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THE CANADIAN MAGAZINE.

LITERARY REPOSITORY.

No. XII. JUNE, 1824. Vol. II.

Remarks on the Union of the ATLANTIC and PACIFIC OCEANS; by a Canal across the Isthmus of DARIEN or PANAMA.

The unprecedented exertions which the different nations of Europe have been compelled to make for self-preservation during the late years of a long and bloody war, have reduced them to such a state of exhaustion, that it requires the employment of every means in their power to arouse their energy and call forth their national vigour. It is to commerce alone that we can look for the necessary renovating remedy; it is from an extension and increased activity of its pursuits that we can expect a restoration of that energy, and a replenishing of those exhausted finances, which have been so freely expended, both in repelling aggression and crushing despotic tyranny. Many years have elapsed since there was a period so favourable for the application of national power to this purpose; and this circumstance, along with the necessity for such an application, gives a sufficient reason for noticing every object upon which national power or wealth could be with propriety expended for the promotion of commerce.

Of all the improvements which would operate in the advancement of commercial pursuits, there is perhaps not one of such magnitude in its effects, or in whose benefits so many nations would share, as that one alluded to in the title to this article. If a canal of a sufficient size was cut between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans—Europe, Asia, and America, would all share in the advantages of it. There is perhaps not a colony or settlement in either of these three quarters of the globe, where commerce is known but what would have it increased by such an improvement; and in many countries where the business of the merchant is now unknown, was this improvement once made, resources and talent would soon be directed to mercantile pursuits, and these countries rise, by rapid strides, to a state of importance in the scale of nations.

The mighty advantages that would result to Great-Britain from the accomplishment of this great geographical desideratum are so apparent, that we need not stop to enumerate them. Every co-operation on the part of the United States, might be reasonably expected, as no nation in the world would reap more benefit from the junction of the two oceans than they. The distance from Philadelphia to Canton is 16,000 statute miles, but by this plan could be so much abridged that the voyage might be performed in 63 days. The South American States, now fast progressing to hold a name and a rank among other nations, would by this canal have their commerce opened with every quarter of the world, and a great mutual benefit accrue from it. The promptitude and avidity with which the different European nations entered into the Darien Company scheme, (which will be noticed hereafter,) clearly demonstrates that they felt a deep interest in it, and were all impressed with a conviction of the importance of such a canal. But if we wish for farther proof of the important light in which this subject has been viewed; it is only necessary to observe the reiterated attempts which England is still making to discover a passage by which the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans are connected; and which evinces her firm conviction of the importance of such a navigable communication. And, from the same view, we may derive a strong argument in favour of opening such a canal; for if a north-west passage were discovered, it is extremely doubtful if it could be rendered available for the purposes of commerce, while we have the most ample proofs that nature has not interposed any insurmountable obstacle to making a navigable passage across the Isthmus of Darien which would answer all the desired intentions; and it deserves to be mentioned; that, from the most authentic information yet obtained, there is little doubt that this canal might be made for nearly the same sum as has been expended in north-west expeditions.

From our subsequent remarks, it will be seen that the cutting a canal across the Isthmus of Darien is not the mere dream of a speculative projector; on the contrary, the concurring testimony of competent judges, who have studied the subject, all tends to prove that it is not only practicable but easy of execution, and it will also be seen, although hitherto neglected, the magnitude of its importance has been observed and represented by eminent characters long since. True, the grossest ignorance appears to prevail respecting those vast regions which join the Isthmus of Darien: it was not till lately known that they are capable of supporting with ease the surplus population of Europe. Owing to the selfish policy of old Spain, every circumstance which could tend to awaken the curiosity or cupidity of European governments towards these inexhaustible sources of wealth and commerce has been carefully concealed. The country has been kept in a state of slavish ignorance, which would not have existed under an enlightened and free government; or if this canal had been in operation, which would have opened an intercourse between their territory and the rest of the world. But notwithstanding the impenetrable veil in which these regions have been wrapt, some intelligent and enterprising travellers have found their way into them: from their writings, we are enabled to form an opinion of the practicability of this under-

taking, and from whose narratives we shall quote whatever appears to us pertinent to the subject.

From the researches of Mr. Bryan Edwards, the celebrated historian of the West-Indies, we have some information respecting a canal across the Isthmus of Darien. It appears he wrote an able memoir upon this subject which was, we believe, submitted to the British government, and which contains a mass of information relative to the value and practicability of such an undertaking. Previous to his time, the Spaniards had represented the project of a canal here as impracticable, from the intervention of inaccessible ridges of rocky mountains; but he revealed the secret, and showed the scheme as perfectly within the compass of human exertion to accomplish. Mr. William Davis Robinson* has also written upon the subject of joining the two great oceans by a canal. This last writer had ample opportunities of examining how far such a work was practicable, and he appears to have availed himself of them. He has devoted a long chapter, of 70 or 80 pages in his book to this part of his subject, and we shall offer no apology for extracting largely from his excellent remarks. During the administration of the late Mr. Pitt, several projects were offered to him, all tending to show the feasibility of cutting a canal across the Isthmus of Darien, the deep penetration of that illustrious statesman saw and duly appreciated the value of such an undertaking; and although the continual involvement of Great Britain in other matters during his time, prevented her entering upon any measures to promote this plan, Mr. Pitt, to his particular friends, talked of the scheme in the warmest terms of approbation. Mr. Jeffries, Geographer to the King, has given his unequivocal testimony in favour of the immense advantages navigation would derive from the accomplishment of such a project. The intelligent Alberoni, minister to His Majesty of Spain, has done the same thing, and states, that by having such a canal, "merchandize would arrive at Panama in a straight line from Manilla, and then, by means of a very short canal, (which had been solicited for a long time by our merchants,) the cargoes would afterwards easily be conveyed to the mouth of the Chagre, where they would be embarked for Europe." The scientific Humboldt has united his valuable opinion in favour of the same thing, and shows in the clearest light, not only the practicability but the great ease with which such a scheme could be accomplished. We find the Edinburgh Review for January, 1810, strongly advocating this measure, and eagerly anticipating the accomplishment of the plan as a consequence of the emancipation of South-America, in the following words: "In enumerating, however, the advantages of a commercial nature which would assuredly spring from the emancipation of South-America, we have not yet noticed the greatest, perhaps of all—the mightiest event probably in favour of the peaceful intercourse of na-

* The title of this interesting work is, "Memoirs of the Mexican Revolution, including a Narrative of the Expedition of General Xavier Mina; to which are annexed some observations on the practicability of opening a commerce between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, through the Mexican Isthmus, in the Province of Aaxaca, and the Lake of Nicaragua, and on the vast importance of such commerce to the civilized world." By William Davis Robinson, 2 vols.

tions which the physical circumstances of the globe present to the enterprise of man—I mean the formation of a navigable canal across the Isthmus of Panamá—the junction of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It is remarkable that this magnificent undertaking, pregnant with consequences so important to mankind, and about which so little is known in this country, is so far from being a romantic and chimerical project, that it is not only practicable but easy. In addition to all these, we find the unfortunate but enthusiastic Patterson, who intended to dedicate his life and fortune to the accomplishment of this work, taking the following grand prospective view of its consequences in one of his letters with the Darien Company: and where we see the anticipation of results which none but a vigorous mind, a sound judgment, united to a warm imagination, could have made; but wild as they are, there is little doubt but such consequences would be realized by the accomplishment of this scheme. “Trade,” says he, “will increase trade, and money will beget money, and the trading world shall need no more to want work for their hands, but will rather want hands for their work. This door of the seas, and the key of the universe, with any thing of a reasonable management, will of course enable its proprietors to give laws to both oceans, and to become the arbitrators of the commercial world, without being liable to the fatigues, expenses, and dangers; or contracting the guilt and blood of Alexander and Cæsar. In our empires that have been any thing universal, the conquerors have been obliged to seek out and court their conquests from afar; but the universal force and influence of this attractive magnet, is such as can much more effectually bring empire home to its proprietor’s doors.”

But it is unnecessary to multiply evidences in proof of the practicability and value of an undertaking the importance of which has been acquiesced in by so many men of talents, and approved of by so many nations; we shall therefore return to the valuable publication by Mr. Robinson above mentioned, where we will find many circumstances detailed respecting this canal, which we believe will be new to a great number of our readers;

Mr. R. in the outset of his remarks on this subject, informs us that there are no less than nine different cuts which have been spoken of at different times through this isthmus; although none have as yet been undertaken. We are not furnished with an enumeration of these, but are told that some of them are impracticable. This is followed by a far more interesting piece of intelligence, and which ought to silence all who express doubts of the possibility of accomplishing this undertaking: for it appears to him that the project is not only practicable, but has in fact been accomplished to a certain extent; *Large canoes have passed across from the one ocean to the other, as we find by the following extract, and which puts an end to all doubts of finding levels suitable for running a canal.*

“More than two centuries ago,” says Mr. R. “the Spanish government knew that in the Province of Choco, in New-Granada, the cutting of a canal of a few leagues, would effect a navigable communication between the two oceans; and that during the rainy season, when the vallies of Choco were overflowed, canoes passed, with pro-

duce from one sea to the other. But they prohibited, under pain of death, to those concerned, all communication whatever by that route. A monk, (curate of Novilla,) ignorant of the interdiction, or pretending to be so, assembled all the Indians of his parish, and in a short time cut a canal between the rivers Atrato and San Juan, since called the Canal of the Raspadura. Large canoes (bongos) loaded with cocoa actually passed through it. This communication was speedily stopped by order of government, and the unlucky curate, with great difficulty obtained a pardon." In 1819, Mr. Robinson found, on inquiry, that this canal was still in existence, and that, although choked up with bushes, sand, earth, &c. so as to be at that time impassible, it could at little expense of time and labour, be re-opened again. The distance between the navigable waters of the Atrato and the San Juan is only thirteen leagues, and the whole across from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, following the course of the Ravines, does not exceed 80 leagues. There are several other routes between the waters of the above rivers where a canal might be cut, much shorter than the direction in which that of the Raspadura passes. One of these passes through the same province, by the river Naipi, which is a branch of the Atrato. Were this direction to be followed the cut would have to run from the head of the navigable waters of the Naipi to the Pacific Ocean, which is only a distance of twenty-four miles, and would disembogue at Cupica. This writer states, that "the country here is a dead level, and a canal might therefore be cut there without difficulty. The course of the Naipi is, stated to be very circuitous, and makes the distance of the navigation a few leagues longer than by the route of the Raspadura; but the circumstance of the waters of the Naipi being so near the port of Cupica, gives to this route an important advantage. The ignorance of the accurate topography of that part of the country precludes us from judging with certainty of the comparative merits of these two routes; and it is not improbable that a better acquaintance with the state of the country may discover other directions in which a communication might be formed preferable to either of them. But what is already known with certainty justifies the assertion, that a communication between the two oceans may be established for the navigation of boats, and it is possible that at a future period, when population becomes dense, and a free trade shall be permitted between the inhabitants of the Atlantic and Pacific shores, the province of Choco may afford a channel for the navigation of larger vessels.

Beside these two, we find other places of the South-American isthmus, where it has been proposed to effect a junction of the two oceans, as will be seen from the following extract from the work above quoted.

"In looking over the excellent maps of Melish and Doctor Robinson, we perceive that the river called San Juan discharges its waters into the Atlantic Ocean in the province of Costa Rica, about the latitude of 10 deg. 45 min. north. This noble river, has its source in the lake Nicaragua. The bar at its mouth has been generally described, as not having more than 12 feet water on it. About 16 years ago, an enterprising Englishman, who casually visited the river, examined the

different passages over the bar, and discovered one which, although narrow, would admit a vessel drawing *twenty-five feet*. It is said that some of the traders to that coast from Honduras, are likewise acquainted with the passage just mentioned, but it has never been laid down in any map; and if the Spanish government had been informed of it, they would, conformably to their usual policy, have studiously concealed it. After the bar of the San Juan is crossed, there is excellent and safe anchorage in four and six fathoms water. It is stated that there are no obstructions to the navigation of the river but what may be easily removed, and at present large brigs and schooners sail up the river into the lake. This important fact has been communicated to us by several traders. The waters of the lake, throughout its whole extent, are from three to eight fathoms in depth.

"In the lake are several beautiful islands, which with the country around its borders, form a romantic and most enchanting scenery. At its western extremity is a small river which communicates with the lake of *Leon*, distant about eight leagues. From the latter, as well as from lake *Nicaragua*, there are some small rivers which flow into the Pacific Ocean. The distance from the lake of *Leon* to the ocean is about *thirteen miles*; and from lake *Nicaragua* to the gulph of *Papagayo*, in the Pacific Ocean is *twenty-one miles*. The ground between the two lakes and the sea is a dead level. The only inequalities seen are some isolated conical hills of volcanic origin."

"There are two places," says the same author, "where a canal could be cut with the greatest facility: the one from the coast of *Nicoya* (or as it is called in some of the maps, *Caldera*) to the lake of *Leon*, a distance of 13 or 15 miles; the other from the gulph of *Papagayo* to the lake of *Nicaragua*, a distance of about 21 or 25 miles. The coast of *Nicoya* and the gulph of *Papagayo* are both free from shoals or rocks, particularly in the gulph, the shore of which is so bold that a frigate may anchor within a few yards of the beach."

Before we enter upon an account of the celebrated adventures of Patterson and the Darien Company, it may not be amiss to observe, that although Spain has always manifested her accustomed jealousy against the interference of foreign nations in this affair, she has not on all occasions maintained the same indifference to the project herself. When her commerce with the South American continent was at its greatest extent, she could hardly fail to see that the opening this communication would be one of the most important benefits she could confer upon her trade in that quarter, and her merchants repeatedly solicited the assistance of government to effect it. While during some periods her councils have been directed by men of illiberal spirits and pusillanimous minds, who thought the best means for her safety was to involve all her proceedings in concealment, on other occasions, the helm of public affairs has been under the guidance of more enlightened characters, who saw and felt the immense benefits which would arise from this undertaking; and under some of these last description, "the Spanish government have at different times endeavoured to obtain accurate surveys of this isthmus," and for that purpose engineers of eminence and capacity have been employed. Some of the reports which were officially made on this subject con-

tain the most extravagant statements, such as, that by cutting a canal of about twelve leagues, following the course of the Ravines at the foot of the mountains, a passage may be opened as wide as the gut of Gibraltar, from the Bay of Panama to the navigable waters of Cruces or Chagre. Other reporters have stated that such water communication cannot be accomplished but by locks and tunnels passing over an elevation of at least 400 feet!" with many other absurdities, whose inaccuracy has been proved by a farther and more intimate knowledge of the country. But notwithstanding the wide difference between these reports, and also between others who have surveyed the country, there is one point in which they all appear to coincide, namely, that a good road might be made from Panama to the head of the navigation on the river Cruces, on which property of any description might be transported; and as the distance between these places is only *twenty-three* miles, this place affords the shortest route between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans which has yet been discovered, and where a communication could be made at the least expense.

The discovery of a practicable passage across this isthmus, although revived by this publication of Mr. Robinson's, and our knowledge of it much enlarged, is not new. As far back as 1698, we find Mr. Patterson in one of his plans for the Darien Company, has the following remarks.

"In our passage over land from Caledonia harbour, we have six leagues of a very good way to a place called Swatee. from Swatee to Tubugantee we have between two and three leagues not so passable, by reason of the turnings and windings of the river, which must often be passed and repassed; but a little industry would make this part of the way as passable as any of the rest. At Tubugantee there is ten feet at high water, and so not less, in the river till it fall into the gulph of Balona, which enters the south. This is called the pass of Tubugantee. The other pass, being that of Cacarica, lies beyond the bottom of the gulph of Uraba, in about six degrees north. Its distance from the harbour of Caledonia I reckon thus, viz. To Cape Tiburoon, eight or nine leagues; from thence to the bottom of the gulph, 25 or 30 leagues, and from the bottom of the gulph they go up the great river; about 12 leagues from thence they pass up a river on the right hand called Cacarica, for about six leagues, and land at a place where there is a narrow neck of land, not above two English miles broad, of good passable way. After passing this neck of land, they came to the navigable part of a river passing into the South Sea, called Paya; from thence they have 14 or 15 leagues into the South Sea."

About 35 leagues to the westward of Caledonia harbour there is another pass, from the river Conception on the north, to that called Ciapo on the South Sea, but this Mr. P. represents as circuitous and difficult.

Mr. Patterson, an obscure Scotchman, without friends, fortune or patronage, had the talents to devise and render acceptable, a project not surpassed by the splendid genius of Columbus; and to his indefatigable exertions are owing the formation of the once famous DA-

RIEN COMPANY. The failure of this scheme, and the petty jealousy which prevented its not being restored, may be justly considered as one of the grossest oversights in national policy which ever was committed. Of the birth of this gentleman, nothing is known; that he was a man of talents is evinced from the project which he formed, and the acceptable manner in which it was received. It is to be presumed he had received a liberal education, as appears from the stile and subject of his writings, and from his having been bred to the Church. Having a strong propensity to visit foreign countries, he made his appointment to the ministry subservient to his wishes in this respect, and, under pretence of converting the Indians, he left his native country and set out for America. On his arrival here, he became acquainted with Captain Dampier and a Mr. Wafer, both known to the public, the first as the publisher of his voyages, and the other of his travels in those regions where the separation between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans is the narrowest. In addition to the information he obtained from these gentlemen, he reaped much valuable knowledge of the country from the accounts he received from the untutored Indians in his intercourse with them; and it was to these last he was chiefly indebted for that knowledge of the country which enabled him to lay the foundation of enterprizes, and arrange plans for their accomplishment, which, if they had been effected, would have produced consequences of the greatest magnitude and importance to mankind in both hemispheres. He likewise drew part of his information from some of the old Buccaneers, with whom he became acquainted, who, after surviving their glories and their crimes, still, in the extremity of age and misfortune, recounted with transport the case with which they had passed and repassed, from one sea to the other, sometimes in hundreds together, and driving strings of mules before them, loaded with the plunder of friends and foes. Patterson, in addition to this mass of intelligence, examined the isthmus, and found it in possession of a tribe of Indians, who had hitherto maintained it by continual warfare against the Spaniards; and that it was not only the proper place for opening a communication between the seas, as being possessed by no European country, but was moreover better adapted for this by nature than any other spot in the Western Continent which had hitherto been discovered. Gold was seen by him in some places of this isthmus, but this was an object he regarded not at the time, because far greater was in his eye the removing of distances, the drawing nations nearer to each other, the preservation of the valuable lives of seamen, and the saving of freight, so important to merchants, and of time, so important to them, and to an animal whose life is of so short duration as that of man.

Having thus ascertained the practicability of effecting it, he formed the project of settling a great and powerful colony on this hitherto neglected spot; and that not by chance, as other colonies have been formed, but upon a regular system, and under the ample protection of whatever government should accept of the project. Every political and physical circumstance conspired to give a promise of easy accomplishment to his plan. The territory required could have been easily obtained from the Indians, who were ready to join with any

nation to prevent the incursions of the Spaniards. The climate appeared favourable for European constitutions, the more elevated parts being cool and temperate. The soil is favourable for cultivation, and would produce many valuable articles for export. On the sea coast on both oceans, there are excellent harbours, secured from tempests by islands, and surrounded by eminences which rendered them easily fortified against hostile aggression. The lakes and rivers furnished an inexhaustible supply of fish, and the woods were plentifully stocked with game of various kinds.

Patterson reflecting that England, of all other nations, had the greatest interest in this undertaking, as it would connect her European trade with that of her West-Indian, American, African and East Indian possessions, determined to offer his project first to her; and, for this purpose, on his return to Great-Britain, went to London. Here, however, he had but few acquaintances, and no protection; and after bringing himself into the notice of monied men and persons of power, by giving the aid of his talents to help in forming the Bank of England, a project then upon the tapis. He met with the not unusual recompense of these people adopting his plans and passing them as their own, while the few to whom he mentioned his Darien scheme only discouraged him from attempting it.

Finding his project not likely to meet with the attention it deserved in England, he went to the Continent, and submitted it to the Dutch, the Hamburgers, and also to the Elector of Brandenburg. The two former of these, though deeply interested, received his proposal with the greatest indifference; from the latter he met with a friendly reception for himself, but nothing farther. Baffled in his views, by his expectations failing, on the Continent, he again returned to London, where the casual meeting with one of his countrymen enabled him to put his scheme in operation, under very favourable auspices. This gentleman was Mr. Fletcher, of Saltoun, who persuaded Patterson to offer his project to his own countrymen, and who, from his extreme *amor patriæ*, was desirous that they should have the benefit, glory, and danger of it. Mr. F. was a gentleman of fortune, and unincumbered with a family; possessing an ardency of feeling and a sanguine disposition, which well qualified him for assisting in such a project as the one in question. Though he belonged to the side of politics called the Country Party, his independent spirit gave him free access to the Ministers. By him Mr. Patterson was introduced to the Marquis of Tweeddale, then Minister for Scotland, and who was, on the representation of Fletcher, induced to adopt the project. Lord Stair and Mr. Johnston, the two Secretaries of State, along with the Lord Advocate, Sir James Stewart, and all their political connections and relatives, joined in it. Through the influence of these characters, in June, 1695, a statute was procured from Parliament, and afterwards a charter from the Crown, in terms of it, for creating a trading company to Africa and the New World, with power to plant colonies and build forts, with consent of the inhabitants, in places not possessed by other European Nations.

This accomplished, Patterson now threw his project open to the world, and commenced procuring subscriptions for a company. A

very large amount was soon raised; the project, which had been coolly received when proposed to different eminent characters individually, was now eagerly entered into when it came supported by the recommendations of many, and under the sanction of an act of Parliament, and a charter from the Crown. A writer on this subject says, "The frenzy of the Scots nation to sign the solemn league and covenant, never exceeded the rapidity with which they ran to subscribe to the Darien Company." The nobility, the gentry, the merchants, the royal burghs, without the exception of one, and the most of the other public bodies subscribed." £400,000 was soon subscribed in Scotland, £300,000 in England, and £200,000 by the Dutch and Hamburgers. One circumstance deserves here to be mentioned, much to the credit of Patterson, and as marking a mind of no small degree of generosity. According to the original articles of the company, he was to be allowed two per cent. on the stock, and three per cent. on the profits; but with a liberality seldom equalled and perhaps never surpassed, he came forward, when he saw the great amount of the subscriptions, and relinquished his claims in favour of the company, for which he gives the following reasons, in his own words. "It was not suspicion of the justice or gratitude of the company, nor a consciousness that my services could ever become useless to them, but the ingratitude of some individuals experienced in life, which made it a matter of common prudence in me to ask a retribution for six years of my time, and £10,000 spent in promoting the establishment of the company. But, now that I see it standing upon the authority of Parliament, and supported by so many great and good men, I release all claim to that retribution, happy in the noble concession made to me, but happier in the return which I now make for it."

It was when matters were progressing in this favourable train that the company received a check from a quarter where they ought to have met with encouragement and support; but although it diminished their means, it did not crush the enterprize, as will be afterwards seen. The mean jealousy of trade, which has been the bane of England on so many occasions, arose against this company: on the 13th December, 1695, memorials from both the House of Lords and the Commons were presented to His Majesty against the Darien Company, and the latter went so far as to impeach some of their members for being concerned in it. His Majesty answered, that "he had been ill advised in Scotland." He soon after ordered his resident to present a memorial against the company, to the Senate at Hamburgh, disowning it, and warning them against all connection with it. The merchants at first exclaimed against this interference, but soon after became intimidated, and those of Hamburgh, Holland, and in London, withdrew their subscriptions.

The Scots, instead of being discouraged by this conduct, became more ardent than ever for the project, justly attributing the whole opposition to the jealousy of the English, proceeded to build six ships, carrying from 36 to 60 guns each, in Holland, and engaged 1200 men, among whom were many of the younger sons of the most ancient and noble families in the kingdom. "And neighbouring nations, with a mixture of surprise and respect, saw the poorest kingdom of

Europe sending forth the most gallant and the most numerous colony that had ever gone from the old world to the new.

On the 26th day of July, 1696, the whole party, amounting to 1200 men, sailed from Leith, in five stout vessels, and arrived at Darien after a voyage of two months, with the loss of only 15 persons. They fixed their station at Acta, which they called New St. Andrew, from the tutelar saint of their native land; and to the surrounding country they gave the name of New Caledonia. Being desirous of preserving a friendly intercourse with their neighbours, they made a purchase of the ground from the Indians, and sent messages of amity to the Spanish government. Their first public act was a declaration of freedom of trade and religion to all nations, in the following terms.

"And we do hereby not only grant and concede, and declare, a general and equal freedom of government and trade to those of all nations who shall hereafter be of or concerned with us; but also a full and free liberty of conscience, in the matter of religion." This excellent idea originated with Patterson.

The Dutch now followed the example of the English, and becoming jealous of their East-India trade, applied to the King on the subject. In consequence of this, orders were dispatched to the West-Indian and American colonies to issue proclamations forbidding all persons to assist the Darien Company, and these impolitic orders were but too faithfully obeyed. In this manner they were deprived of the supplies, and obliged to depend upon the precarious means of subsistence furnished by the Indian hunters and fishers; while they, expecting a far different treatment, had carried out but a small stock of provisions with them. These were soon expended, and after lingering eight months waiting for supplies from Scotland, (during which time many fell victims to disease, from want and the bad quality of their food,) the remainder quitted the settlement. Patterson, who was the first to embark in this expedition at Leith, was the last to quit the settlement.

During all this two years, the Spanish government, although the preparations for establishing a colony in this place could not fail to be known to them, remained silent on the subject; but now (as it was supposed, at the instigation of the English) they came forward; and on the 3d of May, 1698, the Spanish ambassador in London presented a complaint against the settlement at Darien, as an encroachment upon the rights of his master. This might have been overcome at the time, for from the friendly terms, and dependant state in which the King of Spain was with England, there is little doubt but he would have relinquished his pretended claim to the Isthmus of Darien, or have granted a passage through it for a stipulated sum, rather than have stood the chance of a war.

The Scots, justly indignant at this conduct, were the more anxious to accomplish a scheme they had so warmly entered into, and ignorant of the fate of the first colonists, hastily prepared another expedition, consisting of 1300 men, whom they dispatched to support the establishment. The speed with which this was done made it less perfect than the former, and, besides, it was unlucky at sea: one of the

ships was lost on the voyage; a number of the men died in the others. What remained arrived in a sickly state; and were dispirited at the fate of their predecessors. "Added to the misfortune of the first colony," says an elegant writer,* "the second had a misfortune peculiar to itself." The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland sent out four ministers, with orders "to take charge of the souls of the colony, and to erect a presbytery, with a moderator, clerk, and record of proceedings; to appoint ruling elders, deacons, overseers of the manners of the people, and assistants in the exercise of church discipline and government; and to hold regular kirk sessions. When they arrived, the officers and gentlemen were occupied in building houses for themselves with their own hands, because there was no help to be got from others; yet the four ministers complained grievously that the Council did not order houses to be immediately built for their accommodation. They had not had the precaution to bring with them letters of recommendation from the Directors, at home to the Council abroad. On these accounts, not meeting with all the attention they expected from the higher, they paid court to the inferior ranks of the colonists, and by that means threw divisions into the colony. They exhausted the spirits of the people, by requiring their attendance at sermon four or five hours at a stretch, relieving each other by preaching alternately, but allowing no relief to their hearers. The employment of one of the days set aside for religious exercise, which was a Wednesday, they divided into three parts, thanksgiving, humiliation, and supplication, in which three ministers followed each other, and as the service of the Church of Scotland consists of a lecture with a comment, a sermon, two prayers, three psalms and a blessing, the work of that day, upon an average of the length of the service of that age, could not take up less than 12 hours: during which space of time the colony was collected and kept close together in the guardroom, which was used as a Church, in a tropical climate and in a sickly season. They presented a paper to the Council and made it public, requiring them to set aside a day for a solemn fasting and humiliation, and containing their reasons for the requisition, in which, under pretence of enumerating the sins of the people, they poured abuse upon their rulers.† They damped the courage of the people, by continually presenting hell to them as the termination of life to most men, because most men are sinners. Carrying the presbyterian doctrine of predestination to extremes, they stopped all exertions, by showing that the consequences of them depended not

* Sir John Dalrymple.

† One passage of the paper is, "First, it is too evident that many, both at home and abroad, engaged in the prosecution of this great enterprise, have been more influenced by their own selfish and worldly interests than by a zealous concern either for the glory of God or for the public honour and advantage of our nation. Secondly, that in the choice of instruments for promoting this noble design, there hath not been that tenderness and caution exercised which the case required; to admit or entertain none but such as were of known integrity, and fit to advance the religious as well as the civil design of this settlement; on the contrary, too many have been admitted into this service that are men of flagitious lives, and some of pernicious principles."

on those by whom they were made. They converted the numberless accidents to which soldiers and seamen are exposed, into immediate judgments of God against their sins; and having resolved to quit the settlement, they, in excuse for their doing so, wrote bitter letters to the General Assembly against the characters of the colonists, and the advantages of the colony itself. The catalogue of crimes they summed up in the following words. "There have abounded and do still remain among us, such abominations (notwithstanding all the means used to restrain and suppress them) as the rudest heathens from the light of nature do abhor; such as atheistical swearing and cursing; brutish drunkenness; detestable lying and prevaricating; obscene and filthy talking; mocking of godliness; yea, and among too many of the meaner sort, both thieving and pilfering; besides sabbath-breaking, contempt of all gospel ordinances, &c. which are stumbling to the very Indians, opprobrious to the Christian name, and reproachful to the church and nation to which we belong. Among those that are free of those gross scandalous abominations, the far greater part among us have little of the spiritual heart-exercising sense of religion, and the power of godliness; many are grossly ignorant of the principles of religion; and, among the more knowing, hypocrisy, formality, impenitence, unbelief, indifference, security, omission of prayer, neglecting the great salvation, slighting of Christ offered in the gospel, and other spiritual sins, do lamentably prevail."

"One of them, in a kind of history of the colony which he published, with a savage triumph, exulted over the misfortunes of his countrymen in the following words. "They were such a rude company, that I believe Sodom never declared such impudence in sinning as they. Any observant eye might see, that they were running the way they went; hell and judgment was to be seen upon them, and in them before the time. Their cup was full—it could hold no more. They were ripe; they must be cut down with the sickle of the wrath of God."

The same writer adds, "I have collected these circumstances, to shew that, though religion be the noblest and firmest principle of great actions, yet, in the hands of weak men, it will defeat the greatest."

