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PEOPLE'S MAGAZINE,

AND WEEKLY JOURNAL.

Vol. I.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1846.

No. 8

SPECIMENS OF OLD ENGLISH POETS.

No 1—DRAYTON.

The following beautiful passage is descriptive of the allegorical marriage of the Rivers Thames and Isis, from a long poem, in a similar strain, entitled Polyolbion. Drayton flourished in the Elizabethan age.

The Naiads and the nymphs extremely over-joy'd,
And on the winding banke all busily employ'd,
Upon this joyful day, some dainty chaplets twine:
Some others chosen out, with fingers neat and fine,
Brave anadems do make: some huldricks up do bind;
Some, garlands; and to some the nosegays were assign'd
As best their skill did serve. But for that Tame should be
Still man-like as himself, therefore they will that he
Should not be drest with flowers to gardens that belong,
(His bride that better fit) but only such as sprung
From the replenish'd meads, and fruitful pastures near.
To sort which flowers, some sit; some making garlands were;
The primrose placing first, because that in the spring
It is the first appears, then only flourishing;
The azur'd hare-bell next, with them they neatly mix'd:
T' ally whose luscious smell, they woodbine plac'd betwixt.
Amongst those things of scent, there prick they in the lilly;
And near to that again, her sister daffadilly.
To sort these flowers of show, with th' other that were sweet,
The cowslip then they couch, and the oxlip, for her meet:
The columbine amongst they sparingly do set,
The yellow kingscup, wrought in many a curious fret,
And row and then among, of eglantine a spray,
By which again a course of lady-smocks they lay:
The crow-flower, and thereby the clover-flower they stick,
The daisy, over all those sundry sweets so thick,
As nature doth herself; to imitate her right;
Who seems in that her pearl so greatly to delight,
That every plain th' erewith she powd'reth to behold:
The crimson carnal-flower, the blue-bottle, and gold;
Which though esteem'd but weeds; yet for their dainty hues,
And for their scent not ill, they for this purpose chuse.

Thus having told you how the bridegroom Tame was drest,
I'll shew you how the bride, fair Isis, they invest;
Sitting to be attir'd under her bower of state,
Which scorns a meaner sort, than fits a princely rate.
In anadems for whom they curiously dispose
The red, the dainty white, the goodly damask rose,
For the rich ruby, pearl, and amethyst, men place
In kings imperial crowns, the circle that inlace.
The brave carnation then, with sweet and sovereign power
(So of his colour call'd, although a July-flower)
With th' other of his kind, the speckled and the pale:
Then th' odoriferous pink, that sends forth such a gale
Of sweetness; yet in scents as various as in sorts.
The purple violet then, the pensive there supports:
The marygold above t' adorn the arched bar:
The double daisy, thrift, the button hatchelor,
Sweet-william, sops-in-wine, the campion: and to these
Some lavender they put, with rosemary and bays:
Sweet marjoram, with her like, sweet basil rare for smell,
With many a flower, whose name were now too long to tell:
And rarely with the rest, the goodly flour-de-lis.

Thus for the nuptial hour, all fitted point-device,
Whilst some still busied are in decking of the bride,
Some others were again as seriously employ'd
In strewing of those herbs, at bridals us'd that be;
Which every where they throw with bounteous hands and free.
The healthfu' balm and mint, from their full laps do fly,
The scented camomile, the ven'rous costmary;

They hot muscado oil with milder maudlin cast;
Strong tansy, fennel cool, they prodigally waste;
Clear hysop, and therewith the comfortable thyme,
Germander with the rest, each thing then in her prime;
As well of wholesome herbs, as every pleasant flower,
Which nature here produc'd, to fit this happy hour.
Amongst the strewing kinds, some other wild that grow,
As burnet, all abroad, and meadow-wort they throw.

ABORIGINES OF THE SOUTH.

(Continued.)

In the year 1665, says the manuscript, the English established themselves twelve leagues north of St. Helena, and called the place St. George (Charleston). An expedition was prepared in 1668, to dislodge them, but was arrested by contrary orders from Spain, and in 1670 the inlet of St. Helena was fixed upon as the boundary. General Oglethorpe's subsequent establishment in Georgia was therefore resisted as an encroachment, or infringement of this convention, which I doubt not it really was.

All Indian tribes occupying the sea coast from Charleston to St. Augustine, appear to have been known to Spaniards as one powerful nation, called the "Yamassees;" but the English enumerate them as several tribes or divisions. Those residing in the interior, or west of the mountains, were; I presume, the same which have been since known as Creeks, Cherokees, Chickasaws and Choctaws, who were intruders from the north-west, that had come into the country simultaneously with the emigrants, or about the same period, dispossessing weaker tribes as they advanced; and therefore their right of territory in Carolina or Georgia was no better than that of the whites, for they held by the same title—"conquest and occupation," which in point of date was not more ancient.

Whatever might have been the peaceful policy of the sea-board Indians, amongst themselves, or towards the Spaniards, all was ended with the establishment of a rival colony. Whether the English really did excite Indians, won over to their interests, to commit depredations upon those remaining faithful to the Spaniards, or whether the Spaniards did excite their Indians against the English, matters little, for each party continued to charge the other with most diabolical designs (amazingly exaggerated); and their unfortunate Indian partizans, under pretence of serving their superiors, soon became involved in mutual hostilities, which only ended in mutual destruction.

In 1680 Don Juan Marquez de Cabrera, Governor of Florida, ordered the execution of Niquitalla, principal Chief of the Yamassees, which so exasperated the nation, that in 1686 they drove the Spaniards from all their possessions north of the River St. John's, in Florida; to which they were undoubtedly encouraged by the English; though for a dozen years, while slaughter was general among Indians, adhering to one colony or the other, the most courteous understanding existed between the rulers of Charleston and Augustine. That the Spaniards desired the preservation of the Indians, as a barrier, weak it is true, against the encroachments of Protestantism and the English, cannot be disputed, nor is their claim for mercy and humanity to be denied, because the motive was self-interest. But the following extract from the letter of even a pious man of the times (1695), John Archdale, Governor of South Carolina, exhibits another spirit in the English colonists:—

"And, courteous reader, I shall give you some further eminent remarks hereupon, and especially in the first settlement of Carolina, where the hand of God was eminently seen, in thinning the Indians, to make room for the English. As for example, in Carolina, in which were created two potent nations, called Westoes and Savannahs, which contained many thousands, who broke out into an unusual civil war, and thereby reduced themselves into a small number; and the Wea.

toes, who were the more cruel of the two, were at last forced out of the province; and the Savannahs continued good friends and useful neighbours to the English. But again, and at other times, it pleased Almighty God to send unusual sicknesses among them, as small-pox, &c., to lessen their numbers. About eleven years since I was told of great mortality that fell upon the Pimlico Indians; as also that a nation of Indians, Coranine, a bloody and barbarous people, were cut off by a neighbouring nation."—*Carroll's Hist., Colln. II, 88.*

War appears to have continued raging among the Indians until 1715, when what remained of the once powerful Yamassees, finding their own territory usurped by the English, or inroads of hitherto unknown savages, were forced, not only to make peace with the Spaniards, but seek a refuge in the neighbourhood of St. Augustine, where they remained till 1718, their numbers still diminishing by disastrous incursions against the occupiers of their former territory, till the arrival (says the Mexican manuscript) of Benevides, as Governor, who, probably finding that their furtive attempts were only attracting hostilities to the Spanish posts, ordered them to withdraw six leagues from St. Augustine and St. Mark's.

