result of their doing so. This is termed consulting the *Great Turtle*, and which is done in the following manner.

"For invoking and consulting the *Great Turtle*, the first thing to be done was the building of a large house or wigwam, within which was placed a species of tent, for the use of the priest, and reception of the spirit. The tent was formed of mooseskins, hung over a framework of wood. Five poles, or rather pillars, of five different species of timber, about ten feet in height, and eight inches in diameter, were set in a circle of about four feet in diameter. The holes made to receive them were about two feet deep; and the pillars being set, the holes were filled up again, with the earth which had been dug out.— At top, the pillars were bound together by a circular hoop, or girder.

Over the whole of this edifice were spread the moose-skins, covering it at top and round the sides, and made fast with thongs of the same; except that on one side a part was left unfastened, to admit of the entrance of the priest.

“The ceremonies did not commence but with the approach of night. To give light within the house, several fires were kindled round the tent. Nearly the whole village assembled in the house, and myself among the rest. It was not long before the priest appeared, almost in a state of nakedness. As he approached the tent the skins were lifted up, as much as was necessary to allow of his creeping under them, on his hands and knees. His head was scarcely within side, when the edifice, massy as it has been described, began to shake; and the skins were no sooner let fall, than the sounds of numerous voices were heard beneath them; some yelling; some barking as dogs; some howling like wolves: and in this horrible concert were mingled screams and sobs, as of despair, anguish and the sharpest pain. Articulate speech was also uttered, as if from human lips; but in a tongue unknown to any of the audience.

“After some time, these confused and frightful noises were succeeded by a perfect silence; and now a voice, not heard before, seemed to manifest the arrival of a new character in the tent. This was a low and feeble voice, resembling the cry of a young puppy. The sound was no sooner distinguished; than all the Indians clapped their hands for joy, exclaiming, that this was the Chief Spirit, the TURTLE, the spirit that never lied! Other voices, which they had discriminated from time to time they had previously hissed, as recognising them to belong to evil and lying spirits, which deceive mankind.

“New sounds came from the tent. During the space of half an hour, a succession of songs were heard, in which a diversity of voices met the ear. From his first entrance, till these songs were finished, we heard nothing in the proper voice of the priest; but, now, he addressed the multitude, declaring the presence of the GREAT TURTLE, and the spirit's readiness to answer such questions as should be proposed.

“The questions were to come from the chief of the village, who was silent, however, till after he had put a large quantity of tobacco into the tent, introducing it at the aperture. This was a sacrifice, offered to the spirit; for spirits are supposed by the Indians to be as fond of tobacco as themselves. The tobacco accepted; he desired the priest to enquire, whether or not the English were preparing to make war upon the Indians? and, whether or not there were at Fort Niagara a large number of English troops?

“These questions having been put by the priest, the tent instantly shook; and for some seconds after, it continued to rock so violently, that I expected to see it levelled with the ground. All this was a prelude, as I supposed, to the answers to be given; but, a terrific cry announced, with sufficient intelligibility, the departure of the TURTLE.

“A quarter of an hour elapsed in silence, and I waited impatiently to discover what was to be the next incident, in this scene of imposture. It consisted in the return of the spirit, whose voice was again

heard, and who now delivered a continued speech. The language of the GREAT TURTLE, like that which we had heard before, was wholly unintelligible to every ear, that of his priest excepted; and it was therefore, that not till the latter gave us an interpretation, which did not commence before the spirit had finished, that we learned the purport of this extraordinary communication.

"The spirit, as we were now informed by the priest, had, during his short absence, crossed Lake Huron, and even proceeded as far as Fort Niagara, which is at the head of Lake Ontario, and thence to Montréal. At Fort Niagara, he had seen no great number of soldiers; but, on descending the Saint Lawrence, as low as Montréal, he had found the river covered with boats, and the boats filled with soldiers, in number like the leaves of the trees. He had met them on their way up the river, coming to make war upon the Indians.

"The chief had a third question to propose, and the spirit, without a fresh journey to Fort Niagara, was able to give it an instant and most favourable answer: 'If,' said the chief, 'the Indians visit Sir William Johnson, will they be received as friends?'

"'Sir William Johnson,' said the spirit, (and after the spirit, the priest,) 'Sir William Johnson will fill their canoes with presents; with blankets, kettles, guns, gun-powder and shot, and large barrels of rum, such as the stoutest of the Indians will not be able to lift; and every man will return in safety to his family.'

"At this the transport was universal: and, amid the clapping of hands, a hundred voices exclaimed, 'I will go, too! I will go, too!'

"The GREAT TURTLE continued to be consulted till near midnight, when all the crowd dispersed to their respective lodges. I was on the watch, through the scene I have described, to detect the particular contrivances by which the fraud was carried on; but, such was the skill displayed in the performance, or such my deficiency of penetration, that I made no discoveries; but came away as I went, with no more than those general surmises which will naturally be entertained by every reader."

The behaviour of the Indians when any of them is sick, and their ideas of a future state may be collected from the following passage.

"Our society had been a short time enlarged, by this arrival of our friends, when an accident occurred which filled all the village with anxiety and sorrow. A little child, belonging to one of our neighbours, fell into a kettle of boiling syrup. It was instantly snatched out, but with little hope of its recovery,

"So long, however, as it lived, a continual feast was observed; and this was made to the Great Spirit and Master of Life, that he might be pleased to save and heal the child. At this feast, I was a constant guest: and often found difficulty in eating the large quantity of food, which, on such occasions as these, is put upon each man's dish.—The Indians accustom themselves both to eat much, and to fast much, with facility.

"Several sacrifices were also offered; among which were dogs killed and hung upon the tops of poles, with the addition of straud

blankets and other articles. These, also, were given to the Great Spirit, in humble hope that he would give efficacy to the medicines employed.

"The child died. To preserve the body from the wolves, it was placed upon a scaffold, where it remained till we went to the lake, on the border of which was the burial-ground of the family.

"On our arrival there, which happened in the beginning of April, I did not fail to attend the funeral. The grave was made of a large size, and the whole of the inside lined with birch-bark. On the bark was laid the body of the child, accompanied with an axe, a pair of snow-shoes, a small kettle, several pairs of common shoes, its own string of beads, and—because it was a girl—a carrying-belt and a paddle. The kettle was filled with meat.

"All this was again covered with bark; and at about two feet nearer the surface, logs were laid across, and these again covered with bark, so that the earth might by no means fall upon the corpse.

"The last act before the burial, performed by the mother, crying over the dead body of her child, was that of taking from it a lock of hair, for a memorial. While she did this, I endeavoured to console her, by offering the usual arguments; that the child was happy in being released from the miseries of this present life, and that she should forbear to grieve, because it would be restored to her in another world, happy and everlasting. She answered, that she knew it, and that by the lock of hair she should discover her daughter; for she would take it with her.—In this she alluded to the day, when some pious hand would place in her own grave, along with the carrying-belt and paddle this little relic, hallowed by maternal tears.

"I have frequently inquired into the ideas and opinions of the Indians, in regard to futurity, and always found that they were somewhat different, in different individuals.

"Some suppose their souls to remain in this world, although invisible to human eyes; and capable, themselves, of seeing and hearing their friends, and also of assisting them, in moments of distress and danger.

"Others dismiss from the mortal scene the unembodied spirit, and send it to a distant world or country, in which it receives reward or punishment, according to the life which it has led in its prior state. Those who have lived virtuously are transported into a place abounding with every luxury, with deer and all other animals of the woods and water, and where the earth produces, in their greatest perfection, all its sweetest fruits. While, on the other hand, those who have violated or neglected the duties of this life, are removed to a barren soil, where they wander up and down, among rocks and morasses, and are stung by gnats, as large as pigeons."

The ferocious and apparently cruel practice of scalping their enemies when killed in battle is a custom which has been justly held in reprobation by all civilized nations, and it has been held up as a standard by which the comparative state of barbarity of Indians may be estimated. But before we condemn we ought to be sure of the guilt. Although this disgusting custom is viewed by us with revolting feel-

ings—to the Indians it bears quite a different aspect, as appears from the following extract.

“The battle, as they related, raged the greater part of the day; and in the evening, the Nadowessies, to the number of six hundred, fell back, across a river which lay behind them, encamping in this position for the night. The Chipeways had thirty-five killed; and they took advantage of the suspension of the fray, to *prepare the bodies* of their friends, and then retired to a small distance from the place, expecting the Nadowessies to recross the stream in the morning, and come again to blows. In this, however, they were disappointed; for the Nadowessies continued their retreat, without even doing the honours of war to the slain. To do these honours is to scalp; and to *prepare the bodies* is to dress and paint the remains of the dead, preparatorily to this mark of attention from the enemy; ‘The neglect,’ said the Chipeways, “was an affront to us—a disgrace; because we consider it an honour, to have the scalps of our countrymen exhibited in the villages of our enemies, in testimony of our valour.”

Canibalism does not appear to be a prevalent practice among the North American Indians. When their tempers are inflamed by war, they sometimes devour the bodies of those of their enemies from the idea that this horrid feast inspires them with courage—as we shall afterwards have occasion to mention. But from the following statement it would seem they contemplate the cannibal with disgust when he has been made so to satisfy the cravings of hunger.

“Two days after, there came a young Indian out of the woods, alone, and reporting that he had left the family to which he belonged behind, in a starving condition, and unable, from their weakly and exhausted state, to pursue their journey to the bay. The appearance of this youth was frightful; and from his squalid figure there issued a stench which none of us could support.

“His arrival struck our camp with horror and uneasiness; and it was not long before the Indians came to me, saying, that they suspected he had been eating human flesh, and even that he had killed and devoured the family which he pretended to have left behind.

“These charges, upon being questioned, he denied; but, not without so much equivocation in his answers as to increase the presumption against him. In consequence, the Indians determined on travelling a day’s journey, on his track; observing, that they should be able to discover, from his encampments, whether he were guilty or not. The next day, they returned, bringing with them a human hand and skull. The hand had been left roasting before a fire, while the intestines, taken out of the body from which it was cut, hung fresh upon a neighbouring tree.

“The youth, being informed of these discoveries, and further questioned, confessed the crime of which he was accused. From the account he now proceeded to give, it appeared that the family had consisted of his uncle and aunt, their four children and himself. One of the children was a boy of fifteen years of age. His uncle, after firing

at several beasts of the chase, all of which he missed, fell into despondence, and persuaded himself that it was the will of the Great Spirit that he should perish. In this state of mind, he requested his wife to kill him. The woman refused to comply; but the two lads, one of them, as has been said, the nephew, and the other the son of the unhappy man, agreed between themselves to murder him, to prevent as our informant wished us to believe, his murdering them. Accomplishing their detestable purpose, they devoured the body; and famine pressing upon them still closer, they successively killed the three younger children, upon whose flesh they subsisted for some time, and with a part of which the parricides at length set out for the lake, leaving the woman, who was too feeble to travel, to her fate. On their way, their foul victuals failed; the youth before us killed his companion; and it was a part of the remains of this last victim that had been discovered at the fire.

“The Indians entertain an opinion, that the man, who has once made human flesh his food, will never afterward be satisfied with any other. It is probable that we saw things in some measure through the medium of our prejudices, but, I confess that this distressing object appeared to verify the doctrine. He ate with relish nothing that was given him; but, indifferent to the food prepared, fixed his eyes continually on the children which were in the Indian lodge, and frequently exclaimed, “How fat they are!”—It was perhaps not unnatural, that after long acquaintance with no human form but such as was gaunt and pale from want of food, a man’s eyes should be almost riveted upon any thing, where misery had not made such inroads, and still more upon the bloom and plumpness of childhood; and the exclamation might be the most innocent, and might proceed from an involuntary and unconquerable sentiment of admiration.—Be this as it may, his behaviour was considered, and not less naturally, as marked with the most alarming symptoms; and the Indians, apprehensive that he would prey upon their children, resolved on putting him to death. They did this the next day, with a single stroke of an axe, aimed at his head from behind, and of the approach of which he had not the smallest intimation.

(To be Continued.)



A CONJUGAL DICTIONARY.

“Pray Madam” said a *churl* to his wife on the Chain-Pier at Brighton, “Is it possible you don’t know the difference between exported and transported?” “indeed but I do,” replied she, “were you on board the *Rapid*, deary, you would soon be *exported*; while I, heaven knows, would, in that case, be truly *transported*.”

GENERAL LITERATURE; AND THE CAUSES THAT INFLUENCE THE
REVOLUTIONS OF OPINION.

Literature, in its more enlarged sense, may be defined, *that entire mass of information which is circulated through society, and originally acquired through the media of reason and observation.* Information, however, in the sense which we would here annex to it, must be carefully distinguished from knowledge; that is, we must distinguish what we are taught, which is often but supposed knowledge, from that of which we have ourselves clear and distinct perceptions;—we must distinguish reasoning from reason, opinion from certainty, and probable conclusions from demonstrative evidence. It is certain that the knowledge of truth is the great object of literature, and so far as this object is attained, so far literature and knowledge go hand in hand; but it is equally certain, that in the pursuits of literature, we take, not unfrequently, a random excursion, and outstep; not only the modesty of nature, but, in some instances, transgress against the most obvious perceptions of common sense; and while true knowledge advances, with slow but undeviating pace, in the footsteps of truth, we engraft on the overgrown trunk of literature, opinions as visionary and fantastic as the “airy nothing” of the poet, to which, however, we give “a local habitation and a name.”

In a more confined sense, literature may be defined, that very limited portion of real knowledge which man has attained in the sciences; that knowledge which is capable of being demonstrated, and which is unmixed with supposititious truth, or ideal certainty. But as the cases are innumerable in which we shall ever be at a loss to know where certainty ends, and where probability begins, this definition of literature can only be adopted by beings who rank higher in the scale of mental intelligence than man.

As, then, the definition of literature cannot properly be confined to the precise limits of our real knowledge, inasmuch as these precise limits can never be ascertained, it necessarily follows, that it is as much composed of opinion, belief, probability, conjecture, and speculative theories, as it is of science, or of a clear and distinct knowledge, or perception of things. But opinion, belief, probability, conjecture, &c. all imply doubt; so that literature is as much composed of doubt as it is of science. Literature, then, properly divides itself into *doubt* and *science*; but the doubtful part of literature must eternally vary till it is resolved into certainty; for while ever we doubt, we are liable to alter our opinion, and the revolutions of opinion necessarily produce corresponding revolutions in literature. The doubtful part, however, can never be entirely resolved into certainty, because the nature of some doubts will not admit of it, as will presently appear; and though some things, which are as yet doubtful, may hereafter be rendered evident, yet, as an infinity of doubts will still remain, the general aspect of literature must vary from age to age, still taking its “form and ppressure” from the opinions and sentiments of the times. Hence it is, that though truth be the same in all ages, literature is not less exposed to the revolutions of opinion, than empire is to the revo-

lutions of time. Every age and every clime introduce it to us under a different aspect; and though some of its features are too stubborn and unbending to yield either to the caprice of opinion, or the novelty of fashionable sentiment, either to the overthrow of states, or the revolutions of empire; yet the *tout ensemble* presents a different configuration in each succeeding century, marked with eternally varying, but still associating shades. This diversity of aspect, however, is more strongly marked, when reduced by the reverses of political power, than when it arises from the discovery of new truths, the negation of old opinions, or the restless versatility of the mind. All who are acquainted with the revolutions of Grecian and Roman literature, are also acquainted with the marked character of these revolutions; but if Greece and Rome had never experienced the vicissitudes of power they would not still have escaped witnessing the revolutions of literature. Could the eloquence of Demosthenes have rekindled, in the breasts of his countrymen, the drooping ardour of that patriotic virtue, which shone with such peerless lustre at the battle of Marathon, and the straits of Thermopylæ; could it have baffled the crafty policy of Philip, and the military genius of Alexander; yet the revolutions of Grecian literature would not have been less certain, and inevitable, though less obvious to the perceptions of grosser intellects. The causes which induced the decline of Roman literature are nearly similar, but the consequences of this decline proved infinitely more fatal to the dominion of intellect. Greece, it is true, saw the republic of letters and of liberty perish together; but though Grecian literature was no more, her arts and sciences long survived the downfall of her power, and the extinction of her liberties. She ceased, indeed, to exult in her literary superiority: to her the surrounding nations could appear no longer barbarous; nor was it longer granted her to view, with hallowed enthusiasm, the great Demosthenes, that idol of her adoration, that only pillar of her remaining strength, and the brightest star in the galaxy of her fame, thunder in her Capitol, and revive the slumbering energies of her declining virtues. But though the sun of her glory had descended in clouds and darkness, that have never since been streaked with the dawn of returning light, yet she saw,—and if the memory of ancient fame could still linger amidst the retreats of slavery, and dispel, for a moment, the indurating influence of barbarous innovations, she would have exulted in the prospect,—she saw her arts and sciences transported to a foreign clime, and flourish beneath the auspices of a more favored race.

*Grecia capta ferum victorem cepit et artes
Antulit agresti Latio.*

The decline of the Grecian, was not therefore, marked with such lamentable consequences as followed the decline of Roman literature.—Then only it was, “that dullness resumed her ancient right,” and extended her leaden influence over all the regions of the globe. The sciences were without a shelter: the Muses had no retreat, save when they were occasionally wooed by some heaven-taught bard, to whom they communicated a double portion of their influence amid the wild

seclusions of rural retirement. But if the annals of literature had never chronicled such sudden and striking vicissitudes in the history of mind, if an eternal peace had gained over consenting nations to her hallowed controul, and left the votaries of science to advance in their sublime course, with unrestricted pace; if we could behold in reality, what the enthusiastic St. Pierre beheld in visions of ideal bliss;—"a happy and peaceable society, living in eternal concord,—all guided by the same maxims,—all happy in the universal happiness diffused around them," yet literature so far from moving in the direct road to perfection, would veer about like the winds of heaven, and prove herself the offspring of man, by being constant only in her inconstancy.

Literature, as we have already observed, is that entire mass of information gained from reason and observation. But reasoning is often substituted for reason, and its deductions set down as lessons of unerring wisdom; nor is the acumen of observation always inaccessible to error. The information, however, collected from these two sources, is circulated through society, and passes for knowledge: and this current knowledge we dignify with the appellation of literature.—But while man is ever liable to deduce false consequences from just premises, or just consequences from false premises, assumed as true ones, and while the spirit of true enquiry has ever courage to expose and detect these imaginary conclusions; literature must, unavoidably, take part in the contest, and without waiting to examine the pretensions of either, she invariably adopts the maxim, *Vox populi, vox Dei*; and forms her judgment by that of the public. The decision made by that of the public passes for truth; and though it should even happen to be erroneous, its decision will, notwithstanding continue to be received by the learned, till it is more successfully combated by succeeding writers.

There are indeed, a few, who always judge for themselves, uninfluenced by public opinion, or by the dogmas and tenets of those who have gone before them, even though antiquity seems to give them a sort of prescriptive right to their assent. But their assent is not to be gained by the authority of names; the canons of the schools, nor the supposed orthodoxy of established opinions. They believe, and with truth that all men have the same access to the fountains of science that our ancestors had: that knowledge imbibed at the fountain head, is purer and more unmixed than what is collected from streams far removed from the parent source; that the triumph of intellect is not yet complete, nor the dominion of truth as yet established; and that as the mind is capable of an eternal progress to perfection, we should not retard this progress by receiving, as orthodox, whatever time seems to have sanctioned, or authority to have confirmed, as this would be, to leave literature where we found it, and remain content with that fund of knowledge which has been already prepared for us. As the creation would immediately rush into its original chaos, if the Creator did not continue to give efficacy to those laws which keep rebellious elements in their appointed stations, so would man fall back into the state of nature, and with him literature would sink into that original barbarity from which it was redeemed, if those few who esteem the certainty of things, not by the authority of the names by

which this certainty is confirmed, but by those original principles of reason by which it is established, were withdrawn from the world. All the elements of science exist in the state of nature, and it differs from the state of civilization only in suffering these elements to be confounded with each other, so that one element cannot be distinguished from another. The ancient chaos, in like manner, contained all the elements of creation, but they were similarly mingled and confounded; and the laws of nature which dissolved this monstrous association of jarring elements, and which still retain them in their proper distinct places, thereby producing the harmony of creation, may not unaptly be compared to those laws which analyze and separate the jarring and sluggish elements of science, and reduce each to its proper abode.— This produces in the moral, what the harmonic laws of nature produce in the physical world. But those to whom we are indebted for it, view these elements not as they exist in the minds of other men, but as they exist in their natural chaos, whence they compel them to retire, and associate with elements of kindred mould. Aware, however, that this labour exceeds individual might, they facilitate their enquiries, by availing themselves of such aids as those who have been in the field before them have so opportunely furnished. They distinguish, however, authority from certainty, nor believe a thing to be true because Newton, Locke, or Descartes, has asserted it, unless they find their assertion expresses the thing as it is, not as they suppose it to be. In order to trace the conformity of the assertion with the thing asserted, they travel the same road with these celebrated authors, knowing that if they had themselves confounded truth with authority, they would never have acquired those intellectual treasures that have given celebrity to their names. Accordingly, if they find them tripping in their way, or assuming as true what should have been proved, they reject whatever is founded on these assumptions, notwithstanding the authority of the names by which it has obtained credence with the world. But as the paths of science are often too dark and intricate for man,—as he can often only peep through the gloom in which many of her secrets repose, and where many of them shall slumber in eternal silence, and there form the most accurate observation he can of the dark individualities that move before him, they know, before hand, that their predecessors could not, at all times, arrive at certainty, and that consequently unless they have a more exquisite faculty of discriminating objects in the dark than those who led the way, they must trust to the views which they have taken in these dark retreats, whether these views have seized upon truth, or only grasped, in her stead, the unbodied phantom of reality. But though certainty is not always attainable, yet it is only these men that can depend on the knowledge which they have acquired, because it is they, alone, that know what part of it depends on demonstration, what on moral certainty, and what on probability or opinion. Those who toil in treasuring up the researches of other men, without examining the sources whence they were collected, may indeed possess much knowledge, but it is that species of knowledge that rests on principles with which its possessor is totally unacquainted:—When they are wrong, they imagine they are right—when they are right,

they know not wherefore.—It to those men alone, who examine for themselves, and who are not content with being told where truth resides till they have first gone and visited her abode, that science owes her existence, and literature whatever approaches she makes to the perfection of science. Such men, however are much less in number than is generally imagined; for though many of those who think themselves entitled to rank in the literary world imagine they always judge for themselves, or, at least, do not coincide with the judgment of others, unless it quadrates with their own reason, yet were they to analyze the grounds on which their judgments are formed, they would often find it difficult to resolve the substratum of their knowledge into its component parts, and they would be obliged, to acknowledge, that they thought so and so, or judged so and so without knowing why. The judgments and opinions adopted by most readers are the result of impressions made on their minds, at one time or other, by works more calculated to please than to instruct, and which are generally read for no other object: and as the mind is more apt to give credence to what is pleasing, than to what is rigid and severe, agreeable to that just observation of Cæsar, *Fere libenter homines, id quod volunt, credunt*: these pleasing, but delusive sentiments, insensibly gain upon the mind, which is seldom prepared to resist their influence, for we are seldom disposed to quarrel with those who amuse us, and there produce a species of unobserved conviction, even before we know that we are convinced. It would seem to be a principle, in human nature, which, though it must have been given for a benevolent purpose, is the source of many errors, to believe, that whatever is agreeable to our feelings is also true; so that instead of giving an agreeable proposition a fair examination, our feelings will not permit us to examine it at all. We treat it like a beautiful woman whom we are disposed to forgive, even when her conduct is most liable to censure; whereas we treat rigid truths that clash with our feelings and propensities like a deformed female, whom we always wish out of our sight, however great may be her virtues or her merits. There is, indeed a class of readers, and this class is, perhaps, not less numerous than the former, who determine the truth of every proposition in books of taste and science, as well as the general merit of such works, by the judgments, already passed upon them by the reviewers.—Those who judge for themselves are comparatively few; and those whose judgments can be relied upon, are

*vix totidem quot
Thebarum portæ vel divitis ostia Nilii.*

This, it is true, cannot argue against the utility of reviews. They serve to confirm the judgments and opinions of those who are qualified to judge of literary works; and if they differ from them in some points, and have truth on their side, they open to the latter a new train of reasoning which escaped them at first, while they suffer nothing from them, if they should even praise or censure unjustly;—for a man of judgment will not resign his opinion to adopt that of a reviewer, until

he first examines the grounds on which the reviewer has decided.—The man of judgement cannot, therefore, suffer from the errors of criticism; and the man of no judgment is safer in the hands of the reviewers than if left to himself,—they prevent him twenty times from going wrong for once that they mislead him—and perhaps even then he is not misled by them, as he would have probably adopted an erroneous sentiment of his own, if he were not under their guidance.

