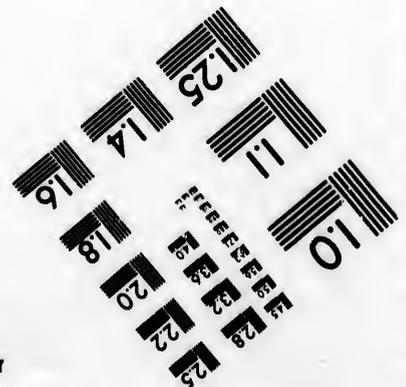
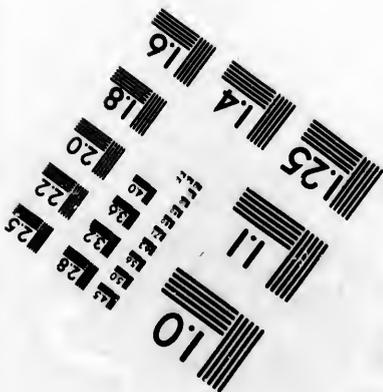
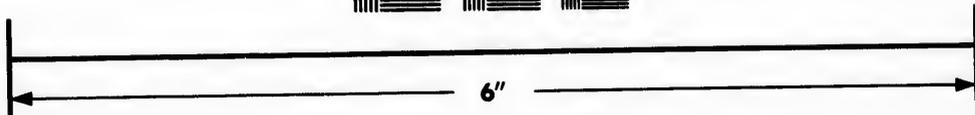
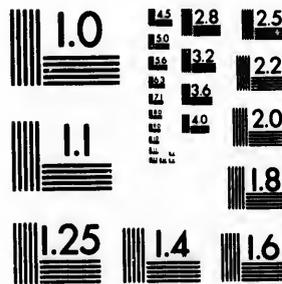


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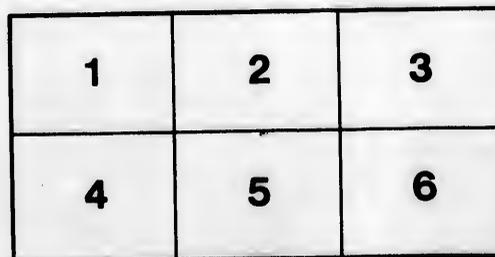
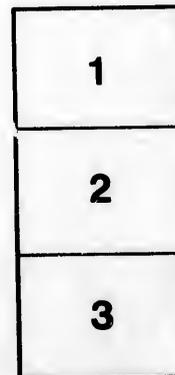
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THE BEE,
OR
LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

CONSISTING OF
**ORIGINAL PIECES AND SELECTIONS FROM PERFORMANCES
OF MERIT, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.**

A WORK CALCULATED TO DISSEMINATE USEFUL KNOWLEDGE
AMONG ALL RANKS OF PEOPLE AT A SMALL EXPENCE,

BY
JAMES ANDERSON, L.L.D.

FRS. F.A.S. S.
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Philosophical, and of the Agricultural Societies in MANCHESTER; of the
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Sciences, and Belles Lettres, DIJON; and correspondent Member of the
Royal Society of PARIS; Author of several Performances.*

VOLUME SEVENTH.

APIS MATINÆ MORE MODOQUE. HORACE.



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ENGRAVED FOR THE BET.



JOHN EARL of MARRE, LORD ERSKINE
LORD HIGH TREASURER of SCOTLAND.
&c.

*From an original Painting by Cornelius Jansen.
And Published by the Art Directors, 4th Jan^r 1792.*

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THE BEE,
OR
LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

FOR
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 4. 1792.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE
OF
JOHN, EARL OF MARR,
SON OF THE REGENT.

To the Editor of the Bee.

JOHN ERSKINE, earl of Marr, governor of Henry prince of Wales, lord high treasurer of Scotland, and knight of the garter, was the son of John, earl of Marr, regent of the Scots, and Arabella Murray daughter of William Murray of Tullibardine*. He was born at Alloa house in the year 1558†. The premature and unfortunate death of his father, left him the inheritance of his family in nonage; but his mother, who was a sensible woman, and George Buchanan, who was his preceptor, prevented him from suffering the utmost extent of so great a misfortune. But the tuition of Buchanan came rather too late for the proper instruction of Marr, who was previously under the care

VOL. vii. A †

* Ancestor of the Murrays Dukes of Athole.

† Crawford's lives of the Scotch officers of State, fol. 1726.

2 *Memoirs of the Earl of Marr.* Jan. 4.
of Mr John Colvill*, a strict presbyterian, but of
no great scope of genius. On the death of the re-
gent, which happened on the 29th of October
1572, the care of his children as well as of King
James VI. was committed to the regent's brother,
Sir Alexander Erskine of Gogar, to George
Buchanan, Mefs. Adam † and David Erskines ‡,
and Mr Young, under the government and di-
rection of the old Countess of Marr, whose loyalty
and tenderness to the royal family of Stuart, had in-
duced her to suckle the young king and afterwards
to be his nurse and attendant, under the com-
mission of the regent and parliament of Scotland ||.

* See Randolph's memorial to Queen Elizabeth, hereafter to be in-
serted in this memoir, who calls him Marr's Pedagogue.

† Adam Erskine, commendator of Cambuskenneth, was the na-
tural son of Thomas, master of Erskine, the immediate elder brother
of the regent, who was ambassador in England in the year 1551, and
marrying Margaret, daughter of Macolm Lord Fleming, died without
lawful issue.

‡ David Erskine, natural son of Robert, master of Erskine, the im-
mediate elder brother of Thomas, by Jean Home, he was first
abbot and then commendator of Dryburgh; from whom are descend-
ed the families of Shieldfield in Lauderdale, Ralph and Ebenezer
Erskines, the famous Scotch seceders, their families, and several others.
Mr Peter Young sub-preceptor, was chosen by Buchanan.

|| A curious account is given of a cholic with which her royal charge
was seized at Stirling, whereupon, in the dead hour of the night, the la-
dies were all called out of bed to attend the child, when it was remarked
by the recorder of this accident, that none of the ladies had any shifts,
except the auld Countess of Marr, her ladyship being tender,
(sickly.) The young king having one day got for his theme from
Buchanan, the history of the conspiracy against James III. at Lauder,
where Archibald, Earl of Angus obtained the name of Bell the Cat,
from his telling them the fable of some rats that had combined against
a cat, when they proposed to seize and tye a bell about his neck, to

1792. *Memoirs of the Earl of Marr.* 3

In the year 1570, after Buchanan's public situations were at an end, and the young king became of an age to receive the seeds of useful learning, Lord Marr; being then twelve years old, began to imbibe the instructions of that admirable preceptor, together with his cousins Alexander, Thomas, and George Erskines, the sons of Sir Alexander the king's governor, and some other relations of the house of Marr; the whole illustrious group forming as it were a little academy; the most favourable education for a young monarch that can be imagined, and which must have made James a great sovereign, if his understanding had been equal to his advantages. Of these companions and fellow scholars of the king, Alexander was

warn them of their danger; but as they were going to put their project in execution, one of the old rats asked which of them would be the first to seize the cat. This witty question created a profound silence, when Angus exclaimed, "I'll bell the cat!" After dinner this day, the young king romping and trifling with the master of Erskine, the Earl of Marr's eldest son, Buchanan ordered the king to be silent and not to interrupt Erskine in his reading; to which command James paying no attention, Buchanan said, that if he did not hold his peace he would whip his breech. "Will you so?" said the king, "I would fain see who will bell the cat." Up starts Buchanan, and throwing away his book, performs his promise to the king, with a sound drubbing. The old Countess being in her apartment, which was immediately adjoining, runs up to the poor kingling, takes him up into her arms, and asks him what is the matter? Which being told by the bawling sovereign, she fiercely asks Buchanan how he durst lay his hand on the Lord's anointed? To which Buchanan very gravely replied, "madam, I have whipt the king for disobedience and rudeness in the usual way, you may heal it with a kiss if you please."

Upon another occasion, the master of Erskine having a tame sparrow, the king resolved to take it from him; Erskine resisted, and the

killed at the surprise of Stirling castle 1578, Thomas, who became a great favourite of the king's, and was supposed to save him from Gowrie's assassination, was made Viscount Fenton and Earl of Kelly, and after the king went to London, a knight of the garter, George became one of the Lords of session or Scotch judges, and living to a good old age, used to recount many of the little anecdotes of the royal college at Stirling, to his grandson the learned Earl of Cromarty; by whom they were imparted to Dr George Mackenzie, author of the lives and characters of the most eminent writers of the Scotch nation; a book, which though loaded with extraneous matter, contains many authentic

king in the struggle, killed the poor sparrow. Buchanan gave the king a box on the ear for his tyranny and cruelty!

Would to God we had a breed of Buchanans, to train young princes to humanity and justice!

MACKENZIE'S LIVES.

After the appointment of Morton to the regency, the Lords of the secret council by the admonition of the estates of Parliament, gave a charge to Alexander Erskine, the late regent's brother, the original of which, is in the archives of the family of Marr at Alloa castle, wherein are the following decrees and admonitions: "That the said Alexander be himself, and the friends of the young Earl of Mar his nephew, for quilks he sall be answerable, sall keip the castel of Striveling, in name, and to the use and behufe of our Sovereign Lord; and sall alswa surely and faithfully, keip and observe the maist nobill person of his Hieneis within the said castle, at the devotion of his said present regent, his Hieneis continuing as afore, under the noriture of the lady Countesse of Marr his Majesty's governante, as toward his mouthes and ordering of his person, &c. And that the instruction and education of our said sovereign Lord on literature and religion, under Maisters George Buchanan and Peter Young his present pedagogis, or such as sall hereafter be appointit be the said Lord Regent, agreeing in religion with the said George and Peter, as it is approvit in Parliament, and usit in the said castell, &c. &c."

and curious memorials worthy of being separated from the mass.

In a bundle of old papers belonging to one of this school, I found lately some of the *prima curæ* of Buchanan's satires, which had been transcribed by Lord Innerteil, or some of his acquaintance, and differ considerably from Buchanan's printed works.

In the year 1578, when Mar had attained to his twentieth year, and looked forward to the full possession of his estate, Morton, backed by the English interest, filled Erskine with high expectations, and prompted him to emancipate the young king from the councils of the bishop of Ross, and the adherents of his mother. With this view he induced Marr to the *Raid*, as it was called, for investing James with the government, by the surprise of Stirling castle; in which attempt his cousin Alexander, the eldest son of his uncle Sir Alexander Erskine of Gogar, was killed.

A compromise took place, by which it was agreed, that the Earl of Marr, being now come to reasonable age, should attend the king's person, and have the custody of the castle of Stirling, and that Sir Alexander Erskine, his uncle, should be governor of the castle of Edinburgh, one of the gentlemen of his Majesty's bed chamber, and, when he came to court, to have his table at the king's charge as formerly*: That the Earl of Marr should guard the castle, attend the king's person therein,

* Spottiswoode's Ecclesiastical history.

6 *Memoirs of the Earl of Murr. Jan. 4.*
and not remove him to any place whatsoever, without the knowledge and consent of the council: That he should not receive any within the house, whom he knew not to be well affected to the king, admitting an earl, with two only in train, a lord baron with one only, and gentlemen without any attendant: That Maister George Buchanan and Maister Peter Young, should continue his Majesty's instructors, and no others admitted without the council's consent, nor any religious exercise be kept within the castle, but that which the parliament had approved: And for the observation of these articles, the earls of Athole, Angus, Argyle, and Montrose, with the lords Ruthven, and others, gave their bond and obligation; as also, for the safe delivery of the castle of Edinburgh with its muniments.

After this, a convention was held at Stirling on the 25th of July, where there convened of the clergy, eight bishops, and as many abbots or commendators, of the nobility, nine earls and eleven lord-barons, and many commissioners of boroughs, the earl of Morton attended at the particular desire of the king; where his Majesty announced his acceptance of the supreme government, and his resolution to hold the meeting of the estates at Stirling for his security, and not at Edinburgh. After many protests of the legal parliament summoned to meet at the capital on the tenth of July, after its rising, the king published a proclamation, and amnesty, declaring: "That it was his desire to remain at Stirling, and be served by

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the Earl of Marr, with whom he knew his surety was greater than if he should be at the devotion of those that caused the present troubles, whose meanings towards him, could be no better than it had been in times past *. After this, the whole matter of the ecclesiastical discipline of the kirk of Scotland was adjusted; and it is foreign to my purpose, to enter into the detail of any transaction in which Marr was not immediately concerned †.

In the year 1579, Marr was joined in a commission with the earls of Morton and Eglinton, the lords Cathcart, Ruthven and Boyd, to seize the persons and estates of the lords John and Claud Hamiltons, who had the lands of Hamilton, during the insanity of Arran. And this, on account of their supposed accession to the murder of Murray and Lennox, which excepted them from the general indemnity stipulated by the treaty of Perth.

On the 8th of September, Esmé Stuart, lord d'Aubigny, the king's near kinsman, being descend-

* Spottiswoode.

† Dr Robertson, in his history of Mary Queen of Scots, has, with great propriety, had recourse to Calderwood's large manuscript history of the church, in the archives of the general assembly, for determining the minute particulars of this confused and barbarous period of our Scottish annals; from whence Spottiswoode and Crawford had drawn their information. This manuscript of Calderwood ought to be printed; and were a subscription opened I have no doubt that it would soon be filled, and the work presented to the public with suitable notes biographical and political. Such as may desire to support this undertaking, would do well to announce their names to the Editor of this Miscellany, when a bookseller would be found to put it to the press, with consent of the commissioners and procurator of the church of Scotland.

ed from the princess Mary, eldest daughter of king James II. made his appearance at the Scottish court; and soon, by his handsome person, agreeable address, and affectionate submissions to the king*, superseded the young Earl of Marr in favour and confidence,

* In an original letter from Nicholas Arrington to the lord treasurer Burleigh, preserved in the Cotton library [cal. 6. fol. 2.] 4th April 1580, are the following curious particulars relating to Esme Stuart Lord d'Aubigny:

"I have maid my repaire unto the Kinge of Scotts, being at Straveling, and haith delyvered unto him the Queen's Hienes's letter &c. The King's Hienes's passing to his cabinet did reed the letter once or twice over with good delyberacion, as Maister Peter Younge his scoyl maister told me, &c. The mynistres (clergy) ar presentlie, if they have convenion to charge d'Aubigny and his followers, Scottsmen, to make a resolute confesion of their relygion, notwithstanding any dispencacions. This is thought to be the procurement of the earl Morton, &c. I had conference with the mynistres of Edenburg and Leith, at my passing to Stravelinge, who told me they were determined to presse the King to avoyd the court of suche as wold not professe unfenydye the trew relygion. I did not hynder their good myninge therein. The doubt of this halth maid Monsieur d'Aubigny in great dompts of lait, in so moche as he haith kept his chambre as it were not well disposed, &c.

It is thought of many, that if certaine persons were from hyme, he wold be wone in short tyme. Hee is content to heare and reede, and haith alledged, that if hee shold come sodenlye to the relygion it wold be thocht it were done more of ambicion then of devocion. Yet trewlie, so farre as I can learne, the greatest hynderance thereof is the doubt he haith of the losse of his lyvinge in France, which is thought to be more certayne than his new promotions in Scotland, &c.

The King is moche affected unto him, and dothe gyve hym books of the scripture in Frenche, and uses all meynel to forward him thereunto. Some of the mynistres holdit the opynyon that hee wantit but laboringe.

Here is greate myslykinge that the King is no bettere accompanied with councillors, an that he frequents the fields, and hunting, soe moche.

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who continued faithfully and honourably to attach
himself to Morton; though it brought him into
discredit at court, and that his affairs were disor-
dered by the great expences his father had incur-
red during his short administration of the regency†.

[To be continued.]

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

HISTORY OF PORTUGAL.

I know of no period of history, on which the pen
of a man of talents could be employed with a bet-
ter prospect of success, than that part of the his-
VOL. vii.

B

†

* Dealings of William Randolph with the Earl of Angus Cotton
lib. cal. 6. fol. 135. 1^o. Martii 1580.

“ And because, that my Lord of Mar hath noe leise confidence in
your Lordshippe (Lord Burleigh,) he requyres your answer by writ-
ing to the poynt following.

“ The late Earl engaged all his landes and plate for grete somes of
money, during the tyme of his Government which the Kinge re-
quires now at his hand.”

With the articles wherein this memorial is contained, Mr John
Colvill the Kings master of requests and pedagogue to the Erle of
Mar, was sent from the Earl of Angus by the medium of the Laird
of Wedderburn,

The Earls having an enterprize in view against the faction of
d'Aubigny, and captain Stewart had obtained Randolph's ring, as a
secret taken of Elizabeth's support, which ring was brought back
from Lord Hundson at Benuck by Coloin. The whole of this me-
morial in the Cotton library, entituled the dealings of Mr Randolph
with Angus, &c. is extremely circumstantial and curious. I have a
fair manuscript copy of all that relates to our Scottish history, during
the years 1580 and 81, in the Cotton library. I do not recollect,
whether these lines have been yet printed. If not they are well
worthy of the Press.

tory of Portugal, which intervenes between the reign of John the I. and the conquest of that kingdom by Philip the II. of Spain, a period of about one hundred and fifty years; during which time this small patch of a country, was distinguished above all other nations for acts of heroism and magnanimity. It was during this period, that arose the illustrious Don Henry, whose name will ever be revered in the annals of history. This prince, the fifth son of king John, far outstripping those of the age in which he lived, informed by the perusal of antient writers, and instigated by ideas that an attentive study of geography suggested, pushed forward in search of discoveries with a degree of intelligence, attention, and perseverance, that can find no parallel in the annals of time. His efforts were crowned with success. Under his auspices Vasca de Gama, first doubled the Cape of good Hope, and imported by that route the treasures of India to his native shores. This important discovery gave quickly to Portugal, a decided superiority above all rival nations, and produced a revolution in the course of trade, which in a short time totally changed the face of Europe. Wealth flowed in upon Portugal from all quarters. This inspired her people with an active energy, the usual attendant of successful enterprises: Success begot pride, insolence, presumption, injustice. The Indian nations were made to tremble at the nod of the Portuguese. Their dictates were despotic, and their enterprises unbounded. Nothing seemed to them impossible, and for a short

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period their history exhibits a series of brilliant actions, which perhaps cannot be equalled in the annals of heroism.

They already grasped in idea the unrivalled empire of the east. They were not aware that the natives gained knowledge from every defeat; they adverted not that their irritated minds acquired fresh accessions of strength from every overthrow. They did not estimate the strength of that opposition which envy and rivalry prepared to raise up against them. European powers wished to share in the glory and the gains of Portugal. The natives of India ranged themselves invariably on the side of every power that was inimical to their oppressors; and that nation, which had been suddenly enriched by their spoils, was as suddenly humbled by an uninterrupted series of disasters, that the most rooted aversion of all parties stirred up against them. But the indignant minds of this people disdained any kind of submission. They fought to the last with invincible valour. Death or victory were the only alternatives; and when they fell, they fell to rise no more!

Every age, it has been justly remarked by an anonymous correspondent in the Bee, may be characterised by the history of some leading person or nation, whose history may be said to constitute the history of the times. In this manner the history of Portugal will give room to characterise the fifteenth century. As that nation began to decline, Spain, in consequence of a continued train of conquests in Europe, accompanied by the discovery of Ameri-

ca by Columbus, began to acquire the ascendancy, and after the unfortunate expedition of Sebastian into Africa *, the glory of Portugal was annihilated. It was swallowed up by the voracious power of Spain, and ceased for a time even to be a kingdom. Spain then gloried in her distempered greatness, and strutted her hour upon the imperial theatre of the globe; till, in imitation of that power she had subdued, by attempting impossible exploits, she sunk herself into irrecoverable abasement.

The historian, who with talents adequate to the task, should delineate the rise, the progress, and the decline of the brilliant day of Portugal, would present the world with a morsel of history of the most important kind. His enquiry should begin with a review of the state of Europe, before the commencement of the period of his history. He should give a rapid outline of the history of the nations, and the spirit of the times that preceded the era of which it treats. The trade, the arts, the learning, the modes of thinking, the vices, and the virtues, that characterised the times should be distinctly marked, that they might be contrasted with the changes that were gradually produced

* Sebastian king of Portugal, instigated by that ambition which is natural to young princes, prepared a mighty army, and under a slight pretence invaded Africa, *anno* 1578, where his army was totally defeated, and he himself could never afterwards be found. On this occasion his uncle Henry, an aged cardinal, assumed the reins of government, which, with great feebleness, he held little more than one year. On his death Philip the II. of Spain laid claim to the government of that kingdom, which being supported by a powerful army bore down all opposition, and he annexed that kingdom to Spain.

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by the important transactions that occurred during this eventful *period**: This history might be concluded with a rapid glance at the spirit of modern times. Thus would the reader, as if placed on an eminence that divided two very dissimilar countries from each other, be able to see at one view the past and the present. In trying to penetrate into that tenfold darkness in which the world had been for several ages benighted; he would perceive the first streaks of dawn begin to arise. He would see aurora begin to illuminate the hemisphere. The sun at first obscured with clouds, and murky vapours would gradually become more and more conspicuous, till at last he breaks forth in all his glory. To pursue his progress would be a pleasing exercise. Some part of this progress we have already seen; but far is he as yet from having attained his highest meridian glory. The veil would be dropped where this history ends, before he had begun to descend; and to others would be left the ungracious task of marking his decline. May it never be our lot to see it!

A gentleman well known to the writer of this article, fired with the brilliancy of the subject, once entertained a momentary wish to attempt the task. He went so far as to get a friend to write to some gentlemen of the first rank for literature in Portugal on this subject, and met with every encouragement and assistance from them he could

* In his progress, the discoveries of Columbus, the conquest of Mexico and Peru, and the changes that these produced on Spain, and other European states would form important objects of discussion.

desire; but when he thought better upon the subject, he perceived that he had mistaken inclination for talents; and being fully sensible of the impossibility of his succeeding in a proper manner, he wisely relinquished the design. I have seen the communications he received, and I think it pity these should be lost. That another who is better qualified than my friend for attempting this enterprize, may be encouraged to proceed, I have obtained his permission to publish such parts of these communications as may serve to benefit the public, without leading to a discovery of the persons from whom they came; and these I here subjoin.

Notices concerning the History of Portugal, and the sources from whence information on that subject may be drawn; being excerpts translated from several letters from men of eminence in Portugal, to a gentleman in Scotland.

LISBON, MAY 18. 1784.

BEFORE all I rejoice as a Portuguese, that Mr _____ should undertake a philosophical history of our more interesting times. We have nothing like it in that way; although I may assure you it is impossible any nation should have more materials for it; but to have those,—to be at the expence of getting many, and after that to have the tedious trouble of reading myriads of pages written, some in a barbarous stile, and about foolish and uninteresting matters, only to find one of those events, which characterise a nation or a man, to find a fact necessary to show the cause of

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such a discovery, or the ruin of it, &c. &c. is a thing which requires so much patience, expence, and time, before you can begin, that I fear Mr _____ will be disgusted in his first labours. Although I know many Portuguese have undertaken that task, and even now two are upon it, yet, as I am certain it is impossible for any one of my countrymen, to write their history with a philosophic propriety, living as they do in a place where superstition and ignorance hold yet too much dominion, I am ready to do every thing that may encourage Mr _____ to go on.

To proceed then regularly, I must tell you that you may inform your friend how manuscripts have become so rare here. The earthquake in 1755 was the last event that contributed to the ruin of those that had escaped the desolation of Portugal under the Philips. In private archives it is very difficult to find any. The two sources then from whence Mr _____ could get any of these, are the *Torre do Tombo*, or *Great Chancery of the Kingdom*, and the king's library; but to peep into such manuscripts is a matter of extreme difficulty and great expence; and it is almost impossible to get copies. To succeed in this attempt the person who undertakes it must have great patience and time; and for that reason I should advise Mr _____ to come himself, because with money and some credit, he would open all doors. Much information can also be got in monkish archives, as those of *Alcobaca*, *Batavia*, *Belm*, *Satzedas*, *Santa Cruz*, &c.

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but friars have been in all times, and particularly in illiterate ones, the framers of many false papers and titles, which makes these manuscripts less interesting, and less to be trusted. These at least are easier to be copied, as, with some expense, access may be had to every one of them. In all these archives, and in all the immense volumes of the history of those times, Mr ——— will find I think as many materials as he can wish for writing it.

Having informed you of the difficulty of finding him manuscripts, I must pass to another, which would perhaps prove forbidding, that is the trouble of reading so many volumes. Of these I send you inclosed as exact a list as I can at present recollect, with what I think or have known from my friends of each of them; and this I believe will ease a little Mr ———. He is notwithstanding somewhat mistaken when he thinks it would not be necessary to send him lives of saints, for in the chronicles of the monkish orders alone, he will find, such is our misery, many interesting facts not mentioned elsewhere.

Having acquainted you with the materials your friend may get for his task, I don't think it will be superfluous to point to him the difficulties with which he'll labour, before he can obtain an exact knowledge of the most remarkable events; as he certainly has it not in mind to build upon his fancy. First of all he will meet with those that respect the feudal system of government in Portugal, which was certainly different in some

respects, from that of the other European countries. Our historians have very clearly explained the Gothic and Moorish governments, but after the donation to count Henry by Alphonso of Spain, they have mentioned rather the progress of our conquests, than the manner by which those nobles, who gained upon the Moors with their own soldiers lands or small towns, held them. They were subjects to the crown, we know, they were obliged to accompany the kings to war, but were they requested, or forced; were they payed by the king or the nobles? that is a matter of dispute. We know that the *Cortes* only could supply the king with subsidies, and that they made general laws, &c. &c. but we dispute yet upon the veracity of the *Cortes de Lamego*. We are ignorant of the manner by which the cities began to send deputies to those meetings. We see the power of the clergy immediately in the beginning, by the scene of *Sancho Capillo*, but were they constituent members of the courts in the earliest times? We know that the ministers of the crown did not enter till John II. into the noble's lands, but that is not enough; all antient donations are signed by nobles, particularly great officers of the crown and great dignitaries of the church, as a sign of requiring that to be valid, but we see at the same time the nobility from antient date, with a salary and title of servants to the king. The provinces were governed in a manner by *fronteiros mōres* made by the king; and this power which is not quite known how did it contrast, or was connected with the nobles

prerogatives? A *Prior* of Santarem published in his dominions some laws, but that was deemed a revolt. In fine, I would never finish, if I should mention every thing that is doubtful in these respects. But although many of these doubts which I pointed at are not impossible to be explained, and extricated from the labyrinth in which they lye, yet as I have only read the history of my country in general, and have not studied it so minutely in all its parts, I thought them a little in confusion as to these particulars so very worthy of attention. The number of families that we lost in the expulsion of the Moors and Jews (one of the first causes of our ruin) is unknown; and only in the manuscript of *D. Luis da Cunha*, I found the causes that moved *D. Manoel* to that rash action, not to mention the foolish superstition of the times. The contradictions to *D. Henry*, the facts respecting the *Dukes de Visea* and *Braganza*, although mentioned, are not enough explained by our printed historians, and I have seen only in manuscripts the sentences of the latter. The administration of the royal monopoly in India is known, but what it yielded to the crown is very much in the dark.

By this specimen he may see, (the rest being impossible to mention in a letter) every thing, but I must warn your friend above all, not to rely on any of the writers of foreign countries respecting our history. You may be witness that very few of the foreigners live here on an intimate footing with the Portuguese; and so when they go away they have as little, and as false information

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to give as if they never had been here. In like manner all travels through Portugal, are full of absurdities and mistakes. The account which other writers have given of Portugal, must have been surely founded either upon false informations of insignificant travellers, or upon the few books they have read. *Busching's Geography* in his account of Portugal, *l'Encyclopedie* in its articles, *de Real* about Portugal, *l'Histoire Philosophique* on our commerce and establishments; and all particular geographies and voyages are so full of errors that it is better to put them aside. *La Clede* in his history of Portugal is full of absurdities, ignorant of many facts, false many times in the date, and good for nothing. I cannot but praise Dr Robertson, who rather than build upon false information, says very little or nothing about the feudal system of Portugal.

I send the list of those books that I could remember, but your friend shall have a better one than I can give him, as I have applied to a man who knows our history perfectly well.

I finish then telling you that considering the darkness in which we are, particularly for other nations, and the ignorance, and superstition of our writers; Mr _____ would advance more here in one year than he could do at home in many: And he must be tired to death in reading our books, it is only thence he ought to draw the materials for his work. As to what you tell me of it being received well here, that I can assure you it will, if it be founded on true facts. I will

show the letter to _____ and for that I don't send it this post.

A short CATALOGUE of Portuguese Books, capable of illustrating the History of Portugal, with a short Character of each.

- 1 Monarchia Lusitana ; a book anterior to the time of Don John 1. full of falsehoods and absurdities.
- 2 Chronica de D. Joao 1st. ; better than the Memorias. 3.
- 3 Memorias do mesme.
- 4 Chronica d'Elrey D. Duarte ; good for very
- 5 Chronica d'Elrey D. Alfonso ; little.
- 6 Chronicas d'Elrey D. Joao 2o. c. 3o. ; true and well written, although not free from the vice of the times.
- 7 Chronica d'Elrey D. Manoel ; not had, but Ozorio is better ; although he says little of what is the most interesting.
- 8 Chronica d'Elrey D. Sebastian ; tolerable, but with all the defects of the times.
- 9 Joao de Barros, Decadas ; an excellent book in point of narrative, stile and truth.
- 10 Diego de Ceuto, Decadas ; not so well written, but true, as the author served upon the spot.
- 11 Memorias d'Alfonso d'Albuquerque ; good and authentic.
- 12 André de Rezende, Antiquides. ; a good book, and curious in its kind.
- 13 Diego de Teive, varias obras ; the same in its different parts.
- 14 Vida de D. Joao de Castro ; veridical and well written.

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- 15 Duarte Nunes de Leao ; curious in its different parts, but often extravagant.
- 16 Historia de Faria ; written in the time of the Philips, and therefore partial.
- 17 Discursos varios de Gaspar Severem de Faria ; excellent in its parts and kind.
- 18 Europa, Asia, e Africa, de Med. de Faria ; the same as the above, it being so as to history.
- 19 America Portugueza de Sebastian da Rocha ; a very indifferent book.
- 20 Dedua o Chronologica ; to be read with caution, having some false assertions.
- 21 Todas as Memorias d'Academia Real da historia ; some excellent, and many bad.
- 22 Provas da historia genealogica ; good, and taken from principal archives.
- 23 Collec. aos des Leis de D. Alfonso vo. ; manuscript.
- 24 Collec. ao ——— de D. Manoel ; the same.
- 25 Nobiliarchia Portugueza ; a curious book.
- 26 Historia de Gangerie ; good and well written.
- 27 ——— de Ceuta ; I believe very rare.
- 28 Sistima dos regimentos reais ; a necessary book.
- 29 Ordena. oens do Reina ; this is the principal code of printed statute laws.
- 30 Viagem de Fernao Mendes Pinto.

BOOKS OF LITERATURE.

- 31 Camoens ; well known.
- 32 Poesias de Bernardes ; excellent in language, and a good poet in what is not *divine*.
- 33 ——— de Ferreira ; most pure in language, but a rough poet.

- 34 Poesias de Francisca de Sa e Miranda ; our first poet, and for that esteemed.
- 35 Malaca conquistada ; has good passages, but much inferior to Camoens.
- 36 Francisco Rodrigues Lebo ; pure in language, and has some good verses, except in his poem of the Constables.
- 37 Obras de Gawayo ; the best modern poet in his odes.
- 38 Palmerin d'Anglaterra, ; a well written romance in the two first parts.
- 39 Novo Metodo d'estudar ; a good book for the time it was written in.
- 40 Metodo d'estudar a Historia Portugueza ; so so.
- 41 Obras de Pe. Vieira ; excellent, only for the study of the language.
- 42 Obras de Pedro Nunez ; one of the best mathematicians of his time.
- 43 Roteiro de D. Joao de Castro ao Mar Roxo ; a work worthy of its author.
- 44 Poesias de Fernao Alr. da Orienti ; esteemed, although they have only some passages deserving of praise.

Sound philosophy, nor much knowledge, must not be hoped for in those books ; as it is well known in what darkness the nation has almost always lain involved ; and that its best times were in the age in which light began to break forth.

[To be continued.]

THE INFORMER,

No. I.

*For the Bee.**Give unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's.*

THERE is not to be found in the annals of jurisprudence, a juster sentence than that which I have adopted as the motto to this paper. To government alone, man owes all the blessings he derives from society; under *its* protection he can rest in peace, assured that he can suffer no material injury. To insure to him that tranquillity, many persons must be continually employed to reprehend and to punish offenders; and all these must be paid;—“*The labourer is worthy of his hire;*” but if money be not provided to pay for that hire, where shall he find it? Nothing, therefore, can be more just and expedient, than that the taxes imposed on the people, by an enlightened legislature, ought to be cheerfully paid: Every one ought to “give unto Cæsar the things that be Cæsar's.”

It does not however, follow, that all the demands of Cæsar ought to be implicitly acquiesced in, “*The labourer is worthy of his hire*” only when he is engaged in useful and beneficial employments. It were a great absurdity indeed, to insist that every sturdy fellow who shall be employed to annoy instead of protecting me, should have a title to claim payment for this his destructive labour. Some discrimination is necessary before

we can agree to comply with the injunction.

The king can do wrong," so say our legislators, and as our king is in a continual state of pupillage, being able to do nothing without the concurrence and consent of his ministers, who may be called his guardians, it has been wisely decreed that they and not he should be answerable for his deeds. He may be weak, and incapable of judging, nor can he see any objects but through their eyes; it were therefore, cruel to make *him* answerable for faults that were perhaps the inevitable consequences of ignorance. The same excuse cannot be pleaded for the ministers: No necessity compels them to accept of that station. If they feel themselves ignorant or ill informed, they commit a crime in accepting an office that requires a degree of knowledge, which no one, so well as themselves, can know, whether they possess it or not. If they are required to sanction measures that their own judgement disapproves of, they have it in their power to remonstrate against them, and if that shall not do, to resign, and thus to free themselves from the danger they might have run by carrying them into effect. If they neglect to do this, and commit crimes in office that deserve punishment, surely they are to blame, and ought to suffer for their own faults.

"*The Parliament is said to be omnipotent;*" and in a political, though not in a physical sense, this may perhaps be admitted. The decrees of Parliament are, by the constitution of this country, binding on all the people. But parliament though in this

sense it be all powerfull, consists of men who are not infallible. The decrees of this assembly, are often weak, contradictory, unjust, and destructive to the people, for whose service the members of it were created. These decrees ought therefore to be canvassed with freedom, their tendency examined, and whenever they are plainly pernicious, their faults ought to be exposed, their baneful influence be held up to view, that the people may be enabled to unite and demand that they should be repealed. The minister may be impeached at the bar of the House of Lords, and punished for his crimes, the parliament may be tried by the dictates of reason, when arraigned before the tribunal of the people; and if, by their acts, they shall be convicted of ignorance or neglect of duty, they ought to be required either to correct their errors, or to give place to others who are better qualified than themselves to discharge the important functions of that office.

On these principles, I, who am a friend to government, stand up for the supremacy of reason, and lay claim to the privilege of investigating, with unlimited freedom, the tendency of decrees which have obtained the sanction of the legislature. In doing so I act the part of a friend to good government, to the king, and to my country.

The *excise* laws shall be the subject of the present discussion. And here I wish to lay it down as a principle, that whatever law shall be found to be well adapted for raising a considerable revenue to the crown; or in other words for obtain-

ing the money *that is necessary* for the purposes of *good government*, without producing evils that counteract the design of all good government, should be called a good and necessary law.

The end of all good government is to promote the peace, to secure the property, and to protect the person of every subject of the state, from suffering unjust annoyance from any one. The laws that promote these objects are good. Those that have an opposite tendency are bad, and ought to be reprobated.

A law, therefore, which imposes a tax upon the subject, may be a very good law; but if, under the pretext of levying this tax, it subjects the property of any subject to unjust seizure, and his person to dangers and repeated alarms, it is cruel, unjust and oppressive: It can no longer be deemed a wise regulation of government, but an effusion of insanity and ignorance, if not of despotism and cruelty.

How it should have happened, that in a country whose inhabitants have ever expressed a great jealousy about their personal freedom, a set of laws should have been deliberately enacted, and for a long time patiently submitted to, that are so directly subversive of every principle of good government, as the general tenor of the excise laws in Britain are, it would be difficult to conceive. This difficulty, however, disappears before the man of extensive observation. He knows that *habit* gradually gets the better of judgement in every case; and that designing men, relying on

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this prejudice of the mind, are capable, by slow degrees, of making the most palpable absurdities be not only tolerated, but even be idolized as superior to the dictates of reason itself. The influence of habit is such, as to make the man who dares attempt to controul it, run even the risk of being deemed insane,—a disturber of the public peace,—an enemy to good order, and a dangerous member of society.

In the laws respecting the *customs*, some regulations, though sparingly, have been adopted for punishing the officers who, in the discharge of their duty, overstep the bounds of their authority, and commit outrages on the subject; Judges have been fined, and put to death for errors in the discharge of the duties of their office; but where is the law that has been enacted for punishing an excise officer in the discharge of his duty? If there be such a law, I know it not. If there be such a law, the universal practice of all our courts disregards it.

The following case which recently happened in this country, plainly shows that there is no such law in existence.

A merchant in Edinburgh having lately imported some pieces of French cambrics, paid the duties for them; and every form required by law was complied with at the Customhouse. Some of this cambric was afterwards sold to a person who kept a retail shop in a country village. The goods, like others, were openly displayed in his shop. An excise officer happened to be there one day,

saw the cambric, and said he would seize it because it was not stamped. The shopkeeper remonstrated,—said it was not British goods, nor did he sell it as such, and that he knew no law in existence which required such a stamp on French cambric. Still the officer was deaf to all he said, and actually seized the goods, and carried them off in triumph. The poor man, astonished at this procedure, and anxious about the fate of his property, wrote immediately to the merchant from whom he had bought it, stating the circumstances, and requiring his interference to free him from this scrape. The merchant took the advice of counsel learned in the law, how he should proceed, and was advised to try if he could recover his goods “by fair means,” as the easiest way for himself. The merchant, considering that a high trespass had been committed, said that he and partners were desirous of making an example of this man, with a view to deter others from doing the like. But he was told this was a very doubtful experiment, and the counsellor rather advised him to put up with the loss already incurred, than throw out more money on that article, without hope of being reimbursed. He then turned up the statute respecting the importation of French cambrics, and read to him a clause which provided, “that if an excise officer, through ignorance, or otherwise, [*i. e.* or malice] shall make an unjust seizure of any of those goods, which shall have been thus legally imported, he shall be obliged, upon the importer or seller producing full evidence, to the sa-

satisfaction of the judge, that they have been legally imported, "to deliver back the goods;" but no penalty whatever is awarded as a punishment for this wanton attack upon private property. In this case the merchant had no other resource than to send authentic documents, that the goods in question had been legally imported, desiring the shopkeeper to show these to the excise officer, and to require him then to deliver them up, otherwise he should be forced to have recourse to law for the recovery of his property. Fortunately for the dealers, this excise officer was of a more complying disposition than some others, and did deliver up the goods, without obliging them to have recourse to law, which might probably have made them incur an expence above the value of the goods.

From this plain state of facts, it is very obvious that a certain class of men, are *by law*, in this country, authorised to harass, to plunder, and to rob their neighbours with impunity; I say to *rob*. For if the value of the goods so seized, should be considerably below the expence, that must be incurred before they can be recovered, a man of sense will rather submit quietly to that loss than subject himself to a greater in order to recover them. All this is done under the pretext of benefiting the revenue. If, say the advocates for government, as they falsely stile themselves, a law were made subjecting excise officers to heavy penalties for errors in discharge of their duty, they would be intimidated in their business, and would not act with that strictness that the exigen-

cies of the state require. This is the only plea, that can be alledged in vindication of such an unjust law. But if taxes are only to be tolerated because no other means equally easy and effectual, have been devised for obtaining money, to pay the expence necessarily incurred for *protecting the person of the subject from oppression, and his property from embezzlement*; is it not an obvious solecism to say, that in order to obtain the money for these purposes, we shall invest a set of persons with legal authority to *oppress the persons and embezzle the property of the subject*? Is not this as if we were to provide a body of men with arms, under the pretext of defending us from insult, and at the same time, let them know, that they may cut our own throats with impunity whenever they please? Yet this we do, and through the force of habit we see no impropriety in our conduct. Surely it behoves all the friends of good government, among which number I wish to rank myself, to expose the absurdity, and to execrate the iniquity of such laws; and with a steady firmness to require our legislators to revise these laws, and to correct these shocking absurdities.

As I observe, sir, that you are a friend to your country, and not one of the *servum pecus*, who always idolise the minister of the day, whatever he may be, a species of animals which naturalists pretend to say, are remarkably congenial to this climate. I shall, by your permission, from time to time, offer a few remarks on subjects of this na-

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the Informer.

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ture, calculated to turn the attention of the people to some objects which are too much overlooked, but which greatly tend to retard the prosperity and improvement of his country. In doing this, I hope you shall find me at all times candid and impartial, totally regardless of men, and only attentive to the measures that tend to promote the welfare of the people, or to retard the prosperity of this country.

I have two reasons for offering these lucubrations under the title I have assumed. The first is because in consequence of the business of an *informer*, having been confined merely to that of aiding the revenue officers against the subject, the term has fallen into reproach, and the essential duties that belong to it have been neglected. I wish to free it from this obloquy by bringing it back to its original standard, that of informing the people so as to enable them to withstand the unjust encroachments of revenue officers, when they extend their power to objects that are subversive of *the purposes* for which they were created; and I hope so to conduct myself in the discharge of this duty as to show that it is an useful, a respectable office, and a necessary employment.

The second reason for this title is, that it is evident, members of parliament are often misled in regard to things of this nature, by the false representations of ministers, and their satellites, whose study it must ever be to increase their own power, by depressing that of the people; and as these gentlemen have often much need of information with

regard to the real state of things, I mean to take that office upon myself, till one better qualified for that task shall appear. They may rest assured, that in these essays I shall not state any facts that cannot be fully authenticated by undeniable evidence at the bar of the house of commons if ever it should be called for; and that as I shall never go out of my way to inculcate any person, so neither shall I turn aside for the purpose of exculpating any human being whatever.

Je crains dieu, cher Abner, & n'ai point d'autre crainte.

THOMAS TELLTRUTH.

If Mr Telltruth keeps up to his professions, his lucubrations shall be always welcome; but the moment he shall depart from that strict impartiality he boasts, his performances must seek another channel of publication than the Bee.

EDIT.

ANECDOTE.

WHEN Oliver Cromwell first coined his money, an old cavalier looking upon one of the new pieces, read this inscription on one side, *God with us*; on the other, *The commonwealth of England*. I see, said he, *God and the commonwealth are on different sides.*

POETRY.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,
By giving the following beautiful little poem a place in the Bee, you
will much oblige,

Yours, &c.

I.
RESOLV'D, said the poet, of Cælia to sing,
For ideas of beauty I search'd thro' the spring;
To flowers soft blooming compar'd the sweet maid;
But flowers, tho' blooming, at evening will fade.

II.
Of sunshine and breezes I next thought to write;
Of the breezes so mild, and the sunshine so bright:
But these with my Fair no resemblance can hold,
For the sun sets at night, and the breezes turn cold.

III.
The clouds of mild ev'ning, array'd in pale blue,
While the sunbeams behind them peep glittering thro',
To rival her charms can never arise;
Yet methought they look'd something like Cælia's bright eyes.

IV.
At length a fine fruit tree in blossom I found,
Which nature array'd, and shed fragrance around:
The Muses methought, then, had smil'd on my pray'r,
This blossom I cry'd will resemble my Fair.

V.
The colour so pleasing at summer's gay fall,
Will languish at first, and must afterwards fall;
But behind it the fruit, its successor shall rise,
By nature disco'rd of the beauteous disguise.

VI.
So Cælia, when youth, that gay blossom, is o'er,
By her virtues improv'd, will engage me the more,
Will recal ev'ry beauty, and heighten their prime,
When her merit is ripen'd by love and by time.

ON THE APPROACH OF WINTER.

CEASE, cease, frail man from earthly joys,
Vain is the hope, the wish is vain,
That would on earth be blest.
Oh! make it thy divine employ,
Heaven's long lost favour to regain,
An everlasting rest.

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There are, who seeking higher joys
Than time can give, or earth bestow,
See years with pleasure roll;
Their minds despise the trifling joys,
For which vain sons of earth forego
Eternity of soul.

To virtuous minds new joys arise,
From ev'ry change that nature feels,
From ev'ry passing year;
Not winter with inclement skies,
Nor death's cold hand which on them steals,
Can make them yield to fear.

For them more gay, the vernal bloom,
And livelier hues, the flow'rs adorn,
To cheer their weary way;
More fragrant gales the air perfume,
For them more sweet the smiling morn
Doth its clear beams display.

Roll swift as an ev'ning year;
Your hasty flight cannot dismay
The man that's truly wise.
As ye revolve new joys appear,
The prospect of that glorious day
Which calls him to the skies.

THE BIRD'S NEST.

Yes, little nest, I'll hold you fast,
And little birds, one, two, three, four;
I've watch'd you long, you're mine at last:
Poor little things! you'll 'scape no more.

Chirp, cry, and flutter as you will,
Ah! simple rebels, 'tis in vain.
Your little wings are unfledg'd still;
How can you freedom then obtain?

What note of sorrow strike my ear?
Is it their mother thus I hear?
Ah yes! and see, their fate I see:
Flies round and round, to seek their nest.

And is it I who cause their moon?
I, who so oft in summer's heat,
Beneath yon oak have laid me down,
To listen to their song so sweet?

If from my tender mother's side,
Some wicked wretch should make me fly,
Full well I know, 'twould her betide,
To break her heart, to sink, to die.

And shall I, then, so cruel prove,
Your little ones to force away?
No, no; together live and love,
See! here they are; take them, I pray.

Teach them in yonder wood to fly;
And let them your soft warbling hear,
'Till their own wings can soar as high,
And their own notes may sound as clear.

Go, gentle birds; go, free as air!
While oft again in summer's heat,
To yonder oak I will repair,
And listen to your song so sweet

ON THE ADVANTAGES OF MISCELLANEOUS READING.

*Lectura testis est temporum, vita memoria,
Nuncia vetustatis, et novum delectamentum.*

TULLY.

UNMETHODIZED reading is adapted to the many; regular study is confined to the few, whom leisure or opulence attend, to smooth the rugged paths of science. The knowledge acquired from pursuits thus dictated by choice, makes perhaps more useful impressions, than all the learning of the schools, on persons who have had some previous formation as to taste, and whose natural dispositions are not prostituted to depravity.

Periodical publications are the chief sources from whence the readers above alluded to draw their information; and it must be allowed they have diffused more general knowledge, than any other species of writing whatsoever. Their brevity allures the indolent, loca-

lity the curious; their wit is a relief to the learned, and the most vinegar aspect, or torpid risibility, will relax into a smile, at the redundancy of genuine humour, so often found in them; while the universality of matter becomes an irresistible inducement to all.

Amongst the works of this kind, newspapers, to the immortal fame of the inventors, lead the way, in point of antiquity, and may be called the original stem, from whence branched out all the literary Ephemera of succeeding times. The famous spectators &c. &c. are all lineally descended from the parent stock, and the idea was adopted by all the politer nations.

Before newspapers were in use, local knowledge was so circumscribed, that few gentlemen knew more of politics, or cotemporary affairs, than what government pleased to discover. All who were not of a studious turn filled up their leisure time with domestic avocations, or rural sports, while their minds remained wholly unadorned. Since then, how much are the arts of life, and the taste for enjoying it improved?

These maps of science were first published in the second year of Charles II. by some members of the royal society established in 1662, the oldest in Europe, for the encouragement of natural philosophy. Sir Roger l'Estrange was the first editor, and the first newspaper marked the year 1663, as a memorable epoch in the annals of literature; succeeding papers contained all the supplementary materials to form the manners and the man; and which first gave that literary priority to Englishmen which they are allowed to this day on the continent.

Although this mode of obtaining knowledge can be strictly called no better than a superficial education, yet if we observe how nearly it approaches to what is called

the education of a gentleman as defined by d'Alembert, it will imply more than is at first imagined. He says, that "a gentleman should have a superficial knowledge of all things, and be profound in one, namely, his professional capacity;" he advises also, in order to save time, that readers of history should begin from the present time, and advance their studies by retrogradation.

Now though I am not entirely of his opinion, yet we must confess it a most ingenious one, to abridge the road to learning; I will even go so far as to avow, that a tolerable body of science may be acquired, by a constant perusal of all periodical publications; and we rarely find a person of common capacity, who reads with attention the several newspapers, magazines, parlour-window books, &c. &c. that is not capable of acquitting himself with decency, and even with *eclat*, on any topic of general conversation.

ARC-EN-CIEL.

DESCRIPTION OF A NAUTCH AT THIBET,

GIVEN BEFORE THE LAMA.

Taken from the manuscript journal of a late traveller, with which we have been favoured by a respectable correspondent.