Against this order they made a most piteous appeal, stating that, having abandoned the English, and sought the protection of the King of Spain, to whose religion they were baptized, and to the sacraments of which they wished to bring all their nation, their departure would be the signal for total extermination. But the inexorable Governor sent the Captain, Don Luis de Ortega, with his soldiers, to command their obedience; and they departed in the silent, resigned fatalism of a doomed people. Without resistance or remonstrance they moved mournfully away, from their last resting-place, leaving property—horses, cattle, fowls, furniture and crops behind, and continued their march of death till near four hundred of all ages and sexes perished of fatigue; some broken down with age, and mothers dying for their children. Halting to rest, they were attacked by more savage tribes, who cruelly butchered nearly all, without regard to age or sex; and of more than three thousand, cultivating land about St. Augustine, more than two-thirds perished in twelve months, by violence, want and disease.

Having thus disposed of the real Aborigines of the Atlantic coast, permit me to go back a few years to the destruction of the Apalachee towns, the remains of which I noticed at the commencement of these remarks.

Governor Duval, for many years Superintendent of affairs for the Florida Indians, told me that they had among them a tradition, that their forefathers coming from the north-west for this purpose, were defeated in their first attempt, and after three years of combination, council and preparation, were successful in the second; but a letter from Colonel James Moore, of Carolina, published in a Boston newspaper of the period, shows that whoever may have been the originators, he was one of the principal actors in a most wanton, horrible and unprincipled outrage, which has no parallel in the annals of America. War had, in 1702, been declared between England and Spain, but there was no order to invade Florida, and no provocation. Moore, whose only object was anticipated plunder, while that of his Savage allies was an unslacked thirst for innocent blood, is described by Oldmixon, an English writer, as a licentious, needy, rapacious and forward man, who on the death of Governor Archdale (1700) seized upon the government of Carolina, and who joined in this Indian expedition, with 25 to 50 white associates, to recompense himself for the failure of his recent attack on St. Augustine.

In Moore's letter, dated, "In the woods, 50 miles north and east of Apalachee," he states that they attacked the first town on the 14th December, 1704, and goes on with a detail of successes, which resulted in the destruction of all the towns except one, which compounded by giving up church plate, and another, San Luis, which was too formidable for that time. But it would appear that the resistance generally made was exceedingly slight; for one century of mild tuition under the Franciscans, appears to have completely transformed the resolute and doughty opposers of De Soto, to meek inoffensive cultivators of the soil, such as now exist round the *Missiones* of New Mexico and California.

"They all," says Moore, "submitted and surrendered their forts to me, without condition, except those which were stormed. I have now to my company all the people left of three towns, and the greater part

of four more. We have totally destroyed all the people of four towns. The number of free Apalatchee Indians that are now under my protection, and bound for Carolina, are 1300, and 100 slaves. The Indians killed and took prisoners on the plantations, while we stormed the forts, as many Indians as we took in the forts."

The forts, the priests, and the other white men (of whom there were twenty, just arrived from Pensacola, for provisions) being destroyed, there is every reason to suppose that the wild Indians unresistedly, and at their leisure, continued the slaughter of the fugitive Apalachees, for we hear nothing of them afterwards. Those carried to Carolina worked on the plantations, Moore retaining a number for his own use; and others were shipped to the West Indies, to be sold as slaves, the southern colonists at that time making a regular traffic of so disposing of captured Indians, while they charged the same offence as a heinous crime against the Spaniards, who were totally guiltless of it.

Here is full evidence of complete change of character in the Indian race; for these Apalachees had not only, in the peaceful art of agriculture, forgot all their errant and warlike propensities, but were willing to work patiently for others, and had, besides, slaves among them, who, as Negroes are not referred to, must have been the description of helots mentioned by the historian of De Soto; and these statements, the general accuracy of which cannot be doubted, show that all the numerous Aborigines inhabiting the coast from Charleston to St. Augustine, and thence west, to the Apalichicola River, a distance of three hundred miles, were wholly annihilated, previous to the year 1720, by pestilence, by wars instigated by Europeans, or by inroads of fiercer Savages from the north-west, who continued to occupy the mountains of Georgia, and that region, till their removal in 1835.

I could find little mention of the Indians on the Peninsula of Florida, except in the manuscripts of Governor Montiano, written from 1737 to 1741, in which he speaks of their continued persecution by intruders, especially the Uchees, a nation since extinct, in their turn. The clergy represented that they still taught the catechism in 162 towns (*Pueblos*—every collection of Indian huts is called a "town"); but the Governor writes to the Captain-General of Cuba, that having in vain called upon the reverend fathers (*Padres Doctrineros*) for a return of the whole number, of both sexes, so taught, he imagines they are practising a deceit upon the bounty of the King of Spain, their master, who made an annual allowance for the support of fifty ecclesiastics, connected with the Florida missions, which might be discontinued or diminished if the truth was known.

The Mexican manuscript says that the southern Indians, driven from the continent to the islands, by their bloody and unwearied persecutors, retired at last to Key West, in 1760, where a part perished, and the remainder sought refuge in Cuba, which is corroborated by two facts—the name "Key West" is a corruption of the Spanish *Cayo Huesso*, Bone Key, so called because it was formerly covered with human bones, which could have been none other than those of these miserable fugitives; and I was told by an old Floridan, that he well remembered a number of old Florida Indians living near Havana.

Thus, when Great Britain obtained possession of Florida, by the treaty of 1763 (which also ceded the Canadas), all the ancient inhabitants had, by one casualty following another, totally disappeared from the country, and, with a few solitary exceptions, from the face of the earth. Who can fathom the design?

RAIL ROADS IN MASSACHUSETTS.—The Worcester railroad earnings, since June 1st, have increased \$27,000, or \$1600 a month; this fact having become known, has advanced the price of the shares full one per cent. Nearly all the dividend rail-road shares are now held at higher rates than they were during the previous week. The Old Colony and Western roads have been and are doing, a very large and profitable business, and ought, it would seem, to command par and interest, which is equal to one and a half per cent. premium. The others are all at a premium, and some of them are pretty well up, such as the Fitchburgh, Concord, Lowell, and Worcester; but none higher than is warranted by their immense net income. After the close of canal navigation in December, the Worcester and Western roads will, undoubtedly, do a larger business in the transportation of western products than formerly, if the foreign demand is kept up. The lake navigation is kept open a month or six weeks later than that of the canal, and as the New York rail roads are now permitted to carry freight by paying tolls to the state, the prolific Michigan region will find a winter outlet for the contents of its overflowing granaries.—*Boston Courier.*

THE DIFFERENCE.

"How are you 'his morning, Mary?" said a gentleman to his sister, as the sun-light streamed gloriously into an elegant breakfast room.

"Very well, thank you, George," was the animated reply. "We had a delightful party last night, decidedly the pleasantest of the season. Mrs. Tomkinson's rooms were never before so elegantly decorated, and the supper was superb."

"I thought, as you passed my bed-room last night, I heard you complaining that Murray hastened you away before that important part of the evening's display came on."

"And so he did; but Ellen Tomkinson, finding I must leave, begged her mamma's permission to take me to the dining room, that I might at least see the exquisitely arranged table. And was it not too bad, George, for Murray to insist upon coming away at half-past eleven, as if half an hour made any difference. It is so very rude to leave a party before supper is announced, and always annoys one's hostess, who knows that one departure is always followed by others in rapid succession."

"Still, Mary, as you know your husband acts from conscientious motives, and really thinks it wrong for Christians to spend so much time in convivial engagements, you should, I think, yield more gracefully, since you have too much good sense not to comply in the end."

"But, George," said the still young and pretty wife, "here is my difficulty. It is so absurd for Christians always to be doing something to attract attention. It really injures the cause they have espoused, when they act so strangely. I apprehend we should take great pains to render religion acceptable to those about us, and to court singularity is not the best way in the world to accomplish that."

The step of the master of the house was heard in the hall, and the gentleman had only time to whisper in his sister's ear, "Be not conformed to this world"—"a peculiar people," when they took their places at the breakfast table.