(To be Continued.)

LETTER FROM ROME.

From the Literary and Statistical Magazine.

SIR,

The author of *Waverley* is possessed of powers so remarkable, and particularly so prolific, that I can easily imagine him capable of interesting the public for a long succession of years yet to come; that there is in fact no apparent limit to his stock of materials, while we know that his power of classing and presenting his materials has never been equalled by any author in any age, to the same extent, and with similar variety and effect. Though he has far surpassed all his predecessors and contemporaries in the same species of writing, it is yet obvious that he has often written hastily and carelessly, and that he at least was perfectly capable of rendering some of his pieces more perfect as wholes, and some of his pictures more interesting as parts, than we find them to be in fact. With an inferior writer we should be satisfied, if he accomplished less than the least which this prolific and powerful pen presents to us with such profusion, and with such astonishing rapidity. We are, I think, prepared by the force of our admiration, founded in an ability and success beyond all example, to detect his fault with readiness, and to feel his failures with keenness. We feel regret and disappointment, because we know that the author is careless, not incapable. I am decidedly of opinion, that “the *Monastery*, by the author of *Waverley*,” is a failure; and the public are entitled to feel it the more poignantly, because it is evident the author was capable, from the class of materials before him, to do much more than he has even attempted, to draw a full-length picture of a most important period, which, might attract and retain universal attention, with detached details of the most powerful interest. This may be the author’s intention in the sequence already announced under the title of “the *Abbot*.” Whatever may follow ultimately, and we can easily imagine a very long sequence, in the class of materials which “the *Monastery*” has commenced. The faults of the commencement are not the less to be regretted, for they are as contrary to good taste, as to common sense and probability. Supernatural machinery, so far as it is founded in, and operates upon popular superstition, is legitimately within the reach of the novelist; and artfully wielded in the way in which it frequently affects the public mind, it may produce the most powerful effects on the imagination of the reader, though he feels not

the slightest difficulty in accounting for the whole process by natural means. The *second sight* in the Highlands,—the *Bodach glas* in Waverly,—the *witches* of Alloway Kirk, and the *charms* of Hallowe'en, are all capable of affecting the mind most powerfully, because though we feel them to be foolish superstitions, we know that they were generally believed, and had as powerful an influence on popular feeling and conduct as if they had been real. But the *white maid of Avenel*, of whose evistence in popular superstition we are utterly ignorant, is of no use whatever, except to present us with some pretty scraps of poetry, which might have found their way to us by a more natural route. The death and resuscitation of Sir Piercie Shafton, through the ministry of the same maid, is, I have no hesitation in saying, a disgusting piece of absurdity, for which I cannot imagine any excuse. The character of the *Abbot* of "the Monastery," an easy, good-natured voluptuary, and that of the sub-prior, a mortified monk, active, able, prudent, and humane, with the slighter sketches of Father Nicholas and Father Philip, are drawn with great force of taste and nature; and make us regret the more that this view of monkish nature, and of the accidents by which it was then affected, is so often and so idly interrupted by the absurd and contemptible machinery of the *white maid*. The character of Henry Warden, too, is a very fair and favourable sketch of a reformed minister, bold and inflexible as Knox himself in asserting the truths which he had seriously adopted, and in denouncing the Romish errors opposed to them, but made of milder stuff as a man, and with more of the milk of human kindness in his heart, than that stern champion of our Reformation.

When I took up my pen, on this occasion, I did not intend, and I am persuaded you would not thank me, to write a review of "the Monastery;" I had just finished the perusal of it, and of course it occupied a portion of my attention. The story refers to the important period when all the monastic institutions of this country were on the brink of dissolution. The perusal of the book suggested to my mind a strong association with respect to the monastic institutions of Italy. It must be granted, I think, by all moderate men, that these institutions in all countries have had their periods of utility; some of the orders of monks have been eminently learned, and successively useful in the preservation and in the dissemination of learning. On the whole, however, with numerous and illustrious exceptions, they have been the ministers of superstition, maintained by the credulity which they themselves support. They are the pioneers of the Papacy, and so justly are their services estimated by the Pope, that even when he has been obliged to suppress a particular society or order, he has not failed to furnish them with every private proof of his regret and his confidence. The Jesuits were suppressed, but individuals, and the peculiar principles of that once powerful order, were not long strangers to the court of Rome, if indeed their influence was ever actually removed. The period of the fall of monasteries in Great Britain, by the fall of the superstition which they fostered, is a very important epoch of our history. They have fallen also in Italy, through the influence, of foreign violence, while the popular creed remains the same; but it is remarkable that the age of monasteries is gone even in Italy, and

that their partial restoration in the Genoese, Roman, and Neapolitan territories, will not long preserve them from that total and final destruction to which the spirit of the age has consigned them in many places, and is hastening them in all.

I was in Italy, (in the Venetian territory, the only part then open to us,) in 1801. I returned in 1802, and visited the whole country as far as Naples. The monks still swarmed in most places, and the monasteries, though some of them had been suppressed and ruined, were mostly entire and in good order. It was very clear, however, and it seemed to be frequently felt, that the day of their dissolution was fast approaching. The wealth of all the orders had been greatly impaired by the kind consideration of French generals and commissaries.—The cupidity which they practised in the name of liberty, the King of Naples imitated; I suppose, in the name of state necessity. The magnificent monastery of the Chartreux, near the Castle of Elmo, said to be the richest establishment in the world, and consisting of seventy-two monks, was managed in 1802 for behoof of the crown.—There were only six monks in the house, poorly pensioned, with whom the institution closed. This magnificent palace is now a military barrack,—even the Chapel of exquisite beauty workmanship and materials, had been neglected for years. It was brushing up again in 1818. In 1802, I saw the monastic institutions of Italy in the north and in the south generally subsisting, with some examples here and there of complete suppression, the effect of particular violence; but it was impossible not to perceive at the same time, that the whole system was fast verging to total dissolution. I saw this tendency without much regret, satisfied so far that I had seen something of the system before its final departure. I again passed near a year in Italy, in 1817-18. In {the interval, the monastic institutions of every description had been universally suppressed, and in many instances, the monasteries were totally ruined, and even the chapels desecrated. At Vercelli, in Piedmont, between Milan and Turin, I remarked one very large and magnificent monastery of Capuchins, in a delightful situation, quite in ruins. The chapel, which was very handsome, is now used for a granary and magazine of hay, and I actually saw waggons loaded with hay driven in at the west door and through the Church. In 1802, in anticipating the dissolution of monasteries and the suppression of monks I felt no regret; but in 1818, I must confess that the view of such devastation excited in my mind, many melancholy recollections and emotions. In Bologna, of which, though it enjoys certain liberties, the Pope is in fact the Sovereign, the magnificent church of St. Francis, attached to a suppressed and ruined monastery, was turned by the French into a custom-house, and is still continued by the Pope's government to the same purpose. It consists of a superb cross, is a stately building, and was richly and magnificently fitted up. For size, beauty, and accomodation, it is perhaps the finest custom-house in the world. How little did its pious founders (for piety in their fashion they certainly possessed) dream that it would ever be applied to such a purpose, and that its desecration should be continued under Papal dominion!—No man will seriously regret the suppression of monaste-

ries. They cannot, I am persuaded, long continue in any country in which they yet subsist, or have been restored. Yet it is to be regretted that they were destroyed by violence; their secular buildings ruined, their sacred buildings desecrated; and that their revenues, which might have been devoted to so many social purposes of eminent utility, have totally disappeared by the absorption of public or private cupidity.

It is remarkable, that in Genoa, immediately after the expulsion of the French, the monks were restored, and the monasteries re-established by the general consent and demand of the people. In Piedmont, they have not been restored, probably in part from poverty, and in part from the influence of Austria. In the Italian dominions of Austria, which, including Tuscany, Parma, and Placentia, are very considerable, they are not restored, and the government has resolutely resisted every attempt and recommendation to that effect. In the Roman and Neapolitan territories, they have been partially restored; so far as the poverty of the former government and the policy of the latter would admit. The attempt is natural, and was to be expected, for the monks form in effect at once the body-guard of the Pope, — guard the outworks of the Papacy, and act as the general pioneers of the whole system of Popish superstition. But even in Rome, though they abound again in every order, (for even the Jesuits are restored, and are increasing in number and activity,) they have lost not less within the last twenty years in influence and in reverence than in property; and a very slight effort, to which the tendencies are strong and general, will now be sufficient to annihilate the race for ever, and to make it in Italy, as elsewhere, altogether a tale of other times.

However strange it may appear to those who know nothing of the subject, and who, from determined prejudice, consider all comparisons as odious, it is yet unquestionably true, that the various orders of monks resemble exceedingly, in their origin and object, in their arts, management, and enthusiasm, the various sects which have risen, and the various schemes which are daily forming among us, with claims of superior sanctity, activity, and truth, with an undeviating attention withal to the steady promotion of the private interests and public influence of the leaders of the sect, schism, or society. Into the first origin of monasteries, it is not my purpose at present to inquire. It is quite certain that the Church of Rome has applied and moulded the institution to her own mind, and in particular, it is quite clear that it has long been her policy to dispose of those precise, ardent, extraordinary, and extravagant spirits, which form schisms, and found sects among us, into monasteries, over which she retains some controul, and within the walls of which she contrives in a great measure to confine what she would not openly approve, and frequently what she would distinctly reject. It is in this way that a semblance of unity has been preserved in that church. They have the policy, in uniform and preserving activity, to preserve the public peace, and the appearance of unity. But though opinions are controuled in part by means of the monastic institutions, and are in general prevented from open jarring and public rupture by various other efforts of policy, in

fluence, and authority, the variety of opinions is probably quite as great and important in the Church of Romè, as in the Churches of the Reformation. The mendicant orders, (though there have been some remarkable, and some splendid exceptions,) are the great disgrace of monkery and religion. They are not merely an idle and indolent incumbrance to society, but they live by imposition, and grow rich by robbery.—With the exception of their permanent establishments and communities, the itinerant preachers who frequently wander about in our own country, and who sometimes act as missionaries abroad, have a strong and striking resemblance. They frequently assume their new profession, not only with very scanty instruction, but with all the vulgarity and low habits of the mechanical pursuits from which they are suddenly raised to the spouting-room and the pulpit; and they live in comparative ease, idleness, and independence, on the proceeds of popular delusion, and the scraps of cottage-industry. These sectaries and schismatics, from the highest to the lowest of their preachers of great gospel-pretensions, have more points of resemblance to the more rigid orders of monks, than a rash observer would readily believe. Their pretensions are highly spiritual; to hear their self-exposition, they are peculiarly distinguished by the epithet—not worldly, given up entirely to God and godliness. Yet whenever chance or inquiry brings you into a perfect acquaintance with their system and modes of proceeding, you will find uniformly and infallibly, that they never lose a single opportunity of promoting their own private interest and public influence, as if these, in their true temporal limitation, were the only objects of their spiritual labours, and of their not-worldly exertions. The mendicant monks are and were of the same description, with the simple difference, that they labour for the society, as well as for the individual. Something similar, indeed, exists among the men to whom I allude, who stand more on their personal ground than the monk, but who wish, where it does not interfere with self, to promote the general work of the sect or system. The monk is much more intolerant, narrow-minded in his views, bigotted in his attachments, and vindictive in his hatreds, than any other class of men, even of his own communion. The same intolerance, narrow-mindedness, bigotry, and violence, we shall find actuating the sectaries and schismatics among ourselves; and frequently all these are displayed, in the most revolting forms in which they can be displayed in a free country and in polished society, at the very time when they are claiming for themselves, in opposition to every establishment, the utmost possible latitude of opinion and of operation; claiming every thing, and yielding nothing.

I did not mean, even thus transiently, to note these remarkable resemblances,—though the subject may furnish valuable matter for some future paper. The truth is, that I have wandered from my subject, which led me to associate with the perusal of the "Monastery," the recent fall, the present condition and probable prospects, of the monastic institutions of Italy, the centre of the papal dominion and principles. The subject occupied my mind chiefly in the way of sentiment and emotion. The long duration, the vast extent and the powerful influence of those institutions, their influence on religion,

learning, manners, policy, government, and civilization, was in various ages, and even in very recent times, of the most powerful kind,—often quite irresistible. I saw those institutions mostly entire, the system continued, and the ordinary influence considerable, in the years 1801—2. They were, however, at that time most evidently tottering to their fall,—much of their wealth had disappeared,—several suppressions had taken place. The hope of succession was no where certain,—and the conviction of continuance could scarcely be said to exist seriously even among the monks themselves. Yet though such was my conviction in 1801 and 1802, and though my anticipations were mixed with nothing like regret, I must confess that the entire change which I witnessed in 1817 and 1818, in a great part of Italy, excited in my mind much and melancholy emotion. It seemed as if I had visited that country in two distant ages.—The besom of destruction, as to monasteries, palaces, and fortifications, had passed through the land in the interval, and the monks of every order, whom you met in every street, and who found their way into every house,—who could exercise their influence in every family, and reach their hand into almost every pocket, in 1802; had entirely disappeared in 1818, and would probably excite as much astonishment, and perhaps quite as much indignation, were they to venture to appear in their costume, and in procession, in the streets of Milan or Florence, as in those of London or Edinburgh. Even the secular clergy had been obliged to renounce their distinctive habit,—and the resumption of it seemed to excite as much curiosity in Milan for a few days, as the same costume probably would among us. So subject to change are all human institutions,—so transient is popular recollection.

It has been asserted, that the suppression of the Jesuits was the great predisposing cause of the French Revolution. This I consider as an idle and groundless conceit. The Jesuits had their day, and most certainly their influence was not always sound in morals, nor salutary in politics;—while it must be obvious, that if they could no longer manage to protect their own order, and avert its dissolution, they never could be expected to prevent the fall of the French Monarchy. No where in recent times have the monks as individuals, and as a body, had more general and decisive influence, than in Spain during the transactions of the last twelve years. Their influence on the public mind was prodigious, and so far it was generally and successfully exerted to conquer and maintain the national independence against French aggression and usurpation. When the great national deliverance was obtained; the monks were willing and eager that every thing should return to its ancient state—that they should continue or resume their ancient and general influence. But the monkish influence and establishments are evidently tottering to their fall, even in Spain. There is a current in the progress of society, which seems fated to such institutions. The age of monastic institutions and influence touches its close every where.—The current I think irresistible, and the consequences, if I mistake not greatly, will eventually be found of vast importance, by depriving superstition of one of its most efficient bulwarks.

(To be Continued.)

OLIVER CROMWELL.

There is a circumstance related of Cromwell, which, in the refinement of policy as well as in malevolence, is scarcely perhaps to be paralleled in history. When Cardenas was ambassador in England from the court of Spain, though he was treated with marks of uncommon attention by Cromwell, he could never be prevailed upon to betray any state secrets, or to enter into any measures whatever in favour of the Protector's views; yet still the latter was too cunning for him, for while he was making great naval preparations for a war against Spain, he had the address to make its minister believe that the fleet was destined for another purpose; and in this manner he amused him, till the burning of the galleons by Blake, opened his eyes. Cardenas resented this so much, that when he was recalled, he reversed every proposal of Cromwell's at the court of Madrid, so that while he remained there in office, the Protector found he was not likely to carry any point. He therefore determined on the destruction of this minister, though it was no easy matter to effect this, as his credit was great not only with the king his master, but with the whole Spanish court. Cromwell, however, conceived a way which he thought would effectually accomplish his ruin; and to put it in execution, he sent for the keeper of Newgate, and asked him many questions concerning the qualifications of his different prisoners, and among the rest, wished to know whether he had in custody, any remarkable for house-breaking. The gaoler told him, there was a fellow under sentence of death, that he believed could get in or out of any house in the world, if his hands were at liberty. The Protector ordered this man to be brought privately to him; but the fellow was such a miserable wretched wretch, that Cromwell stood astonished at the sight of him, and more so at the specimen's of his art, which he practised at the instance of the keeper, on locks of the most curious contrivance; these, though of different forms, he readily opened, and said, there was never a lock made that he would not undertake to open in the same manner. The keeper was then ordered to withdraw, and the Protector, after some private discourse with the thief, remanded him to Newgate under the same guard which brought him. But at the dead of night, he sent a trusty person to Newgate, with a warrant to the keeper for the criminal's release, and orders to bring him again into his presence to receive some instructions. When the fellow came there the second time, the Protector showed him the plan of a garden and pavilion, into which he was to make his way by opening a certain number of locks, each of which had three keys; and then he asked him, if he thought he could effect it, promising him not only a free pardon, but a considerable reward for his pains. The man said he could. The Protector told him he should be conducted to the place where the service was to be performed, and then he would have a letter given him, which he was to drop under a table that he would find in the middle of the pavillion, as there represented in the plan.— This was all the fellow was intrusted with, and care was taken to provide him with suitable apparel, and every thing necessary for his

journey, and the service he was about to perform; so that he no sooner received his instructions, than he was hurried off immediately, and put on board the vessel that was to carry him to Spain. The person to whose care he was intrusted, had his instructions likewise; but as the one did not know where he was to be carried, so the other was not acquainted with the business of his companion, and when he had brought him to the appointed place, and given him the letter, he was instantly to leave him to himself, and repair to Venice with another letter, which he was to deliver to the English envoy there. Each of these performed his service punctually. The letter which the felon carried, was addressed to Don Cardenas, Secretary of State to the King of Spain, and was written in English with Cromwell's own hand, thanking him for the care he had taken to perform his engagements; and acquainting him that the twenty thousand pounds sterling which had been stipulated, was lodged in the bank of Venice for his use, and that he might draw for it whenever he pleased. This letter, as Cromwell had foreseen, was picked up by the King, whose custom was to repair to that pavillion every morning, to deliberate on the affairs of the nation, and to read despatches, as well as to receive the assistance of his council. The King knowing the hand, but not understanding the contents, was greatly alarmed, and sent immediately for the English agent, who read the letter to his Majesty, but protested his ignorance as to any secret intelligence between Cardenas and his master, who, he said, was of such a temper as never to intrust a second person with things of that nature. This increased his Majesty's apprehensions; and when the council assembled, Cardenas was ordered to withdraw, and the letter was produced by the King, with an account of its contents, and the manner of finding it; adding that Cardenas was, indeed, the last man that sat there except his Majesty, the evening before it was found. All unanimously pronounced him a traitor; and his whole conduct while at the English court was recalled to mind, and urged as a proof of it; but his Majesty, whose affection for him was sincere, was unwilling to judge so rashly of him without further evidence, and knowing the artifices of courtiers to disgrace or supplant one another in their prince's favour, and that it might not be impossible but that some other of the council might counterfeit such a letter, and drop it there with a design of ruining Cardenas, proposed to trace the affair to the bottom before passing sentence, by sending to Venice to know if such a precise sum was lodged in the bank there, by whom lodged and for whose use. His Majesty's proposal was thought reasonable; and a messenger was immediately despatched to the Spanish minister at Venice, to make strict inquiry into the above particulars. The messenger returned, and brought with him the original order, dated the same day with the letter to Cardenas, written with the same hand, and, to remove all suspicion, sealed with the Protector's own seal. There now remained no farther doubt; Cardenas was infamously degraded, and his estate confiscated; but his Majesty, on account of his great age and long services, thought fit to spare his life.

PUBLIC EDUCATION:

From Dr. Beattie to Mrs. Inglis.

The great inconvenience of public education arises from its being dangerous to morals; and indeed, every condition and period of human life is liable to temptation. Nor will I deny, that our innocence, during the first part of life, is much more secure at home than any where else; yet even at home when we reach a certain age, it is not perfectly secure. Let young men be kept at the greatest distance from bad company; it will not be easy to keep them from bad books, to which in these days, all persons may have easy access at all times. Let us however suppose the best—that both bad books and bad company keep away, and that the young man never leaves his parents or tutor's side, till his mind be well furnished with good principles, and himself arrived at the age of reflection and caution: yet temptations must come at last; and when they come, will they have the less strength because they are new, unexpected and surprising? I fear not. The more the young man is surprised, the more apt will he be to lose his presence of mind, and consequently the less capable of self government. Besides, if his passions are strong he will be disposed to form comparisons between his past state of restraint and his present of liberty, very much to the disadvantage of the former. His new associates will laugh at him for his reserve and preciseness; and his unacquaintance with their manners, and with the world, as it will render him the more obnoxious to their ridicule, will also disqualify him the more, both for supporting it with dignity, and also for defending himself against it. Suppose him to be shocked with vice at its first appearance, and often to call to mind the good precepts he received in his early days; yet when he sees others daily adventuring upon it without any apparent inconvenience; when he sees them more gay (to appearance), and better received among all their acquaintance than he is; and when he finds himself booted at, and in a manner avoided and despised, on account of his singularity—it is a wonder, indeed, if he persist in his first resolutions, and do not now at last begin to think, that though his former teachers were well meaning people, they were by no means qualified to prescribe rules for his conduct. “The world,” he will say, “is changed since their time (and you will not easily persuade young people that it changes for the worse;) we must comply with the fashion and live like other folks, otherwise we must give up all hopes of making a figure in it.” And when he has got thus far, and begins to despise the opinions of his instructors, and to be dissatisfied with their conduct in regard to him, I need not add, that the worst consequences may not unreasonably be apprehended. A young man, kept by himself at home, is never well known even by his parents; because he is never placed in those circumstances which alone are able effectually to rouse and interest his passions, and consequently to make his character appear. His parents, therefore, or tutors, never know his weak side, nor what particular advices or cautions he stands most in need of; whereas, if he had attended a public

school and mingled in the amusements and pursuits of his equals, his virtues and his vices would have been disclosing themselves every day, and his teachers would have known what particular precepts and examples it was most expedient to inculcate upon him. Compare those who have had a public education with those who have been educated at home, and it will be found, in fact, that the latter are, either in virtue or in talents, superior to the former, I speak, madam, from observation of fact, as well as from attending to the nature of the thing.