I PASSED my time in looking at the dancers, or playing at chess with some of the Thibetians. The court held about thirty dancers, half of them men, half women. The men were dressed in different and party-coloured clothes, with their large bonnets of sheep's wool, a bit of coloured silk in each hand, and a leather machine, something in shape of, but rather less than a fiddle, at their side; it seemed, however, to be only

used for ornament. The women had their faces washed, and clean clothes,—had abundance of rings on their fingers, and coral or amber beads, bugles, &c. on their hands and necks; and each wore a small round hat, the shape and size of those worn by our female stage-dancers, covered with circles of small white shells. formed a ring; the men and women in opposite circles; and five men were in the middle of it. They danced to their own singing, moving slowly round, in a half hop-step, keeping time with their hands, while the five in the centre whirled round and cut capers, with many strange motions, which I attempt not to describe. The second part of the entertainment was performed by four men with winged rainbow-coloured caps, who jumped and wheeled about to the clashing of cymbals and beating of tabors; among the rest was a merry-andrew, with a mask stuck over with small shells, and a clown with a large stick in his hand: These two were more agile than the others; they carried on an occasional dialogue, which appeared to afford great entertainment to those who understood their grimaced gestures; but as I was not so fortunate as to understand them, I was obliged to seek amusement in contemplating the various scene before me, and the effects it produced on the numerous spectators.

ANECDOTE OF THE DUKE OF BEDFORD.

SIR

As the following anecdote does honour to humanity, and sheds a milder, tho' not less pleasing lustre round nobility, than the pomp of pageantry with which it is usually attended, I hope you will not think it unworthy of insertion in your useful miscellany.

PHILADELPHUS.

A MILD summer morning had invited the late Duke of Bedford to walk abroad, with a book in his hand. His attention was so much engrossed by the subject, that before he was aware, he had wandered farther from home than he intended. Having stopt of a sudden to see where he was, he observed a woman at a little distance from him, wringing her hands, weeping aloud and discovering every mark of the deepest distress. Moved with sympathy, he immediately approached her, desired her to dry up her tears, to tell him the cause of her sorrow, and promised to do her all the service in his power. Seeing a man in a plain but genteel dress, looking at her with an air of benignity, and interesting himself in her sufferings; being entirely ignorant of his rank, she communicated her story to him without reserve. "I have (says she) a large family, my husband is sick, and being unable to pay our rent, the Duke of Bedford's steward has seized our stock, and left us nothing but the dismal prospect of unavoidable ruin; and I came out to this field to take my last sad sight of my poor cows, which are still feeding in the park there." Deeply affected with her melancholy tale, he advised her to drive the cows home, and offered to set open the gate to her for that purpose. But at this proposal she started, burst again

into tears, and absolutely refused to meddle with them, "they are no longer my husband's, says she, and if I drive them home, I shall be looked upon as a thief, and for aught I know may be hanged for it." Forcibly struck with the justness of her reasoning, and the honest simplicity of her language, he gave her some money, told her that he heartily pitied her, and would take the liberty to recommend her and her family to the Duke of Bedford, whom he knew to be a good-natured sort of man, and he hoped he would do something valuable for her. Accordingly he desired her to call next day, at Wooburn-Abbey for John Rufsel, and he would introduce her to the Duke, and speak to him in her behalf. The good woman having returned him many thanks, and promising to meet him at the time and place appointed, they parted. Next day, dressed in her best clothes she went to the Abbey, and asked for John Rufsel. She was led into a room and told that Mr Rufsel would be with her immediately. She had not waited long when several gentlemen richly dressed entered the room. She knew at first sight the features of him who had conversed with her the day before, and, strongly impressed with the idea of his being the Duke himself, was ready to faint with fear and surprise; but his Grace walked up to her with a look of condescension and goodness which reanimated her drooping spirits, while he assured her that she had no cause to be afflicted, but might keep herself perfectly easy. Then he instantly called his steward, ordered him to write her a receipt in full, and to see every thing returned that had been taken from her husband. He put the receipt into her hand, and told her that he had inquired into her husband's character, and heard he was a very honest man, and had been long his tenant. And having given her thirty guineas desired her to go home and rejoice with her family.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 11. 1792.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE

OF
JOHN, EARL OF MARR,

(Continued from page 9.)

MARR being thus superseded in the confidence and favour of the king by d'Aubigny, and afterwards by Arran, though he remained at court and was of the king's bed-chamber, attached himself to opposition and the party of Morton, who being an old and crafty politician, courted the earl of Marr, as the son of the respectable and beloved regent; the hereditary governor of the castle of Stirling; and custodier of the king's person during his minority.

Morton found it easy to infuse into the mind of young Marr, not only resentments on account of the neglects of James, but jealousies on account of the assuming authority of his own uncle, Sir Alexander Erskine of Gogar, his tutor, and trustee for the keeping of the king's person and the castle of

42 *Memoirs of the Earl of Marr. Jan. 11.*
Stirling. He displayed the ancient services of the family of Erskine to the royal house of Stuart, and the important part it had in the elevation of their lineage to the throne, in the person and family of Robert II. and awakened his fears for liberty and the protestant succession, by exhibiting the intrigues of the bishop of Ross, for replacing Mary on the throne, and bringing his whole family into forfeiture and disgrace, if not utter destruction, on account of its activity in the deposition of the queen, and in the establishment of a free constitution and the reformed religion*.

Every device was used by the lords John and Claud Hamilton, by the bishop of Ross, and the friends of the deposed queen, to engage James and Lennox his new favourite, and to draw the king of Scots from the influence of Elizabeth†.

* It appears by the letters of Nicholas Arrington, the original of which are preserved in the Cotton library, that Marr was much with Morton at Aberdour, and that he guided himself very uniformly by his counsels, as on the other hand, he reposed an uniform confidence in the information and fidelity of Marr, who continued indeed true to his political friend to the scaffold, as he did to the party even after the death of the unfortunate regent. CALIGULA.

I have now lying before me, the whole correspondence concerning the affairs of Scotland, during the years 1580 and 1581, between Arrington, R. undolph, Bowes, and other envoys and emissaries of Elizabeth, and the lord treasurer Burleigh, the greater part of which are unprinted. The whole, if published, would occupy a folio supplementary to Forbes's state papers of about 350 pages, a few of these are to be found in the supplement to Dr Robertson's appendix.

† The French king (writes Bowes to the treasurer Burleigh, and secretary Walsingham in his letter from Edinburgh of the 27th of April.) hath sent to the king of Scotland a fayre horse, and another to the earle of Lennox, which two horses are yesterday arrived at Leitch. CALIGULA 6. B. 13.

Mr Bowes in his letter to Burleigh and Walsingham of May 3. 1580, dated at Stirling, gives an account of Morton's challenge to the authors, and spreaders of the accusations against his fidelity, and concerning his intention to seize and remove the king from Scotland. "The earle of Marre likewise on the said 29th of April, preferred his complaint, requiring trial of the like bruit devised against him, and sundry of his house that were bruited to deteine, and use the king's person and his possessions unlawfully, against his own good will and pleasure." Whereupon the kinge, by his owne mouth and testimony, did declare that tale to be altogether false and untrue;" and Marr was accordingly acquitted by an act of the council; but from thence forward, he entered so warmly into the interests, councils, and defence of Morton, and into the views of the English ambassadors and agents, that, becoming obnoxious at court, he associated seldom with the king or his favourites.

In the beginning of June 1580, Marr was betrothed to Anne Drummond, second daughter of David Lord Drummond. The earl of Angus and Lord Ruthven, her father being dead, were the contracting kinsmen, and Morton was the promoter of this marriage*. On the 22d of June, queen Elizabeth wrote to the earl of Morton, informing him that from her ambassador in France, she had

* Cal. fol. 46. Jan. 15 1580, L. from R. Bowes to lord Burleigh and Walsingham, Cotton lib. They were married at the earl of Montrose's house on the last sunday of October, and the king attended to give the bride away as his kinswoman. Cal. f 79.

44 *Memoirs of the Earl of Marr.* Jan. 11. received intelligence of the resolution taken to impeach him of being privy to the murder of king Henry; and offering him her counsel, and support to vindicate his innocence*.

Lennox having gotten possession of the fortrefs of Dumbarton, of which he was appointed governor, and grown in the king's favour exceedingly, yet, fearing the effects of the popular harangues of the Scottish clergy, he wished to deceive Morton and the public by negotiation. He appointed the 6th of August to confer with Morton at Aberdour, to which they came from a banquet at the Lord Lindesay's, but both of them sick of a flux, gotten, as Bowes writes, at the banquet: the conference was forced to be delayed. During this time the king remained at Alloa castle, the seat of Lord Marr, and from thence came to the dowager countess of Marr's house in Edinburgh, where he held a council of state on the business of the reconciliation.

All this appears to have been conducted in James's favourite style of dissimulation, to deceive Marr and the English ambassador †.

* Cal. fol. 47.

In Bowes's letter to Walsingham, of the 19th of July, he gives an account of his conference with Morton, concerning the plan of operations, and his answer to the queen, in which he advises an additional pension of 2000 merks sterling, to the king, and proportionally to his party, to keep them steady, and bring them to his purposes, which, had it been immediately afforded, would probably have saved Morton, and rendered the violent measures of the friends of the country unnecessary. On the 29th Morton wrote his letter with cyphers to the queen, referring to this conference with Bowes.

Cal. Fol. 56.

† It appears by a letter from Sir John Foster to Sir Francis Walsingham, fol. 74. Sept. 16. 1580, that Lennox, and the queen of Scot,

In the beginning of September the king sent for Marr, and laboured to reconcile him to Lennox and his measures; but Marr not only left the king without listening to his proposals, but carried the heads of his party and family to Bowes, and received from him the support that was allowed by Elizabeth, to the heads of opposition to the popish faction*. *Bowes to Burleigh, fol. 75. Sept. 22.*

her party, with a view to prevent the returning kindness of the king to Marr, had displaced Murray of Tullybardin, and all the connections of the house of Erskine from the king's household, and filled their places with their dependants. That the Kerrs of Cessford and Newbottle, and the Humes were induced, from the fear of losing their church lands of Kelso, Newbottle and Coldingham to forsake the interest of Morton and the protestant confederacy in the counsels of queen Elizabeth.

* It may be doubted by affected prudes in politics, how far the opponents of a dangerous faction, in the court of a foolish or tyrannical prince, may be honest in receiving pecuniary aid from a foreign power, to support that cause which they esteem to be of the highest importance to the safety of the commonwealth, and to the liberties of the people; and Sidney and Rufel have been taxed, by the enemies of English freedom on this account. For my own part I am free to declare, that there are many cases, and I think this was one of them, in which an honest and virtuous man may use the pecuniary aid of a foreign prince, to save a nation from bondage and destruction. [The doctrine here advanced, is of a very doubtful nature. EDIT.]

On the last ^{Wed} tuesday of September, Mr John Dury, minister of Edinburgh, gave a blast from the pulpit against Lennox, the king being present; and on the next Sunday, Lawson gave one still more violent; so that Lennox was intimidated, and prepared to send his wife beyond seas. This lady, *Catharine de Balzac d'Auragne*, was of a very noble and ancient family in Auvergne, in the Angoumois of France, situated on the river Charante. See Morcri's Dict. Of this family, and the niece of the dukes of Lennox, was the beautiful Mademoiselle Balzac, mistress of Henry IV. by whom he had the Duc de Verneuil, and Gabriela Angelica the wife of the duke d'Espernon, &c.

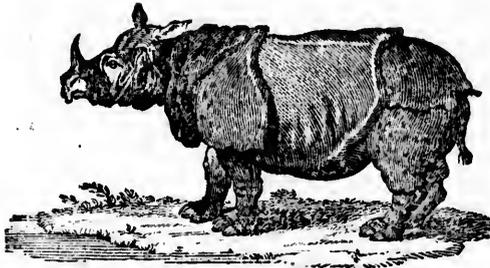
On the 8th of January 1581, Randolph received his instructions from queen Elizabeth, as her ambassador to the king of Scots, wherein he is directed, either to soothe or to threaten the king and kingdom of Scotland, as should appear most proper or necessary; and she prepared, by orders to the lord president of the north in England, to raise forces for making her mediation effectual. On the 22d of January Morton was conveyed from Edinburgh to Dumbarton castle, that he might be more immediately in the keeping of Lennox.—[Randolph to the lord president fol. 107.] In the meantime, Angus kept Dalkeith house, and lay in the fields adjoining in military force. The king intimidated by the arrival of Randolph and the English troops coming to Berwick, sends for Marr to the court, who continues firm to Morton and the party*.

To be continued.

* Folio 104.

It is chiefly hee that must doe us good (writes Randolph Feb. 25, 81.) being as wortheie an yonge gentleman as ever Scotland bredd.

“Angus, Marr, and Glencairn, are the only noblemen in Scotland of whom best account is to be made for affection to her majesty’s service.” [Randolph 29 March 1581.] The noblemen and gentlemen, friends and allys of Morton, as sett down by Randolph, [fol. 13. b. 122.] are the earls of Marre, Rothes, Angus, Boughan, Caillill’s; the abbotts of Dumferlinge, Cambuskenneth, Drytugh, and Kir Kart. The lords Ruthven and Boyd, the lairds of Loughleven, Tullibardin, and Whithinghame, and Archibald Douglas brother of Lochleven. [The laird of Lochleven married the lady Margaret Erskine aunt to Marr who was the mother of the regent Moray.] In the Cotton library fol. 6. fol. 145, there is a full account of the conference that was held between the earl of Morton, and John Dury, and Mr Walter Baleanquall immediately before his execution which we shall present to our readers on some future occasion.



THE RHINOCEROS

IS, next to the elephant, the largest terrestrial animal now known. Its body, many naturalists have supposed, is equal to that of the elephant in bulk, but its legs being shorter, it is not so tall as that noble animal.

The length of the rhinoceros from the muzzle to the insertion of the tail, is usually about twelve feet, and the circumference of its body nearly equal to its length. Its belly is large, and hangs near the ground; its legs short, round, and very strong; its hoofs are divided into three parts, each pointing forward. The head of this animal is large; its ears long and erect; and its eyes small, sunk, and without vivacity: The upper lip is long, and overhangs the lower, and is capable of great extension; it is so pliable that the rhinoceros can move it from side to side, twist it round like a stick, collect its food, or seize with it any thing it would carry to its mouth.

But the peculiar feature which distinguishes this animal from all others, is its horn. This formidable weapon is placed upon its nose; it consists of a substance of the nature of horn; it is pliant and flexible when split into small pieces; it is of a dusky greyish colour, and semitransparent; its fibres are coarser than those of horn, rather resembling whalebone in this respect. This horn has no core, like those of cattle, sheep, and many other animals, but is solid throughout its whole length. With this powerful weapon it defends itself from every adversary. The tiger will rather attack the elephant, whose trunk it can lay hold of, than the rhinoceros, which it cannot face without danger of having its bowels torn out.

The body and limbs of the rhinoceros, are covered with a skin so hard and impenetrable, that he fears neither the claw of the tiger, nor the more formidable proboscis of the elephant; it will turn the edge of a scimitar, and even resist the force of a musket ball. The skin, which is of a blackish colour, forms itself into large folds at the neck, the shoulders and the crupper, by which the motion of the head and limbs is facilitated. Round the neck, which is very short, are two large folds; there is also a fold from the shoulders, which hangs down upon the fore legs, and another from the hind part of the back to the thighs. The body is every where covered with tuberosities or knots, which are small on the neck and back, but larger on the sides. The thighs, legs, and even

the feet, are full of these incrustations, which have been mistaken for scales by some authors; they are, however, only simple indurations of the skin, without any uniformity in their figure, or regularity in their position. Between the folds the skin is penetrable and delicate, and soft to the touch as silk, and of a light flesh colour; the skin of the belly is of the same consistency.

The rhinoceros prefers thistles and shrubs, to soft or delicate pasturage. It is fond of the sugar cane, and eats all kinds of grain. It is a solitary animal, loves moist and marshy places, and it wallows in the mire like a hog, and seldom quits the banks of rivers. It is found in Bengal, Siam, China, and other countries of Asia; on the isles of Java, Sumatra, Ceylon, &c.; in Ethiopia, and the country as low as the Cape of Good Hope; but in general the species is not numerous, and is much less diffused than the elephant.

The female produces but one at a time, and at considerable intervals. During the first month, the young rhinoceros does not exceed the size of a large dog; at the age of two years, the horn is not more than an inch long; at six years it is nine or ten inches long; and grows to the length of three feet and a half, sometimes four feet. The horn is much esteemed by the natives as an antidote against poisons, and was formerly an article of value in the *materia medica*; but it is now fallen into disuse.

The rhinoceros is not in general ferocious, nor even extremely wild, yet it is totally untractable,

and seems to be subjected to certain paroxysms of fury which nothing can appease. Emmanuel king of Portugal sent one of them to the Pope, *anno* 1513 which, being seized with one of these paroxysms at sea, destroyed the vessel in which they were transporting it.

This animal has an acute and very attentive ear. It will listen with a deep and long continued attention to any kind of noise, and though it be eating, lying down, or obeying any pressing demands of nature, it will raise its head, and listen till the noise ceases.

His sense of smelling is so exquisite that the hunters are obliged to avoid being to windward of him. They generally follow him at a distance, and watch till he lies down to sleep; they then approach with great precaution, and discharge their muskets all at once into the lower part of the belly.

From the particular conformation of his eyes, the rhinoceros can only see what is immediately before him. When he pursues any object, he proceeds directly towards it, overturning every obstruction. From these peculiarities of his conformation and habits, the hunters sometimes are enabled to run him down by fatigue. One man on horseback presents himself and provokes the rhinoceros to follow him. He directs his course towards the place where another man is stationed to relieve him; when they come together the first man steps to a side behind the first cover he can find, and thus escapes the sight of the rhinoceros, and takes

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the rhinoceros.

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his stand in a convenient place to shoot at him as he passes. If he misses his aim, the second man follows the same course when he comes up to the third, and so on, till they either kill him, or tire him so much as to render him unable to pursue them longer, when they watch the opportunity of dispatching him while at rest. His flesh is eaten, and much relished by the natives of India and Africa.

The rhinoceros with one horn is the most common; but there is another species of this class of animals which has two horns, as is well known from specimens of these that are to be found in European cabinets; but the precise nature of the animal itself which produces this double horn is not yet sufficiently ascertained. Two naturalists have of late described this animal. Mr Sparman the Swedish naturalist and Mr Bruce, but their descriptions are so exceedingly dissimilar, as to leave the reader in doubt which of them should most be credited. The Swedish naturalist represents the two horned rhinoceros as being a very different animal from that already described. Its skin is smooth, having none of those plaits or folds, that so peculiarly characterise the common rhinoceros; whereas, Mr Bruce represents it as having these folds, and being precisely the same with that which has been delineated by Buffon and other naturalists, unless in what respects the horn only. They both however, agree, in saying that the second horn is placed on the nose exactly behind the first, being

shorter and blunter than it is. They also agree in admitting that the animal has a power of moving those horns, in such a way as to admit of its using the shortest horn only, for digging or tearing up objects it wishes to overturn; a circumstance that does not seem to be easily comprehended. In time the facts respecting this animal will be more fully explained.

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

HISTORY OF PORTUGAL.

[Continued from p. 22.]

The following LETTER is from another Portuguese Gentleman on the same Subject:

MAY 18. 1784.

I HAVE the honour of receiving your letter of the 4th instant; and if I have not sooner written to you, it was only because I wished to think deliberately on the letter of Mr _____ before I communicated my ideas on that subject. I now communicate them to you.

In the first place, all the world knows, that in order to write the history of any nation, it is necessary to be fully acquainted with its language; to be able to read with ease the authors, and original manuscripts, and memoirs that tend to illustrate the subject. The Portuguese language has experienced the same changes as almost all others; so that the writings of the time of John I. are different from those of the days of Emmanuel;

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and there is besides a great difficulty in reading ancient manuscripts; and it would not be well to trust to another for selecting the materials for an authentic history. The writer must, therefore, resolve to submit to the drudgery of reading and selecting these himself, if he hopes to compose a work that shall be fully deserving the public approbation.

In the second place, that he may obtain the necessary manuscripts, he ought to have a friend at court with permission for him to search the *Torre do Tombo*, the convents of *Alcobaça*, *Batavia*, *S. Domingos*, and other places in which are to be found materials for the history of Portugal. For these reasons, I would advise Mr _____ to undertake a voyage to Portugal, and to cultivate an acquaintance with *l'Abbe C——a*, who is esteemed by the *Duc de Lafoens**, who could lay open to him all the archives in the nation;—he is a learned man, and has great credit at court. But before he leaves London, he ought to purchase the *Biblioteca Portugueza de Diego Barbosa*; and also at London he might buy other books concerning our history, which, though singular, are not to be had at Lisbon. This book, which is a species of dictionary, will inform him where to look for manuscripts, and give him besides some idea of the authors and their works.

I have communicated your letter to Don _____.

* This is Don John Braganza, duke of Lafoens, second uncle to her present majesty.

— who is of the same opinion with me: He says he knows Mr — by his writings, and for the only answer, he desires you to tell him, that he ought to come to Lisbon, and cultivate an acquaintance with P. Abbe' C——a.

I had begun to make a list of Portuguese authors, but by his advice stop short at present.— I am, &c.

* * The following is the short list transmitted along with the above letter just referred to.

Escritores.

Jeronimo Ozorio.

As decadas de Joao Barros.

— do Diego de Corto.

Os commentarios de Albuquerque por Anto. Barreto.

— de D. Joao de Castro por Jacinto Pre.

— de D. Nuno Alvares Poa.

— de D. Infante D. Henrique.

As Chronicas de D. Joao. 2. de D. Manoel.

— de S. Domingos por F. Luis de Souza.

— de Cester por F. Bernd. de Brito.

— Beneditina.

Diego Barboza — Bibliotheca Portugueza.

Historia Genealogica de Casa Real por D. Anto.

Caotone —

Legisladores.

As Ordenaçoens de Filipe 2.

O. Codigo d'elrey D. Manoel.

Codiga de Alfonso 5.

De Duarte Nunes de Lieceo.

Colecceao dos Catravagantes.

- Cortes dos Reis de Port.
 ——— Os Statutes da Universidad de
 Coimbra feitos por D. Joao 3.
 Cortes d'elrey D. Manoel em Santarem.
 ——— d'elrey D. Joao 3. em Almerin.

The following Excerpts of Letters are from an English Gentleman, who had resided several Years in Portugal.

Your learned friend Mr ——— has thought of an Herculean labour, and such materials as he wants, will be difficult to meet with. He appears to me to intend to take in the time from John I. to the Philips, about 150 years; no doubt the brilliant period of the Portuguese history. The life of D. Joao 2^o. by *Resende*, is a book much to his purpose, but it is now very hard to be met with. *Pedro Nunes's* book of navigation, printed in 1573, I have got, and no doubt it is in many of our public libraries. I have a 4to. edition of *Osorios de rebus Emmanuelis regis Lusitaniae*, printed Lisbon 1571; but in our libraries there must be all his works, which were printed at Rome in four volumes folio. I have a scarce book of *Duardus Nonius Leo*, printed Lisbon 1585, of the kings of Portugal. I have many modern books of the Portuguese history, which are easily to be found. A book was printed last year at Lisbon, called *Repertorio chronologico das leys pragmaticas alvaras, cartas, regias, decretos, ferraese, ditais, regimentos, estatutos*, &c. &c from 1143 to king Emmanuel, which is to your friend's purpose. History is not

my favourite study. The way of treating the subject to good purpose, is according to Mr ——'s plan. *Montucla* has made a charming book of the progress of the human mind, in all ages, and in all nations, in that way.—Farewell.

Mr —— has some literary friends here, who are to give him soon good information upon the subject, which I will let you know in due time. I have heard it observed, that the Portuguese had few authors: But in 1731 three volumes *folio* were printed at Lisbon, called *Bibliotheca Lusitana*, with only the names, and an account of the lives and works of Portuguese authors. I have the book— I now and then look into it; but I find it, with the vice of most of their works, full of epithets and bombast.—Farewell.

THERE can be no doubt but if your friend Mr —— would come to Lisbon, he would pick up a great deal of useful information:—It would make a good paragraph in his preface, that he went to Portugal on purpose. I should be very glad to see him here, and would willingly give him every assistance in my power. You must have seen in my library, twenty volumes *folio*, of the *Casa Real*, in which are six volumes of *provas* of authentic old papers, quite in the way Mr —— wants.

Mr —— tells me he is informed Abade C —— is about a work something similar to that which Mr —— has thought of. He has the protection of the *Duc de Lafons*, with liber-

ty to search the public archives. This Abade is a great friend of H——s, I make no doubt but you must have seen him at Lisbon. I cannot say how equal he may be to the undertaking, but from your account of Mr ——, I think he would make more of the matter, with the liberty of a British pen.

ACCOUNT

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SWEDISH ACADEMY,

Instituted for the purpose of perfecting the Swedish language,

It has been often remarked, that an attention to language is the surest proof of the progress that any state has made in civilization; yet, if we were to adopt this rule as a criterion, and to judge from the public national institutions only, Britain would seem to be among the most uncivilized nations in Europe: For, while the sovereigns of other states have instituted academies to purify and reform their respective languages, that of Great Britain has been left without any sort of protection to the caprice of individuals. This is perhaps a consequence of that spirit of freedom we possess, and may possibly be accounted a striking feature of that national character we display in such an eminent degree in several other respects. Yet, it is to be regretted, that so few attempts should have been made, to perfect a language which possesses a force and energy that, with a little attention and polish, might perhaps be made, for all the pur-

poses of life, to equal any that ever existed. Every attempt to improve it ought, therefore, to be received with indulgence.

In this point of view, the public has been indebted to Dr Johnson for what he has done in his dictionary; and although that work frequently misleads, instead of informing the reader, yet this instead of bringing obloquy on the person who did his best to serve the public, ought only to stimulate others to correct those errors, and supply those defects which escaped him. If every individual, instead of acquiescing implicitly in these errors, would candidly do this, we might hope in time to derive great advantages from the joint attention of the republic of letters; but so long as men of abilities shall voluntarily shut their eyes, and discourage their inferiors from exercising the powers of their understanding on this subject, errors must continue to multiply. Much is to be expected from the labours of Mr Croft, whose promised dictionary of the English language the public has reason to expect with impatience. Yet even this dictionary, being the work of an individual only, must be deficient in many respects; and after it appears, it can only be corrected by having the general attention of men of letters turned to this subject. To forward this object, we shall be well pleased to insert from time to time, a few speculations on language in this miscellany.

It is many years since a standard dictionary for the Italian language was published by the *academia Della Crusca*. A splendid dictionary of the Spanish language has been published by the royal academy

of Madrid. The academy of Belles letters at Paris, has been long busied in polishing and perfecting the French language. A magnificent dictionary of the languages of Russia is now going forward, under the patronage of the empress. The prince of Denmark has bestowed unwearied attention, for some years past, to perfect the Norwegian language; and the following sketches, will give some idea of what is now going on in Sweden, in regard to this important subject. The German, and the English, seem to be the only two that are neglected, though it is probable that half the books published in Europe are written in these two languages.

Proceedings of the Swedish academy, &c.

The Swedish academy, instituted April 5th 1786, for the cultivation of poetry and eloquence, consisting of eighteen members exclusive of the sovereign, who is its patron, and generally attends its meetings, when he happens to be in the city or its environs, was opened with the following speech, delivered by his majesty. We have, however, to premise, that all the discourses of this prince have such a force, and at the same time, such an inimitable delicacy, that he alone could give any translation that would express the strength and beauty of the original. It is said that all his first sketches are written in French, and may perhaps hereafter be published in that language.

Speech of the king of Sweden.

“ The welfare of my kingdom is always the chief object of my care. The glory of the Swedish

name is my highest wish. The renown of my country, spread abroad by victorious arms, while it encreased its lustre, hath often been only the cause of fresh distress to my countrymen. Glory of another kind remains for us to acquire,—that of learning, and the polite arts; a glory that can brave the power of time, and the hazards of war. This glory belongs to these happy moments of peace and tranquility, which give the mind leisure to yield to that ardour which animates, to that fire which remains at rest during tempestuous times; though these have often excited it. But if the tranquility of a long peace can contribute to the happiness of a state, it is often the source of indolence which tends to barbarity. It enervates men of genius, who, at other times would have enlightened their fellow citizens, and done honour to their country. Men are so formed, that they are animated only by being put in motion. Powerful motives are necessary to excite them to cultivate the gifts of nature: But sometimes the sweetest calm broods stormy revolutions, unless an attentive prudence give employment to genius, and the hope of honours and celebrity, prevent them from giving way to a lethargy equally hurtful to themselves and the state. To excite emulation in the sciences, and polite literature is the means of preserving, during peace, this fire of genius, which, by forming citizens capable of succouring it in time of trouble, may benefit the state.

“ But unless the language have attained a certain degree of celebrity, the glory of those that

cultivate it is confined within narrow bounds ; and, unless a language be fixed by determinate laws, it will always be of small repute. Great writers raise the reputation of a language ; and, to admit of fine writing, it is necessary that the language be already formed. Such is the object of the great work of which I this day lay the foundation. It is you, gentlemen, that I have chosen to give a consistency to the Swedish language, and to bring to perfection my enterprize.

“ *Knowledge, genius, and taste* are requisite here ; they are all equally necessary, though they are rarely found united. It was, therefore, necessary to form an association of different persons, some of whom, ardent in the pursuit of polite literature, have given free scope to their inclination, and have made it the chief object of their studies ; others, by the extent of their erudition, have fixed their judgement by principles founded on the authority of nations and the course of ages ; others formed in business, and in the best company have refined their perception, by the circumspection which exalted stations require, and that continual change of company which their employment hath brought them into ; circumstances which require prudence in discourse, and that choice of words which forms the delicacy of taste, which gives to each word its true meaning, and prescribes limits to its signification.

“ If a society so formed can answer the end which I propose, I ought to expect every thing from this of which I this day confirm the institution.

At its commencement, it already possesses members meriting universal suffrage. To the glory of my kingdom, I see here an assembly of men who do as much honour to the Swedish language, as they merit one day to be celebrated by it. Gentlemen, I anticipate the judgement of that posterity for whose benefit you are now going to labour. It views merit with a sure eye that neither can be blinded by the false glare of flattery, nor by the shades of obloquy, with which partial criticism sometimes covers the living." After having given his merited eulogium to each member of the academy, the king proceeds: "To honour the memory of great men, is to call upon posterity to imitate them: That is to say, warriors, statesmen, citizens, you who have inherited the names of those heroes, or you who occupy their places, behold the tribute that gratitude decrees to their memory; merit, if you can, like eulogiums. Your names are to appear before the tribunal of ages: Take care not to degenerate. It depends upon yourselves to render your names equally illustrious."

SPEECHES OF THE ACADEMICIANS.

Extract from the speech of his excellency the Count de Hoepken to the academy.

"From the king's speech, and the statutes just now read, we learn the intentions of his majesty, and the aim of the institution of this academy, *viz.* the culture of our language, and the refinement of taste; objects truly worthy of the attention of the monarch, and all the cares of the academy. With respect to the purity of the language, I think that

it is not necessary always to trace it in the most ancient writings, nor to affect to recall words antiquated and out of use. It is not in our power to create another language than the one used by the people *quem penes arbitrium est, et jus, et norma loquendi*. We can only regulate and improve it. All languages soften along with the manners, divesting themselves by degrees of their original and savage harshness, without deviating much from the original import of the words.

“ If one of the principal endowments of the mind consists in facility of invention, that of the heart consists of lively sensations, imparting fire and quickness to the productions of thought. Whoever is not endowed with this last quality, would do well to study the language of the ladies. From their delicacy arise all those shades of expression which are peculiar to them, all those lively and brilliant images which depend on their exquisite sensibility.”

Extract from the speech of the Count of Hermanson, senator of Sweden.

“ If the sciences and polite literature have not in Sweden an æra so remote as in some other countries, they have, in less time, made a more rapid progress. Our country is at this day in possession of several pieces of eloquence, that would have done honour to Athens and Rome. The presence of their authors prevents me from saying more. This institution enjoys a worthy patronage; that of a king, who unites the hearts of all his subjects, as he unites the voices in this so-

ciety, without using any other influence than that of persuasion and of truth. It is this great founder, gentlemen, who judges of your talents, and has collected them here; as for me, my age will not permit me long to participate your labours, and I cannot flatter myself that I shall be regretted. These meetings will always be illustrious by your knowledge and talents, when I shall be forgotten."

Extract from the speech of the Count de Fersen, senator and field marshal of Sweden.

"Sweden having always preserved its independence, and never having been subject to those revolutions which change the manners and the language of a nation, it is astonishing that the Swedish language has undergone so great changes. Among several causes that might contribute to it, the principal, perhaps has been the introduction of arts and sciences by foreigners, who, being little acquainted with the resources of the language, to express their ideas, have introduced words and phrases borrowed from other languages, and corrupted the primitive nature of that of the country. It has pleased the king, always attentive to the glory of the nation, and eager to augment the love and esteem of the Swedes for their country, to give us the privilege to extend even to its language the predilection that our country merits in so many other respects. In the institution of this academy, the king hath devised the surest means to attain the end he had proposed; and the happy choice of the members ought to assure him of success. As to me, the honour of belonging to your

society, gentlemen, is only the effect of the gracious confidence of the king, who supposes me to possess abilities which I could desire to have, but which I must own I have not. The different offices that I have been called to fill, demand abilities of a kind quite different from those which this place requires: But if this consideration prevents me, gentlemen, from sharing the honour which belongs to you alone, I wish to say, that in accomplishing the work entrusted to our care, I share, nevertheless, with all my cotemporaries, and with all the Swedes yet unborn; the respectful and profound gratitude to which his majesty is entitled, by new rights, in consequence of an institution, which, of necessity, ought to augment our esteem for ourselves, since its members shall celebrate, in our own language, with becoming energy, the glorious exploits of the kings of Sweden, and the fidelity and bravery of the Swedish people. But when posterity shall read, in the works of this academy, that this kingdom was re-established by Gustavus I. that its independence, its settlement, and glory, are the works of Gustavus Adolphus, the extent of its frontiers, that of Charles X. it shall still respect the virtues of Gustavus III. who has had the magnanimity to restore liberty to his nation when it had already lost it.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

As a contrast to the prices of Mr Fowler's cattle, and at the same time a specimen of the spirit

66 *proclamation of Edward II.* Jan. 11.
of legislation in that age, I send you the following proclamation of Edward II. It may afford matter for serious reflection to some of your readers; I see no evidence that any other authority was required to sanction this decree, but the will of the king alone. Let us compare those times with the present. F. J.

Proclamation of Edward, anno 1315.

EDWARD, by the grace of God king of England, &c. to all sheriffs, mayors, bailiffs of Franchises greeting. For as much as we have heard and understood the greivous complaints of archbishops, bishops, prelates, and barons, touching great dearth of victuals in our realm, We ordain, from hence forward, that no ox stalled or corn-fed, be sold for more than 23 s. no other gras-fed ox for more than 16 s. a fat stalled cow at 12s. another cow, less worth, 10 s. a fat mutton, corn-fed, or whose wool is well grown, twentypence, another fat mutton, shorn, fourteenpence, a fat hog of two years old, 3 s. 4 d. a fat goose twopence, in the city threepence, a fat capon twopence, a fat hen one penny, two chickens one penny, four pigeons one penny, three in the city for one penny, twenty-four eggs a penny, twenty in the city a penny.

We ordain to all our sheriffs and our other ministers whatsoever they be, that if any person buy or sell, any of the things above named, contrary to our ordinance aforesaid, that the ware be forfeited, and due penalty set upon them for their desert.

Given at Westminster under our great seal, the 14th day of March, in the 8th year of our reign.

POETRY.

To the Editor of the Bee.

COME UNDER MY PLAIDY,

OR

MODERN MARRIAGE DELINEATED.

An old Scots song, never before published.

To the tune of the highway to Dublin.

I.

" COME under my plaidy, the night's ga'en to fa' ;
" Come in frae the cauld blast, the drift and the snaw ;
" Come under my plaidy, and lie down beside me ;
" There's room in't, dear lassie ! believe me, for twa.
" Come under my plaidy, and lie down beside me,
" I'll hap ye frae ev'ry cauld blast that will blow ;
" O come under my plaidy, and lie down beside me,
" There's room in't, dear lassie ! believe me for twa."

II.

" Gae 'wa wi' your plaidy ! auld Donald gae 'wa !
" I fear na the cauld blast, the drift, nor the snaw ;
" Gae 'wa wi' your plaidy ! I'll no lie beside ye ;
" Ye may be my gutchard ; auld Donald gae 'wa.
" I'm ga'en to meet JOHNNY, he's young and he's bonny ;
" He's been at Meg's bridal, fou trig and fou brow !
" O there's nane dance sae lightly, sae gracefu' sae tightly,
" His cheek's like the new rose, his brow's like the snaw."

III.

" Dear MARRION let that fleec stick fast to the wa ;
" Your Jack's but a gowk, and has naething ava ;
" The hale o' his pack, he has now on his back ;
" He's *ibretty*, and I am but *ibreescore and twa*.
" Be frank now and kindly ; I'll buik ye aye finely ;
" At kirk or at market they'll few gang sae braw ;
" A bein house to bide in, a chaise for to ride in,
" And flunkies to tend ye as aft as ye ca."

IV.

" My father's ay tell'd me, my mither and a',
" Ye'd mak a gude husband, and keep me ay braw ;
" It's true I loo Johnny, he's gude and he's bonny,
" But waes me ! ye ken he has *naebring ava* !
" I hae little tocher ; you've made a gude offer ;
" I'm now mair than *twenty* ; my time is but sma' !
" Sae gi me your plaidy ; I'll creep in beside ye,
" I thought ye'd been aulder than *ibreescore and twa*."

V.

She crap in ayont him, beside the stane wa'
Whar Johnny was list'n'ng and heard her tell a',
The *dey* was appointed, his proud heart it dunted,
And strack 'gainst his side as if bursting in twa.

He wander'd hame weary, the night it was dreary!
 And thowless, he tint his gait deep 'mang the snaw;
 The howlet was screaming, while Johnny cried, "Women
 Wa'd marry auld nick if he'd keep them ay bra'."

VI.

O the deel's in the lasses! they gang now sac bra',
 They'll lie down wi auld men o' foun score and twa;
 The hale o' this marriage, is gowd and a carriage;
 Plain LUVK is the caulddest blast now that can blaw!
 Yet doitards be wary, take tent how ye marry;
 Young wives in their saddles will whip and will ca;
 Oh they'll meet wi' some Johnny, that's youthfu' and bonny,
 And gi ye something on ilk lassie to claw.

GLEANINGS OF ANCIENT POETRY.

Those who believe that smooth numbers, and a regular recurrence of certain sounds, at stated intervals, constitute the whole of poetry, may pass over the following poem; for it will not suit their taste. But such as think that the great end of poetry is to excite strong and vivid ideas, by delicately touching the sympathetic chords of the human mind, may peruse it without fear of being disappointed. They will indeed regret; that a person, whose natural feelings has suggested some of the tenderest and most unaffected expressions that are to be found in our language, should have been so very deficient in the general melody of sounds. For poetry never produces its fullest effect, but where the natural impassioned tones, suggested by those ideas which totally fill the mind at the time, are allowed to be fully expanded without restraint. Had it not been for the swelling rotundity of Milton's numbers, his poems would now have been idolized like precious relics only by a few, instead of affording delight to persons of all ranks. Shakespeare, himself, would have been allowed to moulder on the shelf, were it not for that inimitable talent he possessed of uniting bold and delicate touches of nature, with that infinitely varied modulation of expressive tones, which every where occur in all his works.

Dr Henry King, the author of this piece, was bishop of Winchester, a clergyman of distinguished talents, and conspicuous piety: He was born anno 1591, and died anno 1669.

THE EXEQUY.

ACCEPT thou shrine of my dead saint
 Instead of dirges this complaint;
 And for sweet flowres to crown thy hearse,
 Receive a strew of weeping verse
 From thy griev'd friend, whom thou might'st see
 Quite melted into tears for thee.
 Dear loss! since thy untimely fate
 My talk hath been to meditate
 On thee, on thee! thou art the book,
 The library wherason I look,

Though almost blind; for thee (lovd clay)
 I languish out, not live the day,
 Using no other exercise
 But what I practise with mine eyes:
 By which wet glaſes I find out
 How lazily time creeps about
 To one that mourns: This, onely this,
 My exercise and bus'neſs is:
 So I compute the weary hours
 With sighs diſſolved into ſhow'rs
 Nor wonder if my time go thus
 Backward and moſt prepoſterous;
 Thou haſt benighted me; thy ſet,
 This eve of blackneſs did beget,
 Who waſt my day, (tho' overcaſt
 Before thou haſt thy noontide paſt,)
 And I remember muſt in tears,
 Thou ſcarce haſt ſeen ſo many years
 As day tells houres, by thy clear ſun
 My love and fortune firſt did run;
 But thou wilt never more appear
 Folded within my hemiſphere,
 ſiince both thy light and motion
 Like a ſted ſtar is fall'n and gon;
 And twixt me and my ſoule's dear wiſh
 The earth now interpoſed is,
 Which ſuch a ſtrange eclipse doth make
 As ne'er was read in almanake.
 I could allow thee for a time
 To darken me and my ſad elime,
 Were it a month, a year, or ten,
 I would thy exile live till then;
 And all that ſpace my mirth adjourn,
 So thou would'ſt promiſe to return;
 And putting off thy aſhy ſhrowd
 At length diſperſe this ſorrow's cloud,
 But woe is me! the longeſt date
 Too narrow is to calculate,
 Theſe empty hopes: never ſhall I
 Be ſo much bleſt, as to deſcry
 A glimpse of thee, till that day come
 Which ſhall the earth to cinders doome,
 And a fierce fever muſt calcine
 The body of this world like thine,
 (My little world) that fit of fire
 Once off, our bodies ſhall aſpire
 To our ſoule's bliſs: then we ſhall riſe,
 And view ourſelves with cleerer eyes
 In that calm region, where no night
 Can hide us from each other's ſight.

* * * * *
 Sleep on, my love, in thy cold bed
 Never to be diſquieted!

My last good night! thou wilt not wake
 Till I thy fate shall overtake:
 Till age, or grief, or sickness must
 Marry my body to that dust
 It so much loves; and fill the room
 My heart keeps empty by thy comb.
 Stay for me there; I will not fail
 To meet thee in that hollow vale.
 And think not much of my delay:
 I am already on the way,
 And follow thee with all the speed
 Desire can make, or sorrows breed.
 Each minute is a short degree,
 And ev'ry hour a step towards thee.
 At night when I betake to rest,
 Next morn I rise nearer my west
 Of life, almost by eight hours sail,
 Then when sleep breath'd his drowsie gale.

The thought of this bids me go on,
 And wait my dissolution
 With hope and comfort, dear (forgive
 The crime) I am content to live
 Divided, with but half a heart,
 Till we shall meet and never part.

 THE ROSE.

THE rose had been wash'd, just wash'd in a show'r,
 Which Marry to Anna convey'd,
 The plentiful moisture encumber'd the flow'r,
 And weigh'd down its beautiful head.

The cup was all fill'd, and the leaves were all wet;
 And it seem'd, to a fanciful view,
 To weep for the buds it had left with regret
 On the flourishing bush where it grew.

I hastily seiz'd it, unfit as it was
 For a nosegay, so drooping and drown'd,
 And wringing it rudely, too rudely, alas!
 I snapt it, it fell to the ground.

And such, I exclaim'd, is the pityless part
 Some act by the delicate mind,
 Regardless of wringing and breaking a heart
 Already to sorrow resign'd.

This elegant rose, had I shaken it less,
 Might have bloom'd with its owner a while;
 And a tear that is wip'd with a little address
 May be follow'd, perhaps, by a smile.

HINTS RESPECTING THE FINE ARTS.

THE long expected print of the death of lord Chatham by Sherwin, &c. from Copley, was finished in September 1790, and has been ever since at the rolling press for the subscribers who are to receive proofs in the order of their subscriptions.

This is, perhaps, the greatest-work, in the line of historical portrait in engraving, that was ever published. It contains sixty actual portraits of persons of eminence or rank, who were present when lord Chatham was seized with a fit, after having exhausted the powers of his enervated body in replying to the Duke of Richmond.

Chatham is supported by his son, the present premier, his eldest son being then in Canada. The figure of the Duke of Richmond occupies, perhaps, too much the attention of the spectator; and in the picture, the glare of the robes is very adverse to the good keeping and repose of the piece.

But these defects are concealed in the print by its want of colour, which gives an additional value to the engraving. Subscription tickets for this print, of an early date, entitling the holders to first proofs, have been, it is said, frequently sold for fifteen guineas, being five times the original subscription.

The *Voyage Pittoresque de la France, par l'Army*, in eight volumes folio, lately-published, and dedicated to the Constituting Assembly of the nation, is a most splendid and interesting work, and worthy of general attention, though its price puts it out of the power of the poor admirer of elegance. The plan of the late worthy John Knox, which proved abortive by his death, would have matched this noble work, in Britain;

and it is to be hoped, Knox's collections now sold, may still find their way to the public. This is the æra for great doings in England, while the pagodas and lacks of rupees are flowing into our island, and before we are quite smothered by Burks and Bishops, and all taste extinguished, but that for royalty and boxing, for pitts and cockfighting.

Mr Tassie, that wonderful pupil of nature improved by art, in modelling and sculpture, has lately made a considerable stay in Scotland to visit his relations at Glasgow; where, and at Edinburgh, he has modelled several portraits of eminent persons, and taken impressions of curious gems, not yet executed in paste. This extraordinary man, who has done more than any man in Europe, by the multiplication of *fac similies* of the beautiful gems of antiquity, to improve the taste of the middling ranks of people in Britain, by making them cheaply acquainted with the stores of classic elegance in sculpture, has now verified above fifteen thousand originals of Egyptian, Greek, and Roman art, whereof near twelve thousand were purchased for the cabinet of the Czarina, and deposited in a cabinet for her imperial majesty by Mr Raspe, who wrote a catalogue explaining the nature of the various emblems and subjects, which has been lately published for the use of collectors, and the instruction of the curious. These ancient Greek and Roman sculptures, convey many useful lessons of morality and politics, as well as gratify the eye of the virtuoso. I shall exemplify this observation, by the description of a seal now lying before me, the original of which is, I believe, in the collection of the grand duke of Tuscany.

To the first blush of remark, it exhibits no more than a portrait of Alexander of Macedon, preposterously, but commonly called the Great, on account of his

having butchered an uncommon number of men; but who is only worthy of being called Great, on account of his patronage of literature and the fine arts, and his scheme for facilitating commerce.

Upon a closer inspection, however, you perceive that the head, though denoted by a *B. A.* king Alexander, is a head of Pallas or Minerva, issuing from the head of Jupiter.

Jupiter, it was said, at a celestial banquet, fell in love with Metis the goddess of counsel, who being afterwards pregnant, his godship took her up, and quaffed her off with a goblet of nectar. Soon after, in the course of celestial affairs, he found himself to be, as gods would not wish to be, who love their characters, in a state of cephalic pregnancy. His head ached accordingly most consumedly, and, in despair, he ordered Vulcan to give him a stroke with his fore hammer. The smith did his part, and out sprung Minerva, the goddess of perfect prudence and wisdom.

Now the moral of all this is pretty.

If a first magistrate or king takes counsel, he is to smuggle the author, make the upshot of it, if successful, tend to his own honour, and conceal the matter altogether if he fails.

We ought not to omit mentioning Mr Wedgewood on this occasion, who has perhaps done more for improving the taste, and perfecting some of the manufactures of this country, than any other person. Having studied with great attention the fine Etruscan vases, and other beautiful models of ancient art, introduced into Britain by Sir William Hamilton, he soon gave to his earthen vases, and other vessels, an elegance of form till then unknown, and to the figures with which they were adorned, a delicacy and perfection that had never

been seen in this country. Other inferior artists have imitated him in this respect; so that at the present time, the meanest mechanic has it in his power to contemplate figures, on the most common implements he uses, of surprising beauty and elegance. Thus is the taste of the most illiterate improved.

The portraits of Sir Joshua Reynolds, now generally known by every one through the medium of prints, and the delicate designs of *Cipriani*, rendered familiar by the same means, have also contributed their share towards the forming a national taste. Owing to these and other lesser causes co-operating, no nation, perhaps, ever made such rapid advances in the elegant arts, as Britain has done within the last twenty or thirty years.

Boydell's Shakespeare.

Thirty years ago it was retailed in every book on painting, that the climate of Britain was such, as to prevent her from ever being able to indulge the hope that ever she would be able to produce one painter who could be deemed eminent in his profession; and though we cannot perhaps yet boast of artists who have attained, in every respect, the utmost degree of perfection, yet it will be pretty generally admitted, that there are at present a greater number of excellent artists in Britain, or of that school, than in any other country whatever.

The superb edition of Shakespeare by Boydell, is, perhaps, the noblest enterprize that ever was attempted by an *individual* in the line of the fine arts, and will be a monument to future ages, not only of the taste of the times, and the stage to which the fine arts had arrived at this time in Britain, but also of the energy that naturally results from freedom, and a perfect security of property. Most of our readers probably know, that

this very splendid edition of Shakespeare is to be accompanied by a set of prints, copied from original paintings by the best artists in Europe, done for the purpose. One copy of this book, with the prints, costs a hundred guineas. The paintings are to be preserved in a hall built on purpose, called Shakespeare's gallery, which is now open for the inspection of the public. Some numbers of the work are already delivered to the subscribers; and as the prints are to be given exactly in the order of the subscriptions, so eager are the public for obtaining the finest impressions, that those who subscribed early, have it now in their power to obtain a very considerable premium to part with their copies to others.

