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JUVENILE ENTERTAINER.

"Torquet ab obscuris jam nunc sermonibus aureum."

o. 21.

Pictou, N. S. Wednesday Morning, December 21, 1831.

Vol. 1.

JUVENILE ENTERTAINER

Printed and Published every Wednesday Morning at the Colonial Patriot Office, by W. MILNE.

CONDITIONS.

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BIOGRAPHY.

The Progress of Genius

OBSCURE AND LOW SITUATIONS, TO EMINENCE AND CELEBRITY.

Genius is that gift of God which learning cannot confer, which no disadvantages of birth or education wholly obscure.

ALEXANDER ANDERSON.

His mathematician was born at Aberdeen towards the end of the sixteenth century. He displayed a strong taste for the study of mathematics, and made such progress that in the beginning of the seventeenth century he was made Professor of Mathematics in the University of Paris. He published there several ingenious treatises. He was the first who was appointed to the professorship of mathematics, founded at Oxford, by Sir Henry Saville. His cousin-german of the above professor, David Anderson, of Finshaugh, was possessed of a singular turn for mathematical studies. His daughter was the mother of the celebrated James Gregory, inventor of the reflecting telescope. She observed in her son when a child, a strong propensity to mathematical studies, and she instructed him herself. From the same lady descended Dr Reid, of King's college, Aberdeen, and afterwards of Glasgow, who no less eminent for mathematics than for physical learning.

NATURAL HISTORY.

THE EAGLE AND ITS AFFINITIES.

The golden eagle is the largest and noblest of the class of birds that bears the kingly name; and as the lion obtains pre-eminence amongst animals, so the eagle is allowed to possess it amongst birds: it weighs between twelve and thirteen pounds; and the wings, extended, are upwards of seven feet: the eye is of a light hazel, and both the sight and smelling are remarkably acute: the head and neck are clothed with narrow sharp-pointed feathers, of a deep brown colour; but those on the crown of the head, as the bird increases in age, become white:

the wings, when cloathed, reach to the end of the tail; the quill feathers are of a chocolate colour, and the shafts white; the tail is of a deep brown irregularly marred, and blotched with an obscure ash: the legs are yellow, short, and very strong, three inches in circumference, and feathered to the very feet: the toes are covered with large scales, and armed with the most formidable claws, the middle of which are two inches in length.

The eagle, as has been observed, obtains pre-eminence amongst birds, from magnanimously disdain to take advantage of those animals, which, from their inferiority in strength and size, could easily become its prey; and it is not until having for a length of time, been provoked by the taunting cries of the rook and magpie, that this generous creature is induced to punish their temerity. The eagle likewise refuses to share the plunder of any other bird; and when once it has made a meal of any animal, it never returns to it again, but leaves it to be devoured by those rapacious birds whose appetites may be less delicate than his own.

The eagle is naturally a solitary animal; and it is as extraordinary to see two pair of eagles on the same mountain, as two lions in the same forest; both bred for war, they are enemies to society, and are alike fierce, proud, and incapable of being easily tamed. Great patience and perseverance are necessary to make this bird in any degree subservient to man; and after the utmost labour and assiduity on the part of the falconer, when carried into the field it too often defies controul, and either turns its force against the hand that restrained it, or takes its flight and never returns to him again.

Of all the animals that fly, the eagle is allowed to ascend the highest, and from that circumstance the ancients have called him the bird of heaven; yet, as he has but little suppleness in the joints of his legs, he finds some difficulty in rising from the ground, though his strength is so great, that he is able to carry off geese, cranes, hares, lambs, and kids; and even infants themselves, when left unattended, have fallen victims to their rapacity and strength. An instance is recorded in Scotland, of two children having been carried away by two eagles, who were pursued in their flight, and had only time to lodge them in their nests before they were overtaken; and the little innocents by that means were restored to the arms of their affrighted parents, without the least appearance of hurt.

Smith, in his history of Kerry, tells us, that a poor man in that county procured a comfortable subsistence for his family, during a season of scarcity, by robbing an eagle's nest of the food that had been provided for the support of the young; and, fortunately, he was never surprised by the old ones in the commission of this act of plunder and depredation, or the consequences must have been fatal to himself.