AMERICAN MANUFACTURES.

The Exhibition of the *Franklin Institute*, at the Hall of the Musical Fund Society in Carpenter's Court, Philadelphia, deserves particular notice. It has attracted crowds of respectable visitors, who, in admiring the variety and beauty of the display of domestic manufactures, have felt a patriotic excitement as grateful to the heart as the exhibition is to the eye.

The present display of the Franklin Institute, remarkable as it is, is necessarily imperfect, and merely indicative of the great resources possessed for the purpose, which, perhaps, is not as yet duly comprehended and appreciated. There was no time for extensive preparations and systematic arrangements: a number of the articles did not arrive until after the commencement of the exhibition; several splendid ones, intended for it, could not be finished in season, and are reserved for the next, which will be held in a room several fold more spacious, and is expected to be considerably larger and more diversified. The number of articles now brought together is nearly one thousand; and most of these can be commended as either of great promise or positive excellence and beauty.

A large and beautiful model of a pure Greek Temple, of the first rank, supported by nearly one hundred columns: an elegantly finished and polished marble mantle, by Mr. Struthers, of Philadelphia: a highly ornamented coal grate, by Morris: a piano forte of fine tone and rich workmanship, by Loud: a very fine piano, by Geib: flutes and basoons by Catlin, equal in quality to Clementi's and at half his prices: a beautiful portable desk, similar to that presented by Lafayette to the Captain of the *Cadmus*: several articles of cabinet ware by West, inlaid with birds eye maple: ladies work boxes, very elegant: silver vases richly chased, by Fletcher and Harvey Lewis: busts of Lafayette by Rush and Percico: Models—of a steam engine, Clark's towing boat, a Fair Mount water wheel, an improved canal lock: an improved clock:—thermometers and barometers, by Fisher: morocco leather, handsome paper hangings, articles of leather, lamps hanging and mantle, an ingeniously contrived machine for making stove pipes, samples of first quality blistered steel, ditto of iron, cast iron chain for garden fence, samples of japanned ware, many samples of cotton goods, some very fine, made of cotton raised in the County of Philadelphia, imitation of blue nankeen, linen napkins, flannels,

negro cloths, sattinets, fine blue cloth, ditto from Steubenville factory, a sample of fine silk raised in Philadelphia County, oil cloth various patterns gilt buttons, screws, samples of fine soap, a repeating single barrel rifle, splendid cut glass, from Boston and Pittsburgh factories, sample of endless paper, from Gilpin's mill, samples of fine printing and binding, ditto of engraving, an electrical machine and air pumps, by Mason; domestic carpeting, &c. &c.

The Franklin Institute was organized in January 1828. It already counts from four to five hundred members, and has a constant accession of them. Its object is the greater prosperity, the universal improvement of the Mechanic Arts in America. Its regular Professors deliver respectively courses of Lectures on Mineralogy, Chemistry applied to the Arts, Mathematics, Mechanicks, Architecture, &c. It possesses a collection of models and samples, and a library, which increases fast and must soon be highly valuable. When its funds shall be adequate, a suitable edifice to contain its collections will be erected. At its anniversary dinner the wines of the United States are used. The annual subscription is three dollars.

Application is to be made to the legislature of the state of New-York, in November, to incorporate the New-York crown glass manufacturing company, with a capital of 600,000 dollars.

A new article of commerce, called Kelp, has lately been brought to New-York, from Saline. It in a great measure supersedes the use of potash in the manufactures for which that article is now used.

THE OATH OF TELL.

I look'd— and the maiden was dancing along;
And a cottage, embosom'd in trees,
A river reflected, whose jessaminé bowers
Exchang'd their perfumes with the breeze.

I return'd—and no longer the maiden was seen;
No grave but a desert was near;
No cottage—except that decay'd on the green,
I mark'd a few relics appear.

The hand of the stranger had levell'd the grove;
The inmates had sought—but had fell;
And the maiden been torn from the bosom of love,
With the spoiler, that pierc'd it, to dwell.

To heaven was pointed the sword in my hand,
As I knelt at the spot with a tear in my eye,
And an oath, with my country to fall, or to stand,
To conquer with Freedom, or die.

ON THE FOUNDATION AND ADVANTAGES OF MARRIAGE.

Whether marriage is founded in nature, or arises out of the institutions of civil law, is a question that has been long and much agitated. This great diversity of opinion has been much owing to an ambiguity of the words, 'Natural law and law of nature.' Some, for the proof of this, resort to man in a savage state, and thence derive their ideas of natural law: while others look to the analogies of nature, and the condition and constitution of man. That promiscuous concubinage arose out of a savage state and manners, was the universal belief of antiquity, as is particularly noticed by Cicero and Lucretius; and marriage they represent as one of the first steps towards reclaiming man from that state. Cecrops, who built Athens, is said, by some ancient writers, to have first founded marriage in Greece, and thence to have acquired the appellation of *Biformis*: and we are told, that until that period, the human offspring was raised wholly by the women. The testimony of the ancients in this respect is, however, doubtful, and not consonant to the notions entertained in the heathen mythology. Cæsar's account of the state of the Britons is very interesting, and more authentic: it differs from the former, for though the women were held in common among the different members of the family, yet the offspring became the immediate care of the (nominally) betrothed father.

If the opinions of the ancients were admitted respecting the state of man as to marriage, to what do they amount?—to an acknowledgment only of the degradation of human nature under such circumstances. Rather, therefore, than draw inferences from such a period of society, let us appeal to the history and experience of the species in those periods, when the highest attainments have prevailed. It is a mistaken notion of many, that savage life approaches nearer to a state of nature than a more cultivated state of society. The unnatural customs of disfiguring the body in different countries and in various ways; and in some of compressing the head so as to alter its natural form entirely, are proofs to the contrary: and the attention paid to the dictates of nature, as society itself improves, tends also to confirm this idea. But facts will explain better the intentions of nature in this respect. The helplessness of the human offspring, and the incapacity of the mother to suckle it, and at the same time to provide for other wants, necessarily call in the aid of man; and hence this union is founded on the physical condition of the species. Friendship also is universally allowed to be recognized among savages,—why then should it not prevail in its tenderest form between the sexes? Aristotle, indeed, thought friendship, in its strict acceptation, could only prevail between two individuals; but this exclusive attachment belongs solely to the passion of love, and is itself a presumptive argument in favor of marriage. The natural delicacy and modesty of the female character also, though by some deemed fictitious, conspires farther to the marriage union. This character is particularly noticed by Tacitus, in his account of the German savages, as if he

meant by his praise of it among them to censure indirectly the relaxation that then existed among his own countrymen. The accounts we have of the American Indians support the same opinion. From the natural shyness of females, some writers, as Dr. Stewart, deduce many of the customs attending the marriage ceremony in different countries,—such as the violence employed to compell the female to marry in Sparta, &c.; which reluctance, though there assumed, must have arisen from the cause in question. The helplessness of the infant state in rude periods of society, was, however, the chief foundation of marriage, and hence we find its obligations, more or less favourable to the sustenance of human life.

Lord Kames, in his sketch of the female sex, has drawn some ingenious arguments in favour of marriage from the connexions subsisting between the sexes in different classes of animals, where these are necessary to rear the offspring, as in the rearing of birds: and Mr. Hume in his essay on polygamy and divorce, has some observations to the same purport. The advantages of marriage in these respects are obvious to the most careless observers; and if taken in connexion with the happiness, the morality, and progressive improvement of the species, are of still higher importance. On these subjects volumes might be written. Even as connected with population, particularly as it regards the fertility of the female, marriage is of the greatest consequence to the state; it is also necessary to the rearing of the offspring, and Mr. Smith observes, that where neglect or poverty prevails, the tender plant is reared indeed, but in so cold a soil, that it soon withers and dies. What then must be the effect of neglect or relaxation in the sacredness of this institution, which even Plato considers as the foundation of his commonwealth, and Cicero beautifully calls the “seminary of the republic,” and which is indeed, the germ whence spring all the ramifications of virtue, which form the happiness of social life.

Marriage then is the result of the order of nature, and it is the business of the legislator to regulate only, and guard it against the vices and follies of individuals. It is not so much the creature, as the source of municipal institutions, being, like property, a condition presented by nature, which law is called upon to regulate only, and to secure. Hence, whether we examine it as founded in the nature of man, as supported by the analogies of nature in other animals, or consider it only in regard to the moral effects resulting from it, we shall find it equally conformable to the dictates of nature. Whether or not, it is to be looked upon like other institutions, in the light of a civil contract as connected with laws, is a question that may be fairly argued.

The history of the Romans shews, that whatever tended to relax the marriage contract, was attended with many and serious evils.—From the ease with which divorces could be at one time procured, instead of encouraging marriage, Augustus found it necessary to make laws, enforcing the men of fashion to marry; and at a latter period, the evils that followed, from the same cause of facility of divorce, are represented at large by Gibbon and others.

A question also connected with marriage is polygamy, and whether it be justified by the condition and nature of man. It is of two kinds, that is, as it regards a plurality of husbands or wives. Some curious instances of the former are given by travellers, but they are so singular and anomalous, that it will hardly be necessary to dwell on the subject; therefore, the following considerations refer only to polygamy, as it effects a plurality of wives.

The author of the "Treatise on the Right of Peace and War," in later times, and Euripides, among the ancients, have supported the opinion of the propriety of polygamy. It certainly has been practised among rude nations very extensively, especially in the warmer climates of the earth; but Tacitus says, that among the Germans it did not prevail, except as an appendage of dignity. The prevalence of polygamy has been always considered as a proof of the superiority of the male sex; and Dr. G. Stewart, who had conceived opinions of the importance of women in early periods of society, entirely suppresses the passage of Tacitus, that says, it prevailed at all among the Germans. As before remarked, however, the moral intentions of nature are not to be taken from the manners of rude ages; and we may collect more clearly her intentions, by a consideration of some facts which experience has established, and in particular the provision made by nature for keeping up a balance between the two sexes. Mr. Grant, who assisted Sir W. Petty in his political enquiries, states, the males to be to the females in the proportion of 14 to 13; and from this he concludes, that christianity, by forbidding polygamy, is more conformable to nature than other religious systems.* Derham also states the sexes as nearly equal, allowing for loss by war, &c.: and from the writings of some authors in Germany, Prussia, and those of Dr. Price in England, it may be concluded that—first, the sexes do very nearly approximate in numbers; secondly, that the excess is on the side of the male; and thirdly, that this excess is counteracted by the greater mortality of males. Nor does this mortality arise merely from accidental causes, but from a greater fragility of constitution. More males die still-born than females, in the proportion of 30 to 21; and Price says, that under 10 years of age, the males that die are as 8 to 7, in proportion to the females. He doubts, however, whether this is a necessary condition of nature, or arises from accidental causes; and from examination it is found, that the proportion in the deaths of the sexes is much nearer an equality in the country than in large towns, whence he concludes, that the greater mortality is accidental only.

These facts then are sufficient proof of the conformity of monogamy to the condition of nature, as well as to the happiness of society. Montesquieu, however, from some accounts, that the girls in Japan, and some other parts, exceed the boys as 22 to 18; and from the ear-

* Mr. Bruce states, that in some parts of Asia, the females bear children as early as nine or ten years of age, and cease to do so at the age of 22 years. To compensate for the shortness of the child-bearing period, it is observed that the female children born are to the males, in the proportion of three or four to one.—Dr. Hamilton.

lier maturity and speedier decay of female beauty in such climates, is disposed to justify polygamy; but the facts on which his reasonings are founded, are in some instances denied by Mr. Marsden, and in other respects are not sufficiently authentic to establish conclusions contrary to those already stated.

A LETTER TO A YOUNG GENTLEMAN ENTERING UPON THE STUDY OF THE LAW, WRITTEN SEVERAL YEARS SINCE.

DEAR SIR.—The very amiable manner in which you have requested my observations on the connexion of law with history and polite literature, has determined me to make the attempt in the best manner I am capable: if it contains any thing worthy your attention, my vanity will be completely gratified. You have just quitted an excellent seminary,* with a mind richly stored in the literature and fine arts of Greece and Rome. You have been taught to love virtue, and to practice it; and your aim is to attain excellence. You are about to enter upon a profession: your future advancement to rank and distinction in that profession will depend upon the sentiments you entertain of it, and the knowledge you arrive to in it. Be not disheartened at the outset of your studies; persevere, and you will conquer.—Men of light and superficial minds have been apt to decry the study of law as dry and unprofitable, and as affording but little scope for the exertions of an elegant mind. Such opinions are not deserving your attention; they are unqualified. Jurisprudence, in all ages of polished society, has claimed the attention of the first rate scholars and philosophers. Perhaps no science opens such an amplitude for the exertion of the finest faculties of the human mind: it invites us to trace the greatest efforts mankind have made in society and government; it incites us to observe many distinguishing features in the history of man. We philosophize at the infancy of society, when a knowledge of “right and wrong” is very slightly impressed on the mind; we pursue our researches till we discover what are to be the future rights on the establishment of the great charter of liberty. It may appear strange to you at first, but the history of the mind proves it to be true, that the ideas of right and wrong, of subordination and distinction of rank, have their first existence in the early periods of society, and long before the uses of government can be perceived. It is reserved for the empire of truth and philosophy, in after ages, to consider the springs and sources of moral action,—to prescribe boundaries to sovereignty,—to allow the proper measure of political freedom to man, considered as one belonging to an aggregate body.—Hence there opens to the eye of the curious observer an interval in the progress of the human mind from ignorance to the benevolent period of light, liberty, and knowledge; which shews itself in occupations of

* Winchester College, under the Wartons at the time of writing.

beautiful simplicity, in the infancy and rising strength of government, in history, in poetry, and in arts.

On a foundation thus simple has been reared the great system of universal jurisprudence, collecting in its slow progression the wisdom of ages;—a system so intimately connected with history, as to make it impossible for you, or any one, to understand its principles, without recurring to that stage of society when the mind was only qualified for sowing the seeds of liberty. We have reason to thank Heaven, and to bless a soil that may justly be compared to the river Nile, in spreading a fertility every where around its noble source. Perhaps, too, there cannot be a better criterion for coming at the true history of a people, than by attending to their laws and customs through the channel of history. And can the mind receive a nobler or more elevated gratification than it receives in attending to historical deductions of law, to the final establishment of an enlightened polity, to the completion of those principles of liberty which exalt the human character, and which have made us in particular a nation of freemen! The reason is exercised in discovering latent causes, and tracing effects through a long and numerous train of nice, yet beautiful dependencies. The English law cannot be acquired in a liberal and polite manner, neither can its admirable constitution be understood without an attention to the history and principles of the ages which gave life and vigour to both.

Lord Kames, speaking of the historical principles of law, has the following beautiful and apposite resemblance of it to the river Nile: "When we enter upon the municipal law of any country in its present state, we resemble a traveller who, crossing the Delta, loses his way amongst the numberless branches of the Egyptian river; but when we begin at the source, and follow the current of law, it is in that course no less easy than agreeable, and all its relations, and dependencies are traced with no greater difficulty, than are the many streams into which that magnificent river is divided, before it is lost in the sea." In a situation thus bewildered you will find yourself, unless you begin with the history and original sources of English law. You must trace the feudal system,—attend its spirit, genius, and consequences, to the ages that witnessed its meridian sway,—carefully peruse the history of this strange policy from the Conquest of the latter end of the reign of Charles II., when a statute was made for the abolition of military tenures, the great pillar of the feudal system. This statute gave it a mortal blow; it fell we hope to rise no more. In your legal progress you will observe many of its vestiges in our present juridical code.—Much of our common law is deducible from this source, particularly the laws of descent, and therefore cannot be explained, in a scholar-like and rational way, without a strict acquaintance with the laws introduced by the Conqueror. We depreciate the government of William on account of its despotic consequences, yet we enjoy at this hour lasting advantages from it. The English constitution rises before, the eye in solemn grandeur and majesty, but it is, nevertheless, founded on a basis made of various materials. Much was added to the magnificence of its superstructure during the feudal ages. The foundation stone was only laid by the hand of the immortal Alfred;

the august and venerable fabric did not astonish the world till after ages: so slow is the growth of Empire, law, and freedom. The student of English law, who connects with it the study of history, will find great assistance in Robertson's Charles the Fifth, in Stewart's View of the progress of society in the middle Ages, in Henry's History of Britain, and Reeves's History of English Law. Other authors may be added, but, for the present, those just mentioned will suffice: they are writings excellent in this department. These very acute observers, have investigated in the true spirit of a manly and penetrating philosophy, many latent principles in the history of law, in the progress of manners and society from rudeness to a state of refinement: they have exhibited many of the habitudes of the human mind in strong and decisive characters. An author, the whole of whose writings cannot be recommended, but who has made such very judicious remarks on the uses of history with law, that they must not be passed over without transcribing at length, says, "I might instance in other professions the obligations men lie under of applying themselves to certain parts of history, and I can hardly forbear doing it in that of the law,—in its nature the noblest and most beneficial to mankind, in its abuse and debasement the most sordid and most pernicious. A lawyer now is nothing more, (I speak of ninety-nine out of a hundred, at least,) to use some of Tully's words, nisi legulicus quidem cautus, et acutus præco actionum, cantor formularum, auceps syllabarum.— But there have been lawyers that were orators, philosophers, historians; these have been Bacons and Clarendons. There will be none such any more, till, in some future age, true ambition, or the love of fame, prevails over avarice; and till men find leisure and encouragement to prepare themselves for the exercise of this profession, by climbing up to the vantage ground (so my Lord Bacon calls it) of science, instead of grovelling all their lives below, in a mean but gainful application to all the little arts of chicane. Till this happen, the profession of the law will scarcely deserve to be ranked among the learned professions; and, whenever it happens, one of the vantage grounds to which men must climb is metaphysical, and the other historical knowledge. They must pry into the secret recesses of the human heart, and become well acquainted with the whole moral world, that they may discover the abstract reason of all laws, of particular estates, especially of their own, from the first rough sketches to the more perfect draughts,—from the first causes or occasions that produced them, through all the effects, good and bad, that they produced."—You will observe much good sense in these remarks of Bolingbroke. It is to be lamented that such splendid and eloquent talents should ever have been employed in the achievement of a false and dangerous system of Sophistry, absurdly called philosophy. When we read his Essay on History, and his Patriot King, we must forget he ever wrote any thing besides. By giving this liberal scope to your studies, you will learn to reverence and admire a science which has indisputable pretensions to the appellation of sublime, and of an exalted rank in the empire of reason. You will learn to reverence a science which distinguishes the criterions of right and wrong—a science which

teaches the principles and boundaries of civil freedom—which employs in its moral and philosophical theory the most sublime faculties of the human mind—and which affords in its practice an opportunity for a full and expanded exercise of those cardinal virtues and affections of the heart which proceed from an elevated, standard of moral excellence. You will show yourself a benefactor to mankind; and the latest posterity will hold in reverential memory the name of the lawyer and the judge. You will find a stimulus to great and worthy actions in the lives of such men as Hyde, Talbot, Hall, Blackstone, and Mansfield. In contemplating the characters of men of such distinguished excellence, our virtues receive energy, and the soul feels a noble elevation of thought; and disposition to shew itself in action worthy its godlike faculties.

I am now arrived to that part of my letter in which I beg permission to introduce a few observations on the Commentaries and on the genius of their author. Till the appearance of this excellent work there is little doubt that law subjects were studied and treated of in a manner confined, and as it were mechanical, when compared to that spirit of philosophical and historical analysis adopted by the great commentator. There is no work on English law antecedent to the commentaries, that displays any thing of the scholar and accomplished writer, except a little treatise, entitled "Considerations on Forfeiture," written by the late Mr. Yorke, who unfortunately died on the day he had the honour to receive the seals: in him the world felt a severe loss. Do not believe that in what I am about to observe, I mean to depreciate in your estimation the labours of Coke and Lyttleton, of Bacon, of Hale; I venerate the noble fabric their geniuses have reared; and am persuaded, that without a full comprehension of all its parts, neither you, nor any man, can be a profound lawyer. You are to consider Blackstone, as a fine writer considers him, whom I shall have occasion hereafter to mention—"His commentaries are the most correct and beautiful outline that ever was exhibited of any human science; but they alone will no more form a lawyer, than a general map of the world, how accurately and elegantly soever it may be delineated, will make a geographer."—They are directions only to those sources which alone will make a truly learned lawyer: as such they must be attended to. The Commentaries have many and various excellencies; they have rescued "law from pedant phrase;" they have consigned to oblivion the grovelling prejudices of a set of men who have wished to decry in law composition, the uses of history and polite literature.—Blackstone is one of the few who has made law speak the language of a scholar, historian, and accomplished writer. Those who are entering on the profession of the law with the advantages of a liberal and improved mind, will do well to be guided by the the Commentaries—to emulate their author's attainments—to explore the genuine sources of them: by making this use of Blackstone, it will bring every law-book of real value to their acquaintance; it will enable them to unfold the intricacies of law with intuitive rapidity—to mark the numberless niceties which attend our abstruse, though elegant system of real property—to trace the great and lea-

ding principles of our jurisprudence up to their original elements. Blackstone was admirably qualified to embellish English law; he was an excellent scholar, and well acquainted with universal history, antient and modern; he was eminent in his knowledge of the jurisprudence, literature, and polite arts of antiquity. The Grecian bards and historians (if you will allow me thus to express myself) assisted him in the Commentaries. He was well acquainted with the writings of the Roman lawyers, and he has shewn us their real value. The muses, too, encouraged him when he relaxed from severer studies: the little poem entitled his Farewell, shews he had been successful in his offerings, and that he had drunk deep at the Pierian spring. I shall deserve your censure if I pass over our lawyer's most favourite poet, the poet of nature, the immortal Shakspeare; to whose writings the commentaries are indebted for the most beautiful and sublime ideas of government, of laws, of liberty, of justice, and mercy. The pure morality of Shakspeare's drama is interwoven with the history of the mind. He achieved a system for the regulation of human life "beyond all Greek, all Roman fame." His vast and creative soul embraced the whole moral world, he penetrated into the darkest recesses of the heart, and entered into every condition of the life of man. I beg pardon for a digression that flows as it were involuntary from my admiration of this illustrious writer.—It calls to my remembrance the following lines of your favourite Akenside:

O, youths and virgins! O, declining eild!
 O, pale misfortune's slaves! O, ye who dwell
 Unknown with humble quiet! ye who wait
 In courts, and fill the golden seat of kings!
 O, sons of sport and pleasure! O, thou wretch!
 That weep'st for jealous love and the sour wound
 Of conscious guilt, or death's rapacious hand,
 That left thee void of hope! O ye who mourn
 In exile! ye who thro' the embattled field
 Seek bright renown; or who for nobler palms
 Contend! the leaders of a public cause.
Hath not his faithful tongue
Told you the fashion of your own estate,
The secrets of your bosom?