Boydell's Milton and Thomson.

Encouraged by the success of this undertaking, no less than two proposals have been already offered to the public, for an edition of the works of Milton, and Thomson on the same plan. One of these was proposed by a set of artists of considerable eminence. The other by Messrs Boydells, the editors of Shakespeare. Which of the two will succeed, time will determine.

These works will exhibit to future ages, perhaps the fairest specimen of the present state of the fine arts in Britain, that ever was produced in any nation; as it does not contain only the works of one artist, chiefly, and his school, like the gallery of Farnese, and several others in Italy, but will exhibit specimens of the performances of all the artists of eminence in this country, who are thus stimulated to vie with each other for present emolument, as well as future fame. Nor is it the painters alone, but the engravers also, whose works and names will thus be perpetuated. So that future ages will be able to judge very exactly of our present attainments in these respects.

From the specimens that have been already exhibited of the Shakespeare, we have no reason to think that this attempt will be considered, by future connoisseurs, as the *ne plus ultra* of perfection. Though, considering every thing, it will perhaps be accounted the most extraordinary exertion of genius that ever was displayed on the globe. Genius might be here represented as revelling in the wild luxuriance of health and youthful vigour, unchastened by time, nor yet instructed by age and experience never to overstep the modesty of nature. The very eagerness to excel, produces an overstrained effort which never can accord with the *simplex munditiis*, this highest exertion of human powers in regard to matters of taste. Let us then look upon this attempt as a beautiful foretaste of what may in time be expected from industry, perseverance, and attention; but let us never, fascinated by novelties, mistake eccentricities of genius for the delicate touches of nature. Shakespeare, perhaps, was the only man, who by the aid of genius alone, was ever able to delineate nature in her purest, most unadorned, and therefore most beautiful attire. His touches go directly to the heart, without applying to the fascinating aid of a perverted taste, or an overheated imagination.

NINA, A STORY.

THE experience of all times has shewn, that husbands have suddenly lost the affections of their wives, and women ceased to possess the hearts of their husbands, when they least apprehended it, without either one or the other being able to trace the source of the misfortune.

Convinced that instruction, conveyed by example, is, of all others, the most efficacious, I do not hesitate to

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Nina, a story.

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lay the following story before the married gentry of our days, hoping, by this means, to bring back to the duties of the married state, such persons as neglect or violate them;—to abolish, or at least to bury in oblivion, that disgraceful title, which is with reason bestowed on so many husbands;—to insure to them the possession which the religion and the laws seem to have reserved for them alone;—to reinstate peace and union in families, from which they are too often banished by inconstancy;—and to restore the gifts of fortune to those to whom they properly belong, which we see frequently lavished on wanton strangers.

A senator descended from one of the most noble families of Venice, married the daughter of a man of his own rank, equal to himself in birth and fortune. This marriage was at first like most others; it was cemented as strongly by mutual affection, as by the authority of their parents; for three years they bore each other a tenderness worthy of the most delicate lovers, and two children were the happy fruits of their nuptials.

The fourth year was scarcely begun, when their felicity was disturbed by some disgusts. The wife, though remarkable for the most distinguished virtue and fidelity, insensibly lost that regard and assiduity she had formerly shewn to please her husband, and did not lavish on him her wonted marks of affection. Their frequent intercourse begat a certain familiarity between them, which the husband regarded as a mark of indifference; he therefore sought in another woman for that affection, which he imagined himself unable to obtain from his wife.

The time at length arrived which seemed to crown his wishes. Nina, a celebrated courtesan of those days,

though six years older than his wife, who was then but twenty-four, was the person he chose to repair the loss he thought he had sustained. He accosted her one day, and entered into conversation; every action, every look of her's promised him success. He resolved to make an open declaration of his love, and to offer a reward deserving of those pleasures, and that felicity, which his affection for her gave him room to expect.

The treaty, as may be imagined, was soon concluded; the senator used so little precaution to keep his new engagement a secret, that all Venice was soon acquainted with it, and his wife was not the last to hear of it. Her affection which had always remained the same, and had only changed its form, obliged her to complain of coldness. The senator, imagining her behaviour proceeded rather from a principle of self-love humbled, than from true affection, did not seem in the least affected by it. His visits to Nina became more frequent, and his expences more considerable.

Despair took possession of his wife's mind; whenever he came home, she loaded him with the keenest reproaches, and gave him such treatment, as the most jealous fury could alone dictate. Exasperated at this proceeding, he determined never to see her any more. Though he had slept apart from her, ever since the beginning of his amour with Nina,—he had never failed to indulge her with his presence at dinner, to which he always invited some friend, which screened him from the violent effects of his wife's resentment; but he now entirely deprived her of this happiness.

She then anxiously sought to devise the most infallible way to rekindle the flame of her husband's conjugal affection. Her mind suggested none that appeared

feasible; she imagined she ought to consult some wiser and more experienced person than herself. No one appeared better able to give her advice, on this occasion, than the powerful rival, who had estranged her husband's heart from her. She went one morning to the house of Nina, disguised in such a manner as not to be known, and she addressed her by saying she was a person of the same profession. Let any one conceive, how much a woman, who was virtue itself, must suffer in the support of so unworthy a character. But no efforts of injured love can be condemned, if intended to procure that justice which is due to it. "Behold!" said the wife of the senator, "the occasion of my visit. Ever since I have known, unhappily for me! that I have a heart susceptible of the soft passion, (I say unhappily, because it has not procured me those advantages which it ought to have done,)—ever since that time, would you believe it, beautiful Nina, I have not yet been able to find out the secret of keeping one lover to myself? they all desert me, at the very instant I imagine they have the most reason to be attached to me. The possession of a heart has more charms for me than every other advantage; I believe no one so capable as you to teach me an art of which I am ignorant, and on the knowledge of which the happiness of my life essentially depends. Your beauty, your shape, your charms, your good sense, the splendid fortune you enjoy, all persuade me that you possess this art in the highest degree. How much shall I be obliged to you, charming Nina, for this discovery! Be assured, my acknowledgement shall be as great as the service you do me."

The courtesan replied, that she had consulted her in a matter, in which it was utterly impossible to lay

down infallible rules. She questioned her on the nature of her passion, and found it the most confirmed; from thence she proceeded to some interrogations, which conveyed a striking idea of the business she followed, and at which the wife of the senator could not refrain from blushing. At length Nina, who had no cause to reproach herself, for she had done all in her power to prevent the greatest part of her pretended lovers, who had been allured by her charms, from deserting her, thus proceeded: "I know no better expedient than to make you witness of the methods I use to keep him to myself, who has the greatest empire over my heart. The hour draws near, when his passion will lead him hither; I will conceal you in a closet, where not one of my caresses and words shall escape your eyes or your ears: If you approve of my advice, make use of it."

The wife of the senator embraced the proposal with joy; the wonted time for the courtesan to see her lover arrived; his wife heard him on the stairs, and flew to the place of concealment appointed by Nina. Her eyes beheld him in the same instant with those of the courtesan—it was the senator himself.

To be continued.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The communication by L. J. D. is received. As a first essay, it shall be attended to with particular care. The subject is trite. Young writers should avoid such a choice, as excellence, alone, can make such essays acceptable.

The paper of I. T. is received. It is unlucky it did not come some months ago. We shall try to make some use of it.

Masca has been careless, very careless in his last communication. Writers in poetry ought never to forget, that it is a matter of little difficulty to pick up a cart-load of pebbles, while it requires much care and attention to find a single gem. But the gem, when once found, will continue to be admired by future ages, while the pebbles will be suffered to lie in some neglected corner, never more to be heard of.

Acknowledgements to many other correspondents, deferred till our next for want of room.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, January 18. 1792.

Additional remarks on the Poetry of Buchanan.

(Continued from p. 56. vol. vi. and concluded.)

These remarks have been thus long deferred owing to the author's being indisposed. Such readers as have not seen the preceding volumes, in which was the introductory part, are informed, that the four former divisions of Buchanan's poetical works have been briefly characterised. The author proceeds to the fifth entitled

Edit.
5. Hendecasyllabom Liber.

THE love verses in this section have all the tenderness, elegance, and vivacity of Catullus. Some English imitators of Spenser and Milton, have copied nothing but their faults. On the contrary, Buchanan improves upon his master. We are no where disgusted by the licentious vulgarity of the Roman poet. The following elegant address may serve as a specimen of his style.

Quantum delicias tuas amabam,
Odi deterius duplo, ampliusque

VOL. vii.

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Tuam nequitiam et proccitatem,
 Postquam te propius, Neera novi.
 At tu si penitus perire me vis,
 Si vis perditæ amem, et magis magisque
 Totis artibus imbibam furorem,
 Sis nequam magis, et magis proterva.
 Nam quo nequior es, proterviorque,
 Tanto impensius urorinquieto
 Ventilante odio faces amoris,
 Et lentas iterum ciente flammâs.
 Quod si sis melior, modéstiorque,
 Odero minus, et minus te amabo.

“ As much as I loved thy charms, twice as much
 “ more have I hated thy pride and wantonness, after O
 “ Neera ! I knew thee better.—But if thou canst with
 “ me utterly undone, if thou desirest that I should
 “ love to distraction, that madness should more and
 “ more burn in every vein, be still more haughty, and
 “ still more wanton. For the more haughty and the
 “ more wanton thou art, by so much more deeply am
 “ I inflamed with restless hatred fanning the torch of
 “ love, and again kindling its decaying flames. Wert
 “ thou more modest, and more worthy, I should hate
 “ thee less, but I should love thee less.”

We have also some short and beautiful addresses to
 Theodore Beza, and other men of letters, which must
 have been infinitely pleasing and flattering to the au-
 thor's literary associates. We cannot wonder that
 wit, and learning, and valour, and beauty, whatever
 is amiable, or venerable in human nature, crowded into
 the correspondence of a poet, prodigal of immortality.
 The last article in this section proves that Buchanan
 possessed the art of raising, into importance, a subject

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in itself trifling. I speak of verses on a diamond cut into the shape of a heart, and set in a ring, which Queen Mary, in 1564, sent as a present to Elizabeth. To forbear their insertion, is an injury to the author.

6. This section consists, like the last, of eleven articles. The first is inscribed to Walter Haddon. The remainder consist of four satires address'd to Leonora, a Portuguese bawd; four pieces of the same nature, inscribed to a professor in Coimbra; and two translations from the Greek, one of which is the satire of Simonides upon women. This poem, the Spectator has pretended to translate entire, but has omitted the last twenty-five lines, which, as the poet's parting blow, contain a furious invective against the whole sex. After this honest piece of management the Spectator praises the Greek poet for his delicacy in forbearing to cast out any general reflections against women. I return to Buchanan. His first address to Leonora begins thus:

Matre impudica filia impudicior,
Et lena mater filiae,
Vos me putastis esse ludumque et jocum,
O Scorta triobolaria,
Sacrificolorum pauperum fastidia
Relicta mendicabulis?
Vos ne videret gurgites, ne pasceret
Vir filiae usque ad ultimos
Profugit Indos: nec viae longinquitas,
Nec nota feritas gentium,
Nec belluosi rapida severities freti
Ab instituto terruit.
Nullum periculum, nulla monstri est vastitas
Quam perpeti non maluit,
Quam vos videre duplices voragines
Famae reique prodigas.

Externa potius arma, quam domesticam
Vult ferre turpitudinem.

“ O daughter more impudent than thy impudent
“ mother, and thou bawd to thy daughter, ye have
“ thought me to be a jest and a sport, ye threepenny
“ strumpets, ye detested leavings of the beggarly attend-
“ ants of starving priests.

“ Lest he should see, or support such whirlpools,
“ the daughter’s husband fled to the remotest Indies.
“ Neither the length of passage nor the well known
“ ferocity of the natives could fright him from his
“ purpose. There was no danger, there was no sa-
“ vage monster whom he was not willing rather to en-
“ counter, than to behold you, two riotous spendthrifts,
“ equally prodigal of cash and character. He chuses
“ rather to bear foreign arms than domestic infamy.”

The rest of the poem, of which the above is about
a fourth part, is suitable to such a beginning. The
professor is, if possible, treated with still less cere-
mony.

“ He knows,” says Buchanan, “ every science ex-
“ cept those which he pretends to teach ; he is an ex-
“ cellent cook, weaver, huckster, jockey, and usur-
“ er. No butcher in the public market ever excel-
“ led him at cheating with false weights.”

I have already far exceeded the limits intended for
this essay, and shall conclude by a few general remarks
on our author’s stile.

No poet ever required less aid from critical illustra-
tion. In Buchanan we very seldom meet with those
sudden transitions from one topic to another, so fre-

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quent in Horace and Juvenal; so distressing often to the learner, though sometimes so pleasing to the mature scholar. Whatever be his object, it is ever kept in view. From the *FRANSISCANUS* for example, two lines cannot be abstracted without evident mutilation. Perhaps his experience, as a teacher, may partly have instructed him to sympathize with the difficulties of a beginner. No Roman author, now extant, exhibits such a variety of style. There is not perhaps one classical word in the Latin language which may not be somewhere found in his writings. Yet there are very few difficult passages in Buchanan. As his subject requires it, he is alternately copious without prolixity, and concise without abruptness.

The remaining poems of this author consist, *1st*, Of three books of epigrams, containing about an hundred and eighty-six articles. *2^d*, His miscellanies. This section which contains thirty-eight pieces, supplies us with some of his principal efforts in Lyric poetry. *3^d*, His *De Sphæra*, in five books, perhaps the noblest didactic poem in the world, and unquestionably the most sublime monument of the genius of Buchanan. *4th*, His four tragedies. *5th*, His satire on the cardinal of Lorraine, and some other pieces not usually arranged under any of the former sections. Among these are his celebrated dedication of the Psalms to queen Mary, and a copy of verses inscribed to John third of Portugal, which alone, had he composed nothing else, would have entitled him to the character of a great poet. It is astonishing to consider what splendor of sentiment, and luxuriance of imagery are comprised within twenty-two lines.

It was my first design to glance over these remaining sections, and endeavour to express my opinion of their merit. But the task is arduous, and it becomes necessary for me to decline it. It was my chief design to excite a spirit of popular curiosity concerning Buchanan's original poems. For since Ruddiman's edition in 1715, they have not, as far as I can learn, been published in this country.

J. T. C.

on the instinct of animals.

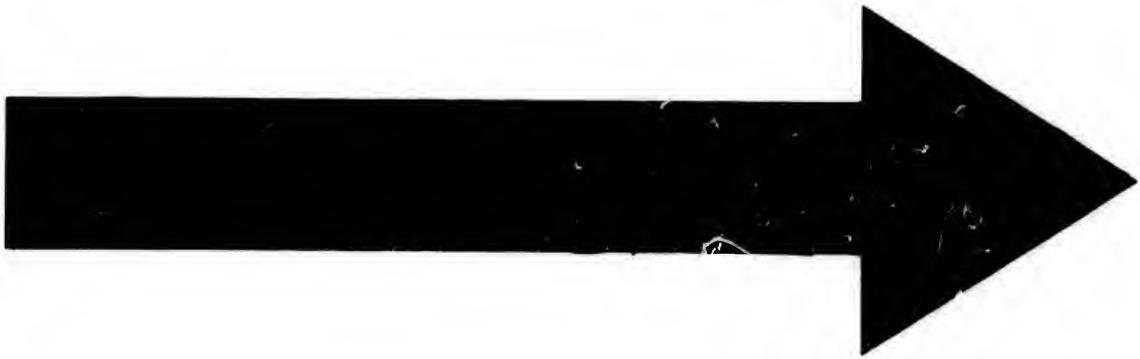
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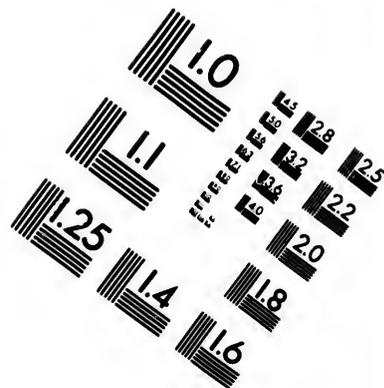
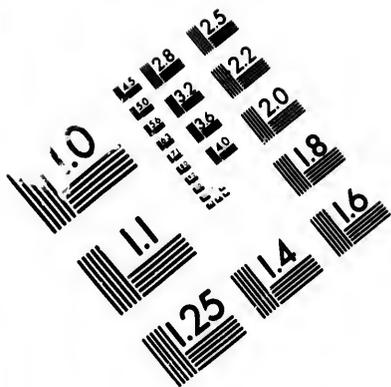
THE instinct of animals is an inexhaustible theme. By instinct, I mean that powerful propensity impressed by nature, on the minds of animate objects, by which they are, without deliberation, impelled to adopt measures for the propagation and preservation of the species. It seems to be only incidentally connected with the reasoning powers. Instinct is often found to be strongest in animals whose reasoning powers are of the weakest sort. Among animals which possess the power of reason in a strong degree, especially those who have superadded to that, the faculties which we call imagination, and sensibility, the natural instincts are frequently so far overborne and modified by these, as to be in some measure obliterated in them. Hence it is, that of all the animals with which we are acquainted, the natural instincts of man, unless it be in mere infancy, are the least perceptible; and his propensities of course, the most various. The human instincts are controuled by reason, and influenced by imagination, and swayed by the sympathetic affections, to

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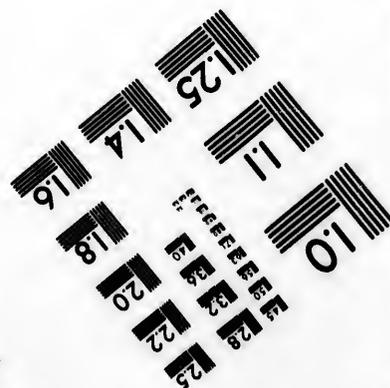
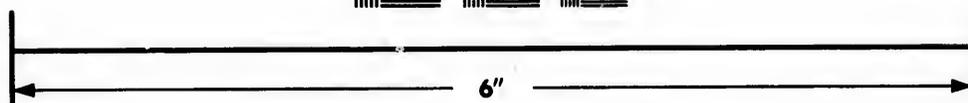
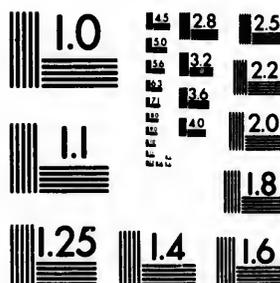
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such a degree, as often to assume a direction totally different, in one person, from what they do in another, in the same circumstances. There are only a very few cases in which the instincts of man operate invariably in the same manner on all the species.

The instincts of animals always act the most invariably in regard, *1st*, To the immediate preservation of life, by means of food; *2dly*, the propagation of the species; *3dly*, the care of the young; and *4thly*, the guarding against external injury. In the first instance, man is nearly on a footing with other animals; in the second, he deviates from them in several particulars, owing to the influence of the moral principle, and the other faculties above alluded to, controuling, and modifying the mere animal instinct. In the third case, the difference between man and other animals is exceeding great; and in the last case, man so far excels all other animals, as to have subjected the whole animate creation to his sway, and compelled them to minister to his wants in a thousand various ways.

The instinct of animals, as it operates for the preservation of their young, has ever appeared the most interesting to man, because it seems to indicate that they possess a certain share of that delicate sensation which we have denominated *sensibility*. This sensation in man is so intimately connected with the power of the imagination, which, when vigorous, is productive of such inexpressible delight to the mind, that he is disposed, involuntarily, to attribute the same kind of sensation to mere animals, in this instance, that he himself feels in a similar situation. There seems,

however; to be great reason to believe that here he judges without sufficient reason, for, as in the intercourse of the sexes, except in the human species, and pairing animals, mere animal gratification is blindly pursued without selection of objects; so in the care of the young, a similar animal instinct appears to operate with the same irresistible power for a short time, after which short period it totally, and entirely subsides, without ever being farther recognised, unless when it happens accidentally to be connected, as it in some cases is, with the gregarious instinct. The eagle nourishes its young with the most sedulous care, and defends them from insult at the hazard of its life without the smallest hesitation; but in a few months, he drives them from his own rock, with furious blows; nor ever from that period recognizes them more. The lioness, in like manner, suckles her young with the most tender solicitude: in their defence exposes herself to every danger, and denies herself the morsel when pinched for hunger, that her young may enjoy an abundant repast; but in a few months she drives them from her den, nor ever after takes the smallest notice of them nor their concerns.

The same temporary fury, if I may adopt that phrase, operates even upon the most timid animals in defence of their young. The cow, in her native state, becomes a most desperate assailant of every animal that approaches her calf; even the sheep, the meekest of all animals, will butt at the dog, or any other creature that approaches her lamb; she will fiercely turn upon them, and, with a determined aspect, stamp with her feet, and threaten the assailant; an

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on the instinct of animals.

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exertion that the timid ewe never is capable of in her own defence. In a short time, however, the lamb is lost in the flock, and the mother soon knows it no more.

The love of children, and the consequent exertions for their preservation, seems to be so intimately connected with the finer feelings of the human mind, that we can scarcely divest ourselves of the idea that those animals which discover a very strong attachment for their young are of a superior cast, in point of understanding, to others. But this conjecture seems to be ill founded. The common hen is one of the most stupid, and in consequence of that stupidity, one of the most indocile animals we know. She can be taught to come upon a call, in hopes of getting food, and this seems to be the utmost stretch of her docility. She is not only a stupid, but a timid animal in general ; but when she has her young brood to take care of, she becomes furious in their defence ; no danger will alarm her, nor can any force make her abandon her young : If they are dispersed, she flies around them like a fury, endeavouring to collect them, and drive off the annoying objects ; she may be hurt, she may be maimed, she may be driven off for a moment, but will not abandon them ; she always returns to the charge, nor can she, while in life, be made to desert them. If her brood be under her wings, she will sit quietly on some occasions, and suffer any distress rather than subject her young fry to insult. I once saw a hen, in this situation, attacked by another brood mother, that had sat quietly above her young till the other had deliberately picked a hole through her skull, into the very brain. Yet this

stupid animal, which is so resolute during a short period, in defence of her young, abandons them entirely in a few weeks, nor ever afterwards seems to have the smallest attachment to, or even recollection of them.

Nor is this animal instinct, in favour of their young, peculiarly vivid in those creatures that are of a mild and inoffensive disposition, as we would naturally expect should be the case. We might indeed expect that the most ravenous carnivorous animals would be the boldest, when attacked, in defence of their young; because this seems congenial to the natural disposition of such animals; but we would not expect that they should be strongly affected with grief at their misfortunes, or mourn over them after their death. The hen is as furious in defence of her young as any animal can be; but when a chicken is once dead, she abandons it with as much seeming unconcern as if it were a clod of clay. Her care extends to its defence only while it is in life, nor does she seem to be sensible of any pain it may suffer. This is not the case with the bear. The great white bear of Nova Zembla is a carnivorous animal, and one of the most intrepid that is known on the globe.

A few years since, the crew of a boat belonging to a ship in the whale fishery shot at a bear, at a short distance, and wounded it. The animal immediately set up the most hideous yells, and ran along the ice towards the boat. Before it reached it, a second shot was fired, and hit it. This served only to increase its fury. It presently swam to the boat; and in attempting to get on board, reached its forefoot upon the gunnel; but one of the crew, having a hatchet, cut it

off. The animal still, however, continued to swim after them till they arrived at the ship; and several shots were fired at it, which also took effect; but, on reaching the ship, it immediately ascended the deck; and the crew having fled into the shrouds, it was pursuing them thither, when a shot from one of them laid it dead on the deck.

When its young is attacked, it becomes uncommonly furious in their defence, and if they should be wounded, it seems to suffer more for the pain they feel than its own. The following is a well authenticated fact.

While a frigate that was some years ago on a voyage for discoveries towards the North Pole, was locked in the ice, early one morning the man at the mast head gave notice, that three bears were making their way very fast over the frozen ocean, and were directing their course towards the ship. They had been invited by the scent of some blubber of a sea-horse the crew had killed some days before, which had been set on fire, and was burning on the ice at the time of their approach. They proved to be a she bear and two cubs; but the cubs were nearly as large as the dam. They ran eagerly to the fire, and drew out from the flames, part of the flesh of the sea-horse that remained unconsumed, and eat it voraciously. The crew, from the ship threw great lumps of the sea-horse which they had still left, upon the ice, which the old bear fetched away singly, laid every lump before her cubs as she brought it, and dividing it, gave each a share, reserving but a short portion for herself. As she was fetching away the last piece, they levelled their muskets at the cubs, and shot them both dead,

and, in her retreat, they wounded the dam, but not mortally. It would have drawn tears of pity from any but unfeeling minds, to have marked the affectionate concern expressed by this poor beast in the dying moments of her expiring young. Though she was sorely wounded herself, and could but just crawl to the place where they lay, she carried the lumps of flesh she had fetched away, as she had done others before; tore it in pieces, and laid it down before them. When she saw they refused to eat it, she laid her paws first upon one, and then upon the other, and endeavoured to raise them up; all this while it was pitiful to hear her moan. When she found she could not stir them, she went off; and when she had got at some distance, she looked back and moaned; that not availing to entice them, she returned, and, smelling round them, began to lick their wounds. She went off a second time, as before, and having crawled a few paces, looked again behind her, and for some time stood moaning. But still her cubs not rising to follow her, she returned to them again, and with signs of inexpressible tenderness, went round one, and round the other, pawing them and moaning. Finding at last they were cold and lifeless, she raised her head towards the ship, and growled a curse upon the murderers, which they returned with a volley of musket-balls. She fell between her cubs, and died licking their wounds.

I am afraid, Sir, of tiring you with a long paper. The subject is by no means exhausted, and if you will give me permission I shall send a continuation of this paper, in hopes that it may induce some of your better-informed correspondents to elucidate some

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of the plainest points of natural history, for the sake of
others equally ill-informed, and equally desirous of
receiving instruction as

A Young Observer.

**ON THE BALANCE OF TRADE, AND
EXCHANGES.**

For the Editor of the Bee.

MUCH has been said, and many books have been written on the balance of trade, very little to the purpose. Authors, in general, have had recourse to custom-house books, to obtain the amount of imports, and exports between particular countries, from the value of which they have pleased themselves by striking the balance of trade. Nothing surely can be more fallacious than this mode of judging. All the articles that are smuggled on either side, never make an appearance there. If duties are paid, the quantity of goods appearing, will be considerably diminished. If these duties are rated by the value of the goods, that value will be stated much below the truth. If no duties are paid, the entries will be much greater than the reality. Hence, nothing is more common than to see two nations making out a state of the same account, so as to represent the balance as greatly each in their own favour; yet though this absurdity be apparent, the practice, from habit, has been persisted in. To ascertain the balance of trade between two nations, so many particulars require to be adverted to, which elude the observation of the most attentive observer, as to render the attempt fruitless. If it could

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be done with perfect accuracy at all, it would be done
by means of the course of exchange between the two
countries. But though this be, without doubt, the
only possible mode of approximating to the solution of
this problem; yet, unless the two nations, with regard
to which this attempt were made, should be excluded
from all commercial intercourse with every other na-
tion, it cannot be *absolutely* accurate; because, by means
of a circuitous exchange with other nations, the effect
of an extraordinary balance may be much moderated
on particular occasions. As many of your readers pro-
bably are not fully acquainted with the nature of ex-
changes; and, as I observe, you mean to give annual-
ly a list of the state of exchange between Britain and
the principal commercial nations in Europe, I shall
hope that a short explanation of the nature of ex-
changes, and the manner in which these become an
index of the balance of trade, will prove acceptable to
them in general. This I shall briefly give in the follow-
ing pages.

By the term balance of trade is meant the propor-
tion in value, that the quantity of goods exported from
a country bears to that imported into it, from another
country.

It is only in consequence of one article being con-
sidered as of equal value in all countries, that the idea
of an inequality in the balance of trade can exist; for
without that there would be no standard by which the
value of the exports and imports of a nation could be
estimated. This article is universally gold and silver.
I call them *one* article, because they preserve nearly an
equal proportion in value to one another, under the

denomination of money; if they did not, one of them only must come to be this universal standard.

Without the use of bills of exchange, there could not exist a balance of trade, even although the establishment of *money*, as above mentioned, should have taken place; because, there must, when goods are exported from a country, be goods imported to the same amount to repay them. It being to be observed that money must be considered, with regard to importation and exportation, entirely in the same light as any other commodity; for it matters not to a nation whether the property it possesses consist in this, or any other article of equal utility.

The rate of exchange is the only medium by which the state of the balance of trade can be ascertained, and it is infallible, unless as above specified.

The rate of exchange is the price at which bills drawn by one nation on another sell; for instance, if a bill be drawn in London on Paris for 1 *ecu*, and is sold in London for 18 9d Sterling, the rate of exchange is 18 9d *per ecu*.

It is by comparing this rate of exchange with the quantity of gold and silver contained in the respective monies of the two nations, that the state of the balance of trade can be ascertained; for example, if a French *ecu* contain as much silver as in Britain could be coined into two shillings and four-pence Sterling; and that *ecu* is, by the rate of exchange, sold for only one shilling and nine-pence; the value of the exports from Britain to France exceed that of the imports to Britain from France, as much in proportion as two

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shillings and four-pence exceeds one shilling and nine-
pence, which I demonstrate as follows :

Suppose A. a merchant in Bourdeaux, ships goods for
B. a merchant in London, to the amount of three livres ;
and C. another merchant in London, ships goods for
D. another merchant in Bourdeaux, to the amount of
twenty-one pence Sterling, B. must either remit the
three livres to A. or A. must draw a bill on B. for
that sum ; and the same thing must happen betwixt D.
and C. with regard to the twenty-one pence. D.
finding that he must remit this twenty-one pence to C.
finds that A. has credit with a merchant in London
for three livres ; and finds likewise that he cannot pur-
chase goods in Bourdeaux for less than that sum, that
will produce in London, after paying all charges,
twenty-one pence ; he is therefore well pleased to give
A. three livres for his draft on B. for twenty-one
pence Sterling, which he remits, and thereby liqui-
dates the debt. In this case, the reader will perceive
that the exchange is at the rate of twenty-one pence
Sterling *per* ecu, because a bill on London for twenty-
one pence, is sold in Bourdeaux for an ecu, and he will,
at the same time, perceive that the amount of exports
from London is three livres, because the persons in
London receive that sum in return for the said exports,
while the imports from Bourdeaux amount to twenty-
one pence, because the London merchants give that
sum only for what they have received : now find how
much silver or gold are contained in twenty-one pence,
and how much in three livres ; if the former be the
greater, then the balance of trade must be against

Britain, because, in that case the amount of their exports would have exceeded the amount of their imports in as much as the twenty-one pence, being the value of the goods exported, exceeded in value the three livres, being the amount of the goods imported, and *vice versa*.

I need not enlarge on the effects that would take place if the exports from the one place to the other were greater, or less in proportion to the imports; nor on the causes that would induce a holder of a bill, such as A. to accept, or refuse of the price offered to him by a purchaser, such as D; nor shall I take notice of the reasons of the person on whom the bill was drawn, such as B. being willing or not that it should be drawn to the amount specified in my example; or any other, as the reflecting reader will see that the rate of exchange is, primarily, occasioned by the quantity of exports and imports; and secondarily, that the rate of exchange, like the price of goods, will, in some degree, affect the extent of these exports and imports.

Before I conclude this article, allow me to observe with what beautiful simplicity nature hath provided a sure and certain remedy for every excess of this kind, without the interference of magistrates or legislators. Whenever the exchange becomes great against any one nation, it induces that nation, in whose favour the exchange is, to buy as much of the produce, or manufactures of the other as it can; because the purchaser has the advantage of the whole amount of the exchange in his favour. In like manner, and from the same cause, the nation against whom the course

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of exchange is very high, must avoid to purchase
goods from the other, because of the enormous price
they come at. Thus are the manufactures of the un-
favourably situated country encouraged, while those
of the nation, which glories in its present advantage,
are proportionally discouraged. In consequence of
this increased demand on the one hand, and the dimi-
nished demand on the other, it is easy to see, that in a
very short time, if government does not thwart the
course of nature by some absurd regulations, that all
will soon come to rights, and the course of exchange
resume its natural balance. For some centuries past,
Europe has been attempting, by means of commercial
treaties, and other similar *wise* measures, to thwart
the course of nature: But this cannot be done. We
hope the time is at hand, when sober sense, instead of
monopolizing principles, shall direct the commercial
legislations of Europe.

A. A. L.

SCETCH OF THE LIFE OF
JOHN, EARL OF MARR.

[Continued from p. 46.]

CONCERNING the part taken by the earl of Marr with
Angus, Glencairn, Gowrie, and the other friends of
Morton, to revenge his condemnation and death, and
in the banishment of Lennox, in consequence of pos-
sessing the kings person at Ruthven, I shall forbear to ex-
patriate, as belonging rather to history than to biography.

Marr, together with Angus, and the other associates
in the seizure of the king at Ruthven, were attainted
by the parliament, on the 22d of August 1584.

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Lord Marr had passed over into Ireland, as soon as he found it impossible to remain in Scotland with any advantage to his friends, or safety to himself; and there he made some advantageous conditional purchases of estates, looking forward to a change of affairs at home. From thence he came over to the court of queen Elizabeth, where, with the other banished lords and gentlemen, he was honourably and cordially received.

As hereditary governor of the castle of Stirling, he was at the head of that patriotic association for the expulsion of Arran, who took possession of that fortress on the 2d of November. For which act of violence, he not only, in common with his associates received an indemnity from the king and estates of the kingdom at their meeting of the 10th of December, but was re-admitted to the particular confidence and favour of James, who instantly restored to him the castle, and lordship of Stirling, together with his estates that had been alienated, or vested in the crown, in consequence of his attainder.

Not long after, he bestowed upon Marr, in marriage, he being now a widower, the lady Mary Stuart, second daughter of Esme duke of Lennox, the king's kinsman, and unfortunate favourite, of whom Marr had become deeply enamoured, not only on account of her beauty, but her amiable qualities*.

* Marr, as was the superstitious custom of the times, had listened to the nonsense of an Italian conjurer, who shewed him a limning of a lady whom he said Marr's future sweet-heart and wife resembled, and Marr thought he observed these features in the lovely daughter of Lennox. He had heard she was destined, by the king, for another, and wrote a plaintive letter to James, saying that his health had even begun

On the 24th of July 1595, the king being at Stirling, committed to the earl of Marr, by a warrant, his son prince Henry Frederick, to his government and tuition; and with him that amiable and promising prince remained at Stirling or Alloway, during his nonage, where there are many reliques of that martial young prince's youthful amusements, and, among others, the clubs with which he played at the Scotch cricket, or game of the golf †.

In this charge of the heir of the British kingdoms, Lord Marr was assisted by his mother Anabella, countess dowager of Marr, who was afterwards much honoured and revered by the prince; she having been nurse to his father, and probably saved him from the fangs of Bothwell. For the earl of Marr he had the most heart-felt affection and esteem; and when he parted from Marr, when prince of Wales, on his going to London, he burst into tears.

King James, who was troubled by a shrew of a wife, as have been many other kings and honest men, found her adverse to Marr, in the tuition of his son, and engaged with chancellor Thirlestone, and other nobles of her party, in attempting, by means of the council of state, to supersede him in this important charge; but the king with a fortitude above his general character, came suddenly from *his huntings* at Falkland, and

to suffer from the fear of disappointment. The king visited Marr, and said to Marr, "by G—d ye shanne die Jock for ony lafs in a the land".

† Prince Henry was born on the 19th of February 1594, and christened on the 1st of September, being presented in the chappel first by the countess of Marr to the English ambassador, by him to Lodowick duke of Lennox, lady Marr's brother, and by him again to the countess of Marr, who held his royal highness till the time of baptism.

taught the queen to apply more to her needle work and *less to state affairs*, writing on that occasion, the warrant to Marr, not to deliver the prince up, either to the queen, or to the estates of parliament, until he should attain the full years of majority at eighteen. Mr Adam Newton, a native of Scotland, afterwards dean of Durham †, was the prince's tutor §.

On the accession of James to the throne of England, and before he set out for England, on the 4th of April 1603, he gave orders for prince Henry's remaining at Stirling with the earl of Marr; but the queen, impatient to have the prince in her own power, went to Stirling in order to bring him away from thence, and carry him with her to England; but the trustees appointed by Mar, who was himself gone to London with the king, refused, without the royal warrant, to deliver him into her majesty's hands, which threw her into such an agony of grief, or rather of indignation, that she miscarried of the child with which she was preg-

† Anno 1606, which he resigned 1620, and was created a baronet. Newton was a good man, and an excellent scholar.

§ In the year 1699, king James presented to his friend the earl of Marr, for the future use of his pupil, the *BASILICON DORON*, which contains many excellent advices to a prentice king of Britain, and among others one, that if it had been remembered, would have saved the royal family from exile and destruction. "I would have you rather marry one that were *fully* of your own religion, her rank and other qualities being agreeable to your estate. For though, to my great regret, the number of princes of any power or account professing our religion be but very small, and that therefore this advice seems to be the more strait and difficile; yet ye have deeply to weigh and consider upon those doubts, how you, and your wife can be of one flesh, and keep unitie betwixt you being members of two opposite churches. Remember what deceived Solomon, the wisest king that ever was, and that the *tree of perseverance is not a flower that groweth in our garden*".

rant*. The king being informed of this accident, ordered Marr to return to Scotland, sending after him, the duke of Lenox, with a warrant to receive the prince, and deliver him to the queen, which was done in the end of May.

The queen, however, not satisfied with this concession complained, in strong terms, of Marr, and wrote a letter to the king, full of passion, which she delivered to her almoner Mr John Spottiswood, soon after made archbishop of Glasgow; but the king knowing the innocence, and fidelity of Marr, refused to be troubled with her complaints, saying, that she ought to forget her resentment when she considered, that under God, his peaceable accession to the throne of England was due to the temper and address of Erskine. But when the queen received this message, she said, in the true spirit of an angry woman, that she should rather have wished never to see England, than to be under obligations to Marr †.

On the 24th of June, this year, the king gave Marr, as has been mentioned, his discharge for the government of the prince, full of honourable expressions respecting his fidelity and conduct in his education; and having already given him the garter, he gave him

* Birch's Life of Prince Henry.

† It has been an uniform tradition, that the foundation of Anne's dislike to Marr was a unny piece of imprudence of the king's, who should have told Marr, the morning after his marriage, that he was much surprised at the queen's manner of receiving him, and that he imagined the joys of matrimony were no novelty to her most sacred majesty! This fancy of the king's, cost afterwards the life of the bonny earl of Moray.

" O the bonny earl of Moray, he played at the glove,
And the bonny earl of Moray he was the queen's love."

a gold key, and next year a grant of the abbeys and church-lands of Cambuskenneth, Dryburgh, and Inchmahome, dated the 27th of March 1604. "For the good, true, and faithful-services, and acceptable pains, and care taken by his ancestors, in the education of his majesty, and his progenitors, and particularly of his own by the regent, as of his son by Marr, and for his speedy and dutiful discharge of his errand in the several embassys wherein he had been employed by his majesty, disannexing these church-lands from the crown, and erecting them into a temporal lordship, with suffrage in parliament, to be called, in all times coming, the lordship of Cardross, to him, and heirs, and successors that should happen to be provided by him to the said lordship; and in consequence of this grant, lord Marr conveyed this estate and honour to Henry the godson of the prince of Wales, his second son, by his second marriage, whose descendants sat in the parliaments of Scotland, as lord Cardross of Dryburgh, &c. until the death of William earl of Buchan in 1693, when it was merged in a superior title.

In the year 1606, his eldest son, by the lady Mary Stuart, was married to Mary Douglafs countess of Buchan. The heirefs of that honour from James Stuart of Lorne, uterine brother of James the second of Scotland by Jane Plantagenet, daughter of the earl of Somerset, and grand-daughter of king Edward the III. widow of James the I.

This marriage was obtained by the king's patronage, and Buchan went, by the king's appointment, with the Baby Charles to Spain.

(To be concluded in our next.)

For the Editor of the Bee.

I send you the particulars of an ancient feast. F. J.

The goodly provision made for the feast at the inthronization of the Rev. Father in God George Nevall archbishop of York and chancellor of England, in the 6th year of the reign of king Edward IV.

300 quarters of wheat	1500 hot pasties of venison
300 ton of ale	nison
100 ton of wine	608 pikes and breans
1 pipe ipocrase	4000 conies
104 oxen	204 bitterns
6 wild bulls	400 heron shaws
1000 muttoms	200 pheasants
304 veales	500 partridges
304 porks	400 woodcocks
400 swans	100 curliews
2000 geese	1000 egretts
1000 capers	500 and more stags, bucks and does
2000 pigs	and does
400 plovers	4000 cold vennison pasties
100 dozen quails	ties
200 dozen reeves	1000 parted dishes of jelly
104 peacocks	3000 plain dishes of jelly
4000 mallards and teals	4000 cold baked tarts
204 cranes	3000 cold custards baked
204 kids	ed
2000 chickens	2000 hot custards
4000 pigeons	12 porpoises and seals

Spices, sugared delicates, and wafers plenty.

Q. How many guests?

Can any of our readers furnish the particulars of any feast before the conquest?

Edit.

POETRY.

WINTER, AN ODE.

To the Editor of the Bee.

FLORID is the chearful verdant spring,
And all the sweets of summer's dawn;
No roore we hear the sky-larks sing,
Or reaper whistling o'er the lawn.

Th' enliv'ning sun withdraws his beams,
And sable clouds his face o'er shade;
Faint are his few meridian gleams,
Which o'er the gelid waste are spread.

Now Flora's children drop asleep,
Or sink beneath the stormy blast;
Dejected nature seems to weep,
And mourn the year's best beauties past.

Where late within the mazy grove,
I ponder'd o'er the lyric page;
Or to sweet Cælia sigh'd my love,
Bleak winter storms with wasteful rage.

The northern light, with sheeted glare,
Displays a melancholy scene;
The frozen waste, the woodland bare,
The meadow brown, which erst was green.

Chill Boreas foaming from the north,
His frosty breath begins to blow;
Then fly his fleecy legions forth,
And robe our fields in virgin snow.

The furious tempest louder wakes,
Thick drives the snow like mountains high;
Beneath its force, the cottage shakes,
And devastation meets the eye.

Since gloomy nature seems to frown,
And will no smiling aspect wear,
Let love our gen'rous wishes crown,
And friendship warm the circling year.

Why should we with the winter mourn,
Or vainly pine at future woe?
Haste! heap the fire, and make it burn,
Here dwells no frost or drifted snow.

Although the plummy choir are fled,
Strike up a catch and sound it high;
No zephyrs fan the frosty glade;
Then in their place the bottle ply.

Soon comes the furrow'd brow of age,
And winter soon on man shall seize,
When nought upon this earthly stage,
Nor love, nor friendship him can please.

Then let's remember chearful May!
Nor vainly waste the pausing hour;
Man is the pageant of a day;
A fleeting shade! a fading flow'r!

THE NORLAND SHEPHERD.

VERSES IN THE VULGAR SCOTTISH DIALECT.

Occasioned by seeing two men sawing timber in the open fields in defiance of a furious storm.

My frien's for gude'sake quat your wark!
Nor think to stan' a wind sae stark.
Your sawpit-stoops like wauns are shakin';
The vera planks and dales are quakin';
Ye're tempin' providence, I swear,
To raise your graith sae madly here.
Now! now ye're gone!---Anither blast
Like that, and a' your sawing's past.
Come down ye sinners! grip the saw
Like death, or trowth ye'll be awa'.
N., na, ye'll saw, tho' hail and sleet
Wreathe o'er your breast, and freeze your feet.
Hear how it roars! and rings the bells;
The carts are tum'lin' roan' themselves,
The tyle, and thack, and tuff up whirles;
See yon brick lum! down, down it hurles!
But wha's yon staggerin' o'er the brae,
Beneath a lade o' bottl't strae?
Ec wha he will, poor lucklefs b----h!
His strae and him's baith in the ditch!
The slates are hurlin' down in hun'ers,
The daudin' door and winnock thun'ers,
But ho! my hat! my hat's awa!
L---d help's! the sawpit's down an' a'!
Rax me your haun'---Hech, how he grants!
I fear your legs are broken b. nes;
I tell't you this; but deil-mak-matter,
Ye thought it a' but idle clatter;

Now see, ye misbelievin' sinners,
Your bloody shins, your saw on flinn'ers,
And coun' about your lugs, the ruin,
That your demerit fully drew on.

MORAL.

Experience ne'er see's e'er tells us,
As when she lifts her rung, and fills us *.

A WILSON.

SONNET DE DON PEDRO CALDERON.

Ves esta rosa, que tan bella, y pura
amaneciò a ser Reyna de las flores?
pues aunque armò de espinas sus colores,
defendida vivio, mas no segura.

A tu Deidad enigma sea non obscura,
dexandose vencer, porque no ignores,
que aunque armes tu hermosura de rigores
no armaras de imposibilidades tu hermosura.

Si esta rosa gosarse no dexara,
en el boton donde nasciò muriera,
y en el pompa, y fragancia malogràra.

Rende pues, tu hermosura, y considera
quanto fuera rigor, que se ignoràra
la edad de tu florida Primavera.

A translation is requested.

A SONNET BY DRUMMOND OF HATHORNDEN, anno 1616.

I know that all beneath the moone decays,
And what by mortalles in this world is brought,
In time's great periods shall returne to nought,
That fairest states have fatall nights and dayes;
I know how all the muses heavenly layes;
With toyle of spright which are so dearly bought,
As idle sounds, of few or none are sought,
And that nought lighter is than aine praise.
I know frail beautie, like the purple flowre,
To which one morne of birth and death affords,
That love a jarring is of mindes accords,
Where sense and will invaisall reason's power.
Know what I list, this all cannot mee move,
But that, oh mee! I both must write and love.

* Our readers, in general, we hope will pardon us for indulging a young writer for once, in his attempt to display his talents in this antiquated, affected language.

NINA, A STORY.

[Continued from p. 30.]

As soon as he entered the room, Nina threw her arms round his neck, and clasped him for a considerable time, without uttering one word; when she thought her joy satiated, her next care was to reach him an easy chair; to take out of a clothespress, a lighter habit than that which he wore, and which the excessive summer's heat must have rendered insupportable to him. And, while she cooled him with a fan, which in that country is used by both sexes, and which she had snatched from the hands of a servant, desirous of saving her that trouble, she said, in a passionate voice, "how I hate this senatorial office; which, at the same time it presents to me a man of high rank and accomplishments, subjects you to cares, which, by depriving me of your presence, takes from me the dearest thing I have in the world, and on which alone, my life, my pleasure, my happiness depend! Must it then be determined, that general is to be preferred to private good?"

"How tender and delicate you are, my dear Nina!" replied the senator; "I should not be ambitious of this high condition of life, but in hopes of appearing more worthy of your love; and I can only complain, because it does not furnish me, as much as I could wish, with the means of shewing how dear you are to me."

The wife of the senator remained concealed in the closet, the door of which was a little ajar, and did not lose a single glance or expression of the lovers; she had the mortification to see their caresses—their happiness. What did she not undergo? She was often tempted to quit her retreat—to interrupt them—to go and throw herself at the

fect of the senator, and there claim the restitution of her rights. However, she thought it best to let him alone for the present, lest the presence of her rival should be too great an obstacle to the success of her design.

The senator, being expected that day to dinner with one of his brethren, made his visit shorter than usual. He took leave of his mistress with the most tender expressions, such as are made use of by lovers who are forced to part for whole years. Nina employed every means she could invent, to prolong the pleasure of seeing him; at length they parted to their mutual regret.

The wife of the senator no sooner saw her husband gone, than she quitted her retreat, and ran to embrace Nina, thanking her in the most passionate terms, for the service she had done her; and remembering her promise of recompense, she presented her with a gold bracelet to wear, according to the custom of the Venetian ladies. It was one of the most costly that could be bought, and was worth near six thousand crowns, on account of its beauty, and the great number of jewels with which it was enriched. There needed not many words to persuade the courtesan to accept this precious gift; besides her natural avidity, the affluent circumstances the giver appeared in, notwithstanding the ill return her love had met with, did not allow her to make the slightest refusal. They quitted each other, and the lady went to the house of one of her friends, whom she acquainted with her griefs, and her whole story, and begged her to invite herself to dinner with her husband the next day, well assured that he would not seek any excuse, or fail to receive her himself at his house. Her friend promised to comply with her desire, and went in the afternoon, as by accident, to the place where she knew the senator had dined, and drawing him a moment aside, acquainted him with the plan privately agreed on between her and his wife.

Her discourse introduced a conversation on his spouse's humour; he said he feared to expose himself to it; that for almost three years, he had seen her but seldom, and that this retreat had procured him an uninterrupted tranquillity. "You cannot with any colour of reason decline granting me the favour I ask," answered the lady; "how do you know but my presence may shelter you from her ill temper? consider that it is rather to please me, than to gratify her, you take this step; is it so difficult a thing to sacrifice to your wife an hour or two of your time, once in three years, you who daily pass many with persons who are insupportable to you?"

The senator, overcome by her intreaties, consented, and caused his wife to be told, that her friend would dine with her the next day. The excessive joy of the lady cannot be conceived. She took care to provide an entertainment, with which her two guests could not but be satisfied; how impatient she was till they came!—she at last saw them enter the house.