The eagle's nest is usually built in the most inaccessible cliff of a mountain or rock, and often shielded from the weather by some jutting crag

that hangs over its side. One of these was found in the Peak of Derbysboro, which Willoughby describes in the following words: "It was made of great sticks, one end of which rested upon the rock, and the other upon two birch trees; upon these was laid a layer of rushes, and over them a layer of heath, and upon the heath another coat of rushes, upon which reposed a young one; and by its side lay an added egg, a hare, a lamb, and three heath-poults: the nest was about two yards square, and had no hollow in it."

The eagle is said to be a very long-lived animal, and though they often attain an hundred years, yet seldom die from age and infirmity, but from the beak turning inward upon the under mandible, by which they are prevented from taking any food.

"A Gentleman in Strathspay was not displeas- ed that a couple of eagles every summer built a nest on a rock in the hill, not far from his house. There was a stone within a few yards of it, about six feet long, and nearly as broad, and upon this stone, almost constantly, but always when they had young, the gentleman and his servants found a number of muir fowl, partridges, hares, rabbits, ducks, snipes, parmacans, rats, mice, &c. and sometimes kids, swans, and lambs. When the young eagles were able to hop the length of this stone, to which there was a narrow road, hanging over a dreadful precipice, as a cat brings live mice to her kittens, and teaches them to kill them, so the eagles I learned, often brought hares, rabbits, &c. alive, and placing them before their young, taught them to kill and tear them to pieces. Sometimes, it seems, hares, rabbits, rats, &c. not being sufficiently tamed, got off from the young ones while they were amusing themselves with them, and one day a rabbit got into a hole where the old eagle could not find it. The eagle one day brought to her young ones the cub of a fox, which, after it had bitten desperately some of the young ones, attempted to make its escape up the hill, and would in all probability have accomplished it, had not the shepherd who was watching the motion of the eagles, with a view to shoot them, (which they do with pellets, swan-shot not being able to penetrate their feathers,) prevented it. As the eagles kept what might be called an excellent larder, when any visitors surprised the gentleman, he was absolutely in the habit, as he told me himself, of sending his servant to see what their neighbours had to spare, and that they scarcely ever returned without something very good for the table. It is well enough known that game of all kinds is not the worse, but the better for being kept for a very considerable time. When the gentleman or his servants carried off things from the shelf, or table, near the nest, (for it was next to impossible to approach the nest itself,) the eagles were active in replenishing it, but when they did not take them away, the old ones loitered about inactive, amusing themselves with their young, till the stock were nearly exhausted. While the hen eagle

was hatching, the table, or shelf on the rock was generally kept well furnished for her use, and when she was in that state, or the eagles were very young, the other generally tore a wing from the fowls for her, and a leg from the beasts they brought. These eagles, as is generally the case with animals that are not gregarious, were faithful to one another, but would not permit even any of their young to build a nest, or live near them, and always drove them off a considerable distance. The eagles of this country are thought, by people who are judges of this matter, to be uncommonly large and voracious; and their claws are so long and strong, that I have seen them used by young people by way of curiosity, as a horn, with a stopple, for holding snuff, and carried regularly in the pocket for that purpose
Hall's Travels.

NARRATIVE.

THE GRAY-HEADED CHRONICLER OF 1785.

"Near two thousand suns
Have set their seals upon the rolling lapse
Of generations, since the day-spring first
Beamed from on high! Now to the mighty sun
Of that increasing aggregate we add
One unit more."
H. K. White.

In a beautiful and lonely glen on the confines of Inverness shire, lived Evan Fraser, the pride of the whole district. The older inhabitants delight still to repeat the tales of him, in which they themselves sometime form a part; and oft, in the long winter nights, do the children form a circle round the fire, to listen with steadfast eye and eager ear to the stories which never cease to please them. One of these tales I have heard; and as it is one which has a particular interest at this season, when we are about to enter on another year, I hope I may be excused for requesting its insertion in the *Friend of Youth*.