Blackstone is the author of several notes to Shakspeare's plays, which at once evince his genius, his judgment, and his taste. The fourth book of his Commentaries shew that he admired Portia's pleading for Antonio, in the Merchant of Venice. The solemn appeal to mercy is worthy of being engraven in letters of gold; of a place in the hearts of Kings and legislators. Blackstone was a great admirer of the stage; he very justly considered it the school of the world: its great excellence consists in a faithful representation of life and manners, and this peculiarity belongs to the genius of Shakspeare's drama. But enough—I have wandered too much from the subject of this letter. It may be laid down as an axiom, the truth of which is not to be questioned, that the English lawyer by no means mispends any of his time in seeking an acquaintance with what is justly called polite lit-

erature. It gives to his language an elegance and classic purity unknown to men of narrower pursuits. I cannot conclude these imperfect observations without calling your attention to a little law tract written by Sir William Jones. It is on the subject of bailment, and he has made it a composition truly elegant and judicious for its method and arrangement. He has treated the subject analytically, historically, and synthetically, and illustrated it by the Roman law, the Athenian law, the Jewish law, and the Salic law. The author possesses a taste so admirably correct and refined that it would do honour to any age or nation.

I hope by this time you behold the real character of a lawyer; you conceive it to be important and honourable in society; you have my sincere wishes for success in all your intellectual undertakings, and that you may live to be a lasting ornament to mankind.

 PILLLEDONES :

AN ACADEMICAL CHARACTER.

The moralists of every age agree in this point; that example is more forcible than precept. In the same degree as example exceeds precept, experience is found superior to example.

After all the lucubrations of philosophers; the menaces of legislators, and the exhortations of divines; the world still abounds with instances of the ill effects of misconduct. Instances so numerous and striking as to force attention and claim regard. If example could reform mankind, we should by this time only read of the fatal vices of ambition, of envy, of avarice, and of lust, in the obsolete invective of some splenetic satirist long forgotten and despised. But we still see the unwary youth with hasty step pursue the path which just now led his companion with pain and sorrow to the grave. We still see the brow wrinkled with the toils of gain, the eye clouded with malice at the sight of superior worth, and the heart panting after honours and distinctions, which drew on their former possessors pain and misery.

The hardened votaries of the more manly vices, are not to be reclaimed by feeling the inconveniencies of their several pursuits. It is true, the miser partakes not of the joys of social converse, nor tastes the feast of luxury, nor reclines in the softness of indolence; but he rejoices at a favourable revolution in the price of stocks, and learns to forget the absence of real enjoyment. Hope leads on the ambitious man, and bids him smile at disappointment; and even the envious may be relieved at observing the misfortunes of a superior. The experience of the evils of their several vices, does not incline the inveterate slaves of passion to a reformation, because there still remains some equivalent happiness, to compensate the absence of the common satisfactions of life, which are incompatible with their pursuit. With these, neither precept, nor example, nor experience operate.

But there is one race of unhappy mortals, who, though equally

blind to example with the above unhappy wretches, may yet be restored to ease and happiness, by personal experience of the evils arising from their follies. I mean the gay, the blithe, the young, who wanton in the sunshine of pleasure, ransack every rose in search of honey, and live but to be delighted. These halcyon beings are chiefly in the youthful tribe of mankind; and the same flow of spirits which renders them unaffected by example, occasions a nicer sensibility of the evils of experience. To these it may not be a vain labour to address an admonition, that they would then at length stop their career, when they have lost their road; then return to the right path, when they have felt the misery of a mistake.

From the restraint of scholastic discipline, and the honest emulation of a school-boy, Philedones entered into dissipation and idleness in a certain college, in one of our Universities. On his first association with the younger members of the society, he could not but observe that he was received with the careless sneer of contempt. His penetration was too acute to be long ignorant of the cause of his insignificancy. A head adorned with nothing but what nature had bestowed, a few lank locks of hair, and a coat with skirts full two inches longer than the fashion of the time, had rendered him an object of supreme contempt. As he had sagacity enough to discover his defect; so he had spirit enough to apply an immediate remedy. The neatest taylor is investigated. A suit is prepared with the nicest art. The abilities of the dapper tonsor are exerted on his head. He is equipped. His heart glows, and he hastens to his companions.

Elate with the marks of esteem and affection with which he is received, he resolves to assume the character of a leader of *Bon Ton* among his brother academics.

The more time he spent among his gay companions, the less he dedicated to an acquaintance with the old gentlemen in leathern coats. The *Mæonian* was neglected for a party of pleasure, and the *Categoricals* of Aristotle were postponed for a cheerful glass.

Hitherto he retained so much of the schoolboy, as to be content with diversions, which, though trifling, were innocent. As his connections increased, his views became enlarged. He discovered that, in order to complete the *Man* it was necessary to be distinguished for some exploit above the abilities of a puling school-boy. Without the instigation of passion, he became a debauchee, and without the love of wine, a drunkard.

Now at length he appeared in a new character. The innocent gaiety of natural cheerfulness was now to be supplied by a forced smile and an affected levity. Sorry for his conduct, he has not fortitude to amend it.—With reluctance he returns to pleasures he detests, to banish and blunt the edge of sensibility.

This was the important moment in which a retreat was practicable. Experience had shown him enough of vice to make him abhor it, and habit had not yet so closely chained him as to render him unable to regain his liberty.

Philedones, from a frequent recurrence to the more licentious amusements, began to lose the diffidence which ever attends the novice in

iniquity. He could not help wondering at his own childishness, when he called to mind his late fears and uneasiness. In his confidence he was confirmed by the careless jollity of his comrades, most of whom, much older than himself, had long forgot the blush of modesty and the feelings of innocence. Our hero could not brook superiority of merit. In all the accomplishments of consummate libertinism, he soon equalled the most eminent of the society. Sometimes the body yields before the mind. Philedones was seized with a violent fever, and pronounced to be at the point of death.

It is a true remark, that we are never so good as when we are stretched on the bed of sickness. Philedones with a frequent sigh declared the vanity of pleasure, lamented the folly of youth, and resolved, if Heaven should restore him, to become a zealot in the cause of Temperance, and Virtue. The physician gave hopes. In a few weeks Philedones was well.

Here was another opportunity of returning to the calm, the innocent life of a man of letters, a life for which he was designed. The passions were asleep he force of habit had been overpowered, and every allurement was at a distance, Philedones embraced the happy moment, felt himself glow with a sense of his own amendment, and, in short, was happy.

The gay world is seldom backward in the punctilios of ceremony. The acquaintance of the recovered invalid flocked around to pay their congratulations. Philedones received them at first with the coldness of a man who attributed all his errors to their example and encouragement. The want of the usual jollity of salutation, they attributed to the faintness of a recent indisposition. They repeated their visits. Philedones regained his health and spirits, and, overcome by solicitation, returned to his forsaken friends.

And now he was completely steeled against the silent attack of inward conviction, and the open reproof of the friends of virtue. The childish vices he had hitherto indulged, appeared despicable. His genius, comprehensive as it was, soon found at the gaming table a sufficient fund of business and entertainment. The rapid succession of hope and fear gave such exercise to his mind, and excited such violent emotions during the time of play, that in the cessation from the dice-box, life was insipid and insupportable. The bottle is a constant resource to those whose vacancy obliges them to study the arts of wasting time, the most valuable possession. The whole employment of the life of Philedones was now comprized in shaking the dice and crowning the free bowl. The former impaired his fortune; the latter, his constitution. To recount the various alternations of success and loss, of elation and depression, were an endless task. Suffice to relate, that the unhappy, Philedones played away a competent estate, which might have furnished him a rural retirement, in a peaceful old age; that he ruined a constitution which might have rendered him an active member of the community; that he lived a wretch, and died unlamented.

DRAMATIC TRAVELS.

The Diligence from Paris to Lyons.

Madame de Staël (and hers is the best name I know to lead off an essay) declared, that, were she going to the gallows, she would be busied all the way in scrutinizing the characters of her fellow-convicts. No doubt, she was thinking of the old times, when one was sure to meet with good company, and plenty of it, in a trip to the guillotine. Not being over particular, I must prefer, for the scene of my observations, a vehicle of less *dispatch*; for in running post to the other world, according to the supposition of the ever-supposing Baroness, I should be a deal too absorbed in number One to be at all dramatic. Such scenes are rather too much for a joke—and I here may mention having been for the first time highly disgusted with the facetious Pierce Egan, for representing the last scene of the condemned in one of his variegated caricature. No—give me a *Diligence*, that pleasant misnomer, that with sixteen, eighteen, nay, twenty passengers, stowed in three cabins, and a parachute-looking affair called a *Cabriolet*, at top, together with I know not how many tons weight of baggage, rolls along the *payé* at the rate of two miles and a half per hour, stoppages not-included. “Didst ever see a *Diligence*?” Wert thou ever, then, at Chelsea or Battle-bridge, at Greenwich or Brook-green fair? Saw’st thou the elephant’s vehicle and habitation, or that of the lions? “Walk in, gentlemen!” You may remember these. Such is a *Dilligence*! And lumbering vehicles as they are, enough indeed to drown any John Bull in a flood of spleen; yet, let me tell you, the yard of the *Messageries Royales* beats out and out your *White Horse Cellar*, or your *Swan with Two Necks*. I don’t talk of Portsmouth, or Liverpool, or voyages in the sea-way, for “that beats Banagher,” as we Irishmen say; but in the quiet, well-behaved, rowley-powley mode of travelling on dry land, the very sublime of tantalization is the *Messageries*. Only suppose one of our island brethren dropt there, one of those fellows, greedy of travel, with the organ of space protruding like a horn from the midst of his forehead, with what feelings must he peruse the inscriptions on the *Diligence* and over the *bureaus*—to Bayonné and Madrid—to Lyons, Turin, Milan, Rome, &c.—to Strasburg, Munich, Vienna—to Berlin—to St. Petersburg. Lord bless you, sir, ‘twould be as much as his life’s worth!

“*En route*,” cries the conducteur, *Montez Messieurs*;” but before getting in, and, consequently, describing my company, I must premise that the *Diligence* has five horses; tis strange, but I have always found that French postillions, like poets, (is it poets?) delight in odd numbers. For many a cogitative post was this point a subject of puzzle and annoyance to me. I asked the reason of all and every postillion; they shook their enormous cues, but answered nothing, till, at last, one fellow, more knowing than the rest, told me, with a sly look at his legboxes, that the odd horse was for his boots. This reason was fully adequate.

Being all seated, we trotted off, and ere the coach reached Fon-

tainbleau, I was in full possession of the country, profession, and opinions of my fellow passengers. In spite of my wishing to be a bit of a republican, I never yet encountered a society, great or small, without being thoroughly convinced of the non-existence and moral impossibility of equality: go where you will, there is always a cock of the walk. There was one here—a stout, well-built, comfortable Breton, of that province of France which preserves, in character, the similarity to Old England, which its name and origin would lead us to expect. Our Breton, however, was not all English: a sharp hook nose, and jaw of more than ordinary dimensions, bespoke the Frenchman. He accosted us all gaily, without any of that long ice-breaking conversation about the weather, which generally occupies the first half-hour of our stage-coach journeys. Of the postilions, peasants, conducteur, &c. he demanded divers questions out of the window in an authoritative tone, designating them with a supercilious, *tu*.—Sweet second person singular!—not when thus flung to a menial or inferior, but when the fascinating lip of the foreign fair allows, and replies with the endearing monosyllable. Reader, if thou intendest to act the *gallant traveller*, a kind now the most fashionable amongst us, and strangely omitted by Sterne, and if in thy first adventure thine ears are saluted with the novel and delightful sounds of *mon cœur—je suis à vous, &c. &c.* believe them not. One *tu*, one *va*, one *va-t-on* is worth a thousand pathetic sentences and protestations, unless, indeed—the lady should go so far as to call you her good friend, her *bon ami*, for that denotes a conquest won. Strange! that so vivacious a nation should use, in appearance, the coldest terms of endearment, should mark their affection by one syllable, and its highest point by three.—“*Mu respectable amie,*” writes St. Præux to Julie. What a sentence for an English lover to preface a love-letter with!—“My respectable friend!”—O Jehu!

The worthy Breton had received answers from, that is, made acquaintance with, all the inmates of our rumbling tabernacle, save and except one, an English dandy, who as yet had not recovered confidence enough in strange company to trust his mouth with French. He, however, shewed his affability and wish to be conversable by admiring with his eyes and fingers the fur-pelisse of the Breton. Having felt it for some time, he demanded what it was made of!—“Wolf-skin.” To which, in the true dandy chain of argument, the Englishman redemanded, where such was to be had, and what it would cost? “*Un coup de fusil?*” said the Breton. “And there are such animals here?” said the Briton. “Sure as a gun, in Bretagne,” said the other. About ten minutes had elapsed, when my dandy drew out his memorandum-book, as by stealth, and noted down—*Mem. Wolves in Britany.*

In the corner opposite to me sat an old corporal of the *Es*, or imperial guard, as I soon found out, when the view of the little inn at Cour de France, where Napoleon passed the night, of the surrender of Paris, and the Chateau of Fontainbleau, the scene of the Emperor's first abdication, led us to talk of the great man. The corporal had been in Spain, and in Russia, and at Leipsic he had bidden adieu for a while to the *grande armée*, having got heartily tired of fighting all day, and accompanying the Emperor all night with torches. I envied

the rogue's situation of holding a candle to Napoleon. He added, that his regiment had been *érasé*, annihilated at Waterloo ; that, as one of the ex-guard, he could not hope to be again employed ; and that he was returning to Nismes, his native town, to turn his sword into a plough-share. Yet he did not speak as a thorough Bonapartist, whose extreme and uncompromising admirers are now, I have remarked, for the most part confined to England. Like almost all the French *militaires*, he had grown not a little ashamed of the later invasions of Napoleon ; and he had made that progress in impartiality, which the ignorant generally do, who never arrive farther than common-place. He hated the English mortally, and told me so, for which I honoured him internally, externally striving to put on a smile of contempt ; and the fellow was deeply read in the twenty volumes of the "*Victoires et Conquêtes des Français*," which he quoted, chapter and verse, to my frequent discomfiture, who could by no means cope with the twenty volumes.

To complete my *dramatis personæ*, I should describe the bodkins, otherwise the occupiers of the middle seats, who, however, exchanged places now and then with other and divers wights from the cabriolet, *a parte post*, and *a parte ante*, as Mr. Coleridge would describe them. The bodkins proper, consisted of a young gentleman and his wife, both of whom (for in France, in forty-nine cases out of fifty, the grey mare is the better horse) had a little time since established an iron-foundry on the banks of the Loire, through the means of English capital, English machinery, and English workmen : an hundred of the latter, he informed me, he had transported from Wales and Staffordshire, to his manufactory near La Charité : the rogues did well, but liked the wine too much. He spoke of England, and of Mr. Crachy, the *roi de fer*. The little man, and his little wife, talked, looked, and breathed nothing less than iron, which, with the brass of the corporal and the Breton, left us Englishmen to look rather *soft* in such metallic company.

I never yet was in adiligence, stage, or public vehicle, that each passenger did not vow, that it was the narrowest and most uncomfortable one he ever was in ; this consequently was ejaculated and echoed, *nem-con*. the responses of the bodkins being the longest and most querulous. "Last year," said the man of iron, "there was delightful travelling, and cheap, by the voiture of the Master of the Posts, that brought one in two nights to Lyons ; but our blessed government, which meddles with every thing, was bribed by a round sum of money from the Diligence-office to put a stop to the competition. So now we pay double, and take double the time—the blessed effects of legitimacy. This is not the way they manage matters in England." The Breton being an Ultra and a Bourbonist, kindled at the word *legitimacy*, as did the corporal at the mention of England, and they growled their invectives in such unison, that it was impossible to understand either. "It's the way with you all," continued the surviving voice of the Breton ; "all you '*sacrés négocians et fabriquans*,' damned merchants and manufactures, are insurrectionists, and carbonari, and wish the downfall of your legitimate Sovereigns." The little man, instead of repelling the accusation, grinned assent, and began to open

his case by the *Guerre d'Espagne*. Here they fell to it tooth and nail, the Breton quoting the *Drapeau Blanc* to prove that Bessières had taken Madrid, and his antagonist bringing forward the *Constitutionnel* to prove the fleets and armies that England was preparing to defend the Peninsula withal. Here the corporal broke in, "*je voudrais bien voir Messieurs les Anglais encore une fois en Espagne.*" I observed, "he might perhaps have that pleasure."—The corporal, skilled in his art, knew the ground he held was weak, so he took up an ironical position. "But the English, it must be allowed," said he, "are good soldiers, they fight almost as well as the Russians."—"Why," said I, with a lucky memory at the moment, "which of your regiments was it, that beat so gallantly the Russian Imperial Guards at Austerlitz?" "Twas my own," said the soldier with kindling enthusiasm; "it was the chasseurs of the imperial guard that *culbutaient*, upset, the Russians at Austerlitz."—"You yourself belonged to that regiment? then you must have been also in Portugal at the passage of the Esula?" The corporal answered "*Oh oui*," with a most involuntary accent, it being there that Lord Paget overthrew and cut up the said *chasseurs* with notable slaughter. "But we were outnumbered," continued he, "as we always were when beaten—at Toulouse, for instance, were you not double our number?"—"Perhaps so, but you were beaten; at Talavera, you were double our number, yet were repulsed." The corporal was about to reply, when he was taken in flank by my dandy compatriot with a burst of French and English, but so mingled and so uncouthly pronounced, that neither of us knew what to make of it. It, however, interrupted an argument which might have gone farther than was agreeable.

Thus we jogged on through the wild and rocky tract beyond Fontainebleau, the beautiful town of Nemours, and Montargis, when night overtook us.—Thence the next day, along the Loire to Nevers, where we were assailed by myriads of these manufacturers of bead purses, bead cords, and bead every thing, selling, for sous what cost shillings in England. The Loire is broad and grand, but it possesses no beauty.—I was going to observe great rivers seldom do, but the Rhine occurred, and saved me from an assertion which France and Italy would allow. We had lost our hodkins, and here took in others, people of the country, who joined the corporal in relating feats of the French arms, and bearing testimony to each other's veracity mutually. Their yaunts, however, did not interfere with me, as here the Austrians were concerned, being encamped for a long time in 1814, they on one side of the Loire and Davoust on the other, in a state of truce nominally, but really in continued perils to the Germans from the hatred, sagacity and courage of the French peasantry. Roanne was generally the scene of these short and sanguinary struggles. Here we passed a beautiful bridge of Napoleon's, not yet over the Loire, but at the side of it. I forgot to mention that we had passed through Moulins, nay, through its very market-place, as mean and dirty a hole as ever was hallowed by sentiment. To look for Maria was in vain; the girls of the Bourbonnais are not pretty, and French girls know how to console themselves in better ways than Maria with her pipe. Neither Dandy, Breton, nor Corporal, had ever read the *Sentimental Journey*;

so I was left to a long soliloquy on Sterne and sentiment—"all that sort of thing and every thing in the world." Mounting Tarare, and rolling down to Lyons, little conversation passed worth recording; we entered the second capital of France, and found it in a devil of an uproar—it was the funeral of the God Mercury, the Deity of Commerce, whose obsequies seven or eight hundred youths had followed, and they had finished by casting poor Commerce into the Rhone, to the great annoyance and occupation of the police.

ON GOOD AND BAD TEMPERS.

It is generally understood, that by temper we mean that prevailing mental disposition of each individual, which is chiefly discovered in social intercourse. It has been justly remarked, that temper is distinguished from passions, as they by degrees subside; whereas temper is the peculiar disposition habitually remaining after such commotions of the mind are over.

There are some dispositions that cannot be called good, and yet, strictly speaking, are not radically evil, such as a fearful, a fretful, or a capricious temper. There are others which are evil, but not in the highest degree, such as a surly or a sulky temper. These must be very trying to amiable persons who are obliged to live with or submit to their ill humours; but there are some which are really bad, being evil in their very nature, and disturbing the peace of society. Of these we may reckon the few following:—

The first is an *ungoverned* passionate temper. There are many most excellent characters who are naturally choleric, yet, restraining their irritability, they cannot be said to be ill-tempered: but where a disposition of this kind is not under due government, there is no knowing what excesses such persons may be guilty of; and indeed we very often see or hear of some dreadful effects of indulging sinful anger and passion. The second is a *contradicting* disposition. A regard to truth or integrity will often put us under the necessity not only of thinking differently from others, but in discharging our duty we are obliged sometimes to use contradiction. This, however, is quite different from a vexatious humour, which habitually takes a malignant pleasure in contradicting others, in order to assume superiority, or to gratify a contentious spirit. Such a disposition must disturb the repose of society, as it provokes even the gentle part of it, and often raises the passions of the irritable to a high degree. The third is a *revengeful* temper. To shew a temperate resentment for any wrong done to us, is proper; but there are too many who, if you do them any injury, or if they take an affront, will be sure to seek revenge, or at least will not forgive. This is such a diabolical disposition, and often productive of so many direful consequences, that there is no need further to enlarge on it. The fourth is a *stubborn* temper. To be firm and decided in what we believe to be right, after due deliberation, is commendable; but many are quite pertinacious in their opinion, or who, having once resolved on any thing, will listen to no advice, but persist in doing it. This obstinacy is generally founded on pride or haughtiness, and frequently

some of the weakest persons are the most stubborn and selfwilled. Many of this temper are so perverse as not to be persuaded to the contrary, though their own interest and happiness are obviously connected with taking such advice.