"We had a delightful Missionary Meeting last night, George," said Mr. Murray to his brother-in-law, one morning not long after the scene above described. "I was particularly interested in the remarks of Mr. Carleton, on the importance of cherishing a spirit of prayer for the descent of the Holy Ghost upon our churches."

"Yes," said the younger man, "but I preferred Mr. McIntosh. His statements were so very clear and forcible; his appeal was so fervent, that I thought no Christian could listen without feeling the necessity laid upon him to live more to his Master's glory. Did you not like it, Mary?" he continued, turning to his sister.

"I did not hear it," said she. "Mr. McIntosh must have spoken after I left. I only heard two speeches after the report, and was so very tired I could not remain."

"You were ill, then, sister?"

"No, I was not ill; but really they do drag out these meetings to an unreasonable length. The idea of listening for two or three hours to addresses upon one subject is preposterous. They should remember people must have some time to sleep. Here for one whole week we have had a public meeting every evening, and I think there is such a thing as religious dissipation."

"Did you come home alone, Mary?"

"Yes, Murray put me in the carriage which I had ordered at half-past nine, and then returned. I believe he never requires sleep: for there he has sat night after night till after ten o'clock, devouring every word. He makes it a point never to leave till all is over, and the lights out."

"But," said the gentleman, "you must have been the first to leave the church, and that is so very embarrassing."

"Embarrassing! oh no: why should we mind it? Besides, plenty of people followed my example; for even before the carriage drove off the Winton's and Eston's both came out."

"Still," continued the brother, "when you go to a place, it is so very rude to leave before the entertainment is finished; and, moreover, Christians should endeavour to avoid singularity. Is not this your doctrine, Mary?"

The lady looked up, caught the quick satire in her husband's affectionate smile, and the roguish expression of her brother's face; and, conscience beginning its work, she cast down her eyes, blushed, and fell to musing on *The Difference*.

The brother, too, began to reflect on the same subject. "Why is it," said he to himself, "that those who profess to follow Jesus Christ are so very fearful of disgusting or affronting that 'world' of which He said, He who will be its friend is the enemy of God, while they hesitate not to disturb a religious meeting, to wound the feelings of Christian ministers by leaving while they are speaking, and thus to mark, in the most emphatic manner, that they *grudge* to the Lord's service one single evening of the six which they have for amusement or secular employment. Surely, to say nothing of the excessive ill-breeding of the course thus pursued, does it not evince a decided want of conscientiousness, especially when it is taken into account that the midnight hour frequently finds them in the social circle? Did these disciples believe in the presence of the Great Master of Assemblies in his house on these occasions, would they dare thus to conduct themselves?"

Montreal, November 11, 1846.

CROSSING THE DESERT.

(From *A Year and a Day in the East; or, Wanderings over Land and Sea*. By Mrs. Elliot Montauban.)

We left Cairo in a small desert van, engaging the four places therein for our own accommodation, and fortunately we were enabled to secure the services of the best European driver at that time employed by the Transit Company. He curbed the spirit of four wild Arab horses with great skill, and was remarkably attentive and obliging. We arrived at Station No. 2, in two hours and a half, a distance of twenty miles. The throats of three more than half-starved chickens were immediately cut, in honour of our arrival, and a scanty supply of bad potatoes boiled; impenetrable seabiscuits were substituted for bread, which were only eatable when steeped in hot water. The drinking-water was most repulsive in appearance and taste. The beds were dirty, and consisted of one mattress over a hard board. Pillows were considered a superfluous luxury; and some reluctance was manifested to indulge us with sheets. No 2, in addition to tables and kitchen, has four small rooms for refectory and sleeping, partly fitted up with divans. At seven o'clock the following morning we started for Station No. 4, twenty miles distant, and reached it at eleven. We remained at this, the centre station, nearly three hours. It is very superior to the other resting-places in the Desert, and possesses seven small apartments, as neatly arranged as any sleeping-room in the hotel at Cairo; there are also dining and drawing-rooms. The break-fast consisted of fresh-killed tough chickens and bad water. At half-past one we arrived at the sixth station, twenty miles from No. 4. The beds here were a second edition of those at No. 2, with the addition of bugs in abundance, and swarms of mosquitoes; and the water worse than before, equally offensive to the organs of smell and taste. As usual, skeleton chickens were provided for our repast, to the great discomfort of the inner man. After sleeping at No. 6, we recommenced our journey the following morning. Suez was distant twenty-four miles, and these were accomplished in four hours and a half. Only two small trees are to be met with in the Desert—a space of eighty-four miles—one of which is decorated with, and consecrated to, the rags of the pious pilgrims who cross the sandy and rocky waste over which we passed; they *en route* to Mecca, we to a less holy shrine. The tree is thickly covered with pendant fragments of the well-worn garments of countless pilgrims, deposited there in memory of their desert journey. The only remarkable sights *en route* are numerous skeletons of camels bleaching in the sun, and occasional heaps of bones, covering the remains of the wild warriors of the Desert, who have perished in battle; a few weeds scattered here and there; barren rocks in the distance, and a vast plain of sand. The mirage was beautiful; sometimes assuming the appearance of a harbour, at others of a lake, reflecting various objects in the vicinity on its surface. At night the profound and solemn stillness was only broken by the occasional sound of the cricket. We encountered a party of armed Bedouins on the third day's journey, a fine-looking set of powerful men; thanks to the Pacha they are no longer seen with dread by the traveller in the Desert. The camels that bear the boxes containing the Indian mail, and those that are laden with the baggage of the passengers, are never unloaded between Cairo and Suez; a short halt at the station houses, and a trifling supply of food, is all their kind masters vouchsafe to these hard-worked animals. The horses employed in the transit vans are very badly

broken in, sometimes quite ungovernable, and are evidently overworked and ill-fed; small, thin, wretched looking animals, but fiery and fleet-footed: they are purchased at about £10 each; and two hundred and fifty were in the stables of the Transit Company when we were at Cairo. They are fed on beans, barley, and chaff, no hay being procurable in Egypt. One hundred camels were in use, and thirty or more vans for the conveyance of passengers. These are little better than English carts covered with wax cloth—the roughest conveyance over the hardest road in the world. Part of the desert tract—for the road, properly speaking, there is none—is sandy; the largest portion hard, rocky, and stony. The only living animals we saw were the horses and camels belonging to the party of Bedouins we met. Rats are occasionally seen feasting on the carcasses of camels that perish by the way; and the skeletons of these unfortunate animals act as directing posts, and indicate the line of march to the traveller. Of the feathered inhabitants of the air not one crossed our path during the whole journey. The solemn death-like stillness that prevailed during the two nights we passed in the Desert was almost oppressive. The mornings and evenings were cold as winter days at home; the air keen, dry, and bracing. The sharpness of the atmosphere ceases about mid-day; but even in the sunshine it is needful to wear warm clothing. The glare is intense; and thick green veils, and spectacles of the same colour, are resorted to by all passengers anxious to preserve their eyes from every noxious influence. Occasionally, travellers may be seen crossing the Desert on dromedaries; but these and donkey chairs are not now so much in vogue as during the earlier days of the overland journey.

GOD IN HISTORY.

The ruins of kingdoms!—the relics of mighty empires that were!—the overthrow or decay of the master-works of man, are of all objects that enter the mind, the most afflicting. The highwrought perfection of beauty and art seems born but to perish; and decay is seen and felt to be an inherent law of their being. But such is the nature of man, that even while gazing upon the relics of unknown nations, which have survived all history, he forgets his own perishable nature in the spectacle of enduring greatness.

We know of no spectacle so well calculated to teach human humiliation, and convince us of the utter fragility of the proudest monuments of art, as the relics of vast populations that have passed from the earth, and the empires that have crumbled into ruins. We read upon the ruins of the *past* the fate of the *present*. We feel as if the cities of men were on foundations beneath which the earthquake slept, and that we abide in the midst of the same doom which has already swallowed so much of the records of mortal magnificence. Under such emotions, we look on human power as foundationless, and view the proudest nations of the present as covered only with the mass of their desolation.