Evan's character was deeply contemplative, and the romantic scenery of his native valley had impressed still more forcibly upon him the stamp in which nature had moulded him. Often was he seen wandering in the twilight darkness, or by the pale moon-light, with his eyes fixed upon the glories of the night. Often was he found by day leaning by the waterfall at the top of the glen, or reclining near the awful precipice which environed it on the south. In one of these evening wanderings, towards the close of December 1785, he found seated on a large stone near the waterfall an aged and venerable man. He was sitting with a pensive eye directed to the stream as it dashed before him, and a tear of sorrow seemed to trickle down his furrowed cheeks. Evan observed him unseen, for he appeared to be completely abstracted from every thing around him; and though his body was before him, it was evident that his soul was far from its clayey tabernacle—wandering in the regions of boundless space, and surveying in imagination the glories of an unseen and eternal world. There was a look of deep melancholy which marked every feature of his countenance, of which age had not effaced the expressive and manly outline.—The white locks which hung down upon his shoulders added much to his venerable appearance while the erect posture in which he sat showed what had been the stateliness of his mien. On his right

side lay a book, which he appeared just to have laid down, and of which the last page was unwritten; while, on his left a sand-glass, almost run out, seemed to point out the shortness of his stay upon earth.

Evan was close by him ere the old man observed that the loneliness of his retreat was discovered, and immediately on perceiving it, he arose to depart. The interest however which his appearance had excited in Evan, prompted him to inquire into his history before he would suffer him to go, and the old man, struck with the earnestness of his entreaty, communicated to him the following account of his short but eventful life.

"I am," said he, "the angel of the present year. The rejoicings which were made at its commencement ushered in my birth, and seemed to foretel the happiness which man expected from my company. My anticipations however of the respect which would be paid to me, like the dreams of youth, have now faded away, and I am about to be rolled up in the scroll of time, without the shedding of a tear or the heaving of a sigh.

"From the instant of my birth to this present time, I have been passed by unheeded, by all those who then expressed so much delight at my appearance. The men of the world have endeavoured by every means in their power to forget that I was continually by day and by night moving on to my close, and they are now about to exhibit the same symptoms of joyfulness which they displayed at my entrance, when I am about to shut my eyes upon time. Except to mark the date of a birth or a death, or some remarkable occurrence, I have been seldom even thought of, and now I am about to mingle with the years that are passed, and to be forgotten by all who once knew me, for ever. My sand-glass, you will observe, is almost run out, and the book which was entrusted to me at the beginning of my course is nearly filled up."

"What is the book?" said Evan.

"In it," replied the old man, "are enrolled all the deeds of the children of men, and out of it they are to be judged, when the record of ages is complete. Often have I warned them that my race was fast hastening to its termination, but they have not listened to my voice, and I must now give up to their Judge the record of their deeds, 'whether they be good or whether they be evil.' I have wandered through the abodes of death, and I have watched the last state of each of those who have, during my existence, been removed to the world of spirits; 'for as the tree falleth, so shall it lie.' I have visited the house of feasting, and chronicled the follies and sins which I have witnessed there; for, 'for all these things God will bring men into judgment.' I have attended the profligate in his courses, as he 'went down to the chambers of death.' I have listened to the vaunt of the scorner; for he 'alone must bear its shame.' I have heard the oaths from the mouth of the blasphemer, and his words are chronicled here. I have stood over the righteous man as he knelt before his God, and heard the prayers of the saints which ascended to his throne, amidst the smoke of incense 'out of the Angel's hand.'

"I have seen changes on the face of the earth. Many who have promised to survive me have been hurried away from before me, to the

between and eternal world. The child, fair as the snow drop, has drooped and died. Youth in the pride of growing years, is mouldering in corruption. Consumption has stretched the fairest and the best of the hopes of man to the dust—the base earth-worm riots amidst the buds of sweetest promise. The full grown man who looked forward to many days of prosper and ease, has had his soul required of him, and the hoary-headed father, full of years, has said to corruption, 'Thou art my father; and the worm, Thou art my mother and my sister.' The tender and affectionate wife has been snatched from the idol of her heart. The widow's hope has sunk in the death of her only son. The family circle has found the place of its sweetest one unfilled. The old father, who seeing all his offspring consigned to the grave has gone to them, for they could not return him.

"I have seen the spirits of the just waft on angels' wings to the realms of endless bliss, and I have seen the souls of the wicked assigned to the awful abodes of the dreariness and darkness of eternal death. 'O that men were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!'"