About three months after the arrival of this second colony, they were joined by a Captain Campbell, a scion from the families of Bredalbane and Athol with a company of men from his own estate who had been with him in Flanders and whom he now carried to Darien in his own ship, the peace of Ryswick, rendering their assistance in Europe no longer necessary. Here they arrived in time to be required, the Spaniards, whose jealousy had been first excited by the English, now resolved to destroy the colony. Captain Campbell was entrusted with the command; and after manifesting the greatest bravery, he and his gallant little band was shut up and besieged in their fortress, and when obliged by the want of every supply to surrender, capitulated on the most honourable terms. Captain C. knowing the Spaniards would not forgive him, begged to be excepted from the capitulation, escaped in his own vessel, and fortunately returned home; where the Company, as a mark of their approbation of his conduct,

presented him with a gold medal; and he obtained the supporters for his arms (a highlander and an Indian) which his family still wear. The small remainder of the survivors, not exceeding 30 in number, after encountering many difficulties, at length succeeded in getting back to Scotland also. Poor Patterson, whose gigantic genius had first formed this noble plan, although he had survived, could not stand the recollection of the misfortune. On his return home, after the first defeat of his plan, was seized with a lunacy, from which he did not recover for a long time. He, however, at last got better, and still dwelling upon this his favourite undertaking, presented another memorial to King William, containing a proposal that England should have the joint dominion of the colony with Scotland. His plan contained, like all his others, much information and an intimate knowledge of the subject, which clearly marked him a man of genius and of deep reflection, but it was never acted upon.

He survived for many years after this destruction of his warmest hopes. He was pitied, respected, but neglected; and when the government afterwards gave to the Darien Company reparation for their losses, his claims were rejected.

The writer we above quoted, has the following remarks on this subject. After detailing an account of this business, he adds, "Thus ended the Darien Company. Men look into the works of poets for subjects of satire, but they are often to be found in the records of history. The application of the Dutch to King William against the Darien Company, affords the surest of all proofs that it was the interest of the British islands to support it. England, by the imprudence of ruining that settlement, lost the opportunity of gaining and continuing to herself the greatest commercial empire that probably ever will be upon earth. Had she treated with Scotland in the hour of the distress of the Company, for a joint possession of the settlement; or adopted the union of the two kingdoms, which the sovereignty of both proposed, that possession would certainly have been obtained. Even a rupture with Spain, for Darien, if it had proved successful, would have knit the two nations together by the most solid ties of their mutual interest; for the English must then have depended upon Spain for the safety of their caravans by land and the Spaniards upon England for the safety of their fleets by sea."

The writer above quoted next proceeds as if by prophetic inspiration. "But if neither Britain singly, nor the maritime parts of Europe jointly, will treat with Spain for a passage across the Isthmus of Darien, it requires no great gift of prophecy to foresee, that the period is not very distant when, in order to procure the precious metals at once, instead of waiting for them in the slow returns of trade, the States of America, who were able to defy the fleets of England, and the armies of England and Germany, will seize the pass of Darien, and with ease, by violence, from the feeble dominion of Spain.* Stationed thus in the middle and on the east, and on the west sides of the New Western World, the English Americans will form not only the most potent but the most singular empire that has ever appear-

* The reader will bear in mind that Sir John Dalrymple wrote before 1788.

ed; because it will consist, not in the dominion of a part of the land of the globe, but in the dominion of the whole ocean. They will make the tour of the Southern Seas and the Indian Ocean, collecting wealth wherever they pass, in little more time than a vessel would take to make a voyage from Venice to London and back again.

“Whether these will have arts and letters will be a matter of chance; the Phenicians and Carthagenian rovers had; the present successors of these Carthagenians have them not now; and the northern rovers never had them. But if they shall be blest with arts and letters, they will spread civilization over the universe. If, on the other hand, they shall not be blest with them, then they will once more plunge it into the same darkness which nations have thrown upon each other, probably much oftener than history can tell.

“These prospects ought still to call the attention of the maritime nations of Europe to the importance of laying open the passage of Darien to all nations; and more particularly this is an object of importance to England, because she has most to lose by revolutions in America and Asia: and it may be added that the present moment is the best for this event of any, for those nations which lay claim to this passage are so involved in broils and weakened by both intestine discords and foreign wars, that they would gladly purchase the interference of any power at this price, provided that power could have the influence to bring about a state of tranquillity for them.

UPON READING LORD BYRON'S HEBREW MELODIES.

By a Lady.

JEREMIAH XVII. 1.—4.

The sin of my Judah is written so deep,
That angels in pity for Judah might weep;
A pencil of iron has trac'd out her name,
And the point of the diamond recorded her shame.

Engrav'd are her crimes in the core of her heart,
Not e'en from her altars the trace shall depart;
Whilst her exiles remember her groves and her streams,
And the green hills of Judah revisit their dreams.

O Judah, my people, round thee I had twin'd
Such cords of my love, thy affections to bind,
That hadst thou been true to thyself and thy God,
Thou never hadst groan'd 'neath the infidel's rod.

But 'rest of the land which my promise had given
The seed of thy fathers, now sainted in heaven,
Thy treasures are spoil'd, and thy cities are low,
And the children of Abraham are slaves to the foe.

And there must they writhe in captivity's chain,
While the curse of their God on their heads shall remain,
Nor hope that his mercy again will deliver,
For the fire of his anger pursues them for ever.

THE ITINERANT.

NO. III.

THERE is something appalling to the feelings to be hurried out of bed in a damp foggy morning, by the hoarse bawling of a boatman, or the yelling of a stage coach horn under the window of the apartment; and all this before the rays of the sun have been able to reach the earth, through the dense and dank atmosphere. The sensations which this excites are visible in the morning faces of those you meet, and influence their actions in no small degree. Even old acquaintances, when they meet at such a time as this, instead of the cordial shaking of hands, the cheerful expression of countenance, and the crowd of queries, congratulations, and good wishes which flow between them, at other times, now approach slowly and coolly, yawning to each other, seem as if comparing the respective capacities of their mouths, or the depth and width of each other's throats. When too early morning meetings have the power of checking that pleasurable sensation which the recollection of by-gone scenes of happiness produces on old acquaintances, it is not surprising they should operate powerfully on those who are but the friends of yesterday. Our party met in the morning under this state; few symptoms of friendly recognition passed among them; the cold formal greetings of "good morning" made up the sum total of the ceremonies. Between some pairs there was a little more; they had been close friends for weeks before, having been closely packed in a crowded vessel, where they had participated in the joys of fair weather, and shared in the chagrin which any protracting circumstance produced. Some of the older pairs were star-gazing, i. e. they were sapiently looking at the sky, wherever a crack through the fog made it visible, and forming conjectures of the sort of weather we were to have. I soon saw there were none of them almanack makers, for the diversity of opinions clearly proved they formed their opinions on no established rules; and had no fixed data from whence to draw their conclusions. It was all the same to me, come foul come fair weather, but the anxiety manifested by others in settling the point drew my attention. It is a curious subject the predictions on the weather; I believe as yet reduced to no fixed rules, although such rules there must be, for all its changes are dependent upon natural causes, which we know have a beautiful uniformity in their action, and are as regular as the succession of effect and cause is in other circumstances. Men who reside in the country, and whose occupations are influenced by the changes of weather, are the most apt to study it, and to foretell its state. Many of the present party were of this class, and appeared ready to display their sagacity on this subject; I however observed, that they all took special care to make their predictions under *provisos*; like the sibylline oracles of old, they gave their judgment in terms capable of being interpreted in different ways: one shrewdly maintained we would have rain, if the wind shifted! N. B. It was a dead calm at the moment. Another, with a gloomy visage, after looking peevishly at the surrounding atmosphere, said we would have

the wind strong against us, if it blew strong from any quarter. A third boldly asserted that we would have no wind or rain that day, but it would be very hot, if the sun broke out; to which his friend replied, "Och, sure you have not the same weather here as in Ireland." Finding nothing certain could be gained from their collective wisdom or individual opinions on the subject, I turned to the younger part of our cargo, and found them recounting to each other the events of the night, telling their dreams—or describing the miseries or comforts they had met with since they retired the evening before. All this had passed from the time the Captain had piped all hands, until we were again embarked on board the boat, and brief was the space of time allowed. In such a scene as this, a coquette of the present day would be surprised to see how short a spacer is absolutely necessary for the duties of the toilet. Those who had undressed were soon equipped in their travelling habiliments; others who had only enjoyed the luxury of a sleep on the bar-room floor, and of which there were not a few, had only, like old Towser, to rise and shake themselves when they were fit to visit or receive company. The delicate frame of the major's lady showed she had been but little accustomed to such rough usage; for she had been obviously reared in the soft lap of luxury; and from this I apprehended she would follow the too frequent custom of other courtly dames, whom I have seen, and detain us for their arrangement. But this was not the case; she did not require the aid of such aids to bring her into notice, and as her good sense taught her the best way of rendering herself agreeable to her fellow-travellers, was to accommodate herself to their wishes as far as possible, she was dressed and on board as soon as any of the party.

Having discovered from what countries my companions were, and made some progress in gaining a knowledge of their occupations, my next consideration was to extract from them such information as their different pursuits had furnished them, for I have always remarked that the surest source from whence a knowledge of any subject can be drawn, is by consulting those practically acquainted with it. Your man of learning, your book-worm, and your theorist may hit upon some happy discovery, but it will be of no use until subjected to the test of practice by the operative character. The ignorance of the discoverer prevents his applying this proof to his discovery, and hence he cannot judge of its suitableness, far less of its value. But knowledge is diffused among the practical men, often covered with rust, and can only be brought into efficacy by being dug from among the rubbish; and your proud pedant who disdains to stoop to shovel away the trash, will labour long before he make any truly valuable discovery, and will never be able to bring it into use. Such were my reflections, when seated in the boat, and under way on our voyage from Pointe Claire.

As the morning advanced, the countenances of my companions began to brighten up, the sun appeared to operate in the same manner upon the gloom of their visages and the fog in the atmosphere, for both dispersed before his cheering influence. A sweet and refreshing breeze trembled upon the surface of the waters, and seemed to communicate its vibrations to the tongues of the party by which I was surrounded.

Since they had got themselves seated in the boat, they had maintained almost an uninterrupted silence, but now they began to talk with each other, and the homely jokes of the Scotsmen, the waggish and droll remarks of the Hibernians, and the shrewd observations of the English, would have furnished a rich fund of entertainment to an attentive listener, but were in too rapid succession to be committed to paper with their full effect. Lending an attentive ear to the conversation of those by whom he is surrounded is one of the duties of an itinerant, and an amusement in which I have often indulged much to my gratification. And when ever I have seen a silent, peevish, discontented looking being in my presence, one namely, who is haunted by misfortunes of his own making, and who omits no opportunity of being dissatisfied with every occurrence and every situation in which he may be placed—one in short whose fretfulness seems to gnaw his own vitals—I have often thought what a pity such a person is not listening to the jokes and gibes which are flowing around: these proceed from minds contented and happy; and were the discontented to turn their attention to these for one moment, there is no saying what effect sympathy might have upon them. Luckily no such discordant note of this kind was heard in the present party; the children either had not awakened, or such of them as had done so, were in good humour. The novelty of the scene, the happy prospect of meeting friends and acquaintances who had preceded them to this land of promise, and the expectation of a speedy termination to their fatiguing journey, diffused good humour over one part of the passengers; while the rest, from long use to this mode of life, felt as comfortable and happy in travelling as if enjoying *otium-cum dignitate* by their own fire-sides.

Amidst the effusion of these gibes and geers we reached St. Anns, where we were to breakfast. This place deserves some notice. The river here being contracted within its usual width, the channel rocky, with a considerable descent, it forms what they term in the dialect of the country a rapid. Here it is usual for the passengers, or a part of them, to disembark and walk up to the inn, about half a mile distant, on the north side of the river, while the boat-men pull across and drag the boat up under the lee of the south shore, where the current is not so strong. This we did; and in the course of our short walk, passed the church and the house in which the curé resides, which, along with three or four other houses, gives the place some appearance of a stragglng village. It is somewhat singular we find the most of the villages which are on the banks of rivers in this country are situated in the vicinity of these rapids. I could not learn, on enquiry, the motives which had induced their founders to make this choice; it certainly operates against their trade, and often prevents their profiting by the water communication with which this country abounds. This selection of scites for the villages perhaps arose from the superior salubrity of the air, it being always more cool by a breeze, during the heat of summer, in the neighbourhood of rapids; or perhaps the choice was made from these situations being adapted for the erection of hydraulic machinery. But this is a digression—to return to St. Ann's.

This place was for a long time the highest church upon the river St. Lawrence; it is situated about two miles below the upper end of the island of Montreal, and it is still the last place where all the voyageurs and those going to the North-West, stop for confession, and to offer up their vows. It has its name of St. Anns from the church being dedicated to this saint, and who is the Patroness of the Canadians in all their travels by water. At the time we arrived here, we found a large canoe bound for the North-West, and which had reached this the day preceding, and was waiting for a gentleman from Montreal, whom they expected that day by land to join them. In addition to their religious exercises of confession and paying their vows, we found there is another duty which these people perform with scrupulous fidelity. It appears custom (which in these matters is equally strong as law) enjoins that, to each canoe on a voyage to the North-West, a portion of rum is distributed, commonly about a gallon for each man, and which is expected to serve them during the voyage. This is the place where this allowance is dealt out to them; and the same immutable custom renders it necessary that the whole should be drunk up on the spot. At the time we arrived, the crew of the canoe had just completed the performance of this ceremony, and were all in what is vulgarly called a glorious state of intoxication. Whether their sorrowing for their sins the day previous had made them dry, or if they had been drinking against time, knowing their employer would arrive at a certain hour, I could not learn, but the above fact is certain. As this was the first time I had seen a canoe so near as to have a complete inspection of it, I took the opportunity of examining it, and for the benefit of those who have not seen, and never may see such an aquatic carriage, I beg to give the following account of it. These bark canoes are of different sizes, as I afterwards found, but all built on the same plan and of the same materials; hence, a description of those employed in this service will suffice to convey an idea of all the others. These canoes are usually five fathoms and a half long, that is 32 feet 6 inches, but they use the term fathom in denoting their length; hence I use the expression in which the account was given to me. Their breadth is about four feet six inches. They are formed of the bark of the birch tree, of from one eighth to one fourth of an inch in thickness, according to the size of the canoe. In order to strengthen the bark, and also for the purpose of preserving it in the proper shape, there are splints of cedar wood running length ways, and fastened at the bow and stern, both of which are built sharp. Within this there are ribs of the same kind of wood, bent, with their ends fastened in the gunwale on each side. The small fibrous roots of the spruce fir furnish the material for sewing the different pieces of the bark together, and also for fastening them to the gunwale. This material, in the language of the Indians, who make these canoes, is called *Wattap*. In place of pitch to fill up the seams and render them water tight, they use the gum or resin which exudes from the pine tree. Across from gunwale to gunwale there are beams which serve to keep the sides together, being lashed, or rather sewed, to each side. These are never used for seats, unless the one in the stern, on which the pilot sits occasionally and guides the vessel with his paddle, but he more frequently stands. It

will be obvious to our readers that a vessel formed of so frail materials must be liable to many accidents, and hence, whenever they set out on a voyage with one of these canoes, they carry some bark, some pieces of the fibres for sewing, and a portion of gum, along with them. Canoes are moved by paddles, and when the wind is fair they use a lug sail, or more properly what seamen term a square sail; and the man who is in the stern steers the vessel with a paddle also; the others sit squatted down in the bottom of these fragile and ticklish vehicles, which, by throwing the centre of gravity low, has a great effect in preventing them from upsetting. A canoe of the dimensions I have mentioned, requires eight men to navigate her, but some of them has as many as eighteen or twenty, when going on an expedition. The distance they could go in one day I could not exactly learn, there being so many interruptions from rapids and carrying places,* and their progress so dependant upon the wind being fair or foul; and it is obvious that they will be retarded or accelerated by having the current for or against them. The freight a canoe can carry is more correctly estimated, by the North-West Company and those engaged in the fur trade having had so many times occasion to charter them. The gentleman who was going to the North-West in the one I now met with, furnished me with distinct information on this point, when I afterwards met him at the inn where we were going to breakfast. From him I found, that the *freight* (he ought to have said cargo) of a canoe of the size above mentioned, consisted of sixty pieces of merchandize (called packages) of 90 or 100 pounds weight each; one thousand weight of provisions. In addition to which there is the weight of eight men, and of 40 pounds which each is allowed to take along with him; making in all about 4,000 pounds, or nearly four tons; an astonishing quantity for so frail a vessel to carry: but for the navigation they have to pass through, these are the only description of vessels suitable.

After examining the interior of the church, carefully inspecting the canoe which was hauled up and inverted on the beach, as the custom is, and contemplating the crew, whose condition I have already mentioned, I proceeded to the inn. In my way there, I could not help reflecting on this new feature in the Canadian character which I had just witnessed. Had I passed a group of drunken English, Scotch or Irish men, composed of the lowest class of society, the chance would have been ten to one, that they would have offered some rude insult. In their *pleno vino* state they would have most probably passed some indecent remark, or cracked some joke upon my appearance, manner, or conversation, which would have been carefully made in a tone loud enough for me to hear. In this case, however, no such thing happened; some were singing, others swearing, and such as were unable to articulate, were lying promiscuously, in doublets or triplets, asleep; but never made one ungainly remark, while I satisfied my curiosity in

* A carrying place is where the navigation of the river is interrupted by a rapid, where the current is so strong that it cannot be ascended, or where falls intervene. In such places, the canoes have to be unloaded, and the cargoes carried over land on the backs of the men, while two or four of them carry the canoe on their shoulders.

examining their cargo and vessel. They were Canadians, and that accounts for it; for however much they might deal in petty scandal when my back was turned, they retained sufficient of the politesse of their primogenitors to restrain them from any remark offensive to the feelings, while within hearing. This is not the only point of difference I have observed between the Canadian peasantry and those of other countries. They appear to retain more of the characteristic peculiarities of the French nation, from which they spring, than any colonists I have seen, at so long a time after they have left the mother country. The younger males have all that carelessness and indifference about providing for the future, and that tendency to give full swing to indulgence in mirth, and gratification of every whim, which seems to say, "let to-morrow provide for itself." The females have that vivacity of manner, and that freedom in their air and words, which well accords with the lively expression of their faces, and the playful glancing of their fine black eyes. Both are remarkably distinguishable for their politeness in their intercourse with strangers and among each other; two Canadians will not meet on the road without respectfully saluting each other, whether previously acquainted or not. I have been told they are remarkable for a zealous adherence to the observance of their religious duties, not from hypocrisy but from principle. They profess the Roman Catholic religion, and however far it influences their lives, they are exemplary for strict attention to the festivals and seasons of abstinence which that church enjoins. In short, I am credibly informed, if you wish to view the pure old-French character unaltered from what it was centuries ago, you must seek it in Canada, for the overwhelming tide of revolution, and the changes introduced by the subversion of all order, has totally obliterated it in the old country. What renders this continued preservation of their national character among the Canadians the more singular, is its having so well resisted many circumstances which have occurred which tend to destroy it. True, Canada has not undergone the dreadful shocks which have operated in producing great changes in France; but this country has been subjected to many things which might have been expected to obliterate its pristine habits. The cession of this colony to England, and the subsequent war, put a stop for years to all intercourse between the Canadas and old France; so that they could have no importation of French customs and manners. This colony has been the resort of emigrants from Great Britain and the United States for many years; and the close intercourse which has taken place between these and the *vrai* Canadians, might have been expected to produce some change in the manners of either party, but it is a singular fact that it has not done so. You see the Canadian peasant, next door neighbour to the Scottish, English, or Irish, for years, and the closest habits of intimacy existing between their families, but both preserving inviolable the habits and manners of their forefathers, and the customs of the countries from whence they came. This is observable in the most trivial occurrences of life, as well as in matters of importance. Your emigrant will dine at the same hour (high noon) as he did in his own country; the Canadian will have his dinner at eleven o'clock. Your English labourer will go to his work at six

o'clock in the morning, sit late at night before going to bed; the Canadian rises at two or three o'clock in the morning, and retires to rest at a proportionately earlier hour. Among the higher ranks of each class the same differences are observable: your Canadian gentleman dines at twelve or one o'clock, drinks a few glasses of wine, and returns to business; the British emigrant dines at a fashionable late hour, after the business of the day is over, and devotes the evening to a social glass and convivial chat among his friends. This adherence to pristine habits is no less observable in the towns than in the country; in the city of Montreal I was informed that the business of dining was going on, in different families, from eleven o'clock, A. M. to six P. M. and at the table of a friend, when in Montreal, I was introduced to a well known old officer, who had long before retired from all business, but whose respectable character made him an acceptable guest whenever he came, who said that he had dined with a French gentleman some hours before, and had only come to take his wine with my friend, in his usual *sans ceremonie* style.

But my reader, I find, begins to accuse me of non-adherence to my subject; and it may be asked what has the dinner-hour of Montreal to do with a journey up the Ottawa river? True, but he will please recollect I am an *Itinerant*, and may go progressively or zig-zag; or if I choose I may, crab-like, indulge in a retrograde movement. I am not, however, beating a retreat; for here I am at Mr. R.'s inn, at St. Ann's, determined to make an attack upon his breakfast, after I have reconnoitered the ground and ascertained the disposition of my host.

This is one of the most comfortable country inns I have met with in the province, and I would recommend the traveller by this route to cast his time so as to be able to get here at meal-time, or, if possible, to pass the night. He will find the host and hostess both attentive and polite; none of your gew-gaw show and apparent bustling, to exhibit a manifestation of business, but a quiet, orderly attendance, such as will please any one who deserves to be pleased. The house is pleasantly situated on a gentle declivity, which slopes towards the river; it is substantially built, and although partly laid out according to the tavern plan in this country, is better finished, and the sleeping apartments commodiously distributed; above all, it is kept clean, and though plain, has an appearance of neatness and comfort which some of your first rate hotels do not exhibit. I understood the landlord was a native of the Scottish isles, but had been for many years in this country; he also informed me he had been in the North-West, engaged in the fur trade, under the company of that name. It appears that, after spending several years in the faithful discharge of a difficult duty, he had found himself in possession of a little money, sufficient to gratify his moderate desires, and retiring, purchased this sweet spot, and lately erected this house; and here he lives, enjoying in the duty of attending his guests, as much employment as defies the approach of *ennui*, and no more than he can with ease perform. He is married to a woman equally well able to discharge her share of the task, and surrounded with a young family, appears to enjoy more of real happiness and comfort than we find under the splendid mansions of

the rich and great. One peculiarity I observed in this landlord, which struck me very forcibly, from the contrast it bore to the general conduct of men in his line of life, and I mention it here because to this I attributed, in some measure, the comfort and happiness, and certainly the degree of independence and wealth he possessed—on our arrival, my Yankee friends, *more solito*, advanced in a step quicker than ordinary time, to the bar, and requested their bitters, as formerly mentioned; but no entreaty on their part could prevail upon the landlord to join them. I was afterwards assured by those who knew him, that he hardly ever tasted spirits.

A comfortable breakfast was soon prepared, and all who chose to pay for it (that is to say, the Major and his lady, Mr. Salmagundi, our Yankee friends, and myself) sat down to enjoy it; the rest of the passengers, captain and crew, were in the habit of carrying their provisions along with them; and seated on the green and verdant bank, made their meal with that sound appetite which healthful exercise, free air, and cheerful spirits, seldom fail to bestow.

(For the Canadian Magazine.)

ON THE AGRICULTURE OF CANADA.

NO. III.

Mr. Editor,

In pursuance of the plan I have proposed, of transmitting through your useful miscellany, my opinions on Canadian Agriculture, I come now to that part of the subject on which it is necessary to offer a few remarks upon the improvement of lands.

But as it is requisite, for the complete elucidation of my subject, to have a just and correct idea of the meaning of the terms employed, it will be proper, before proceeding farther, to make a few brief observations on the word improvements, it having a very different acceptation in this country from what it has in England; and there being a wide difference between the methods of making improvements on land in the two countries.

In England every farmer knows, that by what is termed improvements is meant the removal of all obstructions and inequalities on the surface, such as will prevent the operations of tillage, or prevent every part of the surface from bearing a crop. In Canada, what is called improvement consists in merely chopping down the trees, collecting and burning them, with such other impediments upon the surface as the fire will consume, such as under-brush, leaves, &c. When this is done, the land is fit to receive the seed without the application of any implement of agriculture, and is called an improvement of so many acres, according as the extent may be. The same idea is conveyed in the United States by the term *betterments*. On the contrary, it is well known that by the word improvements in England, much more than this is signified. Before land can there be said

to be in this state, the loose stones on the surface have to be removed, the inequalities levelled down, the fences and divisions made, the drains opened, and in short, every obstacle which will prevent the plough, removed. From this it is obvious, that the British farmer who comes to this country, and purchases a farm *under improvement*, according to the Canadian meaning of the word, will be sadly disappointed on examining the purchase. That the distress and disappointment which often arises from this inconsistency of terms, is no imaginary occurrence, nor an unfrequent event, can be proved from experience. Numbers of farmers from the old country come here with wives and families, and they often, to avoid the sufferings and privations which they must endure by going at once into the woods, purchase or rent a farm with what is here termed improvements; and as often, after so doing, they have to pay the expense of what is understood by improvements in the country they come from. But as it was my intention to confine my remarks to lands which have already been cleared and under cultivation, this may be considered by some as a digression.

In viewing the condition of many extensive farms in this country, which have been long since cleared of wood, an English or Scotch farmer will be surprised to see the want of improvements in them. He will see the surface of large fields, otherwise valuable for their soil and exposure, thickly covered with stones, almost all lying loose upon the surface; he will find it full of inequalities, heights and hollows, and obstructions which prevent its being properly laid out, and impede the plough in it; he will find no attention has been paid to draining it, nor the water furrows carried to their outlet, so as to prevent the surface water from stagnating upon it. In short, he will find nothing done which comes under the term improvements as applied to land in the mother country.

It will be obvious to the most careless observer, that the want of attention to these parts of improvement must be the cause of very serious losses to the farmer who is guilty of such neglect. When stones are allowed to remain upon the surface, or when any obstacle which prevents the field's being ploughed, is permitted to continue, or when any spots are left unproductive, from the want of the proper improvements, the loss accumulates in many different ways. Large portions of the lands in many parts of this country are still subject to be flowed by the spring and autumn floods; and still a greater part of these lands bear evident marks of having been once under water. Trees when torn up by the roots, and fallen into the rivers, and masses of ice, have in many places floated down with large stones along with them; these have been in most instances suffered to remain on the surface of such lands, and the spots upon which they lie, as well as the portion occupied by other obstacles, forms exactly a space equal to their extent, from which the farmer reaps no benefit. But it is not the actual quantity of land he loses in this way which constitutes all his loss, any obstacles which prevent or increase the difficulty of ploughing a field, augments the tear and wear of his harness, and subjects his farming implements to greater risk of being broken, and in this way he is subjected to an additional expense, and consequent

loss. In this country, where labour is high, the farmer will naturally get as much of his work done by piece-work, or what is denominated in England by task-work, as he possibly can perform in this manner. When there are spots in his fields which do not bear, it is obvious he renders himself liable to imposition; and as there is no deduction made for these unproductive places among labourers, he is obliged to pay for labour which has not been performed. And this is the case, whatever be the description of labour, provided he gets it done by task-work, whether it be putting down his crop, cleaning it, by hoeing or weeding, or if it be for reaping or mowing; hence he will sometimes, from the want of what is properly termed improvements, be subjected to three distinct overcharges on the same crop.

Such are a few of the most obvious losses to which the farmer is liable from neglecting this branch of husbandry; and if the amount he thus loses, from the land rendered unavailible, from the additional expense of breakage of implements, and from the unperformed labour he is obliged to pay for, be all considered, there is little doubt the sum would soon be equal to the whole expense required for clearing the surface of his grounds of these obstructions.

In the preceding part of the subject, I have chiefly directed my attention to the obstructions which arise from suffering loose stones to remain on the ground; and in speaking on the topic a few days ago with a neighbour of mine, when recommending him to carry the stones off his fields, he very naturally asked what he was to do with them? This, therefore, forms the next point for our consideration. Economy in every branch of husbandry ought to form the first study of the agriculturist, and not less in making improvements than in other parts of his operations. I have already shewn that by suffering stones to remain upon his fields, the farmer sustains a direct loss; and if he can lessen the expense of removing them, by converting them to any useful purpose, he undoubtedly ought to do so; but whether this be the case or not, it ought to be a *sine qua non* with him to carry them off his grounds. To ascertain to what purposes stones may be employed with profit about a farm, we must have recourse to the experience of intelligent land improvers, and be guided in the selection from the plans they recommend, by the local situation of the farm.

1st. The stones which are collected off the grounds may be employed with advantage in building fences, it having been proved by the most ample experience, that from their superior durability stone fences are preferable to those of wood, or to hedges or any other, where permanent divisions between fields are wanted. 2d. Should there happen to be deep cavities in any part of the farm, these may be filled to within 18 inches of the level of the rest of the adjacent ground with stones, and then covered with earth to such a depth as will prevent the plough reaching them. 3d. Stones of a smaller size, or even large ones if broken, can be used for making public or private roads about the farm, and which, from their superior durability, and being always dry, will prove a saving to the farmer, by needing but little repair, and by being in such a state as will at all times enable him to carry a full load with ease. 4th. Should the farm be intersected or bounded by a river or ravine which is apt to become a tor-

rent, and have its banks washed away during spring or fall floods, stones are very valuable for securing these and preventing the water from making encroachments upon the fields by washing down the banks. 5th. In situations where wood is high priced, and in all cases where the farmer can afford it, stones should be employed for erecting farm buildings, and if they will at all suit for this purpose, it is far cheaper to carry them off the fields than to dig them out, of the earth. 6th. Lastly, should circumstances prevent their being employed in either of these ways, they may be collected and piled up in some place as much out of the way as possible, and where they will always occupy less space than when scattered over the field, and not be productive of the same injury. In removing stones of a large size, in order to enable them to be carted, some farmers are in the practice of blasting and breaking them in pieces; but when the time and expense for this is an obstacle, another method is by digging a hole beside each stone and tumbling it into it, taking care to bury it so deep as to be below where the plough can reach. After covering them up, the remaining earth may be scattered over the field, so as to preserve it level in the surface.

