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THE
NOVA-SCOTIA MAGAZINE

FOR AUGUST, 1791.

THE ATONEMENTS OF SENSIBILITY. A NOVEL.

(Concluded from page 384.)

CHAPTER V.

It is always in our power to do that which is just and honourable; but it is not always in our power, however anxiously we may wish it, to repair the wrongs we have been induced to commit.

THE search of the lovely Anna, for her supposed delirious benefactor, was however vain; she haunted the spot where she had met with him, morning, noon, and night; she described him to every one, and made innumerable enquiries; but could procure no intelligence.—Neither were advertisements of more effect. Elphinston, the only friend who knew any thing of the affair, being out of town; and his own mind too much occupied by its own prospects and meditations, to seek for entertainment from diurnal publications.

But the painful interim of suspense was not entirely devoted to retrospects of past injuries and idle speculations of future happiness; he found a more active relief in the execution of those benevolent resolutions he had so solemnly taken.

The wiped eye of many a lovely mourner had beamed comfort on his soul; and the grateful sigh of many a fair bosom had wasted away, for a time, the anguish of his own.

At the expiration of three or four days his friend Elphinston returned. He had flown with eager expedition to discharge the duties of friendship: but, alas! he returned not

‘With healing on his wings.’

No intelligence could be gained of the lost Maria, but such as tended to damp all the hopes of Courland, and plunge his soul into the abyss of anguish.

She had flown from her native town;

no one knew whether. She had remained overwhelmed with penury and contempt; a prey to all the anguish of remorse and shame, and almost of absolute want, till her evident pregnancy exposed her to the terror of merciless justice, when, to avoid the repentment she had not fortitude to bear she suddenly disappeared, and was seen no more.

‘Heaven and earth!’ exclaimed the frantic Courland, ‘what have I done?—But what said my friend? Penury and distress! Here has been fraud and villainy. I thought I had made an ample provision for her, when I sent her, by Mason, notes to the amount of fifteen hundred pounds. An infant too! Distraction! I thought I had sufficient security, in maternal affection, against the guilt and horror of having the dear offspring of my love exposed to want and infamy, when I requested her, in my letter, to let me know if there was any fruit of our endearments, that I might make such provision for it as would be necessary for its future happiness.’

‘It does not appear,’ answered Elphinston, ‘that your commission was ever executed; or that the relief you sent ever reached the unhappy object it was intended to console.’

‘Oh villain!’ exclaimed Courland ‘will not vengeance overtake such treachery? But I was the traitor first. I set the base example, and he has but faintly copied my inhuman perfidy.’

‘Oh, Maria! oh, my child—my child. Take, treacherous incontinence, a lesson from my frantic anguish! In the wild tumult of the boiling blood, when beauty whets the cruel appetite, and wakes the selfish throb of loose desire, could but the images that now disturb my fancy be pre-

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1791

sented to the mind—could we but reflect that some wretched babe, called into miserable existence by our heedless passions, may through the wretched period of their friendless existence have cause to curse our stolen raptures, sure there is not that human being so brutalized, that he would dare to seize the guilty pleasure:

'Oh horror! what a prospect!'

'Alas! my friend!' said Elphinston, 'I know not whether it will console you, to hear the mournful assurance, that by the horrors of this prospect you have no reason to be alarmed: It is the general report at M—, that your Maria and your child are both no more!'

'It is well! it is well!' said Courland, walking about with a kind of awful composure, like the dreadful calm which precedes the fury of a storm.—'They are blessed, among the cherubic host: and mine is all the guilt and all the torture.'

So saying, he flung himself upon a sofa, and leaning backwards in speechless agony, resigned himself to his fate. Nor could any entreaties rouse him from his stupor, or persuade him to take any nourishment or consolation; till, after several hours, observing that Elphinston still continued to sit in immovable watchfulness by his side, he at last consented to retire to bed; nor, indeed, to relieve his own affliction, but to prevent the wearying assiduity of his friend.

CHAPTER VI.

'Dull sleep instructs: nor sport vain dreams in vain.' YOUNG.

Our dreams, though not always, are certainly often the confused reflections of our waking thoughts: and as our minds, roving through all the possible contingencies connected with our present situations, must sometimes dwell, with particular vivacity, on those prospects which are afterward realized, it is perhaps hence (to drop a reflection by the way) that our dreams are, by the superstitious, sometimes conceived to be prophetic, only because they happened to represent those events which our waking thoughts, grasping the whole region of conjecture, could not fail, among other floating ideas, at some season to embrace.

Though sleep was the farthest thing from Courland's thoughts when he retired to bed, yet his mind, incessantly tossed between the ideas of his lost Maria, and the recollection of his projected scheme of benevolence, was at length oppressed by the drowsy god; and his perturbations subsided into a gentle slumber.

The thoughts which had agitated him while awake, still, however, continued to haunt his repose: their asperity softened, it is true, by a soothing melancholy hope; but their influence increased by the heightening force of a picturesque imagination.

He fancied himself roving, beneath the grey canopy of an over-clouded sky, over wild and irregular rocks, whose inhospitable sides were thinly strewed by thorns and brambles, that tore the bleeding sides of a few half famished lambs that in vain sought among them for herbage; and whose uncouth masses were intersected by a roaring torrent, that, every where foaming along, increased the gloom it contributed to diversify.

In the great bed of this water, which stretched before him, he beheld several hapless females, who, struggling against the whelming element, and seeing no other relief at hand, stretched forth their imploring hands, and entreated him to rescue them from their melancholy fate.

His heart melted with compassion; and he was preparing to plunge into the stream. The distant horizon instantly became clear and bright. A streak of white, like that which ushers in the morning star, was instantly succeeded by an orient glow, bright as that which immediately precedes the appearance of the sun.

While he was gazing with pleasing wonder at this change, the beautiful form of his Maria, clothed in a vestal robe, and with two shining pinions waving on her shoulders, slowly ascended in the midst of the dawning glory, and thus addressed him with the most benignant smile:

'Think not, my still dear and much-loved Courland, that I come to check the ardour of thy generous resolution, or to impede the exertions that would snatch these my unhappy sisters from the torrent of overwhelming misery. No: I come to fortify thy virtue, and encourage thy active generosity, by informing thee of the reward which shall crown the labours of thy repentant sensibility.

'Here, in this happy mansion, is the habitation of thy Maria, and the only path, by which thou canst attain it, is through the torrent that roars between us. Proceed then to rescue these unhappy females from an unmerited fate, so shall thy active benevolence procure that pardon which was granted to my repentant tears.

'Hail! then to thy Maria, and we shall both be happy, in a pure celestial union, where haughty parents shall no more embitter our joys, or thwart our spotless wishes. Then shall we be crowned with these unfading wreaths' she continued,

waving,

waving them over her head, 'and shine in eternal glory and felicity.'

Encouraged by these cheering promises, he plunged at once into the torrent, and was hastening toward a beautiful virgin who seemed most in want of his assistance, when, struggling with the torrent, he awoke to the painful conviction of his delusion.

He arose, however, refreshed by his slumber; and his mind being somewhat becalmed by the moral consolation of the vision, he took a slight repast, and issued out in quest of some object to whom he might extend his benevolence.

CHAPTER VII.

There is a power in artless beauty, which, even independent of any emotions of desire, can interest the feeling heart, and sooth its keenest sorrows.

As, full of his benevolent purpose, Courland was walking along, it occurred to him that in those miserable mansions, which the wisdom of our laws has erected, not for the punishment of the base and fraudulent only, but of the poor and unfortunate, there might perhaps languish many a miserable female, who, preferring a prison to prostitution, was compelled to breathe the unwholesome air she had not the honest means of avoiding. He therefore directed his course towards the Fleet prison.

In his way to this place he was accosted by a young female, whom at first he did not recollect, but whom, upon further observation, he found to be the person he had so liberally relieved on the morning of the discovery of his wife's infidelity.

The blushing Anna congratulated herself on the happy encounter, informed him of the enquiry she had been so anxiously making after him, and the reason for which she had made it; and concluding that he was now going to answer the advertisement, offered immediately to conduct him to the place where the money was deposited for his use.

Courland was astonished at the simplicity of this address; and charmed with so rare an instance of scrupulous integrity, forgetting the decorum necessary in a public street, he clasped her trembling hand with ardour between both his own, and, straining it to his bosom, exclaimed with some warmth, that he not only was perfectly collected when he gave her the notes, and knew perfectly the amount of his present, but that she had now convinced him that what he had done was unequal to her deserts; and that if she had any wants or

any wishes which it was not sufficient to gratify, he should be happy to have the opportunity of providing for her future peace and prosperity.

'Alas! Sir, said the wondering Anna, overwhelmed with gratitude, and venting her joy in a shower of tears—'could we with propriety accept so large a present, what you have already done is more than enough to make my poor mother and myself happy for ever.'

'Then go, sweet girl!' continued he, 'go to the happy mother that can merit the affection of such sensible and innocent beauty; and may ye both be indeed for ever happy.'

'God of heaven! can guilt and misery seek for refuge in despair and suicide when such means are unfolded to them of atonement and alleviation?'

The glow of gratitude deepened on the blooming cheek of Anna; and with an ardour that ripened all her charms, she poured forth those acknowledgements, which till now a tumult of passions had prevented, and for the neglect of which she began to reproach herself, with grateful anxiety.

The generous benefactor would certainly have prevented her from dwelling on this topic, had not his attention been so much engrossed by the contemplation of her person, as to render him deaf to so uninteresting a subject.

Her form was delicate and elegant; and, though worn with want and affliction, there was an animation—a harmony and sweetness in her features, so similar to all that had once delighted his soul in the unfortunate Maria, that no one who has ever felt the interest inspired by the resemblance of a dear and absent form can wonder at the tenderness excited in his bosom.

Indeed, independent of this, it were impossible to view so sweet a form, where all that can delight in the youthful softness of eighteen was blended with the expression of mental superiority, and heightened by the animating expressions of gratitude and joy, without feeling an interest which perhaps nothing but beauty emerging from distress can possibly inspire.

Courland continued to gaze with the purest tenderness, till the evident confusion of the innocent Anna warned him of the impropriety of his conduct.

He reproached himself for having inconsiderately wounded the feelings of unprotected delicacy: but he rejoiced that, in the midst of all his afflictions, he retained the power, and the will, to snatch such a female from the dreadful alternative of infamy or despair.

It will be readily supposed, that the heart

of our hero was not now in a condition to receive new impressions of love. No; the image of his injured Maria entirely occupied his soul; and affection had no room for any other object. But he felt for the lovely Anna all the tenderness which (short of love) can be excited in the feeling mind.

He resolved to learn the story of her misfortunes, and extend the assistance of his friendship till he had established her in some situation which (compared with the expectations her education might have entitled her to form) should leave her no cause to complain of the final revolutions of fortune.

But as he saw the embarrassment he had occasioned her, by detaining her so long, he forbore further to wound her sensibility by his enquiries, and, breathing a fervent benediction, bade her farewell.

CHAPTER VIII.

A generous mind readily pardons those offences which are occasioned by the zeal of friendship or virtue.

THE seeming departure of Courland was, however, only a generous deception: for he followed the lovely Anna at a distance, and saw her enter the gate of the Fleet prison. As soon as she entered, she flew with a heart full of joy to her languishing mother, who, except on the day of Courland's generosity, had never before, for a long time, beheld a countenance with a smile, or heard a voice that did not tremulate with anguish.

Courland made some enquiries of the turnkey about the beautiful visitant; but could get no further information from that quarter than, that 'The wench came to see her mother, who was in confinement for a debt she owed her landlord.'

This was not sufficient for the enquirer. Therefore, having, as he looked through the gate after her, observed a young man take particular notice of her, as she passed, he entered the prison, in hopes that he could give some account of the object of his enquiry.

'Sir,' said the youth, very warmly—eyeing him at the same time with a suspicious glance, 'if you are one of those who hunt friendless beauty into the toils of misery, to make it the prey of unprincipled passion, you had better retire, and spare your time and trouble. The charming Anna, though unfortunate, is virtuous; and will not purchase relief from her afflictions at the expense of her innocence.'

'Young man!' replied the generous

Courland, 'I admire your warmth. It proves the goodness of your own heart, while it interests me still further in the situation of the fair object of your panegyric. But be assured you are mistaken in me. I would be the preserver of the distressed; not the destroyer of the virtuous. Nor am I base enough to commit the vilest injury under the mask of generosity, or to make the miseries of my fellow-creatures the unwilling panders of my ungenerous passions.'

'Pardon me, Sir,' rejoined the youth, 'but the spoilers of innocence are so many, and the votaries of pure benevolence so few, that you cannot wonder that the ardour of your enquiries should awake suspicion.'

Courland assured him he was not in the least offended, as, he promised him, he should have occasion to be convinced. He then intreated him to give all the information in his power about the young lady who was the object of his enquiries.

CHAPTER IX.

Human nature never appears in a more amiable point of view, than when relative afflictions struggle to sustain its tenderest connections under the heavy lead of unmerited misfortunes.

'THAT amiable female,' continued the youth, 'is the only child of a woman beloved and worthy as herself.'

'The world you know, Sir, is censorious, and I have heard that the mother never was married. Be this as it may, she is the love and pity of every one in the house; and, if the report be true, is a striking proof that man can be base to those who merit nothing but love and admiration.'

'True, true,' said Courland, with a sigh, 'I know he can. But proceed.'

'About two months ago the mother was dragged here by a merciless landlord, who had sued her to execution for a trifle of rent.'

'She and her daughter had long struggled to maintain themselves by the needle. But, alas! our tradesmen have invaded the professions of our industrious females; the lower orders of whom are too often destitute of the means to support themselves: for the greater part of these occupations which ought to be the exclusive right of women are in the possession of those who are able to maintain themselves by more active and laborious exertions; and the few that still remain to the oppressed and flattered sex, are so wretchedly rewarded, as scarcely to afford, with the most assiduous

CHAPTER X.

our industry, the miserable means of bare subsistence.

'Pardon my digression, Sir; I will return immediately to the objects of your enquiry.

Through the precariousness of their employment, and a long indisposition of the mother, she became unable to discharge her rent, and was dragged to this prison. In this distressful situation, the tender Anna would not be separated from the fond protector of her infant years. She took up her lodging with her parent, and, going out to work, brought constantly to this miserable home the scanty earnings of her industry. But having treated with becoming resentment a customer who made attempts on her innocence, she was discharged about three weeks ago by her unprincipled employer.

'This new misfortune she concealed from her mother, and in vain endeavoured to procure another engagement. She continued, however, to go out regularly, under pretence of going to work; but, in reality, to dispose of such articles, from time to time, as decency would permit her to spare from her dress.

'Dear charming tenderness!—I too contributed my mite. But every resource was at length exhausted.

'For three days the generous Anna scarcely tasted a morsel. The produce of her last resource she entirely dedicated to support the languishing existence of her mother; whom she, with pious fraud, deluded into an opinion, that the kindness of her employer had otherwise provided for her own sustenance,

'A few days ago I had hopes their sufferings were at an end; for a stranger, whose generous heart could feel for suffering virtue, and employ the bounties heaven had favoured him with in a manner that proved him worthy of its most partial smiles, relieved the distresses of the poor dear girl with a most ample donation. But the nice scruples of the virtuous pair would not, upon reflection, permit them to appropriate the benevolent gift; they, therefore, have made every possible enquiry after the donor and his family, and with the utmost difficulty have been persuaded to use a small part, sufficient to preserve them from absolute famine.'

They who have ever known the pleasure of doing in secret a generous action, and of listening unknown to the unsolicited applause which crowned their benevolence, need not be told with what sensations our hero heard the warm panegyric of the servant Mason, whose applause was equally unsought and unexpected.

Those who trust to others the discharge of those kind offices, which justice or benevolence require at their own hands, must often expect to discover, when it is too late, that they have scattered their useless bounty to the winds.

'This, Sir,' continued the youth, 'is all the information I can give you.

'Suffer me to conduct you to the wretched lodging; to a scene where tender affection unites with hopeless distress, to melt the heart to pity. And may the power who rewards benevolence open your heart to exemplary generosity:—though the liberal hand that makes my Anna a stranger within these gloomy walls, excludes the last ray of consolation from the hopeless Mason, and closes the dark curtains of despair round the couch of his wretchedness!

'Mason! Mason!' echoed Courland, looking steadily at him; 'you much resemble, in every thing but years, one of that name in whom I, several years ago, placed implicit confidence.

'Was your father's name James?'

'It was, Sir; he was steward to the honourable Mr. Courland.'

'But went, some years ago, to the East-Indies?'

'He did, Sir, and never returned. Tho' his son, I must speak the truth. Heaven, I believe, in just vengeance against his crimes, doomed him to an untimely fate.'

'What do you mean?' demands Courland.

'Sir,' replied young Mason, 'before his young master, Mr. Courland, married, he sent by the hands of my father, a letter to a young female in the country, with whom he had formed a tender connection. This letter my father had the curiosity to open, and found that it contained bank notes to the amount of fifteen hundred pounds.

'My father, it seems, though he had passed unsuspected, had never been very conscientious in the discharge of his stewardship; and this was a temptation far beyond his share of virtue to resist. He therefore forged another letter, in which he enclosed a twenty pound note, entreating the total forbearance of all further correspondence, as the engagements into which he (speaking in the person of young Mr. Courland) was going to enter would make any appearance of intercourse indecent on his part, and injurious, on hers, to that reputation which, with prudence, she might yet in some degree preserve.

'My God!' exclaimed the agitated Courland, 'this then was the cause of his pretended

pretended disgust and hasty departure. O villain! villain!

'But tell me: what became of the doubly-injured Maria? Where is she? What did she do when she received this cruel letter?

'O Maria! are all our sex linked in one confederacy of villainy against thee!

Young Mason was astonished. He suspected with whom he was conversing. But he could not give the slightest information concerning the unhappy female.

At the time of his father's departure, he was only four years old; and he was not even acquainted with the circumstances already related, till about five years ago; when the poor aged relative, in whose care he had been left, revealed them on her death bed; warning him, at the same time, from the untimely fate of his father, to adhere to virtue, and dread the vengeance that ever hangs over the head of dishonesty.

The ill-fated youth had been treated almost as cruelly by his unprincipled parent, as had the unfortunate Maria. A small sum only had been left in advance for his board, with the aged woman who had fostered him, and no remittance had since been made.

Courland walked backward and forward for a considerable time, in the utmost agitation.

'Merciful heaven!' exclaimed he, 'to what scenes of distress!—Where shall I find her? Where shall I seek—'

'But she is no more! Forsaken by him she loved,—betrayed!—abandoned!—Grief! want! and, reproach!—Oh! it was an accumulation too heavy for her gentle nature to sustain!

'Fruitless recollection!'

He paused for a considerable time. At length, lifting up his tearful eyes to heaven, 'Dear, departed spirit!' exclaimed he, 'attend to the poor—though sincere atonements of repentant sensibility, and, if thou canst, forgive—'

So saying, he seized the arm of Mason, and bade him conduct him to the generous Anna.

CHAPTER XI.

Good unexpected, evil unforeseen.

Appear by turns as Fortune shifts the scene.

DRYDEN.

MASON cheerfully obeyed, and conducted the benevolent penitent to the miserable apartment of—

Whom?

Oh! astonishment! What were the sensations of Courland, when he beheld the

fair object of his bounty leaning, with tender solicitude, over the wrecks of that beauty which had first captivated his heart; which time could never obliterate from his imagination; and which recent injuries had restored to all its pristine influence. He stood fixed like a statue; and at first could scarcely believe his senses.

'Oh! my dear mother!' said the tender Anna, 'behold our generous benefactor!'

The mother rose, with trepidation, to thank him for his generosity. But the instant she saw his face, she shrieked out the name of Courland, and sunk again into her chair.

'Gracious heaven!' exclaimed he, springing forward, 'it is—it is my injured, sweet Maria; and the female I have relieved is my child.'

He strained them alternately to his bosom, bedewing them with the tears of affection; while they, with equal tenderness, returned his caresses.

As for Mason, his heart was too much interested not to feel all the tenderness of the scene. He stood speechless and immovable, gazing with generous admiration, and shedding sympathizing tears.

As soon as the first tumults of surprise and joy were abated, Maria (at the solicitation of Courland) related the various circumstances of distress through which she had passed, together with her daughter, of whom she was pregnant at the time of her lover's desertion; and on whose praises she dwelt with all the fond loquacity of a parent. Nor did Courland listen with less delight to the pleasing theme.

From the latter part of the narrative, it appeared that young Mason and Anna had contracted a mutual affection in their dreary mansion.

Courland's first care, therefore, (after removing his Maria and his lovely daughter from their habitation of misery) was to make diligent enquiry into the story and character of the youth.

As from this enquiry it appeared that his misfortunes were by no means attributable to vice or dissipation, and as the generous father despised the idle distinctions of birth and affluence, when put in competition with virtue and understanding, he not only consented to the union of the lovers, but also gave them on the day of their marriage a very considerable part of his estate, that (to use his own expression) 'he might have the pleasure of seeing his children enjoy his fortune in his lifetime.'

Nor was he in the mean time inattentive to his own more immediate affairs. He neglected no means to procure a divorce from

from his faithless consort; and by the assistance of his friend Elphinston (whose connections, as well as his own, were very extensive) he soon accomplished his purpose.

Having thus emancipated himself from a connection which had always been irksome to his mind, he did not delay to follow the dictates of his heart by uniting

himself in the hallowed bands of conjugal endearment with the first object of his love.

Both these marriages have been crowned with infant pledges of mutual affection; and the two families continue to enjoy that felicity, which virtue and responsive love can expect only in the matrimonial state.

NEW DISCOVERIES IN GERMANY RESPECTING METALS.

[From the Bee.]

GERMANY has long been known to abound in metals; and the philosophers of that country have taken the lead as preceptors in the metallurgic arts. Long, however, was their operations confined to the art of purifying the metals that were already known. But of late, stimulated by the discoveries of Bergman, Scheele and others, they have turned their attention to the chemical analysis of many other mineral substances; some time ago, several substances that had been before classed as earths, were found to be metallic ores, which had not been hitherto recognized as such; and there seems now reason to believe that the whole of the substances that have been hitherto reckoned earths, will be at last found to be only metals in disguise. We are not yet acquainted with the full extent of these recent discoveries, nor with the qualities of the metallic substances produced; but some idea of them is given in the following letter:

Vienna, August 27.

'You have probably heard of the wonderful discoveries made by a Neapolitan in Hungary. BORN shewed me the regulus of the barytes, of the pure magnesian earth, and the calcareous earth; also molybdena, manganese and platina, obtained without

difficulty, by the simple addition of an inflammable substance. The reguli are distinguished by their specific gravities, and other qualities, from each other. The silicious earth is now the only primitive earth, the argillaceous being only a modification of this. The other earths are merely metallic calces over-oxygenated.

'To obtain the regulus, the earths were rendered as fine as possible, formed into a paste with powdered charcoal by means of oil, and put into a crucible with more charcoal, covered with silicious earth, to prevent the approach of the external air; one or more of these crucibles were then put into a larger, and surrounded with charcoal, the heat given strong for five hours, and then the operation found so complete, that the platina is malleable, and the manganese no longer attracts the loadstone.

'In a letter from Baron BOSS, dated the 28th of July, he mentions having sent me 'La description du cabinet de Mademoiselle de Raab.' The second volume will be printed in two or three weeks; in this last volume you will find the description of the regulus of terra ponderosa, or barytes, of magnesian earth, and of the calcareous earth; for all these hitherto accounted earths, are nothing else but metallic calces.

ACCOUNT OF THE IMITATIVE FACULTY OF A HORSE.

[From a Tour through France, in 1788.]

ON setting off from Rouen, I found myself provided with a pretty little grey bidet, and a postilion, in favour of whom I was prepossessed, being the smartest of any I had met with, dressed in a new royal livery of blue, with red and gold, and a waistcoat finely fringed,

I mounted my nag, with no small degree of self-satisfaction; when, giving him the whip, I discovered that the only quality he had of going, was that of moving backwards, as he began to kick behind most furiously, to the great derangement and

and endangering of my person; being obliged to have recourse to his mane, in order to keep my seat, on account of the huge and ill-shaped wooden saddle I was mounted on. At length I found the only way to manage him was, to let him follow his companion; the postilion then cracked his whip, galloped away as fast as he could go, and my horse after him; and so exactly did he follow, step by step, that when the postilion's horse galloped, mine galloped; when his trotted, walked, or stood still, mine corresponded in every movement; till, by the time I had proceeded half a mile from the town, I found myself covered all over with dirt from head to foot, which flew from the heels of

the other horse. At length, when we had got about a mile from Rouen, as we were cantering over the pave, the postilion's horse made a false step, and dashed with great violence on the ground; the rider tumbled off, and the horse rolled upon his huge jack boot. My bidet, who followed close behind, was so strongly addicted to the vice of imitation, that without any visible cause whatever, he immediately stopped short, and tumbled down upon the other, with an apparent voluntary motion. We were all four rolling together in the most ludicrous situation imaginable; a situation, that, at the moment, I wished for that prince of caricature, Geoffrey Gamabado, to have been present at.

THE NEGRO EQUALLED BY FEW EUROPEANS.

(Continued from page 399.)

OTTOUROU, who saw each day my eagerness for our journey, thought of nothing but the means of diminishing its dangers. Without opening his design to any one, he quitted his home, and advanced so far into the country of our enemy, that he discovered from a high mountain, the sea-coast, and some habitations, which, by their structure, (new to him) he judged to be European. Alone, and avoiding all eyes, he examined the different paths; remarked those which, more distant from the villages, were consequently less dangerous; and, assured of the accuracy of his observations, became sufficiently instructed to serve as a faithful guide during the darkness of the nights—a time which he regarded as most propitious for our little troop to traverse the country without peril.

During his absence, which lasted eight days, we felt considerable inquietude—and, above all, myself. Much greater would have been our uneasiness, had we known the danger to which he exposed his life, or at least his liberty, by this expedition.

On his return, using equal precaution as in going, he had marched one whole night to cross a forest, which he knew to be frequented during the day by our enemies. He had proceeded so far by sun-rise, that he flattered himself, he should soon be secure from danger. He knew, that the boundaries of this forest were scarcely separated from our territories by a quarter of a league, and already revelled in the pleasure which the recital of his discove-

ries would give us. Animated with this idea, he pressed forward; and, in a few minutes, he arrived so near the confines of the forest, as to distinguish the short tract of land which he had yet to pass. Judge of his terror, when he perceived the little plain, which separated him from his country, covered with a multitude of negroes, whose movements, cries, and arms, sufficiently marked the hostile designs which assembled them in this place. He remained immovable; and often has he since avowed to me, that never had any other danger so cruelly alarmed his mind. Flight was impracticable. On his left was the Senegal, whose rapid course did not leave a hope, that he could swim far enough up the stream to be out of danger. On his right, the country of the same negroes extended in the form of a crescent around our territories; and the point of the crescent, which he must gain, to avoid the enemies whom he had in front, was precisely the quarter of their country which was most inhabited. When his fear was sufficiently dissipated, to admit of reflection, he resolved on the only expedient which seemed left him. It was, to plunge into the forest, and there to wait the return of night, which might afford him some opportunity of escaping. A new reflection suddenly seized him. It sprang from the love of his country. The position of these negroes left no doubt that their design was against us; and that they hoped to surprise us, while the harvest, having scattered our people, seemed to promise them a more easy booty. He felt

how

how important it was to assure himself of their designs; and he hoped, if he could gain that knowledge, he might, favoured by his swiftness of foot, reach the court of Siratik, and spread the alarm time enough for our defence. He returned towards the enemy. He chose a tree on the extremity of the forest, the highest and fullest of leaves, and soon gained the top. There he resolved to watch the operations of the enemy, and to wait either their departure or the night, which might enable him to pass through them undiscovered.

He soon perceived, that this plain was the place of general rendezvous; because, as different bodies of troops marched into it, they piled their arms in a heap, and each of them mingled with the parties already arrived, or threw himself on the earth to repose. The smoke of some fires, which he observed, confirmed the idea that they would pass the day at least in that position.

All was quiet till ten in the morning, when they suddenly rose up and formed themselves into various divisions. Their general arrived. Otourou was alarmed; but quickly regained his coolness, when he recollected the height of the tree, and the thickness of the foliage that hid him. The heat of the day, which began to be powerfully felt, had been the cause of this movement: and the negroes had scarcely gained the shade of the forest, when they dispersed, to pass away the time according to their various pleasures. The tree, which hid Otourou, was not neglected. A score of negroes laid themselves down beneath its branches; and this enabled him to hear every word of their discourse.