Evan, during the old man's narration, kept his eyes fixed before him. At its close he turned round to thank him for the kindness he had shown him; but the mysterious visitor had disappeared, and though sought for, was not to be found.

THE ACCOMPLISHED YOUTH.

OF TRUE GLORY.

A PASSION for glory may contribute greatly both to your advancement and happiness; but may likewise render you unhappy and discontented, if you know not how to govern it.

The love of glory is the most ardent and permanent of all our inclinations, and the sentiment which abandons us; but we must not confounding it with vanity.

Vanity desires the approbation of others; but glory is the secret testimony of a good conscience. Endeavour to gratify the disposition you have of attaining glory; but secure the approbation of this interior witness. While your triumph is with yourself, appeal is unnecessary. You may always be able to appreciate your own worth. Should those who are ignorant of your good qualities, undertake to dispute them, cannot be a circumstance of regret.

To be an honest man is of great importance; but to be known as one is less necessary; those who desire not to extend their reputation beyond their merit, are in the surest way to obtain both.

What a difference there is between the natural dignity of man and the insignificance of those things on which he values himself! Nothing is so ill matched as the dignity on which he plumes himself, and the vanity which he derives from an infinite number of trifles. Ambition so ill founded, indicates great want of merit. The truly great man is not diverted by the insatiable of vain glory.

P O E T R Y.

ANTICIPATION

OR THE PILGRIM'S REST.

How sweet to retire when day closes in,
And the icicles hang at the door;

When dear silence reigns, and the heart-cheering din
Of labour, salutes us no more.

When with labour worn down, and shiv'ring with cold:
Faint, languid, fatigued, and unblest;
The body unable its course to uphold
Of toil, asks the blessings of rest.

Then how sweet to retire, to home—belov'd home
Where smiles and carress await
The father and husband untempted to roam
For pleasure, such smiles can create.

When the dark clouds of Evening's wintry gloom,
Has contracted the circle of light;
And Nature is wrapt in her sable costume,
By the shades of a moonless night.

How sweet, while the pitiless storm roars aloud,
With impetuous fearful sway.
To recount round the hearth to the list'ning crowd
The toils and fatigues of the day!

Or, with gratitude fir'd, the anthem to raise,
With simple harmonious tongue—
Tho' less lofty, the same as the chorus of praise,
By angel and seraphim sung.

"Let him who hath lov'd and wash'd with his blood
And blest us—for ever be blest—"
They sing—and commending themselves unto God,
In peace seek the comfort of rest.

Thus the pilgrim traveller enters his rest,
Worn down by the toils of the day;
To earth bids adieu—to the land of the blest,
Soars in rapt'rous transport away.

And there, where no wintry storms ever blow,
Nor hurricanes roar their alarm;
Nor sorrow, nor pain, the inhabitants know,
Secured from all possible harm.

There to stand in the ranks of yon countless host'
With honour and vict'ry crown'd;
Arrayed in the vestments which royal' boast,
While their brightness sheds glory around.

'Tis heaven on earth to anticipate this;
And, with fervour, already I long
To escape from this prison and share in the bliss
Of singing the Conqueror's song.

Then glide on ye periods, haste, haste, in your course
Ye slow moving minutes and hours,
And bear me to JESUS, the end and the course
Of the joy of your heavenly pow'rs.

THE BOOK OF NATURE LAID OPEN.

SHRUBS.

As much that has been already said respecting the utility of trees, may be applied in common to this order, I shall confine myself to the three particulars in which they may be said to differ most from the former; the first is their stature, the second their greater pliability, and the third the prickly armour by which many of them are covered.

Some shrubs, as the gooseberry, the rasp, and the currant bushes, so common in our gardens, gratify the palate, and temper the blood during the summer months with agreeable and cooling fruit; others, as the rose, delight and please the eye by the beauty of their flowers; or regale the olfactory nerves with the fragrance of their perfumes, as the sweet scented briar: but how could these several ends have been accomplished, if, by a more exalted exposure the fruit-bearing bushes had placed their treasures beyond our reach—every rose, with its back turned to us

had been "born to blush unseen"—and each aromatic shrub, removed far above the sense of swelling, had literally been left

"To waste its sweetness in the desert air."