Let us now take a view of some of the chief good tempers; and the first I shall mention is an *open benevolent* disposition. There certainly is a prudent reserve that is becoming, especially before designing persons and strangers; and none should be indiscriminate in their benevolence. But where the heart is closed to what is generous, there must be a selfish, sordid, and narrow mind. Persons of good character have no need to have recourse to concealment, or what is mysterious, in their deportment; and they should do good according to their ability without injuring their families. Secondly, a *peaceable* temper. It is to be deeply regretted, that there are so many of such a spirit, that they often disturb their own peace, and that of others, in matters of a trifling nature. On the contrary, there are a few who are so very mild, as to be almost willing to give up truth and justice, so that they can enjoy quietness. The latter disposition is much better than the former, yet it is not necessary that any should make such sacrifices in order to procure peace. A temper may be truly pacific, gentle, and condescending, and yet firmly determined to maintain what is right, by resisting injustice. Thirdly, a *cheerful* disposition. Some are constitutionally gloomy, and others from mistaken notions of religion, think that, in order to be serious, they must be in some measure sad. A truly cheerful temper is lively, but not too light, and animated without being too volatile. Lastly, there is an *equanimity* of temper. Perhaps this is the most desirable of any, especially as it respects personal happiness. Not that there is any person of so even a disposition as never to be ruffled; but some have so much self-command as to be seldom very much elated or too much depressed.

Having offered many discriminating reflections on good and bad tempers, I shall now propose some admonitory advice respecting tempers in general. And in the first place, *Never indulge an improper disposition.* We are naturally so blind to our own failings, that many ill tempered persons do not know they are so, and very few are humble enough to own it. But as the mischiefs arising from cherishing such a disposition are manifold, therefore all possible means should be continually used to curb an improper temper. On this part of the subject an excellent modern author thus writes:—"It will be readily acknowledged, that some are born with unhappy tempers, but more derive them from habitual indulgence. Persons in high life, or in easy circumstances, too often cherish their evil humours, having it in their power to gratify them, and being surrounded with flatterers. We may attribute most of the evils of domestic life to, an unhappy determination of some bad tempered persons to have their own way, and the want of condescension in others at the beginning of a disagreement. Habits of strict temperance, and especially the restraints of religion, are the very best means to prevent improper indulgencies of this kind." Secondly, *let not trifles put you out of temper.* We frequently see that small matters ruffle the mind more than such as are really important, especially where the natural temper is not good: and it is a lament-

able fact, that more families have been divided or friends separated by the indulgence of evil tempers, than by most other occurrences. The following advice of a lady to one of her late pupils, is worthy of serious consideration, particularly by females :—“As our sex have quicker sensations than men, we have been charged with having sharper tempers, and being more unwilling to forgive than the other sex. I will not take upon me to say how far in general such a charge is true, but I hope, my dear, that it will not be so with you. O never forget that one great point to your present and future comfort is the due regulation of your temper, as an individual, and more particularly if you should become a wife and a mother. The character of *Serena*, in Mr. Hayley's poem on the Triumphs of Temper, is truly amiable, and such a lovely picture, as I wish you, my dear, and all females, frequently to view, in order to imitate.” Finally, *let every one strive to possess and preserve a good temper.* An amiable disposition is often the gift of nature in the conformation of the individual ; but a proper education and a regular life, with the influence of vital religion, will contribute very much to form a good temper, and to sweeten and regulate one that is not so. It must also be remembered, that as old age, poverty, or disappointments, have a tendency, by degrees, to render excellent dispositions less amiable, persons under such circumstances should be on their guard, lest their tempers, by such changes, be materially injured.

I shall leave the subject on the minds of the readers with the following appropriate quotation :—“Much has been written of late years respecting the miseries of life ; but I am persuaded, that, the principal source of most of them is the indulgence of bad tempers. Thus they poison the comforts of life, set a bad example, and are ungrateful to God for his bountiful goodness. Some of this cast wear it in their visage, or to use a phrase of Shakspeare, they have a *vinegar aspect*. However, this is no certain rule ; for it is well known, that many with an open and smiling countenance have very bad tempers. But now let us take a short view of the man who is habitually good tempered. Having only a good moral character, and common sense, he will be well received in life, though he may have no riches, learning, wit, or comeliness of person to recommend him. His pleasant behaviour and kind treatment of others will excite them to make suitable returns ; and those who cannot serve him, will at least be gentle towards his errors and faults. He may not shine in conversation, but his affability and cheerfulness will please and enliven every company into which he comes. In sickness, poverty, or sorrow, he will always meet with some to help or sympathise with him, and his death will be sincerely lamented by all who were acquainted with him.”

From Washington Irving's *New Work*.

THE ADVENTURE OF A GERMAN STUDENT.

On a stormy night, in the tempestuous times of the French revolution, a young German was returning to his lodgings, at a late hour, across the old part of Paris. The lightning gleamed, and the loud claps of thunder rattled through the lofty narrow streets—but I should first tell you something about this young German.

Gottfried Wolfgang was a young man of good family. He had studied for some time at Gottingen, but being of a visionary and enthusiastic character, he had wandered into those wild and speculative doctrines which have so often bewildered German students. His secluded life, his intense application, and the singular nature of his studies, had an effect on both mind and body. His health was impaired; his imagination diseased. He had been indulging in fanciful speculations on spiritual essences, until, like Swedenborg, he had an ideal world of his own around him. He took a notion, I do not know from what cause, that there was an evil influence hanging over him; an evil genius or spirit seeking to ensnare him and ensure his perdition. Such an idea working on his melancholy temperament produced the most gloomy effects. He became haggard and desponding. His friends discovered the mental malady that was preying upon him, and determined that the best cure was a change of scene; he was sent, therefore, to finish his studies amidst the splendours and gaieties of Paris.

Wolfgang arrived at Paris at the breaking out of the revolution. The popular delirium at first caught his enthusiastic mind, and he was captivated by the political and philosophical theories of the day; but the scenes of blood which followed shocked his sensitive nature; disgusted him with society and the world, and made him more than ever a recluse. He shut himself up in a solitary apartment in the *Pays Latin*, the quarter of students. There, in a gloomy street, not far from the monastic walls of the Sorbonne, he pursued his favourite speculations. Sometimes he spent hours together in the great libraries of Paris, those catacombs of departed authors, rummaging among their hoards of dusty and obsolete works in quest of food for his unhealthy appetite. He was, in a manner a literary goul, feeding in the charnel-house of decayed literature.

Wolfgang, though solitary and recluse was of an ardent temperament, but for a time it operated merely upon his imagination. He was too shy and ignorant of the world to make any advances to the fair, but he was a passionate admirer of female beauty, and in his lonely chamber would often lose himself on reveries of forms and faces which he had seen, and his fancy would deck out images of loveliness far surpassing the reality.

While his mind was in this excited and sublimated state, he had a dream which produced an extraordinary effect upon him. It was of a female face of transcendent beauty. So strong was the impression it made, that he dreamt of it again and again. It haunted his thoughts by day, his slumbers by night; in fine, he became passionately ena-

moured of this shadow of a dream, This lasted so long, that it became one of those fixed ideas which haunt the minds of melancholy men, and are at times mistaken for madness.

Such was Gottfried Wolfgang, and such his situation at that time I mentioned. He was returning home late one stormy night, through some of the old and gloomy streets of the Marais, the ancient part of Paris. The loud claps of thunder rattled among the high houses of the narrow streets. He came to the *Placé de Gréve*, the square, where public executions are performed. The lightning quivered about the pinnacles of the ancient *Hôtel de ville*, and shed flickering gleams over the open space in front. As Wolfgang was crossing the square, he shrunk back with horror at finding himself close by the guillotine. It was the height of the reign of terror, when this dreadful instrument of death stood ever ready, and its scaffold was continually running with the blood of the virtuous and the brave. It had that very day been actively employed in the work of carnage, and there it stood in grim array amidst a silent and sleeping city waiting for fresh victims.

Wolfgang's heart sickened within him, and he was turning shuddering from the horrible engine, when he beheld a shadowy form cowering as it were at the foot of the steps which led up to the scaffold. A succession of vivid flashes of lightning revealed it more distinctly. It was a female figure, dressed in black. She was seated on one of the lower steps of the scaffold, leaning forward, her face hid in her lap, and her dishevelled tresses hanging to the ground, streaming with rain, which fell in torrents. Wolfgang paused. There was something awful in this solitary moment of woe. The female had the appearance of being above the common order. He knew the times to be full of vicissitude, and that many a fair head which had once been pillowed on down, was now wandering houseless. Perhaps this was some poor mourner whom the dreadful axe had rendered desolate, and who sat heart-broken on the stand of existence, from which all that was dear to her had been launched into eternity.

He approached and addressed her in the accents of sympathy. She raised her head and gazed wildly at him. What was his astonishment in beholding, by the bright glare of the lightning, the very face which had haunted him in his dreams. It was pale and disconsolate, but ravishingly beautiful.

Trembling with violent and conflicting emotions. Wolfgang again accosted her. He spoke something of her being exposed at such an hour of the night, and to the fury of the storm, and offered to conduct her to her friends. She pointed to the guillotine with a gesture of dreadful signification.

"I have no friend on earth!" said she.

"But you have a home," said Wolfgang.

"Yes—in the grave!"

"The heart of the student melted at the words.

"If a stranger dare make an offer," said he "without danger of being misunderstood, I would offer my humble dwelling as a shelter; myself as a devoted friend. I am friendless myself in Paris, and a

stranger in the land; but if my life could be of service, it is at your disposal, and should be sacrificed before harm or indignity should come to you."

There was in honest earnestness in the young man's manner that had its effect. His foreign accent, too, was in his favor; it showed him not to be a hackneyed inhabitant of Paris. Indeed there was an eloquence in true enthusiasm that is not to be doubted. The homeless stranger confided herself implicitly to the protection of the student.

He supported her faltering steps across the Pont Neuf and by the place of the statue of Henry the Fourth which had been overthrown by the populace. The storm had abated, and the thunder rumbled at a distance. All Paris was quiet; that great volcano of human passion slumbered for a while, to gather fresh strength for the next day's eruption. The student conducted his charge through the ancient streets of the Pays Latin, and by the dusky walls of the Sorbonne to the great dingy hotel which he inhabited. The old portress who admitted them stared with surprise at the unusual sight of the melancholy Wolfgang with a female companion.

On entering his apartment, the student, for the first time, blushed at the scantiness and indifference of his dwelling. He had but one chamber—an old-fashioned saloon—heavily carved and fantastically furnished with the remains of former magnificence for it was one of those hotels in the quarter of the Luxembourg palace which had once belonged to nobility. It was lumbered with books and papers, and all the usual apparatus of a student, and his bed stood in a recess at one end.

When lights were brought, and Wolfgang had a better opportunity of contemplating the stranger, he was more than ever intoxicated by her beauty. Her face was pale, but of a dazzling fairness, set off by a profusion of raven hair that hung clustering about it. Her eyes were large and brilliant, with a singular expression that approached almost to wildness. As far as her black dress permitted her shape to be seen, it was of perfect symmetry. Her whole appearance was highly striking, though she was dressed in the simplest style. The only thing approaching to an ornament, which she wore was a broad black band round her neck, clasped by diamonds.

The perplexity now commenced with the student how to dispose of the helpless being thus thrown upon his protection. He thought of abandoning his chamber to her, and seeking shelter for himself elsewhere. Still he was so fascinated by her charms, there seemed to be such a spell upon his thoughts and senses, that he could not tear himself from her presence. Her manner, too, was singular and unaccountable. She spoke no more of the guillotine. Her grief had abated. The attentions of the student had first won her confidence, and then, apparently, her heart. She was evidently an enthusiast like himself, and enthusiasts soon understand each other.

In the infatuation of the moment Wolfgang avowed his passion for her. He told her the story of his mysterious dream, and how she had possessed his heart before he had ever seen her. She was strangely affected by his recital, and acknowledged to have felt an impulse

toward him equally unaccountable. It was the time for wild theory and wild actions. Old prejudices and superstition were done away: every thing was under the sway of the "Goddess of reason." Among other rubbish of the old times, the forms and ceremonies of marriage began to be considered superfluous bonds for honourable minds. Social compact were the vogue. Wolfgang was too much of a theorist not to be tainted by the liberal doctrines of the day.

"Why should we separate?" said he: "our hearts are united: in the eye of reason and honour we are as one. What need is there of sordid forms to bind high souls together?"

The stranger listened with emotion: she had evidently received illumination at the same school.

"You have no home nor family," continued he, "let me be every thing to you or rather let us be every thing to one another. If form is necessary, form shall be observed—there is my hand, I pledge myself to you for ever.

"For ever?" said the stranger solemnly.

"For ever!" repeated Wolfgang.

The stranger clasped the hand extended to her: "Then I am yours," murmured she, and sunk upon his bosom.

The next morning the student left his bride sleeping, and sallied forth at an early hour to seek more spacious apartments, suitable to the change in his situation. When he returned, he found the stranger lying with her head hanging over the bed, and one arm thrown over it. He spoke to her, but received no reply. He advanced to awaken her from her uneasy posture. On taking her hand, it was cold—there was no pulsation—her face was pallid and ghastly. in a word—she was a corpse.

Horrified and frantic, he alarmed the house. A scene of confusion ensued. The police was summoned. As the officer of police entered the room, he started back on beholding the corpse.

"Great Heaven!" cried he, "how did this woman come here?"

"Do you know any thing about her?" said Wolfgang eagerly.

"Do I?" exclaimed the police officer: "she was guillotined yesterday!"

He stepped forward; undid the black collar round the neck of the corpse and the head rolled on the floor!

The student burst into a frenzy. "The fiend? the fiend has gained possession of me!" shrieked he! "I am lost for ever!"

They tried to soothe him, but in vain. He was possessed with the frightful belief, that an evil spirit had re-animated the dead body to ensnare him. He went distracted, and died in a mad-house.

LETTERS FROM THE EAST.

GIRGE.

The next day we crossed to the opposite shore to visit the ruins of Kurnu. The hieroglyphics there are all of a warlike character; the columns are plain and without any ornament; the capitals perfectly simple, and bear a greater resemblance to the Doric than to any other order, and are the same as those of Karnac and Luxor.—Close to Kurnu lie the fragments of an enormous statue. The bust is thirty-five feet in length; the width of the shoulders twenty-five feet, and the whole must have been nearly eighty feet high. It consisted of one solid piece of granite. It has fallen on its face, and the features are quite obliterated; its thickness is prodigious.

About a mile and half distant are the ruins of Medinet Abou, apparently those of a temple and palace, which are entered by a small and very handsome gateway. The portico of the former conducts to a large square, round the sides of which run lofty corridors; the capitals of the pillars are highly ornamented and the ceilings they support richly painted. The various bas-reliefs cut on it still preserve their vivid colours, which are most frequently of a light blue and red. The aspect of this ruined palace is peculiarly fresh and gay, just that of a court, as if time had in pity spared it for its elegance. Seated on the shores of the Nile, Medinet Abou must once have possessed its cool retreats, its fountains, and woods of perpetual green; but the face of Nature is perfectly desolate now, and though, after the lapse of so many centuries it is still beautiful within, every sign of vegetation has perished without, and it is completely enveloped in a frightful waste. We proceeded along the loose sand, and wound up between the hills; the weather was very sultry. The burial-place of ancient Thebes is situated here, and innumerable graves and vaults are seen scattered over this part of the desert, even to the foot of the precipices. The mummies have been drawn from their tombs with a rapacious and unsparing hand. In this vast cemetery there were no objects such as we expect to see around the remains of the dead, but a waste of bright and scorching sand, amidst black and naked rocks. The corpses of the poor Egyptians had most of them been torn from their deep graves and strong vaults; many of the latter, to which flights of steps led, after being rifled had their doors secured, till another visit might produce fresh discoveries: others were entirely empty and spoiled. The chief part of this havoc was committed by the Arabs, who tore the bodies open to get at the resin used in the embalming, which they sold at Cairo at a high price; but travellers and savans, and their agents, have also had their share in this sacrilege, if so it may be called. It is a sad and disgusting sight: the sands and the edges of the graves in some parts being strewed with the bones and pieces of flesh of the mummies, thrown wantonly about.

The poor Egyptians, who had slept in peace for some thousands of years, have been mercilessly dealt with here, and the remains of warriors, citizens and sages, may now lie mingled together in the burning sun; for no retreat or sanctuary of the dead has been suffered to re-

main inviolate. I picked up a foot with part of the leg, that from its smallness and delicacy seemed to have belonged to an Egyptian lady. It had suffered little from time, except being shrunk in size, for the flesh, though quite dried, still adhered to it, but it strongly retained the mummy smell. Not far from hence, in the plain below, are the two colossal statues of Memnon; each of them is cut out of a solid block of granite; they are in a sitting posture, are near sixty feet in height, and can be seen from a great distance round. The architecture is coarse; the posture easy and tranquil, with their gigantic hands placed on their knees. At this time the inundation had gathered around these enormous statues for some extent, and invaded a part of their stone chair or seat; their appearance, thus isolated, was most strange, they seemed to sit like the stern and ancient genii of the plain, over whom time and decay had no power.

The Nile for the last few days had grown narrower, and its banks more wild and rugged; the climate seemed to become more pure as we advanced; the heat at Esneh, where we arrived on the second day, was very intense—indeed it would have been difficult to have borne it, but for the luxury of bathing twice a day in the Nile, at sunrise and sunset. The ruin of the temple is situated in the middle of the town, and its portico the most beautiful and best preserved in Egypt, is obscured by a mass of rubbish; it is situated near the market place; the capitals of the pillars are mostly different from each other, and this variety, as in the portico of Etfu, has a delightful effect; they are taken from the leaves, flowers and stems of plants and trees, as the vine, the lotus, and the palm tree.

In the progress towards the cataracts, we observed the colour of the inhabitants of the villages become gradually darker, till at last it became quite black.

At length we reached Etfu, or Apollinopolis Magna. Its temple is a noble ruin, of vast extent, and commands a most extensive view of the river and the plains above and below; the piers of the gateway are eighty-five feet in height and the length of the outer wall of the temple is near four hundred and twenty feet. You enter into an immense area, round which runs a lofty corridor, supported by a single row of pillars, and at the end is the portico, with three rows of columns; the capitals of the pillars, like those of the temple of Esneh. This great and magnificent temple is in an excellent state of preservation. The villagers have built a number of wretched cottages in the courts and on the roof of the edifice; a multitude of people were at work beneath the corridors, and the noise of their operations resounded thro' every part of the building. The miserable huts and their squalid inhabitants haunting your sight at every avenue of this splendid ruin, sadly injured its effects. One could not help earnestly wishing that like Thebes and Tentyra, it stood in some deep and desert solitude, where the foot of man seldom approached.

The next village we came to was sweetly situated in a grove of palms, and its small gardens looked very neat and inviting. Here we met with a greek, who had wandered to a great distance, and seemed to live by his wits. He had with him a young Abyssinian girl who had not long left her own country, purchased, no doubt, by this man

for himself first probably, and afterwards for sale. She was of a dark complexion, and was seated beneath one of the trees; but was not pretty, as her countrywomen are often so said to be.

Landing early one morning, we strolled to a Coptic village, and found the people remarkably civil. The old sheik was very importunate with us to enter his dwelling, and partake of a repast; and the chief part of the population crowded around, among whom were a few of the prettiest women we had seen in Egypt. The very early marriages sadly impair their attractions; and joined with their exposure to the burning sun, make them look haggard at thirty. At one place there was a young girl of twelve years of age, married however, and carrying her child in her arms. Such is the force of custom, that even in the most remote situations, where no looks but those of their neighbours are likely to meet them, you see the peasant women come to the Nile for water, with their features rigidly concealed, being all, except the eyes, covered with a thick veil.

The next town we reached was Essouan, around which are scattered the ruins, uninteresting however, of the ancient town of Syene; they stand on the steep banks of the river, in some parts in the form of the ruined turrets of a castle. In the afternoon we crossed to the island of Elephantine. The vivid descriptions given by Denon of this island, are a little overcharged. It is a very enchanting spot, about a mile in length, and near a quarter of a mile broad: the northern part of it is a desert in miniature, all rocks and barrenness, with the fine ruin of a small temple on its most conspicuous point; the rest is covered with gardens, cottages, and groves of palm and fruit trees even to the water's edge.—One can never behold a scene of more strange and exceeding beauty than the one presented at sunset from the highest point of Elephantine.—The river above was studded with a number of islets on the high shore; on the left, were the ruins of Syene; the right shore was composed of lofty hills of light yellow sand, which spread inland to a boundless extent; the black and naked ranges of mountains below Essouan were purpled with the setting sun; all seemed dreary and desolate save the one lovely spot on which we stood. A man who has never toiled through long and burning deserts can have little idea of the rapture with which a group of trees or a bright spot of verdure is hailed; or the deep luxury of feeling excited by again moving among cottages and fountains, and cool retreats. The land of Palestine was no doubt, beautiful and rich; but the extacy the Israelites felt on beholding and entering it, and the glowing language used in describing it, had their origin as much perhaps in the passage through the dreary and howling wilderness, as in the attractions of the scenes themselves.

The next morning we rode to the isle of Philæ. The way was through a perfect desert of sand and rocks—the latter piled in huge and lofty masses. About half-way was a fountain of water, covered by a lofty arch of brick from the rays of the sun. Beneath this two poor women were sitting, who offered us water in hope of a trifling reward. A few miles farther we came to the shore opposite the isle of Philæ, and having procured a boat, crossed over. It is a branch of the Nile, which here makes a circuit, as if on purpose to encompass

this singular spot. Not half as large as Elephantine, it has no verdure, except a few scattered palm trees at the water's edge, but its rocky and romantic surface is completely covered with superb ruins. They consist of the remains of several temples: one only of which is in a good state of preservation. There are two lofty gateways, and the pillars of one of the corridors have the same capitals as those of Tentyra, the head of Isis. The family of an Arab inhabited some of the chambers of the temple. He was very savage when he perceived our intention of penetrating into his harem, and drew his long knife, protesting he would revenge the attempt. At every step you tread on some fragment of antiquity; for this celebrated isle must once have been holy ground, and peculiarly devoted to religious retirement. No situation could be better adapted to such a purpose, encircled by a branch of the Nile, and imprisoned on every side by utter desolation. The desert spreads its wastes and mountains in front;—the dark and fantastic cliffs of the adjacent isles and shores look as if rent by some convulsion, and viewed through the long colonnades which crown the rocks even to the water's edge, the effect is quite panoramic. Then the loneliness and stillness of every thing around, only interrupted by the distant rush of the cataracts: and a climate perpetually pure, that gives even to the nights a bewitching softness and splendour. Whoever is sick of the world, and would hold communion only with nature and past ages, let him go and take up his abode at Philæ.