The Assyrian empire was once alike the terror and wonder of the world, and Babylon was perhaps never surpassed in power and gorgeous magnificence. But where is there even a relic of Babylon now, save on the pages of Holy Writ! The very place of its existence is now a matter of uncertainty and dispute. Alas! that the measure of time should be doomed to oblivion; and that those who first divided the year into months, and invented the zodiac itself, should partake so sparingly of immortality as to be, in the lapse of a few centuries, confounded with natural phenomena of mountain and valley.

Who can certainly show us the site of the tower that was "roared against heaven?"—Who were the builders of the pyramids that have excited so much the astonishment of modern nations?

Where is Rome, the irresistible monarch of the east, the terror of the world? Where are the proud edifices of her glory, the fame of which has reached even to our time in classic vividness? Alas! she, too, has faded away in sins and vices. Time has swept his unsparing scythe over her glories, and shorn this prince of his towering diadems.

Throughout the range of our western wilds, down in Mexico, Yucatan, Bolivia, etc., travellers have been able to discover the most indisputable evidences of extinct races of men highly skilled in learning and the arts, of whom we have no earthly record, save the remains of their wonderful works, which time has spared for our contemplation. On the very spot where forests rise in unbroken grandeur, generation after generation

has stood, has lived, has warred, grown old and passed away; and not only their names, but their nation, their language have perished, and utter oblivion has closed over their once populous abodes. Who shall unravel to us the magnificent ruins of Mexico, Yucatan, and Bolivia, over which hangs the sublimest mystery, and which seem to have been antiquities in the days of Pharaoh? Who were the builders of those gorgeous temples, obelisks and palaces, now the ruins of a powerful and highly cultivated people, whose national existence was probably before that of Rome or Thebes, Carthage or Athens? Alas! there is none to tell the tale; all is conjecture, and our best information concerning them is derived from uncertain analogy.

How forcible do these wonderful revolutions, which overturn the master-works of man, utterly dissolve his boasted knowledge, remind us that God is in them all! Wherever the eye is turned, to whatever quarter of the world the attention is directed, there lie the remains of more powerful, more advanced and more highly skilled nations than ourselves, the almost obliterated records of the mighty past.—How seemingly well-founded was the delusion, and indeed how current even now, that the discovery of Columbus first opened the way for the cultivated people in the "new world." And yet how great reason is there for the conclusion, that while the country of Ferdinand and Isabella was yet a stranger to the cultivated arts, America teemed with power and grandeur, with cities and temples, pyramids and mounds, in comparison with which the buildings of Spain bear not the slightest resemblance, and before which the relief of the old world are shorn of their grandeur?

All these great relics of still greater nations, should they not teach us a lesson, that *God is in history*, which no man can penetrate! If the historian tells us truly that a hundred thousand men, relieved every three months, were thirty years in erecting a single Egyptian pyramid, what conclusion may we not reasonably form of the antiquities of our own continent, which, is almost by way of derision, one would suppose, styled the "*New World!*"—*Ex. paper.*

MODERN SYNTAX.

Cist, in a recent number of his paper, gives the following examples of modern syntax:—

A New Orleans editor, recording the career of a mad dog, says:—"We are pleased to say, that the rabid animal, before it could be killed, severely bit Dr. Hart and several *other dogs.*"

A New York paper, announcing the wrecking of a vessel near the Narrows, says:—"The only passengers were T. B. Nathan, who owned three-fourths of the cargo and *the Captain's wife.*"

The editors of a western newspaper observe: "The poem we published in this week's Herald was written by an esteemed friend—*now many years in the grave, for his own amusement.*"

The editor of an eastern newspaper expresses great indignation at the manner in which a woman was buried who committed suicide. He says: "She was buried like a dog, with her clothes on."

APPLES OF GOLD.

The sword of the Lord and of Gideon. Judges vii. 20. For they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the Lord is with us; fear them not. Num. xiv. 9 But my servant Caleb, because he hath another spirit with him, and has followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereto he went. Verse 24. Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee. Psa. lxxvi. 10.

Take care, O my soul, that there may also be another, namely, a kingly spirit with thee, as there was with Joshua and Caleb, not to be discouraged on account of thy weakness and great number of frailties and enemies, as if it were impossible to live holily and get the victory. Behold, Christ the true and great Joshua and Caleb, marches out before thee, to make war himself against thine enemies, and who can conquer him? He is unchangeable, his Spirit now is as mighty as ever, and his word as powerful, and sharper than a two-edged sword. Against thy various infirmities he offers also a variety of divine strength, and against each of thine enemies he holds forth to thee a particular sword in his word; and, abiding in his word, thou shalt surely conquer. Though the enemy should raise thine inward and outward calamities to the highest degree, as so many strong walls, yet he must fall; one single word will strike him down.

Not all that tyrants think or say,
With rage and lightning in their eyes,
Nor hell, shall fright my heart away,
Should hell with all its legions rise.

—Bogatzky's Treasury.

SCRIPTURE ILLUSTRATION.



HIPPOPOTAMUS (BEHEMOTH).

"Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee; he eateth grass as an ox."—Job, xl. 15.

Not the least remarkable thing about the Behemoth is its name. The word is plural, and yet denotes one animal, whereas the singular of the same word is a noun of multitude, properly rendered by "cattle," or "beasts." The plural form is applied to one animal to express its pre-eminence. What animal this is has occasioned no small amount of discussion. All the alternatives which have been suggested are limited to the animals which Cuvier has put in one class, which he calls *pachydermata*, on account of the thickness of their skins. To this class equally belong the elephant, the hippopotamus (or river-horse), and some extinct species of enormous animals, as the mastodon or mammoth and others. Now, in all these the Behemoth has been sought. The determination in favour of the elephant has found some distinguished advocates. But this we cannot admit, as, if that remarkable animal had been intended, we should scarcely have failed in so precise a description, to recognise some reference to its more peculiar characteristics—its proboscis, its tusks, its docility and sagacity. For this reason the hippopotamus has been generally preferred. To this determination the principal objections are, that its tail is too inconsiderable to be compared to a cedar, and that some notice would probably have been taken of its tremendous roar. On these grounds Dr. J. M. Good would rather consider that the Behemoth is now altogether extinct, like the mastodon and other genera of the same class and order. This is possible; but the objections to the hippopotamus do not appear to us of sufficient weight to disturb the conclusion in favour of that animal, and that stronger objections apply to every other alternative.

The hippopotamus, or river horse, was formerly known in the lower regions of the Nile; but at present it is seldom found in Egypt, although it continues to inhabit the rivers of Africa and the lakes of Abyssinia and Ethiopia. It is nearly of the same size as the rhinoceros, and has sometimes been found not less than seventeen feet long by fifteen in circumference and seven in height. It has an enormously large head, sometimes three feet and a half in length, the jaws extending upwards of two feet and being armed with four cutting teeth, each of them twelve inches long. Although an inhabitant of the water, its quadrifid hoofs are unconnected by membranes. Its skin is dark, and nearly destitute of hair: it is proverbial for its thickness and impenetrability; so that it was and is highly valued for the manufacture of shields. The animal swims dexterously, and walks under water; but cannot remain long without coming to the surface to breathe. He comes often on shore, particularly at night, as he subsists on roots and vegetables; and does great damage to the cultivated fields, not less by the treading of his broad heavy feet, than by the extent of his appetite. He sleeps and reposes on shore in reedy places near the water. The motions of the hippopotamus upon the land are slow and heavy; and when wounded or alarmed, he hastens to the water, in which only all his powers and resources can be manifested. His habits are in general quiet and inoffensive; but when provoked or injured, there is something terrible in his anger. The voice of the hippopotamus, which has already been mentioned as something remarkable, is described by Burckhardt as "a harsh and heavy sound, like the creaking or groaning of a large wooden door: it is made when he raises his huge head out of the water, and when he retires into it again." (Travels in Nubia, p. 250.) The same writer informs us that the animal is sometimes taken by means of snares and pitfalls, to which there is an allusion in the last verse of this chapter: the natives have no means of killing him, it being generally believed that even a musket-ball can make no impression upon him, except at one small vulnerable spot over the ear.