With regard to that considerable share of pliant elasticity possessed by some of them, how easily does this admit the branches to be turned aside and to resume their former position, in the gathering of the fruit or flowers, and how serviceable does this property enable us to make some of them in the form of hoops, baskets, or wicker work of any description, while the sharp pointed prickles by which they are armed, serve only as weapons of defence for themselves, but furnish us with cheap and secure fences against the inroads of straggling cattle, and the unwelcome intrusion of the unprincipled vagrant.

HERBS.

Herbs in a special manner may be said to constitute the food of man and beast, as well as to yield their assistance in an infinity of ways;—and behold! in what profusion they spring forth; in what numerous bands they appear. Yonder a field of golden-eared wheat presents to the view a most prolific crop of what forms the chief part of the staff of life.—Here a few acres of long-bearded barley ripen, to provide us with our favourite beverage. On the right hand stand the tall growing and slender oats and flowering potatoes, to revive and keep alive the hopes of the poor; while, on the left, the heavy-laden bean, and low-creeping pea, in lengthened files vegetate to furnish provender for our horses; or the globular turnip increases its swelling bulk to lay up for our herds a supply of food when the softer herbage of the field is locked up by the congealing powers of winter.

But what a spontaneous crop of luxuriant herbage do our meadows present in the appointed season, and in what a profusion of wholesome pasture do the numerous flocks of sheep and cattle roam? Whether they frequent the solitary holm, beside the still waters, or range the pathless steep; still they are followed by the goodness of the Lord:—myriads of grassy tufts spring up on every side, and they are satisfied out of the treasures of providence.

But the herbaceous productions of the field are not universally calculated for the purposes of food.—In some places numerous groups of tall, thin, flexible plants make their appearance, whose filmy coats being properly manufactured, are converted into the most costly and delicate raiment; while others of a coarser texture furnish the mariner with wings to his vessel, cordage to tighten his masts, or the ponderous cable to stay his bark in midst of the fluctuating element.

But here their services do not end; for, when worn out in one shape they assume a new form, and not only furnish the material from which is formed the wrapper of the manufacturer, and the package of the merchant, but that invaluable article upon which I now write—upon which we are able to hold converse with friends at a distance—and by means of which, man transmits his thoughts to man, and generations unborn are enabled to hold converse with past ages!

By means of these pliant productions we are also supplied with a variety of seeds and oils, of much request in common life; and wherever dis-

ease is known, there, we have reason to believe, medical herbs spring up as antidotes; some communicating their healing virtues by the root, some by the stem or stalk, some by the leaves, and others by the flowers or seeds. A number of these, and many others of the greatest utility in medicine, come forth in various places of the globe without the aid of art, and are found growing wild among the herbs of the field;—but these are not the effects of chance.—They were originally planted by the hands of Omnipotence, at the suggestion of divine benevolence, prompted by Omniscience. It was the Lord who created medicines out of the earth: He foresaw the distresses of his creatures, and in pity to their calamities, not only commissioned the balm to spring up in Gilead for the healing of the eastern tribes, but has spread abroad that boundless variety of medical plants, which are to be found in every climate, suited to the diseases of those particular spots, where providence, all-wise, hath fixed the lot of their inhabitants.

What a beautiful variety of nutritious esculents, and exquisitely formed flowers do our gardens present!—Here the Parsley with her frizzled locks, the Celery with her outstretched arms, the Asparagus with his towering stem, the Artichoke with his turgid top, the Cauliflower with her milky dome, the Cabbage with her swelling form, a variety of greens with their curled leaves, and long files of peas and beans await in silence their masters's call to do homage at his table;—and here too is deposited, among a number of valuable and useful roots, that excellent farinaceous substitute for bread, the wholesome potatoe.

FLOWERS.

But for what purpose do these charming Flowers come forth? Is it merely to please our eyes with their brilliant colours, and regale the sense of smelling with their odoriferous perfumes, that they unfold their fascinating beauties and emit their pleasing fragrance? Or, is it to attract those numerous insects which swarm among them; and riot amid their liquid sweets?

That flowers were designed for both these purposes is apparent from the sensations we experience when we have leisure to visit those delightful spots, and the assiduous eagerness which the busy bee evinces in roaming from flower to flower, in order to extract their balmy juices.—But there is another, and that a most important use to which the flowery race may be made subservient:—

IN REASON'S EAR THEY BECOME PREACHERS.