The boat we had hired was rowed by two boys to the adjacent isle, when one of the Berebers, who turned out to be a complete character, demanded, with an appearance of great anger, to be taken on board. His object was to share in the presents usually given, and he afforded us infinite diversion. His features, like those of the rest of his countrymen, were singularly expressive and animated. An aquiline nose; eyes full of lustre; the very look of which expressed his meaning better than words; his hair was divided into thick tresses, his frame, full of activity and muscle, had scarcely any flesh; he was quite black. His looks and gestures were a complete pantomime, and he sung a livelier boat-song than we had been used to; for the Arabs have all a monotonous chant, with which they keep time to their oars. On setting off on our return, we were surrounded by a small host, importuning for a bakshish or present. The acting of our Bereber friend was admirable. He endeavored to intimidate some from applying, exerted his voice the loudest, and kept his keen comic face in the foremost rank, though he had received more than any of the others.

(To be Continued.)

POETRY.

FROM THE GRACES, OR LITERARY SOUVENIR FOR 1824.—THE FOLLOWING IS FROM THE
SERIES OF "The Months"

DECEMBER.

And after him came next the chill December,
Yet he, through merry feasting which he made,
And great bonfires did not the cold remember.

Spencer

WELCOME,—Ancient of the year !
Though thy face be pale and drear,
Though thine eye be veil'd in night,
Though thy scattered locks be white,
Though thy feeble form be bow'd
In the mantle of a cloud.

Yet December with thee come
All the old delights of home ;
Lovelier never stole the hour,
In the summer's rosy bower,
Than around thy social hearth,
When the few we love on earth,
With the hearts of holiday
Meet to laugh the night away ;
Talking of the thousand things
That to time give swiftest wings ;
Not unmix'd with memories dear—
Such as in a higher sphere,
Might bedim an Angel's eye,
Feelings of the days gone by ;
Of the friends who made a part,
Of our early heart of heart ;
Thoughts that still around us twine ;
With a chastened woe divine.

But when all are wrapp'd in sleep,
Let me list the whirlwinds sweep,
Rushing through the forest hoar,
Like a charging army's roar,
Or with thoughts of riper age,
Wonder o'er some splendid page,
Writ as with the burning coal,
Transcript of the Grecian's soul !
Or the ponderous tomes unhasp
Where a later spirit's grasp
Summoned from a loftier band,
Spite of rack, and blade, and brand,
With the might of miracle,
Rent the more than Pagan veil,
And disclosed to human eyes
GOD'S true pathway to the skies ;

Every autumn leaf has fled,
But a nobler tree has shed
Nobler scions from its bough ;
Pale Mortality'tis thou
That hast flung them on the ground
In the year's mysterious round !

Thou that had'st the great "To come"
 Thing of terror—Darkness!—Tomb!
 Oh! for some celestial one,
 That has through thy portals gone!
 To pour upon our cloudy eye
 The vision—what it is—"to die,"
 Yet no Seraph Traveller
 Bends his starry pinion here;
 Since the birth of hoary Time
 All is silent, stern, sublime,
 All unlimited,——unknown!
 Father may thy will be done!
 Let me die, or let me live,
 KING OF SPIRITS! but——forgive!

 LINES,

WRITTEN FOR ST. ANDREWS DAY.

To part from Scotland's humble land,
 Rome's gorgeous Pomp in haste prepare!
 —One *Saint* still lingered on her strand,
 And Heaven decreed that Land his care,

To him did many a *Shrine* arise
 Each *Font* renewed his sacred *Name*, —
 'Twas heard amidst the Battles cries,
 And warriors caught the Martyr's flame,

That *Name* our hardy Fathers chose,
 The binding watch-word of our race;
 Through *desert waste* and *trackless snows*
 The kindred stream of *Blood* to trace;

And at whose spell the Heart should feel
 One Heaven claimed pause from toil and care;
 And dash aside the mask of steel,
 The world commands its Slaves to wear.

—As distant *Lovers* fondly dream
 Some nearer charm & thrilling power,
 When gazing on the *Moon's* pale beam,
 At some long fixed and promised hour;—

So Scotland now thy Children turn
 To thee, this Night! from Shore and sea!
 Each Exiles Hut shall brightly burn,
 And every Cup be pledged to thee—

From wave-worn Bark, and tented ground,
 The sympathetic joy shall rise,
 And as thy Songs of Mirth go round
 A tear shall dim the sternest eyes:

One sigh shall heave perhaps unseen,
 And swell the breast ne'er known to feel—

In that dark Heart, Loves shafts have been—
That rugged form once knew to kneel!

O ne'er shall break that mystic chain
That binds the Hearts last wandering ties!
Earth is too small its links to strain—
And time too short its strength to prize.

—The Land we love—the Land we Hail
Across the wild and stormy Sea!—
Let thoughts of thee this Night prevail
And grace *St. Andrews Jubilee!*

And be thy *Thistle* ever dear,
Beyond each *Flower* that sheds perfume!
And still its gallant *Crest* uprear,
On *Shepherd's Cap* and *Warrior's Plume!*

SCOTUS.

Montreal 30th November, 1824.

BY BERNARD BARTON.

' Asketh thou what it is to be
A poet?—I will tell the what;
And shew the thoughtless world and thee,
His weary lot.

' It is to sacrifice each good
That Fortunes favored minions share;
And in unheeded solitude
Her frowns to bear.

' It is to nourish hopes that cheat;
Which, when he felt them first beat high,
Appear'd so humble, blameless, sweet,
They could not die.

' It is to feel foreboding fears;—
That fancy them unfounded too,—
And last, with pangs too deep for tears,
To own them true.

' It is to cherish in the heart
Feelings the warmest, kindest, best,—
To wish their essence to impart
To ev'ry breast;—

' And then awakening from such dream,
With anguish not to be control'd,
To find that hearts which warmest seem,
Are icy cold!

' 'Tis like the pelican to feed
Others from his warm breast; but own,
Unlike that bird—the bird may bleed,
Unthank'd, unknown.

' It is to pamper vicious taste,
By spurning virtue's strict control;

Than be with fame and riches grac'd,
And lose his soul!

Or while his humble verse defends
Her cause, her loveliness portrays,
To win from her apparent friends
Cold cautious praise.

It is a thorny path to tread,
By care, by sorrow overcast,
With but one thought its balm to shed,
This cannot cannot last!

For soon that thorny path is trod,
From man he has no more to crave!
Grant him thy mercy, gracious God!
Thou Earth! a grave!

THE ALMOND BRANCH.

FROM THE FRENCH.

The snowy blossoms do but rise,
Symbol of beauty's fleeting ray;
Which like them blushes, blooms and dies,
Ere smiling spring has passed away.

Neglect them; or with care around
Thy brow the infant blossoms braid;
Yet leaf by leaf they will be found
To fly e'en as our pleasures fade.

These fleeting joys still let us prize—
Dispute them with the passing gale;
The perfume which so quickly dies,
From blooming chalices inhale.

Emblem of beauty's transient power!
The bud that opens with the morn;
Which falls before the festal hour
From laughing brows it should adorn!

Each hour proclaims th' approach of Spring—
Fair Spring, whose charms ean never cloy;
Each flowret borne on Zephyr's wing
Soft whispers, "While thou canst, enjoy!"

And since they perish then for ever,
Since no return they e'er may prove;
O may the roses wither never,
Unless beneath the lips of love.

MONTHLY REGISTER.

Foreign Summary.

DECEMBER; 1824.

EUROPE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

This department of our Miscellany will present but a spare repast for our friends during this month. The intercourse between this country and Great Britain has been liable to more than its usual share of interruptions at this season. There have been few arrivals—and what intelligence they have brought, is hardly of sufficient importance to merit insertion. No change in our political relations with foreign powers. No alterations in our diplomatic corps not even an negociation to effect any improvement or alteration, going on.

Parliament has been further prorogued from the 4th November of the 6th to Jan. next.

GALE.—A violent gale of wind was experienced on the British and Irish coasts, from the 10th to the 12th Oct. Lloyd's list of the 15th of Oct. and papers of a subsequent date contain a long list of disasters. The Courier of the 19th says, that 72 ships were on shore between the Humber and Holy Islands. The losses reported on the 15th amount to nearly 100 vessels, a great proportion of which were colliers and other coasting vessels. It had been ascertained that many lives had been lost.

The first packet established by this Government to run to La Guayra and Carthage is nearly ready for sea. She has been built expressly for the purpose, and in point of sailing is supposed to be the fastest vessel in the service; she is named the Colombia, commanded by Captain Jones, carries eight guns, and is well supplied with small arms, and a picked crew. The emigration to the New World is so great, that she is complete in her compliment of passengers, and will leave the River on Monday not intending to wait for a cargo. The internal fittings up are of the most elegant description, and between decks the space is upwards of Six feet.

A creation of Stock at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. by funding Exchequer Bills will shortly take place. The inevitable effect of which will be to advance 3 per cent. above par, should the present happy state of peace and prosperity continue.

METROPOLITAN MARINE COMPANY.—The following is an estimate of the probable returns of each of the proposed establishments of this most necessary and useful concern:—

200 warm salt water baths, for 300 days, 2s. 6d.....	£7500
20 medicated, vapour, gaseon &c. for 300 days, 5s.....	£1500
50 warm fresh water baths for 300 days, 1s. 6d.....	1125
300 ladies, children, and female servants, private cold sea baths, for 150 days, 1s.....	2250
200 gentlemen, single private plunging sea water baths, for 150 days, 3s.....	3000
500 gentlemen in the grand swimming bath of sea water, 150 days, 1s.....	3750
500 ditto, in the secondary ditto, for 150 days, 6d.....	1875
2000 journeymen, &c. one day in each week, for 21 weeks, 3d.....	525

£21,515

Which multiplied by 5 would give a sum in full of..... £107,525

The plan is to commence operations at the nearest point of the coast between London and the Nore, which may afford water of sufficient purity. This will be about 55 miles from town. At this point it is proposed to form, betwixt high and low water mark, one or more considerable reservoirs enclosed by flood-gates. At the rise of the tide the waters will be permitted to flow into the reservoir, the gates of which will be shut at high water. Upon these reservoirs a steam engine of from 80 to 100 horse power will be erected, and employed to raise a continual supply of water from the reservoirs to a smaller reservoir or cistern placed at the height of 150 or 180 feet above the surface of the water in the large reservoir. From this higher position a line of pipes will commence to lead through the Country to London, as the New-River pipes pass from the reservoir of that establishment at Islington to supply fresh waters to the houses in London. These pipes it is intended should be from 24 to 30 inches in diameter. The capital demanded is £250,000.

The Provision Contract for 12,000 Tierces of Beef, and 9000 Tierces of Pork, was taken in London October last, by Messrs. D. Callaghan and sons of Cork. It has been stated in one of the papers that the entire was taken at £5 18s. 4d. and in others, 6l. 2s. 6d. per tierce, all around for Beef and Pork. A large proportion of the contract is to be delivered in the West Indies.

The Salt Duty, which is 4l. per ton, will expire on the 5th of January next, and the merchants engaged in the Provision Trade will, of course, in the coming season, take advantage of this circumstance. They will, in the first instance, only cure the article which in that process requires but a small proportion of salt, but will not pack up until the expiration of the duty. This will leave the contractors an additional profit of about five shillings per tierce, and is of importance to the feeder to be acquainted with, which will regulate his prices.

CANAL.—It is with great satisfaction we are enabled to announce, that the grand union between the rivers Thames and Medway will be effected very shortly by means of the largest tunnel we believe, in the world. This great public undertaking commences immediately from the Port of London below Gravesend, where there is a large river lock, capable of admitting vessels of 200 tons into a capacious basin, with commodious wharfe. The Canal, which is fifty feet wide and seven feet deep in water, passes through the marsh lands to the village of Higham, a distance of nearly five miles, where the tunnel begins, which is 22 feet wide on the water level, and eight feet deep at spring tides, twenty-four feet six inches high from the water surface to the apex of the arch, with a towing path five feet wide, firmly protected by means of cast iron and Timber Railing. The tunnel continues under the chalk hills for a distance of two miles and a quarter, where it terminates in a very large basin, commanded by a lock, entering into the river Medway, and capable of receiving vessels of 300 tons. The whole length of this canal, from the river Thames to the Medway, is only seven miles and a quarter, and by this very short line all the circuitous, tedious, and often times dangerous passage round the Nore, is avoided, thereby saving a distance of at least from forty to fifty miles. Thus the communication from the interior of Kent with the North of England is made easy, safe and at a comparatively trifling expence, with the advantage of a more certain passage, as well as a considerable saving in the wear and tear of sails, tackle, etc. This important line also opens a communication from Tunbridge, by means of the Grand Junction and Regent's Canals, to Brunston, in Northamptonshire; for the same sized craft, without any transhipment of goods, which may be forwarded to any of the Northern Ports of England. Craft from seven to eighteen feet beam can navigate the whole line, which it is obvious will secure to inland commerce incalculable advantages.

The following is said to be the present state of the four principle Public Schools: At Eaton there are about 550 boys; at the Charterhouse, 450; at Winchester, 270; and at Westminster, 250.

The depositors in the Devon and Exeter Savings Bank have now in the hands of Government no less a sum than 450,000l.

The foundation of a spacious stone bridge was laid on the 5d September at Brentford. It will be of one arch, cased with granite, and when finished, will give the great western entrance of the metropolis a noble and imposing appearance.

On the 22nd Sept. last a meeting of the committee for commencing a steam navigation to India took place in London. Several scientific gentlemen in the service

of the East India Company, who had been appointed to investigate the plan, were present, and they reported favourably to the undertaking. It was finally determined to carry it into immediate execution. The route is intended to be round the Cape of Good Hope, and not by the Red Sea as was intended.

A company has been recently formed at Birmingham for establishing a rail-road from that town through the Staffordshire collieries, and iron-works; by Wolverhampton Nantwich, Chester, to the Mersey, to communicate with Liverpool; with branches to Dudley and Stourbridge, to the Shropshire coal and iron-works, to the Staffordshire potteries and to Chester. The company proposes to convey heavy goods between Birmingham and Liverpool at the rate of eight miles an hour, for less than half the present cost of canal carriage. Loco-motive carriages are to be employed upon the road.

Excise.—The number of barrels of strong beer brewed in England and Wales, in the year ended April 5, 1823, was 4,142,649; ditto in Scotland, 123,222; portion of the above brewed in London, 1,829,940; barrels of strong beer exported, 71,828; portion of the above exported from London, 56,490; ditto from Liverpool, 11,863; small beer brewed in Great Britain, 1,290,276. Thus, every man, woman, and child, in London drinks, on the average, two barrels of beer a-year! The quantity of strong beer brewed in a year would float all the navy in commission!

Another balloon disaster.—We copy the following from the Oxford Journal of this morning:

“*Miltona near Banbury.* Oct. 6.—As the shepherd of Mr. Cox of Milton, was this morning going his usual rounds, he perceived something at a distance, which appeared to him to be some cows lying together; but which, on a nearer approach proved to be a balloon, containing in its car the lifeless body of a man. He ran back to the village to procure assistance, and had the body removed to the Black Boy public house, where it still remains. The deceased appears to be about twenty-five years of age. The skull was found to be fractured, and the right arm broken. On his person were found some papers and a bill of fare, bearing the name of Grimshaw, Crown and Anchor Northampton, where a messenger has been sent, in hopes of obtaining some information of the deceased.”

The Late Miss Pathurst.—After six months and twelve days the body of this unfortunate and lamented young lady has been found. At 8 o'clock, on the 26th sept. two waggoners passing over the Milvino bridge, perceived a body which the waters had just thrown up upon the bank. The magistrates were immediately informed of the circumstance, and many persons hastened to the spot, and recognized the body as that of Miss Bathurst, although less by the disfigured features, than by the dress and jewels which she wore. It appears that it has been long buried in the sand by which it was preserved. The flesh was perfect, and the face retained its roundness, but the contact of the air soon occasioned decomposition. When an attempt was made to take off the bonnet which was still tied under the chin, all the hair adhered to it. Surgeons have been ordered to cleanse it from the sand and dirt. The Hanoverian Minister and the French Charge d'affaires have taken charge of the remains. A sum of 1200 fr. had been offered for the picking up of the body.

The grand ceremony of laying the foundation stone to the new entrance to Windsor Castle took place on the 12th of August last, with all the pomp and parade befitting the occasion. In the stone, which was laid by His Majesty, a plate of glass was deposited—with various other things commemorative of the occurrence, and upon the glass the following inscription was incised.

GEORGE THE FOURTH, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain and Ireland,
Defender of the Faith,

Laid this Corner Stone of a new Entrance
To his Castle at Windsor which has been
for upwards of seven Centuries

The residence of His Royal Predecessors,
On the 62d anniversary of his Birth Day,
August 12th, 1824.

Jeffry Wyattville, Architect;

Pollatts & Green, Patentees of Glass Incrustations,

It is said that steam-packets are to be placed under parliamentary regulations in consequence of some recent fatal accidents.

Quick Passage.—The *Hibernia*, steam-packet, Capt. Price, 400 tons burthen, 140 horse power, on the Bristol and Dublin station, left Kingston at half past 9 A. M. and arrived at Bristol on the following morning, at a quarter before 8 o'clock; thus performing the distance of 240 miles in 23 hours and a quarter, although the latter part of the voyage was effected by steam only.

A very extraordinary advance in the price of iron has taken place within a short period, that article having risen from 8*l.* to 13*l.* pr ton. A London Alderman, whose chief property lies in mines of this metal, will it is said, derive an addition of the immense sum of 90,000*l.* to his annual income from this cause, provided the increased value is maintained. The return of iron ores melted at his works is estimated at 5,000 tons weekly.

Copper has lately advanced one penny pr lb. to the great joy of the leading houses in London, who after opposing each other in the sale of this article for several years, have amicably agreed to an arrangement.

The board of Admiralty have directed that a ship of the first rate be built at Catham, to be named the *Waterloo*.

Most of the cotton works in Glasgow have been shut up for a month, and there was no prospect of the cotton spinners coming to an understanding with their employers.

Decrease of Pauperism.—The population of Liverpool Work-house, is at this time a little above 900. Eight years ago, when the town contained fewer inhabitants by 20,000, the paupers in the Work-house, amounted to more than 1700.

At a meeting of gentlemen of Macclesfield on the 4th Oct. 60,000*l.* were subscribed towards the New Macclesfield Canal.

We understand that several French silk manufacturers are now at Manchester, with the view of forming an establishment for carrying on their business there.

The London Courier of the 11th Oct. contains the official quarterly account of the public revenue, from which it appears, that "notwithstanding the large remission of direct taxes, and the repeal of various duties, including the silk repayments, there has been an augmentation of the revenue of the year ending 10th Oct. 1824, beyond that of the preceding year of no less a sum than 1,183,040*l.* the gross amount for 1823 being 49,216,052*l.* and for 1824, 50,400,092*l.*

His Majesty held a Cabinet Council at Windsor on the 19th Oct.

Accounts have been received in London of the discovery ship *Griper*, Capt. Lyon. She was spoken on the 3d of August near Cape Chidley, in Hudson's Straits, on her voyage to Repulse Bay, where it was Capt. Lyon's intention to remain all winter. The officers and crew were in good health, and sanguine as to the result of the voyage.

On the 20th of October, the Lord Mayor gave a dinner at the Mansion-House to a large party. Four young Greeks, the sons of some of the principal directors of the affairs of Greece, were among the guests. They were dressed in their native costume, and danced and sung some of the airs of their country. Their music and dancing was incomparable.

The large ship *Columbus* from Quebec arrived at Deal on the 27th of Oct. and cast anchor near the *Grand ship Ramilies*; notwithstanding this man of-war is of the first class, she appears no larger than a canal boat, along side of this Leviathan of the New World. At the moment that the *Colombus* appeared in sight, she appeared like a floating island, and her masts like Church steeples. She is to be towed to Deptford by steam boats, to be discharged.

His Excellency the Earl of Dalhousie, has been appointed Lieut. General of the Royal Company of Archers, of the King's Body Guard of Scotland.

Mr. Pauntleroy has been tried and sentenced to death.

FRANCE.—The labour, of the Department of the Domains, to ascertain the number and price of real property sold in pursuance of the Confiscation Laws, is terminated, and gives the following result:—

<i>Cause of Confiscation.</i>	<i>No. of Sales,</i>	<i>Sale Price of real Property.</i>
Upon the Emigrants,	426,000	1,050,000,000 <i>l.</i>

Upon the Condemned . . . 15,000 . . .	20,900,000
Upon the Transported . . . 16,000 . . .	20,400,000

Total 457,000 1,091,800,000f.

N. B. The sale price made in paper is reduced in specie to the current rate of the day of the sale.

Of the sum of 1,091,800,000fr. forming the total price of the real property sold, the amount of the debts paid to the creditors of the emigrants, condemned and transported is to be deducted.

PARIS, Oct. 19.—A letter from Rochefort announces that the corvette l'Hebe, the brig le Dragon, the gun brig la Bressanne, and the sloop le Momus, sailed from that port on the 4th inst. The vessels are bound to the African coast, where they will be employed for the suppression of the slave trade. They will there meet with the brig le Marsonin, and the schooner la Dorade, employed in the same service.

On the 13th of October M. Cannoy, Engraver, appeared before the Police at Paris, upon the charge of having, without authorisation, struck a medal, with the likeness of *General Lafayette*. The prisoner in his defence, urged that its impression was not a medal, it being only of tin; moreover, that it was merely a proof, and intended for America. The affair was postponed a week for further hearing.

Four French frigates sailed from Toulon on the 26th September for Brest, there to take on board troops to relieve the garrisons of the French Antilles.

At the Lyons Theatre, when Talma appeared in *Sylla*, a great number of persons being unable to find places took their seats upon the stage. The first row of the side scenes was occupied by ladies in full dress, who to beguile the time before the piece commenced, ordered a card-table and played at *Écarté* so that the Palace of the Roman Dictator resembled a modern drawing room.

A new boat has lately been invented by a clock maker, M. Hannequart. The mechanism of it consists of six iron wheels, in the middle of the boat, which is very large—at two of the wheels, on the right and left, a crank is placed, which is turned by a man on each side, and which puts an axis in motion, and serves, so to speak, as rowers to the boat. These hidden wheels appear to be of wood strongly ironed. Tillis boat advances a league and a half in an hour, even against the wind.