After this explanation it will probably seem that the hippo-

tamus is the behemoth; and this appears more clearly in the original than in our present translation. The Jews, however, have a different notion in this matter. They hold that behemoth is a huge animal which has subsisted since the creation without propagating its kind, and which is reserved to be fattened for the feast to be enjoyed by pious Jews in the days of the Messiah. Every day he eats up all the grass of a thousand hills, and at each draught he swallows as much water as the Jordan yields in the course of six months. Such is or has been their opinion.

"He eateth grass as an ox."—This seems to be mentioned as a remarkable circumstance; and is so with respect to the river-horse, that although living in the water it should eat grass on the land, like an ox. It was believed that it subsisted partly on fish; but this has been disproved.—*Pictorial Bible*.

THE REVOLUTION IN GENEVA.

(From the Scottish Guardian.)

We are enabled, by the kindness of a friend in Glasgow, to lay before our readers the following interesting letter from Geneva, dated October 9th, giving an account of the revolutionary movement which is in progress in Geneva:—

I write to you to-day to inform you of an event which has just happened here, in connection with which you might suppose that possibly I had been exposed to some danger. Geneva has been this week the scene of a revolution, and the Radical party has conquered. The event is one of the most remarkable that has occurred for some time in Switzerland. The revolution has not been effected, like that of the Canton de Vaud, without arms and bloodshed; on the contrary, cannon have been brought to play on an important Faubourg of the town—a considerable number of persons have been wounded, and some lives have been lost. In its consequences it is most important. The Diet of Switzerland has been for some time so nicely balanced, that the Radical party, which sought to suppress the alliance of the Catholic Cantons in support of the Jesuits, has not been able to effect its purpose. Now it will be strong enough, and a religious war, it is to be feared, will follow. The event, also, may have important practical bearings in regard to the Canton of Geneva itself. The Savoyards, who are Catholics, have long been increasing here rapidly, and fears have been entertained that in time they may out-number the Protestants, and establish Catholic institutions. In the present instance they have, of course, opposed the Radicals, and the latter party, it may be expected, will employ every influence to prevent their further accumulation in the city and Canton.

The immediate cause of the *emancipation* has been the adoption of certain resolutions by the "Grand Conseil," or Parliament of Geneva, which had been submitted to their approval by the Conseil d'Etat, or Government of the Canton. These resolutions propose to demand of the Federal Directory of Switzerland, to summon speedily an extraordinary Diet, which shall take measures, first, to render every Canton responsible for the formation of Free Corps within its territories, and then to suppress the alliance of the seven Catholic Cantons formed to meet the aggressive movement of that body against them. The "preamble," or preamble of the resolutions admits the illegality of the alliance, but sets forth that the position in which the Catholic Cantons were placed by the attack of the Free Corps, ought to be taken into consideration. The Radical party in the "Grand Conseil" opposed their resolutions, contending that the Diet was entitled to compel the Cantons to renounce their alliance without fettering it with any condition; and that, besides, the Diet had no power constitutionally to compel any Canton to prevent the formation of Free Corps within its bounds. After a discussion, prolonged for several days, and attempts being made by the Radicals to get certain compromises passed in place of the original resolutions, the proposal of the Conseil d'Etat was carried. The Conservative party as compared with the Radical was probably as two to one.

This decision was arrived at on Saturday. On Sabbath the Radicals had, I believe, two meetings of their supporters, and on Monday a third in the Faubourg de St. Gervais. This Faubourg is the part of Geneva lying on the side of the Rhone next to the Canton de Vaud, and is smaller and more compact than the city quarter lying on the other side of the river. It is also said to be generally favourable to the Radicals. At this third meeting very strong resolutions were adopted, to the effect that the Government of Geneva had now allied itself to an ultra-montane re-action—had virtually surrendered its federal rights, and set itself in opposition to all liberal Switzerland. After the meeting, the party

spent the night in the open air. On Tuesday, a similar meeting was held, and the issue was, that on that evening they took possession of the Faubourg, drove away the sentries, seized the gates, occupied the two islands in the river, and barricaded the bridges. I have omitted some of the details, but these are, perhaps, sufficient. The position the Radicals now held was a strong one. The walls around the city being very strong, it was almost impossible to attack them with any hope of success, except from the river. The attempt, indeed, was made by some of the Government troops at the *Porte du Cornavin*—the bridge which conducts one towards Franco and the Canton de Vaud. The party, however, was repulsed with loss. The Government, therefore, concentrated its efforts to make a passage across the bridges. But here, again, the difficulties were great. If the bridges furthest down, where the river is narrowest, were assailed, they could be more easily and rapidly crossed; but then the enemy had the island, with a crowd of houses on it, and they could fire upon the troops, not only from the opposite side of the river, but also from every window of the island fronting the city. If the bridges, again, higher up, nearer the point where the river leaves the lake, were attacked, the troops would have to sustain for a considerable time the fire, the river being very broad. Both parties concentrated their efforts at the bridges furthest down—the Radicals to defend themselves—the Government to attack. The Government began its assault about three o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday. They possessed one great advantage over the enemy in having cannon to aid them. They were not, however, able to employ these very effectually, as they were naturally desirous to injure as little as possible valuable property. The firing continued probably about three hours, and the barricades at the bridges furthest down were in great part destroyed. This was not, however, effected without considerable loss. The Radical party had their sharpshooters in the higher windows of the houses in the island, and wounded a considerable number. The Government also had theirs, but they were by no means so effective. I have forgotten earlier to state the composition of the opposing forces. On the one hand, the Government had the great body of the regular troops, although the other party had a considerable number also. On the other hand, the Government had not so many volunteers, while the Radical force was greatly made up of them. The Radicals had not probably above 400 or 500 in all—the Government, before the termination, about 1500. The latter troops, however, were lukewarm in the cause, and many of them, it is said, could not be trusted. About six in the evening, the firing, in great part, ceased on both sides. It was evident all through the engagement that the Radicals had a very good head guiding them. Their chief, Major Rillet, understood how to employ both his troops and the mob. The mass of the people on the city side were all in his favour, and, with a little manœuvring betwixt them and his troops, did him most effective service. At the close of the engagement for the day (Wednesday) neither party had lost ground—the Government, however, having many wounded, the Radicals scarcely any. It is said that two persons only have been killed in all—that more than thirty wounded are in the hospitals, and a considerable number in private houses. Rumour varies as to the exact number, and it is better, therefore, not to report it. During the night the Radicals set fire to all the bridges, and they were burned to an extent sufficient to prevent the possibility almost of troops crossing yesterday. In the morning the *Conseil d'Etat* resigned—a Provisional Committee was appointed—an armistice was concluded, and in the evening the bridges were thrown open, and all was quiet. To-day a Provisional Government has been appointed, with MM. Fazy and Rillet, the leading Radicals, at the head of it, and the former *Conseil d'Etat* has been ordered to defray, at its own personal expense, all the damage done to property. This will be a tolerable sum. The Provisional Government is charged with the duty of framing a new Constitution. This will be submitted to the approval of the whole Canton; and if accepted, a permanent Government will then be appointed. Such is the state of affairs to-day.

NEW-YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

New-York, 10th Nov., 1846.