He learned, that they would yet remain three days on the plain, waiting for Damel their king, whom they expected to head their army in person, with a design of making an irruption into our country. Otourou was delighted to hear of this delay, and hoped he should be happy enough to elude the enemies by whom he was surrounded, and to give us the intelligence time enough to prevent a surprise.

In the situation of Otourou, the least circumstance is alarming, and accident had inevitably ruined him, but for his presence of mind. So greatly had his attention been occupied, that he did not perceive some vultures, which had established their airy at a little distance above his head. The young ones were already strong; and the parents had departed in search of their prey. It was near mid-day, when these birds returned, and alighting near their dwelling, divided among their little family the repast which they had provided. Hitherto the spectacle rather

amused Otourou: but the scene was soon changed. One of the young birds, springing from branch to branch, perceived Otourou, and instantly uttered a scream of terror. The signal spread the alarm among these animals. The young ones dispersed among the leaves, and the parents, resolved not to abandon them, darted in irregular and violent flights around the tree. It excited the astonishment of the negroes below: and Otourou soon saw more than a hundred surround his retreat, with their eyes raised upward, to discover the cause which alarmed these vultures. He felt the danger that threatened him, and his dismay was extreme, when he saw some negroes already climbing the tree. Suddenly he made an effort to divert their attention, by an unexpected sight. He seized one of the little vultures, which had placed itself within his reach, and, fixing it within his hands, precipitated it to the ground. The negroes ran to examine this object. Those, who had mounted the tree descended. The vultures became more furious: and if these animals had joined courage to the strength given them by nature, they would have repaid these negroes the inquietude which they caused to poor Otourou.

Mean while the cries of the birds, and noise of the negroes, drew the attention of the army on every side. They hurried to the place by hundreds, and soon by thousands. Curiosity each instant increased. But they no longer talked of climbing the tree: They spoke only of giving it to the flames. Scarcely could the trembling limbs of Otourou support him: He could only pronounce, 'O God of Dumont! do not abandon me!'

Already more than a hundred hands had heaped dry branches round the trunk. Already had they lighted firebrands to kindle the flame, when Otourou (whose cool courage never forsook him but for a moment) availed himself of the superstition of these negroes, and cried out, with all the force he could give his voice, 'Depart, profane wretches, and fly my fury. I am the deity (Fetiche) of this forest. I have punished these despicable birds, because they have insulted me. I will punish you also, if you disturb my repose.' The thunder-bolt is not swifter than the effect which these words produced. Affright was portrayed on the countenance of this sly multitude. Some took to flight; others prostrated themselves on the earth: all swore the tree had spoken to them. The priests interposed: till evening they made continual sacrifices to the pretended divinity.

When the sun was set, the negroes removed

moved to a distance from this place, from thence become sacred: and the poor Otourou, availing himself of their religious terror, descended from the tree; crossed the little plain; and the following day threw himself into our arms.

Extreme was our joy. We overwhelmed him with embraces. We did but release him to confound him with questions. 'Where have you been? Why did you go? What have you done? What has happened?' Otourou was himself in a kind of delirium. He laughed, wept, vaulted into the air, embraced us a moment; then again laughed, wept, and embraced us. 'My friends,' said he at length, 'I have been on the point of losing you; but, thank God, you behold me safe; and I have returned happier than ever. I wished to serve my friends; and heaven to recompense me for this design, has procured me the happiness of saving my country.' Our attention redoubled; and we heard with avidity the recital of his adventures. My father begged his indulgence for requesting that he would, notwithstanding his fatigue, accompany him to the court of Siratik.

As a reward for his fidelity, Siratik decorated Otourou with a chain of gold. A council was summoned, to deliberate on the means of repelling the attack. Couriers were dispatched that night into the villages, to order all the negroes capable of service to assemble with speed on the frontiers, by which it was imagined Daniel would penetrate into our territory.—In the interim, six thousand men (who formed nearly the whole guard of Siratik) and all the youth of the city, received orders to march the next day to oppose the first efforts of the enemy. Siratik, prevented by infirmities from heading the army, conferred the command on my father, who prepared to depart with the advanced guard.

My father, in the conversations which he held with Dumont, perceived how much the Europeans excelled us in the art of war: and he prevailed on Dumont to follow him. With respect to force, Dumont could not be of much service, having none of those murderous arms, which have subjected all the people of the universe to the Europeans; but he hoped that his natural sagacity would supply what art refused him.

In this general commotion, Otourou and I did not wish to remain inactive. We prepared to follow my father and Dumont. Easily will be conceived the sorrowful situation of Amelia and her mother. The latter saw an adored husband flying to the combat, induced rather by generosity than

duty: and the motive, which armed him for the defence of a people whom she had rendered dear to him, redoubled in her the fear of losing him. The heart of the young Amelia was divided between a father and a lover. The preservation of either of them would be no consolation to her, for the loss of the other: and she must see them return together, or forever renounce the consolations of love and of nature.

I will not dwell on the picture of our separation. Behold Dumont struggling to disengage himself from the embraces of his wife and daughter, and to conceal his sighs. I at the feet of Amelia, my voice suffocated with sobs—my forehead bathed with her tender tears. Tears I at once dear and cruel to my heart. Otourou, a silent spectator of this mournful scene. Rending situation! which could not long be endured. Dumont, more resolute than I, tore himself from the arms of his wife. 'My wife! my child?' said he, 'never forget the God whom I have made known to you. See the wishes of a father, of a lover!' Again he looks upon them—throws himself into their arms—again disengages himself, and escapes from their sight. Otourou seizes me (still on my knees), drags me along with him, and soon are we far from places so endearing to my tenderness—places! which I must never more behold.

Was it some voice within that warned me of the evils in which I was about to plunge? Often had I wished for the very day which now was present with me. Often had the wounds of our old men inflamed my courage. I had marked the the honours with which they loaded their declining days. I had felt a burning desire to merit such honours. Even the idea of Amelia gave a new value to them. My vows, my wishes had been bent to this moment. Now all were fled. Honour, glory, courage, none of them flattered me more. I seemed to march to the torture. Nothing could enter my mind but the loss of Amelia. I cried aloud, 'Never shall I see her more.' Otourou blamed me. I blamed myself. I own it; the fear of shame alone chained me to the ranks of our warriors.

A march of two days brought us to the frontiers of our country; that is to say, within a league of the plain where Otourou met with the enemy. Dumont had never served in his own country; and his knowledge of tactics was only such as he had gathered from his reading in his youth. It would have been nothing in Europe: with us it was considerable. Some days were necessary to assemble the army: and in the mean time, to check the efforts of the enemy.

my was all that prudence could expect. Dumont chose an advantageous situation for our six thousand men. He strengthened his right by the Senegal, and his left by a wide and deep fosse, which by a curve he extended along the front of the camp to the river. He placed advanced guards before the fosse, and taught the negroes ignorant of discipline, that on their vigilance alone could the army venture to take any repose. He visited them frequently during the night, to see that the orders, which he gave in the name of my father, were faithfully executed.

The enemy did not yet appear: and Dumont, choosing twenty intelligent and active negroes, ordered them to advance, with precaution, and reconnoitre their position, and, as nearly as possible, their forces.

Mean while our army increased every instant, and the fourth day it amounted to fifty thousand men. Dumont, judging that we might engage on this ground with advantage, encamped the new troops (as they arrived) between the ditch on the left, and a wood which was about a league distant; leaving the six thousand men in their former position.

The party, who were sent to reconnoitre, joining courage to address, had approached the enemy so near as to take some of the stragglers prisoners. From these we learned, that they believed us to be without apprehension, and expected to find an easy prey; that they would have made an irruption into our country some days since, but had waited for Dâmel, who had just arrived; finally, that their army amounted to forty thousand men; and that we might soon expect to see the van advancing towards us.

My father instantly assembled a council of war: and Dumont had hitherto served them too essentially, not to be invited to it. The greatest part of the chiefs were of opinion, that they ought to march towards the enemy, and attack them with the advantage arising from their surprise, and ignorance of our strength. Dumont almost alone combated this advice. 'Why,' said he, 'place in the hands of chance, that, which is in our own power? Perhaps the enemy believe us ignorant of their design, and so have neglected every kind of precaution; but it is our duty to suppose the contrary. They may have sent spies, whom we have not perceived: the facility with which these prisoners suffered themselves to be taken, may be a trick, to lull us into a perfidious security. Foreseeing the march which you propose, they may plant the road with ambuscades. Should we be thus surpris'd and routed, what re-

mains but to deliver our defenceless wives and children to the unjust fury of enemies, to the implacable insolence of conquerors? Will you confide in me? Remain then in the position which you now occupy. If they will enter our country, they must attack us; and if they attack us, they are vanquish'd.'

The wisdom of this counsel was acknowledged. All resolv'd to wait for the enemy in our encampment: and my father, whose confidence in Dumont was without bounds, besought him to make the necessary dispositions for the battle.

It was agreed, that, as soon as the enemy should appear on the plain, that part of the army, ranged between the fosse and the wood, should be drawn out in order of battle, while the six thousand, who were first encamped, should remain concealed in their entrenchments. Dumont advis'd my father to head a body which was posted near a wood, and recommended him to make a most vigorous defence, to give time for other movements which he had concerted. To a nephew of Siratik he gave the command of a body of troops, which were placed near the fosse, on the left of the six thousand men. He order'd them to sustain the enemy's attack for some time; then to feign a flight, and retreat till the pursuers should have pass'd the six thousand. Those he order'd to lie on the earth, and not to rise, till a certain signal should be given them. He gave to an intelligent negro the conduct of a detachment of ten thousand, which he plac'd in the cavities of the fosse. He command'd these to keep themselves conceal'd, till the six thousand should be engag'd with that part of the enemy who would drive back the troops command'd by the nephew of Siratik; then to spring from their retreat, and, spreading themselves on the plain, fall upon the rear of the enemy, engag'd with my father. Finally, he reserv'd himself, with a design to fly to every part where his presence should be necessary.

The remainder of the day he employ'd in repeating the manœuvres to the army, and instructing each division in its particular duty, that all might be executed without confusion. He judg'd this precaution necessary, with negroes accustomed to combat in disorder, and ignorant of those evolutions, which, among polish'd nations, decide the fate of engagements.

In the afternoon of the following day, we discover'd the van of the enemy, and about an hour after the whole army appear'd. Astonish'd to see us, whom they did not suspect so near, they halt'd; then spread themselves on the plain, so as ex-

actly to face the front, which we presented between the fosse and the wood; without extending beyond, either to the right or left. Soon we saw their fires kindled, and we concluded they would not attack us that day.

Dumont knew, that the negroes rarely engage during the obscurity of the night; yet his prudence did not permit him to rely on customs which might be violated. He visited all the advanced posts, while the army slept in security.

At the break of day we were all in arms; and we perceived by the noise and movements of the enemy, that they prepared to attack us. Dumont ran through the ranks, and besought the troops to act without precipitation. He promised them certain victory, if they executed the orders they had received.

He then took my father, Otourou, and me apart. 'My friends,' said he, 'we are on the point of engaging; we shall conquer, do not fear it. God is ever on the side of justice. Confide in me: be tranquil. This sacrifice of your lives, which you offer to your country, cannot but please him.' We embraced. A few moments we were silent. We wept. Dumont resumed: 'Let us part, each to his duty.' 'Joy!' cried he: 'tears are not degraded for a day of victory.'

Filial piety had marked my place by the side of my father: Friendship, that of Otourou by my side.

Europeans will not find in the detail of this battle any of that dreadful pomp to which they have been accustomed in such recitals. No horrid machinery which vomits forth thundering death. No murdering globes, which in their swift flight spreads wide carnage and dismay. No resplendent arms to illuminate the air; nor martial music, whose measured sound regulates the soldier's ardour. But the terrifying shock of fierce multitudes, tumult, confusion, cries, courage without order, and dexterity without aim: these are the circumstances of an engagement among negroes. Arrows, wooden sabres, and branches torn from the forest trees, are the weapons which warlike fury places in their hands. Yet here bravery is displayed entire; unmixed with that timid weakness, which secretly rejoices in the distance that the use of fire-arms has placed between the armies of Europe.

The enemy were in motion. At a certain distance they discharged their arrows, and instantly they rushed to the combat with frightful cries. The first assault was terrible. The spot, on which we fought, with my father, was somewhat raised above the rest. The situation gave greater

weight to our exertions, so that during half an hour we gained considerable ground upon our enemies. I began to fear that this would disconcert the men hidden in the fosse, by the circuit they would be obliged to make, to execute the manœuvre with which they were charged. I made the observation to my father. He said: 'I know it, but I have my reasons; press forward.' In a short time I was convinced, that he had foreseen events better than myself. The nephew of Siratik, who was on our right, having retreated, according to his orders, the negroes, opposed to him, pushed the pursuit (as Dumont had foreseen) with shouts of victory, which reached to us. Knowing the cause, they gave us no uneasiness: but they increased the courage of our opponents to temerity. We found ourselves obliged to fall back in our turn; and so lose the ground we had gained. By that, I felt that my father had taken the surest means of maintaining the situation which Dumont had conjured him not to lose.

My father now commanded me to see what passed on the right; not daring himself to leave his troops, whose loss was already considerable, and who betrayed symptoms of flight. I mounted on a little hill which we had in our rear. I saw that the six thousand men had rushed from their retreat upon the pursuers of the nephew of Siratik; and that already the ten thousand approached the rear of those who were engaged with us. I sprang into the air, and cried: 'victory! victory!' Our men heard me. They gave a shout of joy; the ten thousand answered them. Disorder ran through the enemies' troops. Pressed on all sides, they thought of nothing but flight; and the carnage became dreadful.

The ardour of the pursuit had hurried me more than half a league from the place where we fought. I thought myself followed by my friends. At length, covered with blood, and wasted with fatigue, I stood still. I looked around me. I saw neither my father, nor Otourou, nor one of my countrymen. Some bodies of the enemy, whom I had passed in my course, overtook me—still in their flight. My apprehensive eye, my embarrassed air discovered me. They surrounded me; dragged me along with them; and I saw myself in the chains of those whom my nation—whom even my own arms, had conquered.

So rapid was my misfortune, that I had scarcely time to view all the horror of it. I knew not all my danger, till, arrived at the enemy's camp, I found myself the object of indignities, offered by a multitude rendered

rendered furious by their defeat. Instantly would they have put me to death, had I not been the right of *Damel*, as a prisoner of war, and had they not feared a severe chastisement for their zeal. During twenty-four hours, I was covered with chains, exposed to a thousand insults, sinking beneath thirst, hunger, and weariness. Abandoned without succour, and without pity, to inhuman guards, will it be believed, that these frightful ills were the least of my care? My true torment lay deep in my heart. I recollected the laws of war among us. I knew that an eternal slavery awaited the prisoners taken in battle. I saw myself separated from my father, from *Otourou*, and *Amelia*. 'Separated from *Amelia*! Oh, God! and can I support the thought without dying?' Alas! I have too often experienced the possibility of it!

Our enemies now thought only of returning into their country: and I was conducted to the city which *Damel* inhabited, at the distance of fifty leagues. It was situated on that part of the sea coast, where the European vessels, attracted by commerce, frequently anchor. I cannot describe what I suffered during this march. Pardon me, God of the christians! I cursed *Dumont* for having made thee known to me. I regretted our impotent divinities, who would have granted death to my prayers. Thou didst hold my hand. I felt it; but without gratitude. Pardon, my God! the weakness which could not yet support misfortune.

At length we arrived: and they presented me to *Damel*. He was young. During youth, man is more feeling. My height, my air, my figure struck him. 'Who art thou?' said he. 'The son of the general who has vanquished thee,' cried I fiercely. He regarded me with surprise. After a moment's silence he said: 'Fortune treats thee wantonly. Yesterday, my conqueror; to-day my slave! Her injustice is cruel. I will indemnify thee.' 'Thou canst not render me all that I have lost,' answered I. 'I render thee much,' said he: 'I render thee a hope thou couldst no longer possess.' Then addressing himself to his guards: 'release him,' said he, 'from his irons. Yet guard him: attend him with zeal: and be careful that no stranger sees him without my command.'

I was conducted to a country-house belonging to *Damel*, about a quarter of a league from the city. It was built on an eminence, shaded by a forest of citrons and of palms; and commanding a prospect which extended to the sea over rich vallies watered by the river. Enchanting as the sight was, it could not abate the affliction

of my soul. Whatever charms were spread around this abode, to me it was a mere prison, in which I believed myself condemned to groan through the remainder of my life—far from the objects of my tenderest attachments. I turned my eyes, without ceasing, to the side on which I figured my country. From the moment of my captivity a single tear had not fallen upon my cheek. My heart seemed bound as with cords. A dreadful weight seemed to press upon my breast. No words passed my mouth; and my days dragged on in fierce despair.

Save the vigilance with which they guarded me, I had no reason to complain of my slavery. I was even treated with a kind of regard which approached respect. I felt, that I was obliged for this to my father's rank at the court of *Siratick*; and perceived that *Damel*, reduced by his loss to desire peace, hoped to obtain it more easily by his attentions to me. But though I had dived into this policy, still I could not presume, that my liberty would be made by *Damel* the bond of peace. The thing was without example. I too well knew, that the chief riches of our princes consisted in the number of their slaves: and I was far from supposing, that *Damel* would infringe a law so favourable to the avarice of the sovereign. It was, however, on my liberty, that he founded his hopes: and while, unknown to me, every thing was preparing to lead to the instant so dear to my wishes, I did every thing on my part to plunge myself into an eternal slavery.

There exists indeed in the heart of man an inquietude which almost involuntarily makes him act contrary to prudence, and in opposition to his own interests. It appears to him that his future fate depends on himself alone. He makes no account of the aid of his friends, nor the fortuitous concurrence of circumstances, nor the attentive eye of Providence. His mind attaches itself to one object. He pursues it with ardour, he relies on his own powers to attain it, and his precipitation too frequently renders abortive the desires which surrounding circumstances had prepared to crown.

It was this secret inquietude, this desire of anticipating the effects of time, this blindness of making events depend on my own exertions, which hurried me forward. I accumulated on my own head the evils which I wished to shun; and threw myself into the arms of misfortune, to be freed from the torments of a future period, which probably would have conducted me to happiness.

I had been five days in the house of *Damel*:

mel: and sleep had not yet weighed down my eye lids. Scarcely had the first rays of the morning shot across the horizon, when I betook myself to an elevated spot of ground, from whence I imagined I could see my country, spight of the obstacles which intervened. This I have said was my whole occupation; my single solace: fatal solace! It envenomed still more the shaft by which I was torn. He only who has suffered, can conceive the species of consolation the unfortunate find in conversing with their griefs.

One morning, I placed myself as usual on the terrace, and involuntarily turned my eyes toward the sea. A vessel appeared. The majesty of her course upon the peaceful waves—the multiplicity of her sails, which the rising sun gilded with his fires—the height of her masts, which proudly sprang into the air, (all so new to me)—suspended my wretchedness, and fixed my eyes upon this single object. ‘How great are the Europeans!’ cried I, ‘who, to extend the happiness of the human race, have subdued this proud element to their empire!’

I saw this vessel anchor at the entrance of the river, not far from the city. She displayed a large white flag, floating in the air. I recognized, by this sign, the countrymen of Dumont. He had told me, a hundred times, this standard was the distinguishing mark of his nation. The sight recalled the happy hours which I had passed with the man who was so dear to

me. Tears bathed my face. My heart, so long oppressed, expanded itself. I wept abundantly: and by this blessing of nature perhaps saved a life which might have yielded to the weight of concentrated grief.

In effect, I found myself more tranquil. Reason returned. I began to regard every thing around me: the desire of making my escape was the result of all my reflexions.

The execution of it was not easy. Even though I should be able to elude the vigilance of my guards, how should I traverse an unknown land without being discovered? How should I find the road which led to my country? would it not be prudent for me to wait for more favourable occasions? By degrees, the mistrust of my guards would be weakened. I should be less observed. I might acquire a more exact knowledge of the country; and execute with success that which now appeared impossible.

Thus spoke prudence to me; but love and youth did not reason thus. The least delay appeared an injury to my passion. To hesitate, when the question was to rejoin Amelia, seemed infidelity. ‘She will believe,’ said I, ‘that fear is superior to love; that my life is nearer to me than my affection. No, my dear Amelia! no! you shall never reproach your lover with having sacrificed to his safety, the happy instant which may hasten the delight of returning to you.’

(To be continued.)

ON MANURES.

(Concluded from page 420.)

THE mixed manures are of these kinds.

Dung of all kinds. Though it chiefly consists of rotten vegetables, there is a mixture of animal juices in it, and some of the finest particles of earth. Most dungs should be mixed with the soil with the plough or harrow.

Urine, of all animals. This also contains earth and animal juices, salts and oils, and is a very important manure.

Composts of every kind, fit for light and stiff soils, according to the difference of their predominant ingredients; or a general manure for all soils.

Scrapings of back yards, for all kinds of soil, but when containing chips, shavings of wood, or much saw dust, for stiff soils.

Rubbish of old houses, for cold and stiff

soils. This contains much nitre—in composts.

Earth that has been long under cover. This commonly collects much nitre. Best in composts.

Scrapings of streets, a general manure, fit for all soils.

Mixed liquid manures.

Old brine of salted meat or fish, which contains, besides salt, some blood, oil, &c. in composts.

Soap suds—replete with a prepared food for plants; excellent for watering gardens in dry weather. None of this should be lost. If the garden be distant, or wet, it may enrich the dung hill.

Water in the hollows of farm yards. Instead of suffering this rich liquor to soak into the bowels of the earth, it should be taken up

up by mulch, or some absorbent substance thrown into it, or else carried out in a water cart, and sprinkled over a soil that needs it.

Water that runs from compost dung hills. This should be thrown back upon dung hills, or else used as the preceding article.

Liquors from dye houses. This should be used in composts.

Sea water, which contains other things beside water and salt, fit to nourish vegetables. It may be sprinkled on land, or used in composts.

After all I may add *Salt,* being distinct from all other manures, an important ingredient in the food of plants, and adapted to prepare other ingredients. Some apply it as it is, but it has a better effect when used in composts.

If our farmers in general would be persuaded to avail themselves of so many of these manures as fall in their way, or can be easily obtained, we should no longer hear so many dismal complaints as we do, of short crops, and worn out lands. The face of the country would soon be surprisingly improved.

But that manures may fully answer their intention, they must be judiciously applied. We should not only apply each manure to the soil for which it is most suitable, but at seasons when it will produce the most valuable effect. For a general rule, it is best to apply those rich fermenting manures which are to be mixed in the soil, as near as may be to the time when the ground is seeded. Dung should be ploughed in with the seed harrow, as it is called.—Composts may be harrowed in with the seed. The reason for applying these manures at this time is obvious. They will begin to raise a fermentation in the soil, almost as as soon as they are applied; so that if there be no seed, nor plants to be nourished by them, some part of the good

effect of the manure will be lost. As part of the fermentation will be past, before plants begin to grow; so there may be danger of its being over, before they have attained to their full growth. If so, the soil will harden, and the plants will receive the least quantity of nourishment at the time when they need the greatest.

As to these manures which raise little or no fermentation, they may be laid on at any time when the farmer has leisure for it, as sand on a clayey, gravel on a boggy puffy soil; or clay, marle, or mud, on a light soil.

It has been too much practised in this country, to apply scanty dressings to lands in tillage, hardly sufficient to have any perceptible effect, and to repeat it year after year. But this I think is a wrong practice. A sufficient dressing once in two years, I have always found to do better than half a dressing each year. This last method does not so well agree with a succession of crops; because some crops require a much greater degree of strength in the soil than others do. Let us then follow the example of European farmers, who commonly manure very plentifully once in the course of crops, and no more; and the year the manure is laid on, take a crop that requires the greatest assistance from manure, or that bears manuring best, or makes the best returns for manures: Afterwards, crops that need less manure, till the end of the course. Perhaps the year of manuring in this country should be chiefly for Indian corn. This crop is not easily overcome with manure, and it pays well for high manuring. And this happens well for us, as a hoed crop, when the dung is used, will prevent the increase of weeds, which a plentiful dunging will greatly promote in every kind of soil.

An ACCOUNT of the STATE and PROSPECTS of the COLONIES in NEW SOUTH WALES and NORFOLK ISLAND, at the Commencement of the Year 1790.

(Concluded from page 394.)

NUMBER III.

Sydney Cove, April 11th, 1790.

THE quantity of flour brought from the Cape of Good Hope, by the *Sydney*, was less than I expected; four months flour only for the settlement, and a year's provisions for the ship's company; and it

was necessary to give the ship a very considerable repair before she could be sent to sea again, which was not completed before the middle of January; when I had reason to expect ships from England in the course of a few weeks. The sending to the islands would have answered, as far as procuring live stock to breed from, but

which

which was not immediately wanted; and what the *Sirius* could have brought for the consumption of such a number of people, would have been at best but a small relief. Lord Howe's Island has been tried several times, and only a very few turtle procured.

The goodness of the soil in Norfolk Island, and the industry of those employed there, rendered that Island a resource, and the only one that offered, when, from the time which had passed since my letters might be supposed to have been received in England, there was reason to suppose some accident had happened to the store-ships sent out.

I therefore ordered two companies of marines to be ready to embark with a number of convicts by the 5th of March, if no ship arrived before that time; and a proportion of what provisions and stores remained in this settlement, being put on board the *Supply* and *Sirius*, sixty-five officers and men, with five women and children, from the detachment and civil department, one hundred and sixteen male, and seventy-six female convicts, with twenty-seven children, embarked, and sailed the 6th of March.

The advantage I expected, by sending away such a number of people, was from the little garden ground they would leave, and which would assist those who remained, and the fish which might be caught in the winter would go the further. At the same time, those sent to Norfolk Island would have resources in the greatest abundance of vegetables raised there, and in fish and birds, which this settlement could not afford them; and it was my intention to have sent more convicts to that island, if there had not been this necessity.

The provisions sent, with what was on the island, and the wheat and Indian corn raised there, more than would be necessary for seed, was calculated to last full as long as the provisions in this place; and at Norfolk Island, from the richness of the soil, a man may supply himself with little assistance from the store, after the timber is cleared away.

As I wished to send an officer to England, who could give such information as cannot be conveyed by letters, and the detachment was now divided, I replaced the officer who was superintendent and commandant at Norfolk Island, by Major Ross. The officer I have recalled having been these two years on the island, is very capable of pointing out the advantages which may be expected from it; and I think it promises to answer very fully the end proposed by making the settlement. It will be a place of security for the con-

viks, where they will soon support themselves, and where they may be advantageously employed in cultivating the *flax* plants.

Extract from instructions given by Governor Phillips to the Lieutenant-Governor, during his command at Norfolk Island, dated March 2, 1790.

'You will cause the convicts to be employed in the cultivation of the land, in such manner as shall appear to you the best calculated to render that settlement independent, as far as respects the necessaries of life, paying such attention to the cultivation of the flax plant, as your situation will admit of, and which is to be the principal object, when the necessaries of life are secured to the settlers.

As, from the great increase of corn, and other vegetable food, which may be expected from a common industry, and in so fertile a soil, after a certain quantity of ground is cleared and in cultivation, as well as from the natural increase of swine and other animals, it cannot be expedient that all the convicts should be employed in attending only to the object of provisions; you are to cause the greatest possible number of these people to be employed in cultivating and dressing the flax plant, as a means of acquiring clothing for themselves, and other persons, who may become settlers, as well as for a variety of maritime purposes, and for which its superior excellence renders it a desirable object in Europe.

You will, at every opportunity, transmit to me all such remarks, or observations, as you may make, respecting the nature of the soil on the island; and point out such means as may appear to you the most likely to answer the views of government, in the cultivation of the flax plant, and in rendering that island independent of the necessaries of life, and for the order and government of the settlers thereon, that such information may from me be transmitted to his Majesty's ministers.'

Copy of a paper delivered by Lieutenant-Governor King, dated the 10th of January, 1790, containing a description of Norfolk Island.

Norfolk Island is situated in the latitude of 29 degrees, 0 min. south; and in the longitude of 168 degrees, 0 min. east. Its form is nearly oblong, and contains from twelve to fourteen thousand acres.

The face of the country is hilly, and some of the vallies are tolerably large for the size of the island; many of the hills are very steep, and some few so very perpendicular.

pendicular that they cannot be cultivated; but where such situations are, they will do very well for fuel; on the tops of the hills are some very extensive flats.

Mount Pitt is the only remarkable high hill in the island, and is about 150 fathoms high. The cliffs which surround the island are about forty fathoms high, and perpendicular; the basis of the island is a hard firm clay. The whole island is covered with a thick wood, and choaked up with a thick underwood.