BRUSSELS, OCT. II.—The royal decree of the 3d of this month has already produced its effect on the corn market of Amsterdam. The prices of wheat have risen six, eight, to ten florins the quintal; rye has also risen six to eight florins.

SPAIN.—The pensions hitherto bestowed on three hundred of the Spanish Refugees, by the British government, have been suspended with regard to two hundred of them: These unfortunate people have hereby been plunged into the deepest distress.

The intelligence from Andalusia, Arragon and Navarre, speak of massacres committed in all directions. Terror is spread throughout the land, upon witnessing the indifference of the authorities, one would say that a plan has been formed to get secretly rid of persons whom the sword of the law cannot reach.

Madrid Sept. 23.—His Majesty has just issued a decree, by which the introduction of gold and silver coin from America is exempted from duty. Gold and silver plate will pay an *ad valorem* duty of one per cent, upon its entrance into the Peninsula, Indigo, the quintal of which is estimated at 1920 reals, (480 fr.) will pay one per cent, upon its entrance, and one per cent, when it is taken out.

The same duty is laid upon cochineal, the quintal of which is estimated at 6,624 reals (nearly 1,656 fr.) Cochineal in powder, or in its rough state, will pay the same duty upon its introduction, and 2 per cent, upon its being taken out, and will be rated at 1884 reals (470 fr.) per quintal.

The Ex-Minister Cruz, remains in close confinement. As the proceedings against him advance, new accomplices are discovered. Of this number are General St. Marc, who has been arrested and put in close confinement; the Ex-Intendant of the Army, Aguiar Conde who is committed to the prison of the nobles at Madrid, and Col. Locho, who in 1821 and 1822 distinguished himself in the defence of the Royal cause.

The police continue to send out of Madrid the wives of the Ex-Deputies to the Cortes, and many other persons of distinction, who have taken refuge at Gibraltar, or in England. Only 24 hours are allowed them to prepare for departure.

At Segovia, all the ex-national volunteers, who had been set at large by the act of amnesty, have been again arrested.

The *Arceiliano* (an ecclesiastical dignitary of the cathedral of Segovia,) who, under the government of the Cortes, was a member of the Council of Order and who was included in the amnesty, has been obliged to fly from Segovia, because the Bishop was about to have him arrested, although he was the bearer of a pardon signed by the King's hand.

An order has been given for the Universities of the kingdom to remain closed until fresh commands be given. "The object of this measure," says the President of the Council of Castile, "is that the youths who commenced their literary career during the revolution, may forget the erroneous maxims which they imbibed during that period."

MADRID, SEPTEMBER 29.—It appears that notwithstanding all the obstacles foreseen, the Loan proposed to M. Zea has been concluded. It has passed the Council of Mea will go the State, and the Escorial to-morrow to have it signed by the King. The precise conditions have not yet transpired.

The orders for the refugees of different towns to quit Barcelona within 24 hours, excited the general indignation to such a degree, that the police are not very strict in the execution of the measure.

The last courier from Valladolid brought intelligence of the arrest of the Ex-Minister of Finances, *Erro*, and the seizure of his papers, which were sent off by an express to Madrid. A remarkable circumstance, is, that the order for arrest did not come from a Minister or from the Director-general of the Police, but immediately from the King's Cabinet. At the same time that the Ex-Minister was arrested at Valladolid, M. Merlo, who was a chief clerk under him, was arrested at Pampeluna. This circumstance seems to indicate that the apprehensions are connected with some affair of great importance.

The Council of Castile have just issued a Decree requiring all school masters and school-mistresses to undergo a fresh examination within 30 days, upon pain of having their licenses withdrawn.

ALGIERS.—The Algerines are said to have a fleet at sea, capturing all merchant vessels they fall in with. The Dey stated to Captain Spencer, in the early part of the differences; that it was of no consequence if the British squadron did bombard the town as the inhabitants had gone into camps, and the Jews are under tribute to repair all damages that may be done, being permitted to trade there upon these terms alone.

GREECE.—By the *Susan*, Capt. Williams from Smyrna, we have advices to the 2d Oct. the latest and most direct from the theatre of war between the Greeks and Turks.

Cap. Williams reports that the day he left Smyrna he was informed, that the Turkish expedition against *Satros* had been abandoned for the present:—That the Turkish fleet, of about 70 sail, had sailed from the Gulph of Cos, for Mytilene; stopped a short time at Tchism (near Smyrna) the 26th Sept. and proceeded on its destination next day. That on the 3d Oct. he met the Greek fleet of from 40 to 50 sail, off Sio, and learnt from one of the ships, that a partial engagement had taken place four days before, off Nicaria, when a Turkish frigate was burnt; and that the Greeks were then on their way to attack the Turks at Mytilene.

RUSSIA.—The Emperor of Russia has conferred the order of Cordon of St. Alexander on Lord Strangford, as a mark of his Majesty's approbation of his Lordship's conduct during the late negotiations.

Advices from St. Petersburg, are to the 25th Sept.

"The Ministry have just received a very detailed report from General Sebaniess, Commander in Chief of the Russian forces stationed in Bessarabia, upon the actual

situation of Moldavia. This report has made the greater impression on the minds of the members of our Cabinet, as it completely contradicts the preceding accounts sent to the office of Foreign Affairs, relative to the departure of the Turkish troops. We are now certain that they still occupy the Principality, and that they are not even taking any steps which indicate that they will soon evacuate it. It is not doubted that this news will make the Emperor extremely discontented with the Turkish Government, and lead to great changes in the policy of the Russian Cabinet.

Contraband goods to the amount of 100,000 roubles smuggled in by Jews, had been confiscated between Kowno and Polangon.

The washing of gold in the sands of the Ural Mountains which commenced some years ago, is stated to be carried on with success.

The Vienna Gazette of the 26th Sept. says—"We are assured that at the Foreign Office despatches of such importance have been received, that an extraordinary Council was immediately held at the house of Prince Metternich. It has been announced officially to the President of the Aulic Council of War, and different Authorities of the Government, that the august Guests expected by the Imperial Family will arrive at Vienna on the 5th of October.

At a horse-race at Croningen on the 25th Sept. the winning horse was rode by a girl only 12 years old.

AUSTRIA.—A letter from Brala, in Switzerland, states, that the Emperor of Austria has demanded from the Senate the banishment of two Professors of the University, who were born in Germany, and who have given offence by their political writings to that Sovereign. The demand has not been complied with by the Swiss Senate.

NAPLES.—Upon the Pope visiting the prisons of Rome on the 26th July, a granadier on duty at one of them presented to his Holiness a loaf of bread, begging him to remark its bad quality. The Holy Father immediately caused the bread distributed to the different troops to be examined, and finding it very bad, fined the contractor 1496 crowns, which were distributed to such troops as had partaken of it.

Madame Christophe, *ci-devant* Empress of Hayti, arrived at Frankfort with her suit on the 30th ultimo. She purposes to spend the winter at Florence.

EAST INDIES.—The Burmese War.—The Bombay Gazette, of June 17, had been received in London, and contains some further details of the operations of the British troops against the Burmese. One division of the army had been compelled to retreat on Ramoo, from Rateapullung, after a skirmish which took place on the 6th of June.—The first affair was an attack upon a detachment of several thousand of the Burmese, in the mouth of a jungle, by which they were covered. The elephants of the Burmese on which their cannon were mounted, became alarmed at the firing, and dismounted their burthens, and the detachment was defeated. The Burmese, however, rallied and to the amount of 10,000, besieged the English in Ramoo so closely as to compel them to retreat; after an ineffectual resistance of several days. The fighting men of the Burmese were computed at 50,000—each man has two coolies, one of whom carries his provisions, and the tools for digging trenches, at which they have proved themselves very dexterous. The British officers are surprised to find their foes armed with English muskets.

The cholera morbus has been extremely fatal at Madras, in the latter end of May and beginning of June. Among the persons of note who had fallen victims to it were, Edward Wood Chief Secretary to the Government; the Hon. Sir William Franklin; John Douglas White, Esq. senior member of the Medical Board, and Mr. Binny. Sir C. Fuller, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Calcutta, died in that city of the same fatal malady, on the 19th of May, being no more than five weeks after his arrival at the Presidency.

Letters to so late a date as the 21st of June, contain some important intelligence of the progress of the war with the Burmese. The British expedition directed against Rangoon, the principal sea-port of the Burmese, succeeded in its object, and took possession of the place after no great resistance from the forts and batteries; but the Burmese continue to make resistance in the neighbourhood in shall detach-

ed parties: The accounts had been received in Bombay only a few days before the sailing of the *Mary Anne*.

On the other hand, the Burmese had gained some success on the side of Chittagong; where there was a very small Company's force to oppose them; and two large ships belonging to Bombay had been ordered to proceed from Madras to Chittagong, with troops to meet the enemy in that quarter. This success on the part of the Burmese had created a temporary alarm among the inhabitants of Calcutta, which, however, had subsequently very much abated.

The *Cholera Morbus* raged terribly at Bombay, but was principally, as yet, confined to the natives.

The Lowjee Family and Charles Forbes are ordered to proceed from Madras to Chittagong with troops destined to operate against the Burmese in that quarter, where the latter have met with some success against small detachments, and where there are at present scarcely any troops to oppose them.

The *Cambridge*, about to load for England, has procured the enormous freight of L. 12 a ton.

The warlike measures on the other side of India have not had any effect on the money market; nor are likely to have any, unless they are protracted beyond the expected time. Remittable paper is at 98 per cent, premium at Calcutta, and 144. Bombay rupees for 100 siccas here. The number comprised in the 5 per cent, unremittable debt, which is to be paid off on the 31st of March next, has advanced 1 to 2 per cent, A month, ago it had fallen to 3 per cent; now it is 5.

AMERICA.

UNITED STATES.

Congress met at Washington on the 7th of December, when the President delivered his Message in the usual form. It contained an exposition of the affairs of the Government, and gives a flattering account of every department.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued proposals for a loan of five millions of dollars bearing an interest of four and one half per cent, to be received at the Treasury until the 12th of December. The loan to be reimbursable at the pleasure of the government, at any time after the 31st of December, 1831.—One half the loan to be deposited in the Branch Bank, Boston, on the 31st of December next, to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, and the other half in the Branch Bank in this city, on the 31st March next.

The object of this loan is merely to convert stock to that amount now bearing an interest of six per cent into stock bearing four and a half, by which there will be a saving to the government of seventy-five thousand dollars a year.

The race between Capt. Harris's boat of *H. M. Ship Hussar*, and one belonging to New-York, manned by Whitehall Boatmen, for D1000 aside, took place on Thursday between 12 and 1 o'clock, and terminated unfavourably to Capt. Harris.

DETROIT, Nov. 12.—*White Fish*—The most sanguine hopes of our fishermen have been more than realised this season. Already, according to a moderate computation, 1600 barrels have been taken at the fisheries on *grosé isle*, above and about the same quantity, on this side of that Island on the American shore. The season for fishing, however, has not yet closed, and it may be, safely calculated that, in the whole there will be about 4 or 5000 barrels put up. This will yield a handsome income to our territory, for every barrel may be said to be worth six dollars, and with our spare population, 25 or 30,000 dollars is an important help.

SOUTH AMERICA.—General Guadalupe Victoria, has been elected President of the United Mexican States; and General Nicholas Bravo Vice President. Their introduction into office, and the adoption of the Constitution, modelled on that of the United States, had created great joy among the inhabitants.

A treaty of peace, amity, navigation and commerce, has been concluded at Bogota, between the ministers of the Republic of Colombia and of the United States, which only waits the ratification of the proper authorities, to go into operation.

From Columbia.—There is a further confirmation of the success of Bolivar in Peru received at Norfolk on Friday, by the schooner *Enterprize* Capt. Steel, from Carthagena, having left that port on the 27th of Oct. The Capt. further states that munitions of war were constantly arriving at Carthagena. An English Cutter, from England, having 1,000,000 of dollars on board, on account of the Colombian loan, arrived at Carthagena previous to Capt. S's sailing. Three thousand troops under command of Gen. Gomez, in fine order, were to embark in a few days for Cuagres, to Panama.

Currucoa.—A small island called Aruba, for many years a free port, about 15 miles from Currucoa, has been found to contain such immense quantities of gold, that the Governor has deemed it quite inexpedient to continue it free any longer.

The news of Bolivar's success, had reached Buenos Ayres, and a salute had been fired in honor thereof.

The election had closed, and most of the members of the former Congress had been rechosen. Several members had arrived at Buenos Ayres, and the general Congress, it was supposed, would assemble in November.

In Chili things had taken a favourable turn. The liberal party are decidedly triumphant.—The bishop, who had always been opposed to the revolution, has been banished, and even the pope's nuncio has become a liberal, having been gained over to the popular party. In consequence of this, he is making great reformations in the church, on both sides of the Andes, curtailing the number of feast days, and secularizing the friars as fast as possible.

An Officer of artillery has, at the suggestion of the British Consul, and by order of the government, made a map of the Province of Buenos Ayres; and is preparing to form a complete atlas of the United Provinces. Good maps of South America are so much wanted, that this intelligence will be received with great pleasure.

Short Negotiation.—Capt. Platt and Lieut. Ritchie, of the United States schooner, *Beagle*, having been insulted by the civil authorities of Porto Rico, and detained some time as prisoners, the insult was promptly resented, and atonement summarily extorted from the Governor.—The circumstances are briefly these:—

The Governor imprisoned the commander of one of the small schooners under his command, and allowed him to be grossly insulted. As soon as he heard of it, Commodore Porter proceeded there with two schooners and the boats and part of the crew of this ship—he took two of their batteries, spiked the guns, and marched with two hundred men to the town (Foxarda) about two miles in the interior—he here found the Spaniards drawn up to give him battle, halted his men within pistol shot of their forces, sent a flag ordering the Governor and the Captain of the port, the two principal offenders, to come to him and make atonement, or have their town burnt—they chose the first; and in presence of all our officers, begged pardon of the officer insulted, expressed great penitence, and promised in future to respect all American officers, who might hereafter visit the place.

JAMAICA.—West Indies.—By the *Little Cherub*, from Kingston, Jamaica, we have received files of the *Courant* of 16th Nov. inclusive. The Governor of the Island had sent a messenger to the House of Assembly, recommending the adoption of the same principles of amelioration as to the coloured population, which had been introduced in Trinidad. Similar provisions were to be extended by the British Government to Demerara and Essequibo, St. Lucie, the Cape, and the Mauritius with such modifications as may be necessary to adapt them to the Dutch and French laws, which are respectively in force in these possessions.

After the message was read in the Assembly, the door was closed, and nothing had transpired as to the measures adopted by the house, or whether any proceedings took place on the message.

The duty of 6s. 8d. on the tonnage of American vessels, had been reduced to 6s. 3d. per ton.

TRINIDAD.—The accounts from Trinidad, received during the month contain very interesting information relative to the proclamation issued by the Governor, Sir R. J. Woodford, on the 24th of May last, for putting in force the Order in Council,

purporting to be for improving the condition of the slaves of that island, and to which we alluded in our paper of the 8th inst.

The alarm excited among the Planters by this Proclamation was such, that property instantly fell in value fifty per cent ! ! ! Many of the oldest colonists were making preparations to leave the Island, and in fact, every mind was filled with the most gloomy apprehensions of the future.

Provincial Journal,

DECEMBER, 1824.

NOVA-SCOTIA,

HALIFAX.—Governor Desbars.—The remains of the late Governor *Desbars*, were interred with military honours, &c. on Monday 1st, beneath St. George's Church, and a memoir of his public life and services, from 1755, when he entered the army as a Cadet, to 1812, when in the 90th year of his age, he was permitted to retire with an annual allowance of 500*l.* has appeared.

Indeed, the eminent services of this meritorious Officer, if limited merely to the ten years, from 1768 to 78, in which he was engaged in surveying the coasts and harbors of North America, gave him a strong title to the consideration of His Majesty's Government, and to the thanks of every individual concerned in navigating of those coasts and harbors.

We are pleased to learn, that the frame of a Church was raised at Sherbrooke, in the county of Lunenburg, on Friday the 22d ult.—Its dimensions are 40 feet by 30, with a steeple of proportionate height; and the building, we understand, is like to be completed in the ensuing Spring. The inhabitants of this infant settlement have contributed the sum of 120*l.* towards its erection, and have been aided with 50*l.* from the society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the like sum from our late respected Governor, Sir John Coape Sherbrooke; during whose administration the settlement was formed. At present the place is occasionally attended from Chester by the Rev. Mr. Shreve; under whose superintendance, and that of a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Evans, Wells, Hunt, Johnson and Gates, the praise worthy undertaking has been carried on.

Halifax Library.—A Meeting of the Subscribers to this excellent Establishment was held in the Library Room on Wednesday 3d, at which His Honor the President presided, when a most satisfactory Report of the proceedings of the committee was read, statements of the receipts and disbursements produced and further measures adopted for giving permanency to, and extending the advantages of, this infant institution.

Notice to Pilots.—The Chamber of Commerce, desirous of stimulating the Pilots to exert themselves, to get on board Packets approaching this coast in the Winter Season, have come to the following resolution:—

Resolved, that the Chamber offer a Reward of Ten Dollars to such Pilot, residing on the Coast, as shall bring into this Harbour in safety, or first offer his services for that purpose, any of His Majesty's Packets arriving from Falmouth or New-York between this date and the 1st April 1825. *Provided*, that no Pilot be entitled to receive the sum hereby promised who does not board, or offer his services, outside Mather's Beach, and obtain a certificate to this effect from the Captain of said Packet.

The Premium, which is exclusive of the customary Pilotage of the Port, will be paid by the Treasurer, Mr. Hartshorne, on the production of the Certificate required.

RICHARD TREMAIN,
President of the Chamber of Commerce,

Halifax, 6th December, 1824,

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

TREASURY-CHAMBER, Sept. 24, 1824.

Gentlemen,—I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, to desire you will instruct your officers in the North American Colonies, to permit the warehousing duty free, for exportation only of Sugar and Coffee, the produce of South America, until further directions shall be given by this Board.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE HARRISON

COMMISSIONERS' CUSTOMS.

Custom-House, London, September, 30, 1824.

(No. 45)

Let the Collector and Comptroller at Halifax take care that the directions contained in the foregoing copy of a Letter from Mr. Harrison, (one of the Secretaries to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury) be duly obeyed.

By Order of the Commissioners.

T. WHITMORE.

Shubenacadie Canal.—We are happy to hear, that this long projected plan is to be brought forward again; and that endeavours are about to be made once more, to procure an experienced Engineer, to take the requisite survey, and give a fair estimate of the expense.—Let but this business be properly undertaken, and persevered in with a spirit that may encourage a hope of its completion; and it will require no deep augury to predict, that the increasing value of real property will soon demonstrate its importance.

NEW-BRUNSWICK.—The Parliament of New-Brunswick meets for the dispatch of business on the 1st February next. The Parliament of Nova-Scotia stands prorogued to the 10th January.

ST. JOHN, Dec. 2d.—*Melancholy Accident.*—We have the melancholy task of recording the death of Mr. Robert Baxter, master and owner of the fine brig John Biggar, of this port. While returning from Digby, in the Packet, on Friday evening 26th Nov. about 6 o'clock, whither he had been to see his family, a sudden lurch of the vessel threw him from the weather side over the lee side. Owing to the darkness of the night, and the tremendous sea running, every exertion that could be made to save him proved ineffectual. Capt. Baxter was a man in whom were combined many of the best properties and finer feelings—industrious and persevering, and of the strictest integrity. He will be sincerely regretted by a large circle of friends.

Another distressing event happened on Sunday last, from the circumstance of the schooner —, Haley, who left this port for Annapolis on that day, having upset in the Bay near Digby Gut, and every soul on board perished, in number about fourteen or fifteen, including crew and passengers; among whom were several respectable persons who came over the Bay on business and were returning home. We learn to further particulars of this melancholy and afflicting dispensation of Providence, than that the Digby Packet and another vessel were in sight when the schooner capsized, but from the violence of the wind and height of the sea it was utterly impossible to render them any assistance.

Charlotte Town, P. E. Island, October 30.

A Meeting of the Inhabitants of Charlotte Town was held at the Court House on the 24th inst. when the following Address was passed, which was presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor on Wednesday, by a Deputation:—

To His Excellency Colonel John Ready, Lieutenant Governor and Commander, in and over His Majesty's Island of Prince Edward, and the Territories thereunto adjacent, Chancellor and Vice Admiral of the same, &c. &c.

We, His Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, the Magistrates and Inhabitants of Charlotte Town, beg leave to offer to your Excellency, our warmest congratulations on your arrival in this Island, and to assure your Excellency of our anxious

desire to maintain and uphold your Excellency's administration. We feel the utmost confidence that the harmony which ought always to subsist between the Government and the people is perfectly established, and that your Excellency will believe, that loyalty, obedience to the Laws, and a love of order is the character of the Inhabitants of Charlotte Town.

We cannot omit on this occasion, to express our unfeigned gratitude and thanks for the attention which His Majesty has been graciously pleased to pay to the interest of this Colony in confiding its Government to your Excellency's hands, and to add our most fervent wishes that your administration of it may be long and happy; and we beg to assure your Excellency that this community will at all times exert its most zealous endeavours to afford you satisfaction, and to render your residence among us agreeable.

We have the honor to be, Sir, Your Excellency's
Most obedient humble servant.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting.

WM. JOHNSTON, Chairman.

To which His Excellency made the following reply;

"GENTLEMEN—" Accept my best thanks for your congratulations on my arrival, and for the assurance you are pleased to give of your anxious desire to uphold the administration of the person placed by his Majesty in the Government of this colony; fully persuaded as I am of the advantages to be derived from harmony and a good understanding between all classes of the community, it cannot but be satisfactory to observe a correspondent feeling so strongly expressed on your part, and I trust you will find me at all times most desirous to assist and promote such measures, as have for their object the improvement of the country, and the prosperity and comfort of its inhabitants."

P. E. ISLAND, Oct. 30.

MELANCHOLY SHIPWRECK.

This morning the schr. Thistle, from Richibucto reported that she had seen the tops of a small vessel off St. Peter's Island. On some boats going from hence to ascertain the fact, it was discovered to be the packet boat from Pictou, sunk in 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms of water, about two miles outside of the Island. There is but too much reason to suppose that all on board have perished, as Messrs. E. & R. Holland who visited the wreck, explored the whole Island without discovering any person. Various rumours, are afloat as to what passengers were on board of her, but nothing certain can be known until intelligence from Pictou arrives. It is not thought that she brought a Mail as Mr. Smith the Master was not on board, but had sent her to Pictou for a cargo of coals. It is supposed that in making for the harbour during the gale, on Wednesday with the wind at N. that she must have gone down very suddenly from the circumstance of having all her sails standing when discovered.