The senator, desirous of avoiding being one moment alone with his wife, had thought proper to go himself for the lady, and not to return without her. His wife, as soon as she saw him, began to act the same part she had seen so well performed by Nina, the preceding day; and she soon perceived that her behaviour was highly agreeable to her husband. Dinner-time being come, they sat down to table.

The senator remarked, with apparent satisfaction, a gaiety hitherto unknown to him, in the heart of his wife; he saw in her eyes, with some emotion, that love which had distinguished the first three years of his marriage. Her constant assiduity to please him, during the repast, at once astonished and delighted him; he often said to himself, "How great has been my mistake? Can I deny that I pos-

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Nina, a story.

III

sees the handsomest woman in Venice? Has she not beauty, wit, vivacity,—in a word, all the accomplishments which please me in Nina?" The passionate, delicate lover, the honest man, and the christian, were all roused in him.

When the lady who had been invited, complimented her friend on the entertainment, which was very elegant, the senator, with the greatest satisfaction, heard his wife reply "that whatever pleasure she found in receiving her as she merited, she could not but own, her husband had the greatest share in her endeavours to make it agreeable, hoping at the same time, both were satisfied." She besought her to pardon this avowal, which was rendered excusable by so long an absence as the senator had made her endure, and the sentiments she now entertained. She saw her husband's happy situation; she had too much interest in the discovery, to let it escape her.

She seized this opportunity to present his children to him, whose education had been committed to the care of an accomplished governess, and who had dined in a separate apartment. Their natural tenderness, and the instructions they had received, previous to this interview, made them run into the arms of their father, who gave them an equally cordial reception. His wife, who did not omit one assiduity or politeness, as if she had feared lest their fondness should be troublesome to her husband, ordered them to retire. The senator, who penetrated into the motive of her giving that order, said, in a tender tone of voice, "why do you force them to leave me thus? You cannot surely suppose I have any repugnance at seeing them." This answer, which inspired the two ladies who were present at this moving scene, with hopes that the love of his children would arouse in him that which he had formerly had for his wife, forced them to let fall some tears which they could not restrain.

The senator was obliged to bear them company. As soon as they arose from table, a conversation, which lasted above an hour, ensued. The husband appeared extremely well satisfied and tranquil: He gave answers to every one of his wife's questions, without any apparent irksomeness. His business requiring him to go out soon, he took his leave of the two ladies, and having embraced his wife's friend, he, with the like complaisance, kissed his spouse, to the astonishment of both. This prompted her to ask him when he would return. After having mused some time, he said, in the evening. The joy this answer gave his wife was so great, that she fell into the arms of her friend in a swoon. The two witnesses of this affecting scene now wept afresh, and the senator, as soon as his wife was recovered, took his leave a second time, giving her a tender squeeze by the hand. He kept his word, and returned home early. His wife now, not satisfied with imitating the courtesan, endeavoured to the utmost of her power to out-do her, and her husband gave her the same tokens of affection as he had the day before given to Nina; in short, he who but a few hours before, would have yielded his whole life an entire sacrifice to his mistress, now thought of nothing but the fond caresses of an assiduous wife.

Nina, surprised that a day had elapsed without seeing him, was so uneasy, that she sent to him early the next morning, to desire his company as soon as possible. The pleasure he received from the reconciliation with his wife, was so great, that this message was absolutely necessary to remind him that such a woman as Nina existed. Being however, firmly determined to put a final period to this commerce, he ordered the emissary of the courtesan to tell her mistress, that he would go to her immediately. As soon as he was dressed, he repaired to her house.

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When the usual caresses were over, he perceived she wore the bracelet which had for a long time adorned his wife's arm;—surprised at seeing it in the possession of another, he asked who had made her that present? “A female magician,” replied she, “who with all her cunning, has not found out the way of making herself beloved. I have the greatest reason to think that this ornament entails misfortune on all its wearers; I begin to feel it; I did not see you all day yesterday, and you receive to-day the marks of my love with an unwonted coldness.” The senator prayed her to be serious, and to own by what means she came by that bracelet. She contented herself with saying, that she received it from an unknown lady, as a recompence for some advice she gave her, not thinking proper to tell him how she had acquired it, fearing lest he should take umbrage at her complaisance to an incognita, in making her a witness of his behaviour while he was at her house. “Nothing,” said she, “shall ever make me reject the idea I have conceived of the fatal power I attribute to it; I am even ready to part with it.”

The senator, pretending to believe these were her real sentiments, pressed her to give him the preference over all those to whom she would chuse to give it. “From this moment it is yours,” said she, presenting it to him. He accepted it, and having but a small sum of money about him, he gave her his note for its value, thinking to trace the bottom of this adventure, by his wife's sincerity. A pretended indisposition served him as an excuse for retiring. He staid only an hour with Nina, and during his visit he did all he could to hinder her from being certain of her approaching misfortune. He at length quitted her, resolving to see her as seldom as possible.

He returned home immediately, and found all the charms of Nina, in his wife, who confessed to him by what ac-
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cident the bracelet, which he had brought back, had belonged to the courtesan. He was well pleased with the step she had taken, which was a striking proof of her love, and the great regret the loss of him had given her. He sent the money that night, for which he had given his note to Nina in the morning; and from that time, he desisted from his visits. When he saw her by accident, her downcast look and apparent grief only reminded him of the sorrows his wife had experienced before he was reclaimed.

Our happy pair continued to live in love and harmony to the end of their days, and heaven crowned their union with five more children, who, like the former, promised fair to inherit their parent's virtue.

INTELLIGENCE RESPECTING ARTS.

Naval affairs.

ACCIDENT frequently gives birth to discoveries of the highest importance; and it often happens that men, in very obscure situations in life, are possessed of some useful branches of knowledge, which the keenest researches of philosophy have not been able to discover. An instance of this kind occurred some time ago, that ought to be universally known among all the people of a small nation surrounded and intersected by seas, as ours is.

A vessel having sprung a leak in the Atlantic ocean, which admitted more water than could be voided by the pumps, the master and men, to the number of were obliged to betake themselves in haste to their boat, a small Norway skiff, and abandon themselves to the mercy of the waves in that hazardous vehicle. They were tossed about for some time, in the most imminent danger, every wave seeming to threaten their utter destruction,—but were providentially preserved. They all watched toge-

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ther for many hours; but at length it was necessary to take some repose. For this purpose the boat's company was divided into two parties; the master at the head of the one, and the mate at that of the other; which were to keep watch by turns. During the time the mate was asleep, the master observed a line, or small rope, hanging over the stern of the boat. Thinking this had fallen over by accident, and that it would retard the motion of the boat, he pulled it in. At this time the sea was still much agitated; but the boat went through the water with tolerable ease, and seeming safety. Eye and bye, however, the storm appeared to increase, the sea became more boisterous, the waves broke upon the little skiff, and they were every moment in danger of being swallowed up. In the agitation and bustle which this occasioned, the mate was awakened; and seeing the rope away from the stern, he flew into a violent passion, thinking it had been, by the carelessness of some person, allowed to slip overboard entirely. Being informed of the truth, and seeing the line, he instantly seized it, and threw it out behind the vessel, taking care to fix one end of it very securely to the boat. The other men could not comprehend the meaning of all this; but, to their agreeable surprise, they found, that in a few minutes, the sea ran more smooth than before, and the little skiff bounded over its surface in a much more easy manner than they had just experienced.

The mate then told them, that he himself being a Norwegian, had been bred up as a fisherman on the coast of Norway, and had often experienced the salutary effects of this contrivance. Every person on that coast, he said, knew its effects perfectly, so that no boat ever goes to sea there, without a piece of spare line for that purpose, as it has been found, by many trials, that in case of a

storm arising, a boat could *live* in a rough sea, with much greater safety, with such a line dragging after it, than without it. The boat's company, without being able to assign any reason for this phenomenon, were well convinced of its efficacy on the present occasion, and took care to avail themselves of it until they were providentially taken up at sea, after having suffered great hardships from hunger and thirst.

Captain Kennedy, after he was on shore, took care to communicate an account of this discovery; but how it has happened to be so little adverted to, I cannot tell. He afterwards drew up a narrative in writing, which now lies before me, in which he states another fact that strongly confirms the great utility of this very simple contrivance.

"On our passage to London, on board a large ship deeply loaded, the sea ran high for several days; and, scudding, it was thought absolutely necessary to put in the dead lights. The weather being cold, and not having a fire place in the cabin, caused us to constitute in its place, a large tub filled with wood, in which we made a fire, and not only dressed victuals for the cabin, but also for the ship's crew; as there was no possibility of making fire on the deck. In this situation my mate applied to the master of the vessel for leave to put out a tow-line, which he scornfully refused; however, next morning, when the master of the vessel was asleep, we put out the tow-line, a coil of lincard of sixty fathoms, with a piece of wood at the end of the line. To the great astonishment of the mate and crew then on deck, the sea abated, and did not range or come near the ship's stern, as it had done before the line was made use of. Next morning, two of the middle dead lights were taken down, and the ship's crew were able to make a fire on the deck, though the sea

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ran as high as before the line was made use of. The line was kept out the remainder of the voyage, when scudding. I have had frequent trials of the line in passages from Jamaica, in the depth of winter, without ever making use of dead lights, unless sometimes in the quarter windows, and in a small vessel, and cold weather, while scudding." (Signed) JOHN KENNEDY.

REVIEW.

Sir John Sinclair's statistical account of Scotland.

It is with pleasure we announce the publication of the second volume of Sir John Sinclair's statistical account of Scotland, and that we have it in our power to add, that it seems to improve as it advances, and that the clergy discover a laudable alacrity, in furnishing each his quota of useful information. There can now no longer remain a doubt that the whole will be completed before it can be got printed off; and that it will then afford a much more authentic and satisfactory account of the present state of Scotland, than ever before was given of any other country on the globe. What would we now give for a similar account of the ancient state of the kingdoms of Solomon or Cyrus,—of Egypt under the Ptolomies,—of Greece under Pericles,—of Rome, at the commencement, and at the end of the commonwealth,—of Carthage, Syracuse, and the dominions of the Caliphs, at the most interesting periods of their respective histories! From such sources of information we are now for ever excluded; and our posterity will have an advantage in this respect above us, which we can only regret but never attain.

Among the variety of important facts which here present themselves, almost in every page, that will furnish matter for interesting reflections to the attentive reader,

one of those which ought most forcibly to strike our brethren beyond the Tweed, is the state of the poor, and the poor's funds in Scotland. While England is groaning under the influence of a system of laws, that are oppressive to her manufactures, subversive of industry, and inimical to the morals of her people;—while, by their extension, she sees the industrious part of the community loaded with a burden that is already oppressive, and every day increasing with a rapidity that gives room to the most serious alarms, she will here see, that the poor of Scotland are in general abundantly supplied with all that their wants require, by means of a small pittance of alms, voluntarily given by the lower classes of the community only; and that scarcely any complaints are made of the insufficiency of the funds, except in such parishes where the inhabitants have, *unadvisedly*, had recourse to an assessment of themselves in a poor's rate, somewhat similar to that in England. In all these cases we find strong complaints of the insufficiency of the funds; though it appears by the statements, that in these parishes, the amount of the poor's funds, in proportion to the number of the people, is much greater than in the parishes where voluntary alms only are applied to that use.

These facts are strong and unequivocal proofs of the pernicious tendency of the whole system of poor laws, that, from mistaken principles of humanity, have been gradually adopted in England, and there cherished, till the very abuses they produce, have created such a powerful body of men, who devote their most strenuous efforts to support them, as defies a possibility of reform, without a convulsive struggle, that must long deter sober men from engaging in it. What a lesson is this for Scotland! and how cautious ought those, who have her interest at heart, be to guard against the introduction of this most serious evil with which she ever can be threatened! This

is at present an easy matter; for although there be laws apparently in force in Scotland, authorising the assessment of involuntary poor's rates, in certain circumstances; and although those who favour this system of poor laws, have hitherto been able to persuade many well meaning persons, that such laws are indeed obligatory on the people, and have, by that means, induced some to submit to this burden; yet the writer of this article has good authority for saying, that there is not, at present in force, any law in Scotland for authorising an involuntary poor's rate, unless where the people, have so long acquiesced in that mode of assessment as to establish it by proscription: So that in all other cases, the authority of a new act of parliament is required, before any poor's rate can possibly be enforced. This matter shall be more fully explained when a convenient opportunity shall offer; in the mean while he thinks it his duty to state this important fact, for the information of those whom it may concern.

The following extract will show what is the state of the poor and the poor's funds; it is considerably above a fair average of the rates and state of those parishes where compulsory alms have never been required. It respects the parish of New Abbey, in the stewartry of Kirkcudbright, whose population is 649, and rents at present L. 2100 per annum.

Extract.

"*Poor.*—From the session records it appears, that the poor were much more numerous forty years ago, than they are at present, and that their numbers have been gradually decreasing. The number of poor now on the roll, does not exceed ten or twelve; for whose relief the weekly collections, amounting to L. 9, the rent of a small farm purchased with a mortification, L. 12, and the interest of some late mortifications, (L. 150, at four per cent.) L. 6; total L. 27, a-year, are quite sufficient. Not a single

pauper, in this parish, has left his house to beg, these thirty years; but vagrants and beggars from other parishes are often met with."

N. B. On the south west coast of Scotland, complaints of extra-parochial vagrants and beggars are very general, owing to the great influx of Irish by Port Patrick.

To be continued.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE following valuable communications, transmitted by a respectable correspondent, are received, and shall be inserted with all convenient speed.

A proposal for curing provisions, and victualling ships for long voyages, by captain Forrest of the royal navy. A receipt for dying buff colour. An account of the mode of cultivating flax in Ireland. An essay on a stamp office in Scotland, and several others.

The Editor gratefully acknowledges the receipt of *Liber's* favour on banking.

And the account of a voyage to the Hebrides by *Piscator*, which will furnish some interesting papers for the Bee. The public spirited writer will accept the Editor's best thanks.

The essay and translation from Lucretius, by *Philaltes*, is thankfully received.

As also the translation of *Ovid's* epistle to his wife, by *Philotesis*.

The query by *T. C.* shall have a place the first convenient opportunity. The second communication of *J. T. obscurus*, on education, is come safe to hand, and shall be duly attended to.

The *Norland Shepherd* will see by this number that his packet has been received.

The translation of the French verses by *A. B.* is received; but it is not so happy as could be wished.

The verses by *A. L.* and *G. S.* are come to hand. We are sorry to be obliged so often to remind our poetical correspondents, of the great detriment their works sustain from *carelessness*. They should try to distinguish between *carelessness* and *ease*. This would save themselves from disappointment, and would give the Editor much pleasure.

The anonymous translation from *Anacreon*, is destitute of the elegance and ease, which constitutes the chief charm of the original.

The subject *Anacreon* has chosen, has been so often handled, that unless something *very uncommon* in the execution should recommend it, men of reading will turn from it with dissatisfaction; on a less hackneyed verses might have rested.

It is a pity *N. S.* has not chosen more interesting subjects for his muse. His poetry will be improved by avoiding general description, and singling out only a few interesting objects. If these are distinctly observed and touched with truth and delicacy; and if he has time to make them short enough, his correspondence will then be very acceptable. Those he sent shall be disposed of as he desires.

THE BEE,
OR
LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 25. 1792.

COMPARATIVE VIEW
OF THE MODE OF WRITING HISTORY,
In ancient and modern times.

For the Bee.

It has been commonly observed, that in the infancy of human reason, its chief gratifications are among those objects which create wonder and delight; that mankind in their first mental efforts generally prefer what will fill and expand the imagination, than what will satisfy the judgement. Tired with a general view of the wonders of nature, and dazzled with their profusion, they are, for ages, unwilling to bid adieu to these pleasing scenes of enchantment, in order to turn their attention to a sober and minute inquiry after truth. It is not till imagination has first taken its boundless range through nature, and collected the subjects of human knowledge, that philosophy succeeds, and, viewing the splendid confusion of things, begins its arduous and laborious task, arranges them into their proper genera and species,

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marks their qualities and relations, assigns to each its proper station in the different departments of science, and points out its dignity in the scale of intellectual researches. The phantoms of imagination now begin to disappear, and men recognize the wisdom, as well as the magnificence of nature: Instead of that unbridled fire, which would indiscriminately paint every object with colours peculiar to itself, a more sober, as well as a nobler view of creation presents itself to the mind. The plans of providence gradually open, the field of science widens on every hand, and as well as the poet, we behold the philosopher and historian.

It is partly on these principles that we are to account for the intermixture of poetical fable which is to be found in all the early histories of human actions. But we have viewed the subject only on one side, for it is not altogether to the immaturity of reason, on the part of the historian, that we are to ascribe his marvellous, and wild narration. The subjects of history were really themselves of this kind. The first transactions of men were bold and extravagant; their ambition was more to astonish their fellow creatures, by the greatness of their designs, and the difficulties they could overcome, than by any rational and extensive plan of public utility; they did not deliberate about political consequence, or personal safety; but, infatuated with the love of unsubstantial glory, or furious with blind revenge, they immediately rushed headlong into action; their schemes were the consequence of reasonings that were simple, but open and bold, and they executed them with all that personal

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address, and romantic fervour of imagination, which
we always meet with in the first efforts of men. In
this state of society, though an historian existed,
possessed with all the abilities of a Tacitus, or a
Hume, it would be unreasonable to expect that his
page would be adorned with the plans of wisdom, or
the sober colouring of nature and truth; it would be
absurd to suppose that he would search into the hu-
man mind, for powers that were not yet developed,
or account for actions, from motives that were not yet
known. Nay, though he were possessed, if it were
possible, of all the knowledge and philosophy of these
celebrated historians, he must first divest himself of
his acquisitions, before he can, with the warmth of
nature, relate the simple story. But this is almost
impossible; it is painful to stifle the illuminations
of learning, and it is difficult for human nature to
forego the pride of superior knowledge. Accord-
ingly we have sometimes seen modern historians,
reviewing the artless transactions of a rude age, ha-
ving their minds filled with the profound policy of
European states, and all the refinements of accumu-
lated reflection; and the simplicity of nature has been
disguised, and disfigured, with the theories of poli-
tical intrigues, and complicated deliberations.

*As learned commentators view
In Homer what he never knew.*

But there is no circumstance which has tended more
to detain those clouds of ignorance, which continue
so long to obscure the human mind, as the supersti-
tious fondness which every age has shewn for the
affairs of former times. The early historian, as

well as the poet, has ever shewn a prejudice in favour of remote antiquity. The actions and characters which are removed to a distant period, are rendered venerable by the obscurity of tradition, and are indebted, for their lustre, more to the darkness which surrounds them, than to their own intrinsic value. When a character is placed at a great distance, its faults and failings, and even all the ordinary and common circumstances of humanity, are entirely unnoticed; the imagination loves to dwell upon what has rendered it illustrious; and by perpetual admiration of it, its dimensions are enlarged, and its colours heightened beyond the standard of nature. Every thing indeed concurs to dazzle with false and illusory splendour; the more the object is magnified, our pleasure is proportionably increased; we are ever willing to allow a superior reputation to those who are no more conscious of it, and the painful animosity of envy and rivalry extend not to the dead.

The progress of society may also be compared to the different stages of human life; in the ardour of youth, pleasure is sought after without any regard to profit or advantage; but in the thoughtful sobriety of manhood, we take a more cool and comprehensive view of our own nature, and the nature of the things around us,—our pleasures do not consist any longer of the present moment: Plans of general and extensive utility are formed,—we begin to think seriously of our situation among mankind, and avail ourselves of their errors or good conduct in regulating our own. So it is in the first stages of society; the fire of the human mind begins to burn more

clearly, and the dazzling matters of antiquity are gradually stript of their fairy forms; the incidents and characters which are subjected to their own inspection, are found to be more consonant to that sense of truth which is implanted in every breast; and they begin to be viewed as the safest criterion of the human powers, and the most suitable examples of human imitation.

None of the ancient historians have attained to that comprehensive, and accurate knowledge of the extent of nature's operations, and all the possibilities of things to which the moderns have arrived: The incredible deeds of ancient heroes, and the wild tales of Grecian mythology, seem still to be believed by the most enlightened of them: Their object was chiefly to propose a subject of entertainment, never professedly to philosophise. In displaying the characters and transactions of men, they are, for the most part, content with giving us in general the most striking and interesting features; their aim is more to fill and delight, than inform the mind. Facts are presented to us in their natural order, without nicely tracing their causes, or attending to their consequences. They loved rather to illustrate the valour and intrepidity of a hero, than develope his extensive views and latent motives. Possessing more genius in general than modern historians, they gave way to its natural impulse, and address'd the imagination more than the judgement. They conceived strongly, and painted boldly; but disdain'd the laborious task of minute inquiry and patient investigation. They carry us along in an agreeable current, where

every thing is great and beautiful ; but the modern historian gives us a truer, though less delightful picture of human affairs ; he can willingly lose sight of the generous and amiable hero, and all the brilliant scenes of the battle and the siege, and enter into the more dry, though more useful detail, of political oeconomy ; he rather wishes to exhibit political strength than external splendour ; the financier and politician are his heroes. He unfolds the secret wheels of government, the intrigues of courts, the artifices of treaties, and all those complications of interest, which arise from a rivalry, and a desire to supplant the neighbouring nations in commerce and manufactures. The views of the actors do not so much arise from their personal character, as the nature of the government under which they live, and the political theories which they embrace. But ancient history displays a quite different scene ; we there see human nature undisguised by theory, led by its simple biases, and guided by the natural genius of the hero. In the one a political code predominates and new moulds nature, in the other again, nature predominates, and in some measure forms the political code. To succeed in modern history, the most difficult, the modern historian must possess equally the light of genius and a greater variety of learning ; to a knowledge of human characters, he must superadd a knowledge of national characters ; he must sometimes abstract from a political, and sometimes from a natural character,—he must have the enthusiasm of nature, and the cool discernment of art. The ancient historian addressed himself chiefly to the man of genius

and taste; but the modern historian, also to the philosopher, and the statesman; the one gives us more pleasure and the other more instruction. In reading ancient history we travel through a country rich with all the elegant embellishments of nature, but modern history is a field, which, though less splendid in its prospects, and less luxuriant in its growth, is of more uniform and better cultivation, and encumbered with fewer weeds.

PHILO.

 THE NECESSITY OF ROGUERY EXEMPLIFIED.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

IN the present philosophical age, when one profound discovery succeeds another, and darkness, is as it were, converted into light; by which the old maxim, sanctimoniously revered in the cloudy age of our ancestors, is now discovered to be the effect of prejudice and error: The old adage, that "honesty is the best policy," is now become antiquated; and the present enlightened generation has discovered, *policy to be the best honesty*, and the best adapted to the age we live in. When we take a view of the world, as it now presents itself, and consider the different professions, and various pursuits of mankind; that their whole aim is to accumulate riches, then we shall be able to conceive the necessity of *roguery*. We shall soon perceive that *honesty* is too illiberal, too scanty, too confined a system, to comprehend all the grand transactions of the world.

Britain would never have taxed America beyond what she could bear, neither would America have thrown off her dependence on Britain, if both had been honest. If a nation was to be so foolishly honest, as to divest a prime minister of his sinecures, and secret-service money, what a strange revolution would it make at the fountain of affairs! no fortunes could be made; himself and family would suffer; and those *creatures* who depend on his love and favour, would be thrown on the world to beg and starve. If a physician was to be so honest, as to advise his patients to take air and exercise, in place of his prescriptions, he would soon find, to his great mortification, that he would be obliged to regale himself on a diet of the same. If *honesty* was to be universally adopted, the honourable profession of the law would be totally swallowed up: If mankind were to deal uprightly with each other, and *roguery* banished the world, it is plain the faculty must cease for ever, because we would have no farther use for them. Besides, the inferior branches, who depend on perquisites of office, would all be disbanded, without the benefit of a pension. The industrious farmer, who gains his bread by the sweat of his brow, dare not be so honest as appear at his landlord's table with a good coat and cravat, through fear of an addition to his rent; and if he was to be sincerely honest, his trade in cattle dealing would unavoidably perish. The merchants, in their several departments, must suffer from the same cause; smuggling could have no existence were *honesty* to be persevered in. From this view of the matter, it

appears, that one half of our present professions would be annihilated, and that of starving become a trade in their stead.

It is no wonder, then, to see the bulk of mankind practising *roguery*, under so many different forms, when we consider the long period in which *honesty* has been attempted with so little success, that we are made to believe, the world judges it repugnant to the nature of man to be strictly so: And that *honesty* and *poverty*, are now grown so nearly synonymous, that an honest man is almost ashamed of being rich. If a scheme of universal *roguery* was to be received, it would have the general tendency to bring all mankind nearly on a level; the present set of rogues would find it difficult to add any more to their finances, because they would have to deal with people like themselves. Besides, when one rogue outwitted another, no honest man could be said to have received an injury, where none but rogues were concerned; and those murmurs and complaints about perfidy and mistrust, would drop into oblivion, when every individual was pre-informed of his danger; and, as the minds of men, are, for the most part, turned towards this system already, the difficulty of completing it will be but trifling.

This scheme will probably be found fault with by a few antique gentlemen of the present century, who may shew some reluctance in parting with their old friend *honesty*; but they will observe the scheme regards only this world, and as they will, in all probability, be but short time in it, they need give themselves very little trouble as to this particular.—

I now find myself becoming insensibly prolix, but, let the excellence of my subject plead my excuse.

QUEECH.

ON SMOLLET'S NOVELS.

To the Editor of the Bee.

FOR the talent of drawing a natural and original character, Dr Smollet, of all English writers, approaches nearest to a resemblance of our inimitable Shakespeare. What can be more chaste, amusing, or interesting, than Random, Trunnion, Hatchway, Lismahago, Pallet, the pindarick physician, Tom Clarke, Farmer Prickle, Strap, Clinker, Pipes, the duke of Newcastle, and Timothy Crabtree? The last is indeed a close imitation of Sancho Pança, as Morgan is partly borrowed from one of Shakespeare's Welshmen; but still both are the imitations of a great master, not the tame copies of a common artist. Matthew Bramble is a most estimable portrait of a country gentleman; and admirably contrasted with his sister Tabby. This novel was written when its author was declining both in health and fortune; yet he displays all the spirit and vivacity of Roderick Random; and in some passages, such as that respecting the Smith's widow, is irresistibly pathetic. All which passes on board the Thunder, is a series of almost unexampled excellence. The night scene in bedlam, in Sir Launcelot Greaves, is drawn with uncommon force of judgement and of fancy. In the same publication, the ruin of captain Clewlin and his

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family, enforces, with astonishing eloquence, the mad-
ness and infamy of paternal tyranny, and the delici-
ous raptures of paternal tenderness. In the character
of honest Bowling, Smollet, if any where, excels him-
self: The captain's speech to his crew, when about
to engage a French man of war, is such a master-
piece, that, in reading it, we feel a sort of involuntary
impulse for a broadside. The phlegm of an old
lawyer is happily illustrated in the conduct of Ran-
dom's grandfather, and forms the most striking con-
trast imaginable to the ferocious benevolence of the
naval veteran. The disappointment of the maiden
aunts, on opening the old man's will, is infinitely na-
tural and amusing. The entertainment in the man-
ner of the ancients, affords a strange specimen of
the learning and abilities of its author. The oration
of Sir Launcelot to an election mob, is in the true
spirit of Cervantes. The knight elucidates, with
exquisite sense, humour, and propriety, the miserable
farce of representation in parliament; and the insol-
ence of a rabble, incapable and unworthy of a better
government, is in harmony with the conviction of
every reader. In this age, many gentlemen publish
volumes of criticism, and attempt to illustrate the
human mind upon metaphysical principles. In their
works, it is usual to cite passages from poets, and
other writers in the walk of invention; yet it is sin-
gular that they have seldom or never quoted Smollet,
whose talents reflect honour on his country, and who,
next to Buchanan, is by far the greatest literary ge-
nius of whom north Britain has to boast. The ad-
miration of the public bestows an ample atonement

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for the silence of our professed critics. His volumes
are in every hand, and his praises on every tongue.

BOMBARDINION.

Laurencekirk, January 2. 1792.

AN ACCOUNT OF ANTIQUITIES IN SCOTLAND*.

NOTHING seems to be so well calculated for throwing light on the origin of nations, as an attention to the radical construction of the language of the people, and to the nature of those monuments of remote antiquity that have escaped the ravages of time.

Much has been written about the origin of the Scottish nation. And although some attention has been paid to the nature of the language of the natives, the antiquities of the country have been, in a great measure, disregarded; though it should seem that the last would be of greater utility in this discussion, than the first of these particulars. For a language may have been spread through so many nations at a very remote period, and is subject to such perpetual variations, and it is so difficult to trace these variations before the discovery of letters, that there is no possibility of pointing out, by any unequivocal peculiarities of language, the particular nation from which any particular tribe may have descended. But the mechanic arts, discovered by any particular nation, especially before commerce was generally practised, were in a great measure confined to the original discoverers

* Some parts of the following description have been published, but a great part of the observations never before appeared in print. These are now given for the sake of connection.

themselves, or their immediate descendents; and therefore they serve more effectually to distinguish the countries which were occupied by particular tribes of people. It is with this view that I suggest the following remarks on some of the remains of antiquity that are still discoverable in Scotland.

All the antiquities that I have yet heard of in this country, may be referred to one or other of the following general classes, (not to mention Roman camps, or other works of a later date;) of each of which I shall speak a little, according to the order in which they occur.

I. Mounds of earth thrown up into a sort of hemispherical form, usually distinguished by the name of *mote* or *moat*.

II. Large heaps of stones piled upon one another, called *cairns*.

III. Large detached stones, fixed in the earth in an erect position.

IV. Large stones, fixed likewise in an erect position in a circular form.

V. Circular buildings erected of stone, without any cementing matter, usually distinguished by the adjunct epithet *dun*; and

VI. Walls, cemented by a vitrified matter, usually found on the top of high mountains.

I. The artificial mounds of earth, reducible to the first class, are sometimes found in the south of Scotland, and I suppose in England also. Perhaps they may be likewise found in the north of Scotland, although I have never heard of any of them there. From the name (*mote*) and other circumstances, it would seem

that these had been erected by our ancestors as theatres of justice; as all courts were held in the open air by the Saxons; and probably the same custom might prevail among other tribes of the same people. Such of these mounds as have been demolished, were found to consist entirely of earth, without having had any thing seemingly placed by design within them. There are usually some stones placed on end round the base of these artificial mounds.

II. The *cairns* are evidently sepulchral monuments. And as these could be reared in haste by a multitude of people, this artless method of perpetuating the memory of chiefs slain in battle, seems to have been universally adopted by all the different tribes of the uncivilized northern nations.

What induces me to believe that this practice has been confined to no particular nation, is, that these *cairns* are to be met with in every corner of the country, and, upon being opened, are found to contain chests or coffins of various construction. In most cases these coffins are of a size and shape fitted to contain the human body at full length. Sometimes they are formed of one stone, hollowed out for that purpose; although they are more usually composed of separate flat stones fitted to one another. In some of these *tumuli* there is found, in place of the coffin, a kind of square chest, formed likewise of flat stones, which seems to have contained only some particular parts of the human body; and in others, especially in the internal parts of the northern highlands, and western isles, there is found, within a

stone chest, an earthen vase, containing some ashes. From this, and other circumstances, there seems to be no reason to doubt, that the practice of burning the dead did once prevail among some of these northern nations. For it deserves to be particularly remarked, that few or none of these urns are found so far to the southward as the Grampian mountains, which was the boundary of the Roman conquests in Scotland.

There may be many other particulars, relating to the internal structure of these *cairns*, that have not come to our knowledge; the attending to which might afford matter for curious speculation to the antiquary. It deserves only to be farther remarked here, with regard to this species of antiquities, that as they seem to have been, for the most part, erected by the army, in honour of some chieftain slain in battle, upon the very spot on which he was killed; and as each nation would retain its own funeral ceremonies, even when in the heart of an enemy's country, it may naturally be expected, that one of these cairns, on being opened, may be extremely different, in its internal arrangement, from another in its neighbourhood, although alike in their external figure. One of them may contain the remains of a Norse, or a Danish hero, interred according to the rites of their respective countries, while another contains the remains of a British chief, buried after the manner practised in his own native district. By attending to these particulars, facts in history, that are now obscure, might, on some occasions, be ascertained with a greater degree of certainty.

In later times, atrocious murderers were usually covered with a heap of stones by the way-side, which were also called *cairns*. But these are so small, in comparison of the former, as never to be in danger of being confounded with them.

Ofsian frequently mentions the "four grey stones" as the mark of burial places in his time. It is somewhat surprizing that no travellers have remarked any monuments of this kind in the highlands at present. But the natives have little curiosity, and pass by things, that they have been accustomed to see from their infancy as matters of no moment. When I was in the highlands, some years ago, I saw something a little way from the road side that attracted my attention. On going up to it I found several graves, bounded each by four flat stones, set on edge like those described by Ofsian. Two long stones were placed on each side, about three feet distant from each other, the two at each end narrower, and distant from one another a little more than six feet. The whole was rude and inartificial. It was in the county of Caithness, where long flat stones are very common. I was, you may believe, extremely desirous of learning if there was any tradition in the country relating to this; but although it was within half a mile of a gentleman's house, and not above thirty yards from the highway, I found, upon enquiry, that the gentleman had never observed it himself, nor heard any thing about it till I told him of it.

III. The long stones set on end in the earth are, with still greater certainty, known to be monuments

erected to perpetuate the memory of some signal event in war. These are probably of later date than the cairns; for there is hardly one of them whose traditional history is not preserved by the country people in the neighbourhood: Nor is it difficult on many occasions to reconcile these traditional narratives with the records of history. On some of these stones is found a rude kind of sculpture; as on the long stone near Forreth, in the shire of Moray, and on those at Aberlemno in the shire of Angus; but in general the stones are entirely rude and unfashioned, just as they have been found in the earth.

It is probable that this kind of monument has been first introduced into Britain by the Danes; as almost all the traditional stories relate to some transaction with the Danes, or other memorable event since the period when that northern people infested this country; and I have never heard of any of them in the internal parts of the highlands, though they are numerous along the coasts every where. It is certain, however, that the Britons adopted this method of perpetuating the memory of remarkable events, as appears by Piercy's cross in Northumberland, which is a modern monument belonging to this class.

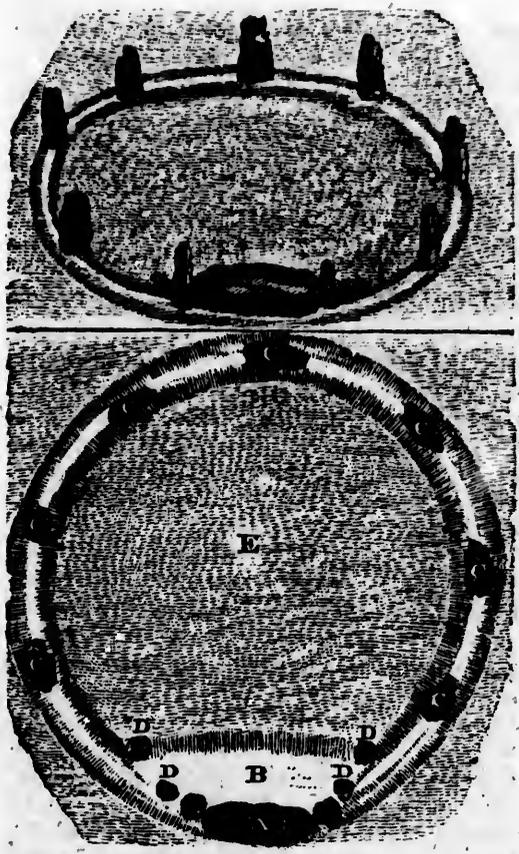
iv. The stones placed in a circular form, as being less known than the former, and confined to a narrower district, deserve to be more particularly described.

These, from their situation and form, have apparently been places destined for some particular kind of religious worship. They are for the most part pla-

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ced upon an eminence, usually on that side of it
which declines towards the south, and seem to have
been all formed after one plan, with little variation.
I have examined, perhaps, some hundreds of them, in
different places, and find, by restoring the parts that
have been demolished, they would all coincide very
exactly with the plan and elevation annexed to this,
which was drawn from one that was still very entire
in the year 1777, at a place called the *Hill of Fid-
dels*, in the parish of Foveran, Aberdeenshire.

This particular temple, 46 feet in diameter, con-
sisted of nine long stones, marked C in the plan, pla-
ced on end, in a circular form, at distances nearly
equal, though not exactly so. The area E, within
this circle, is smooth, and somewhat lower than the
ground around it. By this means, and by a small
bank carried quite round between the stones, which
is still a little higher than the ground about the
circular area has been very distinctly defined. Be-
tween the two stones that are nearest the meridian
line, on the south side of the area, is laid, on its side,
a long stone A, at each end of which are placed two
other stones, smaller than any of those that form the
outer circle. These are a little within the circle, and
at a somewhat greater distance from one another; and
still farther, within the circular line, are placed two
other stones. These four stones are marked D D D
D in the plan. Behind the large stone, the earth is
raised something more than a foot higher than the
rest of the circular area; the form of which is dis-
tinctly marked in the plan at B. It is probable that on

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PLAN AND ELEVATION

Of a Druidical temple on hill of Fiddes, Aberdeenshire, as it stood in the year 1777; but now (1792,) entirely demolished.

this stage the priest officiated at the religious ceremonies, the large stone supplying the place of an altar, or a rostrum.

There is not the smallest mark of a tool on any of these stones; but they are sometimes found of surprisingly large dimensions, the horizontal one on the south side especially, which seems to have been always chosen of the largest size that could be found. They are seldom less than six or eight feet in length, usually between ten and twelve; and I met with one that was near sixteen feet in length, and not less than eight feet in diameter in any of its dimensions. It appears to us amazing how, in these rude times, stones of such a size could have been moved at all; and yet they are so regularly placed, in the proper part of the circle, and so much detached from other stones as leaves not a possibility of doubting that they have been placed there by design.

It does not seem, however, that they have been confined to any particular size or shape of any of the stones in these structures, for they are quite irregular in these respects; only they seem always to have preferred the largest stones they could find, to such as were smaller. Neither does there seem to have been any particular number of stones preferred to any other; it seems to have been enough that the circle should be distinctly marked out. In the shire of Nairn, where flat thin stones much abound, I saw some structures of this kind where the stones almost touched one another all round. It appears also by the plan annexed, that exact regula-

rity in the distance between the different stones was not much regarded.

There are remains of temples of this kind in several parts of Scotland; though so many of them have been demolished in the cultivated parts of it, that persons who reside there, have had no opportunity of seeing them. The very temple that gave rise to these observations is now (January 1792) entirely destroyed, and the place where it stood turned up by the plough. They abound in the hilly parts of Aberdeenshire, and along the Grampian mountains.

Stonehenge in Wiltshire is, without doubt, a monument referable to this general class, although differing from the above in many particulars.

There are some vestiges of these four kinds of antiquities in South Britain; but it is doubtful if there are any of a similar nature with those of the other two classes that remain to be taken notice of. I shall, therefore, in some future number of this work, be a little more particular with regard to them*.

* Since the above was written, I have accidentally learnt that Dr Thorkelin, professor of antiquities at Copenhagen, who saw many of these circular structures in Scotland, is of opinion that they were not druidical temples, as tradition has it; he thinks they were rather erected as a kind of civil courts for the distribution of justice, or for deliberating on national affairs. He was led to think this, from having observed that circular structures of this kind abound in Norway, where the religion of the druids never did prevail. It is obvious that they might have been equally well fitted for civil, as for religious purposes.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE
OF
JOHN EARL OF MARR,

(Continued from p. 104. and concluded.)

ON the 17th of December 1615, on the fall of Ker, earl of Somerset, the king gave his white staff, as treasurer of Scotland, to the earl of Marr, which he kept for more than fifteen years, when, being old and infirm, he voluntarily resigned it into the hands of the king, who conferred it on the earl of Morton.

As the part Marr bore in his negotiation with Cecil, in concert and commission with the lord Bruce of Kinlofs, has found its way into several publications, and collections of state papers, I have forborne to swell this memoir with an account of it, and shall conclude with observing, that the good old earl lived several years after his retreat from the court, at his castle of Alloa, in the county of Clackmannan, and addicted himself to study, and rural solacements, having married his four daughters to the earls of Marishall, Rothes, Strathmore, and Haddington, and established all his sons in very honourable situations.

He died at his house, as governor of Stirling castle, being the messuage of his lordship of Stirling, on the 14th day of December 1634; and was solemnly interred with a concourse of his family and friends attending, in the chapel of the family at Alloa, on the 7th of April 1635. In his person, as appears from an original portrait by Cornelius Jansen, as well as by one by George Jamesone, he appears to have had a shrewd and animated countenance, and well-proportioned

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body; in his manners, he was active, sprightly, and witty, affecting much of the poignant manner of his master Buchanan, as he did occasionally to please the king, the rougher salt of the Stuarts; and many of his jokes, as well as those of the king, in his company, are repeated in Scotland, which would be improper for a grave narration.

On the first day of April 1608, he had executed a last will and testament, whereby, leaving the tuition of the children of his second marriage to their mother, he gives to his son, the earl of Buchan, the hundred of Ocham, to relieve him from the incumberance of legacies to his brothers and sisters. To his eldest son, lord Erskine, he leaves, as a memorial of his particular affection, the bason and laver, set with mother-of-pearls, which he had from queen Elizabeth †, to remain with his house, together with all his silver plate, and fine tapestry, excepting always such part as my lord of Dryburgh §, Mr John Preston, the master general ¶, and my cousin the laird of Dunninairs have got. To lord Erskine, his fairest jewel which he got from Henry the great, king of France. To his wife, the fine jewel he bought in London from Sir William Lerick. “Lastly I leave my hairt to my maister the king’s majesty, maist houmblic intreating his hieness to be a patron to my wyffe, that nane doe her wrong; as also I leave unto my yonge sueitte maister

† These are still preserved entire in the house of Alloa by his heir.

§ Ancestor of the earl of Buchan.

¶ His third son of the second marriage, Sir Alexander Erskine, blows up at Dunglass castle, anno 1640, and died without issue.

the prince, my eldest sonne, and his hail briether and sister, because their greatest honor is that they were brocht up with him, in oure houfs : not doubting bott quen time serves, (giff thay be worthie of thaimselfes) seeing that thair father was his faithfull servant".

J. S. Marr.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

Continued from page 80.

ALTHOUGH I despise that proud race of *mortals*, who, by birth and fortune, think themselves beings privileged beyond the rest of their species, because they are exalted a little higher—God formed them of the same clay, their ashes will not be distinguished in the bowels of the earth, nor will the *worms* pay any respect to their bodies.—Yet those truths will not persuade any one to descend from the ladder on which he is mounted; and therefore I go with the stream, and bow my head to him whom chance has placed above me.

I am not superstitiously credulous; yet I think that nature sometimes designs to give us a secret presentiment of approaching misfortunes.—We have ominous impressions of future hopes and fears.

Never despise old friends, because their conduct may not always be pleasing.—For if you acquire new friends, you will not find them exempt from follies and imperfections.

To be continued.

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POETRY.

TO THE AUTHOR OF THE VERSES TO THE DEBAUCHEE.

For the Bee.

I **H**ERE most humbly beg and crave
To differ, Sir, from you,
Altho' your verses, sweet and grave,
Are partly very true;
But wine has ever since the flood
Been us'd by ev'ry nation,
And surely is a cordial good,
When us'd in moderation.

King Solomon, a man of lore,
Who ev'ry thing did try,
And searched wisdom o'er and o'er,
Said all was vanity;
And nothing better was on earth,
When men had cash to spare,
Than eat and drink in jovial mirth,
And banish grief and care.

Since here is blessings great in store,
'Twere sinful to refuse
What heav'n had sent, altho' much more
These blessings to abuse;
We may enjoy the sweets of life,
Whate'er to us is given,
A friend, a bottle, or a wife,
Without offending heaven.

*Banks of Clyde,
Aug. 29. 1791.*

J. H.-----

AN ADVICE TO MARRIED LADIES.

BE this, ye fair, your rule, this maxim prize,
Ye who are leagued in chaste connubial ties;
Think, if your husbands act a wayward part,
'Tis mild, persuasive softness gains the heart.
Men, proud by nature, conscious of his sway,
The loud, *tyrannic scold* scorns to obey;
That gentle sweetness, which at first did charm,
Must still conspire all sourness to disarm,
To milder these passions, where his weakness lies,
Ye fair! the day's your own were ye but wise.
Thus have I often seen a mule refuse
T'obey his driver, tho' the whip he'd use,
VOL. VII. T †

But when with mildness he the bridle takes,
He gently follows and the trick forsakes.

THE MAID OF CLYDE.

To the tune of the maid that tends the goats.

For the Bee.

UPON the chrysal streams of Clyde,
Where lilies fair and violets grow,
Where roses raise their crimson head,
Outvying all that near them blow,

There lives a nymph, so lovely fair,
For beauty none can e'er come near her,
Her charming form and youthful air,
Surpasseth all that try to peer her.

No diamond with her eyes can show,
So radiant bright, and softly charming,
The rose looks pale tho' in full blow,
Her lovely lips its strength disarming.

But ah! how cruel and unkind,
No sighs or tears can ever move her,
Oh Cupid ease my anxious mind,
And make her love, or me leis love her.

DW.

REVIEW.

Statistical account of Scotland, continued from p. 120.

To make a comparison between the effects of supporting the poor, by rates, or voluntary contributions, the following parishes, that are taxed by rates, are confronted with others, containing nearly the same number of inhabitants, where the charity is given voluntarily, and the sums of money marked that each pay.

WILTON 990 persons, money collected for the poor	L. 100.	
Galashiels 914—voluntary charity,	L. 20	
Kirkden 954 do. - - - -	16	AVERAGE— L. 18. 10.
Egletham 1000 do. - - - -	16	
Collesie 949 do. - - - -	12	

Difference more than five to one.

Jan. 25.

1792. *statistical account of Scotland.* 147
 ELKIRK 1700, poors rates L. 124 besides the whole collections,
 Glencairn 1700 do. voluntarily, L. 30
 Moffat 1600 do. - - - - - 30 average 30.

Difference nearly as four to one.

These facts speak a strong language that cannot be misunderstood: And it deserves to be particularly remarked, that in the places where *rates* have been adopted, there are almost universal complaints of the scantiness of the funds. In Mauchline complaints are, that the funds are daily decreasing. In Hamilton the poor's rates have risen, in 30 years, from L. 100 to L. 230. In Crayling we are told they have risen, in 30 years, from L. 14 to L. 27. In Wilton, where 900 persons pay L. 100 of poor's rates, or nearly at the rate of 2 s. 3 d. a-head. The writer of the account very properly adds: "It would be an important object of enquiry, to ascertain how far the levying of these assessments, or poors rates, has answered any useful purpose, or whether the poor are, comparatively, in a worse situation where they are not levied?"

To answer this question, let us take the following notices from other parishes, that occur in this volume. "In *Kirkmaboe*, consisting of twelve hundred persons, the parson says, the poor, who forty or fifty years back, have been about twenty in number, have always been maintained by the public collections in the church, together with some dues, on particular occasions, and the interest of some mortified money. In this way, by distributions, four times annually, and some small donations occasionally, given amongst them, *there have never been any complaints.* Some of the poor, too, are pretty industrious, and endeavour, in a great measure, to maintain themselves; by which means more can be given to others, who are old and infirm, and unable to do any thing."

In *Kirkintulloch*, "consisting of 2639 persons, the weekly collections at the church doors, have hitherto been *more*

Dm.

p. 120.

of supporting
the following
with others,
ants, where
as of money

poor L. 100.

L. 18. 10.

AVENUE

than sufficient to support the poor." The same strain runs through most of the account of parishes where voluntary alms only are given; and we meet with many instances of the good tendency of this mode of benevolence, upon the people at large. "In 1782 and 1783, says the reverend Mr George Duncan of Lochrutton, when there was a general scarcity over all the country, the crops in this district were, at least, as good as usual; and though the harvest was late, the crops were got safely in. The farmers were so grateful for the plenty they enjoyed, and were so sensible of the hardships a number of families might suffer from the high price of provisions, that they stored up a considerable quantity of oat-meal, to be sold to such of their neighbours as stood in need of a supply, at 1 s. 8 d. *per* stone, although at that time, the market price was 2 s. 4 d." Such instances of general benevolence are by no means uncommon.

I shall conclude this branch of the subject with the following remarks on the effects of poor's rates in the parish of Selkirk, by the reverend Mr Thomas Robertson their parson. "Poor's rates, says he, have been long established here, to the great prejudice of industry and virtue, among the lower class of citizens. "The parish is bound to support us," is their apology for dissipation through every period of life." Then he gives a picture of youthful dissipation, and its consequences in a married state, which our limits prevent inserting. "Their unfortunate dependance on the poor's funds, makes them less disposed to industrious exertion. This too dissolves the ties of natural affection, while it multiplies the number, and increases the necessities of the poor. If the children suffer from the want of œconomy and virtue in their parents, the parents are abundantly repaid by the neglect of their children, when bending under the double load of infirmity and indigence. They will tell you, without a

blush, that the parish is better able to support their aged parents, than they are; while you will see them, at the same time, in the prime of life, unclogged with families, indulging in every species of debauchery common to that rank in life. But the mischief ends not with them: Many who fill higher stations, and whose circumstances are not only easy, but affluent, make their contributing to the poor's funds, an excuse for throwing their near relations as a burden on the parish."