THE GEOLOGIST'S AND NATURALIST'S CONVENTION

Was recently held in this city. J. D. Dana presented a paper on the appearances of the surface of the moon, with drawings, &c., which presented the following facts:—1093 lunar heights have been mea-

sured; its immense craters are as yet unexplained; one has been ascertained to be 150 or 200 miles in diameter, and 25,000 feet deep. The crater Bailey is 149½ statute miles in diameter. Two-thirds of all the lunar hemisphere in view—composing the southern quarter—are covered with volcanoes; the names, heights, depths, &c., were given by Mr. D. The sides of these craters appear more brilliant and illuminated than the bottoms; there is no appearance of water in the moon; out of 1093 heights, 6 are almost 20,000 feet in altitude, and 22 exceed 15,750 feet. Professor Shephard, in his report on *meteoric stones*, stated that 33 had been preserved in this country, and from all countries 120; he proposed this as a new science, to be called *Astrolithology*. Professor Silliman said, in regard to their origin, that two negatives were established; that they are neither of terrestrial nor atmospheric derivation. Whence, then, do they come? Mr. Alger made some observations on the *red zinc ore of New Jersey*, from which it appears that the bed visibly exposed at Sterling is about 600 feet. Assuming its present average width at 4 feet, and its depth at 100 feet, we have 240,000 cubic feet of ore, each foot of which contains 170 lbs. of red oxide, and, as the oxide contains 81 per cent. of pure metal, the whole amount in this single locality is 33,048,000 lbs.; at 5 cents per lb., the average price, this one deposit would be worth nearly two millions of dollars! Mr. Allen, on the *mounds of the West*, stated that Dr. Hawes had opened 60 of these receptacles the past year. He had found many curious specimens in them of pipes, and other articles of pottery, of exquisite workmanship, and far superior to anything manufactured by the present race of Indians. Also, several pieces of sculpture representing dogs, racoons, and other animals, all beautifully carved; also a quantity of minerals, beads made of bones, with a variety of copper and copper-pointed instruments. They also found an altar of very curious workmanship. The gentlemen engaged in these researches would at an early day give the public the benefit of their labours.

CENTRE OF THE UNIVERSE.

From a communication, dated *Cincinnati Observatory, Sept. 8, 1846*, I glean the following highly important information. By the last steamer we received two numbers of the "*Astronomische Nachrichten*," a journal published at Altona, near Hamourgh, and conducted by the celebrated Professor Schumacher. These two numbers (566 and 567) are taken up with an article by Dr. Mædler, Director of the *Doopat Observatory, Russia*, in which he announces the extraordinary discovery of the *grand central star or sun*, about which the universe of stars is revolving, our own sun and system among the rest. This discovery is the result of many years' incessant toil and research. He pronounces "the Pleides to be the central group of that mass of fixed stars, limited by the stratum composing the Milky-Way, and Aleyenne, as the individual star of this group, which, among all others, combines the greatest probability of being the central sun." He finds the probable parallax of this great central star to be six thousandths of one second of an arc, and its distance to be thirty-four millions of times the distance of the sun, or so remote that light, with a velocity of twelve millions of miles per minute, requires a *period of 537 years* to pass from the *great centre* to our sun. As the first rough approximation, he deduces the period of revolution of our sun, with all its train of planets, satellites, and comets, about the grand centre, *eighteen millions two hundred thousand years*. The ascending node of the orbit is (1840) in 235° 53' of longitude, and the sun will reach this point A. D. 156,000, or in about 152,660 years! Compared with the above, how insignificant is that proud creature *man*, and the *atom* of creation our world—how incomprehensible to man is the immensity of creation!! But what we know not now, a few short years will make plain. Let us all now seek that preparation of heart which will fit us to enjoy in eternity the wonders of immensity.

CONVENTION OF FARMERS, GARDENERS, &c.

At the recent meeting of this body, the subject of the noxious influence of the gases of brickyards on fruits and vegetables, was taken up. Dr. Underhill stated that he had observed its ruinous effects for the last 6 years; one orchard of 1500 Newton pippin apple trees in Westchester was entirely ruined, principally by the gases from brickyards in the vicinity. After mentioning other facts in proof, the subject was referred to a committee to report at next meeting of the Farmer's Club.

THE ELECTIONS.

The Elections are now over; the returns are not all in yet, but enough are in to show that the Whigs have carried the day; whether they will use their power to much better purpose than the *Loco-focos*, remains to be seen; one thing is certain, that law and order is much better supported under the Whigs than under their opponents. The chief error of the Whigs, is their disposition to extend the Banking system, and consequently the Commercial interests of the country beyond its means and wants, thereby producing embarrassment and ruin.

THE LATEST ACTS OF INCONSISTENCY.

The Synod of New York and New Jersey, refusing to condemn Polygamy and Slavery, and yet lamenting the low state of religion among them!!! The Synod of New York condemning Intemperance, Sabbath breaking, and Worldliness, and yet refusing to appoint a day of Prayer, on account of the Mexican War!!!

NEWS.

The mails by the "Acadia," and "Great Western," arrived on Thursday night, bringing papers up to the 4th instant.

The most important intelligence for Canada is the commencement of a fall in grain. It is now found that the crops as a whole are not so far deficient after all; that the preparations to meet the expected failure in the potato crop by supplies of food from America, have been great; and that there may even yet be some supplies found on the Continent with all their scarcity. It is also said that wheat and flour are not what they want, there being little deficiency in these commodities, but Indian Corn, Oats, Potatoes, &c., for the food of the poor. These statements do not at all take us by surprise, for since we commenced to watch the grain market, we have noticed that the British press, merchants, corn-factors, farmers, &c., make a great out-cry, almost every autumn, about scarcity, want, high prices, and all that sort of thing, which serves the double purpose of enabling them to quit their actual stocks at good rates, and of setting the supplies in all parts of the world in motion towards Britain, by which a kind of glut seldom fails to take place, and the British public have the advantage of comparatively cheap bread for the rest of the year. Whether this out-cry is got up as a matter of policy or not, we shall not undertake to say; more probably the persons who join in it are themselves deceived; but it answers the same purpose as if it were, and we cannot too often caution our readers to be on their guard against it. Flour has receded in London 4s a sack, and in Liverpool 2s 6d a barrel.

Ireland is in a deplorable state. Where government has undertaken public works for the very purpose of relieving the distressed labourers, these latter are higgling for higher wages than they were in the habit of getting from any body else. The Lord Lieutenant, who appears not a man to be trifled with, has ordered the officers charged with the means of relief, to withdraw whenever they meet with this spirit. The Irish Landlords appear altogether negligent of their duties, insomuch that Lord John Russel has had to adopt the course of writing to them, with a view of awakening a sense of responsibility. Smith O'Brien is forming a new Repeal Association. The rent is falling off.

The "Great Britain" was still ashore in Dundrum bay, and Capt. Hoskin was writing letters to defend himself from some severe attacks in the newspapers. A novel mode is to be tried for the purpose of getting off the vessel, viz: a series of charges of gunpowder, fired off under water by galvanic wires, which are to raise such a wave as it is hoped will extricate the vessel, and impel her towards the deep.

The Proprietors of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway, have at length found out their mistake in outraging the religious and moral sense of the people of Scotland, by running trains on the Sabbath; and the new directors have discontinued this obnoxious practice. This is one of the greatest triumphs of principle that we have seen, and we trust will be only the forerunner of an entire cessation of business on Railways, Canals, Roads, and in Post Offices, on that day, in all Protestant countries. The Sabbath desecration party, with the bitterness which is characteristic of those who hate both the Lord and his day, threaten to compel the Company to run trains on the Sabbath, but it may be somewhat difficult to carry out such a threat. Meantime, the various Ecclesiastical bodies are sending in expressions of cordial approbation of the conduct of the directors. This is as it should be.