NOVEMBER 6.—By the arrival of a boat from Pictou, this morning, we hear that there were nine persons on board the Packet when she was lost, that number having left Pictou in her, and who must all have gone down with the vessel, as no tidings have been heard of them since.—Besides Norman Myer, and David Betram, who belonged to the vessel, the other sufferers are Mr. Frederick M'Lellan, of Pictou, a person whose untimely fate will be subject of regret in that place; his brother-in-law a Mr. Purais; a Mr. M'Dougald of flat River, and four others, two men and two women, neither of whom belong to this Island, whose names we have not learned.

We understand she was very deeply laden with coals, on leaving Pictou it was observed that her gunwale was only five inches out of the water.

Nov. 13.—Sailed this morning, in the ship Mary for Bristol, C. D. Smith, Esq. late Lieut. Governor of this Island, and family.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, Oct. 30.

We have the gratifying task of announcing the launch of several fine vessels in different parts of the Island within these few days.

On Saturday, the 23d inst. a vessel of a very superior description about 277 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons burden was launched from the ship-yard of Messrs. E. Cameron and D. M'Donald, in Elliot River. Also a brig of 282 tons called the Matilda, built at

Three-Rivers by Messrs. A. and H. McDonald which in point of workmanship is very creditable to the abilities of the builders. We have also heard of the launching of a fine vessel belonging to Messrs. L. & A. Cambridge, at Sourie; a brig of 169 tons at Rustico, and another of 160 tons at Squaw Bay, belonging to Messrs. Le Page; besides five schooners by Messrs. Ferguson, Webster, and several others. It is pleasing to add, that we have heard of no accident occurring at any of these launches.

LOWER-CANADA.—MONTREAL.

The gaieties of the season have commenced. The long winter of pleasure has at length began its reign, and from the Buffalo skin to the ball-room, the influence of amusement is extending itself. Several fashionable parties have been already given, and our society bids fair to drive away the tedium of the season triumphantly.

It is an extraordinary fact that a Durham Boat left this port on the 9th inst. an occurrence that is never recollected to have taken place before.

The quantity of Ashes which have been this last season sent direct to sea from the port of Montreal, amounted to 38,157 barrels.

The Montreal shipments of standard staves last summer are 296,429 pieces, and of West India staves, 181,365.

The importation of fire wood by the river during this summer at Montreal, we find amounts to 23,267 cords.

INCIDENTS &c. &c.

On the evening of Wednesday the 8th inst. an alarming fire broke out at St. Johns, by which the house of J. Esinhart, occupied by Mrs. Grajon, was burnt to the ground; but from the exertions of the soldiers stationed in the place, and of those who had the management of the Engines, the flames were happily prevented from doing further injury.

Accident.—On Wednesday last a girl of about ten years old, was going to school; she stepped into a train, opposite her father's door in the Quebec Suburb, the driver being absent, the child took up the reins, and handled them in so awkward a manner that the horse took fright, ran off precipitately, and coming in contact with a load of wood, the concussion was so great as to overturn the wood, which fell on the child, and fractured her thigh in three places, broke her leg, and otherwise injured her in so shocking a manner, as to render her life doubtful.

Messrs. Wills and Duff, have been appointed joint Organists to the Protestant Parish Church of this city.

There are now 21 ships, mostly of a large class, building in the various coves and ship-yards between Cap Rouge and the Isle of Orleans, where the twin ship to the Columbus is constructing; this cannot fail in affording employment to the labouring class during the inclement season.

WEEKLY SESSIONS, 4TH DECEMBER 1824.

Jean Marie Lapointe and Jean Baptiste Potvin dit Lafleur, convicted of having cut some small trees of dry wood on Sir John Johnson's farm in the parish of Montreal, contrary to the Statute of the Provincial Parliament, condemned to pay each a fine which not being paid, ordered to be severally imprisoned 4 days.

December 7.—Augustin Pillon of the Parish of Pointe Claire convicted of having sold and retailed spirituous liquors on Sunday, fined at £3 currency and to pay costs.

On the 10th, Louis Robillard of this city, labourer, having been convicted before a Justice of the Peace of this city, of having cut down a tree on Sir John Johnson's farm in Papineau-road, was sentenced to be imprisoned for 7 days.

George Koester and Henri Blache of Montreal, Tavern-keepers, convicted of having sold and retailed spirituous liquors on Sunday, fined 10s. each, and to pay costs.

Joseph Viau, of the Parish of la Pointe Claire; Jean Marie Hupé dit Chalifour, of Montreal; Charles Hinton, of the same place, John P. Hogg, of the same place; Jean Baptiste Archambault, of Pointe aux Trembles, and François Lahaie, of Mon-

treal, severally convicted of having driven their horses without any bells through the streets of the City of Montreal, fined 10s. each, and to pay costs.

14th December.—Robert Wilson, James Smith, Mary Ann McDonald, and Charles Léon Barron, of Montreal, severally convicted of having sold and retailed spirituous liquors without licence, fined at £10 sterling each, and to pay costs.

John Carr, of Montreal, convicted of having incumbered part of St. Charles Barommée Street, fined at 20s. currency and to pay costs.

Amable Paré, of Côte St. Paul, parish of Montreal, convicted of having driven a horse in the City of Montreal, without any bells attached to the harness of his horse, fined at 10s. currency and to pay costs.

21st December.—Angélique Corbeil, widow of the late Etienne St. Amour, Platt Herrick, of the parish of Montreal, Robert Edward and Bernard McCourt of the parish of Lachine, severally convicted of having sold and retailed spirituous liquors without licence, fined at £10 sterling, and to pay costs.

Henry Williams of Montreal, Joseph Lepage of Saut aux Recollets, severally convicted of having ridden their Horses quicker than a moderate trot through the Streets of the City of Montreal, fined at 40s. each currency, and to pay costs.

Jean Baptiste Gariépy of Lachine, François Couvrette, Charles Bizaillon, Jacques Perrault, Jean Bte. Valade, Antoine Langlois, John Brown of Montreal, and Jacques Turcot of Saut aux Recollets, severally convicted upon confession of having ridden their Horses through the City of Montreal without Bells, fined at 10s. each and to pay costs.

QUEBEC.

A Schooner laden with Rum, Cordage, &c. saved from the Harlequin, came up to Quebec on Saturday afternoon. She left the wreck on the 23d ultimo, and had proceeded some distance up the river, when meeting with ice, &c. the Captain learning that there was a considerable quantity of it above the Traverse, he put into l'Islet, intending to winter there. This place the Schooner left last Friday, at the suggestion of a gentleman who was gone down to the wreck, and arrived here without much difficulty. At the time the Schooner left Green Island, the Harlequin was nearly unloaded, and the quantity of goods which still remain to be brought up, is sufficient to load five or six schooners more.

Fire.—A fire broke out on the 14th about ten o'clock, in the large buildings belonging to Mr. Hamilton, Auctioneer of this City, situated in St. Lewis street, near the Court House. It commenced in the third story in the apartments occupied by Lt. Montague of the 71st, who with his servants were absent. The fire in the stove of these apartments had been left burning, and it is supposed, in some manner or other communicated with the floor. When the alarm was given by the inmates of the rooms occupied by Mr. Vassal de Monviel, Adjutant General of Militia, in the second story, it had been raging some time unobserved, the apartments and the adjoining stairs of Lt. Montague's lodgings were in a blaze, and the fire had gained a point at which it could not be subdued.

The fire after this building was consumed, spread to the roof of the adjoining House, also belonging to Mr. Hamilton, and occupied by Mr. Willan and Mr. Bedard, Advocates; the upper part of it was consumed, and the two lower stories completely emptied of their furniture, &c. which in a great measure was destroyed.

The next House belonging to Mrs. Grey, with a stable in the rear, was also emptied of its contents, but the fire was arrested before it reached it.

Mr. Hamilton was in the country when the fire began, no part of his two houses were insured. Mr. Vassal's loss is very heavy. Lt. Montague lost all his property with the exception of two portmanteaus, which were generously saved by his servant at the risk of his life. Mrs. Grey, Mr. Willan, Mr. Bedard, Mr. R. Sewell and Mr. Amiot, of the Bay, are also sufferers to a considerable amount; the first mentioned gentleman in particular.

Deaths.—in Montreal, on the 5th instant, in the 76th year of his age, Thomas McCord, Esquire.

On the 30th November, David David Esq. aged 60 years, well known as one of our most respectable merchants.

After a long illness on the morning of the 4th inst. aged 44 years, Mr. Augustus Dumas, Merchant of this city.

On the 6th November, after a long and painful illness, aged about 80 years, the Reverend Richard Pollard, Rector of Sandwich, Upper-Canada, County of Essex, Western District. His remains at his request, were interred under the chapel of the Episcopal Church at Sandwich.—The Reverend Mr. Rolph of Amherstburgh read the funeral service, and the Reverend Mr. Kaddle, an Episcopalian Minister from Detroit, preached on the occasion, a sermon, so pathetic, that it brought tears from many of his audience.

On the 14th at Quebec, aged 49, John Goudie Esq. long an enterprising Ship-builder and Merchant of that City.

On the 24th October at Douglas Town, Gaspé Bay, Henry Johnston, Esq. Deputy Collector of his Majesty's Customs.

At Argenteuil, December 2, Dr. Benjamin Green, formerly of Montreal, aged 70. In Baltimore County, Md. on the 13th inst. Mr. John Fishpaw, in the 108th year of his age.

At New-York, on the 26th ult. the Rev. Richard Bulger, Roman Catholic Priest of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

At the same place on the 18th ult. the Rev. Michael O'Gorman, Roman Catholic Priest of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

At the same place, on the 25th ult. Mr. John Cartwright, the celebrated performer on the Musical Glasses, aged 68 years.

At Bath, (England) whither he had come for the benefit of his health, aged 65, the Rt. Rev. Charles Sughrue, D. D. Catholic Lord Bishop of Adfert and Aghadoc, County Kerry, Ireland.

Suddenly, at Honduras, on the 26th July, Robert John Edgar, who lately held the rank of Captain in his Majesty's army. Having fallen in with some of the agents of McGregor, he was induced to sell his commission, and went out to the land of promise in that most unfortunate of all ships, the Albion.

On Wednesday night, the 24th ult. at St. Johns N. B. after a few days illness, the Reverend Michael F. X. Carroll Catholic Pastor of that City. He was a native of Ireland and at an early age came to the United States, and was ordained Priest by the late most Reverend Dr. Carroll, Archbishop of Baltimore. During his short residence in this City he gained the esteem of every person who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, and was universally beloved by his Congregation.

ST. VINCENT, Oct. 16.—It is our painful duty to record the melancholly death of Major Champion, 21st Royal North British Fuzileers, commanding the troops in this Garrison.

On returning to the Fort on Wednesday evening last, at about 7 P. M. he was shot by the sentry posted at the draw-bridge, and expired before 10 on the same evening.

The wretch who committed this diabolical act is now given over to the civil authority, and as this is the second instance of a similar nature, which he has endeavoured unsuccessfully though in the first instance happily to perpetrate, it is hoped that he will soon meet with that fate he so richly deserves.

The body of Major Champion was interred with every military honor due to the much lamented deceased, on Thursday evening; and the Officers of the Regiment were much gratified in witnessing the marked respect paid to his memory by the principal authorities, civil and military together with most of the respectable inhabitants.

In Parsonfield, York county, (Me.) Alexander Ramsay, M. D. about 70 years of age. Dr. R. was distinguished both in this country and Great Britain as a lecturer on anatomy and physiology.

UPPER-CANADA.

The Parliament of Upper-Canada meets for despatch of business on the 11th proximo.

On the 30th ult. agreeably to notice given, a number of people appeared on the ground where it is intended to commence operations on the Welland Canal. The morning was rainy, and had the appearance of a rainy day. Owing to the frequent rains latterly, the roads were exceeding bad—owing to those circumstances there were not near the number of people that might otherwise have been expected. About

eleven o'clock the weather cleared up, and the afternoon was remarkably fine—by twelve o'clock there were not less than 200 people on the ground.

The spot on which the operations were intended to commence, was a flat near the head of one of the Branches of the Twelve-Mile Creek.

The ground was laid out by Mr. Hall, and Mr. Clowes, Engineers.

The Annual Meeting of the Society of Friends to Strangers in Distress was held at the Mansion House Hotel, York, on Thursday the 9th instant, at which his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Patron of the Society, presided.

The Meeting was numerously attended and after the usual business of the day was disposed of, His Excellency was pleased to propose a vote of thanks to Deputy Assistant Commissary General Billings, for his active and meritorious services in carrying into effect the objects of the Institution, which was carried unanimously.

On motion of his Excellency, the thanks of the Society were also voted to Doctor Blackwood, and to the Barrack Master Mr. Hartney, whose care and attention to the objects of the Society have been unremitting.

The Honorable Justice Campbell, and the Honorable Justice Boulton, were then unanimously elected Vice Presidents of the Society.

It is truly gratifying to be able to state that there was a very great accession of new members, and that the subscriptions amounted to more than at any former meeting. On a reference to the transactions of the Society during the year it was evident that a great deal of good had been effected at a comparatively small expense, many distressed families actually preserved from starvation, and a number afflicted by disease restored to health.

In addition to his usual donations in aid of the funds of the Society, His Excellency has been pleased to place at its disposal a quantity of old Barrack Bedding, which has been eagerly sought after by poor settlers, and contributed exceedingly to their comfort. (Signed) JAMES FITZGIBBON SECRETARY.

Frightful Death.—Two men, whose names we have not learned, were reported to have been precipitated over the Niagara Fall, on Tuesday the 9th inst. One of them was a blacksmith, lately employed at Chippewa. They were going across to the American side, in a boat loaded with apples and cider; but how they got into the rapids we have not heard. Our informant was told by the Ferryman at Lewiston, that some of the apples had been observed floating down the river by that place. Pieces of the boat have also been picked up below the Falls. The bodies are not yet found.

Terrible explosion at Gainsborough.—On Monday the 7th at 2 o'clock, P. M. the frame Store of John M' Gill Esq. on the twenty mile creek, was blown up with six persons in it, viz: Dr. Samuel Woodruff, Mr. Wilcox, Mr. Malatte, Mr. M' Gill, his clerk, and a serving woman. The first four were sitting by the fire—a keg containing 58 lb. of powder was between Mr. McGill and the chimney, who was picking some lumps out of it within five feet of the fire. Another keg with 47lb. stood open beside him. Also, other two kegs in a different part of the store, not unheeded. Some of these gentlemen were amusing themselves, producing explosions, by throwing small lumps of the damaged powder into the fire; this caused a coal to start into one of the kegs, which immediately blew up. The four sides of the store went different ways, the roof was blown up about eight feet perpendicular, and then fell down, but left room for the unfortunate inmates to crawl out below, very much hurt.

We have learned since writing the above that Dr. Samuel Woodruff, who was unfortunately hurt when Mr. M' Gill's store blew up, is since dead.

LITERATURE.

We have been favoured with a pamphlet, just issued from the New-York press, written by Mr. Buchanan, His Majesty's British Consul at New-York, addressed to the Earl of Dalhousie. It is a continuation of that Gentleman's work on the "History, Manners and Customs of the North American Indians," and is intended to submit a plan to the British public for the amelioration and civilization of the American tribes. The plan itself is to locate the different tribes, upon a grant from His Majesty of the extensive ground lying between the 44th parallel of North lat.

and Lakes Huron and Simcoe; the Indians to be governed by a council of their own, &c. The subject is one deserving of attention. The natives of this extensive continent are fast disappearing, and where civilization has extended itself are now not to be seen incorporated with the inhabitants; but we imagine that it is a very difficult one, and that Mr. Buchanan's plan would be attended with many serious obstacles.

The publishers of the novels and tales of the *Great Known Unknown* of the North, had their periodical private sale of books, at the Albion Tavern, on Friday, the 22d of October, when *Tales of the Crusaders*, by the author of *Waverly* and *Ivanhoe*, were offered to the trade, and about 3800 copies were purchased by the booksellers in London only. The work was to be published in November.

Cambell's beautiful poem of "The Pleasures of Hope" has found a very good translator in M. Albert Montemont, author of a "Voyage aux Alpes," and "Lettres sur l'Astronomie." The translation is faithful, and the French poetry in which it is given is even brilliant.

The Hon. Col. Stanhope, who with Lord Byron, acted so considerable a part in Greece, has given to his friend, Mr. Richard Ryan, author of the "Worthies of Ireland, and several miscellaneous poems, &c." the whole of his very interesting journals; together with several original letters of Lord Byron.

Amongst the works of art publishing by Ackerman, in London, we observe a *Picturesque Tour of the Rivers Ganges and Jumna in India*, by Lieut. Col. Forrest, formerly on the Staff of His Majesty's Army, and latterly in North America. The work will contain 24 coloured engravings; the numbers which have already appeared are favourably spoken of. The Lieutenant-Colonel's talent as a faithful delineator of landscape are well known, and we understand the engraver has done him ample justice.

The following new publications are advertised by Mr. Colburn, of Burlington-st.: *Conversations of Lord Byron*, detailing the principal occurrences of his private life; his opinions on society and manners, literature and literary men, being the substance of a Journal kept during a residence with his Lordship at Pisa, in the years 1821 and 1822, by T. Medwin, Esq. of the 24th Light Dragoons.

A second series of *Sayings and Doings*.

A second series of *Highways and By-Ways*.

Campbell, the author of the *Pleasures of Hope*, Gertrude of Wyoming, &c. has a volume of Poetry forthcoming. The principal Poem is entitled *Thialoric*.

Mr. Bowles is preparing for publications a *Reply* to some observations of Mr. Roscoe in his recent edition of *Pope's Works*.

The recently discovered work of Milton, *De Doctrina Christiana*, is advertised by Mr. Cus. Knight of Pall Mall East. A translation of the work by the Rev. C. R. Sämner, Historiographer to His Majesty, is also to be had at the same place.

Colonel Leicester Stanhope is, we hear, preparing a publication on the actual state of Greece in 1823-4.

M. A. Thiers and F. Bodin announce a work on the French Revolution.

"*Tales of Irish Life*," were to appear on the 1st November, with illustrations by George Cruikshank, engraved by Messrs. Thompson, Hughes, and Bonner, in their best style.

The Gaelic Dictionary, by Mr. Armstrong, will shortly appear. The Rev. Mr. Fry's *History of the Christian Church* is again at press.

Mr. J. H. Parry promises the *Cambrian Plutarch*, or lives of eminent Welshmen, in one vol. 8vo.

THE ARMY.

From the London Gazette.—War Office, October 8.

MEMORANDUM.—His Majesty has been pleased to approve of the 41st Regiment of Foot bearing on its colours and appointments the word "Niagara," in commemoration of the distinguished gallantry displayed by the Regiment in the capture, by assault, of the American fort Niagara, on the 19th December, 1813, and also by the Flank Companies of the Regiment in action with the enemy, on the 25th of July, 1814, at Lundy's Lane, near the falls of Niagara. His Majesty has also been pleased to approve of the 82d Regiment of bearing on its colours and appointments, in addition to any other badges or devices which may have hitherto been granted to the Regiment, the words "Vimiera," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," and "Or-

thes," in commemoration of the distinguished conduct of the Regiment in the battle of Vimiera, on 21st August, 1808; at Vittoria, on 21st June, 1813; in the Pyrenees, in the months of July and August, 1813; at Nivelle, on 10th November, 1813; and at Orthes, on 27th February, 1814.

Extract from the General Regulations of the Army, regarding the Discharge of Soldiers on payment of a specific sum of Money.

When Commanding Officers of Regiments may from particular circumstances, feel themselves justified in recommending soldiers for discharge, at their own request, or at the request of their friends, the sum of 20*l.* shall be paid by each, instead of procuring substitutes.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

Provincial Secretary's Office,—Quebec, 2d Dec. 1824.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments, viz:—

Charles Richard Ogden, Esquire, Solicitor General for the Province of Lower Canada, in the room of Charles Marshall, Esquire, resigned.—Aaron Ezekiel Hart, Esquire, Advocate, Barrister, Attorney, Solicitor, Proctor and Counsel in all His Majesty's Courts of Justice in this Province.

Quebec, 9th December.

Ralph Gore, Amable Berthelot, and Samuel Judge Burton, Esquires, Justices of the Peace for the District of Quebec, and to be of the Quorum—and William Grut Sheppard, Esquire, also a Justice of the Peace for the District of Quebec and Three-Rivers—Charles Manuel, Esquire, ditto ditto, for the District of Montreal, and Commissioner for the trial of small Causes in the Seigniori of Beauharnois, County of Huntingdon, District of Montreal.

Quebec, 16th December.

Thomas Storrs Judah, Esquire, Advocate, Attorney, Solicitor, Proctor, and Counsel, in all His Majesty's Courts of Justice in this Province.

MONTREAL PRICE CURRENT—OCTOBER 1824.

PRODUCE OF THE COUNTRY.

Pot Ashes, per cwt.	30s.
Pearl Ashes,	
Fine Flour, per bbl.	25s. Od
Sup. do. ...	27s. 6d.
Pork, (mess) ...	85s.
Pork, (prime) ...	65s. Od.
Beef, (mess) ...	40s.
Beef, (prime) ...	35s.
Wheat, per minot	3s. 9d. a 4s. 2d.
Barley, ...	2s. 6d.
Oats, ...	1s. 4d. a 1s. 6d.
Pease, ...	2s. 1d.
Oak Timber, cubic ft.	1s. 6d. a 1s. 3d.
White Pine,	3 ³ / ₄ d a 4 ¹ / ₄ d.
Red Pine,	7 ¹ / ₄ d. a 8d.
Elm,	4 ¹ / ₄ d. a 5d.
Staves, standard, per 1200,	£32, a 33.
West India, do.	12, 10s.
Whiskey, gal.	3s. 6d.

IMPORTED GOODS, &c.

Rum, (Jamaica) gall.	4s. 9d. a 5s.
Rum, (Leew'd) ...	3s. 9d. a 3s. 10d.
Brandy, (Cognac) ...	6s. Od.
Brandy, (Spanish) ...	5s. Od.
Geneva, (Holland) ...	5s. Od.
Geneva, (British) ...	5s. Od.
Molasses,	2s. 6d.
Port Wine, per Pipe,	£60 a 70
Madeira, O. L. P.	45 a 50
Teneriffe, L. P.	25 a 32 10s.
Do. Cargo.....	20 a 25
Sugar, (musc.) cwt.	56s. a 60s. Od.
Sugar, (Loaf) lb.	8d. a 9d.
Coffee, ...	1s. 3d.
Tea, (Hyson) scarce	7s.
Tea, (T'wankay) ...	5s. 9d.
Soap, ...	4 ¹ / ₄ d.
Candles	8d.

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