"It is an undoubted fact, that when people are taught to depend upon any means of support, which flows not from their laudable industry and œconomy, the meanness of the thought degrades every virtue, and opens the door to every vice, that can debase the soul. Their only dependance ought to be upon their own labour and exertions, [with the kindness that will infallibly ensue among their neighbours] which, when joined with œconomy, will always furnish them [when in health] with the means of a decent maintenance. Promoting their industry is the best provision that can be made for them."

"Even during the infirmities of age, their support should be a voluntary gift, and not compulsory; and should depend upon the character they maintained, in their early days, for honesty and virtue."

It deserves to be particularly noted, that in this parish, the sums raised by the rates are L. 114. 4s. besides the interest of L. 200, which is at 5 per cent L. 10 and the whole collections at church; so that there is applied to the uses of the poor, in a parish of 1700 persons, L. 124 per annum, more than is found necessary for their support in three-fourths of the parishes in Scotland.

Whoever reflects coolly on these things, and attends to their consequences in society, will not think it strange, if I bestow some pains to warn my countrymen, in the most

serious manner I can, to guard against the introduction of an evil, which, happily for us, we are in general enabled to view *at a distance*. The subject is of too much importance to be thus finally dismissed. On some future occasion it will furnish matter for some important remarks.

Among other particulars that will attract the attention of the curious reader on perusing this book, he can scarcely avoid taking notice of the remarkable liberality of sentiment, in regard to religious opinions, that so generally prevails among the clergy of this country. Had Voltaire been still alive, he could not have read this work without retracting some of the opinions he has so often inculcated in his writings to the prejudice of the clergy in general; and if Mr Hume had had an opportunity of reading this volume, he could not have denied that clergymen may be found, who judge with as much philanthropic liberality of mind, of the principles and conduct of those who differ from them in religious opinions, as any *free-thinker* ever did; with much more liberality, indeed, than either Hume or Voltaire ever were capable of viewing those who differed in opinion from themselves on religious subjects. The following extracts will justify these assertions.

Of Kirkpatrick Durham, the reverend Mr Lamont writes,

"The ecclesiastical affairs of this parish, as in every other parish in Scotland, are under the direction of the kirk session. This court, anxious to regulate its proceedings by a strict regard to law, justice, expediency and decorum, never indulges a spirit of inquisitorial investigation, or perplexes itself with a train of idle or vexatious processes. There is no dissenting meeting-house of any denomination in the parish. There are a few Cameronians, and a few seceders in it; but liberty of conscience, and the unquestionable right which every man has to chuse his own religion, are principles so well understood, that few disturbances arise from the turbulence of faction, or the strife of con-

troversy. Though a religious sect, called *Buchanites*, resided for some time in the parish, yet that circumstance did not produce one instance of apostacy from the established church. In short the wildness of superstition, and the bigotry of fanaticism, are giving place to liberal sentiment, and rational religion; and every good christian beholds with pleasure the dictates of reason, and the maxims of morality, happily connecting themselves with the doctrines of faith, and the duties of devotion."

Kirkintilloch by the reverend Mr William Dunn.

"The inhabitants of this parish are, in general, a virtuous and industrious people. That pride of mind, and impatience of contradiction, which the possession of landed property frequently inspires, perhaps may occasion too many law suits. The present minister was told, before he came amongst them, that they were often disposed to treat their clergymen with neglect and unkindness; but he has experienced nothing in his ministry, that could justify such an accusation.

The existence of seceders, and of seceding meeting-houses, has, perhaps, no bad effect upon the manners and sentiments of the people, either here, or any where else throughout the kingdom. They are, in some degree, spies and checks upon the members of the established church; and the discourses of their clergy are often adapted, with singular felicity, to the capacity and the prejudices of the least enlightened classes of the community. The small number of the poor, dependent upon alms and the liberal provision made for them by voluntary contributions, are facts implying, in so populous a parish, no common praise: They bespeak industry, sobriety, frugality, and charity, to be the leading features in the moral character of the people.

Galafrids by the reverend Mr Douglass.

"In the parish and suburbs of the village, there are no less than fifteen houses where ale and spirits are retailed; yet the people, in general, are sober and industrious in the extreme. Not one is addicted to dram drinking, or tipling; and very rarely is a tradesman, especially a manufacturer, seen in liquor. A respectable number attend public worship in the established church, and about 200 receive the sacrament of our Lord's supper annually.

"At the same time, there are many, who adhere both to the burger and antiburger principles, and a few belong to the church of relief. There are also some classes of independents, and baptists. Besides several who disclaim all attachment to any sect whatsoever, and seem to have no fixed principles of religion. Concerning the numbers and peculiar tenets of these various separatists from the establishment, the present incumbent has never been led to make particular inquiry, from an opinion, that while they are peaceable and good members of society, and "live soberly, righteously, and godly," the speculative points, on which they may differ, are of very little importance. And it gives him much pleasure to find a spirit of forbearance and toleration, universally prevailing among all ranks and denominations in the parish."

These are sentiments which will obtain the approbation of every liberal minded person.

Acknowledgements to correspondents deferred till our next for want of room.

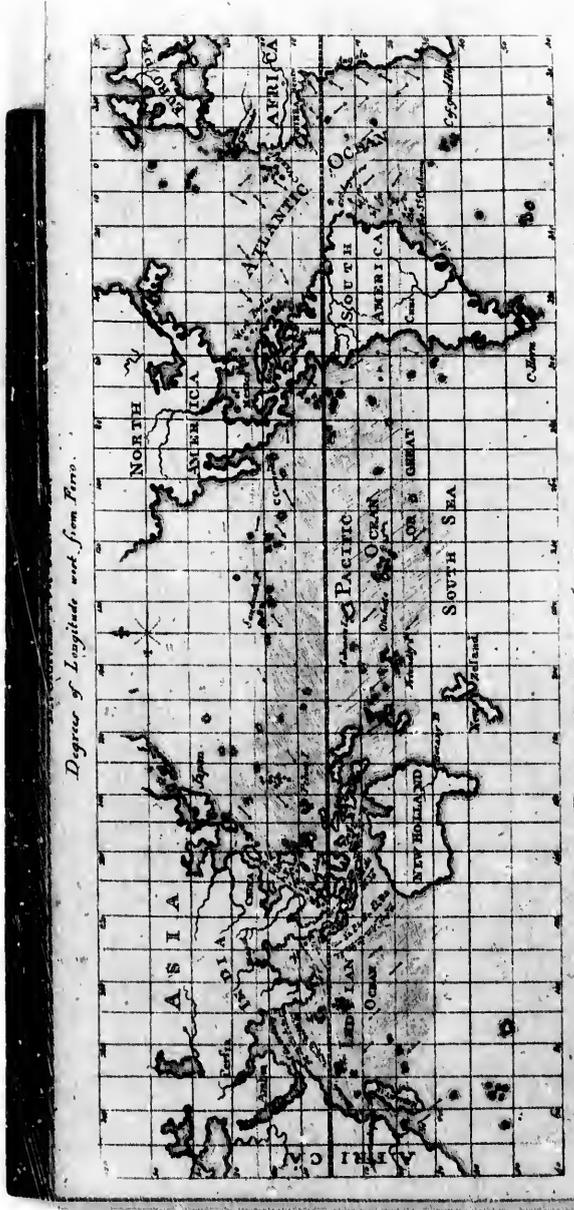
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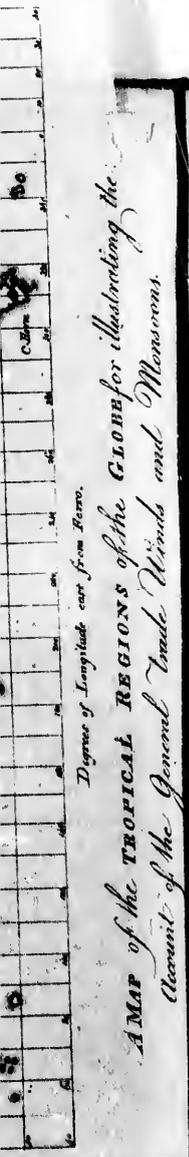
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Degree of Longitude west from Ferro.

Degree of Longitude east from Ferro.

A MAP of the TROPICAL REGIONS of the GLOBE for illustrating the Account of the General Trade Winds and Monsoons.



A MAP of the TROPICAL REGIONS of the GLOBE for illustrating the Account of the General Trade Winds and Monsoons

THE BEE,
 OR
LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,
 FOR
 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1. 1792.

ON PHILOSOPHICAL GEOGRAPHY.

PART THIRD.

[Continued from vol. vi. p. 341.]
 (With a map.)

SOME of the phenomena of tropical regions have been explained in the foregoing parts of this essay, but others of a very interesting nature remain to be accounted for.

In no respect do tropical regions differ more from those that approach nearer to the pole, than in what regards winds, those powerful currents of air, so beneficial, so hurtful, so refreshing, so noxious, so pleasing, so destructive to man in different circumstances. In tropical regions, the course of the winds are, in general, regular and certain, whereas, in high latitudes, they are so variable and uncertain, that no dependance can be had upon their continuance for any stated time, in any determined point of the compass, nor can any judgment be formed of the degree of violence with which they will blow at any given period.

The region of *constant* winds extends on each side the equator, somewhat beyond the tropics. The limits of these winds, however, cannot be exactly defined, not only because they extend a little farther during the summer than the winter months, but also because the strength of the constant winds gradually declines as you approach to their utmost boundaries, so that the variable winds sometimes encroach a little on the usual region of the trade winds, and sometimes these last prevail over the former for a time. In general, the trade winds are found to prevail only in low latitudes, within the 30th degree, on both sides the equator; all beyond which latitude may be considered as the region of variable winds.

But though the winds may be called *steady*, and *certain* within the tropics, they are by no means immutable. In certain regions they shift at stated periods, and in others they are susceptible of peculiar deflections, while in other parts of these regions they continue immutably the same. Philosophers have distinguished these various winds by different names. Wherever they are immutable they have been called, in English, *the general trade winds*. Those which shift regularly twice a year, have been called trade winds also, from the uses that are made of them, but they are more particularly denominated *monsoons*. The other regular variable winds within the tropics being of a more local nature, have each obtained a particular name in those regions where they particularly prevail. It is proposed for the present only to take notice of the two first.

The general trade wind prevails in all those large oceans that are unincumbered with land for a considerable distance on either side the equator. Hence they reign invariably throughout the whole great South Sea, and the Atlantic Ocean on both sides the equator, and in the Indian Ocean, with little exception to the south of the line. In all those places, in short, which are marked on the map with single darts, the wind always blowing towards that quarter to which the point of the darts are turned throughout the whole year.

It has been already said that these winds are occasioned by the heat of the sun in equatorial regions, where his rays acting perpendicularly on the earth's surface, are reflected with greater force, and heat the air, upon the whole, to a greater degree, and rarify it more, and consequently render it lighter there than on any other part of the globe. In consequence of this expansion, the denser air, in higher latitudes, flows necessarily towards the equator, from either side of the globe. This, if not affected by other circumstances, would produce a direct northerly wind in the northern, and a southerly wind in the southern hemispheres; but as the direct influence of the sun is constantly shifting over the earth's surface, from east to west, in consequence of the earth's diurnal motion, an easterly wind, if this influence alone were to operate, would thus be produced. From these two causes operating at the same time, the trade winds naturally blow from the N. E. on the north,

and from the S. E. on the south of the line, throughout the whole year.

It will easily be understood, from what is here said, that the point towards which these winds tend will not be invariably the same throughout the whole year, but that it will vary a little in different seasons, approaching nearer the tropic of *Cancer* during our summer, and inclining more to that of *Capricorn* in winter. This is so obvious as to require only to be slightly mentioned.

Of monsoons.

The monsoons are a variation of the general trade winds, which prevail only in certain places within the tropics. They blow, in general, nearly six months in one direction, and then, after a short interval of variable and stormy weather, they change and blow for nearly other six months in a direction precisely opposite to their former course. This variation of the trade wind is found to take place in all parts of the Indian ocean, to the north of the line, and beyond the straits of Malacca, as far as the island of Formosa, on the Chinese coast, and among the islands to the southward of that. Monsoons also prevail, for a small distance to the south of the equator, among the islands stretching from the straits of Malacca towards New Holland: as may be seen in the map, in which the monsoons are denoted by double darts, and no where else in the southern hemisphere.

The causes of the general trade winds have been long known, and distinctly explained in many philosophical treatises; but the cause of the monsoons has

not been so generally understood, though it constitutes a very material link in the physical knowledge of the globe.

It is hoped the following explanation of them will be found satisfactory.

The reader will please to recollect, that the sea and land breezes which are so beneficial in all tropical regions, are a temporary interruption, for a small extent only, of the general trade wind. It has been shewn (vol. vi. p.) that these are occasioned by the great variation that takes place between the heat of the day, and the coolness of night in tropical regions.

Our philosophical pupils will also recollect, that in consequence of the inclination of the earth's axis to the plane of the ecliptic, conjoined with its annual and diurnal rotations, it so happens that the length of the day must be invariably the same *at the equator*, throughout the whole year; but that, on every other part of the surface of the globe, the length of the day is perpetually varying, so as to produce that diversity of seasons which we call summer and winter; and that the difference between the longest and shortest day in any place goes on continually increasing with its latitude from the equator, till you reach the *pole*, where the whole heat of the year is concentrated into one day of six months duration, which we call summer, and all the cold is accumulated into one night of six months, called winter, without any sensible interruption of either the heat or the cold, in these regions, in consequence of the diurnal rotation of the earth.

Hence it follows, that at the equator the great vicissitudes of heat and cold are occasioned by the *diur-*

nal rotation of the globe, and produce their sensible effects by the changes that take place between the *day* and the *night*, whereas, in polar regions, the great vicissitudes of heat and cold are occasioned by the earth's *annual* revolution, and produce their sensible effects by the changes that take place between the *summer* and the *winter*. Hence again it follows, that if the heat of the sun were the only cause of the variation of winds, the changes, if any, that were produced by that means, in equatorial regions, ought to be *diurnal* only, whereas the vicissitudes at the *pole* should be only experienced once in *six months*.

And, as these deviations of climate and seasons are gradual from the equator to the poles, it must happen that as you approach to, or recede from either the one or the other of these vicissitudes will be more or less experienced. But at the equator, the influence of the sun is more powerful, upon the whole, than at the pole. The effects of the sun, therefore, in altering the wind, must be much less interrupted by lesser causes, and therefore more steady in equatorial than in polar regions, and consequently must be much more striking to the senses.

Experience, in this instance, accords exactly with our reasoning. *Variable* winds do, in general, prevail towards the poles, and *constant* winds towards the equator. But, in summer, the continual heat, even in high latitudes, comes to be sensibly felt, and produces changes on the wind that are distinctly perceptible. In our own cold region, the effects of the sun on the winds are sensibly felt during summer and autumn, though much inferior in degree to that in

tropical regions. It is thus that while the weather in summer is fine, the wind generally becomes stronger with us as the day advances, and lulls away towards the evening, which gives, to that time of day, the ineffable sweetness we have all so often experienced.

This may be called a faint embryo of the sea breezes of tropical regions. On the more northerly coasts of Greece, the Levant, and the African shores of the Mediterranean, the sea breeze is distinctly perceived, during the summer season.

Such are the effects arising from the *diurnal* changes in our northern climates; the effects of the *annual* revolution are still more sensible. To this cause we are to attribute the prevalence of the west winds, during summer, even in our climate, and the much more marked prevalence of them, during that season in Spain, and France. For the continent of land to the eastward, being much more heated by the long continued action of the sun's rays upon it, during summer, than the waters of the Atlantic ocean, the wind is perceptibly drawn towards the east during that season.

But the effects of the seasons, in altering the winds in those countries which approach towards the tropics, are much more powerful than with us. For when the sun approaches the tropic of Cancer, and acts perpendicularly, or nearly so, during the whole course of a lengthened day on the countries of Persia, Bengal, China, and the adjoining states, the surface of the land there, at that period, becomes so much more heated than the sea to the southward of it, that the current of the general trade wind is interrupted so as to flow, at that season, from the south to the north, which is

a direction opposite to that it would have assumed, if no land had been placed there. But as the high mountains in Africa continue extremely cold during all seasons of the year, the low countries of India, to the eastward of it, become, in summer, so much hotter than Africa, at that season, that the air is naturally drawn from thence to the eastward. Thus it is, that the trade wind, in the Indian ocean, from April till October, (that is, during the summer months,) blows in a north-east direction, which is precisely the reverse of that of the general trade wind, in open seas, in the same latitude. But when the sun leaves the northern hemisphere, and retreats towards the tropic of Capricorn, these northern countries are allowed to cool, and the general trade wind is then suffered to resume its natural direction.

Such are the obvious causes of that periodical shifting wind in the Indian seas, which has been denominated the monsoon. To account for the small variations in its direction, which are observed in the different tracts of those seas, will be an easy exercise to any one who has made himself master of the *rationale* of the phenomena here explained. At present, it would lead to too great length to take notice of them.

By inspecting the map, the attentive reader will observe, that no monsoon takes place to the *southward* of the line, excepting in that part of the ocean adjoining to the large and newly explored island, called *New Holland*; an island so much exceeding, in size, any other island on the globe, as to deserve, in a certain sense, the name of a continent. In that part of the globe, the same causes concur to produce a monsoon

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as in the northern hemisphere, and similar phenom-
ena are also experienced. From the month of Octo-
ber till April, (that is, during summer in the southern
hemisphere) the *monsoon* sets in from the N. W. to S. E.
directly opposite to the course of the general trade
wind, as happens also in the northern ocean, during
their summer; and here also, as in the northern he-
misphere, the general trade wind resumes its usual
course, during the winter season.

Nothing can more perfectly show the justness
of the theory of monsoons here given than this single
fact does; and though the writer of this essay thinks it
of much more consequence to make useful discoveries
than to be at much trouble about ascertaining to whom
these discoveries of right belong, yet he hopes it will
not be deemed impertinent in him, after a silence of 18
years, now, for the first time, barely to hint that
the above explanation of the monsoons was first pub-
lished by him, in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, in the
month of July 1773, while Mr Cooke was yet out on
his first voyage of discovery, and from which he did
not return till seven months after this essay was pub-
lished, at which time the writer of this essay, from
the state of the winds that had been observed, without
hesitation foretold what has since been found to be
truth by succeeding navigators, that there did not
exist, nor ever would be found any continent, or large
islands in the southern hemisphere, near the tropics,
unless it was New Holland alone. He takes notice of
this circumstance here, chiefly because it affords the
strongest proof that can be required of the justness of
the explanation given, and also because it thus re-
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moves a possibility of accusing him of plagiarism at present, as every idea he has borrowed from that essay, he can lay claim to as his own.

In a future number, some periodical winds that take place in particular parts of the torrid zone, which are of less extensive influence than the monsoons, together with the smaller deflections of the monsoons themselves, will be taken notice of. At present, the reader shall be no longer detained than merely to point out to him one of those beautiful and beneficent arrangements in nature, which the attentive observer has so often occasion to remark, and to admire.

In the great South Sea, and Atlantic Ocean, where the general trade winds invariably prevail, a ship can sail, very easily between the tropics, from east to west, by the help of the unchanging easterly wind that there prevails; but when he attempts to sail to the eastward, in the same seas, he finds it is impossible: the wind blows continually against him. He has no other resource, therefore, than to stand either to the southward, or the northward till he gets into high latitudes, where the trade winds do not prevail.

There he meets with variable breezes, by the aid of which he is enabled to prosecute his voyage with effect. But if land should have run along, in a direction nearly parallel to the equator, within the limits of the trade winds, so as to have prevented a ship from getting into the latitude of the variable winds, what would have happened if the *general* trade winds had there invariably prevailed? All navigation eastward must have been interrupted, as the winds would have been continually opposite to the course of the vessel.

Instead of this destructive arrangement, we have seen that the very lands in India which prevent a ship from reaching to the latitude of variable breezes, naturally, and necessarily produce, first a diurnal sea and land breeze to help them out, or into a harbour with ease, almost in any situation; and next, the *monsoons*, which by blowing six months in one way, and six months in the opposite direction, afford a sure and easy mode of navigating in those seas, in all directions, if the proper seasons be only adverted to.

How wonderful, O Lord! are all thy works; in wisdom and in mercy hast thou made them all!

OBSERVATIONS ON WATSON'S HISTORY.

For the Editor of the Bee.

Of those who have laboured in the field of modern history, the first place is perhaps due to Robertson, an historian who unites, in the highest degree, the profound views, and accurate knowledge of the philosopher, with the bold and beautiful imagination of the poet. He is one of the most singular examples of genius being made entirely subservient to truth. Genius has always certain topics upon which it loves to dwell, certain views which it loves to take, and favourite characters which it delights to describe; but the unvaried aim of this writer is philosophical truth, and his favourite topic, universal virtue. Though possessed of a mind naturally fitted to contemplate only what

is splendid and sublime, yet with a degree of intellectual resolution, not easily to be paralleled, he has inspected a scene, from which imagination shrinks, and which reason seems to abhor. In the view of the progress of society, preliminary to the history of Charles v. he has penetrated that night of ignorance, barbarity, and confusion which prevailed, for ages, in Europe. With faint and uncertain lights, he has travelled through the horrid maze, and collected those scattered rays, which his own sagacity alone could discern, into a body for a permanent guide to future historians. He has reduced a mass of seemingly unmeaning rubbish into order and system, and laid a foundation for the history of Europe. If a Livy, or an Herodotus, or indeed any of the antient historians had reviewed this period, we would have been amused with the warlike exploits of a mighty monarch, or some wonderful adventure of chivalry, instead of an illustration of those facts with regard to laws, manners, or government, whose effects are permanent, and continue still to distinguish the civil associations of Europe.

From the labours of Robertson, and a few other French and English philosophers, we are enabled to contemplate the transactions of kingdoms with more enlarged views, and upon more fixed principles. Nations have now assigned them their motives for action, as well as human nature. Battles, and revolutions in kingdoms, are no longer considered on their own account, as splendid scenes; their political consequences are now nicely traced; an all-prevailing theory conducts

1792. *observations on Watson's history.* 165.
them to some great design, and sees them teeming
with important effects upon succeeding ages.

Upon these rational and enlightened principles is
the history of Charles v. conducted; a work perhaps
the most comprehensive, original, and masterly of its
kind. With it we may be satisfied to begin our en-
quiries into modern history; at least if we were to be
satisfied with useful information. It has given stabi-
lity to the theory of European politics, laid open the
secrets of its government, and may be considered as
the best model for all succeeding compositions of this
kind.

The history of Philip II. his immediate successor,
by Watson, upon the same plan, may be considered
as a continuation of the above †. A work of very
singular merit, and which possesses the principal qua-
lities of historical composition in an eminent degree;
but not being adorned with the glitter of what is called
fine writing, and that ambitious elevation of sentiment
which is now so prevalent, it has not been so much
celebrated as it deserves. We shall attempt to give a
particular character of this history.

And in the first place we may observe that it is ex-
tremely happy in the subject. The successful struggles
of liberty against despotic power; the increasing im-
portance of the scene of action; the republic of Hol-
land rising into high political consequence, by the
persevering valour, and commercial activity of its in-

† This history is further continued by the same author, in a posthu-
mous work, containing the reign of Philip III. and is of the same cha-
racter with the work under review. The two last books are written
by another hand.

habitants; the great assemblage of eminent statesmen, and warriors who come under review, and who exert the highest abilities in opposition to one another; the numerous difficulties which they encounter; the many unparalleled examples of heroism, and disinterested virtue which they display, and the various stratagems which they employ, all form the noblest, and most instructive subjects for the pen of history, to execute it with becoming dignity, is also one of the most difficult tasks: the views of the actors must be often various, intricate, and remote; the scenes of action, new, complicated, and diversified.

The subject, however, of itself, confers no positive merit on the historian. His praise consists in the view which he has taken of it, in its plan and execution.—Unity ought to be the first study of every writer, but especially of an historian; though one would imagine that as what he relates is not at his disposal, it would be impossible to give a uniform tendency, or one great design, to a series of actions which seem really to possess none: but there is scarcely a period which has not some relation among its parts, however slight, and of which a skilful historian will take advantage; from the want of it also, in some otherwise well-written histories, the subject of which afforded a link to unite the succession of facts, and a point to which they might have been all made to lead, we must suppose that very much in this respect is in the power of the historian. The ancients, in general, have failed in regard to unity of design, they are content, for the most part, with giving a clear and elegant narration of particular events, as they occur, seldom viewing them

collectively, as terminating upon some important object, and illustrating a general and comprehensive theory. It wonderfully assists and delights the imagination to have some great and leading principle always in view, especially when it is of such a nature as to be perpetually improving, and rising to greater perfection. The progress of civilization, and the gradual advancement of the arts and sciences in modern times, is one great and general idea which connects the most remote with the latest periods of the history of the kingdoms of Europe. This consideration animates us to proceed in tracing the first efforts to emerge from barbarism; the light of science begins gradually to dawn, our views enlarge, and we are at last cheered with prospects of boundless effulgence.

But though this be the grand centre of the history of national events, and human transactions, it admits of many subdivisions, without, at the same time, making us lose sight of the great tendency of the whole. The particular views of one reign; or a series of reigns, in promoting, or abolishing a certain form of government, the consequences of civil and religious revolutions, and other momentous incidents which give rise to a train of similar circumstances. The history of Philip II. is remarkably happy in this respect. We have displayed before us one great and important reign; the monarch is influenced throughout the whole of it by the ambition of extending his conquests, depressing the protestant religion, and rendering his power absolute. These principles give birth to all the events of the history. To these we refer them, as to a common centre, and as a bond of union to all its scattered parts.

One cannot enough admire the great and comprehensive idea which Watson has formed of this period.— From the simple view which, at setting out, he gives of Philip's arbitrary proceedings, the subsequent series of events flow with a uniform tendency; they rise one above another in a natural succession, and in a gradual progress, to still more important and interesting scenes.

But though the reign and character of Philip be the great idea by which we may be said to grasp, or embody the numerous facts of this history, it does not exclude many subordinate unities, which, if the writer possess sufficient art and ability, will be so conducted as to give us a distinct and separate prospect, without confusion, or driving out of view the predominating features of the work. To arrange seemingly unconnected transactions under one great plan, and assign to each its proper place, and due proportion of attention is, without doubt, the most trying test of an historian's skill. In this our author greatly excels; and in the execution of it, in the present work, he hath given proof of uncommon talents. No epick poet has preserved the unity of his plot better. The great scene of action is in the Netherlands, where our attention is long detained, and our feelings deeply engaged by a protracted and pleasing solicitude for the infant exertions of liberty. From this noble theme, however, we are frequently led, and made to contemplate other important events, in the management of which the historian has shewn so much address, that we always follow him without reluctance. They are all so happily introduced as never to embarrass the great outlines of

the picture, but seem as so many underparts to make one complete whole. The siege of Malta is of this character; it has the appearance of a highly finished and delightful episode, the detail of facts is so naturally and clearly exhibited, and the whole told with so much vigour and spirit, as may well entitle it to be put in competition with any portion of antient or modern history. With the same delicacy of taste, and extent of judgment, is introduced, the expulsion of the Moors from Spain, the conquest of Portugal, and the wars with the Turks. They are so beautifully managed, as to seem so many resting places from the principal action. In the hands of an inferior writer they would have probably entangled and confused the work, so as to weary the memory, and fatigue the attention; but here they only enlarge the view, and variegate the scene; and when the whole has been displayed before us, it appears a splendid and perspicuous system of things, where every minute circumstance presents itself to view; where nothing is wanting, and where there is not any thing too much.

(*To be continued.*)

THE EFFECTS OF IMAGINATION.

For the Editor of the Bee.

IN midsummer 1768, as a gentleman, by no ways remarkable for firmness of mind, was sauntering with two or three of his friends in the Thuilleries, he was suddenly drawn aside by a stranger. "I know futurity," said the latter, with a peremptory tone of voice, "your countenance forbodes much happiness; and

one day you will thank me for this hint." As we easily believe what flatters our wishes, the poor gentleman imagined that there must be something true in such a bold declaration, and urged a more particular explication. The swindler, after much fanical mumbling and grimace, inspects the hands, examines each trait of the countenance, and, at last, announces, with emphasis, a life of envied prosperity. This credulous dupe returned him a thousand thanks; and putting into his hands a six livre piece, resumed his little company. But they had not advanced a few steps when the impostor, piqued at such a paltry sum, called back the gentleman. "Alas!" said he, "I dare not omit one circumstance, however disagreeable you may reckon it. By knowing before-hand that it must take place, perhaps you may be enabled to provide against it. The prosperity to which you are destined is indeed great, and will be uninterrupted, when once you shall have triumphed over three successive convulsion fits. The third will be so terrible that it will make you tremble for your existence. Yet, if fortunately you should master it, felicity is your own." Here the pretended sorcerer broke off his conversation, and disappeared in an instant, leaving his too easy hearer a prey to melancholy and disquietude. The latter once more rejoined his friends, and stated his adventure in the style of one seriously alarmed. When they perceived he was in earnest, they used every mean in their power to undeceive him, and to convince him that the whole must have been the trick of a fool, or a knave. But it was too late. The impression had already stamped his imagination in a manner not to be

Feb. 1,

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1792.

the effects of imagination.

171

effaced. In solitude, his consternation redoubled; and he was actually seized, first with one, and then with another paroxysm. The third attack soon followed, and with such alarming symptoms as to embarrass his attending physicians. Recourse was therefore immediately had to *Monsr. Petit*, a gentleman, who, to much professional skill, added the more general knowledge of philosophy. He was likewise distinguished by singular talents for mimicry, and burlesque imitation. Accordingly, he was no sooner informed of the circumstances of the case, than he assumed the dress and manners of a fortuneteller. Even the long beard, and the longer wand were not forgotten. In this *costume* he entered the patient's bed-chamber, and at once imposed upon him, and confounded him by a volley of learned words. He then allowed that another sorcerer had predicted the disease; but insisted, at the same time, that he was a raw prophet, a mere novice in the art of necromancy, who could not foresee many circumstances that are obvious to a proficient.— He next proceeded, with great solemnity, to examine his hand, repeated the predictions of the sharper, added some of his own, and concluded by assuring him in a tone of authority and confidence, that the attack would not prove fatal. From that moment the disorder took a favourable turn; and the cure was, in the end, completed by the help of some simple medicines, and by *Dr. Petit's* curious gesticulations, and his sallies of wit and good humour.

Some starch members of the faculty openly reprobated this degrader, as they styled him, of the pro-

172. *on chances in the lottery.* Feb. 1,
 fession, but men of sense and humanity applauded
 him.

Leaving you, Mr. Editor, to dispose of this little
 story (which is a true one,) as you shall best judge
 proper, and wishing much success in your laudable
 undertaking, I am, most sincerely, your humble servt.
 NARRATOR.

ON CHANCES IN THE LOTTERY.

For the Editor of the Bee.

THE following result of calculations on the com-
 parative chance in purchasing a *whole ticket*, and
 purchasing a ticket in *shares of different tickets* in a lot-
 tery, is at your service, for the use of your readers, if
 you think it worthy of insertion.

In the present Irish State Lottery, consisting of
 40,000 tickets, there are, among others, one prize of
 20,000l. one prize of 10,000l. and two prizes of 5000l.
 each. Therefore, with respect to these capital prizes,

<i>One whole ticket may gain</i>	-	-	£. 20,000
<i>Two half tickets cannot gain more than</i>	-	-	15,000
<i>Four quarter tickets cannot gain more than</i>	-	-	10,000

In the above respects, the *whole ticket* is decidedly preferable.

That one ticket gains	-	£. 20,000 is as 1 to 39,999
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That two half tickets gain	-	10,000 is as 2 to 39,999
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That four quarter tickets gain	-	5,000 is as 4 to 39,999
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In this view, the chance of *all* is equal to one another, or in propor-
 tion to the respective value of the prizes; but

That one ticket gains	£. 20,000 is, as above, 1 to 39,999
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That two half tickets gain	15,000 is only as 1 to 799,980,000!
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That four quarter tickets gain	10,000, is
as 1 to	106,650,667,399,990,000 !!!

which shews a chance against the last case, almost beyond the powers of comprehension to conceive, but which is demonstrable from the principles of *combination of quantities*, on which the above calculation is founded.

From the above calculation, it may also be found, that there is just 20,000 times a better chance of receiving 20,000 l. by one whole ticket, than of receiving but even 15,000 l. by two half tickets.

As to receiving 10,000 l. by four quarter tickets, it cannot bear a comparison with the chance which a whole ticket has of gaining double that sum.

Were the amount of a whole ticket to be purchased in 16ths of 16 different tickets, the utmost possible amount of the prizes that could thence result would be only 3500 l. but against even this there are *many hundred millions* of chances to one.

I hope it will not be construed, that the object of this essay is to dissuade adventurers from trying their fortune in the lotteries; my object is merely to prove, that dividing the proportion of a ticket which one means to adventure on, into small shares, is by no means the way to get a great prize. If the object is merely to have a chance of being reimbursed the money so laid out, the dividing the ticket into small shares has a *kind of chance* of obtaining that end, but if an adventurer wishes to receive a great prize, as all adventurers flatter themselves that they will, by all means, keep close to one ticket to whatever extent is meant to be risked from a *whole* ticket down to an *eight* share.

CALCULATOR.

Feb. 1,
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399,990,000 !!!

INNOCULATION, WITH THE NATURAL
SMALL POX COMPARED.

For the Editor of the Bee.

BEING no subscriber, and only an occasional reader of the BEE, I trust to your known liberality of sentiment for pardoning the liberty I take in craving a corner in that useful publication. Indeed I am convinced you are ever ready to lay before the public such hints as may tend, in any manner of way, to promote the happiness of mankind. And where has society found more real heart-felt advantages than from the discovery of inoculation for the small pox. But for that, we have every reason to suppose many a parent would have mourned the death of children who now live respected in the world. What heart is so callous as not to feel for the distress in which children are daily to be seen, labouring under the dire effects of the natural small pox? and who does not rejoice in knowing that the danger attending this disorder, may, in a great measure, be removed by inoculation. If prejudices among people, of a certain rank still exist, I deem it the duty of those more enlightened, or whose situation in life gives an influence over others to exert themselves in removing such prejudices. It is with real satisfaction I see the medical gentlemen of Edinburgh nobly stand forth in diffusing so useful a discovery, by offering to inoculate *gratis* the children of such parents as will make application. I have too high an opinion of the gentlemen of that profession to doubt

a moment of this example being imitated in every quarter of the country.

That prejudices still exist against inoculation is but too certain. The following melancholy story, which happened under my own eye, will evince a fatal effect from the natural small pox. If it tends, in any shape, to increase the dread of the natural, and an inclination in the prejudiced to promote the inoculated small pox the object will then be obtained. "That from evil good may be educed."

About seven years since, being on a visit to a friend at a sea-port town in Fifeshire. I was often amused with the innocent prattle of two lovely children, belonging to a labouring man in the neighbourhood; during my stay they were attacked with the small pox, and in the same hour I attended the funeral of both to the grave; they were the whole children of the family. A few weeks since, I paid a visit to the same place, when I found the parents, whose children had before amused me, possessed of two others, alike in years, in features, and innocent chat, to what the former were. In viewing them I was often led to deceive myself with the idea that time had been arrested, and that I was still enjoying my original visit. Alas! Sir, what have I to add; a few days since I was spectator to the mournful scene of, the father's depositing these innocents by the remains of his former children. They also died of the natural small-pox; and thus one family, at the distance of seven years has been twice swept by the malignancy of that disorder; and I have reason to think the parents now mourn the want of information respecting the advantages of inoculation.

Your own remarks upon this subject would be very acceptable to the public, and might be the means of making many converts to the system of inoculation.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

Edinburgh, Sept. 7, 1791.

A. B.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

Duelling is that imperious crime which derives its origin from barbarity, and owes its support to cowardice and want of resolution to obey the dictates of reason and virtue. Rather than dare to act wisely, and counteract a barbarous custom, shall we dare to offend our God? Slavish cowardice to custom!—but imperious boldness to Heaven! what *horrid absurdity!*

He who kills his antagonist in a duel, is a murderer; and he who is killed is accessory to his own unrepented, and, (fearful thought!) unpardoned murder!

No man can be disgraced, or degraded, by the outrage of violence, or phrenzy.

Gaming is inseparably connected with anger, envy, deceit, and dissipation. The moment it commences a period is put to conversation; society and benevolence, all are discarded for the important work of effecting each others *ruin*.

POETRY.

GENTLE KATE.

For the Bee.

Lo! in bold fancy's airy maze,
I spy a dazzling comet's blaze,
Glancing athwart the twinkling shade,
The movements of the peerless maid!
Now banish'd to a distant clime,
My fancy leaps o'er place and time;
In playful gambols mounts the skies,
Waving its wings, and flutt'ring as it flies.
Spare! O spare my raptur'd sight!
Shine not so thou star of light!

Lo! o'er the keys of mellow air,
Run the fingers of the fair;
Sweet the warbling notes resound,
Sweet the echoing roofs rebound:
Now she sings, with hallow'd fire,
The song that kindles soft desire;
Now from her lips in accents move,
The heaven-born harbingers of sacred love.
Spare! O spare my ravish'd ears!
Stop thou music of the spheres.

Lo! on the daisied turf at even,
As if alighted down from heaven,
Tripping, gentle Kate is seen,
Goddess of the spangled green;
O'er her fair form the evening ray,
Pours the warm glow of parting day;
While in easy mien she moves,
Around her dance the rosy-dimpling loves.
Spare! O spare my raptur'd sight!
Shine not so thou star of light!

Lo! next the graces three advance,
And mingle in the mystic dance;
Now the loose tresses of her hair,
Float on the bosom of the air;
Now their lily arms they raise,
Now moving round with gliding ease;
So temper'd to the music's air,
The easy circling movements of the fair
Star of light, no longer rise;
I close my giddy, aching eyes!

Glasgow College,

Nov. 25. 1791.

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†

ON PARTING WITH A FRIEND.

For the Bee.

A painful task! for now the hour to part,
 With melting sorrow, overwhelms my heart;
 And now with fruitless art I vainly try
 To check the tear, repress the rising sigh.
 Nought can assuage the anguish that I feel,
 No language can my heart-felt grief reveal!
 From Hope's resplendent beam, could one faint ray
 Illume with distant light the cloudy way!
 In future prospects, could I fondly view
 A day when former scenes I might renew!
 Then would I try t'endure the present ill,
 Nor thus with anxious thought sit brooding still.
 Farewell! and O may every bliss which heaven
 In mercy gives, to thee my friend be given,
 Still may thy days be tranquil and serene,
 May social pleasure animate each scene!
 May sweet Contentment's gentle pow'r descend,
 And o'er thy heart her peaceful reign extend.

LAVINIA.

PRIDE.

DR BYRON'S POEMS, PART II.

"VIRTUES, you say, by patience must be tried,
 "If that be wanting, they are all but pride;
 "Of rule so strict I want to have a clue."
 Well--If you'll have the same indulgence too,
 And take a fresh compliance in good part,
 I'll do the best I can with all my heart.

Pride is the grand distemper of the mind,
 The source of ev'ry vice of ev'ry kind;
 That love of self, wherein its essence lies,
 Gives birth to vicious tempers and supplies;
 We coin a world of names for them, but still
 All comes to fondness for our own dear will.

We see, by facts, upon the triple stage
 Of present life, youth, manhood and old age,
 How to be pleas'd, be honour'd, and be rich,
 These three conditions commonly bewitch;
 From young to old if human faults you weigh,
 'Tis selfish pride that grows from green to grey.

Job. 1.

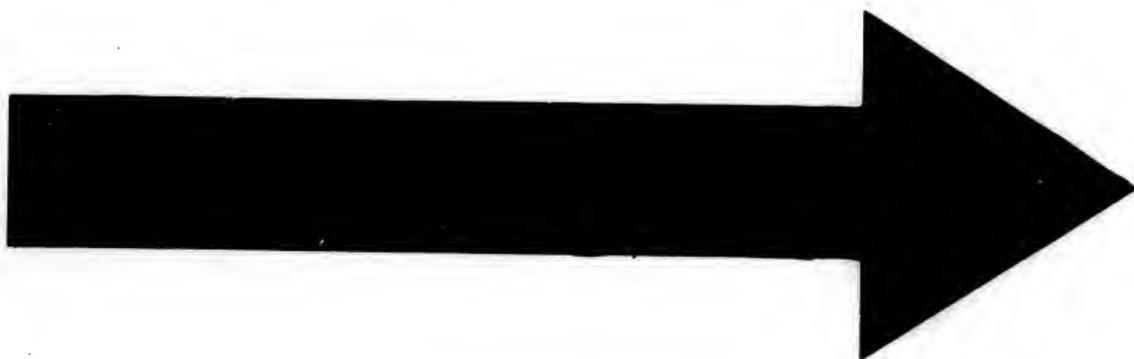
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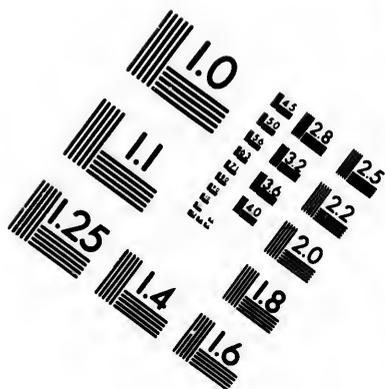
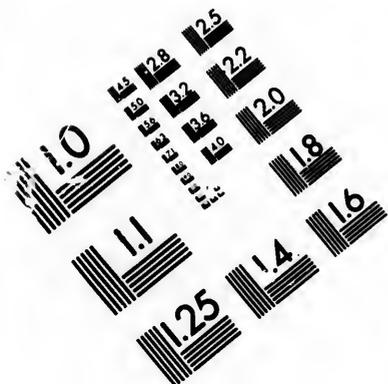
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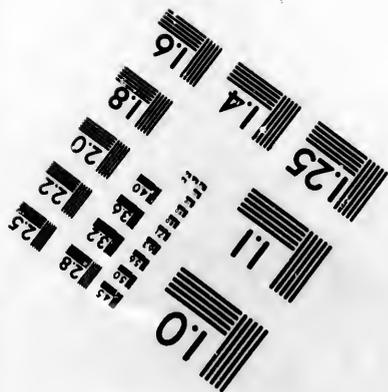
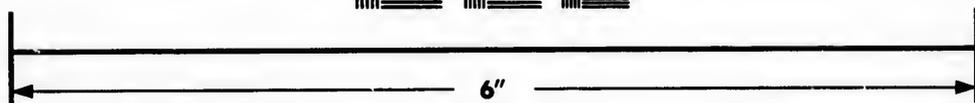
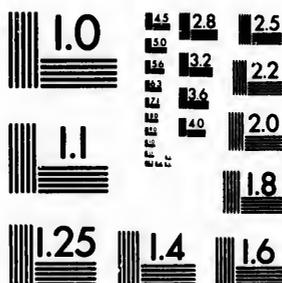
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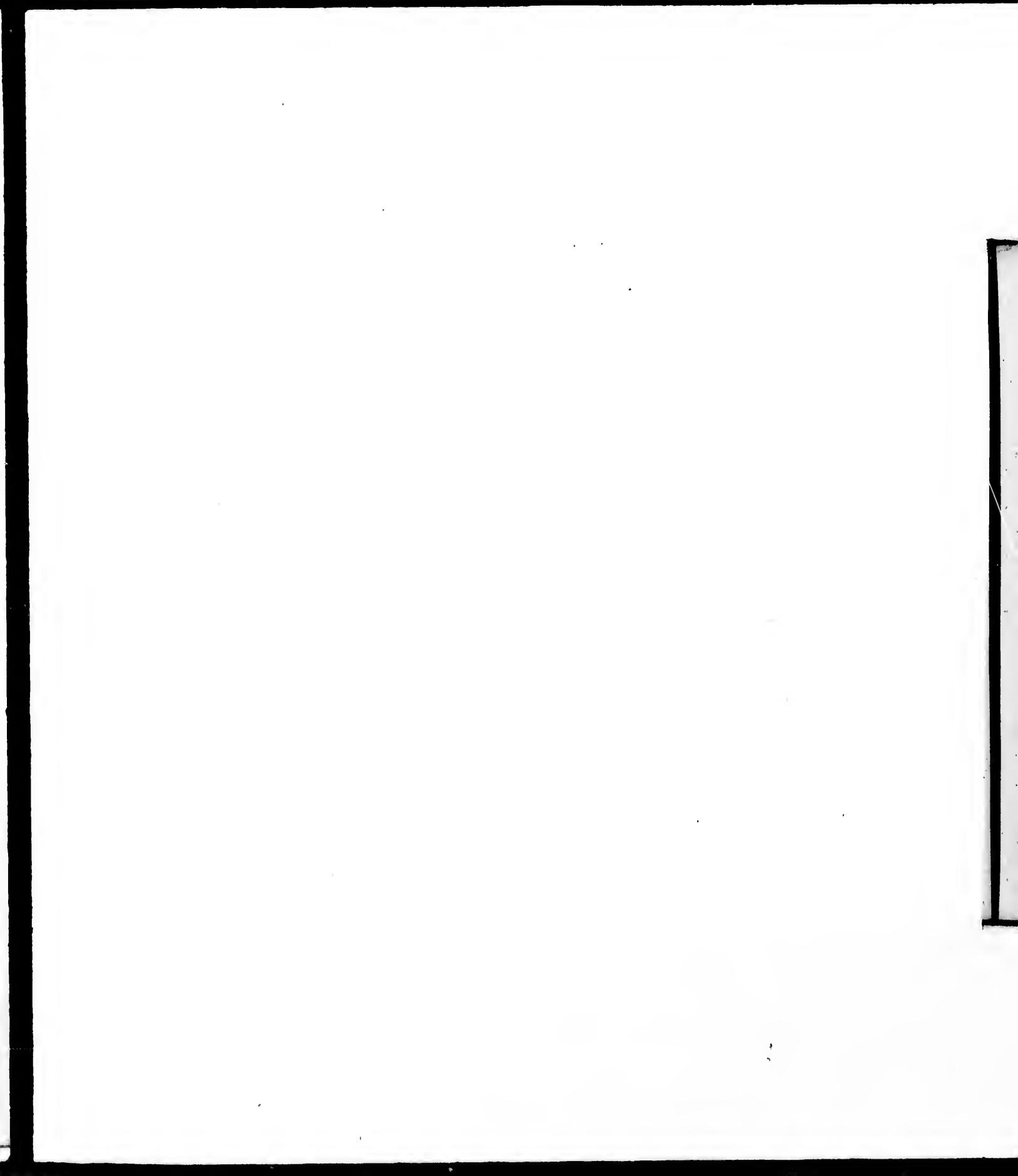
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Pride is, indeed, a more accustom'd name
 For love of grandeur, eminence, and fame;
 But that of pleasure, that of gold betrays,
 What inward principle it is that sways;
 The rake's young dotage, and the miser's old,
 One same enslaving love to self unfold.

If pride be thus the fountain of all vice,
 Whence must we say that virtue has its rise,
 But from humility? And whence the sure
 And certain sigh, that ever rises pure?
 For pride itself will in its dress appear,
 When nothing touches that same self too near.

But when provok'd,---and say unjustly too,
 Then pride disrobes; then what a huge ado!
 Then, who can blame the passion of a pride
 That has got reason,---reason on its side!
 He's in the wrong, and I am in the right;
 Resentment, come! Humility!---good night.

Now the criterion, I apprehend,
 On which, if any, one may best depend,
 Is patience, is the *bear* and the *forbear*,
 To which the truly virtuous adhere,
 Resolv'd to suffer, without *pro* or *con*,
 A thousand evils rather than do one.

Not to love patience, and yet not be proud,
 Is contradiction not to be allow'd;
 All eyes are open to so plain a cheat,
 But of the blinded by the self deceit,
 Who, with a like consistency, may tell
 That nothing ails them, tho' they are not well.

Strict is the rule, yet notwithstanding true,
 However I fall short of it or you,
 Best to increase our stock if it be small,
 By dealing in it with our neighbours all;
 And then who knows, but we shall in the end,
 Learn to have patience with ourselves and mend.

A PICTURE TOO TRUE.

TENDER-HANDED stroke a nettle,
 And it stings you for your palms!
 Grasp it like a man of mettle,
 And it soft as silk remains.
 'Tis the same with grow'ling natures;
 Use them kindly they rebel:
 But be rough as nutmeg graters,
 And the rogues obey you well.

AZAKIA, A TALE.

THE ancient inhabitants of Canada, strictly speaking, were all savages. Nothing proves this better than the destiny of some Frenchmen, who first arrived in this part of the world;—they were eaten by the people whom they pretended to humanize and polish.

New attempts were more successful. The savages were driven into the inner parts of the continent; treaties of peace, always ill observed, were concluded with them; but the French found means to create in them wants, which made their yoke necessary to them. Their brandy and tobacco easily effected what their arms might have operated with greater difficulty. Confidence soon became mutual; and the forests of Canada were frequented with as much freedom by the new inmates, as by the natives.