The next subject which offers itself to the notice of the improving farmer is draining, and which merits his most serious attention. The want of drains will render the best lands unproductive, and it ought to be kept in mind that it is the richest description of ground which requires draining; hence, although an expensive operation, it seldom fails to amply repay the money laid out in it. It is not my present intention to enter on a description of the various methods of clearing lands of stagnant water, nor of the modes of redeeming land or swamps so as to render it cultivatable. The removing surface impediments constitutes the object of my present remarks, and on this point they shall be confined to that part called surface draining, or the opening of furrows so as to let off the water which would spread over the fields, either from rains or the melting of snows, provided these drains were not kept clear. The neglect of this is not only the cause of loss to the individual himself, but may also be so to his neighbours; should the water overflow his fields by his drains being stopped up, it will soon spread over those adjoining, which do not belong to him; and there is the greater necessity for precaution against such an occurrence when it is recollected that in a certain stage of their growth in some crops, they will be utterly lost by being flooded even for a very short space of time. The injury arising from farmers neglecting to keep their drains open has been severely felt, and has produced so many complaints that the subject has at last attracted legislative attention. Formerly, complaints upon this subject could meet with redress in the higher courts of law only; and even these had not the power to oblige the delinquents to attend to remedy the omission. The consequence was, that many people who suffered severely from the negligence of their neighbours in this particular, would rather endure the evil and sustain the loss, than subject themselves to the inconvenient delay and expense of a tedious process for obtaining relief. But this defect is at last remedied; persons neglecting to open these necessary drains, can be proceeded against in a summary man-

ner. A bill passed during last session, by which complaints against such transgressors can be made before the magistrates, and by which the case is to be decided within four days after the charge is preferred; and the same magistrate is empowered to order the work to be done.

This bill is exceedingly well framed for answering the purposes for which it was intended; care is taken to prevent improper collusions from family interest, and if the farmers be careful to select respectable and intelligent men for the office of inspectors of fences and drains, as here provided for, there can be no doubt of its being one of the most important aids the legislature could confer upon the agricultural interest of the country.

I have dwelt longer upon this part of the subject than I at first intended, but its importance will plead my excuse; and the strong conviction which I feel of the advantages which will result from this bill, together with the greater necessity there is for legislative interference in regulating agricultural affairs in this country, will render any observation on the subject acceptable to readers of all classes. That legislative interposition in this case is more required in Canada than in England, is obvious to the most superficial observer, and for the following reason. Here, the land is held in small farms, chiefly by men who are each proprietors of the farm they occupy, completely masters of their own proceedings and sole directors of their own labour; hence, if an ill-natured or lazy neighbour chose, he might, from spite against the adjacent farmer, or from negligence, have left his drains and water courses unopened and destroyed the crop of the latter, before the legislature passed this act. But it is obvious in countries where the lands are held by large proprietors, and who, when they lease them, introduce rules and restrictions by which their tenants are bound to fulfil certain conditions, these landlords may easily accomplish such a measure as this bill secures, without the intervention of legislative authority. This is an object well deserving the attention of such as lease farms in this country.

TO THE ROSE.

EMPRESS of all the flowerets of spring!

Thine is the homage of every bosom:

Whether you breathe on the zephyr's wing,

Or smile on the sylphs that around thee sing,

Or blush at the kiss of thy fairy king,

We think of delight as we gaze on thy blossom.

And lovelier still at the silent hour,

When fled is thy smile and thine aspect of gladness,

When over thee drooping the evening shower

Hath shed all its tears, then my beautiful flower!

When we find thee weeping within thy bower,

We call thee an emblem of beauty in sadness.

A Historical Sketch of the origin and progress of the Charitable Institution termed THE GENERAL HOSPITAL of the CHARITABLE SISTERS, (commonly called the Grey Nuns,) in Montreal, Canada.

THE piety of the Sovereign of France, and of the first settlers of this country manifested itself in the establishment of many charitable institutions, which continue to the present day, at once a proof of the benevolent feelings which actuated their founders, and of the prudent care and attention of those to whom their management has been entrusted. The *Hôtel Dieu* in Quebec, built in the year 1639; for the support of sick and indigent persons, and nearly coeval with the commencement of the city affords one of the first instances of this. The same spirit of active benevolence was extended to Montreal, then known by the name of *Ville Marie*, in 1642. But although all these were designed for the relief of the sick, and for the temporary support of the indigent, still something farther was requisite—the colony was still without any institution solely devoted for the reception and support of such poor people as were advanced in age beyond the period when they could be able to support themselves, or such as were afflicted with any incurable disease, and who required only a calm resting-place in which they might wear out the slender thread of existence then drawing to a close. This desideratum was observed by *Monsieur Jean La Croix de St. Valier*, second Bishop of Quebec, and who, with the design of remedying the defect, put in execution the plan he had previously formed of establishing a general Hospital in that capital. This design he accomplished by procuring Letters Patent from Louis the Fourteenth, which were dated at Versailles, in the month of March, 1692, and by which letters the Bishop of Quebec for the time being, his Grand Vicar, the Governors and *Intendants* of the country, and their successors, being members and directors of this new administration were empowered to organize similar establishments wherever they should find it necessary, in the country, as expressed in the 28th article of the said Letters Patent.

Several laymen, citizens of Montreal, at the head of whom was a Mr. Charron, a native of Normandy, who had come to this city a few years before, hearing of the authority thus given in the Letters Patent, actuated by that zealous and active charity which religion alone can inspire, determined to avail themselves of the privilege so granted, to establish a Hospital in Montreal. They accordingly made application to the proper authorities, signifying their intention of erecting and endowing a general Hospital in that city, upon the same plan as that then building in Quebec, and intimating their design to devote their time and fortunes for this purpose.

The principal directors of the administration lost no time in taking this application into consideration, as it had been submitted to the Board agreeable to one of their regulations, dated on the last day of August, 1692; and through their influence and representation the wishes of these benevolent gentlemen were agreed to, and authority for carrying their intentions into effect granted under Letters Patent from the King of France, bearing date the 15th day of April, 1694

which were registered the same year in the office of the Supreme Council at Quebec.

Thus clothed with the necessary authority for their proceeding, the next step was to procure the funds requisite for erecting and endowing such an institution. To aid in this, the Seminary in Montreal came forward and made extensive donations *en fief et en rôtûre*, they also granted, free of all charges, rents, or seigniorial dues, for the purpose of erecting the building upon it, that extensive lot near the town gate on which the General Hospital of the Grey Nuns now stands, and which is only subject to the following express condition, viz. That if at any future time the said General Hospital should cease to exist, the whole premises should then revert to the ecclesiastics of the Seminary of Montreal, in conformity to an agreement to this effect passed at Montreal on the 23d day of October, 1692, and signed by all parties concerned.

The plan being now fairly commenced, and every thing prepared for the erection of the building, the citizens in general, and several individuals in affluent circumstances, came forward and contributed liberally to accomplish this, and the Hospital was soon erected and the establishment completed.

The objects of this institution, as detailed in the Letters Patent, were to provide an asylum for lame, superannuated and infirm persons, where they could be lodged, fed, and have all their other wants supplied, and which was to be done at the expense of those charitable individuals, at whose suggestion it had been commenced, who had contributed to it, and such others as might hereafter join them in the same laudable purpose, and their successors. This hospital was farther designed to be a refuge for orphan children who were left in destitute circumstances, where these could be employed in work suitable to their ages, put in the way of learning some trade, and also given such an education as would make them valuable inhabitants for the colony. It was farther expressed in these letters patent, that the direction of the hospital and the management of its revenues should be invested in and belong to these benevolent founders of it and their successors, but under the superintendence of the Administrators in Chief, to whom alone belonged the right of selling or transferring any part of the fixed property.

In 1699, which was but a few years after new letters were issued which confirmed the terms of the former respecting this establishment, and in addition gave power to these *Freres Hospitaliers* to erect within the precincts of their enclosure such manufactories as they might think proper, for the purpose of giving employment to the poor inmates, and which would contribute to increase the funds of the institution and thereby be beneficial to all parties concerned. This new association was known by the name of THE FRERES CHARRONS, so called from their superior, under whose prudent and wise direction the institution appeared to make rapid progress in prosperity and importance. Several purchases of real estate were made in the vicinity of Montreal at this time, particularly that at Pointe St. Charles, which was bought in the year 1693.

But although these properties were considerable in extent, the revenue arising from them was very trifling, being composed, as they were at that time, of unsettled and uncultivated land. Hence, the chief dependence the hospital had for its support was on the industry of the friars and occasional alms of the religious part of the community. From so circumscribed and precarious a source, it is obvious the revenue must have been very limited; and in consequence of its state, it was found necessary to restrict the number of poor admitted to twelve of their own sex, as will be more amply detailed in the subsequent parts of its history.

Notwithstanding the very flattering and favourable appearance which this institution bore at its outset, it was not long before it assumed a different aspect and began to lose its primitive flourishing condition. The successor of Mr. Charron was unfortunately a man but ill qualified to conduct with the proper regard to economy, an establishment whose revenues were so circumscribed, and derived from sources so uncertain. Some plans ill arranged, and undertakings badly managed, by degrees brought the establishment into debt; discontents began to manifest themselves among the brotherhood, and they gradually withdrew from the house in disgust, one by one, till at last only two or three friars were left; and, to complete their misfortunes, they found the hospital on examination more than forty-eight thousand livres French currency in debt. Doubtful in this state what steps to pursue, they at that time came to the resolution of transferring the hospital into the hands of the seigniors administrators, to be disposed of in such a manner as they might see proper, and this transfer was accordingly made in the year 1747, when the place hitherto occupied by the *Freres Charrons* was supplied in the following manner.

There existed at this period in Montreal a society of young ladies, who resided together and spent their time in the practice of Christian duties, under the superintendence of one Madame de la Gemmejay, widow of Mr. Youville, whom they looked up to as their mother and superior, and supported themselves from the fruits of their collective industry. Monsieur Louis Le Normand, then Vicar-General of the Diocese of Quebec, Seignior of Montreal, and at the same time President of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, in which capacity the chief charge of the poor devolved upon him, had for some time observed the dissatisfaction which existed among these friars. This excellent man, deeply sensible that to preserve the hospital would be of the utmost importance to the city, bestowed some attention in preparing these benevolent ladies to take the place of the friars on their relinquishing the charge of that institution. This was not an undertaking of a minor kind; but these ladies were well qualified for it. They had even to provide temporal resources for their support; but they were fortunately deeply inspired with that confidence in Divine Providence which supports mankind amidst the greatest difficulties and the deepest embarrassments, and by which they were enabled to conduct the institution so as to secure to it that large share of general approbation which it enjoys to the present day.

Madame Marie Duffort de la Gemmery was the daughter of Christopher Duffort, Esq. a native of Breton, and Captain of a Troop of Cavalry in that colony, and of Miss Gauthier of Varennes. This Miss Duffort had in early life been married to a Canadian gentleman by the name of Mr. François de Youville. She had been left a widow at 28 years of age, since which period she had lived retired from the world and devoted her time to the performance of acts of charity and in the sedulous practice of those duties which belong to the Christian. From her patrimonial estate she enjoyed what may be considered a competent fortune; but in other respects she was a woman of distinguished merit. Of a noble family, which attracted respect, she also possessed a gravity of manner and modesty of deportment united to a person dignified and imposing in her exterior appearance; she was not less conspicuous for her accomplishments, possessing a peculiarly happy and vigorous wit, tempered with a solidity of judgment not often to be met with. It was in the year 1737 that this lady, meeting with some companions endowed with minds congenial to her own, they agreed to unite together. They lived by the fruits of their industry, put their revenues into one common fund, and adopted rules for their government. They procured a habitation in the town, where they resided, and took along with them six aged and infirm persons, whom they took care of. On the thirtieth day of October following, they bound themselves by vows as religious recluses, and irrevocably devoted themselves to the service of the poor, under the guidance of Madame Youville, whom they recognised for their superior.

It was to this society, whose virtues had rendered them conspicuous through the whole city, (although at this time hardly formed into a community, but meeting the strongest public approbation for their judicious external deportment,) that the seigniors and principal administrators of the hospital had recourse, and immediately confided to their care the management of the institution. A provisional commission was obtained for this purpose, which was dated at Quebec, on the 27th day of August, 1747, and addressed to Madame Youville and her companions, who joyfully undertook the charge which was thus entrusted to them. At this period they were only nine in number, and after causing an inventory to be taken of all the fixed and movable property belonging to the hospital, they went into it in the month of September in the same year, accompanied by nine poor persons who had formerly been under their care, and four others whom they found there.

At this time Bishop Pontbriand, who had heretofore manifested a favourable feeling towards this infant institution, was induced by the influence of the public opinion, and the example of other administrators, to change his opinion entirely. These gentlemen could not be convinced that a few ladies, who possessed no apparent means, either from government or the public, would ever be able to re-establish the hospital and discharge the debts against it. They, therefore, issued an order to unite the property belonging to the hospital in Montreal with that of Quebec, on the following conditions, namely, that the latter should pay off what debts remained unliquidated against the

former, after the sale of its effects; and that room should be retained in the Quebec Hospital for such poor persons as might be sent there from Montreal. But the seigniors and citizens of Montreal convinced of the great importance of preserving the hospital in their city, unan- imously objected to this ordinance; and at the request of Madama Youville herself, presented a remonstrance against it to the Court of France. In the mean time, a decision was obtained from the Super- ior Council at Quebec, by which Madame Youville and her compan- ions were under certain conditions confirmed in their situations as the managers of the hospital.

The subsequent year an edict was issued by His Majesty the King of France, and directed to those administering the government in these Provinces, commanding them to attend to the proposals made by Madame Youville, to investigate along with her the state of the affairs of the hospital, and to ascertain upon what terms she could be finally established as the superintendant to have the charge of it.

The same year an investigation of this business took place, when after a judicial enquiry it was found that the Freres had left the hos- pital 48,096 livres, 17 sous, and 6 deniers Tournois indebted. Ma- dame Youville engaged to discharge this debt either from her own private funds or from such charitable donations as she might obtain, on condition that she should be appointed judicially as manager of the institution; and her name, along with those of her charitable co- adjutors were individually inserted in the deed passed between her and the administrators, a copy of which was transmitted by the su- perintendant of the province to the Court of France.

(To be continued.)

SONG.

FROM THE NEW AND HIGHLY POPULAR PLAY OF THE "LAWS OF JAVA,"

BY GEORGE COLMAN, ESQ.

LONG in a vale, where a streamlet ran,
And under a tree reclin'd,
A pilgrim measur'd the wit of man,
By thinking on womankind.
Oh! a woman has killing eyes, he cried,
And a soft bewitching smile;
With a thousand thousand charms beside,
Our senses to beguile.

Mark every glance that confirms her sway,
Note, too, each dimple's power;
Look on her lips how the young loves play,
Like bees on the honey'd flower;
Gaze on her bosom of sweets, and take
This truth for a constant rule—
Enchanting woman can always make
The wisest of men a fool.

Hints to Emigrants, in a series of Letters from Upper-Canada, by the Rev'd. WILLIAM BELL, Minister of the Presbyterian Congregation, Perth, Upper-Canada, 12mo. Printed for Waugh & Innes, Edinburgh, 1824.

THE well sustained share which Canada bore in the late war, aided by this country becoming the refuge of so many British emigrants, has of late years brought it into greater notice than it ever was before, and excited a greater degree of curiosity among all ranks to become acquainted with its history. Many pens have been engaged in the attempt to gratify this laudable curiosity; but although from the numerous writings which have issued from the press upon this subject, there are many things the historian might compile with advantage, still none of them deserve the name of a history of the Canadas. Wellä and Harriet, whose writings are dignified with the title of histories, are extremely defective; and, besides, many of the most important events which ought to find a place in the history of the country, have happened since these gentlemen wrote, and could not of course be detailed by them. Such as have written travels in Canada, have confined themselves to an account of what came immediately under their eye, and although they have depicted the country as it was at the time, they have had no regard to its former condition, and seldom enter upon any account of its political state or the condition of its judicature. In the numerous class of books which have been written for the avowed purpose of furnishing the requisite information for emigrants, although there are many important facts detailed, these from their very nature and design must be very different from histories. In the accounts of the late war, the writers in describing the military operations, have of course given some information respecting the places which were the field of operations, but nothing farther.

From the title of the little work now before us the reader will see to which of these kinds of writings it belongs, or rather is intended to belong. The author professes to give "Hints to Emigrants," but we must candidly confess that we never saw a work of the same magnitude whose detail gives so completely the lie to its contents. From the title Reverend which is prefixed to the author's name, we expected a performance from the pen of a scholar, a work which (although from its nature we knew could not be a history of the country) would give some valuable information to that class of men to whom it is directed; but here there is nothing but a string of ravings from a mind whose views are so engrossed in religious duties, that it has no room for any other idea. We find the author first engaged in a difference with the captain of the vessel; for what? simply, because he chooses to adopt an impertinent course of interference by interposing the duty of religious exercises in contact with that of the ship's company. On his arrival in Canada, the same bewildering spirit of fanaticism adheres to him and he enters on a detail of what he has done, what he has said, where he preached, where there are churches, and where there are none. We must also observe that the minuteness with which he records every occurrence which happens from the vicious habits or

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ill will of others, clearly shews that in his creed the Christian virtue of *forgiving* is disjoined from the duty of *forgetting* an injury. Above is noticed his disagreement with the captain of the vessel; many other parts of the book bear testimony to the truth of this assertion, for he minutely relates how some of his neighbours killed his cow, at the same time gives no account of the provocation they might have received; and in a spirit widely different from that which christianity engenders, does not even hint that the death of the cow might have been accidental. It appears from his detail that after his coming to Perth he had been put in charge of the school, and obtained the salary allowed by government: and he further informs us that a clergyman of the established church afterwards arrived and took the school off his hands, "without his consent;" then with a degree of satanical feeling, and with more of the savage than christian exultation he adds, "on this transaction I shall not at present make any other observation than merely to say, that the school under the direction of my Reverend successor soon after died of a consumption, and the school-house has been for some time empty." Notwithstanding the care he has taken to inform us that the Deputy Quarter Master General was pleased with his mode of managing the school, there appears upon the very face of his publication, unequivocal proof that a man like him, who was wandering about, playing the part of an itinerant preacher, was but ill qualified to attend to the close duties of a schoolmaster. Such is the general tenor of the work, that should an emigrant be guided in his opinion by it he will find it more his duty to guard against roguery, and to avoid the irreligious (that is, all who are not of the Reverend author's sect) than any thing else in Canada. There are some parts of his work directly calculated to mislead the emigrant; for instance, he recommends the route by the St. Lawrence river as the proper one from Montreal to Perth—whereas it is well known that the emigrant saves time, expense, and distance, besides a long land carriage, by going by the Ottawa river.

In regard to its subject, this publication put us in mind of the characteristic usually attributed to a woman's letter, from its containing the principal matter in the Postscript. In an appendix, there are three letters to the publishers by "A. Bell," the "son of the author," and we feel a pleasure in leaving the absurd nonsense of the father to notice these productions by the son. These letters, both in style, subject, and arrangement, are highly valuable, and well adopted for the intention. They contain in a concise form much valuable information for the emigrant, and we would seriously recommend them to his attention; they have afforded us much pleasure, not only from their own intrinsic merit, but as a recompense for the tedium we suffered in wading through the prosing stuff by the father, which precedes them. Should the Reverend gentleman ever again take it in his head to write a book, he had better do it by proxy, and his son will make a substitute who will pass muster with credit to himself. The mechanical department of this work is well executed, and price very reasonable, being accompanied by a very neat small chart of the Districts of Bathurst and Johnston, as well as a plan of the Township of Drummond, in which the village of Perth is situated, and a plan of the village.

Selected Papers.

RECOLLECTIONS OF ITALY.

AFTER three weeks of incessant rain, at Midsummer, the sun shone on the town of Henley upon Thames. At first the roads were deep with mud, the grass wet, and the trees dripping; but after two unclouded days, on the second afternoon, pastoral weather commenced; that is to say, weather when it is possible to sit under a tree or lie upon the grass, and feel neither cold or wet. Such days are too rare not to be seized upon with avidity. We English often feel like a sick man escaping into the open air after a three months' confinement within the four walls of his chamber; and if "an ounce of sweet be worth a pound of sour," we are infinitely more fortunate than the children of the south, who bask a long summer life in his rays, and rarely feel the bliss of sitting by a brook's side under the rich foliage of some well-watered tree, after having been shut up week after week in our carpeted rooms beneath our white ceilings.

The sun shone on the town of Henley upon Thames. The inhabitants, meeting one another, exclaimed: "What enchanting weather! It has not rained these two days; and, as the moon does not change till Monday, we shall perhaps enjoy a whole week of sunshine!" Thus they congratulated themselves, and thus also I thought 'as, with the *Eclogues* of Virgil in my pocket, I walked out to enjoy one of the best gifts of heaven, a rainless, windless, cloudless day. The country around Henley is well calculated to attune to gentlest modulations the rapturous emotions to which the balmy, ambient air, gave birth in my heart. The Thames glides through grassy slopes, and its banks are sometimes shaded by beechwood, and sometimes open to the full glare of the sun. Near the spot towards which I wandered, several beautiful islands are formed in the river, covered with willows, poplars, and elms. The trees of these islands unite their branches with those of the firm land, and form a green archway which numerous birds delight to frequent. I entered a park belonging to a noble mansion; the grass was fresh and green; it had been mown a short time before, and, springing up again, was softer than the velvet on which the Princess Badroulboudour walked to Aladdin's Palace. I sat down under a majestic oak by the river's side; I drew out my book and began to read the *Eclogue* of Silenus.

A sigh breathed near me caught my attention. How could an emotion of pain exist in a human breast at such a time. But when I looked up, I perceived that it was a sigh of rapture, not of sorrow. It arose from a feeling that, finding no words by which it might express itself, clothed its burning spirit in a sigh. I well knew the person who stood beside me; it was Edmund Malville, a man young in soul, though he had passed through more than half the way allotted for man's journey. His countenance was pale; when in a quiescent state it appeared heavy; but let him smile, and Paradise seemed to open on his lips;

let him talk, and his dark blue eyes brightened, the mellow tones of his voice trembled with the weight of feeling with which they were laden; and his slight, insignificant person seemed to take the aspect of an ethereal substance, (if I may use the expression,) and to have too little of clay about it to impede his speedy ascent to heaven. The curls of his dark hair rested upon his clear brow, yet unthinned.

Suth was the appearance of Edmund Malville, a man whom I revered and loved beyond expression. He sat down beside me, and we entered into conversation on the weather, the river, Parry's voyage, and the Greek revolution. But our discourse dwindled into silence; the sun declined; the motion of the flequered shadow of the oak tree, as it rose and fell, stirred by a gentle breeze; the passage of swallows, who dipt their wings into the stream as they flew over it; the spirit of love and life that seemed to pervade the atmosphere, and to cause the tall grass to tremble beneath its presence; all these objects formed the links of a chain that bound up our thoughts in silence.

Idea after idea passed through my brain; and at length I exclaimed, why or wherefore I do not remember,—“Well, at least this clear stream is better than the muddy Arno.”

Malville smiled. I was sorry that I had spoken: for he loved Italy, its soil, and all that it contained, with a strange enthusiasm. But, having delivered my opinion, I was bound to support it, and I continued: “Well, my dear friend, I have also seen the Arno, so I have some right to judge. I certainly was never more disappointed with any place than with Italy—that is to say, taken all in all. The shabby villas; the yellow Arno; the bad taste of the gardens, with their cropped trees and deformed statues; the suffocating scirocco; the dusty roads; their ferries over their broad, uninteresting rivers, or their bridges crossing stones over which water never flows; that dirty Brenta (the New River Cut is an Oronooko to it); and Venice, with its uncleaned canals and narrow lanes, where Scylla and Charybdis meet you at every turn; and you must endure the fish and roasted pumpkins at the stalls, or the smell—”

“Stop, blasphemer!” cried Malville, half angry, half laughing, “I give up the Brenta; but Venice, the Queen of the Sea, the city of gondolas and romance—”

“Romance, Malville, on those ditches?—”

“Yes, indeed, romance!—genuine and soul-elevating romance! Do you not bear in mind the first view of the majestic city from Fusina, crowning the sea with Cybele's diadem? How well do I remember my passage over, as with breathless eagerness I went on the self-same track with the gondolas of the fearless Desdemona, the loving Moor, the gentle Belvidera, and brave Pierre, had traced before me; they still seemed to inhabit the palaces that thronged on each side, and I figured them to myself gliding near, as each dark, mysterious gondola passed by me. How deeply implanted in my memory is every circumstance of my little voyage home from the opera each night along what you call ditches; when sitting in one of those luxurious barks, matched only by that which bore Cleopatra to her Antony, all combined to raise and nourish romantic feeling. The dark canal, shaded by the black houses; the melancholy splash of the oar; the call, or rather chaunt made by the boat-men, “Cast Ali!” (the words them-

selves delightfully unintelligible) to challenge any other bark as we turned a corner; the passing of another gondola, black as night and silent as death—Is not this romantic? Then we emerged into the wide expanse before the Place of St. Mark; the cupolas of the church of Santa Maria de la Salute were silvered by the moonbeams; the dark tower rose in silent majesty; the waves rippled; and the dusky line of Lido afar off was the pledge of calm and safety. The Paldian palaces that rose from the Canale Grande; the simple beauty of the Rialto's single arch—

“Horrible place! I shall never forget crossing it—”

“Ay, that is the way with you of this world. But who among those who love romance ever thinks of going on the Rialto when they have once heard that the fish-market is held there? No place, trust an adept, equals Venice in giving “a local habitation and a name,” to the restless imaginations of those who pant to quit the “painted scene of this new world—” for the old world, peopled by sages who have lived in material shape, and heroes whose existence is engendered in the mind of man alone. I have often repeated this to myself as I passed the long hours of the silent night, watching the far lights of the distant gondolas, and listening to the chaunt of the boatmen as they glided under my window. How quiet is Venice! no horses; none of the hideous sounds and noises of a town. I grant that in lanes—but why talk of what belongs to every town; dirty alleys, troublesome market-women, and the mark of a maritime city, the luckless smell of fish? Why select defects, and cast from your account the peculiar excellencies of this wonderful city? The buildings rising from the waves; the silence of the watry pavement; the mysterious beauty of the black gondolas; and, not to be omitted, the dark eyes and finely-shaped brows of the women peeping from beneath their *faziotes*.

“You were three months in Italy?”

“Six, if you please, Malville.”

“Well, six, twelve, twenty, are not sufficient to learn to appreciate Italy. We go with false notions of God knows what—of orange groves and fields of asphodel; we expect what we do not find, and are therefore disappointed with the reality; and yet to my mind the reality is not inferior to any scene of enchantment that the imagination ever conjured.”

“Or rather say, my friend, that the imagination can paint objects of little worth in gaudy colours, and then become enamoured of its own work.”

“Shall I tell you,” continued Malville, with a smile, “how you passed your time in Italy? You traversed the country in your travelling chariot, cursing the postillions and the bad inns. You arrived at a town and went to the best hotel, at which you found many of your countrymen, mere acquaintances in England, but hailed as bosom friends in that strange land. You walked about the streets of a morning expecting to find gorgeous temples and Cyclopean ruins in every street in Florence; you came to some broken pillar, wondered what it could be, and laughed at the idea of this being one of the relics which your wise countrymen came so far to see; you lounged into a coffee-house and read Galignani; and then perhaps wandered with

equal apathy into the gallery, where, if you were not transported to the seventh heaven, I can undertake your defence no further."

"My defence, Malville?"

"You dined; you went to a conversazione, where you were neither understood nor could understand; you went to the opera to hear probably the fifty-second repetition of a piece to which nobody listened; or you found yourself in Paradise at the drawing-room of the English ambassador, and fancied yourself in Grosvenor-square.

"I am a lover of nature. Towns, and the details of mixed society, are modes of life alien to my nature. I live to myself and to my affections, and nothing to that tedious routine which makes up the daily round of most men's lives. I went to Italy young, and visited with ardent curiosity and delight all of great and glorious which that country contains. I have already mentioned the charms which Venice has for me; and all Lombardy, whose aspect indeed is very different from that of the south of Italy, is beautiful in its kind. Among the lakes of the north we meet with alpine scenery mixed with the more luxurious vegetation of the south. The Euganean hills in gentler beauty, remind one of the hills of our own country, yet painted with warmer colours. Read Ugo Foscolo's description of them in the first part of his 'Ultime lettere di Jacopo Ortis,' and you will acknowledge the romantic and even sublime sentiments which they are capable of inspiring. But Naples is the real enchantress of Italy; the scenery there is so exquisitely lovely, the remains of antiquity so perfect, wonderful, and beautiful; the climate so genial, that a festive appearance seems for ever to invest it, mingled strangely with the feeling of insecurity with which one is inspired by the sight of Vesuvius, and the marks which are every where manifest of the violent changes that have taken place in that of which in other countries we feel most certain, good Mother Earth herself. With us this same dame is a domestic wife, keeping house, and providing with earnest care, and yet penurious means, for her family, expecting no pleasure, and finding no amusement. At Naples my fair lady tricks herself out in rich attire, she is kept in the best humour through the perpetual attentions of her constant cavaliers servente, the sun—and she smiles so sweetly on us that we forgive her if at times she plays the coquette with us and leaves us in the lurch. Rome is still the queen of the world,—

All that Athens ever brought forth wise,
 All that Afric ever brought forth strange,
 All that which Asia ever had of prize,
 Was here to see;—O, marvellous great change!
 Rome living was the world's sole ornament,
 And dead is now the world's sole monument.*

"If this be true, our forefathers have, in faith! a rare mausoleum for their decay, and Artemisia built a far less costly repository for her lord than widowed Time has bestowed on his dead companion, the Past; when I die, may I sleep there and mingle with the glorious dust of Rome! May its radiant atmosphere enshroud these lifeless limbs, and my fading clay give birth to flowers that may inhale that brightest air.

"So I have made my voyage in that fair land, and now bring you

* Spenser's Ruins of Rome.

to Tuscany. After all I have said of the delights of the south of Italy, I would choose Tuscany for a residence. Its inhabitants are courteous and civilized. I confess that there is a charm for me in the manners of the common people and servants. Perhaps this is partly to be accounted for from the contrast which they form with those of my native country; and all that is unusual, by divesting common life of its familiar garb, gives an air of gala to every-day concerns. These good people are courteous, and there is much *piquance* in the shades of distinction which they make between respect and servility, ease of address and impertinence. Yet this is little seen and appreciated among their English visitors. I have seen a country woman of some rank much shocked at being cordially embraced in a parting scene from her cook-maid; and an Englishman think himself insulted because when, on ordering his coachman to wait a few minutes for orders, the man quietly sat down: yet neither of these actions were instigated by the slightest spirit of insolence. I know not why, but there was always something heartfelt and delightful to me in the salutation that passes each evening between master and servant. On bringing the lights the servant always says, "Felicissima sera Signoria;" and is answered by a similar benediction. These are nothings; you will say; but such nothings have conduced more to my pleasure than other events usually accounted of more moment.