The upright philosopher of the land of Uz, and that devout admirer of the works of nature, Israel's king, DAVID, both took occasion to compare the uncertain tenure of human life, to the frail and perishable state of a flower; The prophet ISAIAH represents the transient glory of the crown of pride as being like to one of these fading beauties, and our SAVIOUR has demonstrated that an important lesson may be learned against a too anxious care, and pride in dress, by a right consideration of these gay visitants: "Consider the lilies how they grow; they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that SOLOMON in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

It must, therefore, add much to the value of these short lived monitors, in the estimation of the wise, and make their peaceful abodes be sought after with the greater avidity by

Those who take pleasure in the works of God, that they are thus capable of affording matter for serious reflection and moral improvement.


Mr Addison seems to have been sensible of this when he breaks out into the following declamation, in praise of the pleasures of such a retirement: "You must know, Sir," says he, in one of his papers to the Spectator, "that I look upon the pleasures which we take in a garden, as one of the most innocent delights of human life. A garden was the habitation of our first parents before the fall. It is naturally apt to fill the mind with calmness and tranquility, and to lay all its turbulent passions at rest. It gives us a great insight into the contrivance and wisdom of providence, and suggests innumerable subjects for meditation. I cannot but think the very complacency and satisfaction which a man takes in these works of nature, to be a laudable, if not a virtuous habit of mind."

But let not the poor complain, or those who have no garden to retire to,—no beautifully adorned enclosure, where, secluded from society, they may give themselves up to reflection.—Still the fields are open to them, and what, in the words of an eminent naturalist, is the earth, but "an immense garden, laid out and planted by the hand of the Deity?—the lofty mountains and waving forests are its terraces and groves; fertile fields and flowery meadows from its beautiful parterres."

I cannot, I am persuaded, conclude this paper better than with the following quotation, from the author of the seasons:

Soft roll your incense herbs and fruits and flowers
In mingled clouds to HIM, whose sun creates,
Whose breath perfumes you, and whose pencil paints.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Bow;—The name of one of the most ancient and universal weapons of offence. It is made of steel, wood, horn or other elastic substance, which, after being bent by means of a string fastened to its two ends, in returning to its natural state, throws out an arrow with great force. The figure of the bow is nearly the same in all countries, having generally two inflections, between which, in the place where the arrow is fixed, is a right line. The Grecian bow was nearly in the form of this : in drawing it, the hand was brought back to the right breast, and not to the ear. The Scythian bow was distinguished for its remarkable curvature, which was nearly semicircular, that of the modern Tartars is similar to it. The materials of bows have been different in different countries. The Persians and Indians made them of reeds. The Lycian bows were made of the cornel tree. That of Pandarus (Il. iv, 103) was made from the horn of a mountain goat, 16 palms in length; the string was an ox hide thong. The horn of the Antelope is still used for the same purpose in the East. The long bow was the favorite national weapon in England. The battles of Cressy (1346), Poitiers (1356) and Agincourt (1415) were won by this weapon. It was made of yew, ash, &c., of the height of the archer. The arrow being usually half the length of the bow, the cloth yard was only employed by a man six feet high. The arbalest, or cross bow, was a popular weapon with the Indians, and was introduced into England in the 13th century. The

arrows shot from it are called *quarrels*. The bolt was used with both kinds of bows. Of the power of the bow, and the distance to which it will carry, some remarkable anecdotes are related. Xenophon mentions an arcadian whose head was shot through by a Carduchian archer Stuart (*Alb. Ant. i.*) mentions a random shot of a Turk, which he found to be 584 yards, and Mr Strutt saw the Turkish ambassador shoot 430 yards in the archery ground near Bedford square. Lord Bacon speaks of a Turkish bow which has been known to pierce a steel target, or a piece of brass, two inches thick. In the journal of King Edward VI. it is mentioned, that one hundred archers of the King's guard shot at an inch board, and that some of the arrows passed away through this and into another board behind it, although the wood was extremely solid and firm. It has been the custom of many savage nations to poison their arrows. This practice is mentioned by Homer and the ancient historians, and we have many similar accounts of modern travellers and navigators from almost every part of the world. Some of these stories are of doubtful authority, but others are well authenticated. Some poison, obtained by Condamine from South American savages, produced instantaneous death in animals inoculated with it. The poisoned arrows used in Guiana are not shot from a bow, but blown through a tube. They are made of the hard substance of the cokerito-tree, and are about a foot long, and of the size of a knitting needle. One end is sharply pointed, and dipped in the poison of woorai; the other is adjusted to the cavity of the reed, from which it is to be blown, by a roll of cotton. The reed is several feet in length. A single breath carries the arrow 30 or 40 yards. *Encyclopædia Americana.*

ANECDOTES.