The island is well supplied with many streams of very fine water; many of which are sufficient to turn any number of mills. These springs are full of very large eels. From the coast to the summit of Mount Pitt, is a continuation of the richest and deepest soil in the world, which varies from a rich black mould to a fat red earth. We have dug down forty feet, and found the same soil.

The air is very wholesome, and the climate may be called a very healthy one; there has been no sickness since I first landed on the island.

There are five kinds of trees on the island which are good timber, viz. The pine, live oak, a yellow wood, and a kind of beech. The pine trees are of a large size, many of which are from one hundred and eighty to two hundred and twenty feet in height, and from six to nine feet in diameter. Those trees, which are from one hundred to one hundred and eighty feet in height, are, in general, found from the root to the lower branches, there are from eighty to ninety feet of sound timber; the rest is too hard and knotty for use. It sometimes happens, that, after cutting off twenty feet from the butt, it becomes rotten or shakey; for which reason no dependence can be put in it for large masts or yards. The timber of the pine is very useful in buildings, and is plentiful along the coasts. Its dispersed situation, in the interior parts of the island, is well calculated for erecting such buildings as may be necessary. From what I have seen of this wood, I think it is very durable; two boats have been built of it, and have answered the purpose fully.

The live oak, yellow wood, black wood, and beech, are all of a close grain, and are a durable wood.

The flax plant of New Zealand grows spontaneously in many parts of the island, but mostly abounds on the sea-coast, where there is a very great quantity of it. The leaves of the flax, when fully grown, are six feet long, and six inches wide. Each plant contains seven of those leaves. A strong woody stalk arises from the center,

which bears the flowers. It seeds annually; and the old leaves are forced out by young ones every year. Every method has been tried to work it; but I much fear, that, until a native of New Zealand can be carried to Norfolk Island, the method of dressing that valuable commodity will not be known; and, could that be obtained, I have no doubt but Norfolk Island would very soon cloath the inhabitants of New South Wales.

There are a great quantity of pigeons, parrots, hawks, and other smaller birds, which are now in a wild state.

The ground is much infested with different kinds of the grub worm, which are very destructive to the growth of vegetables. They are mostly troublesome about the spring. It is to be hoped, that, when more ground is cleared away, this evil will cease.

There is no quadruped on the island, except the rat, which is much smaller than the Norway rat. These vermin were very troublesome when we first landed; but at present there are but very few.

The coasts of the island abound with very fine fish. No opportunities were ever lost of sending the boat out, which enabled us to make a saving of two pounds of meat each man a week.

The coasts of the island are in general steep; and, excepting at Sydney, Anson, Ball, and Cascade Bays, they are inaccessible, being surrounded by steep perpendicular cliffs, arising from the sea.—Some rocks are scattered about close to the shore.

Sydney Bay, on the south side of the island, is where the settlement is made. Landing at this place entirely depends on the wind and the weather. I have seen as good landing as in the Thames for a fortnight or three weeks together; and I have often seen it impracticable to land for ten or twelve days successively; but it is much oftener good landing than bad.

Anson Bay is a small bay, with a sandy beach, where landing is in general good, with an off-shore wind, and moderate weather; but, as the interior parts of the island are so difficult of access from thence, no ships boats have ever landed here.

Ball Bay is on the south-east side of the island; the beach is of large loose stone. When landing is bad at Sydney Bay, it is very good here; as it is also in Cascade Bay, on the north side of the island.

During the winter months, viz. from April to August, the general winds are the south and south-west, with heavy gales at times. In the summer, the south-east wind blows almost constantly.

The spring is visible in August; but the native trees, and many plants in the island are in a constant state of flowering. The summer is warm, and sometimes the droughts are very great. All the grain and European plants seeded in December. From February to August may be called the rainy season; not that I think there are any stated times for rains in those months, as it is sometimes very fine weather for a fortnight together; but when the rain does fall, it is in torrents. I do not remember above three claps of thunder during the time I was on the island. The winter is very pleasant, and it never freezes.

The proper time for sowing wheat and barley is from May to August, and is got in in December. That which has been sowed, has produced twenty-five fold, and I think the increase may be greater. Two bushels of barley, sowed in 1789, produced twenty-four bushels of a sound full grain.

The Indian corn produces well; and it is, in my opinion, the best grain to cultivate in any quantity, on account of the little trouble attending its growth and manufacturing for eating.

The Rio Janeiro sugar cane grows very well, and is thriving.

Vines and oranges are very thriving; of the former there will be a great quantity in a few years.

Potatoes thrive remarkably well, and yield a very great increase. I think two crops a year of that article may be got with great ease.

Every kind of garden vegetable thrives well, and comes to great perfection.

The quantity of ground cleared, and in cultivation, belonging to the public, was, on the 13th of March, 1760, from twenty-eight to thirty-two acres; and about eighteen cleared by free people and convicts for their gardens.

AN ODDITY.

OF all the oddities in the world, an odd woman is the greatest—women, in general, are as fond of being distinguished as men. I do not say my wife is, but certain I am, she really deserves to be, as much as ever a woman did—She really is an odd woman; and I know not how to compliment her character by a better epithet. To say she is chaste, would not do her complete justice; for she has a thousand other virtues, which to mention, except under this general idea, would require too many words.

The term odd is, I believe, generally understood to mean some peculiarity in the dispositions or manners of persons. One of my neighbours is odd enough, to mount his horse from the off side. His wife is never in the fashion, until all the rest of the world is out of it: and his son Jack is so peculiar in his temper, that he will always laugh at anger, and fret at good nature—These are odd in the particular; my wife is a more general oddity.

Maria had just entered upon her twenty-first year, when I first became acquainted with her. I found, united in her, the happy semblance of beauty, benevolence, and sentiment. She was too poor to be proud, and too generous to be capable of deceit. For three or four years she had been the object of envy and love, of adulation and hatred: the affluent beheld her, with envy and affected contempt, rising a-

bove them to the homage of those whose riches had failed to allure. Her accomplishments, which she owed rather to nature than to art, united with the graces of her person, had gathered her a multitude of admirers, who, according to the common estimation of the world, were superior to her highest expectations. But she had dismissed them all; some, because they endeavoured to recommend themselves through flattery—others, because they were too fashionably loose in their principles and morals—and many, because they had no principles at all. The world, in general, censured her conduct—imputing it to caprice, prudery, coquetry, &c. according to the different whims of each individual.

To these I succeeded, but with better fortune. After a few months courtship, she yielded her hand to my repeated importunity, and became my wife. I do not mean, by this account, to appear the herald of my own merit; so far from it, I will acknowledge I am not handsome, nor half so rich as many of my unsuccessful rivals. I have neither the ability or inclination to flatter. I never called her an angel, or even told her she was beautiful; nor did I ever kneel at her feet to sue for those innocent favours which caprice, oftener than modesty, denies a favourite lover. In the character of a wife, she has collected the features of charity and economy

my; industry and neatness, simplicity and elegance. Economical without parsimony; neat without pride, and liberal without ostentation, she is, what she should be, a good wife, a candid and sincere friend, and a kind neighbour. Unconscious of her superiour excellencies, which raise her merit above any relation to, or dependence on, riches, she is too apt to compare her former indigent circumstances to her present situation; and to feel a diminution of her real worth, while she contemplates their difference. This has often given me disquiet, because, whenever I make her a trifling present, it seems to mortify her. About a week ago, I offered her a pair of elegant paste buckles. I knew they were in the rank of superfluities; but I knew that my fortune was not only equal, but the laws of fashion, and even common opinion, had imposed this tax upon riches; and I flattered myself that Maria would wear them, not only on that account, but to please her husband. She however refused to accept them; telling me, that instead of gratifying my pride, they would be a continual index, pointing to her former situation—that she could not,

in every particular, think with the rest of the world, that such external appendages lent any real excellence to the wearer.—‘They are more suitable,’ said she, ‘for those, who are born to, and educated in affluence; to whom, by habit, they have become natural. But I have always pitied those new-made people, who so wrongly conceive of the lesson these ornaments teach. A rational being, in my situation, would rather learn humility than pride from wearing them.’ Her reasoning prevented expostulation. I put the buckles in my pocket, went abroad, and sold them at nearly the price I purchased them for, and at my return, gave my wife the money. A few days after, as I was sitting in my study, Maria came in, accompanied with four little misses, whom she had dressed in complete uniform: ‘You need not tell me, Maria,’ said I, ‘how you have employed your money.—Lead forth this little group of gladness into the street, my love! Shew the world what your benevolence has done, with the contempt of your pride, and the rich will sympathize with the mortified peacock, gazing at his own feet.’

THE LANDLORD.

[By Mr. Pratt.]

ADRASTUS, a man of deep erudition, profound reading, and a philosophical turn of mind, chose principally to reside in the country, for the pleasure of uninterrupted contemplation. He had not only learning and probity, but philanthropy, and was equally celebrated in his neighbourhood for his generosity as his wisdom. It happened that one of his tenants, although he rented the smallest farm, and had a very large family depending on its cultivation, was by far the most cheerful and well-disposed. His cottage was dressed by the hand of neatness; frugality and simplicity attended upon his happy family. All situations, and all seasons, from the beginning of spring to the end of winter, were rendered delightful by the happy bias of a constitutional benignity, which enabled him to turn all events to advantage. In sorrow he was humiliated, in prosperity he was grateful. He had lived as a tenant when the father of Adrastus first took possession of that estate, of which it was a part; nor had he ever made a failure in the payment of his rent, nor at any time had a quarrel in the parish. His

toil was sweetened by the pleasing thought of providing for his offspring; and his constant employment not only inspired health, but did not allow him leisure to indulge the whimsical wants of imagination; at the same time that it protected him from all improper, impertinent, or vicious passions.—He had, in his time, put many alienated hands together; reconciled many petty peevish differences; settled many family breaches; suggested, while he was church-warden, many a little scheme for the benefit of the poor; and never felt one emotion of envy at surveying the possessions of the rich. These unassuming, though solid virtues, gained him such a reputation in the country wherein he resided, that he obtained, as it were proverbially, the appellation of the *Contented Cottager*; he was, in truth, like Goldsmith's Priest,

‘Passing rich with forty pounds a-year.’

An account of him was transmitted to Adrastus, who went to pay him a visit, in order to see how true report had characterized him; for though Adrastus lived and did

did much good in the country, yet his abstracted philosophical and sedentary situation made him *personally* but little acquainted with even his own tenants, who were generally turned over to the steward for the conversation and business of quarter-day. A man of the Contented Cottager's disposition was, however, too important an object not to excite the curiosity of a philosopher; and accordingly he set apart an evening for his entertainment. Adrastus arrived at the farm about half an hour after sun-set; when

————— twilight grey
Had in her sober livery all things clad.

The farmer, whose name (if you please, reader) shall be Matthew Mendland, was sitting at the door of his little cottage, smoking his pipe, and surrounded by his children.—His wife was leaning over the fire, preparing a decent and wholesome supper. The tenant knew his landlord personally; and rose as to a superior, offering him the best seat in his homely cottage. 'Here your honour finds me (said the farmer) in a small but happy place. I have liv'd upon your ground these many days; and if you think good to renew my lease, which expires at Michaelmas, I shall most likely end my life in your service. If your honour likes me, I like you; your dues are always ready to the hour; and I have no more reason to complain of my landlord than, I trust, he has of his tenant. And so ———' Adrastus interrupted him by desiring to see the lease, and to have a pen and ink for the purpose of renewing it upon the spot. 'As to pen and ink, Sir, (replied the farmer) I have no use for them; and so I never keep any by me: I never write, and I cannot read; and so such things are of no service; but if your honour wants to write, I can send to the shop for paper and ink, and one of my boys can go to the green to pick up a quill; or if your honour is in a hurry, Tom shall borrow a feather from the old gander, who is, I see, just waddling to his bed.' 'It don't signify at present, farmer (said Adrastus); I'll sign it at another time.—But I actually thought you was a scholar; that you gathered your notions of œconomy, industry, and paternal propriety from historic examples, or traditional annals.—No, really, Sir, not I (said the farmer); I am a very illiterate man, and no scholar at all. My father could not afford to give me an education, and I have had neither time nor opportunity since. Nature and my eyes have been my only instructors; and if I have been able to live reputably to the age of three-

score, and even to rear up my children soberly, cleanly and virtuously, I owe it merely to them. Indeed, to say the truth, my business as a farmer threw in my way a thousand instructive objects. My yard is stocked with improvement. At the end of that small slip of a garden, I have a bit of a bee hive, filled with little industrious animals, who tell me what a shame it would be to live the life of a drone. My maxim upon this is, Sir, that he who don't make some honey, ought to eat none; and so this made me indefatigable to earn any meal before I sat down to eat it.—Nay, in this part of my duty, I was farther instructed by the little creatures who inhabit the mole-hill: I have peeped upon my spade, Sir, on purpose to look at their labours; and then I have gone to work again, lest they should have the sense to chide me for minding other people's business more than my own.—I have an old house-dog, your honour—Here—Honesty!—Honesty!—Where are you, Honesty?—There, Sir, that aged animal has kept my clothes by day and my cottage by night; till he has not got a tooth in his head; and he does for me what I would do for one Thomas Truly, whom I have loved since I was brat no higher than my hand: he once did me a piece of service when it was most wanted, and while I have breath I shall never forget it. He, Sir, who has no gratitude has no nature; and an unnatural man is better dead than alive, you know; because, when a person does no good to his neighbour, he has no farther business here. We are all born to do something; and he who does a kindness deserves to be well remembered. To this dear old dame I have been lawfully married forty-six years, and I can't think what great folks are about: I find a pleasure in my constancy, that I am sure I could not receive from its reverse; and the smiles of a good woman are a rich reward. With regard to the love I bear to these little ones, I am taught the duty, which as a father I owe to them, by every living thing around me; the wren that builds her nests under my hovel, the very hog that litters in my sight, and the mare that foals in my pastures, teach me to be affectionate to their persons, and anxious for their preservation.—Here the good man paused, and directed his eldest daughter to draw some of his best harvest-home beer.—

Adrastus was astonished at his simplicity of manner, and at the soundness of his sense, as well as the propriety of his remarks.—Farmer (said he); you have distressed me as well as delighted me: I came prepared to offer you assistance, and you have left me nothing to bestow. I

have nothing that you have not; but a greater proportion of money; and you are so truly happy as you are, that any addition would perhaps disconcert the economy of your plan. You are a happy farmer and a natural philosopher; without the use either of large systematic folios, or the soil of a sedentary life. Give me, however, the lease, that I may put it in my pocket; I will tear the lease, and— How, your honour! (said the poor alarmed farmer) Tear my lease instead of renewing it! Has then my freedom or my happiness offended you? 'Yes, Mr. Mendland, (replied Adrastus) I will tear the lease; because you have no farther use for it.—The little spot of ground you have so long enriched by your care, shall henceforth be a patrimony to your inheritance; you are the proprietor of it from this day: call on me to-morrow morning, and the writings

of surrender shall be made out for you: for the time to come, I must be considered not as your landlord but as your friend. Let me often see you at my table; and in my garden; in short, as frequently as the business of your family will permit. Let me get that wisdom and understanding, which surpasseth mere mechanical science, in the society of the Contented Cottager.

The farmer would have dropt upon his knees, but Adrastus prevented him, saying, 'Rise, Mr. Mendland; the obligation is on my side: I have been obliged, in exchange for a few acres for which I have no occasion: you have given me a set of maxims and sentiments that are the purified thrice-refined gold of Ophir, and shall never depart from me.' From this moment Adrastus and the farmer were intimate companions.—Ye landlords and tenants! 'go ye, and do so likewise!

THE CONTOUR OF PERU:

THE goodness of the Creator is evidently discerned in that plentiful provision which he hath made of creatures beneficial to mankind; nor are the footsteps of his gracious wisdom less manifest, in the care which he hath taken, to prevent the overspreading increase of such as are pernicious and destructive.

A more remarkable proof of this we cannot have, than in the wonderful bird before us; which, happily for mankind, is rare, and seldom found; for was the increase of the species large, it would spread universal havoc and devastation.

The contour, or condour, is of the eagle kind, and a native of South America. Capt. Strong shot one of them sitting on a cliff by the sea side, on the coast of Chili, not far from Mocha, an island in the South sea, which measured, from tip to tip of its wings extended, sixteen feet, (See Phil. Tr. No. 208.)—The largest feather of the wing measured two feet four inches—the quill part five and three quarters inches—and the circumference an inch and half—and weighed three drams seventeen grains—of a dark brown colour.

Garcilasso de la Vega thus says:—'Several of these fowls have been killed by the Spaniards, and measured, from end to end of their extended wings, fifteen or sixteen feet. Nature, to temper and allay their fierceness, hath denied them the talons which are given to the eagle; their feet being tipped with claws like a dunghill fowl—however, their beak is strong e-

nough to tear off the hide, and rip up the bowels of an ox! Two of them will attack a cow or a bull, and devour the animal quickly—and it hath often happened, that a condour hath assaulted and devoured boys of ten or twelve years of age.'

It is said, that the South Americans hold out to it, as a lure, the figure of a child made of very glutinous clay—upon which it descends with amazing rapidity, striking its pounces into it so deep, that it cannot extricate itself; and then they easily destroy it.

In Quito and Peru, they are sometimes seen hovering over a flock of sheep—but are easily frightened away by the whoopings of the shepherds.

Garcilasso further adds, that their colour is greyish or brownish, a mixture of black and white—that they have, in the fore part of their heads, a comb, not pointed or serrated like that of a cock—but exactly in the form of a razor; and that when they come to light from the air, they make such prodigious noise with their wings, as is enough to stun one's ears.

Labat, who often had seen this bird, says, the body is as large as that of a sheep—and the flesh tough and as disagreeable as carrion. It is never seen in forests, on account of the great length of its wings—but it frequents the sea shores, and the banks of rivers, where it is likely to find its prey.

What a blessing is it to mankind, that there are but few (just enough to keep up the

the species and not overcharge the world) of this monster in the feathered creation! and into what can we resolve this rarity of a species so exceedingly pernicious, but into the wise and over ruling care of that adorable Providence, which, we are assured by the mouth of unerring truth, extendeth its concern not only to man, but to the meanest of the feathered tribe—ordering it so, that 'not a sparrow falleth to the ground, without our heavenly Father!'

Those, who, as weakly as wickedly, endeavour to attribute all things to chance, fate, and second causes, would do well to inform us, how it comes to pass, that the vast and destructive condour is so seldom found—is so slow in increase—while the fowls of an useful and beneficent sort, multiply so amazingly, and so plentifully contribute to our support and delight. Why should the hen, or the turkey, the duck, the goose, or the partridge, lead forth such a numerous brood; while the lonely terror of Peru sits desolate, with its single offspring, on the the top of the barren rock!

The balance of animals, preserved throughout the whole creation, is a manifest token of the divine providence. 'The whole surface of our globe (says an ingenious naturalist) can afford room and support only for such a number of all sorts of creatures; and if by their doubling, trebling, or any other multiplication of their kind, they should increase to double or treble that number, they must starve or devour one another, till the equilibrium was restored. The keeping therefore the balance even, is manifestly a work of the divine wisdom and providence. To which end the great author of existence hath determined the life of all creatures to such a length; and their increase to such a number, proportionate to their use in the world—the life of some creatures is long,

and their increase but small; and by that means they do not over stock the world. And the same benefit is effected where the increase is great, by the brevity of such creatures' lives, by their great use, by the frequent occasions there are of them for food to men or to other animals. It is a very remarkable act of the divine providence, that usefull creatures are produced in great—and others in less plenty. The prodigious and frequent increase of insects, both in and out of the waters (for the supply of the fish, birds, &c.) may exemplify the one: and it is observable in the other, that creatures less useful, or by their voracity pernicious, have commonly fewer young, or do seldom bring forth; of which many instances may be given in the voracious beasts and animals: but the condour of Peru is a very particular and very sufficient instance.'

And may we not also remark the goodness of providence, in protecting the human species from those rapacious sons of ambition who are so rarely produced; and who, when they appear, may be termed condours—pernicious—destructive to mankind? Alexanders or Cæsars, spreading death and devastation, are the condours of the human race. Too little acquainted as the world is with peace, yet the madman of this class, when they appear, make it an universal *accidens*—a field of blood!—Ye miserable condours—ye coroneted vultures of the human race—though your pride be absurdly flattered on earth—tho' your titles to grandeur are recorded with the blood of your unhappy subjects—and the heraldry of your families painted out with gore—though your fame be re-echoed to the skies, with the groans of the expiring in the field of battle—stop—stop your fury in driving the chariot of death—reflect how dire an account you must hereafter exhibit.

EXTRACTS FROM MR. LEDYARD'S LETTERS.

THE remarks upon men and things, of one who had seen so much of the world, must always be deemed precious. They are not the unmeaning daubings of a casual observer. Every word is expressive, and has a strong meaning, and suggests new ideas to every attentive reader. The following extracts therefore from his letters, will no doubt prove interesting to the public.

August 26th. This day I was introduced by Rosette (the Venetian consul, at

that time *chargé d'affaires* for the English consul at Cairo) to the Aga Mahommed, the confidential minister of Ismael, the most powerful of the four ruling beys: He gave me his hand to kiss, and with it the promise of letters, protection and support through Turkish Nubia, and also to some chiefs far inland. In a subsequent conversation, he told me I should see in my travels a people who had power to transmute themselves into the forms of different animals. He asked me what I thought

of the affair? I did not like to render the ignorance, simplicity, and credulity of the Turk apparent. I told him that it formed a part of the character of all savages to be great Necromancers; but that I had never before heard of any so great as those he had done me the honour to describe; that it had rendered me the more anxious to be on my voyage, and if I passed among them, I would, in the letter I promised to write to him, give him a more particular account of them than he had hitherto had. He asked me how I could travel without the language of the people where I should pass? I told him with vocabularies: I might as well have read to him a page of Newton's Principia. He returned to his fables again. Is it not curious, that the Egyptians (for I speak of the natives of the country as well as of him when I make the observation) are still such dupes to the art of sorcery? Was it the same people who built the Pyramids?

'I can't understand that the Turks have a better opinion of our mental powers than we have of theirs; but they say of us that we are a *people who carry our minds in our finger ends*: meaning that we put them in exercise constantly, and render them subservient to all manner of purposes, and with celerity, dispatch and ease do what we do.

'I suspect the Copts to have been the origin of the negro race: The nose and lips correspond with those of the negro. The hair, whenever I can see it among the people here (the Copts) is curled: not close like the negroes, but like the mulattoes. I observe a greater variety of colour among the human species here, than in any other country not possessing a greater degree of civilization.

'I have seen an Abyssinian woman, and a Bengal man; the colour is the same in both; so are their features and persons.

'I have seen a small mummy: it has what I call wampum work on it. It appears as common here as among the Tartars. Tatowing is as prevalent among the Arabs of this place, as among the south-sea islanders. It is a little curious, that the women here are more generally than in any other part of the world tattooed on the chin, with perpendicular lines descending from the under lip to the chin, like the women on the north-west coast of America. It is also a custom here, to stain the nails red, like the Cochinese and the northern Tartars. The mask or veil that the women here wear, resembles exactly that worn by the priests at Otaheite, and those seen at Sandwich islands.

'I have not yet seen the Arabs make use of a tool like our axe or hatchet; but

what they use for such purposes as our hatchet or axe, is in the form of an adze, and is a form we found most agreeable to the south-sea islanders. I see no instance of a tool formed designedly for the use of the right or left hand particularly, as the cotogon is among the Yorktick Tartars.

'There is a remarkable affinity between the Russian and the Greek dress. The fillet round the temples of the Greek and Russian women, is a circumstance of dress that perhaps would strike nobody as it does me; and so of the wampum work too, which is also found among them both. They spin here with the distaff and spindle only, like the French peasantry and others in Europe; and the common Arab loom is upon our principle, though rude.

'I saw to-day (Aug. 10.) an Arab woman white, like the white Indians in the South-Sea islands, Isthmus of Darien, &c. These kind of people, all look alike.

'Among the Greek women here, I find the incidental Archangel head dress.

'Their music is instrumental, consisting of a drum and pipe; both which resemble those two instruments in the south seas: the drum is exactly like the Otaheite drum; the pipe is made of cane, and consists of a long and short tube joined; the music resembles very much the bagpipe, and is pleasant. All their music is concluded, if not accompanied, by the clapping of hands. I think it singular, that the women here make a noise with their mouths like frogs, and that this frog music is always made at weddings, and I believe on all other occasions of merriment where there are women.

'It is also remarkable, that in one village I saw exactly the same machines used for diversion as in Russia. I forgot the Russian name for it. It is a large kind of wheel, on the extremities of which there are suspended seats, in which people are whirled round over and under each other.

'The women dress their hair behind exactly in the same manner in which the Calmuck Tartars dress theirs.

'In the history of the kingdom of Benin and Guinea, the chiefs are called Aree Roco, or street kings. Among the islands in the south sea, Otaheite, &c. they call the chiefs Arees, and the great chiefs Aree le hoi: I think this curious; and so I do, that it is a custom of the Arabs to spread a blanket when they would invite any one to eat or rest with them. American Indians spread the beaver skins on such occasions.

'It is singular, that the Arab language has no word for liberty, although it has for slaves.

* The Arabs, like the new Zealanders, engage with a long strong spear.

* The Mahometans are in Africa what the Russians are in Siberia, a trading, enterprising, superstitious, warlike set of vagabonds; and wherever they are set upon going, they will, and do go; but they nei-

ther can nor do make voyages merely commercial, or merely religious, across Africa; and where we do not find them in commerce, we find them not at all. They cannot (however vehemently pushed on by religion) afford to cross the continent without trading by the way.*

ON LUXURY.

Animus imbutus malis artibus baud facile lubricivibus carebat; eo profusus omnibus modis quæsumi atque sumptui deditus erat.
SALLUST.

Their minds, habituated to dishonest arts, could not well be free from vicious appetites. They were therefore addicted with equal excess to gain and to profusion.

LUXURY has been a topick for censorious declamation and satire in all ages: but the universality of the censure is, to a reflecting mind, a sure proof that at least it has not been always just, since the most rigid foe to sensual felicity cannot seriously maintain that in all ages mankind have had too many gratifications. Every thing of which we can form an adequate opinion is considered by us comparatively with something else; and upon an attentive examination it will be found that those, who either from moroseness of temper, or an affectation of some kind of superiority, have found fault with the luxury of others; have not exercised their judgment to ascertain any standard of propriety by which to try them, but have railed merely because they saw them in possession of enjoyments, without which they might to be sure have lived, though not so agreeably.

It is related of two Scotch highlanders, who lay down to sleep all night upon a bleak heath, that one of them, finding himself not quite as he wished to be, rose up, and brought a stone from a little distance, which he placed under his head to serve as a pillow. His hardy companion, having observed this, upbraided his luxury: 'What, said he, man! are you so effeminate that you cannot sleep without a stone under your head?'

This story may serve as a very good illustration of the ideas of comparative luxury in different states of society, according to the different degrees of refinement in the progress of civilization.

In the last age it was the common practice in the best families for all the company to eat milk, or pudding, or any other dish that is eat with a spoon, not by distributing the contents of the dish into small plates round the table, but by every

person dipping his spoon into the large platter; and when the fashion of having a small plate for each guest was brought from the continent by a young gentleman returned from his travels, a good old inflexible neighbour in the country said, 'he did not see any thing he had learnt, but to take his broth twice.' Nay, in our own remembrance, the use of a carving knife was considered as a novelty; and a gentleman of ancient family and good literature used to rate his son, a friend of mine, for introducing such a foppish superfluity.

There is no doubt that there may be an excess of luxury by which the more solid properties of man will be weakened, if not annihilated. In observing individuals, we find that a keen gratification of appetites and tastes, as it produces exquisite pleasure of an inferior and slight kind, which can be repeated with frequency, indisposes them for steady, noble enjoyment; and to borrow an admirable metaphor from Goldsmith in his life of Nash, their minds shrink to the diminutive size of the objects with which they are occupied. A mind so shrunk and shrivelled, as to take in only petty delights, is averse from those extensive satisfactions which are suited to the dignity of human nature; in that state to which, amidst all our imperfections, it can at times be raised.