"The country of Tuscany is cultivated and fertile, although it does not bear the same stamp of excessive luxury as in the south. To continue my half-forgotten simile, the earth is here like a young affectionate wife, who loves her home, yet dresses that home in smiles. In spring, nature arises in beauty from her prison, and rains sunbeams and life upon the land. Summer comes up in its green array, giving labour and reward to the peasants. Their plenteous harvests, their Virgilian threshing floors, and looks of busy happiness, are delightful to me. The balmy air of night, Hesperus in his glowing palace of sunlight, the flower-starred earth, the glittering waters, the ripening grapes, the chestnut copses, the cuckoo, and the nightingale,—such is the assemblage which is to me what balls and parties are to others. And if a storm comes, rushing like an armed band over the country, filling the torrents, bending the proud heads of the trees, causing the clouds deafening music to resound, and the lightning to fill the air with splendour; I am still enchanted by the spectacle which diversifies what I have heard named the monotonous blue skies of Italy.

"In Tuscany the streams are fresh and full, the plains decorated with waving corn, shadowed by trees and trellised vines, and the mountains arise in wooded majesty behind to give dignity to the scene. What is a land without mountains? Heaven disdains a plain; but when the beauteous earth raises her proud head to seek its high communion, then it descends to meet her, it adorns her in clouds, and invests her in radiant hues.

"On the 15th of September, 18—, I remember being one of a party of pleasure from the baths of Pisa to Vico Pisano, a little town formerly a frontier fortress between the Pisan and Florentine territories. The air inspired joy, and the pleasure I felt I saw reflected in the countenance of my beloved-companions. Our course lay beneath hills hardly high enough for the name of mountains, but picturesquely

shaped and covered with various wood. The cicale chirped, and the air was impregnated with the perfume of flowers. We passed the Rupe de 'Noce, and proceeding still at the foot of hills arrived at Vico Pisano, which is built at the extreme point of the range. The houses are old and surmounted with ancient towers; and at one end of the town there is a range of old wall, weed-grown; but never did eye behold hues more rich and strange than those with which time and the seasons have painted this relic. The lines of the cornice swept downwards, and made a shadow that served even to diversify more the colours we beheld. We returned along the same road; and not far from Vico Pisano ascended a gentle hill, at the top of which was a church dedicated to Madonna, with a grassy platform of earth before it. Here we spread and ate our rustic fare, and were waited upon by the peasant girls of the cottage attached to the church, one of whom was of extreme beauty, a beauty heightened by the grace of her motions and the simplicity of her manner. After our pic-nic we reposed under the shade of the church, on the brow of the hill. We gazed on the scene with rapture. 'Look,' cried my best, and now lost friend, 'behold the mountains that sweep into the plain like waves that meet in a chasm; the olive woods are as green as a sea, and are waving in the wind; the shadows of the clouds are spotting the bosoms of the hills; a heron comes sailing over us; a butterfly flits near; at intervals the pines give forth their sweet and prolonged response to the wind, the myrtle bushes are in bud, and the soil beneath us is carpeted with odoriferous flowers.' My full heart could only sigh, he alone was eloquent enough to clothe his thoughts in language."

Malville's eyes glistened as he spoke, he sighed deeply; then turning away, he walked towards the avenue that led from the grounds on which we were. I followed him, but we neither of us spoke; and when at length he renewed the conversation, he did not mention Italy; he seemed to wish to turn the current of his thoughts, and by degrees he reassumed his composure.

When I took leave of him I said, smiling, "You have celebrated an Italian party of pleasure; may I propose an English one to you? Will you join some friends next Thursday in an excursion down the Thames? Perhaps the sight of its beautiful banks, and the stream itself, will inspire you with some of the delight you have felt in happier climes."

Malville consented. But dare I tell the issue of my invitation? Thursday came, and the sky was covered with clouds; it looked like rain. However, we courageously embarked, and within an hour a gentle mizzling commenced. We made an awning of sails, and wrapt ourselves up in boat-cloaks and shawls. "It is not much," cried one with a sigh. "I do not think it will last," remarked another, in a despairing voice. A silence ensued. "Can you contrive to shelter me at this corner?" said one; "my shoulder is getting wet." In about five minutes another observed, that the water was trickling in his neck. Yet we went on. The rain ceased for a few minutes, and we tethered our boat under a small cove under dripping trees; we ate our collation, and raised our spirits with wine, so that we were able to endure with tolerable fortitude, the heavy rain that accompanied us as we slowly proceeded homewards up the river,

ON SQUEEZING.

MR. EDITOR,—There is a spirit of *Squeezing*, which affects, and, for the last twenty years, has deeply affected all classes of society, and to which I am disposed to ascribe no small share of that confusion in the rank and relations of social life with which the country at large appears to be threatened. It can hardly be necessary to add, that by *Squeezing* is meant that impatience and pride which induce persons in the middle orders of society to leave the sphere in which they have been accustomed to move, and to press forward with the view of securing a place in one completely above them, and for which they are altogether unqualified, as well from education as from habit.

In my younger days, we could boast of six different orders of men, besides the clergy; who then, as at present, served the office of a connecting chain to bind all these orders together. Nor were these orders merely ideal. They were plainly and visibly distinguishable, the one from the other, and consisted of the following descriptions of people.

In the first class, of course, stood the nobility, as a body perfectly distinct from all others; though not so far removed as to refuse all intercourse with those immediately below them. Next came the baronets, and gentry of old families and good estates. Between these two orders, there was, as I have hinted, a good deal of intercourse; but it was, nevertheless, carried on with a degree of stateliness, decorum, and respect, which never permitted the difference of rank to be altogether overlooked.

The third place was occupied by the lesser gentry, professional men, and such as had acquired large fortunes by successful trade; and here the line of demarkation became clearly and strongly marked. Commerce had not yet enabled our merchants to rival the nobility in wealth and in the splendour of their establishments; nor did money then so completely, as at present, determine the weight and influence attached to individual character in the scale of society. The French Revolution has, both by its immediate operation, and more especially by its remoter effects, produced a change on the face of society which bids fair to become permanent, and thereby very materially to derange the relations which have heretofore subsisted among the several orders of men in the great community of Europe. The abolition of the numerous privileges belonging to the ancient noblesse of France, and, still more, the destruction of many old families during the ascendancy of the democratical government in that country, have produced a striking alteration on the face of society; whilst, in England, the rapid increase of wealth in the several departments of trade, joined to the secret operation of levelling principles, which have been cherished to an extent not generally believed, has led to changes in our style of living, and in the mutual intercourse of the noble and the rich, which do not at all coincide with my old-fashioned notions of propriety.

In the *fourth* class were to be found, in days of yore, our hardy and independent yeomen,—a body of men more completely by themselves than, perhaps, any other. They did not pretend to be *gentlemen*, in the modern sense of the phrase,—to ape the manners of their superi-

ors, to squeeze into their society, or to ruin themselves by adopting a style of living unsuitable to their character and circumstances. But the true yeomanry of England has now almost entirely disappeared. A spreading and successful commerce has, in the course of thirty years, drawn into its vortex the greater number of our small landed proprietors; whilst their estates, too inconsiderable to answer the purposes of display, or to employ an immensely increased capital, have been joined "field to field and house to house," and fallen into the hands of some bold speculator, or of some powerful noble.

In the fifth division of the scale were found farmers and shop-keepers, who seem naturally classed together; whilst the lowest place was occupied then, as now, by labourers and mechanics.

I am not going to expose myself to a controversy with the *liberals* of the day, by stating very strongly my opinions in regard to the evil consequences of the sudden departure, which we have all seen, from the practice and feelings of our ancestors. At present, as is well known, we have only three orders or classes to distinguish the gradation of society,—the *higher*, the *middling*, and the *lower*; and it will be allowed, I think, that the conduct pursued at this very moment, by the popular party in every rank of life, is well fitted to blot out the few distinctions which yet remain. In this part of England, which, as it happens not to be a manufacturing district, is comparatively free from the contamination of irreligion and democracy, the bad effects to which I allude are not very sensibly felt. But in the large towns, crowded with mechanics, or, to speak more generally, with that miscellaneous population which has started up since the beginning of the late war, the bitter fruits of the tree of liberty are every where abundantly manifest. So far from perceiving any tokens of that reverence and respectfulness which used to mark the demeanour of the lower class towards their betters, you will every where observe a studied neglect, a cold suspicious indifference, and even, on some occasions, an undisguised desire to inflict a positive insult. I have accordingly heard assigned by some of my friends, among their other motives for living abroad, a wish to avoid the intolerable and still growing insolence of the English populace; who of late appear to have formed the determination of waging war with all to whom Providence has granted the means of wearing better coats, and using more comfortable houses, than they themselves can command.

But I maintain, at the same time, that the common people are not altogether to blame for the demoralized and ill-mannered condition into which they have recently fallen. The source of the evil is to be traced on higher ground. The mixture and confusion of ranks began among a class of men who were content to sacrifice family pride and personal feelings to the gratification of political animosity, or to the furtherance, perhaps, of still more reprehensible objects. At all events, the mischief which we are now all ready to deplore, wanted not the sanction and enforcement of powerful example; and in this case we have seen nothing more than happens in most others,—the bad practices of the upper classes adopted and rendered worse by the lower. The farmer thinks himself as good as the yeoman; the latter aspires to a place among the higher gentry; these, in their turn, if aided by riches, identify themselves with the titled and the noble,—

all of them widening the approach by which they meditate an entrance, by diminishing the tokens of respect formerly shewn to those above them; and in this way the old forms and distinctions of society are lost, and an example held out which cannot fail to lead to the very worst results.

As my actual acquaintance with human life, as it now appears under the powerful modifications of the late eventful period to which I have already so often alluded, is almost wholly limited to a country parish, of which I am the Vicar, I shall confine the few remarks I have still to make to the change which has taken place in my own time in the mode of living and condition of farmers.

In the blessed days of my youth, before the itch for genteelity had infected the land, the hall or kitchen of the farmer served as a dining-room both to him and his workmen. At the upper end stood a table, round which he and his family sat, whilst at the lower was an extensive oaken board surrounded by the ploughman, the hind, the shepherd, and other labourers whom he employed; for there existed then, not only proper sentiments of respect from the inferior to the superior, but feelings of kindness from the superior towards the inferior; feelings which spoke a language not very different from that of a Highland chief towards his vassals. The swain looked upon himself as a member of his master's household; whilst the master considered that he was bound to provide for and support the man by whose labour his seeds were sown and his flocks tended. But look at the state of affairs now. Once a-week the workman comes to the farmer's back-door, where he receives his hard-earned wages in money, every penny being deducted to which the employer can lay the slightest claim; and scarcely the trifling favour of a cup of table beer being bestowed to moisten the bargain. Grumbling at his harsh usage, the peasant returns to a miserable cottage provided by the parish, which will not shelter him or his children from the cold, and sits down to brood over the unkind expressions which in all probability accompanied the donation of what was his due.

This is a melancholy picture, Sir, but it is, nevertheless, a just one: and I am very sure, that he who contemplates it as he ought to do, will be at no loss to discover one great cause of the present fearful depravation of morals. Where envy and jealousy prevail, it is self-evident that no love or attachment can subsist; and where we see all classes mutually envious and jealous of one another, who can wonder that society is disorganised?

It is not, however, my design to irritate the lower orders, by dwelling upon these errors in their superiors, by which they are in a peculiar manner affected. I would rather point out the absurdity of aiming at a station in life to which we have no claim; and with this view I shall take the liberty of relating the particulars of a morning's visit to a farmer's family in my own parish.

You must know, here, that there has lately arrived amongst us a family of the name of Bumpkin, the father of which farms about one hundred and fifty acres of land. Being new comers, I, who am diffidence itself, for some weeks formed but little acquaintance with them. They had made their appearance, however, with so much regularity

at church, that having heard of the indisposition of one of the daughters, I determined the other day to call and enquire into the state of her mind; and with this view I strolled immediately after breakfast in the direction where they lived, and soon came in sight of their house, (a good substantial farm-house) situated upon the edge of the common. It was separated from the latter by a court, round which was drawn a wall sufficiently high to prevent my seeing over at any distance. From the appearance of the mansion itself, I naturally expected to discover, behind the wall, heaps of manure piled up, and other things indicative of the employment of its inhabitant; but instead of this, I found a neat flower garden, laid out, with due attention to taste and expence, in a variety of circular and angular gravel walks. I likewise noticed, when some way off, that the front of the house was covered with foliage, and anticipated a view of pear or cherry trees in a state of high cultivation. But behold, instead of fruit trees, my eye rested on a delightful mixture of native and exotic shrubs, China roses, jessamines, delias, Virginia creepers, with others equally rare and beautiful; to complete the scene, an elegant green garden-stair, or ladder, rested against the wall, upon which, arrayed in a becoming morning dishabile, was mounted a sister of the young person whom I went to visit. Her hands were carefully covered with doe-leather gloves; and she was employed in training up a few stray branches, which had run wild during the summer.

The noise occasioned by opening the gate drew the attention of the fair florist, who, turning round, exhibited, from beneath a large garden bonnet, a profusion of dark hair, curled and dressed in the first style of fashion. Observing her visitor, she descended with the grace of an Hebe, for she is really a pretty girl, and came smiling towards me. "Really, Mr. Poundtext," said she, with all the ease imaginable, "you have caught me in an awkward situation; but I am so passionately fond of my garden, that I devote almost the whole of the morning to it, whenever the weather will permit. Ma says that I will injure my health, but I would almost sooner do that than leave my sweet delias to the charge of a careless servant." Is this a farmer's daughter, said I to myself, or have I mistaken my route. "To what," continued the damsel "are we to attribute the pleasure of so early a visit?" Roused by this unexpected question, I scarcely knew what to answer, but stammering out something about her sister's health, I added, "You seem to enter into the spirit of gardening, pray do you possess a superior collection of plants?" "O by no means" replied she, "not half so good a collection as I could wish, because I cannot persuade papa to give a proper price for rare ones; and you know such things are not to be had for nothing. Only think, he positively refused t'other day, to give half a guinea for the sweetest helianthus you ever saw; I am sure it was a complete bargain."

Bowing to the fair gardener I passed on, and was met at the door of the house by her mother, a fresh, comely dame, decked out in a striped sarsenet gown with gauze trimming, a lace cap, and auburn false ringlets. Having made our mutual obeisances, she conducted me through the kitchen, into a parlour as elegantly furnished as I should desire to furnish my own, even were I promoted to the bench.

"Your youngest daughter is complaining," said I as soon as I was seated, "perhaps she might wish to converse with her Clergyman?" "O as to Lydia," replied the old lady, "she is tolerable well, I assure you, Sir. All my girls be a little narvish, or, as they say, their narves be easily rustled, but there be nothing of no consequence the matter." You can imagine no three things more at variance than this good woman's dress, air, and mode of expressing herself. It was clear that she had been under training with her daughters, and it was equally clear that she had been no very apt scholar. Nevertheless, I cannot deny but that her smart wig, and gold earrings, produced a great effect upon my rustic conceptions.

Having taken our seats, we were soon joined by Miss Bumpkin and Miss Caroline, (so the worshipper of Flora is called.) The tray was ordered. This was soon brought in, covered with cakes of various sorts, and three kinds of wine. I acknowledge, Mr. Editor, that this last exhibition totally confounded me, inasmuch that I began to doubt whether I had not by mistake got into the squire's house instead of farmer Bumpkin's; but I was speedily freed from my misgiving, by the entrance of the farmer and his son. Of these, the first was dressed exactly as the yeomen of old were wont to dress, that is, in a brown coat and jockey boots; the last wore a fashionable blue frock, with Cossac trowsers of the same. Yet there was about the father something of the respectful manner of other days, though the son seemed to be quite of the new school.

Entering into conversation with the farmer, I inquired into the state of markets. "There is nothing good, Sir, (said he,) besides ship. I can't say as how they be amiss. I took two score to——t'other day." "La, papa, (interrupted Miss Willomina,) speak intelligibly: You sent your shepherd." "I sent your brother Jacky here, (replied the father,) and followed myself." "O yes, (replied the young man, carelessly beating the heel of his boot with a dandy stick,) my father and I were anxious to see how things went, and so we rode into market. Do you know, Willie—" "Indeed, John, (interrupted the young lady,) I will not be called Willie; my name is Willomina." "Very well Miss Willomina, then; only think, I saw Jim Collins driving his sister in a tilbury; and the fellow would scarcely speak to me." "Saucy wretches! (cried Miss Caroline,) I hate these Colliness; one would think the whole country was their own. And as for the girls, since they returned from their town boarding-school, forsooth, they will hardly condescend to look at an old acquaintance."

The family thus castigised is the only remnant of the ancient yeoman breed left in my parish. Old Collins is possessed of an estate valued at five hundred pounds a-year, and rents land to double that amount; on the strength of which, his sons and daughters have set up for gentlefolks, to the great annoyance of all their neighbours. This smart dialogue had just ended, when the door flew open, and in walked, or rather glided, Miss Lydia, dressed with becoming negligence, and presenting a pretty face overspread with the interesting pallor of indisposition. "Lyddy, Lyddy, (cried her father,) if you would only leave racketing alone, and mind the barn-yard a little more." Pshaw! (exclaimed the fair invalid, with a twirl of the head,) what a barbarian speech! We shall never succeed in giving papa the slightest polish,

(Lydia turning to me;) but, in real truth, he does me injustice at present." "What, (cried the good man,) have you not been junketing about at Rochester? and have you not wrote us all about balls at Master Snip the tailor's, and plays and suppers at Master Orange the grocer's, and dinners at—" "Dear papa, (interrupted Miss Lydia,) pray be silent, and remember that though we have been at home more than a full week, we have not yet insisted upon seeing any of our friends. But won't you take a little wine, Mr. Poundtext? This is port, and that is sherry, and this is common home-made currant, of which we always manufacture a little for house use."

As I found myself addressed by the very person whom I particularly came to see, I thought of commencing a little serious conversation; but was soon silenced by the information, that indeed there was very little the matter; she believed she had caught cold at the last assembly, and neglected it, that was all.

And here I must admit, that though I set out from my own house with an head great with consolatory thoughts and sound advices, my brain became so thoroughly bewildered by the unexpected scene which farmer Bumpkin's parlour presented, that had I been called upon to bring any of them forth, they would have run no slight risk of strangulation in the birth. Wishing the young lady, therefore, a speedy recovery, and expressing, somewhat awkwardly, my readiness to attend her on any other occasion, I took my leave.

I take my leave of you, too; Sir; for the present, by assuring you that I have not exaggerated in the slightest degree the doings or language of my Bumpkin neighbours: Are they not a precious sample of the Squeezing tribe which torment this ill-starred generation? Such girls are unfit for the station in which Providence has placed them; and they are not less unqualified for the walk of life to which their silly ambition aspires. When you hear of agricultural distress and impoverished tenants, think of the Madames and Misses Bumpkin with which the country is cursed and many an honest farmer ruined, and you will discover a malady beyond the reach of corn laws, or even of Lord Grey's unrevealed *nostrum*, completely to cure. Ye Scotch, beware of Squeezing!! It has done more mischief in England than could have been inflicted upon us even by ten years of a Whig administration. I am, Sir, yours, &c.

EPITAPH
 TO THE PYE-HOUSE MEMORY OF NEEL BACHELOUR, THE OXFORD PYE-WOMAN.
 Here in the dust she lies, and his companion was
 The mouldering crust
 Of Elenour Bachelour's shoven;
 Wall versed in the art
 Of pies, custards and tarts,
 And the lucrative shell of the oven.
 When she dilly'd long enough,
 She made her last puff
 A puff by her husband much prais'd,
 Now here she doth lie
 And makes a fine piccadilly
 In hopes that the crust shall be rais'd!

But Gentlemen, if in your reflection you cannot consistently with the demands the history of illustrious example of a light, and who were still seen as we are when the last of their race, and their last scarcely more advantageously than in their own day, and their last reduced to their Council is of our own, but our lives in competition shall be rais'd!

(I) by its turning to me; but in fact it is a just and equitable thing to do. (What (said the good man) have you not been juggling about at Rochesters, and have you not wrote us all about the Master of the Ship, THE AFRICAN TRAVELER, (said I) Dear Sir, (interjected Miss Lys) The public has already been made acquainted with the death of Mr. Bowdich, one of the many victims of African discovery; at the early age of 30, leaving a young and amiable widow destitute of two

Mr. Bowdich was born in June, 1793, at Bristol, where his father was a considerable manufacturer. At a very early age he was sent to the Grammar school of that city, and soon gave the strongest indications of those talents which distinguished him in future life. He was afterwards placed at a school at Corsham, in Wiltshire, of high classical reputation; and subsequently, for a short time, was attached to one of the Halls in Oxford, although, it is believed, he was never regularly matriculated.

At an early age Mr. Bowdich formed a matrimonial connexion which proved his pride and solace in all the vicissitudes of his conquered life; and for some years he remained resident in Bristol, participating in his father's business.

A variety of circumstances, however, and especially a distaste for trade, induced him to seek a more congenial pursuit; and a near relative filling at that time an important situation on the Gold Coast, Mr. Bowdich solicited, and obtained an appointment as writer in the service of the African Company.

He arrived at Cape Coast Castle in the year 1816, and was shortly afterwards joined by his wife, the cheerful participator of all his dangers, and the efficient assistant in his scientific labours. It being determined to send an embassy to the interior kingdom of Ashantee, a service in which few were willing to embark, Mr. Bowdich applied for permission to lead or accompany it. But the circumstance of his being a husband and a father was felt to present a reason for refusing his request, till at length the urgency of his solicitation and the recollection of his talents prevailed, and he was appointed to the perilous enterprise. The mission was successful in all its objects, and Mr. Bowdich fortunately achieved the distinction of being amongst the many who had devoted themselves to the fearful object of exploring the interior of Africa, the only one whose labours were crowned with complete success. Never, perhaps, were prudence and intrepidity more required, or more strikingly exhibited than in the progress of this mission. In illustration of the latter quality, we quote a passage from a despatch written by Mr. Bowdich, at a moment when the fate of himself and his companions was suspended by a thread of the most fragile texture:

"But, Gentlemen, if in your better knowledge and reflection, you cannot consistently with your honour and your trust meet the King's demand, the history of our country has fortified our minds with the illustrious example of a Vansittart and his colleagues, who were situated as we are when the dawn of British intercourse in India was scarcely more advanced than its dawn in Africa is now, and their last request to their Council is our present conclusion to you—Do not put our lives in competition with the honour and interest of our country."

Returning to England to communicate the interesting and valuable details, which even the imminent perils of his situation had not diverted him from collecting, and to solicit the means of more extensive and efficient research, Mr. Bowdich, was greeted by all who were eminent in science or station with the most flattering testimonials of the value of his discoveries and acknowledgments of the merits of his personal exertions.

Ever enthusiastic in the cause of science, he derived an additional stimulus from the applauses which were thus bestowed, and thenceforward had no object but to be allowed the means and opportunity of devoting his attainments and intrepidity to further researches in the interesting field he had already in part explored.

Mr. Bowdich repaired to Paris, with a view of perfecting his knowledge of some of the physical sciences, by the means with which that city abounds. His reception here was as generous as flattering. Humboldt, Cuvier, Biot, Denon—in short, all the savans bestowed on him the most distinguished attention; a public *éloge* was pronounced on him at a meeting of the Four Academies of the Institute, and an advantageous appointment offered by the French Government. Too much an Englishman, however, to accept this offer, Mr. Bowdich continued in Paris a considerable time, endeavouring to obtain, by his own industry, the means of pursuing the object of his fond ambition; and having at length effected the necessary arrangements, he took his departure from Europe, accompanied by his wife and two children, hoping, by further achievements in the field of science, to establish a stronger claim upon society at large.

The first intelligence received of Mr. Bowdich is, that he has died a martyr in the cause to which he had dedicated himself, leaving an accomplished and amiable widow with three children totally unprovided for. Our limits will not allow us to do justice to Mr. Bowdich's talents and acquirements: they were, however, of a very high order. He was a profound classic and linguist, and excellent mathematician, well versed in most of the physical sciences, in ancient and modern history, and in polite literature.

Mr. Bowdich was a member of many of the learned societies of England and the continent; and, besides the very interesting Account of his Mission to Ashantee, was the author of several scientific works. In the death of such an individual, combining, as he did, so many valuable qualifications for a traveller, the cause of science has sustained a loss not easily to be repaired.

THE FOREIGN EXECUTIONER;

A LEGEND OF WHITEHALL.

Extracted from the Manuscripts of the Rev. Cephias Godwin.

See'st this axe of mine?—The best blood of the Country has been upon its edge
 JOANNA BAILLIE.

ANNO 1716.—In the January of this year it was my singular fortune to meet with a certain event, which was remarkable not only as a most astonishing memorial of retributive providence, but also as an illustration of that, concerning which many have received erroneous impressions, or have deemed it to be forever lost in oblivion. The unsettled state of Scotland had led me to enforce upon the minds of my hearers, the beauty of loyalty and good order in the sight of God; and the detestation with which the Almighty looks upon anarchy, rebellion, and warfare against the sovereign. The ground of my discourse was the history of Saul's death; *vide* II Samuel, chapter 1, verses 1 to 16; and in concluding the subject, my words, as well as I can remember,—for my sermons have since been destroyed,—were as follow:—“So fell, my brethren, the first of the Jewish monarchs, after a reign of about thirty-nine years, in a valley by Mount Gilboa; first mortally wounded by his own hand, and then despatched by the weapon of an Amalekite. But it is time now to turn from the mighty who fell, to him by whose hand his death was hastened. If, then, there be a crime which is abhorred by all nations universally; the law of whose condemnation is written by the finger of the living God upon the heart of every man; whether civilized or savage; at the commission, and the sight, and even the very thought of which, the foulest hearts and the most hardened consciences have shrunk dismayed; whose power and effect are such, that one glance of but one moment's continuance, will flash such terror into the breast of the perpetrator, that it will not leave him through eternity;—that crime is murder! Oh! may none of you ever feel the dreadful horrors of great darkness, and the keen gnawings of that worm which even Death cannot kill, awakened in your breast by the commission of that most accursed of sins. It is sufficient to dye with the deepest sorrow, and the most alarming terrors, a life which is surrounded by all that humanity esteems valuable, or delightful, or rich, or honourable, or glorious. It is like that distemper which gives to every thing around us, whether the splendid productions of art, or the yet more beautifully variegated face of nature, a nauseous stain: for believe me, ever after the blood of a fellow creature hath imbued your hands, all things will speak of it, and display it. The ruddy tints of the rose will show to the sight of a murderer deeper with his sin; the fair and beautiful snow will seem marked and spotted with sanguine pollution; the sun cannot set gloriously in the west, nor rise again in the east, without the lovely colours which it spreads around reflecting back the hue of guilt unto his eyes and conscience;—for him the moon shall nightly be turned into blood, and the fires of the stars shall

shine with a crimson light, as if his crime had reversed the beauties of nature, and had imparted the stain of his infamy to the whole world. Oh! say, can such a one be at rest? can his soul ever possess that peace which passeth all understanding? No!—even though he might put away the sword of the avenger, yet would he, not be delivered from the continual fear and power of death. His mind would still be filled with all the terrors of dissolution; there would be the cold damps upon his brow, the icy chilliness in his veins, the fairest scents would be to him turned into the loathsome smell of mortality,—the green sod on which he walked would constantly bring the grave to his remembrance; and for him even this living world would be full of death. This, indeed, is horrible; but yet even this crime may be wrought into one that can neither be increased nor diminished, when the hand of the rebel, or of the assassin—I place them together; for they are even as one—is raised against his sovereign, as was the Amalekite's in my text. How! says David, evidently amazed at the enormity of the crime, at which he shrank back, as it were in terrified astonishment, How! wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to destroy the Lord's anointed? His death swiftly followed; for the crime had been confessed by his own mouth, the declaration was witnessed by all, and the sin so avenged, was in a twofold degree condemned.

It was my intention according to my usual custom, to have then proceeded to a deduction of consolation and utility from this subject;—for my own sentiments are, that a minister cannot lawfully leave his people either in anger or alarm; for whatever he may have said to awaken or reprove, should be impressed with kindness and charity before they separate:—It was then about to proceed to this part of my discourse, when the attention of the whole congregation was turned to a stranger who had fainted. I had before this remarked his peculiarly solemn but distressed demeanour; the tears stood in his eyes as I spake; but they seemed unable to flow downwards. His gaze was fixed intently upon me, while his mouth somewhat opened, appeared to drink in every word which I had uttered; yet with all this, he was evidently labouring under some dreadful remembrance; his breast heaved with violent gaspings; and the perspiration hung upon his dark and aged face, as if he stood condemned before all mankind. Indeed he very much reminded me of the Hebrew Ahasuerus, whom Westphalus supposed to be the Wandering Jew, and who once appeared in an Holsatian church during sermon, in a wretched dress, beating upon his breast, and sighing heavily.

The confusion which such a circumstance would excite in a country parish church, may be well conceived: almost every eye was turned towards the stranger; but a few anxiously sought mine, to learn what should be done at such a crisis. Having directed that he should be carried to my own home, and carefully attended to, I put an early conclusion to the service, for the moment that men's curiosity is awakened, their religious thoughts are scattered; and in common with all my hearers, I felt a considerable desire to know something more of the sorrows of this unhappy stranger. Upon my return to the Parsonage, I found my guest,—who had refused all refresh-

ment, seated in the posture of calm despondency, with his hands clasped and resting on his knees, and his face marked with all the characters of grief and agony, looking downwards. By his side was a large, antiently-carved, oaken chest, secured with grotesque iron bands, hasps, and an immense lock, upon which he frequently cast a watchful and an anxious glance; and then, as if the very sight of it renewed all the horrors of his mind, he turned shudderingly away, covered his eyes with his hands, and after a while sank again into his former sullenness and melancholy. When I entered the room he did not at first perceive me; but as I drew near to him, and was about to address him, he started up,—then threw himself in agony across the chest, turned upon me a frantic and furious glance, which gave an almost demoniacal expression to his features, and in a foreign-toned, harsh and agitated voice, he cried, while he convulsively grasped the box,—“No, no, no! you shall not search it, nor tear it from me, but with my life,—and you cannot force me to accuse myself:—Saint Ignacio, no!—the Inquisition, themselves, would not condemn me for the deed!”