These forests were often also resorted to by the married and unmarried savage women, whom the meeting of a Frenchman put into no terrors. All these women, for the most part, are handsome, and certainly their beauty owes nothing to the embellishments of art: Much less has it any influence on their conduct. Their character is naturally mild, and flexible, their humour gay; they laugh in the most agreeable and winning manner. They have a strong propensity to love; a propensity, which a maiden, in this country, may yield to, and always indulges without scruple, and without fearing the least reproach. It is not so with a married woman: She must be entirely devoted to him she has married; and, what is not less worthy of notice, she punctually fulfils this duty.

An heroine of this class, and who was born among the Hurons, one day happened to wander in a forest that lay

contiguous to the grounds they inhabited. She was surprised by a French soldier, who did not trouble himself to inquire, whether she was a wife or a maiden. Besides, he found himself little disposed to respect the rights of a Huron husband. The shrieks of the young savage, in defending herself, brought to the same place the baron of St. Castins, an officer in the troops of Canada. He had no difficulty to oblige the soldier to depart: But the person he so opportunely saved had so many engaging charms, that the soldier appeared excusable to him. Being himself tempted to sue for the reward of the good office he had just rendered, he pleaded his cause in a more gentle and insinuating manner than the soldier, but did not succeed better. "The friend that is before my eyes, hinders my seeing thee," said the Huron woman to him. This is the savage phrase for expressing that a woman has a husband, and that she cannot be wanting in fidelity to him: This phrase is not a vain form; it contains a peremptory refusal; it is common to all the women of those barbarous nations; and its force, the neighbourhood of the Europeans, and their example, were never able to diminish.

St. Castins, to whom the language and customs of the Hurons were familiar, saw immediately that he must drop all pretensions; and this persuasion recalled all his generosity. He therefore made no other advances, than to accompany the beautiful savage, whom chance alone had directed into the wood, and who was afraid of new encounters. As they passed on, he received all possible marks of gratitude, except that which he at first requested.

Some time after, St. Castins being insulted by a brother officer, killed him in a duel. This officer was nephew to the governor general of the colony, and the governor was as absolute as vindictive. St. Castins had no other resource than to betake himself to flight. It was presu-

med, that he had retired among the English of New York; which, indeed, was very probable; but, persuaded that he should find an equally safe asylum among the Hurons, he gave them the preference.

The desire of again seeing Azakia, which was the name of the savage he had rescued, contributed greatly to determine him in that choice. She knew immediately her deliverer. Nothing could equal her joy at this unexpected visit, and she declared it as ingenuously, as before she had resisted his attacks. The savage whose wife she was, and whose name was Ouabi, gave St. Castins the same reception, who acquainted him with the motive of his flight. "May the great spirit be praised for having brought thee among us!" replied the Huron: "This body," added he, laying his hand on his bosom, "will serve thee as a shelter for defence; and this head-breaking hatchet will put to flight, or strike dead thy enemies. My hut shall be thine: Thou shalt always see the bright star of the day appear, and leave us without any thing being wanting to thee, or any thing being able to hurt thee."

St. Castins declared to him, that he absolutely desired to live as they did, that is, to bear a part in their labour, and their wars; to abide by their customs; in short, to become a Huron; a resolution, which redoubled Ouabi's joy. This savage held the first rank among his people—he was their grand chief—a dignity which his courage and services had merited for him. There were other chiefs under him, and he offered one of the places to St. Castins, who accepted of the rank only of a private warrior.

The Hurons were then at war with the Iroquois, and were intent on forming some enterprise against them. St. Castins would fain make one in the expedition, and fought as a true Huron; but was dangerously wounded. He was brought back with great difficulty to Ouabi's house, on a

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1792.

Azalia, a tale.

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kind of litter. At this sight, Azalia appeared overwhelm-
ed with grief; but instead of vain lamentation, she exerted
all possible care and assiduity to be of service to him.
Though she had several slaves at command, she depended
only on herself, for what might contribute to the relief of
her guest. Her activity equalled her solicitude. One
would have said, that it was a lover watching over the pre-
cious life of her beloved. Few could help drawing the
most flattering consequences, on such an occasion; and
this was what St. Castins did. His desires and his hopes
revived with his strength. One only point disconcerted
his views, which was the services and attentions of Ouabi.
Could he deceive him, without adding ingratitude to per-
fidy? "But," said St. Castins, arguing the case with him-
self, "the good-natured Ouabi is but a savage, and he can-
not be so scrupulous herein, as many of our good folks in
Europe." This reason, which was no reason in fact, ap-
peared very solid to the amorous Frenchman. He renewed
his tender advances, and was surprised to meet with new
refusals. "Stop! Celario," which was the savage name that
was given to St. Castins; "Stop!" said Azalia to him;
"the shivers of the rod which I have broken with Ouabi,
have not yet been reduced to ashes. A part remains still
in his power, and another in mine. As long as they last,
I am his, and cannot be thine." These words, spoken in
a peremptory manner, quite disconcerted St. Castins. He
dared not insist upon the matter farther, and fell into a
melancholy reverie. Azalia was deeply affected by it.
"What can I do?" said she to him; "I cannot become thy
companion, but by ceasing to be the companion of Ouabi;
and I cannot quit Ouabi, without causing in him the same
sorrow thou feelst in thyself. Answer me, has he deser-
ved it?"—"No!" cried out Celario; "no! He deserves to
be intirely preferred before me; but I must abandon his

dwelling. It is only by ceasing to see Azakia that I can cease to be ungrateful to Ouabi."

These words chilled with paleness the young savage's face: Her tears flowed almost at the same instant, and she did not endeavour to conceal them. "Ah! ungrateful Celario!" cried she, with sobs, and pressing his hands between her own; "is it true, ungrateful Celario! that thou hast a mind to quit those, to whom thou art more dear than the light of the bright star of the day? What have we done to thee, that thou shouldst leave us? Is any thing wanting to thee? Dost thou not see me continually by thy side, as the slave that wants but the beck to obey? Why wilt thou have Azakia die of grief? Thou canst not leave her, without taking with thee her soul: It is thine as her body is Ouabi's." The entrance of Ouabi stopped the answer of St. Castins. Azakia still continued weeping, without restraining herself, without hiding for a moment the cause. "Friend," said she to the Huron, "thou still seest Celario; thou seest him, and thou mayest speak to and hear him; but he will soon disappear from before thine eyes; he is going to seek other friends." "Other friends!" cried the savage, almost as much alarmed as Azakia herself; "and what, dear Celario! what induces thee to tear thyself from our arms? Hast thou received here any injury, any damage? Answer me; thou knowest my authority in these parts. I swear to thee, by the great spirit, that thou shalt be satisfied, and revenged."

This question greatly embarrassed St. Castins. He had no reasonable subject for complaint; and the true motive of his resolution ought to be absolutely unknown to Ouabi. There was a necessity of pretending some trivial and common reasons, which the good Ouabi found very ridiculous. "Let us speak of other things," added he; "to-morrow I set out on an expedition against the Iro-

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 s," added he;
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quois; and this evening I give to our warriors the custo-
 mary feast. Partake of this amusement, dear Celario."
 "I am equally willing to partake of your dangers and la-
 bours," said St Castins, interrupting him; "I shall accom-
 pany you in this new expedition." "Thy strength would
 betray thy courage," replied the Huron chief; "it is no
 great matter to know how to face death; thou shouldst be
 able to deal death among the enemy; thou shouldst be
 able to pursue the enemy, if they are put to flight; and
 thou shouldst be able to fly thyself, if they be an over-
 match. Such were at all times our warlike maxims.
 Think now, therefore, only of getting thyself cured, and
 taking care of this habitation during my absence, which I
 confide to thee." It was in vain for St Castins to make a
 reply. The warriors soon assemble, and the feast begins. It
 is scarce over, when the troops march off, and St Castins
 remains more than ever exposed to the charms of Azakia.

It is certain that this young savage loved her guest; and
 loved him with a love purely ideal, without doubting that
 it was such a love. She even took a resolution, which
 others who loved as she did, certainly would not have
 taken, which was to procure for St Castins the opportu-
 nity of obtaining from another, what herself had obstinate-
 ly refused him. The charms of the rival she gave herself,
 were well calculated to attract his regards. She was but
 eighteen years old, was very handsome, and which was
 not less necessary, was still a virgin. It has been before
 observed, that a maiden enjoys full liberty among the North
 American Indians. St Castins, encouraged by Azakia,
 had divers conferences with Zisma, which was the name
 of this young Huron lady, and in a few days he could read
 in her eyes that she would be less severe than his friend.
 It is not known whether he profited of the discovery:
 At least it did not make him forget Azakia, who, on her
 side, seemed to have no inclination to be forgotten. St

Castins felt himself, notwithstanding all his interior struggles, more attracted towards her. An accident, which every where else might have contributed to unite them, had like to have separated them for ever.

They were informed by some runaways, who had made more speed than others, that Ouabi had fallen into an ambuscade of the Iroquois; that he had lost some of his party; and that he himself was left on the field of battle. This news filled St Castins with true sorrow. His generosity made him set aside all views of interest. He forgot that in losing a frier, he found himself rid of a rival. Besides the death of this rival might also occasion that of Azalia. Her life, from that moment, depended on the caprice of a dream. Such was the force of a superstitious custom, sacred from time immemorial among these people. If, in the space of forty days, a widow, who has lost her husband, sees and speaks to him twice successively in a dream, she infers from thence that he wants her in the region of souls, and nothing can dispense with her putting herself to death.

Azalia had resolved to obey this custom, if the double dream took place. She sincerely regretted Ouabi; and though St Castins gave her cause for other sorrows, if she was to die, the prevalency of the custom had the ascendant over inclination. It is not easy to express the inquietudes, the terrors, that tormented the lover of this beautiful and credulous Huron. Every night he fancied her a prey to those sinister visions; and every morning he accosted her with fear and trembling. At length he found her preparing a mortal draught: It was the juice of a root of the citron tree; a poison which, in that country, never fails of success. "Thou seest, dear Celario!" said Azalia to him, "thou seest the preparation for the long journey which Ouabi has ordered me to make." "Oh heavens!" said St Castins, interrupting her, "how can you believe

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in a foolish dream, a frivolous and deceitful delusion?"
"Stop Celario!" replied the Huron; "thou deceivest thy-
self. Ouabi appeared to me last night; he took me by
the hand, and ordered me to follow him. The weight of
my body opposed this order. Ouabi withdrew with a
mournful countenance. I called him back, and the only
answer he gave me, was to stretch out his arms to me,
and he afterwards disappeared. He will return without
doubt; dear Celario I must obey him! and after bewail-
ing thy hard lot, I will swallow this draught, which will
fill my body into the sleep of death; and then I will go
and rejoin Ouabi in the abode of souls."

To be concluded in our next.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT.
CORN BILL.

NEVER was a bill introduced into parliament, in a more
pompous manner than that which forms the subject of our
present discussion; and seldom, perhaps, has any bill pas-
sed into a law, which reflects less honour on those who
prepared and brought it forward. Our readers are already
in possession of the bill, as it was modelled before it was
passed into a law, in the abstract of it which was given in
the sixth volume of the Bee, p. 29. It remains only
that we should give a cursory account of the steps that
were taken, preparatory to the introduction of the bill,
and the modifications it underwent in its progress through
the House.

Administration avowed that they had had this bill in
contemplation for some time past; and boasted that they
had been at so much pains in their previous investigation
of the subject, that they were prepared to bring in a bill,
that should not be of a temporary and mutable nature;
but that it should be calculated to supersede the necessity
of future amendments, and ought, therefore, to be account-
ed a permanent corn bill. Men who have been accusto-
med to peruse treaties of everlasting peace and concord, will

not, perhaps, be surprised to see this *permanent* law become one of the least stable that was ever enacted by the British parliament: But to people of simple understanding, there seems to be something very absurd in all this.

The bill was mentioned during the last parliament, and a committee of privy council were ordered to investigate the subject, and to report; upon this they accordingly did report, and that report having been published, it was circulated throughout the nation during the recess of parliament, to prepare the minds of the people, in some measure, for the regulations that might be expected to flow from the principles there assumed.

It would exceed our limits to give a detailed account of all these principles; but *one*, which seems to have influenced the framers of the bill, through all its clauses, cannot with propriety be here overlooked. It was assumed as a fact, sufficiently demonstrated by the evidence produced, that Britain does not at present produce a sufficient quantity of corn to sustain its inhabitants; and from this fact they inferred, as an undeniable axiom, that Britain never can hope to be able to produce enough to sustain its inhabitants, unless they should fall considerably short of their present numbers. And as it is hoped that it may be possible, in spite of foreign wars, multiplied colonies, plans for plundering distant nations, or other motives for emigrations, equally powerful, that may at a future period obtain the sanction of government, that our population may not materially decrease, it hence follows, as an undeniable consequence, that in order to feed our people, it will be indispensibly necessary to import corn from foreign parts in one way or another. But as these gentlemen also found, that all the countries in Europe were nearly in the same situation with ourselves, in respect to provisions, and would have little or nothing to spare for us, they saw no other possible resource than to apply to America for aid, on whose bounty alone, we must in future depend for our daily bread. On this reasoning as a basis, the important business of regulating the imports and exports of corn was founded.

In a matter of so much importance, as that of providing food for a whole people, it is not fit that the nation should blindly adopt the opinion of any set of men whatever; far less the opinions of men, who, from their rank

in life, have no opportunity of examining matters of this kind with their own eyes, and who, from the stations in government they occupy, must be supposed to be under the fascinating influence of artful men, who, with a view to promote their own emolument, may find a temptation to represent facts in such a light, as may best suit their purpose. Without derogating, therefore, from the abilities of these gentlemen, or attributing to them any sinister motives, for giving the report they gave, we may freely investigate their opinion; and from the facts that have been assigned by them, examine how far it is properly founded.

The only fact they have alleged as a foundation for these momentous conclusions is, that Britain does not at present produce food enough for its inhabitants, *communiis annis*. Now, without stopping to inquire if this fact be sufficiently authenticated, it requires but a very small degree of knowledge in rural oeconomics, to perceive that no such inference can be drawn from it, although it were true; and a very slender knowledge of history will be sufficient to prove its fallaciousness from experience. The following plain fact, that can be sufficiently authenticated by thousands of witnesses now alive, will clearly prove, that though a nation should not at present be capable of maintaining one hundredth part of its people, by its own produce, yet, in a very few years, by judicious management, it may be possible to produce enough for all its own people, and much to spare to assist others who have occasion for it. The fact is this:

Not a great many years ago, many hundreds of acres of ground, in the neighbourhood of the town of Aberdeen in Scotland, were in such a deplorable state of barrenness, that they could not have been let at the rate of one shilling an acre. While in this state, the produce of an hundred acres could scarcely have been sufficient to sustain one person for a year. The same land has been so much improved of late, as now to yield a rent at the rate of from three to six pounds Sterling an acre*. It was formerly a barren waste only, consisting of stones and bogs, with scarce a pile of grass upon it. It now carries the most luxuriant crops of corn; so that, on many occasions, the produce of one acre, would be sufficient to sustain

* Observe, it is the Scots acre that is meant, 4 of which are nearly equal to 5 English, and neither tithes nor poor's rates are paid out of it.

two persons for a whole year. In this case, therefore, those fields, which at one period would have required a hundred acres to subsist one person, could now subsist two hundred persons abundantly. This is a fact directly in point, and clearly proves the futility of the reasoning that has been here adopted.

It does not indeed seem that the gentlemen of the committee have reasoned with great consistency, even upon their own principles, when they look towards America, as the only possible preservative for the people of this country. If they had reasoned justly, they should first have ascertained what is the present produce of that country, and how much of it can be spared; now if it should, upon this investigation, have appeared, that their spare produce did not exceed what would be sufficient to maintain 100,000 persons for a year, (and make this more or less at pleasure, it alters not the case,) it would follow, that if ever the population of America shall increase to 100,000 more than at present, the spare produce would all be wanted for themselves; and that if it should increase to 200,000 beyond its present population, it would then also fall short of food for its own people, and could of course spare nothing for Europe. What a deplorable state should we then be all in! War would then be a humane exercise,—and we should be reduced to the necessity of cutting each others throats, out of charity and brotherly love. Was it in this manner that the Austrians, Turks, and Russians reasoned? If so, we can no longer accuse them of barbarism.

It is probable these gentlemen did not reason thus:—Possibly they concluded, that though America did not at present produce much more than enough for its own people; yet it still was capable of improvement, and might be made to produce more. All this is well;—but why should America be the only country capable of improvement? It is wonderful to see that men of talents in other respects, should suffer themselves so easily to become the dupes of their own prejudices, or the culleys of artful prompters.

Not only may ground be so much meliorated by human industry, as to sustain many more than it can at present support; but, what will appear more singular, when that industry is withdrawn, it will revert to its former sterility,

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and become incapable of sustaining a population, greatly inferior to that for which it formerly produced abundance and to spare. We know for certain, that Spain, about three hundred years ago, contained not less than twenty-five millions of people, who were abundantly supplied with food from the produce of their own fields. At present, eight millions of people are often reduced to the danger of starving for want of food. How absurd then is it to reason from the present state of the produce of any country, to its possible future produce! By injudicious fiscal regulations, the present produce may be diminished to an astonishing degree;—by a wise and judicious policy, it may be augmented beyond the power of calculation.—Let us no longer then be amused with such chimerical reasoning, nor shut our eyes against the clearest light. Our industry has been, in too many cases, repressed by laws grounded on such absurd reasoning.—Let us expose its futility!—Let us examine, with the spirit of men endowed with rational powers, the tendency of every fiscal regulation, that is to be obligatory upon us. Where their tendency is pernicious,—let that baneful tendency be exposed, that thus a check may be given to the empire of folly, and the miserable consequences that it ingenders may be diminished.

From the facts above stated, without having recourse to many others that might easily be adduced; we are authorised to pronounce, without hesitation, that the inference drawn by the committee of privy council, from the single fact on which the whole was grounded, is totally erroneous; and that, though the present produce of Britain, should fall far short of what is necessary to sustain its whole inhabitants, it might still be capable of rearing abundance to supply a much greater number of people, should it ever become necessary to do so. As well might I say, that a farmer, who rents a thousand acres of rich pasture-land, on the banks of the Severn, but who does not find it his interest to rear a single acre of corn, but is obliged to purchase what he wants for the subsistence of his family from another quarter, could not, if it were necessary, find subsistence from his own farm, in corn, as well as other articles? One would imagine, that such a mode of reasoning was only calculated for the meridian of

those times, when decrees were thought necessary to compel merchants to bring so many ounces of bullion into the country, for every pack of hides, or pack of wool; or when the king, out of the abundance of his wisdom, and provident care for the welfare of his poor people, thought it necessary to regulate the price of oxen and sheep, of pigs, turkies, and capons, because they could not judge of such mighty matters themselves.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE communication respecting Mr Thomson, the author of the Seasons, is received, and shall appear very soon.

The Editor is under great obligations to a very respectable correspondent for the *Will*, and some other pieces, which shall be attended to with all possible care.

Though the Editor has some doubts if the correspondent who signs J. C. B. --- [the other letters are too indistinctly written to be read] has ever read the Bee, he has no other objection to the printing it, but that he is afraid his readers would object to it. He will make the best use he can of the advices this correspondent is so obliging as to offer.

H. C. is respectfully informed that his letter has been received, and that, agreeable to his request, the papers he wishes for, will be left at the Bee Office to be delivered to his order.

The competition piece, with the motto, "*Vale! longum vale!*" is received, and shall be duly attended to.

The valuable communication from a correspondent at Gottenburgh, is received, and will appear at a convenient time.

The ingenious correspondent who complains of some of his pieces being sent to the Bee without his permission, and wishes his signature to be suppressed, may be assured that his request shall be punctually complied with. When his time permits, the Editor will be glad to hear farther from him.

It will give the Editor much pleasure to see the gentleman who favoured him with some *Lines*, &c. that he desires may not be otherwise noticed. The continuation of them will be very acceptable.

The remarks on Arbitrations are received, and shall appear as soon as possible. It is no small recommendation to our mode of publication, that a difference of opinion, in matters of this kind, only gives room for a more liberal discussion, and fairer elucidation of the subject.

The *Phœnix-bunter* has improved very much by the gentle hint that was given him. Could writers of verses be sensible of the difference that a due degree of attention makes on their compositions, they never would send them off too hastily.

The Editor is much obliged to J. T. for his flattering letter. He will see that seamen are not entirely overlooked. Any thing that can contribute to the preservation of that useful body of men, will be thankfully received. The substance of his letter shall have a place as soon as possible.

Feb. 1.

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ENGRAVED FOR THE REE.



JEAN FROISSART.

*From an Original Drawing in the
Possession of T. Johnes Esq. M.P.*

Published by J. Anderson 6th Feb^{ry} 1792.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1792.

MEMOIRS OF JEAN FROISSART.

With a portrait.*

JEAN FROISSART is scarcely known but as a historian; we have a chronicle written by him much very esteemed; for besides the natural implicity of the style, which renders it so very amusing, it must be looked upon as a useful work to those who wish to know the manners of the age in which he lived. But he composed a great number of poems, which have never yet been published. M. de la Curne de St. Palaye, as much distinguished by his great knowledge, as for his politeness in pointing out to the learned the springs from whence he drank, has had the goodness to communicate to the public his manuscripts of the poems of Jean Froissart. This service is not the only one for which we are indebted to this learned academician, we eagerly seize this opportunity of publicly testifying our gratitude.

* This fine portrait, which represents Froissart in the act of presenting his book to Richard II. of England, is taken from an original drawing in a very fine manuscript copy of his works, in the possession of F. Johnes Esq; communicated by him in the most obliging manner to the Editor.

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M.P.

Jean Froissart was born at Valenciennes, a city of Hainault, about the year 1337. From one part of his poems we may guess his father's name was Thomas, and that he was a painter of heraldry. He himself was a canon and treasurer of the collegiate church of Chimay.

His poetry is graceful and easy; and there is in it a tenderness and simplicity, that is very pleasing. His stile is not brilliant, but natural;—richer in sentiment, than in wit.

His eager and impatient temper shewed itself early in his infancy by an extreme dissipation, and as he grew older, by his love for travelling. To follow the details of his life which M. de la Curne de St. Palaye has published in the memoirs of the academy of belles lettres, you never see him long in one place. After many journies into different provinces of France, you see him pass over to England, where he is much courted; he comes back again to France, and then returns to England, where he stays five years as secretary of the chamber to queen Philippa.

You find him again in France, at Melun sur Seine, about the 20th of April 1366; and the same year at Bourdeaux, when the princess of Wales was brought to bed of a son who was afterwards Richard II. of England.

By order of the prince of Wales, whom he wished to follow in his expedition to Spain, he returned back to queen Philippa; but the next year you see him running from one court to another in Italy. At Milan he received from count Amadeus, *une cotte*

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1792. *memoirs of Jean Froissart.* 195

hardi (a pourpoint) worth twenty gold florins; and at Ferrara, from Peter I. king of Cyprus, a present of twenty ducats. The same year, having lost his protectress queen Philippa, he returned to his own country; but ever governed by his rambling passion, went through Germany to lengthen the road.

On his return he obtained the curacy of Lestines. Of all the actions of our good curate Froissart, during his ministry there, one only is known, and he tells it us himself, which is, that the tavernkeepers of Lestines had 500 livres of his money. He was still curate, when by letters from the duke of Anjou, sealed the 12th December 1381, fifty-six quires of his chronicle were seized, which he was getting illuminated for Richard II. at that time at war with France. This fact is taken from a manuscript journal of the bishop of Orleans, chancellor to the duke of Anjou.

Froissart having afterwards attached himself to Wenceslaus de Luxembourg, duke of Brabant, collected the songs and roundelays of that prince with some of his own poetry, under the name of Melindor, or the knight of the golden sun; after the death of Wenceslaus, who did not live to see the work completed, Froissart was made clerk of the chapel to Guy count of Blois. One finds him in the years 1385, 1386, and 1387, sometimes in the neighbourhood of Blois, at others in Touraine. He was anxious to visit the southern provinces of the kingdom, which were at that time the theatre of warlike exploits; and having letters of recommendation from the count of Blois, he went to Gaston Phœbus, count of Foix and Bearne, a good prince, but a bad poet, who received him with

a most flattering distinction. It was in going to the court of Gaston Phœbus, that having stopped at a nunnery between Lunel and Montpellier, he inspired so strong a passion, that the young person cried most bitterly, as he tells us himself, at his departure.

Gaston Phœbus paid all Froissart's expences during the time he remained at Ortez, the usual habitation of that prince. Every night about twelve o'clock, which was the supper hour of the count, Froissart read to him different parts of Melindor, which amused him much, and Gaston never dismissed him without his having finished all the wine on the table. At his departure the count gave him some presents, and invited him to return soon again to his court. It was about this time that he was robbed near Avignon. The pretext of this journey was his wish to visit the tomb of the cardinal of Luxembourg, who died in the odour of sanctity; but the real motive was a secret commission he had from the lord of Coucy. From thence he came to Paris, and then he went through Hainault, Holland, and Piccardy. He returned to Paris, set out for Languedoc, came back to Paris, went to Valenciennes, Bruges, Sluys and Zealand, returned to his own country, and all this in less than two years. He was again at Paris in 1392, at the time the constable de Clifson was assassinated.

What contributed to this unsettled disposition was an unfortunate attachment, which he formed when young, and preserved in his old age. He read with a young lady romances, of which he was very fond.

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Froissart, to whom she appeared amiable, by dint of reading romances, was desirous of beginning his own, and making her his heroine. He made his declaration by a ballad, which without doubt was thought pretty; but it did not hinder the lady from marrying another a short time afterwards. It was to alleviate this passion he made his second journey to England. The reception he met with, the pleasures that were procured him, not being able to triumph over his love, he came back to Valenciennes to his mistress; but Hymen was not more favourable to him than Cupid. He was not more happy than before, and neither Froissart nor his mistress could be cured, one of his passion, the other of her cruelty.

Froissart was naturally inclined to love, as the character of all his poetry shews. He is said to have succeeded particularly in pastorals; but in the manuscripts before us, we have not seen one that would not have tired the reader, from the numberless allusions to the affairs of the day, by the irregularity, and above all by the obscurity of the stile. It appears that in the early ages of our literature, it was not extraordinary for priests, and even monks, to discuss in their writings very different subjects from divine love. In these times, before and after Froissart, people of fashion were so ignorant, that the laity were, as by agreement, called rustics. With regard to science there was that distinction made, which ancient Rome made through policy, who called all the world barbarians, that were not citizens of Rome. Now, as love was the common subject to

write on, the laity writing nothing, it fell to the lot of the clergy ; therefore, it was very common for poems of gallantry and sermons to come from the same author.

The love of pleasure, and his taste for travelling, which he did in an expensive manner, were causes of great dissipation to Froissart ; but what seems astonishing, they did not hurt or prevent his studies ; for he was scarce twenty years old when he began his chronicles. It is to be presumed that his desire of instruction, was one cause of his frequent travels.

In 1395 having returned to England, he was introduced into the chamber of king Richard, who received him with marks of the greatest pleasure. He remained in England three months, and left it with a present of one hundred nobles, in a goblet of silver, gilt, weighing two marks, which the king gave him.

This is the last remarkable circumstance of his life ; the year of his death is unknown. It appears only that he was upwards of sixty when he died. He is said to be buried in the chapel of St. Anne, in the collegiate church of Chimay.

The following are no unfavourable specimens of his poetry :

RONDEL.

Reviens amy ; trop longue est ta demeure *
 Elle me fait avo^r peine et douleur,
 Mon esprit te demande a toute heure :
 Reviens amy ; trop longue est ta demeure.

Car il n'est nul, fors † toi qui me sequeure ‡.
 Ne secourra, jusqu' a ton retour.

* *Demeure*, accure. † *Fors*, lors. ‡ *Sequeure*, retard.

Feb. 8.

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1792.

on banking companies.

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Reviens amy; trop longue est ta demeure;
Elle me fait avoir peine et douleur.

RONDEL.

Amoms, amoms, que voulez de moi faire?
En vous ne puis voir rien de seur;
Je ne connois ne vous ne votre affaire,
Amoms, amoms, que voulez de moi faire?
En vous ne puis voir rien de seur.

Lequel vaut mieux, parler, prier, ou taire?
Dites le moi vous qui avez boncur*,
Amoms, amoms, que voulez de moi faire?
En vous ne puis voir rien de seur.

ON BANKING COMPANIES.

For the Bee.

I BEG leave to mention, that I think, if the attention of the Bee were now and then turned to the subject of our paper currency in Scotland, it might be of singular use at this critical period. I call it critical, because the unlimited right of setting up private banks, their multiplicity in consequence of this right, the obscure characters, and doubtful credit of some of the bankers, afford a favourable opportunity for the directors of chartered banks, to offer themselves as doctors to this political malady. Amputation will, you may believe, be their prescription,—and thus leave the patient, who only had a sore limb, without any limb at all. Of all the evils that could befall Scotland, that of reverting again under the power of the chartered banks, would be the worst. In truth bankers, like bakers, are not of great

* *Boncur Boncur-Bonbasard.*

use unless they reside near the seats of commerce. Edinburgh might as well pretend to issue loaves for all Scotland as bank notes. What benefit would an Aberdeen's merchant derive from the Edinburgh banks, if he wanted a bill, that had a short time to run, discounted on the spur of his business? Or how could an Angus farmer, procure credit for a few months, for the purchase of cattle to eat his grass, or of lime to improve it? The very expence of postages, in correspondence with Edinburgh, would consume half his profits, besides the chance of him and his sureties being unknown, at such a distance. It is true these banks have lately branched; but is it not the rivalship of other banks which has forced them to this expensive and dangerous expedient? Suppress the other banks, and they will soon shrink back into their own offices in Edinburgh. Besides, why should the whole profits, which are immense, of the circulation of paper in Scotland, centre in Edinburgh? Is not a diffusion of the profits of trade, one of the sources of the prosperity of a country? Let us regulate, therefore, but not suppress; and let our regulations have solely in view, the security of the ignorant holder of the circulating paper. Let the names of the partners be engraved on the notes. This single regulation corrects every evil. The back of the notes is now blank, and would hold the names of the most numerous company. Not one shilling has yet been lost to the country by the multiplicity of the banks; nor without fraud, can there be much danger of loss. For notes are issued for value in securities, and these securities alone,

Feb. 8.

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on banking companies.

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would indemnify the public, supposing the partners of the bank not to be worth a sixpence. The bank of Ayr, with all its folly and all its fraud, hurt the unwary proprietors; but all its notes in the hands of the public, were paid. This was a blind adventurous bank, when the subject of banking was less understood than now. In the course of all our observation, the towns of Scotland, in which banks have been established, have advanced rapidly in manufactures and commerce, and the country round them in agriculture; for the trade of our private banks is not confined merely to issuing loans of their paper; they facilitate commercial intercourse, and furnish the country with bills of exchange, on any place in Great Britain or Europe. Till last year, all remittances from the Highlands were made from Inverness, to which, value behoved to be sent from the remotest corners; now you may negotiate a bill in Stornaway, Thurso, and Tain, as easily as at the Exchange of Edinburgh: Is this no advantage? Credit can be converted into temporary loans of cash, here, as well as at Edinburgh; and why should it not? What title has any one part of a free country to advantages, from which other parts of it are debarred? I can see a reason why commercial jealousy should wish to confine those advantages to places which earliest got possession of them; but none why a wise legislature should lend its powers, to gratify the jealousy and avarice of selfish individuals.

The greatest danger with which the country is threatened, will, in future, arise from tempting offers,
VOL. vii. o c †

held out by long established companies; of advantage to the revenue, from indulging them in a monopoly. They may offer to pay a sum of money, like farmers general, and other monopolists, for the exclusive privilege of circulating their paper. But such baits are only fit to catch despots, and their ministers. It is to be hoped our parliament is too faithful to its trusts to deliver a country into the merciless paws of monopolists, of any kind, for the sake of a little additional revenue. In this country our resources arise from general taxes, imposed on all as a just return for general liberty, equally and impartially diffused and communicated to all.

We may reasonably hope to see this competition among bankers, if the trade be left free, produce a reduction in the rate of their discounts. The circumstances of the country would now probably admit of our banks granting cash accounts, and especially of discounting good bills, at fourpence halfpenny *per cent.* How important would such a reduction be to all who carry on trade with borrowed money? And when would a bank, possessed of the exclusive privilege of circulating its paper, make such a diminution of all profits in favour of commerce? If it did, it must be an act of pure generosity and benevolence, principles which cannot enter into trade. But in a free country, benefits derived from competition may certainly justly be accepted. I am

Yours,

LIBER.

THE DEAN OF BADAJOZ, A TALE.

Translated from the French of the abbé Blanchet.*

THE dean of the cathedral of Badajoz possessed more learning than all the doctors of Salamanca, Alcala, and Coimbra united. He was master of every language living or dead. He knew all sciences, divine as well as human; but unfortunately he was ignorant of magic, and was inconsolable for it. He was told of a most famous magician, who resided in the suburbs of Toledo, called Don Torribio; he ordered his mule to be saddled, set out for Toledo, and alighted at the door of a miserable house, where this great man lodged. Sir magician, said he, as he came up to him, I am dean of Badajoz. The learned of Spain do me the honour to call me their master, I come to you to request a more glorious title, that of becoming your disciple: Be kind enough to initiate me in the mysteries of your art, and reckon that my gratitude will be deserving such kindness.

Don Torribio was not very polite, though he piqued himself on living with the best company in hell. He told the dean he might seek another master of magic; that for him he was quite tired of a trade where he gained only compliments and promises, and that he would no longer disgrace the occult sciences by prostituting them upon ingrati-

* The abbé Blanchet took the idea of this tale from an old book much esteemed in Spain, called *El Conde Lucanor*. The Editor has been favoured with a life of this singular person, by the ingenious translator of this tale, which will be published as soon as the head can be got properly engraved.

tude. "How," cried the dean, "can it be possible, signior Don Torribio, that you have met with ungrateful persons? I hope you will do me more justice than to confound me with such monsters." He then detailed a long string of maxims and apothegms on gratitude; he harangued with the kindest voice, and with all the appearance of truth, every thing his memory could supply him with; in short he spoke so well, that the sorcerer, after a moment's pause, owned he could refuse nothing to one who knew so many fine quotations: "Jacintha," says he to his housekeeper, "put two partridges to the fire; I hope the dean will do me the honour to sup here to-night." He then led him into his study, where, after having touched his forehead, he repeated these mystical words, which the reader is intreated not to forget; *artodolan, pistiafer, enagrion*; then, without further preparation, he began to explain to him the prologomenas of magic.

The new disciple was listening with an attention that scarce permitted him to breathe, when Jacintha entered hastily, followed by a little man, booted to his middle, and dirty to his shoulders, who wished to speak to the dean on a matter of the greatest importance. He was a courier that his uncle, the bishop of Badajoz, had sent after him, to inform him that a few hours after his departure his lordship had been seized with an apoplectic fit, that he was very ill, and that the most alarming consequences were to be apprehended. The dean cursed heartily to himself, and without scandal, the apoplexy, the bishop, and the courier, who all three had so badly chosen

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1792. *the dean of Badajoz, a tale.* 205
the time to interrupt him. He got rid of the courier by ordering him to return directly to Badajoz, and telling him he would be there as soon as himself, and then returned to his lesson as if neither uncle nor apoplexy had existed.

Some days afterwards, more news came from Badajoz; but this was scarce worth attending to. The high chanter, and two of the oldest canons came, and notified to the dean that his uncle, the most reverend bishop, was gone to receive the recompence of his virtue in heaven, and that the chapter, legally assembled, had elected him to fill the vacant seat; and they begged of him to come and console the church of Badajoz his new spouse. Don Torribio was present at the harangue of the deputies, and took advantage of it like a clever fellow: He called the new bishop aside, and after a proper compliment on the occasion, told him he had a son, named Don Benjamin, who, with much wit and good inclinations, had not the smallest taste or talent for the occult sciences; that he meant him for the church, and, thanks to heaven, he had succeeded in the pious design; for he had the satisfaction of hearing that his son acted as one of the most deserving of the clergy of Toledo; therefore he most humbly intreated his highness, that he would resign to Don Benjamin his deanery of Badajoz, which he could not hold with the bishoprick. "Alas!" replied the prelate, with some confusion, "I shall ever be most happy when I can do any thing you request; but I must inform you I have a very old relation, whose heir I am, and who is fit only to be a dean: Now if I do not give it him, I shall have a quarrel with my

whole family, of which I am fond even to a degree of weakness; but," added he, "don't you intend to come to Badajoz? You will not have the cruelty to leave me when I am beginning to be of service to you? Believe me, my dear master, let us set out together, and only think of instructing your pupil; for I will take upon me the establishment of Don Benjamin, and will do more for him than his father now requires. A paltry deanery in Estramadura is not a proper benefice for the son of a man like you."

The civilians would say, that such a bargain was simony, which the prelate proposed to the sorcerer, nevertheless, it is certain, that these two illustrious persons concluded it without feeling any scruples. Don Torribio followed his disciple to Badajoz, he had handsome apartments in the episcopal palace, and saw himself respected as the favourite of his lordship, and as a kind of vicar general. Under the conduct of so able a master, the bishop made very rapid improvements in the hidden sciences; he gave himself up to it at first, with an intemperate ardour, but by degrees he moderated his passion, so that it did not interfere with the duties of his see. He was perfectly convinced of the truth of a maxim, very necessary for all bishop-sorcerers, philosophers, or men of letters, that it is not merely sufficient to attend the nocturnal meetings of the spirits, that their minds should be adorned with what human science has made most intricate and curious, but that they ought to point out to others the proper road to heaven, and to instil into the souls of the faithful wholesome doctrines and good behaviour. It was by fol-

Feb. 8.

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1792. *the dean of Badajoz, a tale.* 207.

lowing such wise principles that the learned prelate filled all Christendom with the fame of his merit; and when he expected it least, he saw himself nominated to the archbishoprick of Compostella.

The people and clergy of Badajoz, as may be easily imagined, lamented such an event, as it deprived them of their worthy pastor; and the canons of the cathedral, as the last mark of their respect and attachment, unanimously desired of him to name his successor. Don Torribio did not miss so good an opportunity to advance his son: He asked the bishoprick of the new archbishop, and it was with all the grace imaginable, that the archbishop refused it him. "He had so much veneration for his dear master!—he was so grieved!—so very much ashamed to refuse what appeared scarcely a request!—But how could he act otherwise? Don Ferdinand de Lara, constable of Castile, had asked this bishoprick for his natural son; and though he had never seen the constable, he was under such strong, secret, and old obligations to him, that he felt it as his indispensable duty to prefer the old benefactor to the new one: But if he would consider his will, it would not appear so very harsh; for he would see what he might with certainty depend upon when his turn came, and come it soon must." The magician had the politeness to believe all this, and made himself as happy as he could with its being given up to Don Ferdinand.

Nothing was thought of now, but the preparations for setting out to take possession of Compostella, though it was scarce worth while, considering the short time they were to remain there. A chamber-

lain from the pope, brought, a few months afterwards; the cardinal's hat, with a complimentary brief from his holiness, who invited him to come and assist him with his counsels, in governing the christian world; he permitted the archbishop to dispose of his mitre in favour of whom he pleased. Don Torribio was not at Compostella when the pope's messenger came there; he was on a visit to his dear son, who still remained a poor curate to a small parish in Toledo; —he soon returned; but for this time he had not the trouble to request the vacant archbishoprick. The prelate ran out to meet him with open arms: "My dear master, I am happy to tell you two pieces of good news instead of one; your disciple is a cardinal, and your son will shortly be one, or I have no interest at Rome. I wished in the mean time to have made him archbishop of Compostella; but only think how unfortunate he is, or rather I am; my mother, whom we left at Badajoz, has written to me, during your absence, a cruel letter, which has totally disconcerted all my measures. She insists upon my nominating, as my successor, the archdeacon of my former church, the licenciado Don Pablos de Salazar, her confessor, and intimate friend; she threatens me with her death, if she does not obtain what she wishes for her dear ghostly father, and I have not a doubt but she will keep her word. My dear master, put yourself in my place, shall I kill my mother?" Don Torribio was not a man to recommend a parricide; he applauded the nomination of Don Pablos, and did not show the smallest resentment against the mother of the prelate.

Feb. 8.

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dean of Badajoz, a tale.

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His mother, if it must be known, was a good sort of an old woman, almost childish, who lived with her cat and housekeeper, and scarce knew the name of her confessor. Was it likely that it was she who gave the archbishoprick to Don Pablos? was it not rather a very devout and very pretty Galician widow, a near relation of the archdeacon's, at whose home his lordship most assiduously edified himself during his stay at Compostella? However it may be, Don Torribio followed his new highness to Rome. Scarce were they arrived there when the pope died. It is easy to foresee where this event will lead us; the conclave is opened, the whole sacred college unite in favour of the Spanish cardinal;—he is now pope! After the ceremonies of the exaltation, Don Torribio, admitted to a private audience, wept with joy as he kissed the feet of his pupil, whom he saw fill the pontifical throne with so much dignity. He modestly represented his long and faithful services; he reminded his holiness of his promises, inviolable promises, and which had been renewed before he entered the conclave; he hinted a few words about the hat, which he had just quitted in receiving the tiara; but, instead of asking the hat for Don Benjamin, he ended by a trait of moderation, scarce to be credited: He protested he renounced all ambitious expectations; his son and himself would be too happy if his holiness, with his benediction, would have the goodness to give them a small civil employment; or an annuity for their lives, that would be sufficient for the moderate wants of an ecclesiastic and a philosopher.

During this little harangue, the sovereign pontiff was asking himself what he should do with his preceptor. Could not he do without him? And did not he know as much of magic as became a pope? Would it be proper for him to appear at their nocturnal meetings, and submit to the indecent ceremonies which are observed at them? Every reflection made his holiness judge that Don Torribio would not only be useless, but even troublesome to him; and this point being decided, he was in no difficulty what answer to make. This is literally his answer:

“ We have learnt with grief, that under pretext of the occult sciences, you hold a correspondence with the prince of darkness and of liars, which we not only exhort you to expiate by a penitence proportionate to the enormity of such a crime, but also order you to quit the territories of the church within three days, under pain of being given up to the secular arms, and the rigour of the flames.”

Don Torribio, without being disconcerted, repeated backwards the three mysterious words, which the reader ought to have remembered; and opening a window, he bawled out as loud as he could, “Jacintha! put only one partridge to the fire, for the dean will not sup here to night.”

This was a thunder clap to the pretended pope, he recovered suddenly from a kind of extacy, which the three magical sounds had first thrown him into; he saw that instead of being in the Vatican, he was still at Toledo in the study of Don Torribio; by looking at the clock, he found he had scarce been an hour in this fatal study where the dreams were so delightful.

Feb. 8.

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In less than an hour he had fancied himself magi-
cian, bishop, archbishop, cardinal, pope, and found
himself at last really a dupe and a knave. Every
thing had been illusion except his own deceit, and
the proofs he had given of his treachery and bad-
ness of heart. He left the room in silence, found
his mule where he had left him, and returned again
to Badajoz, without having learnt to cast a nati-
vity.

OF PETRIFICATIONS IN FIFE.

To the Editor of the Bee.

Mr Editor,

If you think the following short account of some
petrifications in Fife will be acceptable to your read-
ers, you may at your conveniency give it a corner
in your justly esteemed work. M.

ABOUT a mile to the westward of Burntisland the
coast is rocky, and the beach covered with large
stones; from these rocks, which are mostly of lime-
stone, a small rivulet, called Starly Burn, takes its
rise; and running slowly down the face of the hill,
deposits in its passage a portion of the calcareous
matter with which it is saturated, and forms a stra-
tum more or less thick, according to the obstacles it
has met with in its passage; forming incrustations
upon the different bodies it meets with, such as moss,
branches, and leaves of trees, &c. which are very
beautiful, particularly the moss, which has evidently
continued in a state of vegetation, after its roots

and lower parts had been penetrated by the calcareous matter; in some parts we see snails arrested in their sluggish walk, and locked up in the stony concrete. At the bottom of the declivity, where the rock has been abrupt, there are caves formed, four or five feet wide at bottom, and gradually lessening to the top, the water having continued to run in the slope of the hill; and there it assumes a stalactitical form, resembling branches of trees, icicles, and other curious shapes.

Some parts of this stratum are very compact, and capable of receiving a fine polish, and are composed of different layers of a variety of colours, from a light ash colour to a dark brown, and are exactly similar to a stalactite brought from Gibraltar, wrought up into toys of different kinds. Other parts of it, when first examined, are quite soft, and may be cut with a knife, but all of it, upon exposure to the air, becomes very hard, and when struck sounds like metal.

Sir Robert Sibbald, in his *history of Fife*, takes notice of this natural curiosity; but since his time it appears to have escaped the observation of naturalists. The study of natural history has been long a favourite pursuit among people of the first fortune, rank, and ability on the continent; and within these few years, a taste for it seems to be gaining ground here. The museum of the college, under the care of the present learned professor, is emerging from obscurity; and it is to be hoped, will, in time, contain a complete collection of specimens of all the objects of natural history in this country. A private collection has been formed on a very extensive scale, by a dis-

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tinguished character, during his late travels on the
continent, which does infinite honour to his fine
taste; and if his example were followed by other
gentlemen, possessed of his fortune and knowledge,
they would find it a never failing source of honou-
rable amusement for their private hours, and of very
considerable benefit to their country, by bringing
forward in one view its mineral riches, and thereby
inducing the proprietors of estates, in which metallic
bodies are found, to furnish us with raw materials for
our manufactures, for which immense sums are an-
nually remitted from Scotland.

In many cases the pursuit of the naturalist tends
chiefly to satisfy his curiosity, but in all it elevates
his conceptions and incites his piety. The books of
nature and revelation mutually illustrate each other,
and are both written by the finger of ONE ETERNAL
AND BENEFICENT DEITY.

ON POPE'S WORKS.

To the Editor of the Bee.

Sir,

I LATELY turned over the works of Mr Pope. I
have no desire to disturb the public veneration of his
general merit. But it may not be presumptuous or
improper to quote a few passages, not entirely consis-
tent with the zeal of vulgar idolatry.

Of his epistle to Dr Arbuthnot, Mr Pope is the
hero, from the first line to the last. His habits
of intimacy with the learned and the great, his can-

dour, benevolence, integrity,—his filial piety, and public spirit, are all displayed in the most ostentatious terms. His contempt of those who abused him in their lampoons, is repeated so often, that we cannot possibly believe it.

After having loudly boasted of his connections with Somers, Sheffield, and St John, he is weak enough to say,

“ Above a patron, though I condescend
“ Sometimes to call a minister my friend.”

Speaking of Gay, and the neglect of his merit by the English court, he adds:

“ Of all thy blameless life the sole return,
“ My verse! and Queensb'ry weeping o'er thy urn.”

Gay received three thousand pounds for his Beggar's opera, and had himself therefore only to blame if he ever he wanted money, which was not the case.

In his imitations of Horace there are many passages full of ridiculous self conceit. Speaking of the importance of his writings, he says,

“ Yes! I am proud, and justly proud, to see
“ Men not afraid of God, afraid of me.”

And again, when describing the progress of national corruption, he adds:

“ Yet shall this vice, if such a vice remain,
“ Show there was ONE who held it in disdain.”

A considerable part of his poetry runs in this stile. The four following lines cannot advance our opinion of his good sense:

“ E'en in a bishop I can spy desert;
“ Secker is decent, Rundell has a beard.

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" Candour, with manners, are to Benson given,
" To Berkeley every virtue under heaven."

Why may we not discover merit in a bishop, as easily as in any other man? His encomium on three of their lordships is trifling and equivocal, and by a necessary consequence impertinent. I have marked in italics, two phrases which are too vulgar for the flattest prose.

In an epigram printed in the notes, he mentions a lord who had offered to compound a law-suit, and strangely adds:

" What on compulsion and against my will?
" A lord's acquaintance! let him fill his bill."

The tautology of the first line is forgot in the absurdity of the second. If it was so disgraceful to be in friendship with a lord, why does he so frequently remind us of his friends among the nobility?

The grossness of some lines in the Dunciad, is generally known. His imitation of Chaucer, is in the rankest language of obscenity. In his translation, from Statius, he tells us that "dreadful accents" broke from *the breast* of OEdipus. But it is a defect of a more serious nature, to put the most indecent sentiments into the epistle of Eloisa. A short specimen will justify my censure. Having mentioned her lover's misfortune she adds:

" Still on that breast enamour'd let me lie,
" Still drink delicious poison from thy eye,
" Pant on thy lip, and to thy breast be prest'd,
" Give all thou canst and let me dream the rest."

I cannot read the Rape of the Lock without weariness and disgust; and every *private* critic of my

acquaintance is of the same taste. Pope speaks with infinite contempt of Laurence Eusden. This writer translated the Greek story of Hero and Leander, into English verse not less elegant than that of January and May, by Pope. In perusing the pastorals of Philips, the reader will not find that marked inferiority, which he may have expected.

AN OLD CORRESPONDENT.

REMARKS ON THE ABOVE.

THE above sketch is drawn with a bold outline, and lively colouring; many of our readers will, probably with reason, suspect that it is not in all respects accurately just. That Pope's body was weak, and his temper splenetic is well known; and that his verses might have, at times, through carelessness and inattention, been tingured by these weaknesses, is nothing surprising. No human composition is perfect; and it is only by counterbalancing the evil with the good, that a just judgement can be formed. Among the many verses he wrote, there may be faulty lines, there may be passages which his friends would wish had never seen the light; but at the same time it ought never to be forgotten, that he has written a greater number of *good lines*, when taken singly, than, Shakespeare excepted, almost any other poet in the English language.