Yet when luxury is so managed by prudence and spirit that it is kept in its proper subordination to more important objects, when it is made to serve only as a quickener to the life of individuals, or a solace to them after labours and cares, there is no doubt that it is very beneficial even in a partial view; for in a general view we must all see that luxury is the great incitement to every thing great and elegant in society, to all our commerce, and to almost all our arts. Were men content

content with the bounties of nature, as some philoſophers in love with ſimplicity have intulcated, the intercourse between the various different nations that inhabit the globe would ceaſe, the poſitive pleaſures of variety would be loſt, the moſt vigorous faculties would lie torpid, and inſtead of that enlargement of mind, which is the effect of extenſive communications, we ſhould all become as narrow in our notions as the inhabitants of the rudeſt country that has yet been diſcovered, ruder far than we can almoſt believe, who have from our infancy participated of travelled intelligence. Helvetius, amongſt many falſe poſitions and licentious reveries, obſerves, with much juſtice, that the education of man begins at his birth, and is carried on during the whole courſe of his life. Let it then be conſidered how much more ignorant the groſſeſt of our common people would be, were there not in the great ſchool of the world, that quantity of information brought from other countries, which is every where difſeminated. The loweſt mechanick, though he may not have diſtinct and accurate ſcience, has yet ſuch a ſtore of geography, of natural hiſtory, of mechanicks, and other parts of knowledge, that were his mind to be emptied of it, the wretched vacancy would amaze us.

It has always appeared to me, that there is an eſſential difference between different kinds of luxury, as to the pernicioſneſs of its effects. The luxury of the table, by which the palate is irritated, and the digeſtive powers puſhed to an extreme degree, muſt be hurtful to the corporeal machine, by uſing it too faſt; and we know that in general as it grows weak, the mind grows feeble. The luxury of indolence, the fatal effects of which *improba Siren*, have ever been acknowledged, and are deſcribed with no leſs truth than poetical imagery in Thomſon's *Caſtle of Indolence*, is alſo deſtructive to happineſs. — But I cannot be of opinion that the luxury of magnificence and elegance in building, in planting, in dreſs and equipage, and in all the fine arts, ought to be at all diſcouraged; for I think that all theſe kinds of luxury promote diligence and activity, and lively enjoyment, without being at all hurtful. Thinking as I do upon this ſubject, I cannot perceive the wiſdom of thoſe ſumptuary laws as to dreſs, which prevailed in aſioient ſtates, and which are to be found in ſome modern republicks, ſuch as Venice, Lucca, and Ferrara. I remember, that when I was at Lucca, the ſtrange regulation that the citizens of that ſtate ſhall appear dreſt only in black, ap-

peared to me to be an ill-judged as well as a very dull negative provision. Surely a ſociety of human beings, who preſent to each other only a duſky uniformity, is not ſo happy as a ſociety where invention is exerted, and taſte diſplayed, in all the varieties of forms and colours which are to be ſeen in ſplendid courts and brilliant aſſemblies. That paper of the *Spectator*, which gives a fine deſcription of the dreſs of the ladies of London at the play houſe one evening, when the *Scornful Lady* was acted, has dwelt upon my memory ſince I firſt read it with a very pleaſing gaiety. — And will it be ſaid that delicate, agreeable ſenſations, which are primarily owing to ingenuity and labour, ſhould be checked? I know not how to account for it; but I have no doubt that dreſs has a great deal of influence on the mind. Every one has felt himſelf more diſpoſed to decorum and propriety and courteſy, when genteelly dreſſed, than when in ſlovenly apparel. Perhaps there is a general propenſity in our faculties to aſſimulate themſelves to that circumſtance about us, which is moſt perceptible of whatever fort it is, as matter takes a form from whatever mould is applied to it. It has certainly been remarked that the moſt gallant men have been fond of elegance of dreſs. *Cæſar* was at firſt cenſured for an exceſs of the *cura corporis*; and a very brave modern general, Lord Mark Kerr, is celebrated equally for his determined courage and his fine clothes.

I would make a wide diſtinction between active luxury and paſſive luxury; between the enjoyment which is the effect of power of whatever ſpecies, and enjoyment which we receive by the mere motion of ſenſe; and I am aware that luxury may fruſtrate its own ends by unreſtrained eagerneſs. Salluſt, after deſcribing ſome of the moſt profligate and voluptuous effects of Roman luxury, ſhows us that enjoyment was prevented by impatience; *dormire prius quam ſomni cupido eſſet; non famem aut ſitim; neque frigus, neque laſtitudinem operiri; ſed ea omnia luxu antecapere.* — ‘They went to bed before they had an inclination to ſleep; they did not wait for hunger or thirſt, or cold, or wearineſs, but anticipated them by indulgence.’ I cannot charge the fashionable world of this age with one of theſe counts, the charge of going to bed before they have an inclination to ſleep, for indulgence in reſt cannot juſtly be imputed to them; but I believe they know from fretful experience what is the effect of the other inſtances of anticipation.

INSTANCES of LIVING ANIMALS found enclosed in SOLID BODIES.

THE more a fact is singular, and varies from the ordinary laws of nature, the more it merits the attention of the philosopher and amateur. When once sufficiently confirmed, however contrary it may be to prevailing opinions, it is entitled to a place in the rank of knowledge. The most obstinate scepticism cannot destroy its certainty, and can only afford a proof of the presumption and pride which leads us to deny whatever we are incompetent to explain. The following phenomena are of this kind. They are such as have occurred to us in the course of our reading; and we have collected them, from the hope that some one, whose studies may have been directed to such objects, will enlarge the list. The more they are multiplied, the greater light will probably be thrown upon them; and it will perhaps one day be a matter of surprize, that we have been so long ignorant of their cause.

In 1683, Mr. Blondel reported to the Academy, that at Toulon, oysters good to eat, were frequently found enclosed in pieces of stone.

In 1685, M. de Cassini mentions a similar fact, from the testimony of M. Duraffe, Ambassador at the court of Constantinople, who assured him that stones were frequently found there, in which were enclosed little animal called *dastyles*.

The following instances are not less curious, and are more recent.

Some workmen in a quarry at Bourfire, in Gotha, having detached a large piece of stone from the mass, found, on breaking it, a live toad. They were desirous of separating the part that bore the shape of the animal, but it crumbled into sand. The toad was of a dark grey, its back a little speckled. The colour of its belly was brighter. Its eyes, small and circular, emitted fire from beneath a tender membrane which covered them. They were of the colour of pale gold. When touched on the head with a stick, it closed its eyes, as if asleep, and gradually opened them again when the stick was taken away. It was incapable of any other motion.—The aperture of the mouth was closed by means of a yellowish membrane. Upon pressing it on the back, it discharged some clear water, and died. Under the membrane which covered the mouth, were found, both in the upper and lower jaw, two sharp teeth, which were stained with a little blood. How long it had been enclosed in this stone, is a question that cannot be solved.

Mr. le Prince, a celebrated sculptor,

asserts, in like manner, that he saw in 1756, in the house of M. de la Riviere, at Eccretteville, a living toad in the center of a hard stone, with which it was as it were incruited; and facts of this kind are less rare than is imagined.

In 1764, some workmen in a quarry in Lorraine, informed Mr. Grignon, that they had found a toad in a mass of stone, forty-five feet below the surface of the earth. This celebrated naturalist went immediately to the spot, but could not perceive, as he assures us in his '*Treatise on the Fabrication of Iron*,' any vestige of the prison of this animal. A small cavity was visible in the stone, but it bore no impression of the body of the toad. The toad that was shewn him was of a middling size, of a grey colour, and seemed to be in its natural state. The workmen informed Mr. Grignon, that this was the sixth that had been found in these mines within the space of thirty years. Mr. Grignon considered the circumstance as worthy a more particular attention, and he promised therefore a reward to any person who should find him another instance of a toad so enclosed in a stone that it had no means of getting out.

In 1770, a toad was brought to him, enclosed in two hollow shells of stone, in which it was said to have been found; but on examining it nicely, Mr. Grignon perceived that the cavity bore the impression of a shell-fish, and of consequence, he concluded it to be apocryphal. In 1771, however, another instance occurred, and was the subject of a curious memoir, read by Mr. Guettard to the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris. It was thus related by that famous naturalist:

In pulling down a wall, which was known to have existed upwards of a hundred years, a toad was found, without the smallest aperture being discoverable by which it could have entered. Upon inspecting the animal, it was apparent that it had been dead but a very little time; and in this state it was presented to the Academy, which induced M. Guettard to make repeated enquiries into this subject, the particulars of which will be read with pleasure, in the excellent memoir we have just cited.

These phenomena remind us of others of a similar nature, and equally certain. In the trunk of an elm, about the size of a man's body, three or four feet above the root, and precisely in the center, was found in 1719, a live toad, of a moderate size, thin, and which occupied but a very small space,

space. As soon as the wood was cut, it came out, and skipped away very alertly. No tree could be more sound. No place could be discovered through which it was possible for the animal to have penetrated; which led the recorder of the fact to suppose, that the spawn, from which it originated, must, by some unaccountable accident, have been in the tree from the very first moment of its vegetation. The toad had lived in the tree without air, and what is still more surprising, had subsisted on the substance of the wood, and had grown, in proportion as the tree had grown. This fact was attested by Mr. Herbert, ancient professor of philosophy at Caen.

In 1731, Mr. Seigue wrote to the Academy of Sciences at Paris, an account of a phenomenon exactly similar to the preceding one, except that the tree was larger, and was an oak instead of an elm, which makes the instance more surprising. — From the size of the oak, Mr. Seigne judged that the toad must have existed in it, without air or any external nourishment, for the space of eighty or a hundred years.

We shall cite a third instance, related in a letter, of the 5th of February 1780, written from the neighbourhood of St. Mexent, of which the following is a copy.

‘A few days ago I ordered an oak tree of a tolerable size to be cut down, and converted into a beam that was wanted for a building which I was then constructing. Having separated the head from the trunk, three men were employed in squaring it to the proper size. About four inches were to be cut away on each side. I was present during the transaction. Conceive what was my astonishment, when I saw them throw aside their tools, start back from the tree, and fix their eyes on the same point, with a kind of amazement and terror! I instantly approached, and looked at the part of the tree which had fixed their attention. My surprize equalled theirs, on seeing a toad, about the size of a large pullet's egg, incrufted in a manner in the tree, at the distance of four inches from the diameter, and fifteen from the roof. It was cut and mangled by the axe, but it still moved. I drew it with difficulty from its abode, or rather prison, which it filled so completely, that it seemed to be rather compressed. I placed it on the grass: it appeared old, thin, languishing, and decrepid. We afterwards examined the tree with the nicest care, to discover how it had glided in; but the tree was perfectly whole and sound.’

These facts, but particularly the memoir of M. Guettard, induced M. Heriffan

to make experiments calculated to ascertain their certainty.

February 21, 1771, he enclosed three live toads in so many cases of plaister, and shut them up in a deal box, which he also covered with a thick plaister. On the 8th of April, 1774, having taken away the plaister, he opened the box, and found the cases whole, and two of the toads alive. — The one that died was larger than the others, and had been more compressed in its case. A careful examination of this experiment convinced those who had witnessed it, that the animals were so enclosed that they could have no possible communication with the external air, and that they must have existed during this lapse of time without the smallest nourishment.

The Academy prevailed on Mr. Heriffan to repeat the experiment. He enclosed again the two surviving toads, and placed the box in the hands of the secretary, that the society might open it whenever they should think proper. But this celebrated naturalist was too strongly interested in the subject, to be satisfied with a single experiment; he made therefore the two following:

1. He placed, 15th April in the same year, two live toads in a basin of plaister, which he covered with a glass case, that he might observe them frequently. On the ninth of the following month he presented this apparatus to the Academy. One of the toads was still living; the other had died the preceding night.

2. The same day, April 15, he enclosed another toad in a glass bottle, which he buried in sand, that it might have no communication with the external air. This animal, which he presented to the Academy at the same time, was perfectly well, and even croaked whenever the bottle was shaken in which he was confined. It is to be lamented that the death of Mr. Heriffan put a stop to these experiments.

We beg leave to observe on this subject, that the power which these animals appear to possess of supporting abstinence for so long a time, may result from a very slow digestion, and perhaps from the singular nourishment which they derive from themselves. M. Grignon observes, that this animal sheds its skin several times in the course of a year, and that it always swallows it. He has known, he says, a large toad shed its skin six times in one winter. In short, those which, from the facts we have related, may be supposed to have existed for many centuries without nourishment, have been in a total inaction, in a suspension of life, in a temperature that has admitted of no dissolution; so that it was not necessary to repair any loss,

loss, the humidity of the surrounding matter, preserving that of the animal, who wanted only the component parts not to be dried up, to preserve it from destruction.

But toads are not the only animals which have the privilege of living for a considerable period, without nourishment and communication with the external air. The instances of the oysters and dactyles mentioned in the beginning of this article, may be advanced in proof of it. But there are other examples.

Two living worms were found in Spain, in the middle of a block of marble, which a sculptor was carving into a lion of the natural colour, for the royal family. These worms occupied two small cavities, to which there was no inlet that could possibly admit the air. They subsisted probably on the substance of the marble, as they were of the same colour. This fact is verified by Capt. Ulloa, a famous Spaniard, who accompanied the French Academicians in their voyage to Peru, to ascertain the figure of the earth. He asserts that he saw these two worms.

A beetle, of the species called capricorn, was found in a piece of wood in the hold of a ship at Plymouth. The wood had no external mark of any aperture.

We read in the *Affiches de Province*, 17 June 1771, that an adder was found alive in the center of a block of marble, thirty feet in diameter. It was folded nine times round in a spiral line: it was incapable of supporting the air, and died a few minutes after. Upon examining the stone, not the smallest trace was to be found by which it could have glided in, or received air.

Misson, in his travels through Italy, mentions a cray-fish that was found alive in the middle of a marble, in the environs of Trivoli.

M. Peyssonel, a king's physician at Guadaloupe, having ordered a pit to be dug in the back part of his house, live frogs were found by the workmen, in beds of petrification. M. Peyssonel, suspecting some deceit, descended into the pit, dug the bed of rock and petrifications, and drew out himself, green frogs, which were alive, and perfectly similar to what we see every day.

THOUGHTS on the SUBJECT of SHIPS FOUNDERING at SEA, with Directions how to prevent that fatal Disaster in many Cases.

IN reading Dr. Franklin's letters, I found he had treated very ingeniously on this subject: but I think he did not give as full directions, as, perhaps, he would have done, had he been particularly treating on that subject alone; therefore, I have thought it not amiss to add some thoughts of my own to those of Dr. Franklin, and offer them to the public. Let us first consider the principle, on which the ship floats on the water, which is simply this, that air is lighter than water. Thus if you fill any vessel, such as a cask, full of air, and make it tight, it will float on the top of the water, and carry with it a weight exactly equal to the difference of the weight of air in the cask, and the same cask full of water, deducting for the weight of the cask itself. Thus a ship will carry just as much weight as the difference between the weight of the air contained in said ship below the surface of the water, and the weight of so much water, deducting the weight of the ship and ballast. A captain who perceives his ship at sea spring a leak, in a desperate manner, so as to gain fast on his pumps, should, in the first place, stave all his casks full of any liquid, that he can get at in the lower tiers, and as fast as

they empty, or the water increases so that they will empty no more, stop them tight again, and throw overboard only such things as will of themselves sink, carefully retaining every thing that will float on the water, for they may at last save the ship. If the case still seem desperate, empty every cask that can be made tight, and put them in the hold, and contrive to force them under water, and keep them there by props from the deck; this will still lessen the pressure, and the water will come in slower, as it rises higher in the hold, and covers more of the empty casks. Every wooden thing that can any way be spared, must be put in the hold, and forced under water, by props, not by weights, for this would destroy the effect. Even in case of great extremity, cut down the masts, and cut them very small, with every thing above, and force them into the hold, cabin, and scuttles, or any where, so that they can be kept under water. The salt provisions, water, &c. that will be necessary to be kept for use, should be first of all brought upon deck, and last of all be put into the hold or any where else, so that they will be immersed in the water, and can be got at for use. I am of the opinion

on that few ships that put to sea, would sink, after every thing being done as above directed, although half their bottoms were beat out. Let not the mariner despair in such cases, as seeing the water gain very fast on his pumps—but consider, as the vessel fills, the pressure lessens, and the water comes in slower, and the pumps will discharge it much faster, as it will not be

to far to hoist as at the beginning. This is certainly a subject worthy the attention of the wise and great, if we consider how much property and how many lives are lost for want of such knowledge. If these hints should be the means of stirring a more able hand to take up the subject, and to the saving of any, it will reward the writer.

OF THE ART OF LAYING OUT GARDENS AMONG THE CHINESE.

NATURE is their pattern, and their aim is to imitate her, in all her beautiful irregularities,

The perfection of their gardens consists in the number, beauty, and diversity of the scenes. The Chinese gardeners, like skillful painters, collect from nature the most pleasing objects, which they endeavour to combine in such a manner, as not only to appear to the best advantage separately, but likewise to unite in forming an elegant and striking whole.

Their artists distinguish three different species of scenes, to which they give the appellations of pleasing, horrid, and enchanted. The enchanted scenes answer, in a great measure, to what we call romantic, and in these they make use of several artifices to excite surprize. Sometimes they make a rapid stream, or torrent, pass under ground, the turbulent noise of which strikes the ear of the new-comer, who is at a loss to know from whence it proceeds. At other times they dispose the rocks, buildings, and other objects that form the composition, in such a manner as that the wind passing through the different interstices and cavities, made in them for that purpose, causes strange and uncommon sounds. They introduce into these scenes all kinds of extraordinary trees, plants, and flowers, form artificial and complicated echoes, and let loose different sorts of monstrous birds and animals.

In their scenes of horror, they introduce impending rocks, dark caverns, and impetuous cataracts rushing down the mountains from all sides; the trees are ill formed, and seemingly torn to pieces by the violence of tempests; some are thrown down, and intercept the course of the torrents, appearing as if they had been brought down by the fury of the waters; others look as if shattered and blasted by the force of lightning; the buildings are some in ruins, others half consumed by fire, and some miserable huts dispersed in

the mountains serve, at once, to indicate the existence and wretchedness of the inhabitants. These scenes are generally succeeded by pleasing ones. The Chinese artists, knowing how powerfully contrast operates on the mind, constantly practise sudden transitions, and a striking opposition of forms, colours, and shades. Thus they conduct you from limited prospects to extensive views: from objects of horror to scenes of delight; from lakes and rivers to plains, hills, and woods—to dark and gloomy colours they oppose such as are brilliant, and to complicated forms simple ones; distributing by a judicious arrangement, the different masses of light and shade, in such a manner as to render the composition at once distinct in its parts, and striking in the whole.

Where the ground is extensive, and a multiplicity of scenes are to be introduced, they generally adapt each to one single point of view. But where it is limited, and affords no room for variety, they endeavour to remedy this defect, by disposing the objects so, that being viewed from different points, they produce different representations; and sometimes, by an artful disposition, such as have no resemblance to each other.

Their rivers are seldom straight, but serpentine, and brought into many irregular points; sometimes they are narrow, noisy, and rapid; at other times, deep, broad, and slow. Both in their rivers and lakes are seen reeds, with other aquatic plants and flowers. They frequently erect mills, and other hydraulic machines, the motions of which enliven the scene. They have also a great number of vessels of different forms and sizes. In their lakes they intersperse islands; some of them barren, and surrounded with rocks and shoals; others enriched with every thing that art and nature can furnish most perfect. They likewise form artificial rocks; and in compositions of this kind the Chinese surpass all other nations.

When

When there is a sufficient supply of water, and proper ground, the *Chinese* never fail to form cascades in their gardens. They avoid all regularity in these works, observing nature according to her operations, in that mountainous country. The waters burst out from among the caverns and windings of the rocks. In some places a large and impetuous cataract appears; in others are seen many lesser falls. Sometimes the view of the cascade is intercepted by trees, whose leaves and branches only leave room to discover the waters, in some places, as they fall down the sides of the mountain. They frequently throw rough wooden bridges from one rock to another, over the steepest part of the cataract; and often intercept its passage by trees and heaps of stones, that seem to have been brought down by the violence of the torrent.

In their plantations they vary the forms and colours of the trees; mixing such as have large and spreading branches, with those of pyramidal figures, and dark greens with brighter, interspersing among them such as produce flowers, of which they have some that flourish a great part of the year. The weeping willow is one of their favourite trees, and always among those that border their lakes and rivers, being so planted as to have its branches hanging over the water. They likewise introduce trunks of decayed trees, sometimes erect, and at other times lying on the ground, being very nice about their forms, and the colour of the bark and micks on them.

Various are the artifices they employ to surprize. Sometimes they lead you thro' dark caverns and gloomy passages, at the issue of which you are, on a sudden, struck with the view of a delicious landscape, enriched with every thing that luxuriant nature affords most beautiful. At other times you are conducted through avenues and walks, that gradually diminish and grow rugged, till the passage is at length entirely intercepted, and rendered impracticable, by bushes, briars, and stones; when unexpectedly a rich and extensive prospect opens to view, so much the more pleasing, as it was less looked for.

Another of their artifices is to hide some part of a composition by trees, or other intermediate objects. This naturally excites the curiosity of the spectator to take a nearer view; when he is surprized by some unexpected scene, or some representation totally opposite to the thing he looked for. The termination of their lakes they always hide, leaving room for

the imagination to work; and the same rule they observe in other compositions, wherever it can be put in practice.

Though the *Chinese* are not well versed in optics, yet experience has taught them, that objects appear less in size, and grow dim in colour, in proportion as they are more removed from the eye of the spectator. These discoveries have given rise to an artifice, which they sometimes put in practice. It is the forming of prospects in perspective, by introducing buildings, vessels, and other objects, lessened according as they are more distant from the point of view; and that the deception may be still more striking, they give a greyish tinge to the distant parts of the composition, and plant in the remoter parts of these scenes, trees of a fainter colour, and smaller growth, than those that appear in the front, or fore-ground; by these means rendering what in reality is trifling and limited, great and considerable in appearance.

The *Chinese* generally avoid straight lines; yet they do not absolutely reject them. They sometimes make avenues, when they have any interesting object to expose to view. Roads they always make straight, unless the unevenness of the ground, or other impediments, afford at least a pretext for doing otherwise. Where the ground is entirely level, they look upon it as an absurdity to make a serpentine road; for they say, that it must either be made by art, or worn by the constant passage of travellers: in either of which cases it is not natural to suppose men would chuse a crooked line, when they might go by a straight one.

What we call clumps, the *Chinese* gardeners are not unacquainted with; but they use them somewhat more sparingly than we do. They never fill a whole piece of ground with clumps: They consider a plantation as painters do a picture, and groupe their trees in the same manner as these do their figures, having their principal and subservient masses.

From what has been said, it may be inferred, that the art of laying out grounds after the *Chinese* manner, is exceedingly difficult, and not to be attained by persons of narrow intellects: For though the precepts are simple and obvious, yet the putting them in execution requires genius, judgment, and experience; a strong imagination, and a thorough knowledge of the human mind; this method being fixed to no certain rule, but liable to as many variations as there are different arrangements in the works in the creation.

REMARKS ON THE ANCIENT AND MODERN WARS.

SUCH as are not in the secrets of cabinets, find it very hard to account for the causes of modern wars. Conquest was the end and design of the wars of the ancient Greeks and Romans: the same principle actuated the Gothic governments: and the Turks in all their wars have the enlargement of their empire in view. Our renowned Edward III. and Henry V. aimed at nothing less than the conquest of all France. If there was no justice nor equity in this, there was at least some sense, as the adventurers in foreign expeditions had a prospect of coming in for a share of the spoils with their leader, if victory followed his standards.—But, as Christendom is now constituted, the people seldom or never have any interest in the wars of their sovereigns. Mercenary armies raised by ministers, and headed by generals who obey implicitly the orders of such ministers, make several ruinous campaigns, while the Kings, for whom they fight, have no hopes, nor even any design, to strip one another entirely. The conquering people are never enriched with the spoils of the vanquished; they endure much the same hardships, and find

their burthens as heavy, in prosperity as in adversity; and after the greatest victories, find they have almost as much need of peace, as when the enemy has taken their frontier towns. Great potentates now-a-days make war to impoverish the people, and run the nation into debt; petty princes fill their coffers, by hiring their troops to fight for a cause in which neither themselves nor their subjects have any real interest. However, the present system serves to maintain a balance of power in Christendom, and to sweep away, four or five times in a century, vagrants, rakes, and such like dregs of mankind, upon which consideration it is to be preferred to the principle on which wars were waged in old times; for as to the inconveniencies attending national debts, all states whether their government be absolute or limited, have got an excellent knack of sinking those debts fairly, by persuading the public creditors to accept of lower interest than was at first agreed upon, lest they should be cunning enough to hit upon an expedient to pay off the principal without money in hand.

SOME CAUSES OF UNHAPPY MARRIAGES.

AFTER long experience in the world, and reflections among mankind, I find one particular occasion of Unhappy Marriages, which, though very common, is not very much attended to. What I mean is this. Every man in the time of courtship, and in the first entrance of marriage, puts on a behaviour, like a holiday-suit, which is to last no longer than till he is settled in the possession of his mistress. He resigns his inclinations and understanding to her humour and opinion. He neither loves, nor hates, nor talks, nor thinks in contradiction to her. He is controuled by a nod, mortified by a frown, and transported by a smile. The poor young lady falls in love with this supple creature, and expects of him the same behaviour for life. In a little time she finds that he has a will of his own, that he pretends to dislike what she approves, and instead of treating her like a goddess, hears her like a woman. What still makes the misfortune worse, we find the most abject flatterers degenerate into the greatest tyrants. This naturally fills the spouse with

fullness and discontent, spleen and vapour, which, with a little discreet management, make a very comfortable marriage. I very much approve of the conduct of my friend Plaindealer in this particular, who made love to a woman of sense, and always treated her as such during the whole time of courtship. His natural temper and good breeding hindered him from doing any thing disagreeable, as his sincerity and frankness of behaviour made him converse with her before marriage, in the same manner he intended to continue to do afterwards. He would often tell her, madam, you see what sort of man I am. If you will take me with all my faults about me, I promise to mend rather than grow worse. I remember he was once hinting his dislike of some little trifle his mistress had said or done; upon which she asked him, how he would talk to her after marriage, if he talked at this rate before? No, madam, says he, I mentioned this now because you are at your own disposal; were you at mine I should be too generous to do it. In short, he succeeded,

succeeded, and has ever since been better than his word. The lady has been disappointed on the right side, and has found

nothing more disagreeable in the husband than she discovered in the lover.

COURSE of STUDY in LAW recommended by LORD MANSFIELD to Mr. DRUMMOND, 1774.

FOR general Ethics, which are the foundation of all Law, read Xenophon's Memorabilia; Tully's Offices, and Woolaston's Religion of Nature. You may likewise look into Aristotle's Ethics, which you will not like; but it is one of those books, *qui à limine salutandi sunt ne parva nobis dentur*.

For the law of nations, which is partly founded on the law of nature, and partly positive, read Grotius, and Puffendorf in Barbeyrac's translation, and Burlamaqui's Droit Naturel: as these authors treat the same subject in the heads, they may be read together and compared.

When you have laid this foundation, it will be time to look into those systems of positive law that have prevailed in their turn. You will begin of course with the Roman Law; for the history of which read Gravina's elegant work *De Originibus Progressu Juris Civilis*; then read and study Justinian's Institutes, without any other

comment than the short one by Vinnius. Long comments would only confound you, and make your head spin round. Dip occasionally into the Pandects. After this, it will be proper to acquire a general idea of feudal law, and the feudal system, which is so interwoven with almost every constitution in Europe, that without some knowledge of it; it is impossible to understand Modern History. Read Craig De Feudis, an admirable book for matter and method; and dip occasionally into the Corpus Juris Feudalis, whilst you are reading Giannone's History of Naples, one of the ablest and most instructive books that ever was written. These writers are not sufficient to give you a thorough knowledge of the subjects they treat of; but they will give you general notions, general leading principles, and lay the best foundation that can be laid for the study of any municipal law, such as the Law of England, Scotland, France, &c. &c.

OBSERVATIONS on the IRRITABILITY and SPONTANEOUS MOTIONS of VEGETABLES.

[By Doctor J. E. Smith.]

THE stamina of *Cactus Tuna*, a kind of Indian fig, are very irritable. These stamina are very long and slender, standing in great numbers round the inside of the flower; and if a feather be drawn through them, they begin, in the space of two or three seconds, to lie down gently on one side, and in a short time they are all recumbent at the bottom of the flower. The motions in *Dionaea Muscipula*, *Mimosa Sensitive*, et *Pudica*, are well known to botanists; and a similar phenomenon has been observed in the *Drosera*. All these movements are to be attributed to irritability; but there are others to be explained on principles merely mechanical. The stamina of the *Purietaria*, for instance, are held in a position so strained and curved by the leaves of the calyx, that as soon as the latter become fully expanded, or are by

any means removed, the stamina, being very elastic, fly up, and throw their pollen about with great force. Dr. Smith had observed a similar circumstance in the flowers of *Medicago Falcata*; whose organs of generation are held in a strait position by the carina of the flower, notwithstanding the strong tendency of the infant germen to assume its proper falcated form. At length, when the germen becomes stronger, and the carina open, it obtains its liberty by a sudden spring, in consequence of which, the pollen is plentifully scattered about the stigma. The germen may at pleasure be set at liberty by nipping the flower, so as gently to open the carina, and the same effect will be produced.