“My unhappy brother,” said I, “console yourself, and believe that both you and your possessions whatever they be, are in perfect safety in the dwelling of Cephas Godwin, a minister of the Protestant church, as you have already seen. It is true, I am called upon by my sacred office, to denounce the vengeance of heaven against sinners, but then it is against such only as treat its gospels and its commands alike with scorn:—such as have neither fear, nor belief, nor repentance, nor even the human feeling of remorse. Now I can well trust that some of these are in your bosom, and it shall be my care to fill it with all the purer and better sensations, which even angels delight to witness.”—“Aye,” replied the stranger hastily, with a sarcastic and hollow laugh, “but then you will say that I must first confess, that my inward sins must first be probed,—that I must be put to open penance in this world, in order to avoid the more dreadful condemnation of the next!—Oh! no, no!—death rather than that:—Santo Jeronymo! how could I tell of——”

“Not so,” returned I, “our church does not enjoin auricular confession; it recommends only that if one have committed a deadly crime, which lays so heavily upon his soul that it would relieve him to relate it,—or if he have greatly injured any fellow-creature, to whom he may yet make atonement by speaking of his sins,—then does it command its Ministers to receive such declarations with sympathy, pity, secrecy, and absolution; to endeavour earnestly to right the wrong, and to set the unburthened Christian traveller, leaping with joy, on his road homeward.”

“I do not,” said the stranger, gazing intently upon me, “I do not behold your visage glowing like the sun, nor are you habited in a celestial vestment, nor do you bear the golden triumphant palm of heaven.—I do not see in your face and form ought that is beyond the kind features of humanity, and religion,—but your words are the words of an angel. You are indeed fitted to speak the gospel to man, for with you it is in truth the sound of good tidings.—But for me, I am stained with all that virtuous men must in common execrate!—I have

a deadly sin upon my soul which presses upon it more heavily, than that massive oaken chest which I have borne by night and by day, by sea and by land, for more than sixty years, ever did upon my body. I have deeply injured a fellow-creature, one of the most exalted rank and the most estimable piety, whom it was the duty of all faithfully to serve—but it is past, and the dead have no feeling. As he concluded, the gentler sensations which my last words had excited, seemed to be again swallowed up in his former sullenness; and I was therefore about to leave the room to order for him another chamber, when I said,—“Quiet yourself, my unhappy brother, at least for the present; whoever you may be, and whatever have been your crimes I know not, but in this dwelling you are safe. Your sleep shall not be watched, that the involuntary words then often uttered by the tongue, may be brought against you;—your property shall remain near your couch inviolate;—for, trust me, if I knew you to be a murderer, and that chest to contain the evidences of your guilt, I would not open it for worlds!”

“*Madre del nuestro Senor!*” said the stranger, starting to his feet, “and how came you to know that?—you are not a Roman priest, you do not pretend to miraculous visions and revelations, but by a few forcible words you lay open my soul as truly, as if I had shown you all her feelings in the most faithful confession. Well might you say, that your church enjoins it not, where her pastors are so gifted in the knowledge of humanity she requires it not. I have been excommunicated and anathematized by the ecclesiastics of my own nation, but their heaviest curses never awakened my conscience like the brief exhortation I have heard from you.” “Alas, my unfortunate friend,” said I, “so similar is the hand-writing of guilt in the souls of all men, that when its characters have been once read they are ever afterwards known to us. The human heart, with all its disguises, possesses too much sameness ever to deceive those who have long studied it.”—“And are these terrific feelings to last for ever?” continued the stranger, as if musing aloud, “and cannot any repentance wash them away?—or, are they but the forerunners of others still more awful: the pangs of condemned spirits adapted to the finite powers and capacities of men?”

“No, no,” returned I, “you are in error, it cannot be; for he that truly repenteth is no longer covered with sin; the very act performed in full faith is sufficient to put it away. And why deem that your conscience has been wounded by my words? Why bow down thine head before me like a bullrush? Stand up; for I also am a man! The truth and power of my ministry were imparted, not inherent, and if perchance the descriptions were vivid, and the denunciations awful, remember, that to such as have not sinned, the path of crime cannot be made too terrible, it cannot be guarded with too great security. To such as unhappily have trod it, they have proved it for themselves, and it remains only to lead them gently back again.”—“The same,—the same throughout,” cried the stranger, “and now canst thou tell me, Oh! friendly shepherd of men! what day of the year we have arrived at?”

“To-morrow,” said I, “will be the anniversary of the martyrdom of

a royal and a blessed victim;—it will be the thirtieth of January.” —
 “Most true; most true, I should have known it. To-morrow then
 my nativity shall be fulfilled, and I must prepare to speak of that
 which hath been; for unto thee, thou beneficent pastor, my crimes
 and my life shall be made known. Do not deny me thy prayers.” —
 “They have been thine already; and now prepare to take some food
 and rest in thy chamber.—Peace be with thee, my erring brother,
 and doubt not for a moment of thy perfect safety.” The stranger
 answered not; but with great difficulty raised the chest, which ap-
 peared to be of considerable weight to his shoulders, refusing my of-
 fered assistance; and then making a sign for me to lead the way, he
 followed slowly, bending under his age and his burthen, into another
 apartment. It was with no little degree of expectation, that I looked
 for the morning of the 30th of January, when the secret sins and sor-
 rows of my unhappy guest were to be disclosed to me. I determined,
 however, not to seek his chamber until he should solicit my presence;
 and I therefore waited until about eleven o’clock, when he entered
 my apartment still bearing his ancient oaken chest, but habited in a
 manner entirely different from his worn-out soldier’s raiment of the
 preceding day. He now appeared in a close dress of a coarse white
 cloth, fastened with a large buff girdle and a broad iron buckle, and
 covered with a round cap that fitted tightly to his head. Before him
 hung a short and rough brown apron much spotted with blood, which
 was greatly changed in colour from the length of time it had remain-
 ed there, and the additional sleeves, which were put on over his vest,
 were stained in a similar manner. Upon one shoulder rested the
 box, his constant companion; and in the other hand he carried an an-
 cient dark-coloured high-crowned hat, while on his legs were loose
 calf-skin breeches, and light brown stockings, with the large square
 boots of the 17th century. I had now a fair opportunity of studying
 the countenance of this man, comparatively in a state of rest. It was
 much furrowed, and was of a very dark olive-colour, with the red
 blood of his cheeks and an angry flush upon his broad bald forehead
 plowing through it; with his black grizzled hair, some portions of
 which appeared from beneath his cap, hanging down in flakes upon
 his shoulders. Above his deeply-sunken eyes, very thick bushy
 brows of the same hue, gave to them a yet darker shade; and at the
 lower part of his face, large curling moustaches, and a full pointed
 beard, almost obscured his lips, which seemed ever to wear a scornful
 smile. There was in the whole of his features, something that one
 would shudder at without precisely knowing why; for his eyes occa-
 sionally looked lighted up with malice, and a stern foreign aspect gave
 all the characters of revenge to his swarthy visage. As he entered
 the apartment I saluted him with — “A good morning to thee, mine
 ancient friend; let me hope that the night-season has fully answered
 that end for which our Maker first created it;—the resurrection of
 our flagging souls, the strengthening of our wearied bodies; the
 filling of our hearts with fresh life, and the disposing of our tongues
 to gratitude from the union of all these blessings. Hath it been so
 with thee?” —

"Yes," replied my guest, setting down his chiest and seating himself opposite to me,—"yes, I feel braced for the trials and duties of the day, with a strength which I know well is not mine own; a calmness which for these last sixty years has been unknown to me.—But now, thou benevolent priest, call up all thine attention to the history which I am about to relate:—awaken all thy Christian charity to pity and pray for one whom all others of thy profession have held accursed to perdition."

"We should beware," said I, "as erring men ourselves, how we pursue any crime with execrations; since in so doing we too frequently involve the man with his sins, and forget a liberality of sentiment whilst we are condemning aberrations from virtue. This too is productive of another evil; for they who delight in the denunciation of sin are frequently permitted to fall into it themselves, to teach them that they likewise are mortal." For thy history then, relate it, and be sure of my sympathy and of my prayers."

"As it is certain," began the stranger, "that my birth would be a foul stain even to the best or most glorious of cities; I will say only that I am of Spain; that my name is Ignacio Riaza; and that my unhappy parents were called Luis and Raquel Riaza from the place of their birth, a town about 20 Spanish miles northward of the capital. I call them unfortunate, in having a son who from his earliest years was pledged to vice; so deeply pledged, that Eliseo Estrellado; or Elisha the star-lightened, an eminent astrologer of Madrid, when he erected my nativity, refused to explain it, because its configurations showed such a malignant soul. As I grew upward these planetary predictions were abundantly fulfilled, for a fierce and cruel disposition which procured for me the surname of Sanguijuela; or the Bloodsucker, showed that Mars had a powerful ascendancy in my mind. The most ferocious have, however, felt the influence of affection, and it is possible if I had allowed myself to be guided by the gentle Encracia Rosadella, my first and only sincere love, I might have been—but no matter, I must on. My fierce impetuous disposition carried me into the army while yet quite a youth, where all the vices which are common to the most abandoned soldiery were mine.—I gamed to such excess, that it was in vain to apply for more aid to those friends who had even then assisted me almost beyond their means; but yet I deemed avarice held back their hands, and permitted myself to be persuaded by a wretched creature, one Carlota Rezelsó, for whom I had left my former amiable Encracia, to try upon my heart-broken parents the effects of—how shall I say it?—of the secret poison.—They who propose a crime usually find the means to execute it:—and the detestable Carlota brought me acquainted with an old hag, usually called Madre Juana la Envenenador, or Mother Jane the Poisoner, who furnished me with a bottle of her fiendish preparation. Even though I had gone thus far in guilt, blood was not yet hanging upon my soul,—and I would fain have shrank back from the horrid precipice before me:—my debts, however, were large,—my creditors clamorous,—the pay of my fellow soldiers which I had drawn, as a petty officer, was embezzled.—Rezelsó, whom I have sometimes deemed to be a fiend in human form, knew all this,

and constantly urged me forward by alternately depicting to me discovery and ruin; and the success which might arise from a quick performance of the deed. I cannot relate to you a thousandth part of what I felt even previous to my preparing the draught; time seemed to fly with me unobserved, and I know only that it was given!—As it was made to a very powerful degree of strength, its action was too visible and too rapid for our crime to remain a secret. The blue livid bodies were soon discovered; and to this hour I deem that it was by Rezelso's evidence, that these murders were attributed to me!—Yet was I well avenged; for, to avoid the consequence of her own share in this horrible transaction, which I made fully known, the hag who furnished it, herself swallowed a portion of the same poison! All my other offences became now detected:—I was tried and condemned, publicly excommunicated in the churches, and cast into a most loathsome dungeon to await my release by execution.

It happened at this time, that Lorenzo Verdugo, the chief public executioner, fell sick and died of the prison-plague, at a period when the state most required his services, in consequence of a conspiracy which had lately been discovered. No one, not already stained with blood, could be prevailed upon to accept the office—till, at length, the principal Judges of the Criminal Court, gave orders that it should be offered to me, together with my forfeited life; and this was done on the night before that day when I myself was to have been executed. The miseries which I had met with, even in my short career, notwithstanding they were the natural consequences of my own crimes, had inspired me with a boundless hatred to mankind;—and I accepted, with a fiendish joy, the restoration of my liberty on condition of becoming head executioner of the city. Yet there were those who could not rejoice even at the saving of my life upon such terms:—my ever kind and gentle Encracia, who had wept over all my sorrows, and who yet had borne up her tender frame to visit me in my condemned prison; upon seeing me pass her dwelling to the first performance of my sanguinary duty, gave a wild shriek—and expired! I have sometimes wondered how my form hath held together, stained as it is with crime, and weakened by such awful visitations; but all at that time seemed to me only additional excitements to wade deeper in human blood in the new office to which I was appointed. I will not harrow up your soul by telling the histories—nor indeed can I well call them to mind—of those many victims which have died by my hand; I feel guiltless of all of them, for they fell for crimes exciting no compassion;—but there is one execution which neither time nor tears can wash away, where he whose blood was shed, was condemned because he was too angel-like to live in such depraved times, and where the trial and the sentence were began without authority, carried on without justice, and executed without mercy. It will hardly be credited, that at the time of which I speak, I was scarcely twenty years of age, and I had hardly reigned two years over death, when a British trooper, who spoke the Spanish tongue, sought my dwelling, and proposed to me a voyage to England, where he stated that a person of high rank was to be beheaded, and the government wished for an executioner who was at once eminent and unknown. No country

on earth could be more detestable to me than my own, and I therefore readily consented, provided my liberty was procured. This was done at no inconsiderable price in gold; I departed with the troop, and we arrived in England towards the latter end of January, 1649. All knowledge of the person, whom I was to execute, was carefully kept from me; but I was introduced to one who was called Lieutenant-General, a tall and somewhat stout man, of a long, full, and rather reddish countenance, with dark flowing hair, especially on the back of his head, and small and retired eyes, the brows of which were contracted together. There was a great degree of stern serenity in his features, and his voice was harsh, though his language was full of favour. He was habited in a light cloth dress with a short linen collar, and a steel cuirass before it, while thick quilted cushions armed in front with iron plates, and large brown boots with massive spurs, were upon his legs, and a powerful sword hung from a cross belt by his side. It was midnight when I was conducted into this person's presence, and before the doors of the chamber in which he was, a trooper passed backwards and forwards with his carbine bent. To him a watchword was given before he admitted us, and when we entered, we discovered a large and antique oak-lined chamber, which was lighted up by a bright fire burning on the hearth, and the flame of a silver lamp which stood upon a carved wooden table, together with papers, proclamations, a small clasped bible, and two horse-pistols.—You will perhaps wonder how all these particulars live in my mind amidst the so many terrible features which compose my life;—and how, being a Spaniard, I have been enabled thus to relate them to you in your own language: but from that night I was received into an English troop of horse, where I continued for many years, and in which your tongue was made as familiar to me as my own. For the rest,—all my life, since I first visited this country, has been employed in reflecting upon the scenes which I have acted in it, till I have brought to memory even the most trivial particular of them. But time wears, and I must forward:—The trooper, who brought me over from Spain, took the General apart and spake to him privately, and then returning acted as interpreter between us. Art thou, said the General, he who shall execute this deed of justice for us? I replied in the affirmative. Is thy hand sure with a sharp weapon? returned he, for we must have no marring of the work, he added, looking with somewhat of a smile on the trooper, whom I had frequently suspected to be a leader in disguise:—I bowed an assent. Then so far, he continued, the Lord is with us. But thou must disguise thee, for when this act shall be past, I will not trust thee from me;—thou shalt not go again out from us to be a spy unto other nations; but I will have thee for one of mine own guard, if thou knowest aught of war. To this I replied that I had formerly served in the Spanish army; and expressing his satisfaction, he consigned me to the trooper, giving him directions relative to my quarters. When five days had passed from my arrival in England,—during which time I was kept in perfect solitude, attended only by the trooper who brought me food, and who daily led me out to walk into a high walled solitary court-yard, for air and exercise.—On the evening of the sixth I was

ordered to be in readiness to quit my present lodging at midnight, and to prepare for the performance of my duty on the following morning. It was now long since I had sympathized in any human passions, or felt an attachment to any human spot; but from that solitary apartment, I had been witness to a scene, which had again awakened some of the better feelings of my nature. About the middle of the preceding day, it seemed to me, as though I heard some one sighing, weeping, and praying, in the next apartment, and upon searching the wainscot I discovered a small space through which I could survery him unobserved. In this chamber, which was fitted up in a somewhat more costly manner than my own, I discovered a tall handsome man of about fifty years of age, with beautiful long black hair, and a face in which majesty, sorrow, and interesting piety were exquisitely blended. He was dressed in a close but rich habit, with a jewel suspended to a light blue ribband about his neck, and a sort of coronet cap was placed upon the table near him. He was slowly pacing about the room, and as if engaged in active devotion, his ejaculations were frequent and fervid, while his fine dark brown eyes and mild countenance were often turned to heaven, with an air of grief mingled with resignation. While I was feeling, almost for the first time in my life, pity and interest for a fellow-creature, the door of his apartment opened, and I saw the trooper, whom I have already mentioned, lead in a young female and a lovely child, who, both in face and appearance, greatly resembled the person I had before been looking at. Their brief interview was tender in the extreme; tears, embraces, kisses, and all the forcible and affectionate language of parting evidently passed between them, though at that time your tongue was almost wholly unknown to me. They were allowed but a very short time to remain together, for the trooper soon led them out, and the stranger whom I closely watched for the remainder of the day, returned to his devotions, in which he was sometimes assisted by an ecclesiastic, who shortly afterwards came to him. The manner in which I had been brought to England, and the secrecy in which I had been kept there, caused it to burst upon my mind that I had beheld my victim, King Charles of England, in the stranger I have spoken of;—for the civil war then raging in Britain was well known in Spain. This thought shook me with horror, but I then had gone too far to recede; and like other weak and sinful men, I sought to stifle my conscience by plunging yet deeper into crime. About midnight I was once more visited by the trooper, who brought that chest into my apartment, and produced from it a soldier's dress and accoutrements, which having ordered me to put on, he placed these clothes, which formed my official dress in Spain, in their room, and locking the box, he drew one of his pistols and bade me follow him. We went down into a large court, where a company of soldiers, in dresses similar to my own, was drawn out in files, and when he had placed me in the centre of the whole body, he gave the word to march. The night was dark and cold, but I could observe from the freshness of the air, and the rustling of the wind through leafless trees, that we paced through an extensive park containing water. All was silent, and we proceeded for some time, till at length we passed under a kind of gate-

way, guarded by mounted troopers, which brought us out to a wide street with a grand ornamented entrance stretching nearly all across it on the right hand, and rows of houses, fading into darkness on the left. In front was a magnificent stone building, evidently a portion of a palace, having seven large windows and pillars between them, in front of which numerous workmen, lighted by torches, were erecting a scaffold and covering it with black cloth. I had not long either to observe these preparations for the next day's tragedy, or to feel the sickening sensations which arose within me, for we continued across the street, behind the opposite building, and the trooper having posted all my companions at different parts, again drew his pistol, and caused me to walk before him into the palace. Here I was once more placed in a solitary room, my arms were taken from me, and the chest containing my executioner's dress, was brought by my constant attendant into the apartment.

When the morning rose he brought me food and wine at a much earlier hour than usual, and intimated that about noon I should be conducted to the scaffold by a fellow-executioner, who, he added, could not speak Spanish; and consequently could not answer any questions, which he also hinted, it would be dangerous to put to him. He concluded, by commanding me to assume my former dress, with the mask placed with it, recommending me, to strengthen myself for my task with the provisions which he had brought, and then retired. When I was habited in my own vestments, I attempted to taste some refreshment, but a fever of agitation rushed through me; I a thousand times cursed the office I had undertaken, and, as often, wished that I had been cut off earlier in my sins. In this manner the hours glided away until about twelve o'clock, when a party of soldiers, commanded by one whom I had not yet seen, but whom I heard called Colonel Thomlinson, came into my chamber, soon after I had finished my meal and put on my mask. With them was the other executioner, dressed in all points so like myself, that it might for ever create a doubt which of us did the accursed deed. Notwithstanding all his disguises, I could not divest myself of the idea that I beheld my former companion the trooper, and even when he spake, which was but little and in a harsh grating foreign sounding voice, it still seemed to me like the tones with which I had been familiar. We were then placed side by side in the centre of the soldiers, and moved forward through several passages, till we arrived at a splendid apartment lighted by those seven windows which I had remarked the night before; one of which was taken out to form an entrance to the scaffold that stood in the front of the building. In the centre of that scaffold stood a block covered with sable cloth, with an axe laid upon it; sawdust beyond it, and a black velvet cushion in the front; on one side was placed a coffin, also covered with black velvet. When we had reached the scaffold the rear of our party halted, while the van marched to the other end with one whom I heard called Colonel Hacker. The other executioner and myself next went to our stations, by the block, where I, as headsmen, took the right hand, and waited in silence for the coming forth of our fated victim. In a little time

he was announced, by a slow march played upon muffled drums, with sable banners hung to them; which came upon the scaffold, but stopped close to the palace windows. Then marched on a party of soldiers with bent carabines, who divided to the right and left, and in the midst of them that angelic man with whom I had so deeply sympathized, walking betwixt Colonel Thomlinson and the pious ecclesiastic I had already seen; while guards and officers closed the melancholy procession, and filled up all the end of the scaffold next the palace. Oh! what a scene was here: a country assembled to put a sovereign to death! *Madre del Señor!* what a deed! a deed that will stamp an eternal infamy on all concerned in it, and not least so upon myself. Immediately round the scaffold were several troops of foot-soldiers, above their heads appeared the close and glittering lines of mounted troopers; and beyond them were the populace standing on every thing which might enable them to see the scaffold, stretching in distance far up beyond the Cross-gate on one side, and to where the street led towards the country and the park upon the other. Yet in all this sea of heads and faces, the moment the guards appeared with their prisoner, there was the most profound silence: Santa Margarita! Never shall man behold such a spectacle again.—Your annals have preserved to you all the interesting scene which passed upon the scaffold, of that blessed Martyr's speech,—of his giving the jewel which hung upon his neck to his holy and faithful attendant,—of his short colloquy with my fellow executioner, who bade me to cut off those beautiful flaky locks that adorned his head,—of his kneeling down in prayer,—and then—The stranger stooped to his chest, and taking from thence the sable block, a black mask which he put on, and a large antique axe with rusted blood upon it, which he brandished as he had formerly been wont to do.—Then said he—"twas thus I stood, and thus I smote him"—'Twas then that—Santo Ignacio! I am myself death struck!—Oh for a little life to finish my dark story!—I undertook to convey away all these marks of the execution, and I placed the horrid symbols, together with my own dress, in this chest, which I have in vain concealed in the earth and beneath the water; it was still ever before mine eyes,—I saw through the clouds and the waves which covered it, and I vainly endeavoured to find a place dark enough to hide it from my conscience.—In my sleep—such sleep as visits murderers!—it has been still before me.—In my dreams, I have again acted the horrid deed,—again have I stood over my royal victim,—again has this blood-stained axe—As the Executioner spoke these last words he suddenly became transfixed, even in the same attitude in which he struck the fatal blow; it was but for a moment, for without a groan, or any other utterance, he fell dead upon the floor!—I called in medical aid, but it was in vain; his open eyes still glared upon me, his livid countenance was unchanged in its swarthy hue, he was gone to his own trial; and without acquainting any one except the surgeon with his eventful story, I locked up the apartment in which the body lay, and retiring, wrote the narrative while all things were yet fresh in my memory. It was upon that night that the greater part of my dwelling was consumed by a fierce fire, which swept away

not only the corse of Ignacio Riaza, but also all the proofs of his guilt, excepting the axe head, which was dug out of the ruins; and the substance of these recording papes, which will transmit to future times the terrific confessions and awful fate of

THE FOREIGN EXECUTIONER;

THE ADVENTURES OF HAJJI BABA, OF ISPAHAN.

A work intituled, the Adventures of HAJJI BABA, OF ISPAHAN, has just been published, from which we Extract the following remarks representing the opinion the Persians of Old, Entertained of European Nations; Hajji is represented, as meeting with an old Katib, from whom he has the following account of them.

‘I will mention one more, called Flemings, infidels, dull, heavy, and boorish, who are amongst the Franks what the Armenians are amongst us,—having no ideas beyond those of thrift, and no ambition beyond that of riches. They used to send us a sleepy ambassador to negotiate the introduction of their cheeses, butter, and salt fish; but their government has been destroyed since the appearance of a certain Boonapoort, who (let them and the patron of all unbelief have their due) is in truth a man; one whom we need not be ashamed to class with the Persian Nadir, and with our own Suleiman.

Here I stopped; the Katib in his narrative, and catching at the name, I exclaimed, ‘Boonapoort, Boonapoort,—that is the word I wanted! Say something concerning him; for I have heard he is a rare and a daring infidel.’

‘What can I say,’ said my companion, ‘except that he once was a man of nothing, a mere soldier; and now he is the Sultan of an immense nation, and gives the law to all the Franks? He did his best endeavours to molest us also, by taking Egypt, and sent innumerable armies to conquer it; but he had omitted to try the edge of a true believer’s sword ere he set out, and was obliged to retreat, after having frightened a few Mamalukes, and driven the Bedouins into their deserts.’

‘But is there not a certain tribe of infidels called Ingliz?’ said I; ‘the most unaccountable people on earth, who live in an island, and make pen-knives?’

‘Yes, truly,’ said the Katib, ‘they, amongst the Franks, are those who for centuries have most rubbed their heads against the imperial threshold, and who have found most favour in the sight of our great and magnanimous Sultan. They are powerful in ships; and in watches and broadcloth unrivalled.’

‘But what have you heard of their government?’ said I: ‘is it not composed of something besides a king?’

‘Yes,’ returned he, ‘you have been rightly informed; but how can you, and I understand the humours of such madmen? They have a Shah, ‘tis true; but it is a farce to call him by that title. They feed, clothe, and lodge him; give him a yearly income, surround him by all the state and form of a throne; and mock him with as fine words and with as high-sounding titles as we give our sovereigns; but a common

Aga of the Janissaries has more power than he; he does not dare even to give the bastinado to one of his own viziers, be his fault what it may; whereas the Aga, if expedient, would crop the ears of half the city, and still receive nothing but reward and encouragement.

Then they have certain houses full of madmen, who meet half the year round for the purposes of quarrelling. If one set says white, the other cries black; and they throw more words away in settling a common question than would suffice one of our muftis, during a whole reign. In short, nothing can be settled in the state, be it only whether a rebellious Aga is to have his head cut off and his property confiscated, or some such trifle, until these people have wrangled. Then what are we to believe? Allah, the Almighty, and Allwise, to some nations giveth wisdom, and to others folly! Let us bless Him and our Prophet, that we are not born to eat the miseries of the poor English infidels, but can smoke our pipes in quiet on the shores of our own peaceful Bosphorus!

‘Strange, strange things, you tell me,’ said I, ‘and had I not heard them, I could not believe something more, which is, that all India belongs to them, and that it is governed by old women. Do you know that fact?’

‘I shall not be surprised to hear of any thing they do,’ answered he, ‘so mad are they generally reported to be; but that India is governed by infidel old women, that has never yet reached our ears. Perhaps it is so.’ ‘God knows,’ continued he, musing, ‘for mad people do wonderful things.’

After a pause, ‘Now,’ said I, ‘have I learnt all, or are there more unbelievers? By your beard, tell me; for who would have thought that the world was so composed?’

He reflected for some time, and said, ‘O yes, I forgot to mention two or three nations; but, in truth, they are not worthy of notice. There are Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian infidels, who eat their swine, and worship their image after their own manner; but who, in fact, are nothing even amongst the Franks. The first is known to us by their *patâkas* (dollars); the second sends us some Jews; and the third imports different sorts of dervishes, who pay considerable sums into the imperial treasury for building churches, and for the privilege of ringing bells. I must also mention the *papa* (pope), the Caliph of the Franks, who lives in Italia, and does not cease his endeavours to make converts to his faith; but we are more than even with him, for we convert the infidels in much greater proportion than they; notwithstanding all the previous pain which man must suffer before he is accepted for a true believer.’

ON THE USE OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

“He that spareth the rod hateth the child,” is a maxim that has been in the mouth of the advocates of corporal punishment since the days of Solomon, and in it they have too frequently sought an apology for acts that disgrace humanity. If, however, any portion of the volume of inspired wisdom is brought in palliation of cruelty, it may be inferred, that it has either been misunderstood or wilfully perverted. A favourite attribute of the Author of that book is mercy, and it is somewhere beautifully said, that the merciful man is merciful to his beast. Nothing is so dangerous as to take passages of scripture separated from the scope of the whole, for thus we may make the words of goodness and mercy a cloak for the worst of passions and vices. The object of a good education is to form the heart and to cultivate the intellect; and in this essay we shall endeavour to determine if corporal punishment is efficacious in either of these cases.

The instructor of youth in our great schools has many difficulties to contend with;—it is his duty to correct errors of temper and of habit, to excite the sluggish to exertion, to cheer the ardent and ingenious in the road of an honourable ambition, and so to communicate knowledge, as to make the scholar in love with it. He must so manage the reins of discipline as to temper firmness with gentleness, and to make an absolute and a prompt submission the offspring of love and respect, not of fear, and above all, perhaps, inspire those committed to his care with an idea of the most perfect impartiality in all his arrangements. Corporal punishment, which is the most summary of all the modes of discipline, is, notwithstanding, the least efficient of all. It degrades the master in his own opinion, ruins his temper, and reduces him to the level of a common executioner. It was hardly to be expected that the man whose duty it was to cherish the opening blossoms of virtue and of intellect in the young mind, should have had a lash put into his hand, like a slave driver; or if such an indignity was offered to him, that he should not have cast it from him as equally unworthy of himself and his vocation. We find him armed with this odious instrument, however, in all the schools of the world perhaps, and by the common consent of mankind; and our present business is to consider the consequences of its use, and whether education might not be more successfully conducted without it.

“A youth of sixteen, of noble birth perhaps, on his knees, and a Doctor of Divinity standing over him with a whip in his hand, which he is applying to the most delicate parts of the human body, while the blood streams at the stroke, is a rare portrait of human degradation; yet such a sight has been, and may perhaps still be seen, in the sanctuaries of learning. That a man of a cultivated, and in many cases, no doubt, of a humane mind, should have been found to inflict such a punishment; or a lad of spirit to submit to it, is one of the things that could not have been believed, if they had not actually taken place. This mode of punishment has long disgraced the statute-books of the great schools of England, otherwise so respectable, and

there is reason to fear, that the law is not yet a dead letter. We shall rejoice, however, to hear, that our apprehensions are groundless, and that we ought to have spoken in the past tense. We think it may be easy to prove, not only from the general principles of our nature, but also from experience, that the practice in all its forms is not only degrading, but inefficient. What are we to think of the happiness of that man who spends six or seven hours a-day for eleven months in the year, fretting, and storming, and whipping; or of the soundness of his principles, who is so little skilled in human nature as to expect equally to reform the vicious and to excite the good to exertion, by the infliction of torture,—who punishes a moral delinquency and the slightest neglect in the preparation or repetition of a task in the same manner? Is a momentary thoughtlessness to be classed, in moral turpitude and in punishment, with falsehood, or treachery, or dishonesty, or cruelty, or hardness of heart? for, if the one is visited with the most severe punishment that can be inflicted on a boy, what is left for the others, which indicate a fundamental baseness of character? This is to confound all our ideas of the nature of actions and of justice.