The agitation concerning the Evangelical Alliance and Slavery continues, and one after another of the prominent reverend gentlemen who took part in the proceedings, is defining his position in speeches, or letters to the newspapers. Meantime the arch agitators, Garrison and Thompson, have attacked the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society—a body of the staunchest and most consistent abolitionists in the world, because they hinted that the Garrison party was not the party of abolitionists in the United States with which they fraternised. This puts in mind of the saying of a shrewd American teetotaler, when infidelity and abuse were rampant among a certain class of temperance men. He observed that Satan, finding he could not stop the chariot of temperance, had jumped upon the box to

drive it. We think he is now playing the same game with regard to the holy cause of human freedom, and, of course, if the chariot be left to him, he will soon upset it. Still all this insane violence affords no excuse whatever for countenancing slavery, or in any way palliating its atrocities.

There have been great inundations in the South of France, sweeping away, it is said, much of the scanty supplies which the inhabitants had depended upon.

The latest news from Mexico, state that Santa Ana had reached San Lui de Potosi in considerable force, and that he had taken two millions of dollars from a "conducta" (convoy) which was transporting that sum to the sea coast for shipment. This he did under the pretence that it would have been unsafe to allow the money to pass on in the present troubled state of the country. He gave his own receipt for it, but whether the proprietors, probably British merchants, think it safer in his hands or not, may be matter of doubt. Santa Ana says he is going to put forth the energies of his disposition, "and will soon make the Americans to succumb or he will cease to exist."

The Mexicans are boasting of the hot reception they gave the Americans at Monterey, and say that the first proposition for an armistice came from the American officers. They seem determined to carry on the war vigorously, but some disturbances in the City of Mexico indicate another revolution, so that it is impossible in any way to calculate upon their future conduct.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The sentence of the man, Robert, who was condemned to death at Three Rivers for a most unnatural offence, has been commuted, we presume for the next heaviest punishment that the law inflicts.

MILITIA ORGANIZATION.—A general order has just been published, changing the organization of the Militia in the counties of Montreal and Quebec. Henceforth the Militia of these two counties are to be formed into Regimental Divisions, which are to be divided into battalions composed of the militiamen of the Wards, Parishes, Townships, and Municipalities.

ANOTHER PROFESSOR FOR CANADA.—The Secession Synod have appointed the Rev. James Robertson, of Portsburgh, Professor of Divinity for Canada, to act in conjunction with the present Professor, the Rev. W. Proudfoot of London.

DR. WILLIS AND THE AMERICAN CHURCHES.—This gentleman lately a visitor in Canada, brought up the question of connexion with the American Churches involved in slavery, before the Presbytery of Glasgow, but though the speeches appear all on his side, the votes are, with a few exceptions, all against him.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE.—We learn from the report of the Edinburgh Total Abstinence Society, read at the annual meeting last week, that no less than 4163 new members had been entered upon the roll during the past year.

DRINKING AT FUNERALS.—Two hundred and fifty heads of families in Wick and Pulteneytown, including the Provost, magistrates, and ministers, have signed a document, in which they agree not to offer refreshments at funerals of which they may have the management, and also pledge themselves not to detain those who may have been invited to attend, longer after the hour appointed than may be necessary for a short devotional exercise.—*Elgin Courier*.

ALLOWAY KIRK.—Not many years ago, half a dozen graves might have been purchased there for as many shillings; now extravagant sums are given for a single burying-place, which is scarcely attainable; in fact, Alloway Kirk is quite fashionable as a resting place for the dead, though it might be difficult to point out the exact feeling which has enhanced the market value of the scene of Catty Sark's gambols.—*Dumfries Courier*.

EAST INDIAN FLOUR.—A ship, just arrived at the port of Liverpool, from Calcutta, had on board, in addition to the usual description of cargo from the place named, 100 bags of flour. We believe this to be rather a novel description of importation from the East Indies.

IMPORTATION OF PROVISIONS INTO LIVERPOOL.—Five vessels, reported in Liverpool on Tuesday, from America, contained the following quantities of provisions:—7700 barrels of flour, 40,000 bushels of wheat, 7600 boxes of cheese, 1400 barrels of beef and pork, 1500 barrels of apples, 1420 barrels of lard, 3200 kegs of lard, 200 barrels of br-cut, and 300 casks of butter. Of the above quantities the ship Henry Clay brought nearly 3000 barrels of flour, 21,000 bushels of wheat, and 3000 boxes of cheese. Taking the flour and wheat together of these several vessels, this one day's entry is equal to 75,000 bushels of wheat. This is only the commencement of American corn imports.

PENSIONS.—Above 50,000 soldiers are in the receipt of pensions. Professor Schonbein has been experimenting with his explosive cotton in mines in Wales; and it is said with tremendous effect, one ounce of the cotton proving equal to a pound of gunpowder.

FORTIFICATIONS.—The new works at Gibraltar are going on with surprising activity. Nothing can exceed the energy of the Governor (Sir Robert Wilson) in pressing on their completion. He is at the works at 5 o'clock every morning, where he personally inspects everything. There are about 1,000 convicts employed. It would appear that the new water line batteries are of the most formidable description. The effect of the guns *à fleur d'eau*, on ships must be terrible.

RUSSIA AND CIRCASSIA.—The intelligence from Circassia is to the 27th of August, and is of thrilling interest. The Russian deserter, Baki Dellisseu (or some such name), who, obtaining influence with the various tribes, had been raised to an important command, has made a successful "razzia" on the Russian territory, at a period when he was the least expected; the consequences were, the enemy being attacked suddenly made but a feeble resistance, and cannon and large quantities of ammunition fell into the hands of the Baki Dellisseu. Several native tribes, who had submitted formerly to Russia, clated with this success, revolted in a mass, and abandoning the Russian possessions, fled to the mountains of Maden Dagh, distant about forty miles from the frontier. The Russian General in command led in person an expedition against them. The issue was a series of disasters on

both sides, notwithstanding that the Russians succeeded in taking some 200 prisoners, of whom 170 were cruelly murdered during the retreat of the army to their fortress, having been shot by command of the General. There are at present in the Caucasus some 20,000 to 30,000 Russian deserters, 5000 Poles, and other foreign adventurers, who have lately placed themselves under the command of this Baki D-Basscu.

Intelligence from Caffr land, as to the date from the Cape of the 21st, and from the frontier the 11th August. The advance of the colonial forces within the Caffro boundary had not as yet issued in any definite result. The troops were harassed by long marches and frequent skirmishes with the natives, in the course of which more than 120 of the latter had been slain, while the loss on the side of the British is reported at fifteen or seventeen killed and a few wounded.

FRANCE.—The French Government having become alarmed at the increasing scarcity of corn, has adopted the most active means to repair the evil. From the 1st July to the 30th September, upwards of 200,000 hectolitres were imported to Marseilles, and upwards of a million more was expected.

THE UNITED STATES AND TURKEY.—Letters from Constantinople speak of a victory North American diplomacy has obtained in that city. Dr. Schmitt, an American missionary at Erzeroum, was lately treated in a very improper manner. Mr. Carr, Charge d'Affaires of the United States at the Porte, addressed a very energetic note to the Divan, and demanded, very categorically, and with a threat of North American cannon, immediate indemnification and satisfaction for this American citizen. The Porte seemed to have no mind to become acquainted in this manner with the American men-of-war, and ordered the Pacha of Erzeroum immediately to pay to Dr. Schmitt the required indemnity of £200 sterling, and to put in prison twelve of the rascals who had so ill-treated the missionary.

SELECTIONS.