Some plants also, continues Dr. S. seem to possess a kind of spontaneous motion. Linnæus

Linnæus having observed that the rue moves one of its stamina every day to the pistillum, he examined the *Ruta Chalepensis*, which differs very little from the common rue, and found many of the stamina in the position described by that great naturalist, holding their anthers over the stigma; while those which had not yet come to the stigma were lying back upon their petals, as well as those which, having performed their office, had returned to their original situation. These stamina are devoid of sensibility, being stout, conical

bodies, which cannot, without breaking, be forced out of their position. The same phenomena is observable in several other flowers; but in none more evident than in the rue. [But still, continues Dr. S. although some vegetables possess irritability, and others spontaneous motion, even in a degree superior to many animals, yet there still remains this difference, those properties have hitherto never been found combined in one and the same part, except in animals.]

OF THE FLORIDA GULPH STREAM.

THE early navigators on the coasts of North America, were much perplexed with the appearance of so strong a current in these seas, of a considerable width, and which always deceived them more or less in the accounts of their reckoning. The cause, however, was soon ascertained, beyond all doubt, first, by Sir Walter Raleigh, and still more accurately by Admiral Drake, who explained this remarkable phenomenon of nature, entirely to the satisfaction of the old world. The bay of Mexico may be considered as a semi-circular basin of vast extent, receiving that immense accumulation of waters, which are necessarily driven towards it by the invariable trade winds blowing at all times of the year between E. S. E. and N. E. in the torrid zone, quite across the Atlantic; unless we except about one hundred leagues thereof, adjacent to the coast of Africa, from which limits the wind is naturally attracted by the violent heats and rarefaction of the air over the African deserts. Undoubtedly, were the countries about the isthmus of Darien removed by any convulsion of nature, there would be no such current in the neighbourhood of our coasts, as that at present known by the appellation of the gulph stream. A slow and equal current would then take place round the whole globe, in certain latitudes, viz. from latitude 23 south, to the same latitude north, occasioned not only by the strength of the eastern trade winds, but the constant motion of the earth, revolving on its axis from west to east.

The waters of the ocean being more or less heaped up in the gulph of Mexico, according to the greater or less strength of the trade winds, at different seasons of the year; the consequence is, to preserve that level, to which all bodies of water whatever have a natural tendency, a part of the

fluid thus forced into this basin, must find some way to escape. This purpose is, in common, effected by means of the gulph stream; sometimes, however, the vast tracts of shoals and islands about the Bahama latitudes, prevent nature from returning the waters in sufficient quantities, through those passages. In that case, the ocean, as I have frequently observed, seems to recoil upon itself, and begets what is called in the West Indies a strong windward current, setting to the eastward as far as the longitude of 56° or 57°, directly against the trade wind, and raising that short and disagreeable swell, so commonly observed in the latitude of 24°.

Besides the waters accumulated in the gulph by the strength of the trade winds blowing steadily over the surface of eleven hundred leagues of ocean, there are other considerations to be taken into view, to account for the prodigious strength of the stream.—There is a vast number of large rivers falling into the gulph, particularly the Mississippi, whose united waters meeting the strong current generally setting into the gulph from the eastward, considerably increase the effort of the waters, in pressing to the northeastward.

The following additional observations have been deduced from several years attention to the nature and properties of the gulph stream.

1. This stream is not always of the same width, after you get to the northward of the Bahama islands. In its progress to the northeastward, it has a tendency to spread wider and wider; but, in proportion to this expansion, the current becomes weaker. At a medium it is about 50 miles in width.

2. The only parts of the coast of the United States, that are touched by the strength of this current, are the south east shoals

shoals of Hatteras, in North Carolina. the extreme point of which lies in lat. $34^{\circ} 50'$.—On these shoals (which are but of small extent, and are every year becoming less) is in general from twelve to fifteen feet of water. When you are outside of them, in fifteen fathom water, and can just discern the cape, from the mast head of a sloop or schooner, you may consider yourself as entering the gulph, as you presently after lose soundings. The immense force of the stream being here a little interrupted, evidently alters its direction about one point and a half more to the eastward than before.

3. In the language of poetry, the whole cluster of the Bahama islands might be individually denominated the daughters of the gulph, as they clearly demonstrate their descent by the recent appearance of the soil; being nothing but sand forced up from the bottom of the ocean, and but of yesterday, in comparison to the greater part of the continent, and the islands of the Charrihees. The vegetation upon most of them seems also to be but newly acquired, and the soil in general is as bare as the sea shore itself.

4. The whole coast of North America has evidently been formed by the course of the gulph stream. It is, for the most parallel thereto; and to the westward of it, is a constant eddy, setting to the south-westward—at least when out of the draft of the ebb and flood tides of the larger inlets.

5. A long succession of south westerly winds spreads the current of the gulph in such a manner as, in the seaman's phrase, to kill it, or weaken it to such a degree, as scarcely to be felt. On the contrary, a prevalence of north easterly gales narrows it in many miles, and, strange as it may seem, it runs with a greater degree of rapidity at these times, than any other. Like an angry man, of powerful nerves, it cannot bear the least opposition, but swells into rage, becomes dreadfully hollow, and particularly dangerous to vessels with single decks and deep waists.

6. There is no method more certain of knowing when you are in the gulph, than by the sudden change of the temperature of the atmosphere.—While you are on soundings, though ever so deep, there is a coolness and springiness in the air, which is lost immediately upon your entering the edge of the gulph. The coldest storms at-

midwinter, are here divested of their frosty particles. If you have ice upon your decks, it immediately thaws; a sleepy languor attacks the human frame; the air in the cabin and hold becomes suffocating; the water of the sea is, to the feeling, as though it had been boiled, and set awhile to cool, until luke-warm; the colour of the ocean, through the rudder case, is (apparently) of a deep indigo blue; whereas upon soundings, it has ever more or less of a greenish tinge, and to the eastward of the gulph is of a fine sky blue. At the same time, what is very remarkable, if you take up a glass of this water, it is as clear as any you can possibly imagine, and precisely the same with that in the main ocean, in point of colour.

7. It is extremely probable, that the gulph stream is the deepest part of the Atlantic; and, could the whole bottom of the ocean be laid dry, the former course of the gulph would exhibit the appearance of a vast valley or ditch, washed out by the prodigious force of the current.

8. The Nantucket shoals are undoubtedly another excrescence of the gulph. The same may be said of those submarine mountains, the banks of Newfoundland. These, with the Isle of Sable, and its surrounding shoals, form the first barrier of consequence, to check the farther progress of the stream to the northeastward. Being effectually arrested in those parts, it turns off in an easterly direction, gradually inclining to the south eastward, until its sensible strength is entirely lost.

9. An abundance of the gulph weed is no infallible sign of your being in the gulph. Relying upon the frequent appearance of the gulph weed has often deceived inexperienced navigators in this respect. It must be conceived, however, that in the summer season and good weather, greater quantities of the weed will be found in the eastern and western edges of the gulph than in other places.

10. The strength of the stream (as was before observed) is very unequal. Its general progress is from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 knots per hour. But vessels steering E. N. E. thro' the gulph, with the wind at north, have been known to make 120 miles difference of latitude in 34 hours; which shows that the current alone must at such times have carried them upwards of four miles an hour, to the northward.

PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

THE probable consequences of the late revolution in France, with regard to that Country, and the rest of Europe, are more difficult to ascertain, than the causes from which it has arisen. The world is perhaps not yet old enough, to enable us to decide, what will be the result of a situation, never yet exactly paralleled in any part of its history.

I am aware, that it is the opinion of many, that as often as the subjects of a despotic government, who have far advanced in luxury, and the vices of opulence, attempt to throw off the yoke, they must, after a few convulsive efforts, fall back under the rod of tyranny. Such efforts (these people think) are like the adventitious strength and spirits, that are sometimes communicated to the natural body during the paroxysms of a disease; the causes of which are no sooner removed, than the constitution sinks down to its usual tone.

These persons lay it down as a maxim, That a certain portion, both of knowledge and virtue, is necessary to constitute and maintain freedom. Tho' destitute of these qualities, men may, indeed, subvert an established government; but without moderation and virtue, laws can have no authority. Incapable, therefore, of submitting to law, they must be controlled by power. A mercenary and mutinous soldiery will always be ready to become the instrument of despotism, in the hands of the person, who is most disposed to gratify their avarice, or indulge their licentiousness.

Such observations, they suppose, are illustrated and confirmed, by the many feeble and irregular efforts made, under the Roman Emperers, to recover the ancient constitution of the Republic. In such a state, the more frequently attempts are made to procure freedom, the more heavily must the people feel the weight of oppression: Opposition irritates power; insurrection provokes cruelty. Every new commotion, that is suppressed, adds fresh vigor and acrimony to the power of despotism.

So far as the present state of France resembles that of ancient Rome; so far will the argument be conclusive. The slightest observation will, however, discover a very wide difference between the one and the other. In some of the great cities of France, a few individuals may be arrived at a state of venality, and corruption of manners, incompatible with independence. This, however, is far from being the case with the great body of the people. In vir-

tue, industry, and knowledge, these latter no more resemble the idle, extravagant, and debauched citizens of Rome, than the kingdom of France resembles an empire, which comprehends the whole of the then-known world. The instructions, delivered by the people of France to their Representatives in the National Assembly, are a faithful portrait of their sentiments. They form a collection of the most interesting state-papers that were ever written. They recommend the forming of high-ways and canals; the improvement of agriculture, and encouragement of commerce; a provision for the administration of justice: They point out the most salutary restraints on arbitrary power; on the expenditure, and application of the national revenue: They are dictated with a spirit unparalleled in history; a spirit at present universal in France. They prove incontestably, that the sun of liberty and science has arisen in the land, by which the clouds of despotism must be finally dispelled. Accidents, perhaps may occur, which, for a while, may prevent these effects; but follow they unavoidably must. So long as the present habits and sentiments of the nation continue, so long it must free. The maxim, 'That all government is founded on opinion,' is undeniably just. Amidst opinions, therefore universally favourable to liberty, despotism cannot possibly subsist.

To these considerations we may add, that the science of government is now better understood, than it was in ancient times. The experience of three thousand years has greatly improved human knowledge and arts, and of which jurisprudence makes an important branch. The invention of printing has diffused knowledge more generally, than it could possibly have been in earlier periods of the world. That information, of which mankind were then in possession, could by no means be so easily acquired by every individual, as at present. The idea of representation, that happy expedient by which freedom is perpetuated in modern times, was not formerly understood. By this invention, a whole community may concur in framing the laws by which it is governed, without being endangered by those tumults and commotions, that are inseparable from large assemblies. The institution of trials by jurors, which, in all free states, is justly regarded as the great palladium of liberty, is also another blessing, unknown to ancient Greece and Rome. By these subsidiary contrivances, liberty may be preserved in a country, amidst a smaller proportion of virtue, than could

could have sufficed for that purpose in the ancient world. These circumstances, when taken into consideration, seem to warrant the conclusion, that the late change in the government of France, will prove lasting in its consequences. If so, there happily can be entertained no doubt of its beneficial influence on the condition of the people. Virtue, knowledge, and freedom, are the grand requisites of national happiness. Without these, no society ever possessed comfort:—with them, none was ever unhappy. On the last, however, the two first wholly depend. Liberty, founded on equitable laws, is intimately connected with all that is estimable or worthy in human nature. No sooner are mens persons and property secured, than industry and opulence are diffused in society. When their circumstances are easy, and their minds unfettered by tyranny, they recover the use of their faculties. Pleasure attends every exercise of the understanding. The human mind will always be improved, where it is not overawed by authority. This will still more infallibly happen, if such improvement lead to consideration and preferment in the community.

The qualities of the heart are not less in-

terested here. Freedom is the parent of virtue, as well as of knowledge. Treat a man unworthily, and he will soon become less virtuous. Every generous and manly sentiment languishes, in a state of oppression. Revenge, cowardice, dissimulation, every passion, which can torment the heart, and render life a curse, is the natural production of such a condition. An enlightened citizen, in the possession of wealth and independence, is farther removed from the condition of a slave, trembling under the rod of his master, than the latter is from a beast. They are in the two opposite extremes of the scale of human happiness.

The truth of this reasoning is not founded on speculation; it is confirmed by the experience of every age, and the concurring testimony of all nations. Compare the splendour and happiness of the free, enlightened inhabitants of ancient Greece and Italy, with the mean and wretched state of their abject posterity; and you must be convinced, that the mere abuses of government can convert the most fertile fields into a barren desert. They can change heroes into slaves, and patriots into monks.

OBSERVATIONS on the DIFFERENCE between the IDEAS of YOUTH and AGE.

Let Reverend Priam in the truce engage,
 And add the sanction of considerate age;
 His sons are faithless, headlong in debate,
 And youth itself an empty wavering state.
 Cool age advances venerably wise,
 Turns on all hands its deep-discerning eyes;
 Sees what betel and what may yet betal;
 Concludes from both and best provides for all.

POPE.

THE difference between youth and age, as it is one of the few things as to which mankind are universally agreed, is perhaps the most common subject both of conversation and of books. Yet I am not sure that moralists have made all the improvement of it by useful reflections, that it is capable of producing in minds accustomed to extensive thought and comparison of ideas.

To write upon a common subject is considered by many to be the province of the dull and the ignorant. But let us give due attention to a very material difference. Dullness and ignorance indeed may repeat or transcribe what others have said or written on a common subject. But to present a common subject with the pleasing grace of novelty, by placing it in a

point of view in which it has not been seen before, by starting unexpected notions concerning it, or even by giving it a fresh colouring, is to exhibit a proof of no ordinary genius. An author therefore, who, conscious of this, undertakes an essay upon a common subject, has more reason to make an apology for his presumption, than to assume the modest and humble air of one who makes no pretensions to superior talents.

In the very nature of things, in the constitution of man as ordered by Providence, there cannot but be a considerable difference between a progressive being at an earlier and later period. For if there were not a difference, there would in effect be no progression. And truly in so far as respects the mind, we have instances of almost

most no progression at all, which makes us perceive the justice of Cicero's observation, that to be ignorant of what passed in the world is to remain in childhood. Savages in general may be looked upon as children during the whole of their lives, on account of the very scanty share of knowledge they possess. I remember very well that the *Esquimaux* who were in London some years ago appeared to me in that light. The father and mother seemed to have their wonder and risibility excited by the same petty trifling objects which touched the fancy of *Dickizuma* their child. Nor did he, who was said to be a reverend priest upon the coast of Labrador, convince me that he was much wiser. The child was more playful than the grown people. But I impute that to corporeal levity, as I did their sedateness to corporeal tranquillity; in short, there was much about the same diversity between them as between a kitten and an old cat. Captain Cook, the celebrated circumnavigator, whose plain, candid, and judicious remarks I value very highly, gave me, in a conversation which I had with him at Sir John Pringle's table, the same account of the untutored nations in the Southern hemisphere. He told me, that we were not to suppose them witty, because they laughed a great deal; for that they were amused with very small matters; and he also told me, that they were quite volatile and inattentive, and would ask a variety of questions in rapid succession, without waiting till they received answers. Such titillations of inquisitiveness, which could cease without being appeased by gratifications, indicate a mean state of mind, the reverse of that noble, ardent, persevering curiosity, which is ever found in a vigorous, well cultivated understanding. Nor is the continuation of childhood by reason of ignorance peculiar to savage life. For we find it in greater and lesser degrees in individuals of societies the most cultivated. 'Sautering Jack and idle Joan,' whom Prior, by a choice collection of frivolous circumstances, represents as having 'lived in a kind or as it were,' are characters not at all so rare as one may suppose, without making an attentive close enquiry.

No man perhaps has ever had a more lively perception of the varieties of human life than Horace, whose admirable faculties were highly improved by the best education, and by the acquaintance with every thing worth knowing, which he enjoyed with the most fortunate freedom. I take it for granted that none of my readers will dispute the authenticity of Horace's history; that he actually lived in the court

of Augustus; though in an age where there is such an affectation of scepticism, I cannot be quite sure but there may be some followers of father Harduin, the Jesuit, who very ingeniously wrote a dissertation to prove that the books which we call the classics, never existed in ancient Rome, but were composed by Monks in a modern period of time. Harduin's piece of classical infidelity may, I think, be esteemed as a very fair, ridiculous imitation of that kind of disbelief, which objects to the credibility of distant and extraordinary facts, though vouched by such evidence as we could reasonably expect to have. As an able member of the holy order to which he had devoted himself, he had frequent opportunities to combat irreligious doubts; and it may be supposed that his curious dissertation was meant to be gravely ironical. But I have gone after Harduin till I have lost sight of Horace, whose descriptions of youth and age came into my mind with the fine liveliness of recollection which attends the passages of that poet which we have got by heart. He in a just and striking manner contrasts the fervour and complacent gaiety of youth with the coldness and fretful rigidity of age. But Horace, though a very good philosopher upon many occasions, has not given any precepts to the young and the old how to correct their several faults, and contribute to their mutual happiness.

Youth, however inferior to age in experience and wisdom, has no doubt the advantage in mere animal life; and for this reason many very fondly give it the preference, somewhat upon the principle of the common proverb, that 'a living dog is better than a dead lion.' But surely we are formed to enjoy a kind of happiness superior to that of mere animal life, and the pleasures of the senses. Intellectual felicity affords a much higher delight to those who are capable of relishing it. Of this I am sure from what I have felt myself, and I should not say so, had I not also felt very exquisitely the pleasures of sense. I have heard that a late very old general officer in the British service, when somebody was talking to him of his high military preferments, said, that he would be content to be the lowest ensign in the army, on condition of being only sixteen years old. Such a saying, if it expressed the General's real meaning, only showed that his happiness was altogether sensual, and that in the course of a long life he had made no advance in the refinement and elevation of his nature. How different from his animal enthusiasm is the generous, though extravagant wish which the excellent Fenelon puts into the mouth of

Telemachus, whose admiration of virtue was so strong that he lamented being obliged to pass through the fiery season of youth, during which there are so many temptations that may seduce to immorality. 'How wretched a period of life,' said he, 'is youth! Wherefore did the gods, who cruelly sport with the calamities of men, ordain them to pass through that state which is divided between the sports of folly and the agonies of desire? Why is not my head already hoary, and why do not my steps falter on the brink of the grave?'

Young and old men are too apt to look upon themselves as quite different beings, and to live in a state of opposition, and even a sort of hostility to each other. To increase good will is to add to the general stock of human happiness; and it is recommended to us by the highest authority to consider all men as our brethren. I think that young men and old may by habitual efforts of reflection attain to a constant impression of this truth, that they are the same beings in age as in youth, with only the difference of circumstances attendant upon these several states of existence. Were a young man to have strongly before him the persuasion that he himself is to be old, and an old man to have strongly before him the remembrance that he himself was young, there would not be that antipathy between the two states which is too often to be found. The selfish principle would operate more extensively upon both. Youth would reverence age, and age would love youth; as a man thinks of himself with kindness, whether he looks forward to the calmness

and drowsiness of his evening hours, or to his active and sprightly state in the morning. The transition from youth to age is so imperceptible, that the notion of our identity is never broken. It seems strange then, that there should be the idea of so wide a distinction between the two states.

While I am writing this Essay, I find myself about middle age, computing life according to the calculation of the Royal Psalmist. From the point therefore where I now am, I can most impartially judge of youth and old age; and although I were to have any bias it must be reasonably supposed to be rather in favour of that to which I am advancing, than that which I have left behind me. I must fairly acknowledge that in my opinion the disagreement between young men and old is owing rather to the fault of the latter than of the former. Young men, though keen and impetuous, are usually very well disposed to receive the counsels of the old, if they are treated with gentleness, and as their minds are not as yet taught distrust by repeated disappointment, or fretted by painful incidents, they give large credit for wisdom to those who have lived longer than themselves. But old men forget in a wonderful degree, their own feelings in the early part of life, are angry because the young men are not as sedate in the season of effervescence as they are, would have the fruit, when by the course of nature there should be only the blossom, and complain because another generation has not been able to ascend the steep of prudence in the fourth part of the time which they themselves have taken.

THE CHARACTERS and ADVENTURES of TWO SISTERS of different INCLINATIONS.

SOPHIA and Aurelia were sisters, of small fortunes, and the whole offspring of a couple, who had more goodness in them than wisdom. They were near of an age, and educated in common; but still with a distinction that created different views, from a disparity that was apparent in their persons.

Sophia was beautiful in her form as well as features, which were early the inspirers of that kind of flattery from beholders, that has a tendency to the misleading of judgment; parents being commonly as susceptible of such kind of insinuations, as the very objects of inconsiderate commendation.

Continual admiration was the inspirer of common vanity in the parents and daughter, who were easily brought to believe, that beauty comprehended all merit, and entitled its possessor to all advantages. Full of this opinion, the parents as well as daughter thought, that to be seen would be sufficient to succeed.

With this view Sophia was prepared for gay life; and her small fortune destined to the support of a recommendatory appearance. She was introduced into company, became extensively acquainted, appeared much in public, and was generally admired.

Outwardly caressed by the giddy and indiscreet

indiscreet of her own sex, and flattered and followed by the empty and idle part of the other, she grew vainly inconsiderate: was at all public places, and for ever surrounded by a cluster of coxcombs. Made cheap by indiscretion, she at length became blown upon. The most prudent of her votaries withdrew their approbation; and all admiration decayed, from the commonness of her appearance.

Her parents, by degrees, grew convinced of their mistake, and would have altered their conduct: but it was then too late. Sophia's love of pleasure was become strongly rooted in her heart; she had no idea of happiness but in public adoration, and was resolved, at all events, to indulge that delight. Means however becoming exhausted at home, she was necessitated to look out for them elsewhere: accordingly, in desperation, she caught at a worn-out debauchee of fortune, and, in order to continue making a figure, she married the man whom, of his whole sex, she most heartily despised.

In such a situation, she naturally sought her happiness more than ever abroad, which as naturally created jealousy and disgust in one who knew life, and was sensible of his own imperfections. These produced more distasteful circumstances to increase her unhappiness at home, from which her high spirit prompted her to seek refuge in more indiscretions abroad. In fine, her Argus was so watchful, that he surprized her in the act of guilt, which was followed by a separation and disgrace that hurried her, through haughtiness and desperation, into open prostitution. This soon broke the hearts of her parents, and involved her in such miseries as soon brought her days to a speedy end. Such were the adventures of intoxicated beauty, relying too strongly on the chance of good fortune.

Aurelia her sister was brought up to humbler views. Having a person that was but passable, though neither ugly nor deformed, she was instructed to depend on merit for her highest recommendation, and also to pitch her hopes at a less exalted height. An early state of mortification, from the superior notice taken of her sister, proved that school of adversity to her, which, when rightly improved upon, is the perfecter of a good mind. Made to believe she could not appear abroad to her advantage, she sought for satisfaction at home in domestic employments; and, by making reading a frequent amusement, she much enriched her mind, so that she became amiable in conduct, and highly en-

tertaining, nay instructive, in conversation, but withal so modest, as to be without any of that affectation from knowledge which is deemed distasteful in women. Such were the fruits of that fortunate humility, which her sister's supposed superior excellencies had occasioned her being taught.

Talents so truly valuable, and a disposition so recommendatory, could not fail of attracting observation from those who made reason the director of their judgments. Sober men all approved, and sober women all esteemed; nay, the very rakes all declared, in their accustomed manner of expressing themselves, that they would prefer Sophia for a mistress; but Aurelia for a wife.

At length a worthy young tradesman of credit and fortune, who had sense enough to distinguish between happiness and pleasure, approved of her person, from an admiration of her mind and conduct; and soon rendered himself so agreeable as to become the master of her heart. Their marriage was celebrated with general approbation; for even Sophia was officiously free enough to declare, that her sister's match was as good an one as she had reason to expect.

Aurelia's excellent accomplishments and conduct had all the effects which they ought to have on a good husband. They excited his fullest attention to her, and to their mutual interests. They added ardor to his industry, and even made application delightful to him. Her conversation, attention, and endearments, were the continual sources of his delights; and her merits were sufficient to make her person appear charming to him. With a constant rivalry of endeavours which should best discharge their respective duties, and be most obliging to each other, they found their fortune and respect increase proportionably with their happiness, till, with a numerous and hopeful issue, they saw great affluence crown their years, and died, near together, in the extremity of age, after a life of uninterrupted felicity, and with universal approbation.

Reasoning applications of these narratives must be unnecessary for our readers; their own good sense will be their best directors in making proper uses of them. From these two striking examples, they will plainly see, that Merit is all that can make us truly estimable, and can only insure us the great enjoyments of life: that any particular advantage, nay even good fortune, without it, proves too often a snare, and leads people to great misery, instead of real bliss.

SPEECH of Mr. HASTINGS to the HOUSE of LORDS, on MONDAY the 2d Day of JUNE, 1791.

THE Evidence for the Impeachment being closed,

Mr. Hastings rose, and intreated the indulgence of their Lordships to allow him to read from his notes what he wished to offer as his defence.

Lord Kenyon, who presided in the absence of the Lord Chancellor, desired Mr. Hastings to proceed.

Mr. Hastings then, from a written paper, read to the following effect:—He hoped the proposition he was about to offer would be a means of saving their Lordships' trouble in future, and would put an end for ever to a trial unexampled in its length and in the conduct of it, and which had attracted the attention of thousands in this country, and in every part of the world. But first he deemed it justice to his Counsel to say, that the resolution which he had taken, was taken without any communication with them, and against their opinion. No man could have an higher regard for them than he had, or thought higher of their professional abilities, or could be more sensible than he was of their affectionate attachment to him; but this was a measure he took entirely upon himself; and he solemnly declared, that if he believed it possible for their Lordships to find him guilty, he would prefer that sentence to a continuation of the trial, with a chance of an acquittal in another, or perhaps in another Session after that.

He said, that his life had been spent amongst a people, one of whose maxims was, that speedy justice was better than tardy injustice. After some other circumstances mentioned in the exordium with very great force, and in very elegant language, he proceeded to reply to the accusations that had been brought against him. And first, he said, he would take the General Charges, which were, that he had desolated and ruined the Provinces committed to his care; that he had violated Treaties, oppressed and plundered the Natives, wantonly wasted the Public Money, and disobeyed the Orders of his Superiors.

Mr. Hastings said, it was a great comfort and happiness to him, that he could in a few words, refute all these General Charges upon the authority of the House of Commons, his prosecutors; for it was in proof before them, that he had raised the resources of the Government from three millions sterling a year to five; that to procure this increase, he had neither desolated nor ruined the country, for it

had still further increased since his departure. The Princes with whom he was said to have broken the public faith, all joined in bearing testimony in his favour, and to this hour professed the sincerest personal regard for him. The natives, of all ranks, countries, and sects in India, had joined as one man, in refusing to soul a charge. It was in proof before the House of Commons, that, in peace and in war, his government was more economical than that fixed by the Board of Control for India; therefore, all these General Charges must fall to the ground in the judgment of every man who would be at the pains to enquire. But if he had done a thousand meritorious actions, and he understood some of those who had voted for his Impeachment gave him the credit of preserving India to Great Britain, he was perfectly ready to allow, that it was incumbent upon him to answer specifically to the Four Articles on which the Managers depended for his conviction.

Mr. Hastings then said, that he was confident he might trust his case to their own evidence, mutilated and garbled as it had been, notwithstanding the laudable and most unceasing attention of his Counsel to prevent such mutilations in every practicable instance.

He complained, that of thirty four witnesses whom he had originally summoned, some were dead, some returned to India, others in different parts of the kingdom, after having been wearied out by three years fruitless attendance, and that those with whom he was more immediately connected would be liable to those remarks which the Managers had taken the freedom to make upon their own witnesses, when their evidence did not answer their expectations.

Mr. Hastings also complained of the injury he sustained by an act, of which he approved as much as any man, the publicity of their Lordships proceedings; but in a case where a trial lasted such a time, and where the audience naturally came merely for the entertainment they expected, it had so happened, that in three years persons from every part of Great Britain had attended the trial, and heard the speeches of the Managers of the House of Commons—it could not occur to them to suppose, that men in the name of so great a body would venture to hazard asserting what they had not a tittle of evidence to prove; and thus his character had been blasted, as far as the Managers could effect

fect it, throughout the country. Those who attended to the evidence, as their Lordships did; knew all this to be merely idle unsupported declamation.

Mr. Hastings then went through the principal allegations in the Four Articles which the Commons abide by, and observed upon the material points in each.