Pope. Feb. 8.
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POETRY.

To the Editor of the Bee.

ORIGINAL ODE.

Recited by a CLUB on the 31st of December 1791.

COME my lads since time is fleeting,
And our year upon the wing,
Let us have a jovial meeting,
And its parting requiem sing.

Hither drawer! bring us claret,
Quickly fill us flowing bowls!
Mouldy cah!...Why should we spare it?
Banish dull unsocial souls.

Murm'ring mortals, still repining,
With us cannot find a place;
Double hearts, with flat'ry whinings,
Shall not shew their Janus face.

Those who murder reputation,
Sons of scandal come not here!
Discord dire, and vile vexation,
Shall not in our club appear.

Here is nought but social pleasure,
Love and Friendship reign confest;
In this bumper blooms a treasure,
Cheers the care-corroded breast!

Liberty we here enjoy,
Britain's sons, and born free;
Let us then this wish employ,
That as happy all may be!

France, Great Britain's new-born sister,
Rising from despotic sway;
May that power who thus hath blest her,
Lead her forth to Freedom's day!

Weep for Afric's sons forlorn,
Pledge their health, and wish them free!
Freedom's fire with all is born,
Why slaves to us should negroes be?

Awkward were our present meeting,
Should we here neglect the Fair;
May the peerless maids of Britain,
Still be heav'n's peculiar care!

Venus smiling here before us,
Bids us fill a flowing glass;
While in one harmonious chorus,
Ev'ry lad shall pledge his lass.

May our sweetheart's gentle bosoms,
Glow with love and modest fame!
Still may Virtue's fairest blossoms,
With fresh laurels shade their name.

A NORLAND SHEPHERD.

A FABLE.

For the Bee.

THIS tale I heard once in a shop,
The owner was a monstrous fop;
His setting dog laid claim to wit,
And call'd poor puffs a sneaking cit,
Who ne'er could taste what life affords,
And hunt in company with lords;
Nor range before the tube of fate,
And see the partridge rise elate,
Now fluttering from its place of rest,
Now panting on its speckled breast;
Nor see the hare bound o'er the field,
Nor see the timid trembler yield;
Nor at the peep of dew-clad morn,
Exulting tread on unresp'd corn,
While modest farmers see despoil'd,
The fruits for which so long they've toil'd;
And if they dare the ill resent,
Are damn'd,---licens'd by government!

All this I taste, while *master* smiles,
And shopmen ease his low-bred tails.
Says puffs, 'tis true I hunt for vermin,
Yet even I could give a sermon.
If you and *master* thus employ
The hours of youth,---the hours of joy,
No skill prophetic need presage,
A bankrupt, and a starving age.

Few months went round,---the tradesman fail'd!
Puffs still with mice was well regal'd,
His friends laugh'd at the mock disaster,
And Pompey's sold to feed his master.

The moral's short, nor need I cox ye,
Eat,---drink,---but never work by proxy.

A PHENIX HUNTER.

GLEANINGS OF ANCIENT POETRY.

From the prologue to the twelfth book of *Virgil*,
By GAVIN DOUGLASS bishop of Dunkeld.

WELCOME TO THE SUN.

WELCUM the lord of licht, and lampe of day!
Welcum fosterare of tender herbis grene,
Welcum quikkyunnar of flurist flouris schene!
Welcum support of every rute and vane,
Welcum confort of all kinde frute and grane!
Welcum the birdis beild upon the breere,
Welcum maister and reulare of the yere!
Welcum wefare of husbandis at the plewis,
Welcum reparare of woddis, treis, and bewis,
Welcum depaynter of the blomyt medes,
Welcum the lyffe of every thing that spredis,
Welcum restorare of al kynd bestial;
Welcum be thy bricht bemes gladaad al!
Welcum celestiall myrroure and espye,
Atteiching al that hantis sluggardly!
And with this wourd, in chaumer quhare I lay,
The nyth morow of frethe temperit *May*,
On fute I sprent into my bare sark,
Wilfu for to complete my langsum wark,
Tuiching the latter buke of Dan *Virgil*,
Quhilk me had tarry't al so lang ane quhylye,
And to behauld the cummyng of this king,
That was a welcum to al wardly thing,
With sic triumphs and pompous courage glaid,
Than of his soverane chymmes, as is said,
Newly-arising in his estate ryall;
That by his hew, but orliger or dyal,
I knew it was past four houres of day,
And thocht I wald na langare ly in *May*,
Lest *Pebus* suld me losingere attaynt;
For *Progne* had or than sung hir complaynt,
And eik her drefful sister *Phibomene*
Hir lay is endit, and in woddis grene,
Hid hir selvin, eschamit of hir chaunce,
And *Estacus* compleit his pennance,
In ryveres, fludis, and on every laik,
And *Peristera* biddis luffaris awake,
To serf my lady *Pennis* here with me;
Lerne thus to make your observance, quod arhe,
Into my hartis ladis swete presence
Beholdis how I being, and does reverenée;
Hir neck *rebo* winkelis, trasing mony fold,
With plumis glitterand azure upon gold,

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GENIX HUNTER,

Rend'ring an collour betwix grene and blew
 In purple glance of hevenlie variant hew:
 I mene our awen bird, gentil dow,
 Singand on hir kynde, *I come bidder to woo*,
 So pricking his grene courage for to crowde,
 In amorous voce and wovar soundis lowde,
 That for the dynning of her wantoun cry,
 I lrkit of my bed and might not ly,
 Rut gan me blis, sine in my wedis drefsis,
 And for it was are morrow or tyme to melfes,
 I hint ane scripture, and my pen furth tuke,
 Syne thus began of Virgil the twelt duke.

A translation of this very elegant and inimitably natural description of the dove is requested.

AZAKIA, A TALE.

[Continued from p. 187. and concluded.]

THIS discourse quite dismayed St Castins. He spoke against it every thing that reason, grief, and love could suggest to him most convincing; nothing seemed to be so to the young savage. She wept, but persevered in her design. All that the disconsolate Celario could obtain from her, was a promise, that though Ouabi should appear to her a second time in a dream, she should wait, before she put herself to death, to be assured of his; of which St Castins was resolved to know the truth as soon as possible.

The savages neither exchange nor ransom their prisoners; contenting themselves to rescue them out of the enemy's hands, whenever they can. Sometimes the conqueror destines his captives to slavery; but he oftener puts them to death. Such are particularly the maxims of the Iroquois. There was, therefore, reason to presume, that Ouabi had died of his wounds, or was burnt by that barbarous nation. Azakia believed it to be so, more than any other: But St Castins would have her at least doubt of it. On his side, he re-animates the courage of the Hurons, and proposes a new enterprise against the enemy. It is ap-

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Azalia, a tale.

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proved of—they deliberate upon electing a chief, and all voices unite in favour of St Castins, who had already given proofs of his valour and conduct. He departs with his troop, but not till after he had again Azalia's word, that, notwithstanding all the dreams she might yet have, she would defer, at least till his return, the doleful journey she had designed.

This expedition of the Huron warriors was attended with all imaginable success. The Iroquois believed them to be too much weakened or discouraged to think of undertaking any thing, and were themselves on their march to come and attack them; but they were no way cautious how they proceeded. It was not so with St Castins' band of warriors. He had dispatched some of his people to reconnoitre. They discovered the enemy without being seen by them, and returned to give advice thereof to their chief. The ground was found very fit for lying in ambuscade; and the Hurons availed themselves so well of it, that the Iroquois saw themselves hemmed in, when they believed they had no risk to run. They were charged with a fury that left them no time to know where they were. Most of them were killed on the spot; and the remainder maimed, or grievously wounded. The Hurons march off directly to the next village, and surprise the Iroquois assembled there. They were going to enjoy the spectacle of seeing a Huron burnt; and already the Huron was beginning to sing his death-song. This, no savage, whom the enemy is ready to put to death, ever fails to do. Loud cries, and a shower of musket balls, soon dispersed the multitude. Both the fugitives, and those that faced about to resist, were killed. All the savage ferocity was fully displayed. In vain St Castins endeavoured to stop the carnage. With difficulty he saved a small number of women and children. He was apprehensive, particularly, that in the midst of this horrid tumult, Ouabi himself should be massacred, supposing he was still living, and was in that

habitation. Full of this notion, he ran incessantly from one place to another. He perceived on a spot, where the battle still continued, a prisoner tied to a stake, and having all about him the apparatus of death; that is, combustibles for burning him by a slow fire. The chief of the Hurons flies to the wretched captive, breaks his bonds—knows him—and embraces him with transports of joy.—It was Ouabi.

This brave savage had preferred the loss of his life to that of his liberty. He was scarcely cured of his wounds, when life was offered him, on condition of remaining a slave; but he had chosen death, determined to procure it if refused to him. The Iroquois were a people that would spare him that trouble; and one moment later his companions could not have saved him.

After having dispersed, or made slaves of the remains of the Iroquois in that quarter, the Huron army marched home. St Castins wanted to give up the command of it to Ouabi, which he refused. On the way, he informed him of Azakia's purpose to die, persuaded that he was not alive, and that he had required her to follow him; he acquainted him also of the poison she had prepared on that account, and of the delay he had obtained from her with great difficulty. He spoke with a tenderness and emotion that deeply affected the good Ouabi, who called to mind some things he had not much attended to at the time they happened; but he then let him know nothing of what he intended.—They arrive. Azakia, who had another dream, fancied this return as a signal of her fate. But how great was her surprise, to see, among the number of the living, the husband she was going to meet in the abode of spirits!

At first she remained motionless and mute; but her joy soon expressed itself by lively caresses and long discourses. Ouabi received the one, and interrupted the others. Afterwards, addressing himself to St Castins: “*Celario!*”

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Azakia, a tale.

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said he, "thou hast saved my life; and, what is still dearer to me, thou hast twice preserved to me Azakia: She therefore belongs more to thee than to me;—I belong to thee myself: See whether she be enough to acquit us both. I yield her to thee through gratitude, but would not have yielded her, to deliver myself from the fire kindled by the Iroquois."

What this discourse made St Castins feel, is hard to be expressed; not that it seemed so ridiculous and strange to him, as it might to many Europeans: He knew that divorces were very frequent among the savages. They separate, as easily as they come together. But, persuaded that Azakia could not be yielded up to him without a supernatural effort—he believed himself obliged to evince equal generosity. He refused what he desired most, and refused in vain—Ouabi's perseverance in his resolution was not to be conquered. As to the faithful Azakia, who had been seen to resist all St Castins' attacks, and to refuse surviving the husband, whom she believed to be dead, it might perhaps be expected that she would long hold out against the separation her husband had proposed. To this she made not the least objection. She had hitherto complied only with her duty; and thought she was free to listen to her inclination, since Ouabi required it of her. The pieces of the rod of union were brought forth, put together, and burnt. Ouabi and Azakia embraced each other for the last time, and, from that moment, the young and beautiful Huron was reinstated in all the rights of a maiden. It is also said, that, by the help of some missionaries, St Castins put her in a condition of becoming his wife according to the rules prescribed to christians. Ouabi on his side, broke the rod with young Zisma; and these two marriages, so different in the form, were equally happy. Each husband, well assured that there were no competitors, forgot that there had been any predecessors.

INTELLIGENCE RESPECTING ARTS.

Machine for making candles.

BRITAIN is daily making improvements in arts by means of machinery; there are still greater inducements for exertions in this line in America, as labour is there extremely dear in proportion to the necessaries of life. A manufacturer in Philadelphia has lately announced an invention of his own, by which, with the assistance of an apparatus adapted for the purpose, one person can make as many candles as ten could do in the ordinary way. He does not explain either the principle, or any circumstance respecting this machine, that can lead to a discovery of its nature, contenting himself with barely announcing these particulars.

Many are the arts that still remain to be perfected in Britain, by means of machinery; and it is not to be doubted, but ingenious men will turn their attention to that subject, and gradually perfect them in that way. Among these, it may not be improper to mention two manufactures in particular, that seem to be peculiarly susceptible of improvement by machinery, *viz.* type-founding, and paper-making. At present, the method of casting types in single letters at a time, by the hand, is a slow, awkward, expensive, and unwholesome process; and there can be no doubt but a machine might be contrived to lift the metal, pour it out, give the jerk necessary in the process, and shake out the types with much more steadiness, accuracy, and precision, than it can be done at present. This will be said to be impossible, till it be actually done.

Acknowledgements to correspondents deferred till our next.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15. 1792.

A PROPOSAL

For a better mode of victualling the navy in warm climates, applicable also to East India ships, and containing many hints for curing provisions in Europe, by captain Forrest of the navy.*

WHEN I consider the uncomfortable manner in which seamen on board men of war often live in India, where I have resided many years, and have made above twenty country voyages, compared with the manner in which the same expence the nation is at to maintain them might enable them to live, I hope the following remarks will be attended to.

I chiefly condemn the improper mode of preserving beef and pork, not only in East India, but in Europe, and what immediately follows that improper mode, and seems inseparable from it, and linked to it, the improper mode of dressing the same, simply boiling, how widely different from the manner in which the country black sailors, called lascars, live in India, many of whom are daily seen in the streets of London.

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* This important paper was communicated to the Editor, by a gentleman who is ever attentive to promote the welfare of his country.

In my first voyages in country ships, I always made a remark, the European sailors (generally one to five lascars, and who go under the name of quarter-masters,) are victualled as sailors are in Europe, that is, they have salt beef and pork, and rice instead of bread, sometimes Bengal biscuit; but good cargo rice, as it is called, and of which the lascars are allowed about two pounds *per* day, is never refused them, and it is served to them hot, twice a day, at eight in the morning and five in the evening.

The remark that I never failed to make was, that these Europeans, with a kind of discontent, took notice that the blacks lived better than they; but the lascars did not cost in victualling above one half of what was laid out to victual the Europeans, when European salt meats were purchased.

The lascars allowance was plain rice, doll, a kind of vetch, two pounds of gee (butter) *per* month, and one rupee fish money; with which (and no doubt part of their own eight rúpees *per* month pay, of which, on voyages, they have two, three, or four months advance, according to its expected length) they lay in a stock of articles, which an European would hardly think of, and many of which they would despise, not knowing their value.

The Europeans had beef and pork full allowance; in this there was a sameness. It could not be dressed but in one way, as already observed, (boiling,) and I am persuaded, their exercise being but small, it was unhealthy food, and not fit for a hot country, more especially if the crew is sickly.

Latterly I altered my mode of victualling the Europeans. The beef and pork I carried to sea with me,

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were salted, free of bone, and cut in small slices, with a mixture of some coarse sugar, this kept much better than in the usual way, and took up much less room. I made the following use of it: I caused it to be freshened with salt water let in upon it, in a tub never larger than the half of a hoghead, or gang cask, and often much smaller, which was perforated by many holes at the bottom; this being done for six or eight hours, I gave it, after draining, a rince with a small quantity of fresh water, perhaps half a pint of water to a pint of meat; as I must now talk of meat not by the piece or weight, but by measure. Being thus rinsed, the fresh water, now become salt, was let run off; then a certain quantity of India butter called *gee*, (good oil would do as well) was put into the copper or iron pot, and just let come to boil, which it presently does. Then the drained meat was thrown upon the boiling *gee*, which being stirred a few minutes, the roots and vegetables, whatever kind was on board, were thrown in with a very little fresh water, and the whole so stopt by a well fitting cover, that the contents were rather digested, as cooks say, than stewed, consequently sooner done; by this means saving fuel. The lascars would never touch any thing but what their own cook (*banderey*) dressed, and they sometimes mixed fish and flesh, making a savoury dish, of which the Europeans had no objection to partake; the vegetables were yams or potatoes; either the European or the sweet, called the Spanish onions, raw or preserved in vinegar, made of toddy drawn from the cocoa nut tree; cabbage sprouts dried in the sun, and so preserved; pumkins, which keep long being hung in the air;

mangoes, cut green from the stone and dried in the sun, (plumbs and apples would correspond;) a little tamarind, and that great antiscorbutic, salted limes, lemons or oranges; of which (the lime particularly) the lascars carry always a stock to sea; a few ounces of cayen pepper, (capsicum would correspond;) and last of all, an emulsion, made by pouring hot water over a ripe cocoa nut rasped down; this emulsion, though grateful to the taste, is bad for the stomach raw, but when boiled, a little is exceeding well flavoured, and antiscorbutic; the rasped cocoa nut, well squeezed, is generally thrown to the fowls. A stew made in the above manner, varying the ingredients, was served twice a-day, and was exceeding good, never too salt; for I apprehend, the roots and vegetables, in digesting, farther extracted the salt from the meat, and the whole expence for the Europeans; was much less than when I bought European provisions, and they were better pleased. The stew was served with a ladle, and ate with rice, and curry.

A sailor on board of a man of war has on meat days, a piece of salt beef or pork, boiled for dinner; possibly it is all ate up at one meal; if any remains for next day's breakfast, how uncomfortable is the cold scrap! Breakfast in all countries, but especially in hot countries, ought to be a very comfortable meal. For the many years I have sailed in India, I never let any body go on duty, if there was the least chance of their being from the ship after eight o'clock, but they breakfasted first; and the cooks were often up by day-light to dress a hot breakfast for such as went early on shore: If exposed to the

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sun for any time without breakfast, they returned
on board often sick at the stomach; but otherwise
would bear being in the sun a whole day, without
complaint; they sometimes carried pots in the boat
with them, and cooked ashore.

I have supposed this mode of victualling for warm
countries, but I see no reason why it may not be
adopted at home in a great measure.

I have said the meat, cut from the bone in small
pieces, was preserved with some sugar mixed with
salt; but as in freshening it the sugar was carried
off with the salt, I be-grudged losing what was very
wholesome,—I soon changed my method.

Long before I went to India, which was in 1751, the
Portugueze used to preserve fish, cut in small pieces,
with salt and sugared tamarind; and I frequently car-
ried to sea with me (cured by the Portugueze of Cal-
cutta, who make a trade of it) a tolerable provision
for my own table; they called it *pesche molia*. I never
found the fish thus preserved a bit too salt. It re-
quired only to be fried in the tamarind, &c. which
covered it, adding a little butter.

But sugar and tamarinds are very cheap in Ben-
gal, and latterly, I took the hint, and preserved
meat with one part salt, the other sugared tamarind,
throwing away the stones and strings of the tama-
rind, and adding a small proportion of cayan; and
never was obliged to freshen the slices of meat,
when a good deal of vegetable was stewed with it.
If this is tried at home, let not the difficulty of get-
ting tamarind be an objection, sugar and salt will do;
and I apprehend more than half of the former, at

least, it is worth trial. The more sugar is used the less is the need of freshening. Here I cannot help remarking, how easily, even without culture, tamarind, cocoa nuts, limes and oranges, cayen pepper, &c. would grow in the Bahama islands. The cocoa nut tree delights in a sandy soil near the sea. The nut must be gathered ripe, and by all means kept in the hulk; a great manufacture of oil might be made from them, by boiling the bruised nut, to supply the West India islands; and vinegar may be made of its toddy. As the nut, when ripe, will keep many months, I see no reason why they might not be used at home, if what I am going to say is put in practice.

Let the beef killed for the navy be cut in small slices from the bone, and preserved with one half salt, and one half sugar. Let the hogs be skinned, and preserved in the same manner, cutting out, in both beef and pork, the inside parts of the sirloins, which ought to be preserved or cured by itself. The skin of the hogs will make stout leather, the bones may certainly be put to some use, the juices of which, when barrell'd up, not coming into contact with the salt, incline the whole to putrefaction; and their room saved in stowage is about one fourth part.

I shall suppose there is an iron pot for one hundred men, in which I propose to dress them two meals a day, the first to be ready at eight or nine o'clock in the morning, the second as shall be found convenient, and both to be dressed in the following manner:

For one meal for 100 men, let fifty ounces of butter or oil, be put into the heated iron pot; this will immediately boil; to this add 200 ounces of pork, and 300 ounces of beef, the pork first, (this makes ten

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ounces *per* day of meat for each man, and one ounce
of butter, divided into two meals) which pork must
be stirred about for a few seconds before the beef is
thrown in. Whatever may be spared of the pickle is
to be thrown in also. Let this stew for a short time :
Then having stirred it well, put in the sour crout,
roots and vegetables, and close it well up to digest.
It will be soon ready; and if, just before it is ready,
there be added a quarter or one-eighth of a cocoa nut
for each man, or twenty cocoa nuts for one hundred
men, rasped down, and an emulsion made from it, and
to the whole add a handful of dried capsicums, a sort
of cayen, very common in England, the mess to be
served out with a laddle, will be both savoury and
wholesome. I need not say if flour be added, so
much the better, or raisins, prunes, or figs, but espe-
cially salted limes, lemons or oranges, and some of
the vinegar thrown in, that has preserved onions or
whatever else.

I do not apprehend, when there is a good stock of
sour crout, roots, &c. that the curry will be too salt.
If it is, in curing diminish the salt, and increase the
sugar, perhaps add vinegar; I am persuaded pork,
having much fat, wants but little salt. My having al-
ways, *i. e.* within these eight years, used half salt,
half sugared tamarind, which answered very well,
makes me uncertain of the effect of half salt and half
sugar precisely.

The Malays often put into the wet ground, tied
up in a cloth, a kind of bean, until it vegetates. This
they put into their curries. Why they on shore should
do so I cannot tell; but taking the idea from them,

I have done much the same at sea, with a kind of pea, called doll, or gram, in India. I steeped the pease in water until they swelled, and then put them into a box, upon a layer of earth, then another layer of earth, and another of pease; in a few days according as the weather was moist or dry, they were sprouted, and fit to be curried, or stewed, the same mode was repeated and succeeded.

I am confident a cask may be filled in this manner with alternate layers of pease, with beans, or any other proper seed, and mould; and in three or four days give a large quantity of wholesome vegetable, highly antiscorbutic. The same operation may be repeated with the same casks, and same earth, to great advantage; the casks headed up, may be put away for the time. Possibly a vegetable, so much in infancy, if I may so speak, stewed with such meat, may farther extract its salt.

Care should be taken to provide our seamen in India with good cargo rice; and to let it be well cleaned before it is boiled, there is no want of hands to do what is so necessary: This is much neglected.

Our fleet was so sickly when admiral Hughes last met Suffrein, that eleven hundred men were sent sick on shore at Madras: Monsieur Suffrein, when at Atcheen, in 1782, got not many bullocks, but plenty of vegetables. The French deal more in stews than we do, which suit better for warm countries.

The beef and pork salted in Bengal soon grew rancid.

Millions of cocoa nuts in East India are carried from the Nicobar, and Carnicobar islands to Pegu,

Feb. 15.

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1792. *on victualling the navy, &c.* 233

and whole cargoes sold for ten or twelve rupees *per* hundred; as are cargoes of shrimps, beat up into a paste and dried in the sun, often carried in boats, in bulk, up to Ava the capital. They call it blatehang or barlychang.

The Pegu cocoa nuts are inferior to those that grow near the sea, therefore they are fond of those from the islands lying off the coast.

The men should have a pint of tea. Tea on shore to working people, may not be so good as malt liquor, but at sea, where there is no labour that can be called hard, at least in the navy or East Indiamen, tea as a cooler or diluter is wholesome. Four ounces of tea, value eightpence, and eight ounces of sugar, value twopence, will make sixteen pints of tea for sixteen men, which is not three farthings *per* man. Surely this served twice a-day is no great matter. To make tea for one hundred men, fourteen or fifteen gallons, allowing for waste, should be put in the opposite pot to the digesting pot; they should have it dressed for them, else they will neglect it; at the same time, as many, at their pleasure or command, as may wish to have tea, should be allowed somehow to have a little by purchase, against their wages or otherwise. I have always observed, sailors drinking tea weans them from the thought of drinking strong liquors; and with tea they are easily contented; not so with whatever will intoxicate, be it what it will. This has always been my remark; therefore I always encouraged tea-drinking without their knowing why. Coffee has the same good effect; also

VOL. vii.

G. G.

†

cocoa, or chocolate ; but I prefer the tea as a refresher.

Sugared tamarind should be imported duty free ; but as sugared tamarind will make, with spirits, very good shrub, to preserve the sugar-revenue it should be also mixed with salt, as then, although it is fit to cure beef or pork, or make pesche molia, it would make bad shrub. If not salted in the West Indies, it should be mixed with salt on the Custom-house wharfs. So soot is mixed with salt, when destined for manure, by revenue officers.

The Dutch are a wise people but slow ; had they tamarind at their door, they long ago, I suspect, would have exported pesche molia to the Mediterranean. Tamarind is penetrating and generally consumes the small bones. All East Indians agree that pesche molia is exceedingly grateful and piquant to the taste.

What a field for the northern fisheries !

The limes or lemons having, by an incision on their sides, had a little bruised salt put in, in a few days are thrown to dry in the sun, being first squeezed by the hand. They are then packed up in their former pickle, and the jar or cask filled up with vinegar. It is needless for me to say they might also be preserved with sugar where they grow.

The lascars carry with them also to sea salted tamarinds, free from stone and string, which they put into all their dishes. They are also fond of the tamarind when green to put into their dishes.

THOMAS FORREST.

Feb. 15th

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on Thomson.

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AUTHENTIC PARTICULARS

Respecting the family and connections of Mr Thomson, author of the Seasons, &c.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

As the professed object of all your lucubrations is the attainment of truth, I make no doubt but you will readily insert the following observations, tending to correct a small mistake into which one of your correspondents has innocently fallen.

In the notes concerning Mr Thomson, volume 6th p. 284, it is said, that two of his nephews, gardeners, lived with him, and upon him.—Now, sir, this must have been a mistake; for I myself am perfectly well acquainted with his family and their descendants, and I can assure you that Mr Thomson, the author of the Seasons, &c. never had a nephew a gardener. For your satisfaction, and that of the public, on this head, you are authorised to lay the following exact account of the present state of that family before the public.

James Thomson the poet had no brothers married, and none that survived him; he had three sisters, all of whom survived him.

Jane, the eldest, married Mr Robert Thomson at Lanark. He had one son, Robert, a student of medicine who attended the medical classes in Edinburgh for two years, but died afterwards at his father's house in Lanark.

Elisabeth, the second, married Mr Robert Bell, minister of Strathaven—had two sons, Dr James Bell,

minister of Coldstream, who lately published in London a volume of sermons preached before the university of Glasgow, and Thomas Bell, the second son, was a merchant in Jamaica, and died there.

Mary, the youngest, married Mr William Craig merchant in Edinburgh, who had one son, Mr James Craig, the ingenious architect who gave the plan of the New Town of Edinburgh, at a very early period of his life; he is still alive.

These, sir, I can assure you, are all the nephews that Mr Thomson had, none of whom either were gardeners, or ever lived with him. And this account you may rely upon as true.

I cannot, however, suppose, that Mr Robertson could have mentioned the circumstance, which gave rise to this letter; unless there had been some foundation for it; but if any such persons did live upon Mr Thomson, it must have been others, who either had no connection at all, or a very distant connection with him. That some such persons might have taken the advantage of his easiness of temper to live upon him, is not at all impossible, and they would not scruple to pass themselves upon the neighbourhood for his relations. I know that it is, even till this hour, very generally believed that two nephews of Mr Thomson, who bear his own name, are still in life. One of them was formerly gardner to lord Bute, now a nursery-man at Milend near London, the other is full brother to this man, and is at present gardner to squire Bouverie; these two gentlemen are indeed relations of Mr Thomson, but very distant; their father is still in life, at

Feb. 1791.

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Broughton near Edinburgh, where he occupies a small piece of ground, that he feued from the late Mr Hunter merchant in Edinburgh; but I do not believe that either of these gardeners lived with Mr Thomson; as I have reason to think they always prosecuted their own business with assiduity, and attention, on their own funds, so that if any such persons lived with Mr Thomson, it must have been somebody else, who, I should suppose, were not related at all to him.

Perhaps it may not be deemed superfluous to remark, that the above mentioned *Mary*, the last surviving sister of the poet, was buried at Edinburgh, September 22. 1790, her brother's birth-day; on that very day Thomson's birth was commemorated at *Ednum*, the place of his nativity, by the earl of Buchan, and a select party. The preses sat in the arm chair in which he used to sit when he wrote his *Winter*. It is now in the possession of Mr Elliot of ————. On that day likewise, Thomson's anniversary was celebrated by a very numerous meeting of the Cape club, at Edinburgh, where Mr Woods the comedian recited a spirited ode, composed by himself for the occasion. But Mr Thomson's anniversary has been celebrated in Scotland by so many others since, that it would be impertinent to take farther notice of them. I am,

SIR,

A FRIEND TO THOMSON AND TO JUSTICE.

To this the editor begs leave to subjoin the following information respecting Mr Thomson, which he has been favoured with from another hand.

On Christmas day was opened at Richmond church, in Surrey, in the Christening Pew, a table monument in brass, over the grave of James Thomson the poet, whereupon is engraved the following inscription.

IN THE EARTH BELOW THIS TABLET

are the Remains of

JAMES THOMSON,

AUTHOR OF THE BEAUTIFUL POEMS ENTITLED

THE SEASONS, CASTLE OF INDOLENCE, &c.

*Who died at Richmond the 27th of August,
And was buried here on the 29th O. S. 1748.*

The earl of Buchan, unwilling that so good a man and sweet a poet should be without a memorial, has denoted the place of his interment, for the satisfaction of his admirers, in the year of our Lord 1791.

Father of light and life! thou good supreme!
O teach me what is good! teach me thy self!
Save me from folly, vanity and vice,
From every low pursuit! and feed my soul
With knowledge, conscious peace, and virtue pure,
Sacred, substantial, never-fading bliss!

N. B. Upon this occasion the vicar, the reverend Mr Wakefield, the vestry, and Mr Park at Richmond, conducted themselves most liberally and respectfully to the memory of the amiable Thomson.

Feb. 15.

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THE WILL.

HASSAN BEN-AIOUB, a rich citizen of Balsora, a widower, and without children, saw himself attacked by an incurable disorder, and his end approaching. One day, as some of his friends were with him, he owned he had sent for the *cadi*, to make his will. Agib, one of them, made him many tender reproaches for so premature a resolution; but, however, added he, I see, my dear Hafsan, the motive which makes you act thus;—you think you cannot too soon consider what may become of those great riches, after your decease, which heaven has given you; you are afraid lest they should fall into hands undeserving of them, and the criminal use they may make of them should be imputed to you. Wise Hafsan! I have nothing to add in such a case.—I will myself go for the officer you wish, and will bring him here immediately. Agib went out wiping his eyes that did not cry, and in less than half an hour, came back with the *cadi*. The sick man, drawing a sealed packet from under his bolster, said to the magistrate, Light of the law! these are the last requests of a dying man, I deposit them in your pure hands, which the gold of corruption has never dared to sully. As soon as the angel of death shall have disengaged my soul from its prison, have the goodness to open this testament in the presence of my relations and friends, but above all, in the presence of my good friend Agib.

Hafsan died a few days afterwards; scarce were his lips closed, when Agib hastened to conduct to the *cadi*, all those whom the defunct had desired might attend. The *mufsulman* judge, after he had shewn the seal whole and intire, broke it himself, and gave the testament open to his secretary to read, who with a loud voice read as follows :

“ In the name of a just and merciful God, before I quit the caravansera of this world, where I have passed a bad and short night, I Hafsan, son of Aioub, son of Abdalla, leave here this writing, by which I dispose of those pretended goods, which I shall not carry with me. I threatened my nephews Daoud and Achmet, that I would make them repent of their conduct, which has sometimes displeased me ; and I will keep my word with them, quite otherwise than they expect. They are young and a little giddy, but were they more so, they are the sons of a brother who loved me, and the grandchildren of my father. I bequeath them, then, all the fortune which my father left me, and that which through providence I have added by my care and œconomy : If they abuse my benefaction, the sin be on their own heads. I leave them, I say, all I possess, on condition, however, that they faithfully pay the under specified legacies. I bequeath nothing in favour of poor dervises ; nothing even in favour of hospitals ; my hands, thank heaven, were always open to pay indigence, the tribute they owed ; but in dying I keep them shut ; it is for my heirs to open theirs. What merit should I have, to give to God, what he is going to take from me ? With what eye does he see these

Feb. 15.

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the will.

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posthumous charities, which flatter the pride of the testator, and cost his avarice nothing ?

I will, to count from the day of my decease, that all my slaves, without exception, enjoy absolutely and for ever their liberty. They deserve it so much the more because they do not desire it, but since they are afraid of losing me. I bequeath to those among them, whom age or infirmities render unable to work, an annuity in proportion to their wants ; but none under fifty pieces of gold. With regard to the others, I love them too well to expose their virtues to the dangers of idleness. They will live as honest citizens by the trades I have had them taught, and I content myself with a legacy to each of them, of a hundred and fifty pieces of gold, once paid, which they will employ in forming their little establishments.

I bequeath to the emir Mansour my Arabian horse, with his authenticated pedigree, and his furniture ornamented with pearls of Bahrem.

I leave to the Molla Saheb my gold writing stand ; and to the Iman his brother, an ancient Alcoran, written with gold letters on thick vellum ; the same as it is said, which the caliph Omar read on the Fridays to the faithful assembled in the great mosque.

This book excepted, I leave to the philosopher Amrou all the library which he had the trouble to collect for me himself. I know he loves books, and that it will be more easy for him to make good ones, than buy them. I leave him mine ; but on this express condition that first of all he accepts a purse of a thousand pieces of gold, which for twenty years I

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have been endeavouring in vain to make him receive: If he refuses still this last mark of my friendship, I renounce him for my friend from this moment, and I intreat our common friends, to revenge my insulted memory, by ceasing to visit so unreasonable a philosopher*.

I shall have less trouble, I believe, to make my good friend Agib accept a legacy. What do I not owe this dear Agib? He attached himself to me, almost in spite of myself, as soon as he saw I was old and infirm; and he never quits me one moment, from the time I was given over. It was him who made me see a thousand perfections, I, nor any of my friends imagined I possessed. It is him who observed with a severe eye all the giddy tricks of my nephews, and who gave me an account of them rather more than true. But what shall I leave such a zealous and officious friend? A good counsel, that I hope he will profit by it. "Chuse better your dupes, my dear Agib, and never act your part of friend, but to one who to his riches adds vanity and weakness, you will find a hundred of this sort!"

Done at Balsora in the 322d. year of the Hegira the 9th day of the moon Regeb.

HASSAN BEN-AIDUB SERVANT OF GOD.

SPECULATION

ON REARING OAK WOODS IN SCOTLAND.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

SEVERAL of your correspondents have communicated to you many important hints upon the improve-

* Abbe Blanchet, the writer of this tale, has here delineated his own character with surprising fidelity.

Feb. 15.

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on rearing oak woods.

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ments of Scotland, but among all the improvements suggested, the rearing of oak wood, is perhaps one of the greatest consequence. And to stimulate the landholders here to the culture of this valuable wood, it may be of use to take a short view of the advantages of rearing oak in Scotland, beyond those which the landholders in England enjoy.

That oak is a native of Scotland as well as of England, is apparent from the woods at Hamilton, Dalkeith, Yester, and several others.

The counties in England which produce the greatest quantities of oak, are Hampshire, Sussex, Kent, Essex, and Yorkshire, all upon the east coast. Hampshire, for its size, perhaps produces more oak than any of the others. It is very well inclosed; the inclosures are not large, and round them the oak is almost the only wood in their hedge-rows. There is a royal forest in Hampshire, but their inclosed fields yield a greater quantity of oak than the forest does.

An oak becomes fully grown in about sixty years, upon rich soils, and sells high. When I was in Warwickshire, a few years ago, Mr Editor, an oak tree was sold there for L. 100; it was said to be one hundred years old, but surely it paid the proprietor, or his heirs, very well for being allowed to grow so long.

The price of bark, both in England and Scotland, has been upon the advance for many years; it is now about double of what it was forty or fifty years ago, and is still looking up.

Plantations near a river, or the sea, are no doubt to be preferred for the convenience of water carriage; but were the carriages called teams, made on purpose in England for transporting timber, to be adopted here, land carriage would not come so high as it does at present. A team of two horses, will bring three or four tons ten or twelve miles at a very moderate charge.

Where there are rivers near plantations, in which there may be cataracts, these may sometimes be avoided. There is a fir wood, in a very elevated situation in the Highlands, which belonged to a gentleman of the name of Grant; most of the trees are large enough to be fit for masts to a man of war. A Mr Bacon from Yorkshire, hearing of this wood, went to see it. It is situated near a river, in which there is a deep cataract, over which he caused the trees to be tumbled, when the river became flooded; but upon examining them, they were so much shaken by the fall, as to be rendered unfit for masts, and he abandoned the speculation. Some years after, a Mr Dodosworth, from the same county, a gentleman of penetration, hearing of this extraordinary wood, went to see it, and having examined the banks of the river he bought the wood. He directed a small canal, or ditch, to be cast from above the cataract, sloping along one of the banks, into which, when the river was flooded, the timber was conducted to a safe situation in the bed of the river, and so down to the sea.

The price of bark in England, is from L. 6. 10 s. to L. 7, per ton, (20 cwt.) when brought here, loaded

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with freight, insurance, and the importer's profit,
it is sold for L. 8 10s. *per ton.*

It is computed that the value of the bark in
England, amounts to about one-third of the value of
the timber.

The common prices of oak for ship-building in
England, are from forty to forty-five shillings *per*
ton, (forty cubical feet), when brought here; loaded
with much the same charges as the bark is, it is
sold for from sixty-six to seventy-two shillings *per*
ton.

In Scotland the wood-cutters of young woods (u-
sually cut at twenty or twenty-five years growth)
look up to the value of the bark for their reimburse-
ment and profit; the timber being too small for ship-
building, is but of little value.

Oak has the advantage of other timber in the
value of its bark; and besides, when allowed to grow
till it becomes fit for ship-building, it yields at least
four-pence a foot more than ash, elm, or plane trees.
And farther, there is no danger of the rearing of it
being overdone, as all the oak for ship-building is
brought from England, or the east sea; and three-
fourths of the bark used upon the east coast, even
as far as the Murray frith, comes from England;
whereas the other sorts of timber mentioned, are
now so plentiful, as nearly to supply the demands
for home consumption.

In an open country, beltings are absolutely neces-
sary for the rearing timber of any kind; but when a

country becomes completely inclosed, even by trees in hedge-rows, beltings become less necessary.

It is said, most of the other sorts of trees grow faster than the oak, for the first forty years, but after that period, the oak grows faster than any of them, and that it is inconceivable, how much both the wood and the bark increase, by allowing the tree to grow till it is ripe; even many of the branches become fit for ship-building, and are converted into what is called the ribs of ships.

I have often thought, Mr Editor, that it would be a speculation well worth the attention of a commercial company, to purchase oak woods, when they come to be sold, at twenty or twenty-five years growth, from the proprietor, at an auction, (and they are commonly sold by auction,) and agree to pay to him a like sum at the expiration of other twenty or twenty-five years, and so in proportion, for the time the purchasers find it eligible to keep the wood growing, till it is fully ripe. For it is possible that woods, being brought to sale so very young, may be owing to some exigency in the finances of the proprietors. Wishing every success to the Bee, I am,

Sir,

Your very humble servant,

Edin. Dec. 1731.

MEANWELL.

ACCOUNT OF AN ANCIENT STONE COFFIN.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Bee.

IN the month of December last year, when some people were digging gravel for repairing the public road betwixt Edinburgh and Dumfries, in the pa-

Feb. 15.

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rish of Kirkurd, twenty-three miles from Edinburgh, there was found in a gravel hillock, a built stone coffin, about four feet and a half long, two feet and a half wide, and two feet and a half deep; it had no other bottom than gravel, the sides built of several stones, and the cover one entire stone.

The body was not lying at full length, as by the size of the bones it appeared to have been about six feet long. There was found among the bones three flint stones, the largest of which is about nine inches long, resembling the point of a halbert, the edges and point sharp like a spear, and the other end round, as if fitted for a handle; another of a circular form, and sharp in the edges, about three inches diameter; the third in form of a cylinder, three inches long, and one inch diameter. There was likewise found a kind of ring, neatly carved, about three-fourths of an inch thick, in which were two small holes by which it seemed to be hung by a string, it admitted a man's finger; and is two inches and a half diameter; there were two kinds of round pieces as large as a coat button, thick in the middle, and thin on the edges. The above three upon examination were found to be coal.

If any of your correspondents can tell whether the person here interred had been a warrior, as some suppose, or a druid, as others allege; or have any other observations to make concerning it, they will be very acceptable to, Sir,

Your most humble servant,

A—H—N.

Mount Beg, 30th Dec. 1791.

REFLECTIONS OF FREDERICK THE GREAT.

Selected from his letters.

OH! how prudent, moderate, forbearing and mild, does the school of adversity render man! The proof is terrible; but where it has been endured, its utility continues to the end of life.

Letters to the marquis d'Argens, LXXVI.

How different is it, my dear marquis, to view objects of ambition at a distance, through a deceitful prism, by which they are embellished, from examining them closely, naked as they are, and stripped of their tinsel ornaments! Vanity of vanities! Vanity of victories! This is the sentence of a sage. It comprehends all things, and in itself contains reflections which every man ought to make, but which are seldom made in the hurry of action.

Letter XCV.

Oh! how hard is the human heart! It is said I have friends; yes, and excellent friends they are to be sure! They stand peaceably still, and see me going to destruction.

"I wish you every happiness!" "O, then, I am drowning, throw me a rope!" "Pardon me, sir, you will not be drowned, I think, and I shall catch cold by going into the water." "Nay, but good God! I am absolutely sinking sir!" "I hope not, dear sir, and if the worst should happen, which God forbid, be persuaded, that I shall make it my business to write a very handsome elegy on your death." Such a marquis is the world.

*Letter XCVIII.**To be continued.*

Feb. 15.

THE GREAT.

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Letter XCVIII.

POETRY.

PORTSDOWN HILL*, A POEM.

To the Editor of the Bee.

-----Hence Britannia sees
Her solid grandeur rise :-----
Hence rules the circling deep and awes the world.

THOMSON'S SUMMER.

Of all the hills which claim poetic worth,
From snow-clad Sandwich † to the frozen north,
From Japan's isles which hail the rising morn,
To Chilian cliffs that ev'ning rays adorn,
None more deserves the tributary song,
Than thou, PORTSDOWN! if that could praise prolong:
The bards of old gave fav'rite hills their fame,
With gods and heroes join'd each sounding name,
With fancied beings peopled ev'ry grove,
War raged here, and there were scenes of love:
For as the poets wav'd their magic wands,
Black regions gloom'd, or smil'd celestial lands,
Fame follow'd still to Pluto's dark abodes,
Or soar'd on high, where Jove his fiat nods;
These, still obsequious, mark'd each fav'rite hill,
And to a river swell'd each purling rill.

But thou, my Portsdown! tho' to fame unknown,
Superior glories hast around thee thrown;
Tho' on thy summit no proud cliff aspires,
No scenes tremendous,---no volcanic fires,
No rocks impending bar the wily'd-for path,
No yawning caverns stretch their jaws of death,¹⁰
But thence around th' enraptur'd eye surveys
Rich scenes of glory, far surpassing these.

The varied landscape wide-extended lies;
Lawns, woods, and spires, in distant prospect rise;
Old Ocean's waves, that roar around thy coast,
Or howl thro' cliffs in foaming billows tost;
Thro' cliffs,---the bulwarks of Britannia's pow'r!
That awful centre of her thund'ring store!
Planted by nature's ever careful hand;
The fixed barrier of fair Freedom's land,
Thy much lov'd Isle ‡, its rocky sides displays,
Frowning defiance on the subject seas.

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I I

* A hill which overlooks Portsmouth town, dock, and harbour, Spithead, the isle of Wight, and a vast track of the adjacent country.

† Sandwich isles, discovered by captain Cook in his second voyage.

‡ Isle of Wight, which forms Spithead, and defends the island of Portsdown from the ocean.

Here hast thou, Portadown! seen, in awful state
 Riding sublime, the British navies wait
 In dread array;---their masts like forests rise;
 Their blazing colours waving in the skies;
 Along their decks ten thousand heroes stand,
 Courting each gale to waft the wish'd command,
 To bear the thunder 'midst the daring foe;
 Or round the globe as guards to commerce go;
 His captain's nod each tar impatient eyes,
 At half a word the unfurl'd canvas flies
 Full in the wind; they boldly stretch away,
 And shout, exulting, "Now's the wish'd-for day!"
 "The wish'd-for day!" the crowded shores reply,
 "And success crown it!--Triumph now or die."
 Oft hast thou, thus, seen British sons go forth
 To plow the southern ocean, or the north;
 To bear their terrors to the rising day,
 Or thunder with the sun's declining ray;
 Or, what more pleasur' to the soul imparts,
 And warms to rapture soon the coldest hearts,
 When crown'd with laurels from each region borne,
 The guards of commerce thou hast seen return.
 Thus the fam'd ancient sire, who, anxious, gave
 His fav'rite youth the trusty well tried glave,
 To make his way on Fortune's ample field,
 Where battles rage, and dangers triumphs yield:
 When thro' long toils and various perils train'd,
 He comes distinguish'd to his native land,
 The good old man's rekind'ld ardour glows,
 And warm'd to rapture from his bosom glows:
 "Welcome my child! I now dismiss my fears.
 Thou propl!--support! of my declining years;
 Enjoy in peace thy laurels bravely won,
 And be my guard, thou dearest fav'rite son!"
 Thus dost thou see, when war's wild rage is o'er,
 The British navy rang'd along thy shore.
 For this fair prospect, all the pomp of court,
 The sov'reign leaves, and to thy brow resorts,
 From whence he views, in glorious landscape thrown,
 The nation's pride, and guardians of his crown.
 He sees, exulting, how this ample guard,
 To pour their thunders ever stand prepar'd;
 Tho' his great mind, superior to the glare
 Of false ambition, says, "Be far off war;
 In Britain's welfare all our cares are plan'd,
 To find her plenty with a gentle hand,
 To bid her commerce flourish round the world;
 For these alone are all our sails unfurl'd,
 And but for these, those thunders ne'er should roar,
 Those vessels anchor on a hostile shore.

For commerce, plenty, arts alone I ask
 My people happy,---frish'd in my ask.
 But vain our ships the unknown seas divide,
 In vain we trace old Ocean's farthest tide;
 We strive in vain remotest lands to find,
 And with a golden chain unite mankind;
 For man with man determin'd war maintains,
 And havock spoils ev'n Europe's polish'd plains.
 Since thus we stand to neighb'ring pow'rs a prey,
 We feel a charge to ward the fatal day."

Thus spoke the monarch, or he thought at least,
 While love and pity warm'd his royal breast,
 As down thy side his gliding car descends,
 To meet the blessings of his subjects friends,
 Whose love and loyalty united, give
 The truest welcome sov'reigns can receive.

Unlike this welcome met, in days of yore,
 A prince*, ill faced, on the Portsmouth shore,
 When scap'd from wand'rings, here, in cells immur'd,
 Trembling he lay, nor here, alas! secur'd.
 Those hoary walls which bear his sacred bust,
 When he and rebels crumbled are in dust,
 This lesson teach in ev'ry future sway,
 To reign like George, and like to us obey;
 Then shall the grateful subjects crown the plains,
 To pour their blessings if a father reigns.
 Such late thou saw'st around thy sea-girt base,
 Where winding harbours all thy form embrace,
 Where splendid towns adorn thy binding shore;
 And firm-built mounds repel the ocean's pow'r;
 Thou saw'st the whole one living scene display,
 And shouting thousands lead the monarch's way,
 To where he heard unnumber'd blows resound,
 Saw Labour smile, and Toil rejoice around;
 To where he saw his wooden bulwarks rise,
 Tow'ring aloft of vast capacious size,
 Whose oak-ribb'd sides, black-frowning swell on high,
 Where forth in smoke destructive thunders fly;
 'Midst smoke and noise he saw our splendour rise,
 And Cheerful Freedom smile without disguise.

As when in annual round, with life fraught ray,
 In Spring's fair season comes the orb of day,
 Creation smiling owns his genial pow'r,
 And prostrate nations the bright god adore;
 So you, great prince! when led by public cares,
 Where one wide scene of industry appears,
 Saw grateful thousands 'midst their toils look gay,
 And heard their blessings on your gentle sway.

* Charles I.

Unlike the days when those old walls * arose,
 When Britain's sons to Britain's sons were foes,
 When barb'rous cruelty each province tore,
 And undefended lay the naked shore ;
 Intestine broils made savage life a prey,
 Alarm'd by night, nor ev'n secure by day ;
 By factions mangled, helpless to defend,
 Without an ally, and without a friend,
 They shrunk recoiling from the toils of war,
 And fell a prey to ev'ry foreign spear.

But changes great those hoary tow'rs have known,
 Since Roman greatness tumbled from her throne ;
 Since o'er the earth her iron rod she drew,
 The nations trembling as her eagles flew ;
 They've from her tomb seen British freedom rise,
 Seen British ensigns blazing to the skies,
 Seen British sails full in their face unfurl'd,
 Heard thunders roar that oft have aw'd the world,
 Seen cities built, and domes and spires ascend,
 And harbours form'd, and useful moles extend,
 Seen fertile fields, and smiling plenty grace
 Portsdown ! thy side, and round thy swelling base,
 Long may all these incircling round thee spread !
 Still may fresh laurels flourish round thy head !
 May bards more equal to th' extensive theme,
 In sweetest numbers sing thy growing fame !