A FREE BOY REDUCED TO SLAVERY AND LIVING TWENTY YEARS A SLAVE.—A friend of ours informs us, that a few days since he had the pleasure of keeping over night and helping on his journey, one of the three millions of human cattle, belonging to our Southern nabobs, who are wonderfully attracted by the North Star. His father and mother lived in Pennsylvania. When a lad, twelve years old, he went off with a caravan, that was exhibited in the town where he lived. He shipped with a captain from New York to Boston, but found himself landed in New Orleans, where the captain sold him at auction for a slave. For twenty years he has suffered all the hardships of that patriarchal institution. He finally escaped from Louisville, and is in a land of freedom by this time. He has left a wife and children slaves in Kentucky. It was enough to melt a stone to hear him tell how his little boy climbed upon his knee the evening before he left, and appeared more interesting than ever, not being conscious how soon he was to be fatherless. Negroes have hearts and tears too, and can feel for their kindred as you and I feel, reader. The next day after he left Kentucky, when thinking of his wife and children, he was almost induced to turn about and go back. But then he knew he should be sent down the river and separated from them. The reason that he ran away was, that he learned that he was thus to be disposed of, his master regarding him as too intelligent to be safely kept so near the free States. While our citizens are thus being kidnaped and sold into bondage, what have the North to do with slavery? O, nothing, except to fight to put down insurrections, to stand still and see men and women hunted down on our own soil, and taken back into bondage, and to pour out our money and blood like rivers to extend its borders. We shall get our eyes open after a while, and shall see our rights and dare to maintain them.—*N. H. True Dem.*

LE VERRIER'S PLANET.—A great triumph in theoretical astronomy has been achieved by the accurate predictions and discovery of another new planet. Sir John Herschell writes to the *Athenæum*, that on July 12, 1842, the late illustrious astronomer, Bessel, conversing with him "on the great work of the planetary reductions undertaken by the Astronomer Royal—then in progress, and since published—M. Bessel remarked that the motions of Uranus, as he had satisfied himself by careful examination of the recorded observations, could not be accounted for by the perturbations of the known planets; and that the deviations far exceeded any possible limits of error of observation. In reply to the question whether the deviation in question might not be due to the action of an unknown planet, he stated that he considered it highly probable that such was the case—being systematic, and such as might be produced by an exterior planet." These unaccounted for perturbations became the subject of calculation, and Le Verrier having resolved there inverse problem, pointed out, as now appears, nearly the true situation of the new planet. Other observations and calculations carried on by Mr. Adams, a young Cambridge mathematician, quite independent of those by M. Verrier, produced the same result, of the correctness of which Sir John Herschell was so convinced, that, speaking of the indicated planet, he said, "We see it as Columbus saw America from the shores of Spain. Its movements have been felt, trembling along the far-reaching line of our analysis, with a certainty hardly inferior to that of ocular demonstration." This has at length been afforded. Mr. Hind recently announced in the *Times* that he had received a letter from Dr. Brunnow, of the Royal Observatory at Berlin, giving the important information that Le Verrier's planet was found by M. Galle on the night of September 23d. It is a star of the 8th magnitude, but with a diameter of two or three seconds. Mr. Hind observed the planet at Mr. Bishop's observatory, in the Regent's Park,

on Wednesday night week. "It appears bright," he says, "and with a power of 320 I can see the disc. The following position is the result of instrumental comparisons with 33 Aquari:—Sept. 30, at 8h. 16m. 21s. Greenwich mean time—Right ascension of planet 21h. 52m. 47-15s.; south declination 13 deg. 27m. 20s."—The present distance of the new planet, expressed in common measures, is about 3,000,000,000 Eng. miles from the sun, and about 3100,000,000 from the earth. Its distance from Uranus, whose motions it disturbs, is about 150,000,000 of miles. Its diameter is estimated at 50,000 miles. That of Uranus is about 35,000; of Jupiter, 86,000; of Saturn, 79,000; of the earth, 8000. Its cubic bulk is to that of the earth as 250 to 1. The new planet is the largest in our system except Jupiter and Saturn; and since these two planets, as well as Uranus, are each attended by a train of satellites, it is extremely probable that the new planet will have a similar accompaniment.

DISCOVERIES AT NINEVEH.—Mr. Layard, an English gentleman, has for the last twelve months been pursuing the tract—first laid open by Botta—at Nimroud, near Mosul, on the Tigris. His excavations have not only settled the precise position of Nineveh—the very existence of which had become little better than a vague historic dream—but have brought to light some of its buildings, sculptures, and inscriptions. According to accounts received at Constantinople some months since, and communicated in the *Athenæum* of Saturday last, Mr. Layard had discovered an entrance formed by two magnificent winged human-headed lions. This entrance led him into a hall above 150 feet long and 30 broad—entirely built of slabs of marble, covered with sculptures. The side-walls are ornamented with small bas-reliefs, of the highest interest—battles, sieges, lion hunts, &c.; many of them in the finest state of preservation, and all executed with extraordinary spirit. They afford a complete history of the military art amongst the Assyrians; and prove their intimate knowledge of many of those machines of war, whose invention is attributed to the Greeks and Romans—such as the battering-ram, the tower moving on wheels, the catapult, &c. Nothing can exceed the beauty and elegance of the forms of various arms, swords, daggers, bows, spears, &c. In this great hall there are several entrances, each formed by winged lions or winged bulls. These lead into other chambers, which again branch off into a hundred ramifications. Every chamber is built of slabs covered with sculptures or inscriptions: whence some idea may be formed of the number of objects discovered, the far greater part of which, in fact nearly all, are in the best preservation. Mr. Layard's excavations have been hitherto confined to a very small corner of the mound, under which these antiquities have for ages been buried; it is impossible to say what may come out when they can be carried forward on an adequate scale.

FORGIVENESS.—When misunderstanding and constrained intercourse arise between friends, or between members of a family, they seldom pass without a crisis, and an explanation; but these are dangerous moments of revolution, and for once that they wrench out the wounded thorn, it happens thrice that they press it in the deeper. Ah, why do we find it difficult freely to forgive, freely to forget? We nourish our wrong; we meditate upon it, we desire to have some right, some recompense, and thus warm the serpent's egg in our bosoms. Blessed are the peace-makers! Blessed are the good, who forget, who forgive, even without thinking, "I forgive!"—*Mary Howitt.*

A HINT TO THE CHURCH.—Self, is Dives in the mansion, clothed in purple, and feasting sumptuously every day; the cause of Christ, is Lazarus lying at his gate, and fed only with the crumbs which fall from his table.

SOURCES OF HAPPINESS.—A decent means of livelihood in the world, an approving God, a peaceful conscience, and one firm trusty friend—can any body that has these be said to be unhappy!—*R. Burns.*

PRODUCE PRICES CURRENT—MONTREAL, NOV. 23, 1846.

		s.	d.	s.	d.			s.	d.	s.	d.
		Nominal		Do.				Nominal		Do.	
ASHES, Pots, per cwt						PEASE,					
						BEEF, Prime Mess,					
						per brl. 200lbs.	47	6	a	0	0
FLOUR, Canada Superfine, per brl.						Prime,	42	6	a	00	0
196 lbs.						Prime Mess, per					
Do. Fine,						tercc, 304lbs.	00	0	a	00	0
Do. Sour,	00	0	a	00	0	PORK, Mess, per brl.					
Do. Middlings, .						200lbs	72	6	a	75	0
Indian Meal, 68lb. 15	0	a	00	0		Prime Mess,	55	0	a	60	0
Oatmeal, brl. 22 1/2 lb.	26	0	a	26	6	Prime,	50	0	a	52	6
GRAIN, Wheat U.C.						Cargo,	40	0	a	00	0
Best, 60lbs. ...	5	3	a	5	6	BUTTER, per lb. ...	0	7	a	0	7 1/2
Do. L.C. per min.	0	9				CHEESE, Am. 100lb.	30	0	a	40	0
BARLEY, Minot, ...	3	0	a	3	3	LARD, per lb.	0	5	a	0	6
OATS, " ...						TALLOW, per lb. ...	0	5 1/2	a	0	5 1/2

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