Having done this, Mr. Hastings came to a very curious and interesting part of his speech. He said he never should plead necessity for what he had done; but he would shew the necessity in a manner that would flash conviction on every candid mind.

He then went through the astonishing difficulties he had to struggle with in the late war, and added, that when this Trial began, he did not think it *within possibility* that their Lordships would be so well able to judge of his situation by a comparison of it with the difficulties with which Earl Cornwallis had now to contend: with this difference, that against him (Mr. Hastings) all India and half Europe were united, while Lord Cornwallis had only to maintain a war against one power, unaided by a single ally, and having two great powers, the Marattas and the Nizam, acting in concert with his Lordship.

Their Lordships, he said, had seen that the revenues and resources of Bengal, amounting to about five millions four hundred thousand pounds, which he took credit to himself for having created, were not, with the addition of the revenues of the Carnatic and Bombay, sufficient to support a war in India against a single power; for a very large sum in specie had been sent from England; money had been borrowed at Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, at a high interest, to the utmost extent of their credit; and Hyder Beg Khan, of whom their Lordships had heard so much, had advanced twenty-two lacks of rupees to Earl Cornwallis.

It was not in my power, said Mr. Hastings, nor will it be in the power of Earl Cornwallis, to do, *what every Minister in England has done since the Revolution*. I could not, nor can he, borrow to the utmost extent of his wants, during war, and tax posterity to pay the interest of those loans. The possibility of borrowing upon bonds, ceased early in my government, and will cease much earlier in Lord Cornwallis's; not from any distrust in that Noble Lord, but because the people of Bengal had seen the surplus revenues since the last peace, directed to other purposes than the liquidation of the debt of Bengal. No man, said Mr. Hastings, thought of remitting money to me from England during the late war, and I was prohibited from drawing bills, except for the investment

I had every species of counteraction to contend with, that an hostile Administration could throw in my way; yet, in spite of these obstructions, and against so many enemies, I preserved entire what the India Minister, who voted for my impeachment, has repeatedly termed the brightest jewel in the British Crown.

Mr. Hastings next made a complaint, in such language as very seldom, if ever, has been applied to the House of Commons.— He declared, that he had sustained the most unparalleled injustice from them, and from the King's Ministers: that the Articles on which they now depended were Four: the remaining Sixteen were given up, or, in other words, abandoned. But he stood in a situation that no Englishman, nor any native of any country had ever stood before him. He had been compelled to defend, at a most intolerable expence, the wisdom and propriety of plans, which the King's Ministers, as Members of Parliament, had voted to be criminal; yet, the same Ministers, in their public capacity, had expressed their approbation of those plans in four several letters to Bengal, and had ordered that *they should be invariably adhered to*; and the House of Commons, in four successive years, had virtually approved the arrangements, by voting the Resolutions moved by the India Minister.

I have been arraigned, said Mr. Hastings, for accepting an illegal delegation to Oude, and am brought here as a criminal for concluding an arrangement with the Nabob of Oude, by which every rupee of his debt was paid off, and the subsidy has since been paid with the regularity of a Bank Dividend. Yet the arrangement has been fully confirmed by the King's Ministers, in the strongest terms of approbation.

I am accused, in another Article, of bringing oppression, ruin, and destruction on the natives of Bengal, although the falsehood of this Charge must be apparent to every man, unless it can be proved that the India Minister has, for the four last last years, presented false accounts to the House of Commons.

In the course of the strong and pointed attack upon Ministers, and the House of Common, Mr. Fox applied to the Court. He said, he had no wish to interrupt Mr. Hastings, but their Lordships knew it was irregular to stare how a Member of Parliament had voted, because Mr. Hastings could not possibly know the fact. Lord Kenyon said, it was fully competent to Mr. Hastings to point out *any absurdity or injustice* in his prosecutors, and he would naturally, when he could, avoid the use of names.

Mr. Burke got up, but Mr. Hastings said he had been long used to the abuse of THAT Manager; that he threw himself upon their Lordships; he had carefully studied to avoid one word that would be disrespectful to their Lordships, for whom he entertained every sentiment of veneration; and of the last and present House of Commons he wished to speak in as guarded a manner as he could, taking care, however, that the broad and striking facts of which he had to complain, should be known to their Lordships and to the world.

He was immediately allowed to proceed to complete the sentence we have given, though Mr. Burke again attempted to interrupt him.

The next strong complaint was personal against Mr. Burke. Their Lordships would recollect, said Mr. Hastings, how the Manager had opened this prosecution; that he told you of certain horrible cruelties committed by Deby Sing, which inspired every hearer with horror. The Manager knew, that if all these stories had been true, it was impossible to affix the criminality upon me. The fact is, my Lords, that I had entertained an unfavourable, possibly an unjust opinion of Deby Sing, and when the districts of Rungpore and Dinapore were farmed to him, I yielded my opinion to that of Mr. Anderson and Mr. Shore, who had better opportunities of knowing him. When complaints were made against him, I was the first to propose the most rigid enquiry into his conduct, and I verily believe it was from me that Mr. Paterfon imbibed an ill opinion of the man.

Mr. Paterfon, with whom the Manager wished to go down to posterity, has with a generosity that did him honour, expressed the sincerest concern that his reports should have operated to my prejudice, and he expressed his conviction that I acted as a man of humanity throughout the whole business. A most strict and solemn enquiry was instituted into the conduct of this man during my government, but not completed in my time. I have since read the proceedings, and though Deby Sing was not innocent, yet his guilt bore no sort of proportion to the magnitude of the crimes alledged against him; but neither his guilt nor his innocence could in any degree affect me. Your Lordships know, that the Manager was urged and pressed in the strongest possible terms to frame this accusation into a charge, but he declined it. Your Lordships know the impression which this atrocious calumny made against me, and the effects it produced in this place upon the audience. This is another

of the heavy grievances of which I have so much reason to complain.

The close of Mr. Hallings's speech was one of the most impressive compositions we have ever heard, and proves that he still preserves that distinguished feature in his character of rising with the difficulties with which he has to contend.

He said he had gone through his observations upon Charges, the evidence adduced upon which filled seven folio volumes. That to do this properly, taking in the labour of abbreviation, would have required months. He was conscious, therefore, that he must have omitted to notice many material points, and he added the following passages, as nearly as we can recollect them, in these words:

I most reluctantly press upon your Lordships time, and shall hasten to conclude with a few general observations upon the nature of this Impeachment, as it relates to these principles which constitute the moral qualities and character of all mankind. If the tenor of a man's life has been invariably marked with a disposition to guilt, it will be a strong presumption against him, on any alledged instance, that he was guilty. If, on the contrary, the whole tenor of his life was such, as to have obtained for him the universal good will of all with whom he had any intercourse in the interested concerns of life, the presumption will be as well grounded, that he was innocent of any particular wrong imputed to him, if those who are the alledged sufferers by that wrong, make no complaint against him. But what shall be said of complaints against a man who was in trust for the interest of the greatest commercial body in the world, who employed and directed the services of thousands of his fellow citizens in great official departments, and extensive military operations, who connected Princes and States by alliances with his parent kingdom, and on whose rule the peace and happiness of many millions depended? of complaints made in the name and on the behalf of all those descriptions of men, who all unite their suffrages in his favour. Such complaints, with such a presumption against the possibility of their truth, may have existed in the history of mankind; but the history of mankind cannot produce an instance of their being received on such a foundation, until the late and present House of Commons thought fit to create one, in my Impeachment.

Permit me, my Lords, to retrace the principal events in the public life of that man, whom the Commons have brought, and have so long kept on a trial before you.

With the year 1750 I entered into the service

service of the East India Company, and in that service have I derived all my official habits, all the knowledge which I possess, and all the principles which have regulated my conduct in it.

'In the year 1768 I was appointed a Member of the Council, and eventually to succeed to the government of Fort St. George.

'In the year 1771, when the affairs of their principal settlement were supposed to be on the decline, and to require an unusual exertion of abilities and integrity to retrieve them, the Court of Directors made choice of me for that arduous trust, and I was appointed to the government of Bengal, and to the principal direction of all the civil, military, commercial, and political affairs dependant on it.

'In the year 1774 I was appointed by an Act of Parliament Governor-General of Bengal for five years; in the year 1778 I was appointed by the same authority for one, in 1779 for another, in 1781 for ten years; and in 1784 I was virtually confirmed by the Act which forms the present Government for India. In this long period of thirteen years, and under so many successive appointments, I call it to the recollection of your Lordships, that while Great Britain lost one half of its empire and doubled its public debt, that government over which I presided, was not only preserved entire, but increased in population, wealth, agriculture, and commerce; and although your Lordships have been told by the House of Commons, that my measures have disgraced and degraded the British character in India, yet I appeal to the united voice of India, and the general sense of mankind, to confirm what I am now going to say, that the British Name and Character *never stood bigger*, or were more respected in India, *than when I left it*.

'So much may I say for the general effect of my Government; shortly let me enumerate the *specific acts* which contributed to produce it.

'Every division of official business, and every department of the Government which now exists in Bengal, with very inconsiderable variation, *are of my formation*.

'The establishments formed for the collection of the revenue, the institution of the courts of civil and criminal justice, the form of government established for Benares, the arrangements created for the defence and subsidy of the province of Oude, the political connections and alliances with other States, all were created by me, and subsist unchanged; or if changed, changed only (to use the words of

my noble and virtuous successor, applied to the principles of my arrangements for the province of Oude), 'with a view to strengthen those principles, and render them permanent.'

'Opium and salt, two great resources of revenue, were created by me. The first, which I have been impeached for not making productive enough, amounts at this time to the net annual sum of one hundred and twenty thousand pounds. The last (though when I proposed the plan my colleagues refused to share with me in the responsibility of it, and thought I disobeyed the orders of the Company when I formed the plan) amounts to the yearly sum of eight hundred thousand pounds. To sum up all, I maintained the provinces of my immediate administration in a state of peace, plenty and security, when every other member of the British empire was involved in internal wars and civil tumult.

'In a dreadful season of famine, which visited and laid waste the neighbouring States of India during three successive years, I repressed it in its approach to the provinces of the British dominions, and by timely regulations prevented its return; an act little known in England, because it wanted the positive effects, which alone could give it a visible communication, but proved by the grateful acknowledgments of those, who would have been the only sufferers by such a scourge; and who well remembering the effects of a former infliction of it, have made their sense of the obligations which they owed to me for this blessing, one of the first subjects in many of the testimonials transmitted by the inhabitants of Bengal, Bahar, and Benares. And lastly, I raised the collective annual income of the Company's possessions from three millions to five, not by temporary and forced exactions, but by an easy, continued, and still existing production; the surest evidence of a good government, improving agriculture, and increasing population!

'To the Commons of England (here Mr. Hastings looked steadily at the Speaker), to the Commons of England I dare to reply, that the provinces so long under my administration are, and their representatives annually tell them so, *the most flourishing of all the States of India*. It was I who made them so; the valour of others acquired, I enlarged and gave shape and consistency to the dominion, which you hold there. I preserved it; I sent forth armies with an effectual but an economical hand, through unknown and hostile regions, to the support of your other possessions, to the retrieval of one from de-
gradation

gradation and dishonour, and the other from utter loss and subjection. I maintained the wars *which were of your formation, or that of others, not of mine*; I won one member* of the great Indian Confederacy from it by an act of seasonable retribution; with another † I maintained a secret intercourse, and converted him into a friend; a third ‡ I drew off by diversion and negotiation, and employed him as the instrument of peace with the rest. When you cried out for peace, and your cries were heard by those who were the objects of it, I resisted this, as I did every other species of counteraction, by rising in my demands, and accomplished a peace, a lasting, and I hope an everlasting one, with one great State§; and I afforded the efficient means by which a peace, if not so durable, more seasonable at least, was accomplished with an other.¶ I gave you all, and you, and you have rewarded me with CONFISCATION, DISGRACE, AND A LIFE OF IMPEACHMENT.

One word more, my Lords, and I have done. It has been the fashion in the course of this Trial, sometimes to represent the Natives of India as the most virtuous and sometimes as the most profligate of mankind. I attest their virtue, and offer this *unanswerable proof of it.*

When I was arraigned before your Lordships in the name of the Commons of England, and in the name of the Princes, Nobles and Commons of India, for sacrificing the honour and interest of the former to motives of the vilest corruption, and for provoking and afflicting the latter by acts of injustice, aggression, oppression, cruelty and rapacity, the natives of India, with a generosity of which there is no example in the European World, united, as with one voice, to disavow their share in this Impeachment,—to express their acknowledg-

ments of my justice and good faith, and to acknowledge the benefits which they had received from my unwearied, undeviating attention to their interests. I wish I could say as much of my countrymen here. These testimonials were sent to the Government of Bengal, by that Government transmitted with every form of authenticity to the Court of Directors, and by them delivered to the late House of Commons, on whose Journals they still remain.

To these let me add the address of my countrymen inhabiting the town of Calcutta, presented on the day I left it to return to England; and of the British Officers in India, transmitted to me many months after I had left India. These have been made public, and while I have life, I will gratefully preserve the originals, as the most honourable testimony of a life well spent, and a trust faithfully discharged, because bestowed by those who had the best and nearest means of knowing it.

My Lords, I am aware of the promptitude with which my accusers will seize on this exposition of my merits and services, to continue them (to use that phrase they have already applied to them) as a *set-off* of merits and services against confessed offences. I disclaim and protest against this use of them. If I am guilty of the offences laid to my charge, let me be declared to be so,—let my punishment be such as they shall deserve! No, my Lords, I have troubled you with this long recital, not as an extenuation of the crimes which have been imputed to me, but as an argument of the impossibility of my having committed them.

Mr. Hastings having concluded his defence, the Lords adjourned to their own Chamber, and resolved to proceed further in the Trial on the first Tuesday in the next Session of Parliament.

HAPPY EFFECTS OF FILIAL PIETY.

IN a great sea port, in one of the most distant provinces in France there lived a merchant, who had carried on trade with equal honour and prosperity, until he was turned of fifty years of age, and then, by a sudden series of unexpected and unavoidable losses, found himself unable to comply with his engagements, and his wife-

and children, in whom he placed his principal happiness, reduced into such a situation as doubled his distress.

His sole resource, in this sad situation, was the reflection that upon the strictest review of his own conduct, nothing either of iniquity or imprudence appeared. He thought it best therefore to repair to Paris,

* The Nizam.

† Moodajee Boosla.

‡ Madajee Sindia.

§ The Marattas.

¶ Tippoo Sultan.

in order to lay a true state of his affairs before his creditors, that being convinced of his honesty, they might be induced to pity his misfortunes, and allow him a reasonable space of time to settle his affairs. He was very kindly received by some, and very civilly by all; from whence he conceived great hopes, which he communicated to his family. But these were speedily dashed by the cruelty of his principal creditor, who caused him to be seized and sent to a goal.

As soon as this melancholy event was known in the country, his eldest son who was turned of nineteen, listening only to the dictates of filial piety, came post to Paris, and threw himself at the feet of the obdurate creditor, to whom he painted the distress of the family, in the most pathetic terms, but without effect. At length, in the greatest agony of mind, he said, 'Sir, since you think nothing can compensate for your loss, but a victim, let your resentment devolve upon me. Let me suffer instead of my father, and the miseries of a prison will seem light, in procuring the liberty of a parent, to console the sorrows of the distracted and dejected family that I have left behind me. Thus, Sir, you will satisfy your vengeance, without sealing their irretrievable ruin!' And there

his tears and sighs stopped his utterance.

His father's creditor beheld him upon his knees in this condition, for a full quarter of an hour: He then sternly bid him rise and sit down, which he obeyed. The gentleman then walked from one corner of the room to the other, in great agitation of mind, for about the same space of time. At length throwing his arms about the young man's neck, 'I find, said he, there is yet something more valuable than money. I have an only daughter, for whose fate I have the utmost anxiety. I am resolved to fix it; in marrying you she must be happy. Go, carry your father's discharge, ask his consent, bring him instantly hither, and let us bury in the joy of this alliance, all remembrance of what has formerly happened.' Thus the generous gratitude of the son relieved the calamity of the worthy father. The man who had considered wealth and happiness as synonymous terms, was freed from that fatal error; and Providence vindicated the manner of its proceeding, by thus bringing light out of darkness, and through a short scene of misery, rewarded a virtuous family with lasting peace, in the enjoyment of that prosperity which they so well deserved.

CRUELTY of the TURKS to the VENETIAN GOVERNOR, after their taking FAMAGOSTA, a CITY of CYPRUS, from the VENETIANS, in 1571.

THIS city, after a long and obstinate siege, was at length surrendered to the Turkish bashaw, on condition, that the officers and soldiers should march out with all the honours of war, drums beating, colours flying, five pieces of cannon, all their baggage, and be conveyed in safety to Candia, under an escort of three Turkish galleys; and that the inhabitants should remain in the free use of their religion, untouched in their property, and in full possession of their freedom. These conditions having been mutually signed, the garrison marched out, and the soldiers embarked on board the ships, provided for them by Mustapha, the Turkish Bashaw, attended by Bragadino, Mattinenga, and some of the chief officers. At first they met with a civil reception, Mustapha ordering a seat to be placed for Bragadino, on his own right hand. They soon entered into discourse about the prisoners; and Mustapha taxing Bragadino with some violences, committed by the garrison, during the suspension, granted for settling a

capitulation, Bragadino, with a generous disdain, denied the charge, calling it false, and designing. Upon which Mustapha, rising up in fury, ordered him to be bound hand and foot, and the others massacred before his face, without regard to hospitality, their bravery, the treaty subsisting, or their being unarmed. Bragadino was reserved for a cruel treatment; after being insulted with the most villifying and opprobrious language; after undergoing the most excruciating tortures; after having his ears, nose, and lips slit, his neck was stretched upon a block, and trampled upon by the dastardly Mustapha, who asked him, where was now that Christ whom he worshipped, and why he did not deliver him out of his hands. At the same time, the soldiers on board the fleet, were despoiled of every thing, and lashed to the oars. This day's work being finished, Mustapha entered the city, where he gave immediate orders that Tiepolo should be hanged upon a gibbet. A few days after, before Bragadino had recovered from the

the wounds he received, he was carried, in derision, to all the breaches made in the walls, loaded with buckets filled with earth and mortar, and ordered to kiss the ground as often as he passed by Mustapha; a spectacle that raised pangs of pity, in the callous hearts of the meanest Turkish soldiers, but could not move compassion in the obdurate breast of Mustapha. Afterwards the brave Bragadino was cooped up in a cage, and ignominiously hung to a sail-yard in one of the galleys, where his intrepid soldiers were chained to the oars. This sight rendered them almost furious; they exclaimed against the baseness, the treachery of Mustapha: They called aloud for revenge, and desired to be set at

liberty, that they might, even without arms, rescue their brave general, and inflict the deserved punishment upon their mean, dastardly, and cowardly foes. Their request was answered with cruel lashes; Bragadino was taken down, conducted to the market-place, amidst the din of trumpets, drums, and other warlike instruments, where he was stayed alive, and a period put to his glorious life. His skin was hung, by way of trophy, to the sail-yard of a galley, sent round all the coasts to insult the Venetians. In which manner perished the intrepid Bragadino, who suffered equally by the dilatoriness of the republic, and the barbarity of an haughty enemy.

METHOD of preserving CABBAGES, RADISHES, TURNIPS, and other such PLANTS, from the GAME and INSECTS.

[From the European Magazine.]

PLANTS cultivated in the open field, where there is a great deal of game, are liable to be consumed, especially by hares. This is a very great misfortune in those places where a great deal of cabbage is planted; and many methods have been used to prevent it, though without success: That we are going to prescribe may be tried with great safety, seeing every time it hath been employed, it has always produced the desired effect. The misfortune must be prevented at the time of planting. For an acre of ground take two ounces of *Asa Foetida*, such as sold by the apothecary or druggist; put it into a small pot full of dung-juice, and boil it until the whole is dissolved; then empty this decoction into a shallow tub, add a pint or two of dung-juice; stir it well with a piece of wood, and carry it into the field for use. All the plants, before they are put into the earth, must be steeped in this composition, in the following manner: A person must be expressly employed in preparing them, for being planted. Take as many of them as you can clasp in both hands, and dip them in the prepared matter, so that each plant shall be moistened in every part. This being done, lay them in heaps upon the ground, and sprinkle a little earth upon the roots. Distribute the plants, thus moistened, to the planter, who must immediately set them in holes prepared for that purpose; then press the earth against the plant with a piece of wood made for that use, and con-

tinue so to the end. No game will touch these plants; but on the contrary avoid them with great abhorrence and precipitation. Yet, the plants which are either not at all, or not sufficiently sprinkled will soon be discovered and eaten by the hares; so that the place must be replanted. There is no danger of the plant's contracting any bad scent from this preparation; for the sun and air will purify it in time. As for caterpillars, and other insects, which bite the young cabbage plants, radishes, &c. They may be prevented very easily by the following remedy:—Take a pail of dung, water, and infuse into it, of *Asa Foetida* 6 dwt. Woad 3 dwt. Garlick 3 dwt. Laurel berries bruised 3 dwt. leaves or tops of Elder, one handful; Carline, White Cameleon, or Thistle root, one handful. Let the whole digest for three days and three nights. When you have occasion to use this composition, take a whisk of straw, and dipping it in the pail, sprinkle the small plants that are infected by those insects, which will soon perish or forsake the place.—To this remedy we will add another, which is infallible against the caterpillars in cabbage. Sow with hemp all the borders of the ground where you mean to plant your cabbage, and you will see, with surprize, that although the neighbourhood is infested with caterpillars, the space inclosed by the hemp will be perfectly free; not one of the vermin will approach it.

DESCRIPTION of the SOLEMNITIES observed at PEKIN, when the EMPEROR'S MOTHER entered her SIXTIETH YEAR.

[In a Letter from a Jesuit Missionary.]

IT is in China an ancient custom to celebrate with great pomp the day when the Emperor's mother enters upon the sixtieth year of her age. Some months before that day arrived, all the tribunals of the capital, all the viceroys and great mandarines of the empire had orders to prepare themselves for the afore-mentioned ceremony, the most splendid that is observed in these parts. All the painters, engravers, architects and joiners of Pekin, and the neighbouring provinces, were without intermission employed for more than three months together in making, every one, the nicest works of his respective art. Many other kinds of artists had also employment. The business was to construct something that might charm the eyes of a delicate and voluptuous court, accustomed to see whatever is most beautiful in the works of art brought from the four quarters of the globe. The decorations were to begin at one of the Emperor's houses of pleasure, which is at Yuen-min-yuen, and to terminate at the palace which is at Pekin in the centre of the Tartarian city: These are distant from each other, about four leagues.

There are two roads which lead from one of these palaces to the other. The Emperor ordered that the procession should be made along that which runs by the river side. Immediately all the preparations were turned towards that quarter. The prince caused new barks to be built nearly of the same size, and form as our brigantines. The gilding and variety of colours with which they were adorned gave a dazzling splendour. These barks were intended to carry the Emperor, the Empress-mother, and all the persons of their retinue: But by an accident, which the Emperor himself foresaw, and which any persons of good sense might have foreseen as well as he, they were of no use.

At Pekin the cold is extreme, and, as it was in the most rigorous season of the year that the ceremony was to take place, it was natural to think that the river would not be navigable. Some mandarines nevertheless assured the Emperor, that they could easily surmount this difficulty. And they took the following method to effect it. By their appointment thousands of Chinese were employed night and day, some in beating and agitating the water to prevent it from freezing, and others in breaking the ice, which

was formed, from time to time, in spite of all the precautions of their comrades; and in drawing it out of the bed of the river. This troublesome work lasted about three weeks; after which finding that the cold continually increased, and that it would at length get the better of them, they yielded up the victory, and desisted from an enterprise the most daring that ever was.— It cost the principal author only one year's income of his salary. A punishment light enough in such a country as this, where it is always a capital crime for persons to be found incapable, or even under an impossibility of performing what they have had the boldness to promise the Emperor; and where it costs him so little to cut off their heads. The barks were then declared useless, and it was concluded to substitute sledges in their stead.— But all this while they had been working with incredible diligence at the embellishments that were to decorate the way by which the Empress mother was to pass.— And these were nearly what I am going to describe.

On the two banks of the river were erected buildings of different forms. Here was a house either square, triangular, or polygon (i.e. of many angles) with all its apartments. There was a rotunda, or some other edifice of a similar kind. As one went along, others appeared, whose construction (varied in a hundred different manners) engaged, amused, and charmed the sight, wherever one fixed it. In such places as the river, by growing wider, had departed from a right line, were built houses of wood, supported by pillars fixed in the water, and which appeared above its surface, some two feet, and others three or four, or even higher, according to the plan of the Chinese architects. The greatest part of these buildings formed islands, the passages to which was over bridges built for that purpose. There were some entirely detached and separate, others were contiguous, and had a communication between them by covered galleries, built much in the same manner as the houses and bridges which I have described above. All these edifices were gilt and embellished in the most splendid taste of the country. They were every one devoted to a particular use. In some were bands of music; in others companies of comedians; in the greatest part were refreshments and magnificent thrones to receive the Emperor

and his mother, supposing they should have an inclination to stop and rest themselves there for a few moments.

In the city was another sight still finer in its kind, than that I have been describing. From the western gate, by which the court was to make its entrance to the gate of the palace, there were nothing but superb buildings, peristyles*, pavilions, colonnades, galleries, amphitheatres, with trophies, and other works of Chinese architecture, all equally splendid. These embellished with festoons, garlands, and many other ornaments of a similar kind, which being composed of the finest silk of different colours, afforded a charming sight. Gilding, mock diamonds, and other stones of the same kind, glittered on all sides. A large quantity of mirrors † made of metal highly polished, greatly added to the show. Their construction and arrangement, by multiplying objects on all sides, and re-assembling them in miniature, formed every thing that could enchant the eyes.

These brilliant edifices were interrupted from time to time by artificial mountains and valleys, made in imitation of nature, which one would have taken for agreeable deserts and for real places of delightful solitude. They had contrived brooks and fountains, had planted trees and thickets, and stuck on deer, to which they had given attitudes so natural, that one would have said they were alive. Upon the summits or declivities of some of these mountains, were seen Bonzaries or Chinese convents with their little temples and idols, to which they had made little paths. In other places they had made orchards and gardens. In the greatest part of these were seen vines with their tendrils and clusters, in different degrees of maturity. In others were planted all sorts of trees, so as to exhibit the fruits and flowers of the four seasons of the year. They were not to be distinguished from the true ones, although they were only artificial.

This was not all. In diverse places by which the procession was to pass, they had distributed lakes, meres and reservoirs, with their several kinds of fish and aquatic fowls. In other places they had set children disguised like apes and other animals, who acted the several parts assigned them. As these were clothed in the very skins of the animals they were to represent, the deception was complete. Other children were made to resemble birds and fowls,

and acted their parts upon pillars or lofty poles. These poles and pillars were covered with pieces of silk, which concealed men underneath, whose business it was to put the children stationed above in motion. In other places they had laid fruits of an enormous size, in which they had enclosed children. These fruits opened, from time to time, so far as to shew the spectators what they contained. I am not able to inform you, whether there was any symbolical meaning in all this, or whether it was merely the production of a whimsical and extravagant fancy. The bands of music, the companies of comedians, jugglers, and others, were placed at intervals, all along the side of the river; and endeavoured every one, according to his ability, his skill, and his address, to do something which might please, if not the Emperor and his mother, at least some of the grandees of their retinue, into whose service they might hope to be admitted.

The mandarines of each tribunal had a particular building which they had caused to be erected, and embellished at their own expence. The same had the governors of each province, the princes of the blood, and the other grandees of the empire. The variety of lanterns and their arrangement formed an appearance, which merits a description apart: but as you have described to you on many occasions, the Chinese lanterns, the manner in which they are made, and the ornaments with which they are decorated, I shall refer you to those books wherein they are mentioned.

When once these works began to be brought to some degree of perfection, very strict orders were issued out, that no person of any quality or condition soever should presume to smoke tobacco in the streets so newly ornamented. This precaution appeared necessary to prevent any accident which might have happened from fire. The police or good government that was observed upon this occasion, as well as during the whole preparations of this festival, appeared to be admirable. Some weeks before the day of ceremony, a regulation was made; that the streets (which are here extremely wide) should be divided into three parts, in order that foot passengers, and those on horseback, the comers and goers, in a word that prodigious multitude of people, which was then assembled in the capital, might all enjoy this fine sight at their ease. The middle of the street, which was much larger than the

two

* A peristyle is a circular range of pillars. Any series of pillars is a colonnade.