RESPECT TO WISE AND GREAT MEN.

The peculiar excellencies of great men certainly deserve our admiration; and it is much better to see merit rewarded by the tribute of praise, than to behold it the occasion of envy, as is too frequently the case. We should be cautious, however, of running into an extreme; for while we justly acknowledge the talents of the wise, we should carefully avoid the incense of flattery. The view of great qualities, and the remembrance of distinguished characters, will always be grateful to a wise and good man; but he must not forget that all the excellencies of mortals are only a few emanations from Him who is the fountain of all life, light, and perfection.

Such was the esteem in which Virgil was held, that one hundred thousand Romans rose up when he came into the theatre; showing him the same respect as they did Cæsar himself.

Sir Isaac Newton was so esteemed, that the Marquis de l'Hopital, one of the greatest mathematicians of the age, said to the English who visited him, "Does Mr Newton, eat, drink, or sleep like other men? I represent him to myself as a celestial genius, entirely disengaged from matter."

Such was the respect paid to Shakspeare by the public in general, that when the mulberry tree planted upon his estate by his own hands was cut down, not many years ago, the wood being converted to several domestic uses, was all

eagerly bought at a high price, and each piece treasured up by its purchaser as a precious memorial of the plants.

Bishop Atterbury having heard much of Dr Berkeley, wished to see him, accordingly he was introduced by the Earl of Berkeley. After some time, Dr Berkeley quitted the room, on which Lord Berkeley said to the Bishop, "Does my cousin answer your Lordship's expectations?" The bishop, lifting up his hands in astonishment replied, "So much understanding, so much knowledge, so much innocence, and such humility, I did not think had been the portion of any but angels, till I saw this gentleman."

Pope sums up his character in one line. After mentioning some particular virtues that distinguished other prelates, he ascribes

"To Berkeley every virtue under heaven."

Such were the accomplishments, wit, learning, judgment, elocution (together with a graceful person), and behaviour of that eminent divine William Cartwright, that Bishop Fell paid him this encomium, "that he was the utmost that man could come to."

SELECT SENTENCES

We should chuse a friend endued with virtue, as a thing in itself lovely and desirable; which consists in a sweet and obliging temper of mind, and a lively readiness in doing offices.

It was ever my opinion, says Horace, that a cheerful good natured friend is so great a blessing, that it admits of no comparison but itself.

Cicero used to say, That it was no less an evil for man to be without a friend, than to have the heavens without a sun. And Socrates thought friendship the sweetest possession, and that no piece of ground yielded more, or pleasanter fruit than a true friend.

True friends are the whole world to one another: and he that is a friend to himself, is also a friend to mankind. There is no reliash in the possession of any thing without a partner.

It is no flattery to give a friend a due character; for commendation is as much the duty of a friend, as reprehension.

P O E T R Y.

"PEACE BE STILL!"—Mark iv. 39.

The storm descended o'er the deep,
The sailors view'd the sea grow dark,
When Jesus they awoke from sleep,
And prayed to save their sinking bark.
The waves that wildly o'er them broke
Grew calm at his almighty will,
As to the furious winds he spoke
In gentlest accents, "Peace be still!"

O! when the storms of life shall come
And darkly beat around my head,
Do thou with brightness cheer the gloom,
Though hope and smiling joy be fled!
Or if a murmuring hope should dare,
To rise against thine holy will,
O hush each unbelieving care,
Say to that murmur, "Peace be still!"

And when all earthly visions fade,
And dimly pass away and die,
And death's cold vale of lonely shade
Is spread before my closing eye:
Do thou in that eventful day,
Point upwards to the heavenly hill,
And to my fleeting spirit say
In sweetest whisper, "Peace be still!"