But the frequent and intemperate use of the lash is not only a source of misery to him who employs it, but it is a lowering of his dignity and a confession of weakness. It is begun in imbecility, and almost universally ends in the loss of authority. Like the gallows, it seems to aggravate the evil which it intends to correct, and disorders increase in exact proportion to its employment, till the master, who ought to be the object of the love and the veneration of his scholars, deservedly incurs universal and unmingled hatred and contempt. Honest Old Evelyn informs us, in his Memoirs, that he received from his schoolmaster fourscore stripes for *small fault or none*. We must remember that this is not the complaint of a truant, as yet smarting from the consequences of his idleness and folly; nor does it proceed from the overweening affections of a mother enraged at the chastisement of a son spoiled by her own false indulgences, but of a grave, respectable, dispassionate man, coolly relating a fact long after the event. The times have not long gone by when it was no uncommon thing to see a schoolmaster inflict two hundred stripes, in one forenoon, often for *small faults*, or what any where else would have been considered *none*. Was it surprising, at the conclusion of such a scene, to hear boys whisper to each other, "He likes it?" These emphatic words, we know, were often repeated, and what horrors do they not imply! But woe be to the man who indulges in such practices, for, as the young are kind, and generous, and forgiving, so are they, when justly provoked, ingenious in the art of tormenting, and will find a thousand ways of making reprisals, and rendering the life of the tyrant as unhappy as possible.

Within our own time, it was no uncommon thing for a master, even of the first respectability, when the majority of a class had neglected a task, or were otherwise faulty, to begin at the head of it, and whip downwards, till he was no longer able to proceed from sheer fatigue, while the lower boys chuckled over his discomfiture and their own escape. We have heard of one gentleman who was a flogger by an-

icipation, and every Monday morning made it a matter of conscience to whip his whole school; for he averred that it was impossible to keep the dogs in order for the week without it. It is with feelings of no common satisfaction that we have observed a great reformation in our Scottish schools for the last twelve or fourteen years, from the majority of which we believe that the rod is either banished or hangs almost idly on the wall; yet we have not heard that they are falling off either in learning or good order. We are convinced, indeed, that the reverse is the case.

Notwithstanding the opinion of certain politicians we do not think it necessary for the man who exposes the abuses of one system to substitute another in its place; yet, if the foregoing statements be accurate, almost any change must be an improvement. Instead, then, of offering any theory of our own, which might be faulty and defective from our inexperience, we shall simply state some of the improved practices which we understand at present prevail in the most respectable of our seminaries. The great object in the discipline of a school is, to resist the beginnings of evil; and, if punishment must be inflicted, to employ such as shall be prompt and undeviating in its operation, yet remote from all kinds of cruelty. It is not the severity of chastisement, but the certainty of it, and the shame that should always accompany it, that deters from the commission of crimes. This may be laid down as an axiom; and we must likewise remember, that the faults that require to be checked in a school are generally of such a nature as would hardly come under that denomination any where else. For instance, it is, morally speaking, an offence of no very deep die for a boy to whisper to his neighbour during school hours; yet it must be suppressed, for silence is absolutely necessary towards the important business of education being conducted with any degree of comfort to the teacher or advantage to the scholar. But, to correct an error of this nature, which seldom or never proceeds from malice, it is not surely necessary to proceed to the infliction of the torture, and to subject the unfortunate delinquent to severe bodily pain, and thus to confound all his ideas of justice. In seminaries into which liberal practices have been introduced, we understand that the only punishment inflicted for such offences as restlessness, or noise, or neglect of tasks, is the loss of station, which is found to be quite effectual. In the case of obstinate and continued idleness, a solemn, yet a kindly, admonition, or, as a last resource, solitary confinement, or a full disclosure of the offender's conduct to his parents, seldom fail. The joyful voices of his companions at play, while he sits in durance; and in solitary tears, will work a reformation on the most hardened if anything will; and he will soon begin to find that even the balance of amusement is against him. The most cruel part of the punishment is, that in his confinement he obtains no sympathy, but is rather the object of ridicule; while the boy who can suffer the greatest number of blows without shrinking is the hero of the school, and will be amply remunerated for the pain he may have suffered by the honours and caresses which he will receive from his fellows. This is ruinous of all discipline.

It is of great consequence that the master should have the school on his side in all the punishments which he inflicts, and in all the reprimands which he deems it necessary to give, and that every means should be taken to make the culprit himself sensible of the justice of both. The maxim, that the only safe foundation of the authority of rulers is in the opinion of the governed, holds no where in a fuller extent than in schools. It is impossible that the master should succeed in his aim, unless the scholar is convinced that he has no object in view but his good, and, averse as many boys are to study, that impression may be made on the mind of the most inconsiderate by a skillful and an affectionate mode of reasoning. Frequent well-timed and kindly appeals to a boy's generosity and ambition, will generally prevail, and if they should fail, he may be given up as hopeless. It ought, likewise, to be carefully inculcated, that no offence can be committed against the master, but that every delinquency which it is necessary to punish is destructive of that discipline which the offender himself is as much interested in upholding as any other, for without it no improvement whatever can be made in any useful acquirement. It has been falsely concluded, that boys, from the immaturity of their understanding, are not fit subjects of reasoning, and that they must be kept in order by mere force. This is a fatal error. The infant man reasons on all he sees, and hears, and feels, and if he cannot be made to distinguish truth from error, it is from want of skill in the reasoner, rather than from any deficiency of penetration and acuteness in himself.

Boyhood is, besides, the age of kindness and generosity, and unsuspecting openness of heart, and these can seldom be appealed to in vain; and the tears of the delinquent are, in general, unquestionable testimony of his penitence, and of his purposes of amendment. Even its vices are tinged with a spirit of adventure, and a defiance of danger, and a fearlessness of consequences, that may make us hesitate whether we should not rather denominate them embryo virtues. But we spoil the beautiful hand work of nature; and then we complain of her defects. Instead of cherishing and fostering the gentler and the nobler qualities of the mind, we do all that in us lies to eradicate them, and to implant in their place the seeds of the bad passions; for it is quite certain that the indiscriminate and severe application of corporal punishment for all offences, without much regard to the degree or quality of their demerit, confounds in the young mind all its ideas of justice; and for love, and friendship, and generosity, and truth, and sincerity, it is calculated to engender hatred, and animosities, and selfishness, and falsehood, and duplicity. It makes even the excellence of a boy the virtue of a slave, and prepares him in manhood, in his turn, to act the tyrant. We are far from saying that every boy that has been bred where terror is the sole incitement to duty, is so far degraded, but we insist that such is its tendency. Boyhood is, besides, a sweet and a short hour of sunshine before a day of clouds and storms, and it is cruel; we had almost said unjust, to overshadow it before the time. It is a brief excursion of pleasure before man sets out on a long and dreary pilgrimage of care, and suffering, and sorrow, and it is inhuman to interrupt its innocent joys, and the delightful flow of its

gay spirits, by unnecessary severities. But, if corporal punishment is not only an infliction of needless pain, and quenches the happiness, and checks the growth of the virtues peculiar to youth, but degrades the master, and renders him odious and miserable, and is inefficient in accomplishing the purposes of discipline, confirming rather than correcting habits of insubordination and idleness, and is more likely to foster the growth of the vicious than of the virtuous propensities, it is certainly time that it were totally abolished, having too long disgraced those places that should be the inviolable sanctuaries of moral culture, and useful knowledge.

These desultory remarks are rather intended to introduce the subject to the notice of our readers, than to discuss it.

THE SICK CHILD.

The following beautifully simple account of the sickness of a fair child, is extracted from "one of the fashionable tribe of scottish novels," and although not perhaps equal to some of the pathetic touches of the pen of the Great Unknown, is certainly not inferior to others of them, and this character which is justly deserves is sufficient excuse for its admission among our selections.—Edit.

'The surgeon of the parish lived some miles distant, but they expected him now every moment, and many a wistful look was directed by tearful eyes along the moor. The daughter, who was out at service, came anxiously home on this night, the only one that could be allowed her, for the poor must work in their grief, and servants must do their duty to those whose bread they eat, even when nature is sick,—sick at heart. Another of the daughters came in from the potatoe-field beyond the brae, with what was to be their frugal supper. The calm noiseless spirit of life was in and around the house, while death seemed dealing with one who, a few days ago, was like light upon the floor, and the sound of music, that always breathed up when most wanted.—"Do you think the child is dying?" said Gilbert with a calm voice to the surgeon, who, on his wearied horse, had just arrived from another sick-bed, over the misty range of hills, and had been looking stedfastly for some minutes on the little patient. The humane man knew the family well, in the midst of whom he was standing, and replied, "While there is life there is hope; but my pretty little Margaret is, I fear, in the last extremity." There was no loud lamentation at these words—all had before known, though they would not confess it to themselves, what they now were told—and though the certainty that was in the words of the skilful man made their hearts beat for a little with sicker throbbings, made their pale faces paler, and brought out from some eyes a greater gush of tears, yet death had been before in this house, and in this case he came, as he always does, in awe, but not in terror.

'The child was now left with none but her mother by the bedside, for it was said to be best so; and Gilbert and his family sat down

round the kitchen fire, for a while in silence. In about a quarter of an hour, they began to rise calmly, and to go each to his allotted work. One of the daughters went forth with the pail to milk the cow, and another began to set out the table in the middle of the floor for supper, covering it with a white cloth. Gilbert viewed the usual household arrangements with a solemn and untroubled eye; and there was almost the faint light of a grateful smile on his cheek, and he said to the worthy surgeon, "You will partake of our fare after your day's travel and toil of humanity." In a short silent half hour, the potatoes and oat-cakes, butter and milk, were on the board; and Gilbert, lifting up his toil-hardened, but manly hand, with a slow motion, at which the room was as hushed as if it had been empty, closed his eyes in reverence, and asked a blessing. There was a little stool, on which no one sat, by the old man's side. It had been put there unwittingly, when the other seats were all placed in their usual order; but the golden head that was wont to rise at that part of the table was now wanting. There was silence—not a word was said—their meal was before them,—God had been thanked, and they began to eat.

Another hour of trial past, and the child was still swimming for its life. The very dogs knew there was grief in the house, and lay without stirring, as if hiding themselves, below the long table at the window. One sister sat with an unfinished gown on her knees, that she had been sewing for the dear child, and still continued at the hopeless work, she scarcely knew why; and often, often putting up her hand to wipe away a tear. "What is that?" said the old man to his eldest daughter—"what is that you are laying on the shelf?" She could scarcely reply that it was a ribband and an ivory comb that she had brought for little Margaret, against the night of the dancing-school ball. And, at these words, the father could not restrain a long, deep, and bitter groan; at which the boy, nearest in age to his dying sister, looked up weeping in his face, and letting the tattered book of old ballads, which he had been poring on, but not reading, fall out of his hands, he rose from his seat, and, going into his father's bosom, kissed him, and asked God to bless him; for the holy heart of the boy was moved within him; and the old man, as he embraced him, felt that, in his innocence and simplicity, he was indeed a comforter. Scarcely could Gilbert reply to his first question about his child, when the surgeon came from the bed room, and said, "Margaret seems lifted up by God's hand above death and the grave; I think she will recover. She has fallen asleep; and, when she wakes, I hope—I believe—that the danger will be past, and that your child will live." They were all prepared for death; but now they were found unprepared for life. One wept that had till then locked up all her tears within her heart; another gave a short palpitating shriek; and the tender-hearted Isabel, who had nursed the child when it was a baby, fainted away. The youngest brother gave way to gladsome smiles; and calling out his dog Hector, who used to sport with him, and his little sister on the moor, he told the tidings to the dumb irrational creature, whose eyes, it is certain, sparkled with a sort of joy.—*Lights and Shadows*, pp. 36-43.

VIEW OF AMERICA AND ITS NATIVE TRIBES,
BY ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT.

It cannot but excite astonishment, that, at the conclusion, of the fifteenth century, there should have been found, in a world which we denominate *the new*, the very same kind of antiquarian remains, the same religious notions, and forms of architecture, as seem to belong to the earliest ages of civilization in Asia. It is with the characteristics of nations, as with the internal structure of the plants that are spread over the face of the earth. The stamp of the original stock remains indelible, notwithstanding the numberless modifications produced by climate, soil, and various other incidents.

In the first period after the discovery of America, the attention of the Europeans was more particularly directed to the gigantic edifices of Corzco, to the high roads through the midst of the Cordilleras, to the lofty graduated pyramids, to the religious rites, and symbolical writings of the Mexicans. Descriptions of different provinces of Mexico and Peru were then as frequent as are, in our days, the accounts of the vicinity of Port Jackson, in New Holland, or the Island of Otaheite. It is absolutely necessary to have been upon the spot, in order to appreciate justly the noble simplicity and the character of truth and fidelity which pervade the narrations of the earliest Spanish travellers: and, in perusing their works, we lament only the want of graphic illustrations, which would have given us more satisfactory ideas of many monuments, partly demolished by fanaticism, and partly fallen to decay through culpable neglect.

The ardor for those American investigations diminished after the commencement of the seventeenth century. The Spanish colonies, whose territory alone had been inhabited by civilized nations, were shut against foreigners; and when, more recently, the Abbé Clavigero published, in Italy, his work on the ancient history of Mexico, doubts were raised concerning many facts which were formerly confirmed by numerous eye-witnesses, frequently persons by no means amicably disposed towards each other. Celebrated writers, who received less pleasure from the harmony of nature than from her contrasts, have represented America as one vast swamp, unfavourable to the propagation of the animal species, and not till of late inhabited by races of men not surpassing the South Sea islanders in civilization. An unlimited scepticism had banished sound criticism from the historical disquisitions on the Americans. The fictions of *a Solis* and some other travellers who had never quitted Europe, were blended with the faithful and simple relations of the earliest visitors of the New World; and it was deemed the duty of a philosophic historian to protest, in the first place, against all that the missionaries had observed.

Towards the end of the past century, a happy alteration took place in regard to the opinions entertained respecting the civilisation of nations, and the causes that alternately promote and obstruct its progress. We became acquainted with nations whose manners, institutions, and arts, are almost as different from those of the Greeks and Romans, as the original forms of the extinct species of animals from those which

at present engage the attention of naturalists. The society of Calcutta has thrown a brilliant light over the history of the Asiatic nations. The monuments of Egypt have, of late, been partly described with admirable correctness, and partly compared with those of the most distant regions; and my researches concerning the native tribes of America appear at an epoch, when that which does not approach to the style and manner of which the Greeks have left us inimitable models, is nevertheless deemed well worthy of attention.

In the description of the historical monuments of America, I have endeavoured to observe a due mean between two routes alternately pursued by those literati who have entered into the discussion of such monuments, languages, and national traditions. The one adopting hypotheses which, though brilliant, rest on tottering foundations, have deduced general conclusions from a small number of insulated facts. They found, in America, Chinese and Egyptian colonies, Celtic dialects, and the alphabet of the Phœnicians. While we yet remain in the dark respecting the origin of the Oscis, the Goths, and the Celts, they pretended to pronounce decisively on the origin of the tribes of the New World. Other writers, on the contrary, amassed materials, without ever raising themselves to any general notions: a proceeding from which the history of nations can derive as little benefit as the different branches of the natural sciences. I shall deem myself fortunate if I shall be thought to have equally avoided both these extremes. A small number of tribes, far distant from one another, as the Etruscans, the Egyptians, the Tibetians, the Aztekians, exhibit striking co-incidences in their buildings and religious institutions, in their division of the year, in their returning periods of time, and in their mystical representations. The historian ought not to overlook these coincidence, for which it is just as difficult to account as for the resemblance between the Sanscrit, Persian, Greek, and German idioms; but while he rises to general ideas, he should know how to stop at the point where we are abandoned by certain facts. Agreeably to these principles, I will attempt to state the results deduced from the data which I have been enabled to collect concerning the native tribes of America.

An attentive examination of the geological relations of the New World, and a consideration of the equilibrium of the waters spread over the surface of the earth, forbid the assumption that the new and the old continents rose at different times from the bosom of the deep. On both hemispheres we perceive the like series of rocky strata lying one above another, and probably the granite, gypsum, and sand-stone formations in the mountains of Peru, had their origin at the same period as the corresponding strata in the Alps of Switzerland. The whole globe has apparently been visited by the same catastrophes. On the summits of the Andes, at an elevation exceeding that of Mont Blanc, are found the petrified muscles of the ocean. Fossile hones of elephants are scattered over the equatorial regions, and what is remarkable, they are met with, not only under the palms in the torrid valleys of the Oronoko, but on the highest and coldest plains of the Cordilleras. In the new as in the old world, whole crea-

tions and whole species of organic bodies have become extinct, to give place to those which now people the earth, the air, and the waters.

No grounds exist for presuming that America was first peopled by men at a much later period than the other continents. The luxuriant vegetation, the breadth of the rivers, and the partial in-undations are powerful obstacles to the migration of nations in tropical countries. Extensive tracts of northern Asia are as thinly peopled as the savannahs of New Mexico and Paraguay, and we should by no means presuppose that the countries first inhabited must necessarily be the most populous.

The question relative to the origin of the population of America can no more belong to the province of history, than those concerning the origin of plants and animals, and on the distribution of organic germs, to the natural sciences. History, when it goes back to the most ancient periods, exhibits to us almost all the parts of the globe inhabited by people who look upon themselves as aborigines, because their ancestry is unknown to them. Amidst a variety of tribes who succeeded and intermingled with one another, it is impossible to decide with certainty from which of them the population first proceeded, and to define the limits beyond which the empire of cosmogonical tradition commences.

The tribes of America, with the exception of those that are nearest to the polar circle, belong all to one single race, which is distinguished by the form of the skull, complexion, very scanty beard, and straight hair. The American race exhibits striking analogies with that of the Mongol tribes, which comprehends the descendants of the Hiong-nu, so famous under the denomination of Huns, the Kalkases, the Calmucks, and the Burattes. Recent observations have even demonstrated, that not only the inhabitants of Oonalashka, but several South American tribes also, denote, by the osteological characters of the skull, a transition from the American to the Mongol race. If the sable African race, and the numberless tribes which inhabit the interior of Asia and its north-eastern regions, and to which systematic geographers have given the indefinite appellation of Tartars or Tschoudes, should ever become better known to us, the Caucasian, Mongol, American, Malay, and Negro races will be less widely separated than they have been, and we shall recognize, in this great family of man, one single original, which has undergone various modifications from circumstances that we shall, perhaps, never be able to penetrate.

The native tribes of the new world, though all of them are allied by very essential characteristics, yet, on the other hand, present, in their moveable features, in their more or less dark complexion, in their shape and size, varieties not less striking than the difference which we perceive between the Arabs, Persians, and Slavonians of the Circassian race. The hordes, however, which rove about in the burning plains of the equinoctial regions are by no means of a darker colour than the mountaineers, or the inhabitants of the temperate zone; whether it be that in man, as in most animals, there is a certain period of life beyond which the influence of climate and food is

insignificant, or that the deviation from the original mode is not perceptible till the expiration of many centuries. From all that has been observed, however, it results, that the Americans, like the Mongol tribes, have a less flexible organization than the other Asiatic and European nations.

The American race, though less numerous than any other, is dispersed over the greatest portion of the globe. It extends, through both hemispheres, from 68° N. L. to 55° S. L. It is the only one that, at the same time, inhabits the scorching vallies bounded by the ocean, and the ridges of mountains elevated more than 200 fathoms above the Peak of Teneriffe.

The number of the languages which distinguish the indigenous nations from one another seems to be still greater in America than in Africa, where, according to the recent researches of Messrs. Seetzen and Vater, they exceed 140. In this respect the whole of America resembles the Caucasus, Italy before the conquest of the Romans, and Asia Minor at the time when the Cilicians, of Semitic origin, the Phrygians, of Thracian descent, the Lydians and the Celts dwelt here together within a small compass. The formation of the earth, the extreme luxuriance of the vegetable kingdom, and the dread of the intense heat of the vallies entertained by the inhabitants of the tropical regions, impede mutual intercourse and create an astonishing diversity of American dialects. This diversity is not so great in the savannahs and forests of the north, which are traversed by hunters, on the banks of the great rivers, along the coasts of the ocean, and wherever the Incas have introduced their theocracy by force of arms.

When we speak of more than a hundred languages, on a continent whose total population is not equal to that of France, we term those different languages which have the same affinity to one another as, I will not say the German to the Dutch, or the Italian to the Spanish; but as the Danish to the German, the Chaldee to the Arabic, the Greek to the Latin. As a person becomes more and more familiar with the labyrinth of American languages, he perceives that many of them belong to one and the same family, while a great number of others remain insulated like the Basque among the Europeans, and the Japanese among the Asiatic languages. This insulation is perhaps only apparent, and it may be presumed that those languages which seem to defy all ethnographic classification, are allied to others either long extinct, or peculiar to nations whom no travellers have hitherto visited.

Most of the American languages, even those whose groups differ from one another in the same manner as the dialects of German, Celtic, and Slavonian origin, exhibit a certain resemblance in their general organization, which if it does not indicate one common stock, at least denotes a very close analogy in the intellectual faculties of the American nations from Greenland to the straits of Magellan.

Very minute enquiries, conducted according to a method before unknown in etymological studies, have proved, that there is a small number of words common to the language of the Old and New World. In 83 American languages, examined by Messrs. Barton and Vater, have been found about 170 words which seemed to have

the same roots; and we may easily convince ourselves that these resemblances are by no means accidental or an imitative harmony, and perhaps resulting only from the uniform structure of the organs which renders the first articulated tones of children pretty nearly the same in all parts of the world. Out of 170 words, in which this similarity is perceived, three fifths seem to claim affinity with the languages of the Mantchous, Tungusians, Mongols, and Samojedes, and the other two-fifths with Celtic and Tschoudian dialects, and with Basque, Coptic, and Congo languages. Those words were found out on a comparison of the whole of the American languages, with the whole of the languages of the Old World: for as yet we know not of any American dialect which can be deemed more nearly allied than the rest to any of the numerous groups of Asiatic, African, or European languages. The assertions of some scholars, proceeding upon abstract theories, respecting the supposed poverty of all the American languages, as well as the extraordinary scantiness of their system of numbers, are as rash and unfounded as the statements of others who contend for the imbecility and stupidity of the human race in the New World, the diminution of organic bodies, and the degeneracy of the animals transported thither from our hemisphere.

Various dialects at present spoken by barbarous nations alone, seem to be relics of copious and flexible languages, which denote a considerable progress in civilization. I shall not here enter into an examination of the question—whether the original condition of mankind was a state of rudeness and stupidity, or whether the savage hordes are descended from nations whose mental powers, as well as the language in which they are reflected, were previously both equally developed: but I shall merely observe that the little which we know of the history of the Americans seems to demonstrate that those tribes which migrated from north to south, possessed in their northern abodes that variety of languages which we discover in the tropical regions. Hence we may draw the analogical inference that the ramification, or to use an expression independent of all systems the diversity of the languages is a very ancient phenomenon. Perhaps the languages which we term American originally belong no more to this quarter of the globe than the Madjarian or Hungarian, and the Tschoudian or Finnish do to Europe.

It must be admitted that the comparison of the languages of the Old and New World has led as yet to no general results; but we ought not on this account to relinquish our hopes that this study will prove more productive when the sagacity of scholars shall possess a larger stock of materials. How many languages of America, as well as of the interior and eastern part of Asia may there still be, whose mechanism is as unknown to us as that of the Tyrrhenian, Oscian, and Sabine dialects! Of the nations which disappeared from the Old World, there may perhaps still exist some petty detached tribes in the vast wilds of America.

If, however, the early intercourse between the two worlds can be but very imperfectly proved by the languages, it is on the other hand unequivocally demonstrated by the cosmogonies, the monuments, hieroglyphics, and institutions of the American and Asiatic nations.

I think that to the evidences already adduced on this point, I have added no small number that were hitherto unknown. I have every where endeavoured to discriminate that which denotes a common origin from what must be considered as the result of analogous relations, subsisting between nations which have attained the highest degree of civilization.

To determine the period of the ancient connexion between the two worlds was previously impracticable, and it would be too presumptuous to pretend to designate the group of nations in the Old World, to which the Toltecs, Aztecs, Muyscas, or Peruvians, are nearest allied, since the relations here alluded to are founded upon such traditions, monuments, and usages, as may possibly be of higher antiquity than the present division of the Asiatics into Mongols, Hindoos, Tongouses, and Chinese.

At the time of the discovery of the New World, or to speak more correctly, at the period of the first Spanish invasion, the American nations, which had made the greatest progress in civilization were mountaineers. People born in the valleys of a temperate region climbed the ridges of the Cordilleras, which become more elevated as they approach the equator; and on these heights they found a temperature and vegetation similar to those of their native land.

All those situations in which man has to struggle with natural obstacles on a soil of inferior fertility, and is not absolutely vanquished in too unequal a conflict, are most favourable to the development of his energies. On the Caucasus and in the centre of Asia the barren mountains afford an asylum to independent and savage tribes. In the equinoctial regions of America, where ever verdant savannahs rise above the region of the clouds, the Cordilleras alone are inhabited by polished tribes; the first advances in science were there coeval with the extraordinary institutions by no means favourable to individual liberty.

We perceive in the New World, as in Asia and Africa, various centres whence spread an original civilization, whose mutual relations, however, we are as incapable of discovering as those of Meroc, Tibet, and China. Mexico derived its civilization from a more northern region. In South America it was the extensive structures of Tiahuanaco that furnished the models of those monuments which the Incas erected at Coutzco. Ramparts of considerable extent, bronze weapons, and engraved stones found in the vast plains of Upper Canada, in Florida; and in the wilds bounded by the Oronoko, Cassiquaire, and Guainia, attest that these regions now traversed only by hordes of savage hunters were once the abode of nations who had made some proficiency in the arts.

The unequal distribution of the different species of brute animals over the earth, had a powerful influence on the condition of nations, and on their more or less rapid progress in civilization. In the Old World, it was the pastoral life that formed the link between the hunter and the husbandman. The ruminating animals, so easily naturalized in every climate, were the companions of the African Negro, as well as of the Mongols, the Malays, and Caucasian race. Now, though several quadrupeds, and very numerous species of vegetables, are

common to the northernmost parts of both worlds, yet the only kinds of horned cattle possessed by America are the buffalo and the bison, two varieties which it is very difficult to domesticate, and the females of which, notwithstanding the richness of the pastures, yield but little milk. The American hunter, therefore, was not prepared, by the care of flocks and herds, and the occupations of a pastoral life, for the pursuits of agriculture. Never did the inhabitants of the Cordilleras attempt to milk the lama, alpaca, or guanaco; and milk diet was formerly as unknown to the Americans, as it is to many of the tribes of eastern Asia.

There is no instance of the savage living in the forests of the temperate zone, having voluntarily exchanged the chase for agriculture. This transition, the most important and the most difficult in the history of human society, cannot be effected but by compulsory means. When in their great migrations troops of hunters, persecuted by other warrior herdes, reach the plains of the equinoctial zone, the impenetrable closeness of the woods, and the luxuriant growth of the vegetable species, produce an essential change in their character and way of life. Between the Oronoko, Ukajale, and the river of Amazons, there are tracts where man finds scarcely any thing but streams and lakes. Here on the banks of the rivers, even the most savage inhabitants surround their huts with the fig of Paradise, the jatropa tree, and some other vegetables, which contribute to their subsistence.

Neither historical facts nor popular tradition record that any connexion ever subsisted between the South American nations and those dwelling to the north of the isthmus of Panama. The annals of the Mexican empire seem to go back to the sixth century of our æra. They state the periods of the migrations which took place, the causes which occasioned them, the names of the leaders belonging to the illustrious family of the Citins who conducted northern tribes from the unknown regions of Aztlan and Teocolhuacan to the plains of Anahuac. The founding of Tenochtilan happens like that of Rome in the heroic age, and it is only from the 12th century that the Aztekian chronicles, like those of the Chinese and Tibetians, contain the almost uninterrupted record of the secular festivals, the succession of the kings, the tributes imposed upon the conquered, the foundation of cities, meteorological phenomena, and many trivial incidents which have an influence on society in infant states.

But though no traditions denote any immediate connexion between the nations of the two grand divisions of America, their history on the other hand exhibits striking coincidences in the political and religious revolutions which led to the civilization of the Aztekes, Muyscas and Peruvians. Bearded men of a lighter complexion than the natives of Anahuac, Cundinamarca, and the plain of Couzco, make their appearance, without its being known from what country they come. As high priests, legislators, friends of peace, and of the arts and sciences, which it promotes, they accomplish a change in the state of the nations, from whom they experience a respectful reception. Quetzalcoat, Bochica, and Mango Capac, are the sacred names of these mysterious beings. Quetzalcoat comes in black priestly attire from Panuco and the shores of the Mexican Gulf: Bochica, the Buddha of

The Muyscas appears on the elevated plains of Bogota advancing from the savannahs situated on the east side of the Corderillas. The history of these lawgivers is full of marvellous stories, religious fictions, and such circumstances as betray an allegorical meaning. Some scholars have conjectured that these foreigners might have been shipwrecked Europeans, or descendants of the Scandinavians, who as early as the 11th century visited Greenland, Newfoundland, and perhaps even Nova Scotia; but the slightest reflection on the period of the first Toltékian emigrations, on the monastic institutions, the religious symbols, the calendar and the forms of the monuments of Cholula, Sogamozo, and Couzco, will lead to the conviction that the codes of Quetzalcoat, Bochica, and Mango Capac, could not possibly derive their origin from the north of Europe. Every thing, on the contrary, seems to point to eastern Asia, and to people connected with the Tibetians, the Shamanists, the Tartars, and the bearded Ainos of the islands of Jesso and Sachalin.