† The Chinese mirrors are not of glass but polished metal.

two sides, was set apart for those on horseback or such as had equipages. One of the sides, for those who went, and the other for those that came. To make this order observed, it was not necessary to plant grenadiers with bayonets at the end of their muskets, or with drawn swords in their hands, who should threaten to strike all that disobeyed. A few soldiers simply armed with whips, prevented all disorder and confusion. Thus thousands saw at their leisure in the space of a few hours, what could not have been seen in a fortnight, without this precaution.

But, as it is not usual in this country for the women to go abroad or mix with the men, and on the other hand it would have been unreasonable to have excluded them from a show, that was exhibited in honour of a person of their own sex, the Emperor provided for both these difficulties by appointing certain days for them alone. During these days no man was permitted to appear in the streets, and, in effect none did appear. By these means every body was content, and satisfied their curiosity without violating any of their national rites, and without the least offence to decorum.

Another thing, which deserves to be remarked, is the choice that was made of an hundred old men, which were supposed to be fetched from the different provinces of the empire, and to be aged every one of them a hundred years. The most aged were not sought out for this purpose (for the Emperor here gives years at his pleasure) but only those, whose beards were the whitest, longest, and most venerable. The old men were clothed uniformly, and carried upon their bellies a long medal of silver, upon which were engraved characters, that signified the province they represented. These old men were called in the Chinese language, *Pe lao-king-cheon*, that is, 'The hundred old men, who pay homage to her majesty, and wish her as many years of life, as they have among them.'

The ancient sages or immortals, as the Chinese call them, to the number of three times eight, were required also to swell the Empress's triumph, and to wish her their own wisdom and immortality. For this purpose their statues, somewhat above the human size, were placed not far from the outward gate of the palace. They had given them different figures and attitudes, doubtless to express the particular virtues of which they were the symbols, or which were supposed to have been most esteemed by these sages.

All the preparations being finished, and the Emperor fearing, that in spite of all the

precautions he could take, some fire would happen, which it might be difficult to extinguish, and which might reduce the whole city to ashes, would have the ceremony begin. It accordingly commenced five days before the Empress's mother had attained her sixtieth year. The order was immediately issued, out and executed, on the 20th day of the 11th moon in the 16th year of the reign of the Emperor Kien long, that is to say, according to our style, on January the sixth.

I shall tell you nothing of the procession or of the order in which it was conducted, because I saw nothing of that myself. Upon these occasions, and indeed, whenever the Emperor goes abroad, every one shuts himself up in his house, and none are suffered (except such whose station and place requires it) to cast their rash glances upon the person of the prince. I was only told, that the Emperor preceded his mother a few paces, and waited on her as her squire. This prince when he came off the water, mounted on horseback, and the Empress was put in a chaise open on all sides. All the persons of their court followed them on foot. Their majesties stopped, from time to time, to examine at their leisure, whatever pleased them most.

The very same evening they began to pull down the machinery; and in a few days, every thing was demolished that had been set up in the city: But the Emperor would not let them meddle with any thing that was upon the water or along the borders of the river. He ordered this to be preserved as a monument of the magnificence of his reign.

Among the presents which were made upon this occasion, was seen every thing that is most rare and curious in the four parts of the world. The Europeans did not neglect so fair an opportunity to recommend themselves. As such of these, as are at court, are received there only in the quality of mathematicians and artists, they were desirous that their present should be answerable to these titles, and yet correspond with the Emperor's taste. They made, therefore, a machine, of which the following is a pretty exact description. A theatre in the shape of a half circle about three feet high, presented in its bosom paintings of a very delicate taste. This theatre had three scenes on each side, containing every one a particular design, painted in perspective. In the centre was a statue clad in the Chinese fashion, holding in its hands an inscription, in which a most long and fortunate life was wished to the Emperor. This was done in three words, *Kouan-nien-kean*. Before each scene were

were Chinese statues, who held in their left hands little basons of gilt copper, and in their right, little hammers of the same metal. This theatre, such as I have been describing, was supposed to be built by the water side. The fore part represented a mere or sea, or rather a bason, from which sprung up a *jet d'eau*, which fell back again in the form of a cascade: A plate of looking-glass represented the bason; and threads of glass, blown at a lamp by a man very dexterous at that business, were so fine and delicate, and imitated so well a *jet d'eau*, that at a small distance they might have been mistaken for it. Around the bason they had marked a dial plate with European and Chinese characters. A goose and two ducks were made sporting in the middle of the water. The two ducks mudded with their beaks, and the goose marked with hers the present hour. The whole moved by springs, which, at the same time, formed the movements of the clock, that was in the machine. A loadstone, which was likewise concealed, and which moved round the dial plate, drew after it the goose, the greatest part of which was of iron. When the hour was upon the point of striking, the statue which held the inscription in his hand, came forth from an apartment in the centre of the theatre, and with a profound reverence shewed the legend; afterwards the

six other statues played a musical air, by striking, every one upon his bason, the note which had been assigned him, as often and in such time as the music required. This ended, the figure that bore the inscription returned back with great gravity, to wait for the ensuing hour. This machine pleased the Emperor so much, that he was desirous to testify his gratitude to the Europeans for it. In return he made them a present, which was at least an equivalent for the expence they had been at in its construction. The honour which he thereby did us is much more valuable than the greatest riches. He caused it to be placed in one of those apartments of the palace which he frequents the ofteneft, and it is there preserved with great care to this day.

The Emperor made presents to all the mandarines of the capital, in recompence for the care and pains they had taken about these solemnities. All the women of the empire that were eighty years old and upwards, partook likewise of his liberality. The sum of money was more or less considerable in proportion to their age. It is computed that the expence of this festival, reckoning as well what was laid out by the Emperor as by the different corporations and private persons, amounted to more than three hundred million of livres.

OF THE COLLECTION AND CURATION OF SIMPLES.

[By Dr. Lerois.]

VEGETABLES should be gathered chiefly from those soils, in which they naturally delight, or in which they are found most commonly to rise spontaneously; for, though many of them may be raised, and made to grow with vigour, in very different ones, their virtue generally suffers by the change. A variation of seasons occasions also differences considerable enough to require, oftentimes, an allowance to be made in the quantity; plants in general growing weaker, though more luxuriant, in rainy than in dry ones.—Herbs and flowers are to be gathered in a clear dry day, after the morning dew is gone off from them. Leaves for the most part, are in their greatest perfection, when come to their full growth, just before the flowers appear: flowers, when moderately expanded; seeds when they begin to grow dry, before they fall spontaneously: woods and barks, as is supposed, in the

winter: annual roots, before the stalks begin to rise: biennial roots, in the autumn of the first year, or in the following spring: perennial roots, before they begin to shoot. Though the perennial, as well as biennial roots, have been commonly directed to be dug up in autumn, when the leaves wither; they are both, generally found to be most vigorous when the return of spring has renewed their vegetative power. To most of these rules there are some exceptions, which are specified under the particular subjects.

Of the vegetables which lose their virtue in being dried, the greater number, perhaps all, may be preserved for a considerable length of time, by impeding the exhalation of their native moisture; for so long as they retain this, they seem to retain also their medical activity. Thus roots have their virtue preserved by being buried in sand, which should be dry, that they

they may not vegetate; leaves and flowers, of a more corruptible nature than roots, by being beazen with about thrice their weight of fine sugar to prevent their corruption, and kept in a close vessel.

Plants which bear drying are commonly hung in a warm airy place, defended from the sun. The colours of herbs and flowers are for the most part changed or destroyed, in drying, by the sun's beams; but that their medicinal virtue suffers a like diminution, does not appear. Thus much is certain, that a heat of culinary fire, equal to that of the sun in summer, does them no injury in either respect: And that both flowers and leaves, when thus hastily dried by the fire, preserve the liveliness of their colour, and their smell and taste, more perfectly than by slow exsiccation. The leaves of moderately juicy plants are reduced, by drying, to about one fourth of their original weight.

Some roots, and some other parts of vegetables, how thoroughly soever they have been dried, are liable, in keeping, to grow mouldy and carious. This inconvenience might probably be obviated by dipping them, when dried, in boiling spirit of wine, or exposing them to its vapour in a close vessel. It is said, that some of the oriental spices are made less perishable, by being dipt in a mixture of lime and water.

The pulps of fruits are separated from the seeds and membranous parts, by forcing them through a strong hair sieve. If the fruit is unripe and hard, or if it is dry, it should be previously softened by boiling in a little water; and the pulp, after passing through the sieve, is to be inspissated over a gentle fire, with care, to prevent its burning.

The concrete gummy-resinous juices brought from abroad, which have usually a considerable mixture of bits of stalks, leaves, seeds, &c. are purified, by adding so much boiling water, as will so far soften or dissolve them, that they may be pressed, whilst hot, through a strainer; and then inspissating the strained liquid, in a gentle heat, to the original consistence of the gummy-resin. If the quantity of water is considerable, the resinous part commonly separates and subsides, and in this case is to be kept by itself till towards the end of the inspissation of the gummy; at which time they may be easily united again together into an uniform mass. Some of the gummy-resins, exposed to the heat of boiling water, melt thin enough, without any addition, to be pressed through a canvas strainer. In either process, the operator must be careful to prevent as much as possible, the dissipation of the more vo-

latile parts; an injury which cannot be wholly avoided, especially when the subjects are dissolved by water. The finer tears unpurified are in many cases preferable, for internal use, to those that have been strained.

Pulverable bodies of an earthy texture; or such as are brittle and not dissoluble in water, after being reduced to a powder of moderate fineness, are brought to an impalpable or very volatile state, by grinding them with a little water on some hard smooth instrument: The matter is commodiously dried on a chalk stone, or rather on a cake of plaster of Paris, which equally absorbs the moisture, without adhering to the powder like substances of the chalky kind. Powders thus levigated are still found to contain a quantity of gross parts; which may be separated by shaking the matter with water, till it is diffused through the fluid, and then suffering it to settle: The grosser parts soon subside; and the turbid liquor, being now poured off, deposits more slowly the finer powder. By this process, powders may be obtained of any degree of fineness; the tenuity being in proportion to the length of time that they remain suspended in the fluid. On the same principle, the solar earths may be separated from the gritty matter naturally mixed with them, metallic bodies from those of the earthy kind, and the calces of metals from metallic particles uncalcined.

Salts are purified from indissoluble admixtures, by solution in water and filtration through paper. Water dissolves, in a boiling heat, a much larger quantity of most kinds of salts than it can retain when cold: Thus, of nitre, it dissolves when boiling near three times its own weight, but in cooling a part of the salt gradually separates, till at length, when grown thoroughly cold, in frosty weather, it does not retain one eighth its own weight, or one twenty-fourth of the quantity of salt at first dissolved. The neutral salts, or those composed of an acid and an alkali; several of those which consist of an acid and an earthy or metallic body; and many of the acid salts of vegetables; in this separation from their solutions, concrete, unless too hastily forced together by sudden cooling, or disturbed by agitation or other causes, into transparent masses, of regular figures peculiar to each particular kind of salt, and thence called crystals.— There are two general methods of recovering salts from their solutions in a crystalline form; one adapted to some salts, and the other to others. The one is, by keeping the solution in a gentle and equitable warmth, that the water may gradually exhale,

exhale, and leave the salt crystallized. The other is, by boiling down the solution, till, on dropping a little of it on a cold glass plate, crystalline filaments appear; then covering the vessel, and suffering it to cool very slowly: Some of the difficultly crystallizable salts are made to shoot more freely, by adding, after sufficient evaporation, a small proportion of rectified spirit of wine, which weakens the dissolving power of water on most kinds of sa-

line bodies.—As different salts require different quantities of water to keep them suspended; when two or more are dissolved together, they begin to congregate at different periods of the evaporation, that which requires most water for its dissolution, shooting first, and leaving the more soluble dissolved: On this foundation, salts are purified, by crystallization, from admixtures of one another.

INCONVENIENCES FROM A TOO LOVING WIFE.

Nec tecum possum vivere, nec sine te.

MART.

HARD is the lot of that man who is plagued with a wanton wife, a jealous wife, a drunken wife, or a scolding wife, but it is better to have a wanton, jealous, drunken, or scolding wife, nay, I may say all together, than to be yoked to a loving wife. The wanton wife will let the poor man wear his horns on his head with peace and quiet, if he will give her no interruption in planting them there. The jealous wife will cease upbraiding, while her deary is fixt to her apron string. The drunken wife is at least sober when she wakes in the morning; and the scolding wife, we may suppose, is quiet when she is asleep. But the loving wife torments her unfortunate helpmate, morning, noon, and night, and all night too.

When my dear partner, who, I may say, is the most loving of her sex, first wakes in the morning, if she finds me asleep, seldom fails of letting me know that she thinks I have had rest enough, and that to sleep much is not good for me. If I happen to be awake when she first opens her eyes, she will not suffer me to get up, insisting I must take another nap, for she is sure I have had but an indifferent night. When we get to breakfast, if I choose toast, it is ten to one but she finds it gave me the headache the day before, and then I must eat bread and butter; if I chose the latter, it is the same odds but I am obliged to eat Yorkshire muffin, because she knew I was fond of it. Sometimes she turns down my cup herself, after the first dish, because she fancies my hand shakes, and tea is nervous. At other times I am swilled with half pint after half pint, as she conceives I ate too much supper over night, and tea is good for digestion. One time I am poisoned with brandy in my dish, at another with sal-

fron, though she knows I detest them both;—but it is good for me, she says.

If I happen to come home any short time before dinner, I am obliged to swallow down a large dish of chocolate, and to eat a saucer of dry toast, though perhaps I was just come from the coffee-house, to keep the wind off my stomach; and I am in great luck that a pint basin of pease soup, in which a spoon will stand upright is not set before me, by way of whet to my appetite. Though my loving torment, may have thus crammed me like a turkey, till the dinner makes its appearance upon the table, I am obliged to eat whatever she puts on my plate, or she is otherwise the most miserable creature alive, and is sure I am not well, which never fails of introducing the apothecary into the house, almost as soon as the cloth is taken away. And I have more than once, on such an occasion, suffered myself to be drenched with gallons of camomile tea, because no remonstrances could satisfy her but my stomach was out of order. If I presume to help myself at table, my female Sancho Panza physician is ready with her interdict to restrain me. If I call for small beer, perhaps my sweet loving wife thinks water better for me; and should this have been my choice, it is great odds but she orders wine to be mixt with it, as it is too cold for my stomach alone. Do I go to hob or nob in white wine, I am probably told red is better for my nerves; and should I mention red, she would insist white is better for my cold. When the desert appears, though I am in general fond of fruit and sweet-meats, I almost tremble at the sight of it, for as the dear loving soul is fond of these things herself, she thinks she cannot give a stronger proof of her regard for me, than in making me eat what she likes best. Accordingly, if

she takes a peach that appears to her remarkably good, I am forced to finish what she has half eat, though I prefer a nectarine. And however wishfully I may cast my eye upon any glifs or sawcer of sweetmeats, I am forced to resist this temptation, well knowing my loving taster will supply me abundantly with her reliefs of those things which she is sure I am fond of. I must add too, that though the company cannot help smiling when she loads my plate with jellies I dare not refuse my love's kindness, if she declares they are admirable, and she is certain I shall like them.

Her anxiety about my health, and earnestness to please me, acts so vehemently upon her mind, that she is never cool enough to judge what is the best for my constitution, or most agreeable to my taste. She is too intent upon the end, to consult well about the means. Hence my female physician often proves the reverse of the smokers adage of *tabacco hic*; for, if I am well, she'll make me sick; if I am sick she don't make me well. And when she is most industrious to prove her love for me, I am frequently inclined to prefer envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness, to such loving kindness, and could heartily cry out with captain Flath, to the dear mischief, "Oh! damn your love," though I am convinced of the sincerity of it. My great coat, which I number among my best friends, by her means deserves a place among my false ones. In distress either from rain or frost, my good friend does me no service, for my wife often hates a great coat, I am so apt to take cold when I leave it off; and then I must weather every inclemency, and stand every shower of rain without it. When I am in no want of it, my good friend is ready with its kind office; and if my love should take it into her head that I have at any time suffered for want of my great coat, I am forced to groan under the weight of it, even in the hot month of July. Her desire to have me pleased, will not let me see the play I admire, or visit the friends which I like. Should I presume to engage for myself, I shall find myself perhaps one of an agreeable party which she knew before I

should be happy with, in another place. And if I should settle to see a tragedy or a comedy, I admire, I am certainly engaged by her to the new opera; and she has procured tickets herself, to be an agreeable surprize to me. As to the play-houses, indeed, I am afraid I shall never be suffered to enter the doors again, she is so terrified by the modern mohawks, the society for the reformation of manners and the theatres, that she would as soon trust me to a campaign in Flanders, or among the Catawaws and Cherokees in North-America, as at Drury Lane or Covent-Garden.

What adds to my misfortune, is, that there is no hopes of an alteration for the better. You may be sure I have taken much pains to convince her, that though she is the best of women, she is the worst of wives; that I would rather feel the severest effects of hate, than her love. If she was a termagant, I could make her a silent woman, and I could undertake to tame a shrew; but my dear tormentor is so weak, that she weeps without complaining, and pines in private with grief, if I oppose the most trifling circumstance which she judges for my good, or has conceived would please me; she imagines I have no love for her, if she thinks I slight any instance of hers to me. After having suffered her to waste herself almost to a skeleton, I have been reduced to the cruel necessity of giving way to her disposition, and submitting a second time to the go-cart and leading string. And though I am the jest of all my friends, and the sport of both sexes, though I can neither eat, drink, sleep, or wake as I please, though I must appear merry when I am hipt, and well when I am ill, keep company I don't like, and scarce ever see my old acquaintance and friends; though I am to be purged, sweated, and blistered, in perfect health, I cannot fly from my persecutor, as my love is at least equal to hers, and I am content to bear the weakness of her mind, as I am so sensible of the strength of her affection. Therefore when you see a monkey play with a kitten, a boy with a puppy, and miss with her goldfinch, pray remember me.

SELECT MAXIMS OF ANCIENT AND MODERN CELEBRATED AUTHORS.

OF DISSIMULATION.

DISSIMULATION is an evil humour of the mind, and contrary to honesty; it is a countenance ever disagreeing

with the heart's imagination, and a notorious falsifier in whatever it suggesteth. The holiest men in show prove often the hollowest men in heart. *Plotinus*.

Where

Where there is the greatest flourish of virtue, there oftentimes appeareth the greatest blemish of vanity.

It is better to hear an open foe than a dissembling friend. *Pythagoras.*

He who dwelleth with a cripple will easily learn to halt; and he that is conversant with an hypocrite will soon endeavour to dissemble.

The more conversation is seasoned with fine phrases, the less it favoureth of true meaning.

Craft standeth in need of elegant cloathing, whereas truth is not ashamed to be naked.

Dissembling piety is double iniquity.

He that hath often been deceived by the falsehoods of a dissembler, will not believe him when he bringeth a true tale.

Plato.

Dissembling civilities, or French *politesse* are like Circe's charms, which can turn vain-glorious fools into asses; gluttonous fools into swine; merry souls into apes; and proud fools into peacocks.

The flattery of a dissembler is like the melody of the Syrens, who sing not to excite mirth, but to allure to mishap.

The mind of a crafty dissembler is hardened more by practice, than the hands of an artificer by great labour.

*Inopia sub dulci mille venena latent.
Haredis stetus sub persona risus est.*

OF COVETOUSNESS.

COVETOUSNESS is a vice of the soul, whereby a man desireth every good thing that another possesseth, which he will spare no pains to obtain, and in the pursuit will make use of any means lawful or unlawful to attain his end. In a limited sense, this vice is confined to an inordinate love of money; the gain whereof with an ill name is truly a great loss. *Aristotle.*

The characteristick of a covetous man is, to live like a beggar all the days of his life, that he may die rich. *Archimedes.*

A covetous man endureth great toil in gathering riches, extreme danger in keeping them, much law in defending them, and great torment in parting from them.

The covetous minded man going to market for riches purchaseth for himself abundant cares, the envy of his neighbours, peril for his person, damnation for his soul, curses for his children and law for his heirs.

Covetousness is a disease which spreadeth through all veins, is rooted in the bow-

els, and being inveterate cannot be removed. *Tully.*

Covetousness in old men is most monstrous: for what can be more foolish than to increase our stores as we approach our journey's end?

Pertinax the Roman general, being raised to the dignity of Emperor by his army, could not lay aside his accustomed meanness, but continued to divide lettuces and artichokes, that one half might be for his dinner and the other for his supper.

Dionysius the elder, Tyrant of Syracuse, being informed of a certain covetous man who had hidden a great sum of money, commanded him upon pain of death to bring it to him; he obeyed only in part, making a reserve with which he fled into another country and purchased an estate; when Dionysius heard of this, he invited him to return home, and sent him the money he had taken from him, saying, now he knew the use of money he might have it.

The covetous man's chariot is drawn by two horses whose names are *Greedy* and *Holdfast*. *Surely* is his coachman whose whip is *Oppression*. Gold is the bait of sin, and the hook of death. It is likewise aptly compared to fire, a little of which is good to warm us, but too much consumeth us.

A covetous man feeleth the want of that which he hath, as much as of that which he hath not.

OF LIBERALITY.

LIBERALITY is an excellent use of those benefits which God putteth into our hands for the succour of many: this virtue should be united with justice, and ought to be guided by prudence and moderation.

He is properly called a liberal man, who according to his income, giveth freely, when, where, and to whom he should.

He that hath it in his power to give, and giveth not, is an enemy to mankind; and he that promiseth forthwith, but is long before he performs, is a suspicious friend.

Bounty's best honour is to help the poor, and its chief happiness, to live in good men's thoughts. *Aurelius.*

Bounty hath open hands, a zealous heart, constant good will on earth, and a seat prepared in heaven.

Bounty for giving frail and mortal things, received the reward of immortal fame.

Liberality

Liberality and gratitude are the bands of concord. *Cicero.*

He never gives in vain, who gives with cheerfulness and discretion.

A liberal heart will practice benevo-

lence, even though ability (in point of fortune) be wanting.

*Extra fortunam est quicquid donatur amicis;
Quas dederis solas semper habebis opes.*

BIOGRAPHICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS ANECDOTES.

BISHOP BURNET was famous for that absence of thought which constitutes the character of what the French call *l'Etourdie*. All the world knows, that in Paris, about the year 1680, several ladies of quality were imprisoned, on suspicion of poisoning, and, among the rest, the countess of Soissons, niece of cardinal Mazarine, and mother of the famous warrior prince Eugene of Savoy. In the latter end of queen Anne's reign, when the prince came over to England, bishop Burnet, whose curiosity was as eager as that of any women in the kingdom, begged of the duke of Marlborough, that he might have the satisfaction of being in company with a person, whose fame resounded through all Europe. The duke complied with his request, on condition that he would be upon his guard against saying any thing that might give disgust; and he was invited to dine with the prince, and other company, at Marlborough-house. The bishop, mindful of the caution he had received, resolved to sit silent and incognito during the whole entertainment, and might have kept his resolution, had not prince Eugene, seeing him a dignified clergyman, taken it in his head to ask who he was. He no sooner understood that it was Dr. Burnet, of whom he had often heard, than he addressed himself to the bishop, and, among other questions, asked when he was last at Paris? Burnet, flattered by this unexpected address, and still more perplexed by an eager desire to give the satisfaction required, answered with precipitation, that he could not recollect the year, but was at the time when the countess of Soissons was imprisoned. He had scarce pronounced the words, when his eyes meeting those of the duke, he instantly recognized his blunder, and was deprived of all the discretion he had left. He redoubled his error by asking pardon of his highness: He stared wildly around, and seeing the whole company embarrassed, and out of countenance, retired in the utmost confusion.

AS Prior was one day surveying the apartments at Versailles, being shewn the

Victories of Louis, painted by Le Brun, and asked whether the King of England's palace had any such decorations; 'The monuments of my Master's actions,' said he, 'are to be seen every where but in his own house.' The pictures of Le Brun are not only in themselves sufficiently ostentatious, but were explained by inscriptions so arrogant, that Boileau and Racine thought it necessary to make them more simple.

OF Prior's behaviour in the lighter parts of life it is too late to get much intelligence. One of his answers to a boastful Frenchman has been related, and to an impertinent he made another equally proper. During his embassy, he sat at the Opera by a man, who, in his rapture, accompanied with his own voice the principal singer. Prior fell to railing at the performer with all the terms of reproach that he could collect, till the Frenchman, ceasing from his song, began to expostulate with him for his harsh censure of a man who was confessedly the ornament of the Stage. 'I know all that,' says the Ambassador; 'but he sings so loud, that I cannot hear *you*.'

DURING Monmouth's rebellion, in the reign of James the second, a certain person, knowing the humane disposition of one Mrs. Gaunt, whose life was one continued exercise of beneficence, fled to her house, where he was concealed and maintained for some time: hearing, however, of the proclamation, which promised an indemnity and reward to those who discovered such as harboured the rebels, he betrayed his benefactress; and such was the spirit of justice and equity which prevailed among the ministers, that he was pardoned and recompensed for his Treachery, and she was burnt alive for her Cbarity!

LATELY Capt. Troy, of Tower street, London, went to the play Covent Garden theatre. He had not been long seated in the pit, when he missed his watch, and a suspicious looking young man being seated beside

beside him, he challenged him with theft, and threatened to charge him with a considerable if he did not directly deliver up the property. For God's sake, sir, said the young man, say no more about it; giving him at the same time a watch privately out of his own pocket. Capt. Trey was content; the young man in some time disappeared, and after the play the Capt. returned to his lodgings. Judge his astonishment, when upon his entering his bed-chamber, the first object that presented itself was the watch which he imagined to have been lost, and which in fact he had forgotten to take out with him.

A DERVISE, travelling through Tartary, being arrived at the town of Balk, went into the King's palace by mistake, as thinking it to be a public Inn or Caravanfary. Having looked about him for some time, he entered into a long gallery, where he laid down his wallet, and spread his carpet, in order to repose himself upon it after the manner of the Eastern nations. He had not been long in this posture before he was discovered by some of the guards, who asked him what was his business in that place. The Dervise told them he intended to take up his lodging in that Caravanfary. The guards let him know, in a very angry manner, that the house he was in was not a Caravanfary, but the King's palace. It happened that the King himself passed through the gallery during this debate, and smiling at the mistake of the Dervise, asked him how he could possibly be so dull as not to distinguish a Palace from a Caravanfary? Sir, says the Dervise, give me leave to ask your Majesty a question or two. Who were the persons that lodged in this house when it was first built? The King replied, *His Ancestors*. And who, says the Dervise, was the last person that lodged here? The King replied, *His Father*. And who is it, says the Dervise, that lodges here at present? The King told him, *That it was he himself*. And who, said the Dervise, will be here after you? The King answered, *The young Prince, his son*. Ah, Sir, said the Dervise, a house that changes its inhabitants so often, and receives such a perpetual succession of guests, is not a Palace but a Caravanfary.

THE celebrated Drake, having taken the town of St. Domingo in 1586, found that the islanders were grown so desperate, that, rather than see their children fall into the hands of the conqueror, the men were unanimously come to a resolution

to have no connection with their wives.— This is the only instance of the kind ever recorded in history, and a standing monument of Spanish tyranny, which not only shed the blood of the fathers, but prevented the existence of the unborn.

CHARLES V. asked a Spaniard, on his arrival from Mexico, how long the interval was there between summer and winter? *Just as long,* replied he, with great truth and wit, *as it takes to pass out of sunshine into shade.*

WHEN Diego de Velasquez came with four ships, and landed on the eastern point of the Island of Cuba, a Cacique whose name was Hatuey, presided over that district. He was a native of St. Domingo, or Hispaniola, and had retired thither to avoid the slavery to which his countrymen were condemned. Those who could escape the tyranny of the Castilians, had followed him in his retreat, where he formed a little state and ruled in peace. At a distance he observed the Spanish sails, whose approach he dreaded. On the first news he received of their arrival, he called together the bravest Indians, both of his subjects and allies, to animate them to a defence of their liberty; assuring them, at the same time, that all their efforts would be ineffectual, if they did not first render the God of their enemies propitious to them: *Behold him there,* said he, pointing to a vessel filled with gold, *behold that mighty divinity, let us invoke its aid!*

The simple and good natured people easily believed, that gold, for the sake of which so much blood was shed, was the god of the Spaniards. They danced and sang before the rude and unfashionable ore, and resigned themselves wholly to its protection.

But Hatuey, more enlightened, and more suspicious than the other Caciques, assembled them again. 'We must not,' said he to them, 'expect any happiness, so long as the god of the Spaniards remains with us. He is no less our enemy than they. They seek for him in every place, and establish themselves wherever they find him. Were he hidden in the cavities of the earth, they would discover him. Were we to swallow him, they would plunge their hands into our bowels, and drag him out. There is no place, but the bottom of the sea, that can elude their search. When he is no longer among us, doubtless, we shall be forgotten by them.' As soon as he had done speaking, every man brought out his gold, and threw it into the sea.

P O E T R Y.

For the NOVA-SCOTIA MAGAZINE.

M O N O D Y.

Alas, where with her I have stray'd,
I can wander with pleasure, alone!

SHENSTONE.

LEAVE me, my friend, the wild fe-
queter'd wood,
The melancholy brook, the whispering
wind,
The plaintive linnet's note,* and solitude
Suit best the tender anguish of my mind.

Nor wonder at my choice, if fond I stray,
Resign'd to thought, beneath the lonely
grove;
Absent and dull I lounge among the gay;
Their jokes displease,—my heart is with
my love.

Would'st thou with friendly converse sooth
my care,
Praise the mild azure of my Delia's eye;
Dwell on the soften'd graces of my fair,
Nor call it affectation, if I sigh.

Her soft, expressive, melting eyes bespeak
A soul as gentle as her accents flow;
Mild is the dimple on her crimson cheek,
Her auburn tresses shade a neck of snow:

Tall shines the graceful maid—yet ah desist,
In pity cease to praise the matchless fair;
You nurse the anxious sorrows of my
breast,
And only plunge me deeper in despair!

In silence oft, and with a stifled sigh,
An humbly-tender glance I fond have stole;
Then, if I met her soul-subduing eye,
Let lovers tell the transports of my soul!

I thought she pity'd me—ah fool, the
while!
Her lovely eyes a thousand hopes can move;
Despair is banish'd by her beauteous smile;
And ah, how false a flatterer is love!

Here musing, let me pass my pensive day;
Disturb no more, my friend, the sacred
shade;

For here, in happier hours, she deign'd to
stray,
Each object round recalls my fav'rite maid.

On this green bank, where once her limbs
reclin'd,
Romantic let me sigh my hours away,
And in fond raptures gladly call to mind
The gentle things, my charmer deign'd to
say.

Ah why thy melancholy friend persuade
The dull, unfeeling revellers to join?
To quit the image of the beauteous maid,
And drown my cares in turbulence and
wine?

I hate such gross debasements of the soul,
Such false, unsteady joys I scorn to prove;
Full well thou know'st the magic of the
bowl;
And wine deceives and flatters more than
love.

Hast thou not seen a veteran profound
In drunken ostentation count his scars,
His flush'd companions nodding all
around,
Tir'd with a long detail of endless wars?

His uprais'd arm would many an host en-
gage;
Down it descends—nor ev'n the table
spares;
Then, with a sigh, we pity'd prating
age,
And lost the reverence due to silver
hairs.

Hast thou not seen, deceiv'd by fraudulent
wine,
In self-conceit and nauseous bumpers
drown'd,
Ten orators, at once, attempt to shine,
And sputter nonsense and confusion round?

The soul, mistrusting, asks if this be joy! †
Such groveling scenes are poor relief for
frow;
Ev'n while false hopes his heated mind
employ,
Each bloated carter trembles for to-mor-
row.

3 P

Say

* An American bird, remarkable for the dull monotony of its note. † Goldsmith.

Say, should I quit love's pure, refining
 sway,
 To claim a despicable drunkard's praise?
 As soon I'd change the morning's cheerful
 ray
 For the dull crackle of a stubble blaze!

But flattering love ill can my soul with-
 stand;
 My Delia's eyes inspire a brighter flame;
 The gentlest pressure of her lily hand
 Thrills with ethereal transport through my
 frame.

Fallacious *Love*, thou dear deluding power,
 Soften her tender bosom while I sigh;
 Or change me being to a vernal flower,
 Plac'd on her breast to taste of bliss—and
 die!

Fancy, be still; ah why increase my pain?
 Why fondly dwell, invidious on her
 charms?
 Why aid *Despair* to paint some happier
 swain
 Clasp'd to her breast, and folded in her
 arms?

And self-tormentor, *Envy*, shun my breast
 Whate'er my fate, be this my constant
 pray'r;
 In all her wishes let the maid be blest,
 And be her life as happy as she's fair!
 August 16. N.

For the NOVA-SCOTIA MAGAZINE.

THE HONEST BARD.

A SONNET.

I NEVER sung to gain a shilling worth,
 Nor ever gain'd what I expected not;
 Riches and Fame to me are wind and
 earth;
 Health and sweet Liberty are all my lot.
 For these, I sing my Author and my end,
 Praise him who first inspired the lowly
 Muse,—
 Whose votive lays I never can refuse,
 In praise of virtue, or to please a friend.
 No factious libel shall compose my choice,
 No gall-dipt pinion this right hand pollute,
 Nothing incur my enmity—but vice,
 Nor that, but to amend or to refute.
 Thus will I act—and thus devoted be,
 Depend on him alone who form'd me
 free.

THE COMPLAINT.

NOW evening had ting'd the bleak
 mountain with gold;
 The swains were retir'd, and their flocks
 in the fold,
 When Delia complain'd in the woodland
 alone;
 Loud echoes retain'd, and replied to her
 moan;
 The warblers sat list'ning around on the
 spray,
 And the gale breath'd in murmurs as wild
 as her lay.

Ah! my Strephon ('twas thus the fair
 mourner begun)
 How cruel to leave me thus lost, thus un-
 done!
 Your vows like the wind you forget or
 despise;
 You slight my complaint, and are deaf to
 my sighs.
 The frown once alarming hath lost all its
 power;
 The voice once so pleasing is pleasing no
 more.

Though the wood-nymphs invite to their
 flower-woven bowers;
 Though the swains crown my head with a
 garland of flowers;
 Though they swear that my eyes like the
 morning are gay;
 And my song like sweet Philomel's night
 soothing lay;
 Yet while Strephon is absent, dejected,
 dismay'd,
 I droop like a flower that repines in the
 shade.

Ah! return, gentle shepherd, return to my
 prayer!
 But think how I pine in unpitied despair!
 Yet vain all my hopes, all my wishes are
 vain!

While the stream, and the breezes thus
 hear me complain;
 While the birds to my anguish reply from
 the bough,
 From his Delia he wanders, and heeds not
 her woe.

Ah! too easy to trust all the oaths that he
 swore,
 When he vow'd that no nymph had e'er
 charm'd him before!

Be warn'd then, ye fair, nor too rashly be-
 lieve;
 Think the men, when they flatter, but
 want to deceive,
 That the fond easy promise was ne'er
 meant to bind;
 And believe, when they swear, that their
 oaths are all wind.

CHRONICLE.

BRITISH NEWS.

London, July 15.

YESTERDAY the Revolution Society dined at the Crown and Anchor Tavern to celebrate the Anniversary of the French Revolution.

Lord Stanhope having thought proper to decline the Chair, Mr. Rous undertook that arduous office. A number of toasts were drank, suited to the occasion.

Yesterday a number of idle people assembled at the front of Newgate, and with many threats demanded the liberation of Lord George Gordon, that he might participate with his worthy brethren in the celebration of the fourteenth of July.

The mob in a short time became so numerous, that it was deemed necessary to call in the assistance of the military. A body of soldiers were in consequence sent for; and, on their arrival, the mob, who but an instant before threatened Newgate with destruction, immediately dispersed.

Similar proceedings in the neighbourhood of King's Bench Prison, rendered it necessary to send a guard thither.

DISTURBANCES AT BIRMINGHAM.

July 17.

The populace of Birmingham conceiving that a commemoration of French anarchy in this country was an insult to the Majesty of the constitution, and a design to disturb the general and enviable tranquillity, assembled on Thursday before Dadsley's Hotel, where about eighty persons were met for the purpose of celebrating the glorious 14th of July. We lament, however, that what certainly proceeded from so laudable a principle, should end in consequences so unjustifiable; but their resentment being once warmed, soon became inflamed, and the influence communicated to certain religious conventicles, where they conceived an opposite, though not less inflamable spirit, originated.

By eight o'clock, upwards of two thousand persons were collected; their first act was to break all the windows of the hotel—they then proceeded to Dr. Priestley's new meeting house, which they shortly consumed—the old meeting house became next the object of their fury, and shared the same fate. Irritated by one another against the Dissenters, they determined, (una voce) to destroy Dr. Priestley's dwelling-house at Fairhill, one mile from Birmingham. It was accordingly beset a-

bout midnight, and before ten o'clock the following morning, was entirely demolished. We lament to hear that his library and laboratory, with all his philosophical apparatus, were consumed, as well as every other article in the house. The Dr. was apprized of their intentions in time to escape with his family to a house in the neighbourhood. On Friday morning nine persons were found dead in the streets, and several others have been dangerously wounded, by the falling of houses &c. &c.

Many houses belonging to some of the principal dissenters, have been marked for destruction; and, unless the arrival of the military should put an end to the commotion, the consequences may prove fatal to the whole town. Trade is entirely at a stand, and every thing is in the greatest confusion.

Orders were on Saturday sent from the Secretary of State's office to the High Sherriff of the county of Warwick to call forth immediately the *posse comitatis* of the county to quell the commotions at Birmingham.

Lord Aylesford was very active in pacifying the mob at Birmingham, and his endeavours were attended with some success.

At York, Manchester, Derby, Bristol, and some other places where the Revolutionists assembled on the 14th inst, the populace shewed strong inclination to rise, but were prevented by the precautions taken by the magistrats.

RIOTS AT BIRMINGHAM.

Friday Evening, July 15.

This day, after the mob had completed the destruction of Dr. Priestley's house and laboratory, by fire, and also his garden, the Earl of Aylesford, and some other gentlemen, led a great part of the rioters from Sparkbrook to Birmingham, in hopes of dispersing them, but without effect.

A great number, about one o'clock, assembled round the elegant mansion of Mr. John Ryland (formerly the residence of Mr. Baskerville, the celebrated printer,) which had lately been enlarged and beautified at a great expence. The most soothing means were adopted to make them desist—money was even offered them to induce them to retire, but to no purpose; for, first exhausting the contents of the cellar, they set fire to the house and furniture. The conflagration was dreadful!

The rioters being divided into parties,
and

and meditating the destruction of several about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, houses, consternation and alarm seemed to have superseded all other sensations in the minds of the inhabitants; business was given over, and the shops were all shut up. The inhabitants were traversing the streets in crowds, not knowing what to do, and horror was visible in every countenance.

About half past three, the inhabitants were summoned by the bell-man to assemble in the New Church yard; two Magistrates attended in an adjacent room, and swore in several hundred constables, composed of every description of inhabitants, who marched away to disperse the rioters, who were beginning to attack the house of Mr. Hutton, paper merchant, in the High street. This was easily effected, there being not more than half a dozen drunken wretches then assembled on the spot.

From thence they proceeded to disperse the general body, who were employed in the destruction of Mr. Ryland's house.

On entering the walls which surrounded the house, then all in a blaze, a most dreadful conflict took place, in which it is impossible to ascertain the number of wounded. The constables were attacked with such a shower of stones and brick bats as it was impossible to resist. The rioters then possessing themselves of some bludgeons, the constables were entirely defeated, many of them being much wounded; one person was killed, but of which party it is not yet known.

The mob being now victorious, and heated with liquor, every thing was to be dreaded—Several attempts were yet made to amuse them, but in vain. They now exacted money from the inhabitants and at ten o'clock at night, they began and soon effected the destruction of Mr. Hutton's house, in the High street, plundering it of all its property.

From thence they proceeded to the seat of John Taylor, Esq; banker. There, five hundred pounds were offered them to desist, but to no purpose, for they immediately set fire to that beautiful mansion, which, together with its superb furniture, stables, offices, green house, hot house, &c. are reduced to a heap of ruins.

Saturday, July 16.

In the forenoon the following handbill was distributed:

Birmingham, July 16; 1791.

Friends and Fellow Countrymen!

It is earnestly requested, that every true friend to the Church of England, and to the Laws of his Country, will reflect how much a continuance of the present proceedings must injure that church and that

king they are intended to support; and how highly unlawful it is to destroy the rights and properties of our neighbours. And all true friends to the town and trade of Birmingham in particular, are entreated to forbear immediately from all riotous and violent proceedings, dispersing and returning peaceably to their trades and callings, as the only way to do credit to themselves and their cause, and to promote the peace, happiness, and prosperity of this great and flourishing town.

God save the King.

Aylesford	J. Charles
E. Finch	R. Spencer
Robert Lawley	H. Grefswold Lewis
Robert Lawley, jun.	Charles Curtis
R. Moland	Spencer Madan
Edward Carver	W. Villers
John Brooke	

Twelve at noon.

The handbill has not produced the salutary effects which were wished.

This moment, Mr. Hutton's country house, about two miles from Birmingham, is on fire. Universal despondency has taken place. People of all professions are moving their goods, some to places of private security, others into the country.—Plunder is now the motive of the rioters. No military force is nearer than Derby, and nothing but military force can suppress them.

Eight o'clock in the evening.

The rioters are now demolishing the beautiful house of Mr. G. Humphreys, and that of William Russell, Esq; a little further on in the Oxford road. The shops are still kept shut up, and no military are yet arrived, dreadful depredations are expected in the course of this night! The remains of several poor wretches who had got drunk, and were burnt to death in Mr. Ryland's cellar, have been dug out; one so much burnt, that he was recognised only by the buckle in one of his shoes; what could be collected of his remains have just been taken away in a basket. Another has been taken from the ruins of Doctor Priestley's house, who is supposed to have been killed by a fall of some of the buildings.

The people who demolished Mr. Humphreys' house laboured in a cool and orderly a manner as if they had been employed by the owner at so much per day.

Sunday, eleven o'clock in the morning.

No military yet arrived. Last night the people of Birmingham were trembling spectators of the tremendous conflagration of Moseley Hall, the property of John Taylor, Esq; but in the occupation of Lady Carhampton.

Fortunately, Lady Carhampton, who is blind, was removed to place of safety by Sir

Sir Robert Lawley, who took her in his own carriage to Canwell.

About two o'clock this morning a most awful scene presented itself! four dreadful fires within a mile of each other! It is certain that the house of Wm. Ruffel, Esq. and that of Mr. Hawkins, of Mosley, shared the same fate of Mosley Hall.

One o'clock at noon.

Their savage impetuosity is not in the least abated; at Mosley Hall they are now killing ducks, geese, and turkeys, which, half broiled on the ruins of that once noble edifice, they devour with brutish ferocity.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

Between eight and nine o'clock on Sunday evening, the rioters assembled at King's Norton, near Birmingham, to the number of 7000. They destroyed a chapel and some houses belonging to the dissenters.—The insurgents consist of mechanics of all descriptions, many of whom carry fire arms.

The incendiaries have formed themselves into two divisions: one to demolish the dissenters' houses in town, and the other those in the environs.

They have precluded all carriages from passing and re-passing, unless the coachmen wear blue cockades. The Mail Coaches were not excepted.

On Saturday there was a total stagnation of business, and the shop keepers were using every effort to secure their property.

The goals have been broke open, and all the prisoners liberated.

Another express arrived in London last night, states, that between Sunday night and Monday morning, a party of the military had arrived; that notwithstanding their exertions to stop the disturbances, the rioters had made a very formidable opposition, and killed many; that numbers having been soldiers and in possession of fire arms; the troops had suffered a repulse; but having received a considerable reinforcement, they were about to rally and renew the attack against the malcontents; who were actuated by the greatest fury.

The letter adds—'The riots are, if possible, more alarming than those experienced in London in the year 1780; and God only knows the consequences.'

The following Address was circulated among the rioters, without making any good effect:

Birmingham, Sunday, July 17, 1791.

Important Information to the Friends of Church and King.

Friends and Fellow Churchmen,

Being convinced you are unacquainted that the great losses which are sustained

by your burning and destroying of the houses of so many individuals, will eventually fall upon the country at large, and not upon the persons to whom they belonged; we feel it our duty to inform you, that the damages already done, upon the best computation that can be made, will amount to upwards of

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS; the whole of which enormous sum must be charged upon the respective parishes, and paid out of the rates:

We therefore, as your friends, conjure you immediately to desist from the destruction of any more houses; otherwise the very proceedings which your zeal for shewing your attachment to the Church and King, will inevitably be the means of seriously injuring innumerable families who are hearty supporters of Government, and bring on an addition of taxes, which yourselves and the rest of the friends of the Church, will for years feel a very grievous burthen.

This, we assure you, was the case in London when there were so many houses and public buildings destroyed in the year 1780, and, you may rely on it, will be so here on the present occasion.

And we must observe to you, that any further violent proceeding will more offend your King and country, than serve the cause of him and church.

Fellow Churchmen,

As you love your King, regard his laws, and restore peace.

God save the King.

Aylesford	J. Charles
E. Finch	B. Spencer
Robert Lawley	H. Grefswold Lewis
Robert Lawley, jun.	Charles Curtis
R. Moland	Spencer Madan
W. Digby	Ed. Palmer
Ed. Carver	W. Villers
John Brooke	W. Willis Mason.

To put the public in possession of every fact relative to this important business we find ourselves under the necessity of giving them that inflammatory and treasonable handbill which was circulated by the Presbyterian party on Wednesday last in the following words:

My Countrymen!

'The second year of Gallic Liberty is nearly expired; at the commencement of the third, on the 14th of this month it is devoutly to be wished that every enemy to civil and religious despotism, would give his sanction to the majestic common cause, by public celebration of the anniversary.

'Remember, that on the 14th of July, the Bastille, that high altar and castle of despotism fell!

'Remember

* Remember the enthusiasm, peculiar to the cause of liberty, with which it was attacked!

* Remember that generous humanity that taught the oppressed groaning under the weight of insulted rights, to save the lives of the oppressors!

* Extinguish the mean prejudices of nations! and let your numbers be collected, and sent as a free will offering to the national assembly.

* But, is it possible to forget that your parliament is venal; your minister hypocritical; your clergy legal oppressors; the reigning family extravagant; the crown of a great personage too weighty for the head that wears it; too weighty for the people who gave it; your taxes partial and oppressive; your representatives a venal junto upon the sacred rights of property, religion and freedom.

* But on the 14th of this month prove to the sycophants of the day that you reverence the Olive Branch; that you will sacrifice to public tranquility *still* the majority shall exclaim—

* *The peace of slavery is worse than the War of Freedom!*—of the day let Tyrants beware!

Can any man of honest principles—can any loyal subject—can even the boldest of our anti-ministerial senators read this without shuddering at the dreadful scene it was meant to realize? **REBELLION** is featured on its countenance—and **REPUBLICANISM** centured in its bosom. He who wishes to defend his property—he who loved the Constitution under which that property flourished—must no doubt have taken the alarm at so daring a libel against all that was dear to Englishmen.

The public however was determined before they proceeded to violence, to have some further proof, of the intention of those Commemoration Men. This hand-bill might be a forgery,—or might be an insidious scheme to raise a mob for the purpose of plunder; they therefore waited till they heard what was said at table—how the political complexion of the company would manifest itself, and whether any thing more than a mere scene of commemoration conviviality was intended.

They had their suspicions, after which the first course, were realised, by the following toast being drank:

DESTRUCTION TO THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT—AND THE KING'S HEAD UPON A CHARGER.

The inhabitants, and they were almost to a man respectable house-keepers and manufacturers, who waited outside the

Hotel to watch the motions of the revolutionists within, no sooner was this reasonable toast made known to them, than Loyalty swift as lightning shot through their minds, and a kind of electrical patriotism animated them to instance vengeance. They rushed into this conventicle of treason, and before the second course was well laid upon the table, broke the windows and glasses, pelted and insulted those modern reformers, and obliged them to seek for safety in an immediate flight.

The Birmingham Gazette, received by this day's Post, says, 'About five hours after this paper went to press, three troops of the 15th regiment of Dragoons reached this town from Nottingham.'

July 20.

BY THE COACH LAST NIGHT.

It gives us particular pleasure to announce to the public, that peace is restored to Birmingham, the tumult having subsided on Sunday night in that town, from which the mob had gone in a large body toward Worcestershire early in the morning. It was believed that a party of them had gone in pursuit of Dr. Priestley.

A King's Messenger being dispatched to Nottingham on Saturday, arrived there at eight o'clock on Sunday morning, with an order for Elliott's Light Horse, who were quartered there, to go with all expedition to Birmingham. A detachment of 90 immediately set off, and got there at ten at night, covered with dust and much fatigued. A Magistrate immediately attended, and the Riot Act was read. The troops then rested for the night at the Swan-Inn, and in the morning took their route in pursuit of the rioters, for Worcestershire, where they were obliged to wait until a Magistrate of that county could be procured to read the Riot Act there, which was shortly after done.

But the pursuit was fruitless, no rioters were to be found—nor any intelligence had which way they had bent their course. All seemed quiet, and the general idea was, that they had dispersed, the principal purposes of their resentment being accomplished.

The object of the body of colliers who came to Birmingham was certainly plunder. They went from house to house begging money, and where they met with a refusal, they broke the windows. This the rioters disclaimed, and the consequence was, that these black-looking auxiliaries were obliged to retire.

The moment the Light Horse appeared, there was shouting in the town, and several houses began to illuminate, but this was stopped very prudently, and all remained

remained in perfect tranquillity yesterday morning.

In the course of Sunday, several more houses than those mentioned in our last, belonging to the Dissenters, were pulled down, the particulars attending which we have not yet received. The meeting house at Ringwood was among the number.

Near 30 of the rioters were buried in Mr. Ryland's cellars, where they were regaling themselves, when the walls of his house fell in, many of whom perished before they could be got out.

It is matter of astonishment, that with such a sudden phrenzy so much method should attend. Riots are generally attended by a kind of fury and confusion that sometimes knows no distinction of persons, and that rejoices in the increase of its numbers. But in the present instance, a particular set of men, whose principles were inimical to the welfare of the Constitution, were marked out as objects of popular vengeance—and with such regularity was this accomplished, that none others felt the evil effects of the tumults.

By a private letter received from Birmingham yesterday morning, we are informed, that Dr. Priestley only saved himself from the fury of the mob by half an hour's notice. That his plate had been previously sent off to a friend's house, and that this and a private box of manuscripts are all he has saved of his property.

The Insurgents of Birmingham had made a gridiron of immense size, which they brought to Doctor Priestley's house, where they said they meant to broil an anti-constitutional philosopher, by the blaze of his own writings, and light the fire with the *Rights of Man*.

Birmingham, July 21.

The tumult is entirely subsided—business is resumed as usual, and there is not a doubt but the rioters are totally dispersed.

The following is a correct list of the houses destroyed:

Dwelling-houses burned.

- Dr. Priestley's, Fair-hill,
- Mr. John Ryland's, Birmingham,
- J. Taylor's, Esq; Broddestly,
- William Ruffel's, Esq; on the London road
- Mosley-Hall, some miles from Birmingham
- Mr. Hobson's, near Mosley,
- Mr. Harwood's, Mosley,
- Mr. Hutton's, near Washford Heath
- Mr. Cox's, Woodstock.

Meeting-houses burned.

- New Meeting, Birmingham,
- Old Meeting, ditto
- A Meeting, King's Heath.

Houses gutted.

- Mr. Hutton's Birmingham,
- Mr. George Humphrey's, Spark-Brook,
- Mr. Hawke's, Mosley.

Some little injury at Hay-Hall; a few windows broken, and some small damages done elsewhere.

It does not appear, that more than five or six persons lost their lives in the ruins of Mr. Ryland's cellar.

July 30.

A letter received yesterday from Birmingham mentions, that since the beginning of this week several persons who had attempted to take shelter in the coal pits at Wednesbury, had been apprehended, and have proved to be some of the most active of the rioters. What is more extraordinary, a guard is put over the principal of these subterranean regions, to hinder the admission of any persons except the workmen, till the present troublesome investigation has subsided.

According to letters from Dublin, the celebration of the French Revolution on the 14th instant, passed over without the least disturbance, the inhabitants being obliged to illuminate their houses.

Aug. 6.

A letter from Portsmouth, dated August 2, says:—'Ever since orders for discontinuing pressing were received, the cruizers of the grand fleet, as well as the fleet itself, have been in a state of total inactivity, and the report now is, that they will begin paying off in a few days. Seamen, able and ordinary, however, still continue to be received agreeably to the proclamation; and many people are of opinion that the ships will not be dismantled till a storm, now gathering near a neighbouring kingdom, is blown over. This much is certain, that whatever turn the affair between Russia and the Porte may take, no English fleet can this year go into the Baltic.'

COPY of a LETTER from Dr. PRIESTLEY to the INHABITANTS of the TOWN of BIRMINGHAM.

My late Townsmen and Neighbours,

AFTER living, with you eleven years, in which you had uniform experience of my peaceful behaviour, in my attention to the quiet studies of my profession, and those of philosophy; I was far from expecting the injuries which I and my friends have lately received from you. But you have been misled by hearing the Dissenters, and particularly the Unitarian Dissenters, continually railed at, as enemies to the present Government, in Church and State. You have been led to consider any injury done to us as a meritorious thing; and not having been better informed

informed, the means were not attended to. When the object was right, you thought the means could not be wrong. By the discourses of your teachers, and the exclamations of your superiors in general, drinking confusion and damnation to us (which is well known to have been their frequent practice,) your bigotry has been excited to the highest pitch, and nothing having been said to you to moderate your passions, but every thing to inflame them; hence, without any consideration on your part, or on theirs, who ought to have known, and taught you better—you were prepared for every species of outrage; thinking that whatever you could do to spite and injure us, was for the support of Government, and especially the Church. In destroying us, you have been led to think, you did God and your country the most substantial service.

Happily, the minds of Englishmen have a horror of murder, and therefore, you did not, I hope, think of that; though, by your clamorous demanding of me at the Hotel, it is probable that at that time, some of you intended me some personal injury. But what is the value of life, when every thing is done to make it wretched?

In many cases, there would be greater mercy in dispatching the inhabitants, than in burning their houses. However, I infinitely prefer what I feel from the spoiling of my goods, to the disposition of those who have misled you.

You have destroyed the most truly valuable and useful apparatus of philosophical instruments that perhaps any individual, in this or any other country, was ever possessed of, in my use of which I annually spent large sums, with no pecuniary view whatever, but only in the advancement of science, for the benefit of my country, and of mankind. You have destroyed a library corresponding to that apparatus, which no money can re-purchase, except in a long course of time.—But what I feel far more, you have destroyed manuscripts, which have been the result of the laborious study of many years, and which I shall never be able to recompose; and this has been done to one who never did, or imagined, you any harm.

I know nothing more of the hand-bill, which is said to have enraged you so much, than any of yourselves, and I disapprove of it as much; though it has been made the ostensible handle of doing infinitely more mischief than any thing of that nature could possibly have done. In the celebration of the French Revolution, at which I did not attend, the company assembled on the occasion only expressed

their joy in the emancipation of a neighbouring nation from tyranny, without initiating any desire of a thing more than such an improvement of our own Constitution, as all sober citizens, of every persuasion, have long wished for. And though, in answer to the gross and unprovoked calumnies of Mr. Madan and others, I publicly vindicated my principles as a Dissenter, it was only with plain and sober argument and with perfect good humour. We are better instructed in the mild and forbearing spirit of Christianity, that ever to think of having recourse to violence; and can you think any such conduct as yours any recommendation of your religious principles, in preference to ours?

You are still more mistaken, if you imagine that this conduct of yours has any tendency to serve your cause, or to prejudice ours. It is nothing but reason and argument that can ever support any system of religion. Answer our arguments, and your business is done; but your having recourse to violence, is only a proof that you have nothing better to produce. Should you destroy myself, as well as my house, library, and apparatus, ten more persons, of equal or superior spirit and ability, would instantly rise up. If those ten were destroyed, an hundred would appear; and believe me, that the Church of England, which you now think you are supporting, has received a greater blow by this conduct of yours, than I and all my friends have ever aimed at it.

Besides, to abuse those who have no power of making resistance is equally cowardly and brutal, peculiarly unworthy of Englishmen, to say nothing of Christianity, which teaches us to do as we would be done by. In this business, we are the sheep, and you the wolves. We will preserve our character, and hope you will change yours. At all events, we return you blessings for curses; and pray that you may soon return to that industry, and those sober manners, for which the inhabitants of Birmingham were formerly distinguished. I am,

Your sincere Well-wisher,

J. PRIESTLEY.

London, July 19, 1791.

P. S. The account of the first Toast at the Revolution Dinner in *The Times* of this morning, can be nothing less than a malicious lie. To prove this, a list of the Toasts, with an account of all the proceedings of the day, will soon be published. The first of them was, *The King and the Constitution*, and they were all such as the friends of Liberty, and the true principles of the Constitution, would approve.