When I employ the terms—*Monuments of the New World—progress in the imitative arts—cultivation of the understanding*, in my inquiries respecting America, it is by no means my intention to denote a state of things which is rather vaguely denominated a higher degree of culture and civilization. Nothing is more difficult than to institute comparisons between nations who have advanced by different roads to social improvement. The Mexicans and Peruvians must not be judged by such principles as are deduced from the history of the nations of whom our studies are continually reminding us. They differ from the Greeks and Romans in the same ratio as they resemble the Etruscans and Tibetians. The theocratic government of the Peruvians favoured on the one hand the progress of industry, public works, and, if I may be allowed the expression, whatever relates to civilization in general and in mass: on the other hand it prevented the development of individual energies. Among the Greeks it was just the reverse, and till the time of Pericles the free and rapid mental development of individuals bore no proportion to the slow advance of national cultivation. The empire of the Incas might be likened to a vast monastic institution, in which every member had prescribed to him what he was to do for the general benefit. Whoever makes himself acquainted on the spot with those Peruvians, who for ages retained their national physiognomy without alteration, will be enabled duly to appreciate the code of Mango Capac and its influence on morals and the public weal. There was general prosperity, but no individual happiness; resignation to the will of the sovereign usurped the place of patriotism; for great enterprizes there was patient obedience, but no genuine courage; a spirit of order, which by petty laws for regulating the conduct in the most indifferent transactions, extinguished at once all freedom of thought and all greatness of character. The most complicated of all political institutions recorded in history had nipped the bud of individual liberty; and the founder of the empire of Couzco, who flattered himself that he should render men happy through restraint, in fact transformed them into mere machines. The Peruvian theocracy was indeed less oppressive than the government of the Mexican,

monarch, but both contributed essentially to impart to the monuments the religious worship and mythology of these mountaineers that dismal and gloomy air, which forms so striking a contract with the arts and the pleasing fictions of the people of Greece.

Paris, April, 1823.

ON GHOSTS.

I look for ghosts—but none will force.
 Their way to me; 'tis falsely said
 That there was ever intercourse
 Between the living and the dead.—*Wordsworth.*

What a different earth do we inhabit from that on which our forefathers dwelt! The antediluvian world, strode over by mammoths, preyed upon by the megatherion, and peopled by the offspring of the Sons of God, is a better type of the earth of Homer, Herodotus, and Plato, than the hedged-in cornfields and measured hills of the present day. The globe was then encircled by a wall which paled in the bodies of men, whilst their feathered thoughts soared over the boundary; it had a brink, and in the deep profound which it overhung, men's imaginations, eagle-winged, dived and flew, and brought home strange tales to their believing auditors. Deep caverns harboured giants; cloudlike birds cast their shadows upon the plains; while far out at sea lay islands of bliss, the fair paradise of Atlantis or El Dorado sparkling with untold jewels. Where are they now? The Fortunate Isles have lost the glory that spread a halo round them; for who deems himself nearer to the golden age, because he touches at the Canaries on his voyage to India? Our only riddle is the rise of the Niger; the interior of New Holland, our only terra incognita; and our sole mare incognitum, the north-west passage. But these are tame wonders, lions in leash; we do not invest Mungo Park, or the Captain of the Hecla, with divine attributes; no one fancies that the waters of the unknown river bubble up from hell's fountains, no strange and weird power is supposed to guide the ice-berg, nor do we fable that a stray pick-pocket from Botany Bay has found the gardens of the Hesperides within the circuit of the Blue Mountains. What have we left to dream about? The clouds are no longer the charioted servants of the sun, nor does he any more bathe his glowing brow in the bath of Thetis; the rainbow has ceased to be the messenger of the Gods, and thunder is no longer their awful voice, warning man of that which is to come. We have the sun which has been weighed and measured, but not understood; we have the assemblage of the planets, the congregation of the stars, and the yet unshackled ministration of the winds;—such is the list of our ignorance.

Nor is the empire of the imagination less bounded in its own proper creations; than in those which were bestowed on it by the poor blind eyes of our ancestors. What has become of enchantresses with their

palaces of crystal and dungeons of palpable darkness? What of fairies and their wands? What of witches and their familiars? and, last, what of ghosts, with beckoning hands and fleeting shapes, which quelled the soldier's brave heart, and made the murderer disclose to the astonished noon the veiled work of midnight? These which were realities to our forefathers, in our wiser age—

———Characterless are grated
To dusty nothing.

Yet is it true that we do not believe in ghosts? There used to be several traditional tales repeated, with their authorities, enough to stagger us when we consigned them to that place where that is which "is as though it had never been." But these are gone out of fashion. Brutus's dream has become a deception of his over-heated brain, Lord Lyttleton's vision is called a cheat; and one by one these inhabitants of deserted houses, moonlight glades, misty mountain tops, and midnight church-yards, have been ejected from their immemorial seats, and small thrill is felt when the dead majesty of Denmark blanches the cheek and unsettles the reason of his philosophic son.

But do none of us believe in ghosts? If this question be read at noon-day, when—

Every little corner, nook, and hole,
Is penetrated with the insolent light—

at such a time desirous is seated on the features of my reader. But let it be twelve at night in a lone house; take up, I beseech you, the story of the Bleeding Nun; or of the Satue, to which the bridegroom gave the wedding ring, and she came in the dead of night to claim him, tall, white, and cold; or of the Grandsire, who with shadowy form and breathless lips stood over the couch and kissed the foreheads of his sleeping grand-children, and thus doomed them to their fated death; and let all these details be assisted by solitude, flapping curtains, rushing wind, a long and dusky passage, an half open door—O, then truly, another answer may be given, and many will request leave to sleep upon it, before they decide whether there be such a thing as a ghost in the world, or out of the world, if that phraseology be more spiritual. What is the meaning of this feeling?

For my own part, I never saw a ghost except once in a dream. I feared it in my sleep; I awoke trembling, and lights and the speech of others could hardly dissipate my fear. Some years ago I lost a friend, and a few months afterwards visited the house where I had last seen him. It was deserted, and though in the midst of a city, its vast halls and spacious apartments occasioned the same sense of loneliness as if it had been situated on an uninhabited heath. I walked through the vacant chambers by twilight, and none save I awakened the echoes of their pavement. The far mountains (visible from the upper windows) had lost their tinge of sunset; the tranquil atmosphere grew leaden coloured as the golden stars appeared in the firmament; no wind ruffled the shrunken river which crawled lazily through the deepest channel of its wide and empty bed; the chimes of the Ave

Maria had ceased, and the bell hung moveless in the open belfry; beauty invested a reposing world, and awe was inspired by beauty only. I walked through the rooms filled with sensations of the most poignant grief. He had been there; his living frame had been caged by those walls, his breath had mingled with that atmosphere, his step had been on those stones. I thought:—the earth is a tomb, the gaudy sky a vault, we but walking corpses. The wind rising in the east rushed through the open casements, making them shake;—methought, I heard, I felt—I know not what—but I trembled. To have seen him but for a moment, I would have knelt until the stones had been worn by the impress, so I told myself, and so I knew a moment after, but then I trembled, awe-struck and fearful. Wherefore? There is something beyond us of which we are ignorant. The sun drawing up the vaporous air makes a void, and the wind rushes in to fill it,—thus beyond our soul's ken there is an empty space; and our hopes and fears, in gentle gales or terrific whirlwinds, occupy the vacuum; and if it does no more, it bestows on the feeling heart a belief that influences do exist to watch and guard us, though they be impalpable to the coarser faculties.

I have heard that when Coleridge was asked if he believed in ghosts,—he replied that he had seen too many to put any trust in their reality; and the person of the most lively imagination that I ever knew echoed this reply. But these were not real ghosts (pardon, unbelievers, my mode of speech) that they saw; they were shadows, phantoms unreal; that while they appalled the senses, yet carried no other feeling to the mind of others than delusion, and were viewed as we might view an optical deception which we see to be true with our eyes, and know to be false with our understandings. I speak of other shapes. The returning bride, who claims the fidelity of her betrothed; the murdered man who shakes to remorse the murderer's heart; ghosts that lift the curtains at the foot of your bed as the clock chimes one; who rise all pale and ghastly from the church-yard and haunt their ancient abodes; who, spoken to, reply; and whose cold, unearthly touch makes the hair stand stark upon the head; the true old-fashioned, foretelling, flitting, gliding ghost—who has seen such a one?

I have known two persons who at broad daylight have owned that they believed in ghosts, for that they had seen one. One of these was an Englishman, and the other an Italian. The former had lost a friend he dearly loved, who for a while appeared to him nightly, gently stroking his cheek and spreading a serene calm over his mind. He did not fear the appearance, although he was somewhat awe-stricken as each night it glided into his chamber, and,

Ponsi del letto in su la sponda manca.

This visitation continued for several weeks, when by some accident he altered his residence, and then he saw it no more. Such a tale may easily be explained away;—but several years had passed, and he, a man of strong and virile intellect, said that “he had seen a ghost.”

The Italian was a noble, a soldier, and by no means addicted to,

superstition: he had served in Napoleon's armies from early youth, and had been to Russia, had fought and fled, and been rewarded, and he unhesitatingly, and with deep belief, recounted his story.

This Chevalier, a young, and (somewhat a miraculous incident) a gallant Italian, was engaged in a duel with a brother officer, and wounded him in the arm. The subject of the duel was frivolous; and distressed therefore at its consequences he attended on his youthful adversary during his consequent illness, so that when the latter recovered they became firm and dear friends. They were quartered together at Milan, where the youth fell desperately in love with the wife of a musician, who disdained his passion, so that it prayed on his spirits and his health; he absented himself from all amusements, avoided all his brother officers, and his only consolation was to pour his love-sick complaints into the ear of the Chevalier, who strove in vain to inspire him either with indifference towards the fair disdainful, or to inculcate lessons of fortitude and heroism. As a last resource he urged him to ask leave of absence; and to seek, either in change of scene, or the amusement of hunting, some diversion to his passion. One evening the youth came to the Chevalier, and said, "Well, I have asked leave of absence, and am to have it early to-morrow morning; so lend me your fowling-piece and cartridges, for I shall go to hunt for a fortnight." The Chevalier gave him what he asked; among the shot there were a few bullets. "I will take these also," said the youth, "to secure myself against the attack of any wolf, for I mean to bury myself in the woods."

Although he had obtained that for which he came, the youth still lingered. He talked of the cruelty of his lady, lamented that she would not even permit him a hopeless attendance, but that she inexorably banished him from her sight, "so that," said he, "I have no hope but in oblivion." At length he rose to depart. He took the Chevalier's hand and said, "You will see her to-morrow, you will speak to her, and hear her speak; tell her, I entreat you, that our conversation to-night has been concerning her, and that her name was the last that I spoke." "Yes, yes," cried the Chevalier, "I will say any thing you please; but you must not talk of her any more, you must forget her." The youth embraced his friend with warmth, but the latter saw nothing more in it than the effects of his affection, combined with his melancholy at absenting himself from his mistress, whose name, joined to a tender farewell, was the last sound that he uttered.

When the Chevalier was on guard that night, he heard the report of a gun. He was at first troubled and agitated by it, but afterwards thought no more of it, and when relieved from guard went to bed, although he passed a restless, sleepless night. Early in the morning some one knocked at his door. It was a soldier, who said that he had got the young officer's leave of absence, and had taken it to his house; a servant had admitted him, and he had gone up stairs, but the room door of the officer was locked, and no one answered to his knocking, but something oozed through from under the door that looked like blood. The Chevalier, agitated and frightened at this account, hurried to his friend's house, burst open the door, and found him stretched

on the ground—he had blown out his brains, and the body lay a headless trunk, cold, and stiff.

The shock and grief which the Chevalier experienced in consequence of this catastrophe produced a fever which lasted for some days. When he got well, he obtained leave of absence, and went into the country to try to divert his mind. One evening by moonlight, he was returning home from a walk, and passed through a lane with a hedge on both sides, so high that he could not see over them. The night was balmy; the bushes gleamed with fireflies, brighter than the stars which the moon had veiled with her silver light. Suddenly he heard a rustling near him, and the figure of his friend issued from the hedge and stood before him, mutilated as he had seen him after his death. This figure he saw several times, always in the same place. It was impalpable to the touch, motionless, except in its advance, and made no sign when it was addressed. Once the Chevalier took a friend with him to the spot. The same rustling was heard, the same shadow stepped forth, his companion fled in horror, but the Chevalier staid, vainly endeavouring to discover what called his friend from his quiet tomb, and if any act of his might give repose to the restless shade.

Such are my two stories, and I record them the more willingly, since they occurred to men, and to individuals distinguished the one for courage and the other for sagacity. I will conclude my "modern instances," with a story told by M. G. Lewis, not probably so authentic as these, but perhaps more amusing. I relate it as nearly as possible in his own words.

"A gentleman journeying towards the house of a friend, who lived on the skirts of an extensive forest, in the east of Germany, lost his way. He wandered for some time among the trees, when he saw a light at a distance. On approaching it he was surprised to observe that it proceeded from the interior of a ruined monastery. Before he knocked at the gate he thought it proper to look through the window. He saw a number of cats assembled round a small grave, four of whom were at that moment letting down a coffin with a crown upon it. The gentleman startled at this unusual sight, and, imagining that he had arrived at the retreat of fiends or witches, mounted his horse and rode away with the utmost precipitation. He arrived at his friend's house at a late hour, who sat up waiting for him. On his arrival his friend questioned him as to the cause of the traces of agitation visible in his face. He began to recount his adventures after much hesitation, knowing that it was scarcely possible that his friend should give faith to his relation. No sooner had he mentioned the coffin with the crown upon it, than his friend's cat, who seemed to have been lying asleep before the fire, leaped up, crying out, 'Then I am king of the cats; and then scrambled up the chimney, and was never seen more.'

POETRY.

ODE TO SPAIN.

1.

'Tis past—Fate hath stamp'd the decree,
 The thunder of warfare hath ceas'd,
 And its incense—the blood of the free—
 Is offer'd at Tyranny's feast ;—
 The land of Hesperia hath sunk,
 The day of her glory is o'er,
 And low lie the leaves of her fame, round that trunk
 Where laurels wav'd blooming of yore ;—
 'Tis past, and the fallen have now no remains
 But the gall of oppression, and clanking of chains,

2.

Oh, where did fair Liberty turn
 Her voice for assistance around ?
 Did the beacons of Spain brightly burn,
 And trumpet exultingly sound ?
 Alas,—there were some hearts within her
 Whose spirits still dared to be free,
 Tho' the ranks of her proud-minded champions were thinner,
 Than Liberty's ever should be ;
 They called unto Albion, the clime of the brave
 For the sword which once shielded, to succour, and save.

3.

But, vainly did Freedom awaken
 Its strain, tho' the hearts of the few,
 (Who, were still to its altars unshaken,)
 With souls of devotedness flew ;—
 No breast beat responsive to cheer them,
 No sound rose to hail them in pride,—
 Whilst all, who in honour, could nobly upbear them,
 Shrunk, dastardly off from their side,—
 Oh, say, then, has Reason but breath'd until now
 To see thralldom, or tyranny, stamp'd on each brow.

4.

Yet where could the breast e'er so loyal
 Still hopefully turn to implore,—
 Could it fervently look to the royal
 And plume all its spirit once more ?
 Could it raise all the hopes of its glory,
 On those, who, but noble in name
 Have long mark'd the annals of Spain, and her story
 With servile traditions of shame ?
 There are hearts there to brand, amidst traitors, and knaves,
 Who, the first should have dar'd, but were first to be slaves.

5.

Shall the Lion, no longer display
 Its courage, to startle mankind?
 Hath the Eagle, become, bird of prey
 To gluttony foully inclin'd?
 Must Honour be made then a dupe,
 And Liberty, yok'd as a slave?
 And the spirits that will not degenerately stoop.
 Be doom'd to the rack or the grave?
 And Earth from the records of Freedom sublime
 Now stain all its pages with treason, and crime.

6.

In vain, then, did mankind of late,
 Conjoin to bring Europe repose,
 In vain did the bias of Fate
 Redeem from the sternest of foes;—
 In vain hath the myriads of slain
 Been offer'd at war's bloody shrine,
 If the hand of oppression must still grasp the chain
 Round Freedom, its fetters to twine,—
 In vain, too, to boast of proud Waterloo's fame,
 For the deeds destin'd now, rise to darken its name.

7.

Whilst Power sits presumptuous to rule,
 And Pride lifts her head in disdain,
 Convening Earth's sons, as the tool
 To prop up, but despots to reign:—
 Whilst mandates which hazard the loss
 Of myriads to countenance Fame,
 Distort from true Honour its wealth, for the dress
 Which conquerors place in a name,
 Lo, Liberty sighs, scarce a hand, or a heart
 To defend her fair form from the myrmidon's dart.

8.

Or say, did all nations unite,
 To hurl down a hero from power,
 Who, shone as a meteor of light
 And blazon'd the pride of the hour?
 Did the arms of the thousands combine
 Supplanting a warrior at least,
 To portion a weak, and degenerate line
 Who fought not, but crouche'd to the feast,
 And turn'd their ingratitude then to demand
 Concession as vile, with an o'erbearing band.

9.

Alas, then must Spain droop her head
 And all that Pelagio awoke.
 And the fame that imperial Charles spread
 Be laid low by Tyranny's stroke?

Must the plains of the fertile Castille
 Be trod by an unfeeling foe,
 And the welkin ne'er echo the glorious appeal
 When Liberty summons the blow,—
 Hesperia may weep,—but let Justice avow
 That to Europe she owes her dark mantle of woe:

10

Hesperia, sweet land of romance,
 The star of thy freedom hath wan'd;
 No longer, bright Chivalry's lance
 To triumph, is sternly maintain'd,—
 Let Earth weep thee more than condemn,—
 Some fair future hour may arise,
 When the brow, that is grac'd, by thy clime's diadem
 Shall rally the hope that now dies,—
 And such as Riego,—thy offspring shall be,—
 With the banner display'd upon Liberty's tree.

TO THE MEMORY OF BYRON.

And thou art gone great Byron, could'st no mark
 But thou, th'insatiate Archer's shafts suffice!
 Thy genius seem'd to dissipate the dark
 And gloomy clouds, that long opak'd the skies
 Of intellect—like the deluge—when an ark
 Saved all—perhaps—that could be deem'd a prize:
 Yet thou art gone! effulgent Phœbus' son,
 Ere half thy sands—as I had hop'd—were run.

“ Man never is, but always to be bless'd,”
 This all must purchase, however great the cost;
 Tho' some appear by Fortune much caress'd,
 While here on life's tempestuous ocean toss'd
 All are not what they seem—but in disguises dress'd—
 And Byron oft by canting bigots cross'd,
 Assum'd a roughness, further from his heart;
 Than candor and hypocrisy's apart.

By nature open, generous, and brave;
 His penetrating eye and matchless mind,
 With ease unriddled each precursive wave
 That wafts the inclinations of mankind
 On Hopes delusive sea; and prompts the slave
 “ To play such pranks before high Heaven,” ill design'd
 I should suppose, for Christian adoration;
 Tho' here they may progress our exaltation—

And for portraying these, in such a form,
 That on the vision they would seem to rise;
 As palpable in feature—and as warm
 From nature's mint—at least we will premise—
 As the dagger that, conscience, (like a storm
 Raging in the breast) presented to the eyes
 Of damn'd Macbeth, for this alone, O' Shame, Shame!!
 There yet are wretches, who would murder Byron's fame.

The cringing slave will fawn, the servile head
 Will bow, and the hinges of the pliant knee
 Will bend, "where thrift may follow," but from the dead!
 No one can, even hope, advancement e'er to see:
 Then for myself, be it distinctly said,
 I rather would—so help me God—have been by thee
 With honour nam'd than by the world confess'd
 Its Monarch—or of its trinkets all possess'd.—

Millions shall burst the chrysolis's age,
 From time's eventful—and eccentric—womb,
 And strut, and fret, an hour upon the stage;
 Then flit, ere they seem to be! for others' room;
 Till time—perchance—shall write a finis on the page:—
 When all must sink, to blank oblivion's tomb!—
 Ere like Appollo, radiant, and alone;
 Such splendour, in a mortal, shall be known.

Thy Genius Greece—and wonder of the age—
 Is gone! sons of immortal Homer, mourn,
 A Bard no less; a hero, and a sage,
 Who for thy Country's welfare would have borne
 The brunt of Battles, and amidst their rage,
 He might—e'en in the Capital—have torn
 The bloody crescent from the turban'd slave—
 And fix'd fair Freedom's banner o'er the despots' grave.

But he is gone! forever free
 From mortal toils! all here is done;
 But still his spirit is with thee—
 So think of battles greatly won,
 And swear that while the waters wave—
 To conquer or to find a grave.

No more to tyrants bend the knee,
 Bid them remember Marathon;
 And fight as at Thermopylae,
 Let his prediction press you on,
 Who was too bold to live a slave
 - While earth had soil to make a grave.

"The mountain looks on Marathon,
 "And Marathon looks on the sea;
 "And musing there an hour alone
 "I thought that Greece might yet be free,
 "For standing on the Parthian's grave,
 "I could not deem myself a slave.

Montreal, 5th July, 1824.

J,

MONTHLY REGISTER.

Foreign Summary.

JUNE, 1824.

EUROPE.

We have this month a more scanty share of interesting matter to place under this department than usual. The continental powers of Europe seem to be all lulled into a dead calm, whether it be that which precedes and indicates the approach of a storm; or the settled and confirmed determination they individually have adopted to preserve tranquillity, remains to be seen. The world has been for so many years unused to a state of peace, that some of our farsighted Politicians pretend to see in this state the prelude of a rupture, to the present pacific measures; and that we may soon expect to hear of hostilities. Others regard this state as proceeding from the great exhaustion in mind and means which necessarily follows the powerful efforts which have been made, and that no measures of hostility are to be looked for, until the nations shall recover from their fatigued condition, and their empty treasuries be again replenished. This last conjecture (for all is but conjecture upon the subject,) we should hope is not the true cause. It would imply that Potentates are only at peace from necessity, and that we reap the present blessings of that state, only because they cannot afford to act otherwise. This exhibits a melancholy picture of man, and such as we would not wish to consider a just one. It will be more consonant to the principles we wish to see prevalent to ascribe the present pacific state of Europe to a different and a better cause. To look upon it as emanating from a more general diffusion of civilization, more enlightened views of those circumstances which confer happiness upon nations, to an increase of the knowledge of the principles of civilised government, and to a decline of those barbarous notions which considered power to hold it as the best right to the possession of property, and strength to take it as the only necessary means for acquiring it. Viewing these as the causes of the present state of tranquillity which reigns over the whole of what may be called civilised Europe with but few exceptions; we have the consoling feeling along with the present enjoyment, that as the causes from which this state springs, increase, the effect will continue.

GREAT-BRITAIN.—The Imperial Parliament still continued in Session at the time our last intelligence left England. On the 12th of April the House of Commons voted 500,000 for the building of new Churches. The new levy for the army is to be raised by recruits, one half from England and one half from Ireland. Mr. Justice Best has been appointed Lord Chief Justice of the Court of common pleas.—A proposal had been made in London to form a Joint Stock Company with a capital of 120,000*l.* under the title of the *Thames and Isis Steam Vessel Company*, for the purpose of conveying goods and passengers more rapidly than at present on these important rivers. The great objections hitherto have been the shallowness of the water, and the difficulty of passing the Locks with side-paddles. The first of these objections it is proposed to obviate by building the vessels and barges on Annesly and Sowerby's patent system, which will render them as light as to weigh only one-third as much as other vessels of the same burthen; the other objection will be removed by adopting the American mode of stern-paddles. In proof of the great advantage which the proposed method affords, two facts are cited by way of contrast. A barge of the common construction, loaded with 71 tons of deals, and paying 10*l.* 10*s.*

freight, at the rate of 30s. per ton, took sixteen days to go from London to Oxford; whereas a steam packet built on Ancealy and Sowerby's patent, and navigated backwards and forwards between Hull and Selby, ran on the 31st of last January no less than a hundred and sixty-five miles in about twelve hours!

LONDON, May 11.—*Sailing of the Discovery Ships.*—Saturday being appointed for the sailing from Deptford of the Hecla and Fury, on the voyage of discovery, every arrangement was made to facilitate that object by the superintendent of the dock-yard, but on Friday night the Fury was ordered to remain until Saturday morning's tide. The officers and crew of the Hecla mustered on board, on Friday night, with many friends, among whom were several females, who could not be prevailed upon to depart until the last moment. At 5 o'clock in the morning the anchor was raised, and the Hecla swung upon the buoy with the tide, and at 7 o'clock, the signal for sailing was hoisted; the Comet steam-yacht was then fastly moored alongside to tow her down. Capt. Parry, a few minutes after 7 o'clock, came on board in the pinnace, with several ladies and gentlemen who were received by the First Lieutenant, (Mr. Wynn.) At this moment the river and shore presented a very animated spectacle; several boats filled with company, bidding adieu to the crew of the Hecla, were visible: and many of the ships of war's crews were out, cheering the hardy adventurers.

The final orders for getting under weigh were given at 25 minutes past seven o'clock, and a very affecting scene took place on board the transport; several sailors at one time rushed into the arms of some females, and, snatching a hasty embrace jumped into the Hecla, in a manner that many who have taken such farewells cannot forget.

The Comet got under weigh, and proceeded with the Hecla in tow down the river and was soon out of sight.

The crew of the Griper gave three cheers as she passed, which was answered by the Hecla's crew. This incident is very interesting, as the Griper is taking out the Land Expedition, and the next intercourse of those brave men will probably be in regions of desolation and misery.

A new Romance, by the *Great Known Unknown* of the North, has been announced to the London booksellers at a trade sale at the Albion Tavern. The story is Scottish and the incidents it includes, are supposed to have happened about the year 1760, fifteen years after the rebellion. Four thousand copies of the work were bespoke on this occasion. One great house alone, in Paternoster-row, subscribed for 900. Two volumes of this romance are actually printed off.

LONDON, May 6.—A duel took place on Thursday, between the Marquis of Londonderry and Mr. Battier, in consequence of a message sent by the latter. The Marquis was attended by Sir Henry Hardinge, M. P. and Mr. Battier, by Lt. Col. Western. The parties proceeded to a field near Battersea-bridge; the ground was measured (10 paces distance,) by the seconds, who agreed that the parties should fire together by the word of command. On the word being given, the Marquis fired, but missed his opponent; Mr. Battier's pistol missed fire. The seconds then entered, and the affair terminated.

WHITEHALL, April 10.—The King has been pleased to constitute and appoint the Right Hon. the Earl of Morton, K. T. to be his Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

The King has been pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, appointing the Earl of Eldon, Chancellor of Great Britain, and the Chancellor Lord Keeper and Commissioner of the Great Seal of Great Britain for the time being; Lord Redesdale, Lord Gifford, Master of the Rolls, and the Master of the Rolls for the time being; the Right Hon. Sir John Leach, Knight, Vice Chancellor of England, and the Vice Chancellor for the time being; Sir Charles Wetherell, Knight, his Majesty's Solicitor General; Samuel Compton Cox, Esq. one of the Masters of the Court of Chancery; Anthony Hart, Esq. one of his Majesty's Counsel learned in the Law; Stephen Lushington, Doctor of Civil Law; Wm. Courtney, Esq. one of the Masters of the Court of Chancery; Robt. Percy Smith, Joseph Littledale, John Herman Merivale, Nicolas Conyngnam Tindal, and John Beames, Esquires, Barristers at Law, his Majesty's Commissioners for enquiring into the practice established in the Court of Chancery.

The Right Rev. Richard, Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, died at Bath, aged 80. The Basha, Bay of Tunis, died on the 28th of March, and is succeeded by his eldest son, Sidi Hassan Bey,

The celebrated traveller Belzoni, has fallen a victim to disease in the very outset of his enterprise. He died at Benin on the 2d of December last, on his route to Houssa and Timbuctoo.

On the 9th April Lord Byron, who had been living very low, exposed himself in a violent rain; the consequence of which was a severe cold, and he was immediately confined to his bed. The low state to which he had been reduced by abstinence, and probably by some of the remaining effects of his previous illness, made him unwilling—at any rate he refused—to be bled. The inflammatory action, unchecked, terminated fatally on the 19th April.

FRANCE.—In the Chamber of Deputies on the 5th of April, the Minister of Finance presented the budget. It appears that the whole expenditure of 1823, ordinary and extraordinary, was only 1,144,601,671 francs, or about £45,800,000 sterling. The produce of the taxes had exceeded the estimate by 13,880,585 francs; but all the receipts fell somewhat short of the expenditure. The interest of the national debt and the sinking fund is fixed for 1825, at 237,085,785 francs, or £9,400,000. The taxes continue as in 1823.

The Minister Corbieres has already laid before the Chamber of Peers, the plan for rendering the Lower Chamber septennial; and M. Damas a plan for recruiting the army at the rate of 60,000 men, instead of 40,000 a year; thus making the peace establishment of France consist of 350,000 soldiers.

On Saturday the 24th April two rather curious petitions were presented in the Chamber of Deputies, from a citizen of Bordeaux, named Deloncle. One prayed that a chapel should be “dedicated” to the Virgin Mary, and “consecrated,” to the Dutchess of Angouleme. The Chamber rejected the petition. The Sieur Deloncles 2d petition demanded that the religious should precede the civil ceremonial of marriage. This petition was referred for further investigation to the Minister of the Interior. The next and most important subject, was the Minister's proposal to reduce the interest of the 5 per cent to 4 per cent interest.

A deplorable accident occurred on the 10th at Ronchamp near Befort. An explosion took place in the coal mines, by which twenty persons, amongst whom was the owner, suffered death. Fourteen workmen were also taken out dangerously wounded.

The surveys for a grand canal to establish a communication between the Mediterranean, the ocean and the interior of France, were prosecuting with great activity. The rivers Rhine, Saone, Menche, Morelle, Meuse and Mawl will be made to communicate.

Mr. Jos. Vict. Le Clerc, professor of Rhetoric in the Academy of Paris, the translator of Cicero and of Plato, has been nominated by his Excellency the Grand Master of the University to the Chair of Professor of Latin Eloquence in the faculty of Letters of that Academy, vacant by the death of M. de Laplace.

SPAIN.—By a decree dated at Madrid, on the 25th of March, all the promotions made in 1819 and 1820, in the army destined for the expeditions to South America, are declared null and void, in consequence of their not sailing.

The son of the Marquis de Casa Irujo, has been named Secretary to the Spanish Embassy at Paris.

A Junta has been appointed by a Royal decree, to settle the claims of Spanish individuals under the treaty of 1814, by which France was to pay a sum of \$7,000,000 francs for the seizure and spoilation made in Spain under Bonaparte.

It was generally believed that the King would remain six months at Aranjuez.—Quesado had received as the barren reward of his services, the Grand Cross of St. Ferdinand.

His Majesty has also created a Supreme Junta of Emigration, and named M. de Villota of the Council of Castile, President. Heredia, Sobrado, and two Ecclesiastics are named Members of this body.

The Confessor Saez is confidently asserted to be once more in high favour. Some curious Police Regulations have been adopted at Madrid with reference to the cere-monials of Passion Week—especially on Good Friday—to prevent the disorders

usual on those occasions. In the first place no carriages are to appear on that day, without special permission, under a penalty of fifty ducats. A second order is much more curious. It forbids all persons, of what rank soever, to appear in public, giving themselves the discipline—that is scourging themselves on the naked backs, or with their hands crossed, or in the dress of penitents, on Good Friday, under a penalty of ten years imprisonment and 500 ducats, to nobles, and of 200 lashes and ten years on board the galleys to the commonality.

A conflagration broke out in the four quarters of Madrid, on the evening of the 14th of April. Its progress was only prevented by the activity of the French soldiers. Two children perished.

PORTUGAL.—From this quarter we have nothing to be implicitly relied upon.—There appears to have been a party who attached themselves to the Queen and the Infanta, and that in consequence of the latter obtaining some ascendancy in the Cabinet, they had become so intoxicated with their success that they boldly threw off the mask; in consequence, the other two, Pamplona and Palmella, these old rivals, coalesced, and going to His Majesty, tendered their own resignations, provided the other two were not dismissed, which was accordingly done. The two offices of Minister of the Interior and Minister of Justice have been united in the person of Judge d'Oliviera Lacte de Barras, an old man of 75 years of age, formerly Judge Advocate to Marshal Beresford.—A new Junta of Directors of the Oporto Wine Company has been formed.

GREECE.—In this quarter, according to all the accounts which have reached us from every direction, the cause of freedom was progressing successfully. These accounts were only contained in reports, none of them official, but all in favour of the Greeks. Hence we may conclude that nothing disastrous had happened.

A tragic event has taken place at Missolonghi. The English Philhellènes who arrived in that city brought with them a number of expert artificers. Mauvrocordato wished to employ their talents in making Congreve rockets on board a vessel, near which a military guard was placed to keep off the curious. Two Sulioti feeling highly indignant that they should be prevented from entering the laboratory, a general quarrel took place between them, and the guard. The officer commanding the latter, who was a German, advanced to signify his authority, when one of the Sulioti laid him dead at his feet with a pistol shot. The men who were engaged at the laboratory, thinking themselves no longer safe, took flight from thence, and ten of them had already arrived at Zante.

The Greek Senate have ratified the terms of the loan, and given the Deputies additional powers. The Greek Chronicle had been productive of much good; and a paper in Italian, to be called the Greek Telegraph, will soon be published.

Mr. Blaquiere, the active and intelligent agent of the Greek Committee, has lately embarked from Portsmouth, the bearer of forty thousand pounds to the Greeks.

TURKEY.—Preparations for war are continuing at Constantinople with as much alacrity as the state of the imperial exchequer will allow. The government is absolutely resolved to have an army of 100,000 men on foot by the month of May. They are also busy in provisioning the fleet of the Captain Pacha. The most difficult part is to complete the crews of the ships of the line and frigates, and to compose them of experienced sailors capable of contending with the Greeks.

CHINA.—The following is an extract of a letter from Canton, received by the Hon. Company's ship Bombay, dated November 20.

We have again had a discussion with the Chinese on the subject of the Lintin affair. On the arrival of the direct ships in August last, the Viceroy demanded of us if TWO MEN had been sent out from the King of England to be given up to execution, to atone for the two Chinese who had been killed in the affray at Lintin, by the Topaz frigate. This occasioned a renewed discussion, and as the Canton government indicated symptoms of going to some extremities, we made a resolute stand, and detained the ships without the river in a very fine bay in the vicinity of the Islands in Lintin and Lantao, but where our ships had never before laid. This has in compliment to Jas. B. Urnston, Esq. Chief of the British Factory in China been

named by the Commanders. "Urmston Bay, and, will be so laid down in all future charts of that anchorage. After a month's contest with the Chinese Authorities, finding we were determined, they gave up the point, and we came up from Macao, followed by the ships, and are now going as usual. We have thus gained another victory over our old antagonist the Viceroy, and have the satisfaction of knowing that the character and honor of the British Flag have been again upheld by the steadiness and firmness of the East Company's representatives in China.

EAST INDIES.—Accounts from India announce the extremely delicate health of the Governor General, and his anticipated return home. The Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone has succeeded Sir Thomas Munro to the Presidency of Madras. Mr. Lushington, Secretary of the Treasury, is appointed Governor of Bombay in the room of Mr. Elphinstone.

Steam Navigation to India.—A numerous and respectable meeting had been held in Calcutta, to discuss the practicability of Steam Communication with England *via* Suez, and the merits and importance of the subject having been fully investigated a Committee was formed when it was resolved to bestow one lack of Rupees upon the first individual or Company, who should make two complete voyages from England to India in Steam Vessels, the passage in no case exceeding 70 days, either by the Cape of Good Hope, or the Red Sea, in vessels of British Register, and not less than 300 tons burthen.

AMERICA.

THE WEST INDIES.—*Antigua, May 11.*—H. M. S. *Scout*, arrived at English Harbor on Friday evening, from Barbadoes, with his Majesty's ship *Eden*, for Para, both vessels having on board the British Vice Consul, Merchants, and Portuguese subjects, who had sought refuge in Barbadoes, in consequence of the tumult which broke out in Para, in the month of October. The *Eden* arrived at Para before the *Scout*, and was permitted to enter the port unmolested; but on the approach of the *Scout* the batteries fired at her. This *compliment* having been promptly returned, the assailants fled from their posts, and the *Scout* anchored in safety: after which a representation of the insult to the British flag was made to the authorities, and an apology received together with assurances of friendship towards the British Government, and promises of protection to its subjects engaged in business there. The merchants &c. on landing found that their property had been respected during their absence; and when the *Scout* sailed the most perfect tranquillity prevailed.

Jamaica papers to 22d May, give some particulars of the operations of the pirates on the Mosquito shore.

The U. S. sloop *Beagle*, Lieut. Com. Montgomery, had arrived at Port Royal with despatches respecting the result of the English expedition among the Isle of Pines for the murderer's of Lieut. Layton and the boat's crew of the *Icarus*.

Pepe, the first, and Sebastian, the second captain of the piratical felucca, are both dead; the former from his wounds, hunger and fatigue; the latter, who cut the throat of Lieut. Layton, was shot by one of the Hussar's Marines. Two others of the felucca's crew are killed, and four are taken.

The Hussar, *Icarus* and *Speedwell* have yet parties of six or eight scouring the Isle of Pines, and it is hoped not one of the wretches will escape.

The piratical felucca, which was thought to have escaped was only sunk, and has since been weighed.

Accounts from Jamaica state, that the British frigate *Hussar*, and sloop *Janus*, had destroyed at the Isle of Pines, two piratical feluccas and a schooner—put six of the pirates to death, and made five prisoners. Previously to their capture, the villains had succeeded in taking a gig belonging to the *Janus*, with a Lieutenant, one midshipman, and six men—the two officers, and four of the men they put to death.

Accounts from Georgetown, (Demarara) are to the 10th of May. His Excellency Major General Sir Benjamin D'Urban K. C. B. K. T, S. &c. lately appointed Governor of that Colony, has been inducted into office, and has commenced his administration under favorable circumstances.

A fire, at Dry Harbor, extended over about 130 acres of land, and destroyed a number of negro houses. The village was saved by the successful exertions of about 1500 blacks.

KINGSTON, (Jamaica,) April 12.—A shock of an Earthquake was felt on Saturday, between the hours of 9 and 10 at night. We understand it caused considerable alarm amongst the female portion of the inhabitants of the City.

A wall in the house of Mr. Depass, livery stable keeper, was split in two and a chimney of a house near the Kingston Barracks was thrown down, but we are not aware that any accident, or further damage, occurred.

PORT-MARIA. April 14.—On Saturday night, about 12 minutes before 10 o'clock, a severe shock of an Earthquake was felt here. Its continuance was full a minute, but no injury was sustained; and last night another shock was felt about the same hour as occurred on Saturday. Its duration was longer, but not so severe.

ST. JAGO DE LA VEGA, April 17.—Last Saturday night, about a quarter before ten o'clock; a severe Earthquake was felt in this town and vicinity, which, in its duration, exceeded any one we ever experienced, although we have witnessed many during the last thirty four years. In this quarter, no injury has been sustained that we have heard of, nor, we are happy to say, from another which took place about the same time, on Tuesday night, of equal violence, but not of such long duration.

Provincial Journal,

JUNE, 1824,

District of Montreal.—AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR JUNE, 1824.—This month during the first week was ushered in with very flattering prospects for the farmer; the weather had become warm, and attended with frequent showers of rain, made a wonderful change in the appearance of the crops; in general they made more progress in six or eight days about that time than they had done during the whole of the preceding month. After this, there was a check to vegetation from a severe drought which set in, and continued without intermission till the 23d, since which period the frequent mild and penetrating rains, have produced a very great change for the better in every description of crop.

Prior to this last rain and during the dry weather a great portion of Timothy grass was thought would not be worth the expence of mowing; but since that, it has recovered and some which had a very bad appearance is now expected to be a saving crop. Clover is generally a heavy crop, and a considerable part of it is nearly ready for the scythe. Wheat is much improved in appearance, and a fair crop may be expected. Early sown Barley is in ear. Rye is now becoming an article of attention among farmers in the north-east part of this District. Its introduction among the Canadians is attributable to the success the Americans met with in the cultivation of that grain on the seigniory of Dr. Aillebout, where the soil (a light loam or sand) is well adapted for Rye culture; and as this sort of soil abounds in many parts of the District, the practice might be successfully pursued elsewhere. Winter Rye is the sort in use, and ought to be sown in the early part of September. It will command a price at the Distilleries.

The early sown Oats have improved very much in their appearance; such as were late sown are only appearing above the ground. The Pea crop is very luxuriant. Potatoes are almost all up, and in many situations they are ready for the first dressing

Mangle, Wurzel.—The cultivation of this very valuable root is beginning to be practised by the Canadian Farmers—many of them have this season commenced by sowing small patches in the same manner as the potatoe culture began amongst them. The great value of this root, either as winter food for young stock, or for feeding for the Butcher, has been so fully proved that it requires no comment; were young cattle or sheep to have one feed of mangle wurzel a day during winter, when upon dry food, it would preserve them in good health, and add much to their appearance, besides preparing them for being turned out to the grass with double advantage in the spring. As an article for feeding for the Butcher, it deserves particular attention; for the price which beef now brings, will not admit of the farmers feeding with grain or pulse with profit as heretofore—and hence the necessity of adopting the use of root crops for this purpose. The frequent failure of the Turnip crops in this country, when sown upon old ground has deterred many from persisting in this branch of husbandry. But on new land this is a crop which seldom fails—and as the present time is the best for sowing them, it ought not to be allowed to pass by, with those who have ground suitable for this crop.

Beef and Mutton have experienced a small decline in price—wheat per meniot, (36 quarts) 5s 5d—Pease do. do. 3s 4d to 3s 9d—Barley do. do. 2s 1d—Oats do. do. 1s 8d—Indian corn none.

DISTRICT OF QUEBEC, JUNE 1824.—During the early part of this month the weather continued, as it was in May, unsettled, with alternate days of heat, rain and cold. In the second week there were some severe thunder storms, which were followed by slight frosts, and continued cold weather and north-easterly winds. From the 26th, when there was some rain, the weather has been fine and warm.

This state of the weather has kept back vegetation, and generally been unpropitious to the prospects of the year.

Potatoe planting was done in good time where the preparatory labour had been seasonably and carefully performed. The young plants look well, and are nearly ready for ploughing off, the Drills having been harrowed down, just before the shoots came above ground. Ploughing off, or removing with the plough the earth from the plants, is a practice introduced by the Scotch Farmers, which gives an opportunity of loosening the earth near the roots, and destroying weeds in harrowing between the Drills, before the final earthing up. The perfection of this and every other Drill culture is to keep the earth friable, suffering no weeds to grow so as to perpetuate themselves in the soil, or deprive the crops of any part of its vegetative power.

It is with some difficulty that the grounds reserved for Turnips have been this year brought to that finely pulverised state, which is necessary for the successful culture of that valuable root. The sowing season will not commence till before the first rains, in the ensuing month. Some experiments have been made to add Buck-wheat to the Drill Culture, which now consists in Potatoes, Mangel Wurtzel and Turnips.—Buck-wheat is an excellent and productive substitute for Grain and Peas, in fattening Hogs and Poultry, may be sown any time in June, and has a stalk sufficiently strong to admit of its standing up in Drills. Without a greater extent of useful Drill Crops than is usual in this country, the land can never be kept clean and brought under proper rotation, which it has been proved, fully doubles the produce with very little additional labour or expense, in a series of a few years.

The Grain Crops, although early sown, are backward. Complaints are very general of their being thin and having suffered from insects. In low grounds the cold and wet has given them a bad colour, and partially destroyed them. Peas in dry grounds are looking well.

The Pastures, if that name can be given to the generality of ley fields under the system of alternate crops of Grain and Pasture, have been very backward, and the Cattle lean. In fields under a proper rotation of 1st year Grain; 2d Drill Crops; 3d Grain; 4th Hay; 5th Pastures; Cattle have had rich feed since the middle of May.

The Hay Crops in artificial meadows are likely to prove productive this season.—In the natural meadows, in low grounds, they will not come up to the expectations felt earlier in the season.

The Orchards and Gardens promise but very little, the season having proved unfavourable while the Fruit Trees were under blossom, and the tender plants in the Gardens being cut off or stunted, by the frosts and sudden changes from heat and

cold. Grubs and the small black fly or beetle, called *puceron* in the country, have also been very injurious this season.

Prices of all kinds of Farm Produce, particularly Meat, have considerably risen in price, more from the insufficiency of the present and probable future supply, than from any very unusual and steadily increasing demand. It is the latter which is alike favourable to the Agricultural and other industrious classes; and the sure companion of general prosperity.

30th June, 1824.

INCIDENTS, DEATHS, &c.

Lower-Canada.

MONTREAL.

Dreadful accident.—On the 8th June, during the process of taking down the old buildings in St. Joseph-street, to make room for the new Roman Catholic Church, part of the gable of one of the houses unexpectedly fell, and two men who were working below were unfortunately buried in the ruins! The leg of one man was so mangled that it was necessary to have recourse to amputation, the thigh of the other was broken, and his body otherwise greatly injured. The utmost care has been taken of these unfortunate men, but we are sorry to state they were both far from being out of danger.

Melancholy accident.—While four labourers were engaged in carrying a heavy load of stones up to the scaffolding at St. James Church now building in the Saint Louis Suburb of this city, as they had reached the top of the ladder, the whole scaffold gave way, and the unfortunate men along with their load, a quantity of stones which were upon the scaffold, and the wooden work of it, were precipitated from a considerable height; one of the men was killed on the spot, two were severely hurt, and the third happily escaped with but little injury.

On the night of the 10th a stable belonging to Mr. John McConnachie, at the foot of the Current St. Mary, was broken open, when some dogs got in and killed 9 sheep.

A Tees-Water cow with her calf which was imported by the Agricultural Society last year, was on the 11th sold in the New Market; the cow brought L.29, and the calf L.25: at the same time a tup of the Southdown breed, brought from Halifax, sold for eighteen dollars.

Disastrous occurrence.—On the 3d inst. the wind from a gentle breeze in the morning, rose to a hurricane from the south in the forenoon, which continued unabated till about 4 o'clock P.M. Several rafts, (chiefly of fire-wood,) on their way from Chateaugay to this city suffered serious damage, and some of them were entirely lost.

Sacrilege and Robbery.—On the night of the 16th instant, some depraved wretches entered the French Church, and after breaking through four doors found their way to the iron chest, which contained the silver furniture of the Church; the chest was broken open, and rifled of its contents, which consisted of silver candlesticks, chalices, and other articles used during the celebration of worship.

Died.] On the 5th instant, at Three-Rivers, aged 62, Mr. J. B. Rienford, Physician, of that town.—In Quebec, on the 11th instant, Jacob Oldham, Esquire, aged 56, Member of the Provincial Parliament for the County of Effingham. For many years, Mr. Oldham has been engaged in commercial pursuits, chiefly in the District of Montreal, and was highly esteemed for his uniform uprightness and integrity. His political career was marked by a punctual attendance in the House of Assembly, a strict adherence to constitutional principles, and by a loyal attachment to his King and Government.—In this city, on Sunday the 13th, Emilia Ann, wife of Captain Romilly, R. E.—*The death of Lord Byron.* His Lordship died in Greece on the 19th of April.

QUEBEC.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

CUSTOM HOUSE FEES.—An action relative to the general question of fees taken

At the Custom House of this Port, was brought in the present term of the Court of King's bench by *Wm. Price, Esquire*, against *The Honble. Michael Henry Percival*, collector of his Majesty's Customs at this Port, to recover from the defendant several sums of money, alleged by the defendant to have been received as fees of office, but which the plaintiff's counsel maintained were over and above what the defendant was lawfully entitled to.

The counsel for the plaintiff, were Messrs. Stuart and Black, and for the defendant, the Attorney and Advocate General, the Honble. Vallieres de St. Real and the Honble. Mr. Priurose.

On behalf of the defendant it was maintained first that he was entitled to a month's notice before an action could be brought against him, for any thing done in the execution of the duties of his office; and secondly that the action had not been commenced within three months next after the matter or thing done from which a right of action accrued to the Plaintiff.

The Counsel for the Plaintiff maintained, that in an action for money received or had, no notice under the 28th Geo. III. Cap. 37, was required, as this Statute referred only to matters which directly concern the King's revenue, and was intended to give officers an opportunity of tendering amends for any act inadvertently done by them. The Collector's Fees could not be considered as a part of the Revenue, and it would be impolitic to extend the protection given under this Statute, to Custom House Officer's exacting exorbitant fees.

A decision of Lord Ellenborough, shewing that the Statute did not apply to cases of this description, was cited. As to the limitation of three months, it was argued that it was allowed by the same Statute, and governed by the same rule.

The Court, however thought, even if the objections by the Plaintiff's Counsel were well founded, that it would be competent to the Defendant to avail himself of them under the general issue, thereupon overruled the pleas in question, with costs against the Defendant, and ordered the parties to proceed to evidence on the remaining issue.

Casualty.—A private in Capt. Staunton's Company of the 37th named McArthy, was drowned by falling from the Lady Sherbrooke after having embarked. He had lain down to sleep near one side of the boat. He leaves a wife and two children:

An addition of upwards of 50 masons and labourers has lately taken place to those already employed on the works at the Cape. It is understood however that the activity with which these works were carried on last year will not be renewed this summer.

Thunder Storms.—Two thunder storms passed over this City. Neither of them were severe compared to what they often are, but their effects have been most melancholy. During that of 1st and 6th there were two extremely loud and appalling peals of thunder, the latter of which, a little after two, appears to have proceeded from a thunder cloud immediately over the Upper Town, and the lightning shot from a centre into a great number of directions, descending to the earth at several spots, destroying lives.—Ensign John D. Cogan a fine young Officer of the 68th Foot fell a victim to it in the Officers Barracks, Saint Lewis Street. It is supposed that he was near the window in the rear of the building, looking at the flashes of lightning. The electric fluid entered above in the wall descended along the iron of the window and entered the body back of the ear, and from the body to the floor. He was accidentally found dead on the floor by his servant about an hour after.—In the Jesuits' Barracks the fluid appears to have overrun the whole four sides of the buildings of the square: almost every body in the barracks received violent shocks. One Corporal, who had his son a child, in his arms who was also killed and a bugler, both of the 68th Regiment, are the only victims. A Serjeant, and another private have received serious injury, but the former will recover, the latter has suffered very much. The greatest body of the fluid appears to have entered by the third chimney from the North West angle of the building, throwing down the chimney, entering the unoccupied rooms in the two upper stories in which it threw down part of the walls and overturned the floor; and tearing into a thousand pieces one of the beams it then descended into the lower stories and the vaults.—It is remarkable that the buildings where it has been mostly felt and been destructive were covered with sheet iron, and neither of them had lightning rods—simple and we believe effectual guards.

LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—A meeting previous to the Summer recess took place at the Castle of St. Louis. The attendance was numerous; among the

members Sir Peregrine Maitland and Staff. An address was unanimously voted to his Excellency the Governor in chief on his departure. A Committee was appointed to draw it up, and it was afterwards presented to his Excellency by Sir Francis Burton, President. His Lordship feelingly declared that no exertion of his should be wanting to give stability and perpetuity to the Society. The Society then listened to an admirable Address from the Chief Justice, which included a juridical essay on the laws and customs of France, from the time of the Romans to the Grand Council of Quebec, 1638. This was received with great approbation by the Society, who voted that a copy should be requested of the Chief Justice for publication, to which his Honor assented. Previously to the close of the meeting, the Earl of Dalhousie, in a neat speech, proposed the admission of the Hon. De Witt Clinton as an honorary member of the Society. We need not say that the approbation of the meeting was unanimously expressed, no name standing higher in public estimation in Canada than that of De Witt Clinton.—

ORDINATION.—On Sunday 12th.—An Ordinance which had been fixed for the preceding Friday, but which the health of the Bishop of the Diocese had obliged him to postpone, was held in the Cathedral Church of this city, when the following gentlemen were admitted to the Holy Orders by his Lordship, assisted by the Archdeacon of Quebec, and the Rev. Dr. Mills, Chaplain to H. M. Forces.

Priest.—The Rev. J. Deacon, of Adolphustown, Bay of Quinté, U. C.

Deacons.—Mr. W. Abbott, who proceeds to the Mission of Yamaska Mountain, Lower-Canada.

Mr. A. Ansley, who proceeds to the joint Missions of Hull L. C. and March, U. C. both upon the Ottawa River.

Mr. J. Grier, who proceeds to the Mission of the carrying-place, Bay of Quinté, Upper-Canada.

Mr. A. Mackintosh, who proceeds to the Mission of St. Thomas, Port Talbot, on Lake Erie, U. C.

In all these places Churches have been recently erected by the Inhabitants, but there are many others in the two Provinces where the same proof has been afforded of anxiety for the regular administration of the Word and Ordinances, which are still unprovided, but which the Lord Bishop hopes by the assistance of the Incorporated Society for the propagation of the Gospel to be enabled in the course of time to supply.

His Excellency the Governor in Chief with his suite, embarked on the 9th at half past two o'clock, on board the Athol. He was accompanied down to the King's wharf by the heads of the several Departments and a number of the members of the Legislative and Executive Councils. A salute was fired by the Athol, whose yards were manned, on his Excellency's stepping on board which was answered by the guns at the Citadel and again by the Athol. The Athol soon after dropped down with the stream.

On the 7th His Excellency Sir Francis Nathaniel Burton, K. C. G. Lieutenant Governor of the Province, at 12 o'clock took the usual oaths for administering the Government of Lower-Canada. A salute was fired from the Citadel.

On the 14th, the Gentlemen of the Quebec Bar waited upon Sir Francis Burton to pay their respects to His Excellency upon his assuming the Civil Administration in Lower-Canada as Lieutenant Governor.

The first division of the 60th Regt. arrived from Kingston in the Lady Sherbrooke on the 21st, under command of Lt. Col. Rumlper. They are encamped in the rear of the Telegraph on the Cape.

The last division of the 37th Regt. will embark in the Lady Sherbrooke the 22d. That part of the Jesuits' Barracks occupied by them, will, we understand, remain empty until the arrival of the 71st Regiment from Ireland, which is now soon expected.

By a proclamation, dated at the Castle of St. Lewis, the 18th inst. a fair is authorised to be held at Frost Village, in the township of Shefford, District of Montreal on the fifteenth day of September and the first of March in every year.

A young man named *Phillippe Godin* was drowned when going on board the *Swiftsure* on the evening of 22d, by falling from the planks that led to the boat. The number of persons passing on these planks is immense and the numerous ac-

idents in the recollection of every body. Two narrow planks are not sufficient, and legislative regulations, if they do not already exist, ought to be passed making it obligatory to have them of a certain width with proper railings.

An immense quantity of Shad has lately been taken in this neighbourhood and brought to market; one individual had about 3000. They sell at from 3d. to 4d. each, and are a cheap article of food for the poorer classes.

A new Ferry-boat between this City and Pointe Levy, to be moved by horses, was launched on the 22d at Pointe Levy.

Died.] In this City, on Monday 16th, George de Tonnancour, Esquire.

Upper-Canada.

On the 3d inst. the Corner Stone of a Masonic Hall to be erected in Bath U. C. was laid by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, assisted by the Officers and Members of the different neighbouring Lodges. An Address was delivered by the Rev. Wm Smart, Provincial Grant Chaplain.

Died.] At Black Rock, on Wednesday the 25th inst. Mrs Sarah Augusta Porter, wife of Augustus S. Porter, Esq. and daughter of the late Col. Mansfield, of West Point.—At Kingston, Mr. Benjamin Andrews of that place aged 65.—At Wellington Square, Head of Lake Ontario on the 28th ult. Joseph Mullan, shipwright, aged 21 years.—Mr. Mullan was a native of England, and left his native country about 12 months ago.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS,

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-IN-CHIEF.

QUEBEC, 3d June, 1824.

Edward Olivier Desbarats, Esquire, Advocate, Attorney, Proctor, Solicitor and Counsel in all His Majesty's Courts in this Province.

William Hall, Esquire, Commissioner for the summary trial of certain small causes in the Township of Broughton in the county of Buckinghamshire, in the District of Quebec, in do.

William Moore, Gentleman, to vend medicines and perform the duties of an Apothecary in this Province.

Samuel Gale, Esqr. Chairman of the Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the District of Montreal.

Provincial Secretary's Office, Quebec, 5th June 1824.

His Excellency the Governor in Chief has been pleased to make the following appointments viz;—

Samuel Gale, Venant Roi, Charles Penner, Samuel S Hingston, Roswell Olcott, Stephen Westover, Jonas Abbot, Junr, Solomon Bingham, Leonard Thomas, James Cuthbert, Junr. Esquires, to be Justice of the Peace for the district of Montreal,

Samuel Gale, Jacob Oldam, Bernard Antoine Panet, William Henderson, James Chisholm McTavish, Charles Norbert Perrault, James Black, Thomas C. Oliva, Augustin Lehouillier, William Ware, William Hall, Antoine Gabriel Chenet, Ignace Dugald Braser, and John Gowe Smith, Esquires, to be Justices of the Peace for the district of Quebec.

Thomas Ainslie Young, Esq. jointly & severally with William Smith Sewell, Esq. as Sheriff for the district of Quebec, during the absence of the said William Smith Sewell, Esq.

William Edward Holmes, Esq. additional Commissioner for the examination of such persons as ought to have Licences to practice Physic and Surgery, &c. in this Province.

Joseph Morpin, and Charles Norbert Perrault, Esquires, do.

Joseph Fenwick, Esq. Marshall of the Court of Vice Admiralty in this Province, *Dedimus Potestatem* to David Ross, Samuel Gale, and Louis Levesque, Esquires, to take and receive the oaths of persons appointed to the Office of Justice of the Peace in the District of Montreal.

Joseph Bouchette, J. B. Larue, and Benjamin Feuyser, Esquires, to be a Board for the examination of persons applying to be appointed Surveyors of Land in this Province.

Norman Bethune, Esquire, Vendue Master in and for the City and District of Montreal.

Charles Bowman Felton, Esquire, Clerk of the Peace for the Inferior District of Saint Francis.

Matthew Stuart, James Crawford, and Hypolite Landry, Esquires, Commissioners for regulating the Fisheries in the River Ristigouche.

Thomas Blackwood, John Forsyth, George Auldjo, George Moffatt, and François Antoine Larocque, Esquires, Commissioners to inquire into the state of the Harbour and Beach of Montreal.

William Green, Esquire, Clerk of the Crown for the District of Quebec.

Hugh Fraser, Esquire, do. do. for the District of Three-Rivers.

John Delisle, Esquire, do. do. for the District of Montreal.

Quebec, 16th June, 1824.

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

Joseph Bouchette, Senior, Esquire, a Justice of the Peace for the District of Quebec.—Joseph Bouchette, Senior, Esquire, and James Cuthbert, Esq. Justices of the Peace for the District of Three-Rivers.—Joseph Bouchette, Senior, Esquire, George Moffatt, George Auldjo, and Thomas Barron, Justices of the Peace for the District of Montreal.

Montreal Price Current.

JUNE, 1824.

PRODUCE OF THE COUNTRY.

Pot Ashes, per cwt.	32s.	a	32s.	6d.
Pearl Ashes, ...	34s.	a	34s.	6d.
Fine Flour, per bbl.	30s.	} dull,		
Sup. do. ...	35s.			
Pork, (mess) ...	80s.	a	85s.	0d.
Pork, (prime) ...	62s. 6d.	a	65s.	0d.
Beef, (mess) ...	57s.	a	60s.	0d.
Beef, (prime) ...	37s. 6d.	a	40s.	0d.
Wheat, per minot	5s. 5d.	a	0s.	0d.
Barley, ...	2s. 1d.	a	0s.	0d.
Oats, ...	1s. 8d.	a	0s.	0d.
Pease, ...	3s. 4d.	a	3s.	9d.
Oak Timber, cubic ft.	1s. 2d.	a	1s.	4d.
White Pine,	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	a	0s.	4d.
Red Pine,	9d.	a	0s.	0d.
Elm,	4d.	a	0s.	0d.
Staves, standard, per 1200,	£30	to	00/.	
West India, do. do.	£11, 10s.	£12		
Whiskey, country mf.	2s. 7d.	to	0s.	0d.

IMPORTED GOODS, &c.

Rum, (Jamaica) gall.	3s. 5d.	a	3s. 7d.
Rum, (Leew'd) ...	2s. 10d.	a	0s. 0d.
Brandy, (Cognac) ...	6s. 6d.	a	0s. 0d.
Brandy, (Spanish) none.			
Geneva, (Holland) ...	4s. 9d.	a	5s. 0d.
Geneva, (British) ...	0s. 0d.	a	0s. 0d.
Molasses, none.			
Port Wine, per Pine,	£00	a	£00.
Madeira, O. L. P.	£00	a	£00.
Teneriffe, L. P.	£34	a	£40.
Do. Cargo.....	£22 10d.	a	00.
Sugar, (musc.) cwt.	45s.	a	50s. 0d.
Sugar, (Loaf) lb.	0s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	a	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. & 0d.
Coffee, ...	1s. 2d.	a	1s. 4d.
Tea, (Hyson) ...	7s. 6d.	a	0s. 0d.
Tea, (Twankay) ...	5s. 10d.	a	0s. 0d.
Soap, ...	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	0d.	a 0s. 0d.
Candles,	0s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	a	0s. 0d.