BEAUTIFUL VERSES

COPIED FROM THE WINDOW OF AN OBSCURE LODGING HOUSE.

WHAT tho' to deck this roof no arts combine
 Such forms as rival ev'ry fair but mine ;
 No nodding plumes, our humble couch above,
 Proclaim each triumph of unbounded love ;
 No silver lamp, with sculptur'd Cupids gay,
 O'er yielding beauty pours its midnight ray ;
 Yet Fanny's charms could Time's slow flight beguile,
 Soothe ev'ry care, and make this dungeon smile ;
 In her what kings, what saints have wish'd, is giv'n ;
 Her heart is empire ! and her love is heav'n !

* Portchester castle, said to have been built by the Romans, its bold
 quins stand at the bottom of Portsdown hill, projecting into the harbour.

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the court of the prefs.

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AN ACCOUNT OF THE COURT OF THE PRESS.

ASCRIBED TO THE HONOURABLE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, ESQ.

Power of this court.

It may receive and promulgate accusations of all kinds, against all persons and characters among the citizens of the state, and even against all inferior courts; and may judge, sentence, and condemn to infamy, not only private individuals, but public bodies, &c. with or without inquiry or hearing, at the court's discretion.

In whose favour, or for whose emolument, this court is established.

In favour of about one citizen in five hundred, who, by education, or practice in scribbling, has acquired a tolerable stile as to grammar and construction, so as to bear printing; or who is possessed of a press and a few types. This 500th part of the citizens have the privileges of accusing and abusing the other 499 parts, at their pleasure; or they may hire out their pens and presses to others for that purpose.

Practice of this court.

It is not governed by any of the rules of common courts of law. The accused is allowed no grand jury to judge of the truth of the accusation before it is publicly made; nor is the name of the accuser made known to him; nor has he an opportunity of confronting the witnesses against him; for they are kept in the dark, as in the Spanish court of inquisition; nor is there any petty jury of his peers sworn to try the truth of the charges. The proceedings are also sometimes so rapid, that an honest good citizen may find himself suddenly and unexpectedly accused, and, in the same morning, judged, and condemned, and sentence

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pronounced against him, that he is a rogue and a villain. Yet if an officer of this court receives the slightest check for misconduct in his office, he claims immediately the rights of a free citizen, by the constitution, and demands to know his accuser, to confront the witnesses, and to have a fair trial by a jury of his peers.

The foundation of its authority.

It is said to be founded on an article in the state constitution, which establishes the liberty of the prefs—a liberty which every Pennsylvanian would fight and die for; though few of us, I believe, have distinct ideas of its nature and extent. It seems indeed somewhat like the liberty of the prefs that felons have, by the common law of England, before conviction, that is, to be either pressed to death, or hanged. If by the liberty of the prefs were understood, merely, the liberty of discussing the propriety of public measures and political opinions, let us have as much of it as you please; but if it means the liberty of affronting, calumniating, and defaming one another, I, for my part, own myself willing to part with my share of it, whenever our legislators shall please so to alter the law; and shall cheerfully consent to exchange my liberty of abusing others, for the privilege of not being abused myself.

By whom this court is commissioned or constituted.

It is not by any commission from the supreme executive council, who might previously judge of the abilities, integrity, knowledge, &c. of the persons to be appointed to this great trust of deciding upon the characters and good fame of the citizens; for this court is above that council, and may accuse, judge, and condemn it, at pleasure. Nor is it hereditary, as is the court of dernier resort in the peerage of England; but any man, who can procure pen, ink, and paper, with a press, a few types, and a huge pair of

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the court of the press.

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blackening balls, may commissionate himself; and his court is immediately established in the plenary possession and exercise of its rights. For if you make the least complaint of the judge's conduct, he daubs his blackening balls in your face wherever he meets you; and besides tearing your private character to shreds, marks you out for the odium of the public, as an enemy to the liberty of the press.

Of the natural support of this court.

Its support is founded on the depravity of such minds as have not been mended by religion, nor improved by good education.

There is a lust in man no charm can tame,
Of loudly publishing his neighbour's shame;

Hence,

On eagle's wings, immortal scandals fly,
While virtuous actions are but born and die.

DRYDEN.

Whoever feels pain in hearing a good character of his neighbour, will feel a pleasure in the reverse. And of those, who despairing to rise into distinction by their virtues, are happy if others can be depressed to a level with themselves, there are a number sufficient in every great town to maintain one of these courts by their subscriptions. A shrewd observer once said, that in walking the streets in a slippery morning, one might see where the good-natured people lived, by the ashes thrown on the ice before their doors; probably he would have formed a different conjecture of the temper of those whom he might find engaged in such subscriptions.

Of the checks proper to be established against the abuse of power in those courts.

Hitherto there are none. But since so much has been written and published on the federal constitution, and the

necessity of checks, in all other parts of good government, has been so clearly and learnedly explained, I find myself so far enlightened as to suspect some check may be proper in this part also; but I have been at a loss to imagine any that may not be construed an infringement of the sacred liberty of the prefs. At length, however, I think I have found one, that instead of diminishing general liberty, shall augment it; which is, by restoring to the people a species of liberty, of which they have been deprived by our laws, I mean the liberty of the cudgel! In the rude state of society, prior to the existence of laws, if one man gave another ill language, the affronted person might return it by a box on the ear; and if repeated, by a good drubbing; and this, without offending against any law; but now the right of making such returns is denied, and they are punished as breaches of the peace, while the right of abusing seems to remain in full force; the laws made against it being rendered ineffectual by the liberty of the prefs.

My proposal, then, is, to leave the liberty of the prefs untouched, to be exercised in its full extent, force, and vigour, but to permit the liberty of the cudgel to go with it, *pari passu*. Thus, my fellow citizens, if an impudent writer attacks your reputation, dearer perhaps to you than your life, and puts his name to the charge, you may go to him as openly, and break his head. If he conceals himself behind the printer, and you can nevertheless discover who he is, you may, in like manner, way-lay him in the night, attack him behind, and give him a good drubbing. If your adversary hire better writers than himself, to abuse you more effectually, you may hire brawny porters, stronger than yourself, to assist you in giving him a more effectual drubbing. Thus far goes my project as to private resentment and retribution. But if the public should ever happen to be affronted, as it ought to be, with the con-

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duct of such writers, I would not advise proceeding im-
 mediately to these extremities; but that we should in mo-
 deration content ourselves with tarring and feathering,
 and tossing them in a blanket.

If, however, it should be thought that this proposal of
 mine may disturb the public peace, I would then humbly
 recommend to our legislators to take up the consideration
 of both liberties, that of the prefs, and that of the cudgel;
 and, by an explicit law, mark their extent and limits;
 and at the same time that they secure the person of a ci-
 tizen from assaults, they would likewise provide for the se-
 curity of his reputation.

INTELLIGENCE RESPECTING ARTS.

Continued from p. 224.

Paper-making.

STILL more useful will be the machine, when it shall be
 invented, which it doubtless will be, for lifting up the pa-
 per in the frames, and turning it out upon the blanket.
 The great inaccuracy of hand-work, is now sensibly felt
 by every person who has occasion to use much paper.
 Not only does it happen that one sheet will sometimes be
 greatly thinner than another, but even one part of a sheet
 will frequently be greatly thicker than another part of it.
 This must subject the papermaker to great expence and
 inconvenience; because an expert hand must be so much
 more valuable than another, that he will have it in a great
 measure in his power to demand what wages he pleases.
 This must naturally make him insolent, idle, and dissipa-
 ted; and as the loss that must result from inaccurate-
 made work will be great, the training of apprentices
 cannot fail to be a disagreeable and unprofitable task,
 which gives additional power to the trained monopolizers.

All these evils would be effectually removed, were a proper apparatus of machinery contrived for performing this operation. If care were taken to keep the pulp of one thickness, (and a gauge might easily be adapted to indicate a change in this respect with the utmost precision,) every sheet must of necessity be of the same thickness with others, and every part of the sheet alike, throughout its whole extent. It might likewise be set to work a thicker or thinner kind of paper, with a degree of precision that cannot at present be attempted. These are considerations that ought to induce papermakers to apply for the aid of men of genius in the line of mechanics, much more than they have otherwise done. Perfection in manufactures can only be obtained by the combined efforts of men of science in the lines of mechanism and chemistry, with industry and application of the undertakers through every department of their works.

Carriages upon springs.

SEVERAL persons about Edinburgh have lately contrived carriages with springs for bringing to market articles that are very tender and easily broken or bruised. The strawberry dealers began this improvement, and the glass-house company at Leith have followed their example. In these cases nothing more is intended than merely to diminish the shocks, to which the tender articles put into these carriages are exposed by the way. The owners of these, and other machines of the same kind, are not aware that the difficulty of draught is thus greatly diminished, so that one small horse will draw with ease in such a carriage, as much weight of goods as would have required a much stronger horse to move it, if the weight had been placed immediately upon the shafts.

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OLLA PODRIDA.

A receipt to make a Spanish olla (a favourite dish) for a company of eight persons who dine at four o'clock.

ABOUT ten o'clock in the morning take three pounds of beef, fat and lean, with little or no bone; set it on a pretty brisk fire, in a pot with cold water; when the water is going to boil, the beef will throw up, during ten minutes, or thereabouts, a thick scum, which must be carefully taken off, till no more comes up; cover again the pot, and let it boil till twelve o'clock, when you must put in it three pounds of good mutton, with little or no bone, a piece of bacon, or ham, with as much fat as lean; at one o'clock add two or three black puddings or sausages, (the first being the best, as they have more fat and substance,) two or three leeks or onions, and some cabbage, broccoli, or other greens. Season the pot with salt, pepper, and a very little cinnamon, diminish the fire, and let the whole boil gently till three o'clock.

Take a soup dish that bears the fire, and toast, in pretty thin slices, about the quantity contained in three halfpenny loaves of French bread, a day old, put it into the soup dish, and pour the broth from the pot upon it; cover the soup dish, and set it on a gentle fire, where it must boil very slowly till the hour of dinner, letting the pot with the meat, &c. remain at the edge of the fire, so as to be kept quite hot. Serve up the soup, and afterwards the meat, arranged neatly in a large dish, with all the other articles round it. If the olla is well made, the soup will have a fine rich flavour.

Upon particular occasions, and when the company is large, a young fowl is also put into the pot; which ought to be done either at the same time with the mutton, or with the black puddings, which circumstance I do not re-

collect. Upon second thoughts I believe the pot ought to be seasoned at the time the mutton is put in.

Receipt for dying cotton a fine BUFF COLOUR.

LET the twist be boiled in pure water to cleanse it; wring it, run it through a dilute solution of iron in the vegetable acid, what printers call *iron liquor*; wring, and run it through lime water to raise it; wring, then run it through a raw solution of starch and water; wring and dry, wind, warp, and weave,—send it to the taylor, or to Germany, where it will pay well.

SPECULATIONS ON TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.

EXTENSIVE speculations in *trade*, are generally hurtful, because they produce, for the most part, bankruptcies; but monopolizing speculations to a large extent in *manufactures*, are still more destructive; because they not only occasion frequent bankruptcies to the parties themselves who engage in them, but also so much derange the operations of others, as to throw many industrious persons out of bread, which is one of the severest maladies that can attack the body politic, and is attended with the most destructive consequences.

Never, perhaps, was there a nation on the globe in which monopolizing speculations were carried to such great lengths as in Britain. It is not many years since a large manufacturing company in Manchester, engaged in a speculation on cotton, so deeply, as to occasion a failure, and a loss to their creditors of several hundred thousand pounds. It is unnecessary to add, that every enterprise of a similar

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nature, is liable to equal risk, and ought therefore to be guarded against with care. Whether it is possible for the legislature, without encroaching too much upon the privileges of a free people, to guard against it, is doubtful; but it surely ought to be the study of every cautious man, in his private capacity, to keep as free of transactions of this nature as possible, whether he be considered as an active adventurer in this deep game of hazard, or as a passive being, who, by a culpable inattention, may be eventually involved in the consequences resulting from it.

We have heard that there is at present on foot an enterprise of this adventurous cast, upon a greater scale than ever before was attempted in Britain. A large manufacturing company in the west of England, it is said, have had many agents employed for some time past in buying up all the white liens and cotton cloths that can be found, at such prices, as gives the callico printers who are, or lately were in the possession of these cloths, no room to think they could print them with profit, if the price of printed goods shall continue as low as at present; and as these agents confidently assert, that the company for which they act, will continue to sell printed goods, to any extent that may be demanded, at the present prices, many of the manufacturers have been prevailed on to sell a great part of their unprinted goods, thinking they thus obtain a very good profit, *certain*, instead of a moderate one, *contingent* only; and some, we have heard, have even gone such lengths, as to sell the whole of their stock on hand, and to abandon the business.

It is of importance, however, to the public, that an adventure of this sort should be scanned with attention at as early a stage of its progress as possible, in order that the probable evils it would occasion may be guarded against. With this view, it will not be impertinent to hazard a few

remarks upon the subject at present, without, however, pretending to say whether such a plan be actually in agitation or not; for, on this subject, the writer hereof reasons entirely hypothetically.

It cannot be denied that this adventurous company, if such there be, either must fail in their project, or they must succeed in it. What will be the consequences to the public in either case?

If they shall buy up goods to a great amount, at advanced prices, and fail in procuring the monopoly that appears to be aimed at, the consequences are obvious, and need not be insisted on here.

It is of more importance to inquire what would be the consequence if they should be able to succeed in this enterprise.

The first consequence would be, to derange the operation of all those lesser manufacturers who shall have been so uncautious as to sell their white goods, for the sake of the tempting price offered,—to throw many of their hands out of employment, and to render useless much of that machinery they had erected at a great expence. Their best hands will thus be dispersed, and will not be easily collected together again, should they ever be wanted; nor will they return to such persons, who will be considered as unsteady employers, without additional wages; their machinery will also go to wreck, so that if they shall ever think of beginning their business anew, they must do it at a great additional expence to what they could have gone on with if no such interruption had taken place.

The second consequence is, that the price of printed goods must rise considerably; and if the company shall have succeeded in securing a great quantity of wrought cloth, and shall at the same time speculate in cotton wool, (which we cannot suppose will be overlooked,) it is hard to say

how high these prices may be raised *for a time*;—as high no doubt as possible! For as to the assertion that the company will sell these goods as cheap as at present, we can only consider it as a lure held out to blindfold simpletons. What manufacturer or merchant will not, in every case, take as high a price for his goods as he can get at market? The prices being thus raised, the very manufacturers who sold the cloth may be glad to buy it back again at an advanced price, trusting to the high price of callicoes continuing; but, in consequence of that high price, great exertions will be made to supply the demand; much cotton wool will be produced, much white cloth will be made, and a diminished sale of printed cloths, both at home and abroad, must be the consequences of the advance of price. All these circumstances combined, must first produce a stagnation in the sale, then a fall of price. Sales must be forced below prime cost; and bankruptcies and distresses, to a prodigious extent, must be the inevitable consequences. The company who began all this, may, however, chance to escape, if they shall have had acuteness, and moderation enough to avail themselves only of the first spurt that their artificial operations shall have occasioned; but they are like men walking above a mine of gunpowder, to which a match may be set in a moment that will drive them all to destruction. Wretched, indeed, must that country be, whose manufacturers are gamblers! A faro table is but a childish game to a stake of this nature, which must unfortunately involve in its consequences many millions of industrious and innocent people.

From all this it ought naturally to be inferred, that those who are in possession of marketable goods at present, will probably serve their own interest most effectually, by not being tempted by offers, which, though apparently advantageous for them, may be, in the end, highly detrimental. They ought to consider, that if they at

present, for a tempting offer held out to them, for *once*, only, shall allow their business to slacken, or run into confusion, they will probably be deprived of a hundred moderate profits, that they have the prospect of deriving from a steady adherence to business; and that therefore they will do well to think deliberately, before they permit themselves to be drawn into the snare.

The reader will here observe, that we by no means take it upon us to assert, that such a design is at present in agitation; nor have we the smallest knowledge of the persons concerned, nor any thing respecting their situation; so that nothing that is said above, can be understood to have reference to them as *individuals*. The case is entirely hypothetical, and the reasoning general. If such a thing be in agitation at present, what has been said will apply to that case as well as to any other of a similar kind at any future period. It is intended merely to operate as a general caution to guard against the influence of monopolizing principles, whenever they shall occur. It is equally calculated for the meridian of Bengal as of Britain; and will equally apply to the nineteenth, as to the eighteenth century.

It may be proper just to touch upon one circumstance, which alone would be sufficient to show, that if ever a case should occur, similar to that alleged, something unfair must be intended. If such a company should purchase a great quantity of unmanufactured goods, perhaps equal to twice or thrice what their works are capable of executing, how is it possible they can perform the whole of this, without a great and wonderful previous preparation? Every manufacturer in this branch, must feel the force of this argument; and must of course see, if he wishes to see, that the lure held out must prove *fallacious*.

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PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

CORN BILL.

Continued from p. 192.

DURING the recess of parliament, many pamphlets, as usual, were published on the subject of the corn bill, and among these none made a more distinguished figure than that by lord Sheffield, who disputed in many respects the principles assumed by the committee. On the 14th of December, Mr Ryder moved, in a committee of parliament, some resolutions, merely with a view to have them printed before the holidays, for the consideration of the members. *Agreed*

10.
The purport of these resolutions was, that in order to ascertain the selling price of grain, the whole of Britain should be divided into certain districts, therein specified; in each of which the actual prices should be taken at stated periods, and transmitted to an officer in London to be appointed for that purpose; who should, according to regulations provided for that purpose, publish these prices, and which should be accounted the standard for regulating the importation and exportation of grain; that liberty should be given to warehouse foreign grain under certain regulations, when it could not be sold in this country; that government should provide warehouses at certain ports for that purpose; with other clauses which had been formerly carried into practice.

After a committee of the whole house had sitted by several adjournments on this bill, in the progress of which nothing very remarkable occurred till March 11. 1791, when a warm debate took place on the clause permitting the warehousing of corn. The proceedings in this case were too remarkable to be passed over in silence.

Upon the clause for erecting warehouses for the reception of foreign corn, the committee, on the motion of lord Sheffield, divided;—Ayes, 62;—Noes, 62.

The chairman thereupon gave his casting vote for the Noes, and the clause was of course thrown out of the bill.

When the preceding clause had been thus rejected by the committee, *Mr Pitt*, on the departure of several of those who had voted against the clause, told the committee, that all the dependant clauses should remain in the bill, (notwithstanding it was agreed that they were absolute nonsense *without* the clause that had been rejected,) because the clause should be restored on the report. *Lord Sheffield* gave notice that, as whatever was urged against any part of the bill did not obtain the least attention, he should move, at a proper time, for a call of the house; and then his lordship and several others, quitted the house.

After some farther conversations on the subject, the *chancellor of the exchequer* rose and said, that as the members had at first been equal, and as gentlemen had now but little time, he should again divide the house. The committee then divided again upon *lord Sheffield's* amendment.

Ayes, 55;—Noes, 67;—Majority, 12.

The committee was then adjourned to the 16th.

The above, though a faithful statement of facts, will, no doubt, to every attentive reader, appear to be a very extraordinary procedure in a grave assembly of legislators, on a business of great national importance, as there appears upon the face of it a degree of obstinacy, of warmth, and petulance that seem to be altogether inconsistent with the full elucidation of truth, in a matter of so much importance and difficulty; and it must reflect a disgrace upon this assembly, that they could tamely sit and see themselves so basely insulted. Would Hampden and Russel, and the patriots of that day, have believed it possible that a time would ever arrive, after the nation had once been able to establish their freedom by a clear bill of rights, when any man could stand up in that house, and, to their faces, tell the members that he would not permit a clause in a bill to be rescinded, although he himself, and all who heard him, acknowledged it was nonsense. Yet this was done; and so tame and humble was this senate, that it passed almost without reprehension. We may boast of our freedom, as the Roman senate boasted of theirs; when Caligula caused his horse to be nominated consul; and with equal reason, while such things are; yet not only the senate, but the nation at large, like the famous people of Rome, bore it without

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animadversion. It is now near a year since this remarkable event took place, and I do not recollect to have heard it animadverted upon either in conversation or in writing. I blame not the minister for this,—he knew to whom he spoke. It certainly gave an additional proof of his sagacity to those he had on former occasions displayed.

The wonderful part of this day's proceeding, however, does not rest here; what follows seems to be equally deserving of reprehension. When a question had been put, and clearly decided by a majority of votes, in a grave assembly, it seems to be a procedure of a very singular nature, to permit the same question, in the same day, in the same meeting, to be a second time brought to the vote. Yet this was done. If it can be brought to the vote a second time, why not a third, or a thirtieth time, if you will? What security does this give to men that they may not be circumvented? A person who thinks he has an interest in a question, attends when that question is debated; stays till the vote is passed, and hears the decision; he is then satisfied, and goes about other business. But when he, and those who think with him, are gone,—when a packed junto, taking advantage of this security, feel themselves superior in numbers,—then one of these has only to rise up, and move the question a second time, and the whole is reversed. Such a mode of procedure is certainly inconsistent with every principle of equity and candour; and were the principle to be adopted, either in parliament, in courts of justice, or in any other public concerns, universal confusion and distrust must ensue. I freely own it excites my astonishment that it should have been permitted for once to be practised, without the severest reprehension. I do not pretend to say, whether, according to the rules of parliament, the same question, under the same form, can ever be brought to a second decision in the same assembly; but surely, if it can, material justice requires, that it should only be in consequence of due intimation being given, that all concerned may have an opportunity of attending at the time.

Two of the greatest bulwarks of freedom, are a strict adherence to law in courts of judicature, and the most scrupulous observance of forms of procedure, in other re-

spects. To admit of the smallest dispensing power in judges, is to institute a set of legislators, which the constitution does not allow, whose laws are not promulgated, and which must be productive of the very worst consequences. Every lover of freedom will therefore guard against this inlet to oppression; but it often makes its appearance in such an amiable form, by moderating the severity of harsh laws, as to escape the censure of the people. Artful men have, therefore, often employed it imperceptibly, to extend the bounds of arbitrary power. No engine of despotism, indeed, has been adopted so often, or so successfully, in this country, particularly in regard to revenue laws; nor has any thing been productive of such grievous calamities to the people; though its approaches have been so well disguised, as never to have been much taken notice of by them. It has been long an established system in Britain, to make the revenue laws so severe, as that it is impossible they can be *strictly* enforced. The consequence is, that officers, in the discharge of their duty, and judges, in their official capacity, think themselves often, from justice and humanity, authorised to make an arbitrary mitigation. But cruel is the kindness thus obtained!—Men, trusting to this mitigation, are tempted to transgress the law oftener than they would do,—and having once begun to do so, they know not where to stop. The revenue is thus greatly diminished, fraud and chicanery is encouraged, and honest integrity in business is repressed. Room too is given for the passions of revenue officers, and of judges, to influence their conduct; those who have disoblged the one, or incurred the ill-will of the other, are chastised according to the utmost severity of law; while others, in the same circumstances, who are favourites, are allowed to escape with impunity. Thus is the fortune and prosperity of any man at the mercy of others, and in this maner have very many honest men been ruined, while others have been enriched.

In this manner room is given for individual oppression in every part of the country. Nor is this all: If the minister should take a particular prejudice against the manufacturers of one part of the country, and wish to cherish those of another, in preference to them, he has only

Feb. 15.

ensuing power in which the con- promulgated, and st consequences. rd against this in- appearance in such ity of harsh laws, Artful men have, y, to extend the of despotism, in- cessfully, in this ue laws; nor has ous calamities to been so well dis- ken notice of by system in Britain. s that it is impo- e. consequence is, ty, and judges, in- often, from justice itrary mitigation. !—Men, trusting refs the law offen- ce begun to do so, enue is thus great- encouraged, and ho- Room too is given d of judges, to in- disoblige the one, re chastised accor- hile others, in the es, are allowed to une and prosperi- and in this maner- ned, while others
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to issue his mandate to the revenue officers of the proscrib- ed district, telling them that complaints are loud that the revenue laws are not strictly enforced in that district; with regard to that particular article, and requiring them, at their peril, to see the laws more strictly enforced in future; while no such mandate is sent to other districts, or perhaps a mandate of an opposite tendency. The conse- quence is, that the minister, by a secret manœuvre, which altogether escapes the public eye, can thus depress or en- courage at pleasure, whatever part of the country he in- clines. That this may be done, cannot be disputed; and that it has been done, will not, I think be denied, in this country at least.

A strict adherence to forms of procedure, in other re- spects, is also a barrier to despotism, which wisdom has contrived, and which ignorance cannot perceive, that ought to be rigidly adhered to. The passions of men are often violent, and when a popular tide runs high in favour of a particular object, it seems to be impossible to go too far in its favour. In these moments of national phrenzy, what barrier can be conceived for moderating its vio- lence, except old established forms? Reasoning, by those who are capable of it, would be always ineffectual,—often dangerous. Break down, therefore, this single fence that stands in the way to stop procedure for a time, and every thing must give way to the popular torrent;—but let this be respected as sacred, and reason may have time to resume her throne. Often have ministers complained of the tediousness occasioned by the forms of procedure in the legisla- tive assemblies of the Belgic confederacy; but these states owe their very existence to these forms. Who can compute the number of wars from which they have been saved by these forms. The very difficulty of getting over these, prevents even an attempt to seduce them on many occasions; and similar difficulties will produce similar ef- fects in other cases. For these reasons, I conceive that old established forms of procedure in government ought to be accounted the palladium of a state, and ought ever to be deemed so sacred, as on no occasion to be made to yield to the pressure of the present moment. They may, possibly, at times, be productive of a real inconvenience;

but the evils to which the removal of them would give rise will generally be a thousand times greater; but for the most part it will be found, that the *supposed evils* they produce, have been *real benefits* of great importance.

From these considerations, I cannot help warning my countrymen, never to permit the smallest infraction of *established forms*, if they value their freedom, and to guard against the dispensing power of revenue officers, and of judges, as the greatest political malady that can attack the state. Where the laws are too severe to admit of being strictly enforced, let them be mitigated "by the authority of the *legislature*;"—but let no one else attempt to do it. When Britain shall seriously adopt this system, she may mark that period as the *æra* from whence she is to date the commencement of her prosperity. Till she does so she may boast of freedom,—but she possesses it not. She may vaunt of her prosperity,—but it must be a prosperity of a sickly and distempered hue, which owes even the very notion of its existence, rather to the comparative weakness of others, than to her own health and vigour.

To be continued.

ANECDOTES.

DURING the late war, eighty old German soldiers, who, after having long served under different monarchs of Europe, had retired to America, and converted their swords into ploughshares, voluntarily formed themselves into a company, and distinguished themselves in various actions, on the side of liberty. The captain was nearly one hundred years old, and had been in the army forty years, and present in seventeen battles. The drummer was ninety-four; and the youngest man in the corps on the verge of seventy. Instead of a cockade, each man wore a piece of black crape, as a mark of sorrow for being obliged, at so advanced a period of life, to bear arms: "But," said the veterans, "we should be deficient in gratitude, if we did not act in defence of a country, which has afforded us a

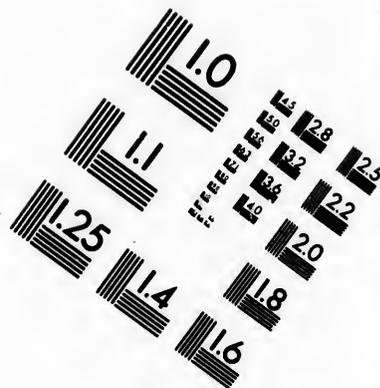
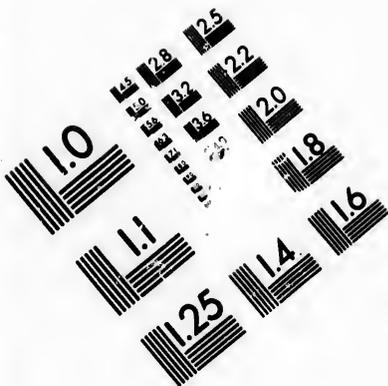
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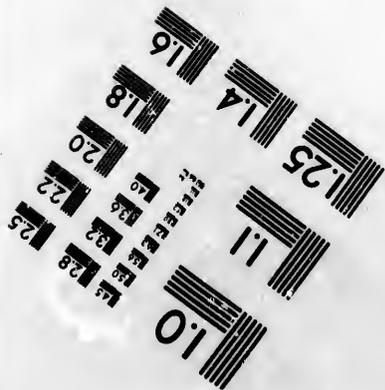
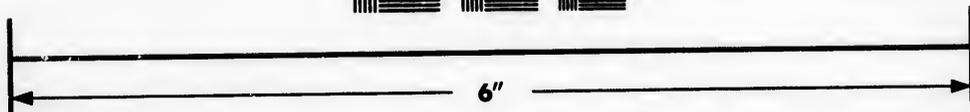
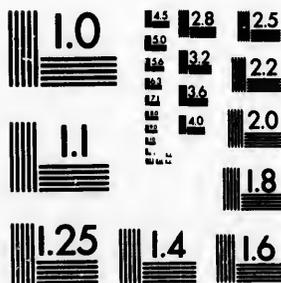
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generous asylum, and protected us from tyranny and oppression." Such a band of soldiers never before, perhaps, appeared in any field of battle.

THE magistrate of a little village in the marquisate of Brandenburg, committed a burger to prison, who was charged with having blasphemed God, the king, and the magistrate. The burgomaster reported the same to the king, in order to know what punishment such a criminal deserved. The following sentence was written by his majesty in the margin of the report:

"That the prisoner has blasphemed God, is a sure proof that he does not know him: That he has blasphemed me I willingly forgive; but, for his blaspheming the magistrate, he shall be punished in *an exemplary manner*, and committed to Spandau for *half an hour*."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE communication by *K.* is received, and shall have a place with the first conveniency.

The two respectable communications by *M. C.* came safe to hand; and shall be properly attended to. The hints on chivalry are rather long; and seem to have been gathered chiefly from *one* popular writer. The Editor, however, is much indebted to this correspondent for his obliging attention, and will endeavour to do all manner of justice to his remarks.

The interesting paper by a *young* observer is received, and shall have a place in its turn.

The spirited performance of *Thunderproof* is come to hand. It is always the Editor's wish to correct real abuses; but not to excite a spirit of dissatisfaction. Though some persons will think the animadversions of this correspondent too severe; yet they seem to be too well founded, and will tend to lead the attention towards some objects of great importance; on that account they shall have a place.

The Editor is much obliged to a *friend to Thomson and to justice*, for his account of the family of that worthy poet. It shall be inserted without loss of time.

The communication by *Pbilis* is received: It came too late to admit of its being applied, as the ingenious writer intended.

A *Wiltshire* is also received, and though the Editor, for very obvious reasons, has avoided entering on that subject, he believes he may venture to insert this small morsel.

The *Informers*, No. 2. is come to hand. As the performances of another correspondent, in a strain somewhat similar to his writings are now at the press, this number will be necessarily postponed till a more convenient season.

Raa Kook would have a very mean opinion of the Editor, indeed, if he believed, that his letter could have any other effect than to make him more slow in doing what he requires. The truth is the paper to which he alludes was given out for insertion, and upon receipt of his letter has been withdrawn, for a time.

The performances of many respectable correspondents have been unavoidably delayed; and strict impartiality requires, that where a marked superiority in point of merit does not appear, attention should be bestowed to priority in point of time. It will be the Editor's study to do justice to all his correspondents, as far as he can, and not to show undue favour to any individual.

The verses on the death of a mouse, most unfortunately for the writer, recal the idea of another performance on the same subject. This presents a parallel that a young performer should wish to avoid. Perhaps, on this account, the Editor will do a kind thing if he surprises them.

The love-sick maid shall have a place when a convenient opportunity occurs.

Domine Falsis shall be also indulged.

The letter of *B. C.* is received. From what goes before, he may see that it is impossible the Editor can gratify himself by obliging all his correspondents, which he most cordially wishes he could do; many times verses, that are in themselves good, are upon trite subjects; and often performances, on well chosen subjects, are carelessly written. He wishes his poetical correspondents never to forget that what is not excellent, must be accounted bad; what is intended merely for ornament, unless it be really ornamental, should be rejected. What would we say of the person who should present his mistress with a ring, in which a rough diamond was set as it came from the mine?—she could not wear it. A few good thoughts, in a poem carelessly finished, are the same. Though the Editor, therefore, may be obliged to return such a finished piece by the same hand, would be highly acceptable.

The life of the *duke d' Aubigny* is thankfully received.

The sensible remarks of *A. E. I.* a subscriber, came duly to hand, and shall be attended to.

The communications by *Hiero* and *Philo*, competition pieces, are received; and with others will now be sent to the judges without loss of time.

The second letter of *Grabam Cannis* is received. The second name subjoined to his was entirely an error of the press. It ought to have been the beginning of another paragraph. Thanks for his little piece; others in the same strain, carefully touched, will be very acceptable. *Quereb* and *Grimio* are received.

A *spring poet*, with some others of lesser note are also come to hand.

PREMIUMS.

•• The readers of the *Bee* are respectfully informed, that the ingenious gentleman who gained the premium of two guineas for the translation of a part of Virgil's *Georgics*, having returned that sum to the Editor, it is hereby again offered as a premium, to be given to the best piece that shall be offered in verse or prose, on any subject, between this time and the 1st of *November* next. Those who mean to compete for this premium will please to specify their intentions when they send in their papers; and send along with it a sealed note, containing the name and address of the competitor, which shall not be opened unless it prove successful.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1793.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS
ON THE POLITICAL PROGRESS OF BRITAIN.
To the Editor of the Bee.

 Dutch prowess, Danish wit, and British policy,
 Great NOTHING! mainly tend to thee. ROCHESTER.

SIR,

THE people of Scotland are, on all occasions, foolish enough to interest themselves in the good fortune of an English minister; though it does not appear that we have more influence with such a minister than with the cabinet of Japan. To England we were for many centuries a hostile, and we are still considered by them as a foreign, and in effect a conquered nation. It is true, that we elect very near a twelfth part of the British House of Commons; but our representatives have no title to vote, or act in a separate body. Every statute proceeds upon the majority of the voices of the whole compound assembly: What, therefore, can forty-five persons accomplish, when opposed to five hundred and thirteen?

VOL. vii.

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They feel the total insignificance of their situation, and behave accordingly. An equal number of elbow chairs, placed once for all on the ministerial benches, would be less expensive to government, and just about as manageable. I call these and every ministerial tool, of the same kind expensive, because those who are obliged to buy, must be understood to sell*, and those who range themselves under the banners of opposition, can only be considered, as having rated their voices too high for a purchaser in the parliamentary auction †.

There is a fashionable phrase, *the politics of the county*, which I can never hear pronounced without a glow of indignation; compared with such *politics*, even pimping is respectable. Our supreme court have, indeed, with infinite propriety, interposed to extirpate what are called in Scotland, *parcbment harons*, and have thus prevented a crowd of unhappy wretches from plunging into an abyss of perjury. But, in other respects, their decision is of no consequence, since it most certainly cannot be of the smallest concern to this country, who are our electors, and representatives; or indeed, whether we are represented at all. Our members are, most of them, the mere satellites of the minister of the day; and are too often as forward as others, to serve his most oppressive and despotic purposes.

* "I have BOUGHT you, and I will SELL you," was the answer of a worthy representative to his constituents, when they laid before him instructions for his conduct in parliament." *Political disquisitions*, vol. 1.

† To this general censure, we can produce a few exceptions, but the individuals are so well known, that it would be needless to name them.

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It seems to have been long a maxim of the monopolizing directors, of our southern masters, to extirpate as fast as possible every manufacture in this country, that interferes with their own *. Has any body forgotten the scandalous breach of national faith, by which the Scottish distilleries have been brought to destruction? Has not the manufacture of starch also been driven, by every engine of judicial torture, to the last verge of its existence? Have not the manufacturers of paper, printed calicoes, malt liquors and glass, been harrassed by vexatious methods of exacting the revenue? Methods equivalent to an addition of ten, or sometimes an hundred per cent. of the duty payable. Let us look around this insulted country, and say, on what manufacture, except the linen, government has not fastened its bloody fangs.

By an oriental monopoly, we have obtained the *unexampled privilege* of buying a pound of the same tea, for six or eight shillings, with which other nations would eagerly supply us for twentypence: Nay, we have to thank our *present* illustrious minister, that this trifling vegetable has been reduced from a price still more extravagant. His popularity began by the commutation act. Wonders were promised, wonders were expected, and wonders have happened! A nation, consisting of men who call themselves *enlightened*, have consented to build up their

* The linen manufacture is the only one that ever was seriously encouraged by government in Scotland, and that it is well known was done merely to divert the Scots from attempting to engage in the favourite *woollen* manufacture of England. It was perhaps foreseen that no encouragement would ever establish that as a national manufacture in this country.

windows, that they might enjoy the permission of sipping in the dark a cup of tea, ten *per cent.* cheaper than formerly; though not less than three hundred *per cent.* dearer than its intrinsic price. A second example of the *blessed* consequences of an East India company, is about to be exhibited in the course of this winter session. It has been long a great grievance to these "*honourable* merchants," that we ourselves can manufacture cotton stuffs, both cheaper and better than the Gentoo articles of that sort which they import into this country. A tax is therefore intended to be laid on the cotton manufactures, equal to a prohibition. I mention this from the best authority*, and I wish to ask my countrymen, whether they are prepared to submit to this last extremity of disgrace and injustice? The object of this statute cannot be revenue, but destruction. This is indeed no new system in the management of this country. In the Excise annals of Scotland, that year which expired on the 5th of July 1790, produced for the duties on soap, *sixty-five thousand pounds*. On the fifth of July last, the annual amount of these duties was only *forty-five thousand pounds*; and by the same hopeful progress, in two years more at farthest, our masters will enjoy the pleasure of extirpating a manufac-

* It is well known, that for several years past the East India company have been selling coarse India muslins below prime cost, with the intention of ruining that branch of the manufactures of this country; but in vain. I have not before heard that the bold measure mentioned in the text has been seriously intended; and though, from the manner in which this ingenious correspondent writes, he would seem to be well informed, yet I cannot help doubting, if any minister will ever be so fool hardy as to attempt a measure so extravagantly impolitic. Edif.

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ture, once flourishing and extensive. Two men were
some years ago executed in Edinburgh for robb-
ing the Excise Office of twenty-seven pounds; but
offenders may be named, who ten thousand times bet-
ter deserve the gibbet. We have seen that oppres-
sive statutes, and a method of enforcing them, the
most tyrannical, have, in a single year, deprived the
revenue of twenty thousand pounds, in one branch
only, and have driven a crowd of industrious fami-
lies out of the country; and then our legislators, to
borrow the honest language of George Rouse, esquire,
"have the insolence to call this GOVERNMENT."

Such are the glorious consequences of our stupid
veneration for a minister, and our absurd submission
to his capricious dictates!!

At home Englishmen admire liberty; but abroad,
they have always been barbarous masters. Edward I.
conquered Wales and Scotland, and at the distance of
five hundred years, his name is yet remembered in
both countries with traditionary horror. His an-
nals are shaded by a degree of infamy uncommon
even in the ruffian catalogue of English kings.

The rapacity of the BLACK prince, as he has been
emphatically termed, drove him out of France. At
this day, there are English writers who pretend to
be proud of the unprovoked massacres, committed by
his father and himself in that country; but on the
other hand, Philip de Comines ascribes the civil wars
of York and Lancaster, which followed the death of
Henry V. to the indignation of divine justice.

Ireland, for many centuries, groaned under the
most oppressive and absurd despotism; till, in defi-

ance of all consequences, the immortal Swift, like another Ajax,

“Broke the dark phalanx, and let in the light.”

He taught his country to understand her importance. At last she resolved to assert her rights with firmness. The fabric of tyranny fell without a blow; and a short time will extinguish the last vestige of a supremacy, dishonourable and pernicious to both kingdoms.

In the East and West Indies, the conduct of Britain may be fairly contrasted with the murder of Atabaliba, and will prove equally ruinous to the detested conquerors.

While our infatuated politicians exult in the capture of Bangalore, and the massacre of the subjects of a prince, at the distance of six thousand leagues, I am convinced from the bottom of my heart, and so will the majority of my countrymen be long before this century has elapsed, that it would be a circumstance, the most auspicious both for Bengal and for Britain, if Cornwallis and all his myrmidons could be at once driven out of India.

But what quarter of the globe has not been convulsed by our ambition, our avarice, and our baseness? The tribes of the Pacific ocean are polluted by the most loathsome of diseases; our brandy has brutalized or extirpated the Indians of the western continent; and we have hired by thousands the wretched survivors to the task of bloodshed. On the shores of Africa, we bribe whole nations by drunkenness, to robbery and murder; while in the face of earth and

heaven, our senators assemble to sanctify the practice.

Our North American colonies were established, defended, and lost, by a succession of long and bloody wars, and at a recorded expence of at least two or three hundred millions sterling*. We still retain Canada at an annual charge of six or seven hundred thousand pounds. This sum is raised by an Excise, which revels in the destruction of manufactures, and the beggary of ten thousand honest families †. From the province itself we never raised, nor hope to raise a shilling of revenue; and the single reason why its inhabitants endure our dominion for a month longer, is, to secure the money we spend among them.

*Laurencekirk,
30th January 1792.*

TIMOTHY THUNDERPROOF.

REMARKS ON GRAMMAR.

OF all the sciences that can engage the attention of man in the ordinary course of studies, that of GRAMMAR is perhaps the most intricate. When this is

* In the war of 1775, British officers pilfered books from a public library, which had been founded at Philadelphia by an individual more truly estimable than one half of the whole profession put together; I need hardly subjoin the name of Franklin.

† Look into Kearsely's or Robertson's tax tables: What concise! what tremendous volumes! When our political writers boast of British liberty, they remind us of Smollet's cobbler in bedlam bombarding Constantinople. If the victims who groan under our yoke, were acquainted with the confusion and slavery which our avarice or mad ambition have inflicted on ourselves, a very considerable share of their abhorrence would be converted into contempt or pity.

adverted to, we must doubt the propriety of that maxim, so often inculcated in modern times, *vis.* the necessity and propriety of initiating young persons in the principles of the grammar of their mother tongue. To give this precept the sanction of sound philosophy and common sense, grammar ought to be considered in two distinct points of view, *vis.* first as a *practical art*; and second as a *science*. As a practical art, it is impossible to initiate the child too soon into the knowledge of it. This is to be learnt, like other practical arts, by imitation, precept, and example. In this way, if those who have the superintendance of the education of a child, be correct in their language themselves, and attentive to guard against any deviation from it in the pupil, merely by telling him when ever occasion calls for it, "you ought not to say thus; but thus," here putting him right, every person will acquire a facility in the use of language, without having ever once heard of the name of grammar, or knowing how the different parts of speech are called. To give them this facility ought to be the great study of the teachers of youth, and not to make their pupils a set of conceited *chatterers*, by teaching them to use a great number of hard words, the meaning of which no child can possibly understand; this they must do if they attempt to explain to children the scientific principles of grammar.

The principles of grammar, which are naturally intricate of themselves, have been much obscured in latter times, by the application of partial rules to one language, that have been adapted merely to another,

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and thus mistaking particular aberrations for general principles. English grammar, in particular, by being thus decked out in a Roman dress, makes a most ridiculous and absurd appearance: Excellencies have been pointed out as defects; and more puerilities have been gravely uttered by learned men on this subject, than perhaps on any other that can be named. The man who should dissipate those clouds which obscure this subject, would perform an important service to society; but where shall such a man be found? Few have the talents requisite for this task; few have resolution to expose themselves to the obloquy that must be incurred, by opposing, singly, the current of erroneous opinions that have been generally adopted; and fewer still have time and inclination to apply these talents to this use. There is something, however, so beautiful in that simplicity, which is discoverable in nature, when it is perceived that all languages are, and necessarily must be radically the same; and it affords such a pleasing exercise to a scientific mind to be able distinctly to specify these radical principles of language, and to mark the lesser defections, omissions, and variations of particular languages, which constituted their distinctive peculiarities, that we cannot help wondering that it should have been so long neglected; for as to the few attempts that have been made at this, under the name of grammar, in modern times, these have been all written under the over-ruling impressions of a prejudiced education, and by no means answer the intention in any degree, serving only to perplex the subject instead of elucidating it. In an introduction

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to this kind of study, I shall give a small specimen of exercises in grammatical disquisitions, first in *practical* grammar, as being the easiest, as well as the most generally useful exercise of the two, and next in *philosophical* grammar, as being better adapted to scientific minds.

Exercises in regard to practical grammar.

By practical grammar, I mean to denote, in contradistinction to philosophical grammar, the art of attaining, by habit and attention, a facility of using any language correctly, either in speaking or in writing it. In this branch of study, one of the most essential requisites is, to obtain a knowledge of the precise meaning of every word that occurs in that language, according to the established practice of the most correct writers. To obtain this knowledge, a learner is obliged frequently to have recourse to dictionaries; so that it is an object of great importance to have an accurate dictionary of the language. The first object of inquiry, therefore, ought to be, whether such a dictionary is to be found; and if it be not, how that defect may be best supplied.

Every person who has bestowed a particular attention to the English language, knows very well, that no such dictionary of that language exists; for the want of which the learner is obliged to grope his way in the dark in the best manner he can, and by consequence he will be in danger of going wrong very often.

Without stopping to criticise the writings of those lexicographers who have attempted to give dictionaries of the English language, it will answer a better purpose to point out some of the probable means of

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improving those which shall be written in future.
Every attempt of this sort must be perfected by de-
grees. Those who come first, pave the way for o-
thers; the very errors of former writers serve to di-
rect those who come after them; so that it may of-
ten happen, that the earliest writers of dictionaries,
may have a much better claim to merit than their
successors, though the writings of these last be much
more perfect than the others. Peculiarities which con-
tribute in a high degree to give elegance and beauty
to a language, when that language is perfectly known
by the person who employs it, frequently are the
causes of obscurity and inelegance in the hands of
persons who know not how to avail themselves of
the treasures that language contains. This is re-
markably the case, in respect to all those words
which are nearly synonymous. There is not per-
haps to be found in any language, two words that
are exactly synonymous, so that a person who is cri-
tically accurate in the use of words, will scarcely
find an occasion in which one word can be substitu-
ted for another, without either marring the sense, di-
minishing the energy, or hurting the elegance of the
phrase; but, to a careless and inaccurate writer, five
or six words will often be accounted entirely sy-
nonymous. It may indeed happen, that when an
object is considered in one point of view only, two
words may be indifferently used, because the circum-
stance that constitutes the discriminating idea be-
tween these two words is not intended to be noticed.
But on another occasion, the one word would be
infinitely more proper than the other; and how is a

learner to obtain a knowledge of these nice shades of difference unless they be accurately explained in a dictionary? But as no dictionary of the English language has yet been composed, in which even an attempt has been made to do this, it cannot surely be too soon begun. In consequence of a few popular writings on *synonymes*, in foreign languages, the attention of some men of letters has been turned towards this subject in regard to English, though these have been confined only to particular dissertations. A degree of accuracy, nearly equal to what is here wanted, is also required for explaining a great proportion of the other words in any language. Most words have only one clear, precise, and direct meaning, in which sense these words had been originally employed; but afterwards, when it had been discovered that other words were wanted to denote ideas corresponding with the original meaning, only in certain circumstances, these words have been forced to bend a little, as it might be said, to the necessity of the times, and to be applied in this sense also. Hence it is that we find so many words which have a direct, as well as a collateral and figurative meaning, and they come in some cases to be so generally used, only in the figurative sense, as in some measure to make us lose sight of their direct meaning. A perfect dictionary, therefore, should, in the first place, define the word with the most accurate precision, so as to show its meaning, distinct from that of every other word, and then trace its gradual deflections into a figurative signification. Wit also, that fantastic creature of an active mind, knows how to

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distort words so, as by a delicate allusion to circum-
stances, unperceived by the more phlegmatic portion
of mankind, to suggest ideas infinitely ludicrous and
pleasing. A dictionary which could denote even but a
small dash of these delicate meanings of words, would
be a treasure in any language.

But how, it may be asked, can all this be done?
The question is natural and pertinent. In cases of
this sort, it is often easier to say what cannot be done
than what can. On this principle we can easily say,
these delicate meanings of words, cannot be exhibi-
ted by means of quotations only, produced as authori-
ties for the use of the word. It may appear perhaps
a little paradoxical, though not less true, to assert,
that mere quotations, produced as authorities in a
dictionary, will prove more frequently a source of
error than of real information. The best composer
that ever was will sometimes write incorrectly; and
if every thing that he has said is to be considered as
sterling authority, wherever such faults occur, these
faults, by this mode, would be disseminated, and error
propagated instead of truth. Poets, in particular,
may be considered as the greatest corrupters of all
languages. They often overstretch the meaning of
a word to serve a particular purpose; the harmony
of sounds, frequently induces them to make the sense
become subordinate; so that the lexicographer, who
should rest satisfied with giving the meaning of every
word, as it has been used, even by poets who are
deemed classical, would make a hodge podge of a
language that could never be good for any thing.

But if poetry of any sort is but doubtful authority dramatic poetry is, in a particular manner, liable to objection. The dramatic writer must suit his language to his characters. He must, therefore, occasionally make use of overstrained, affected, bombastical expressions; vulgar phrases, false idioms of speech, and grammatical blunders must be adopted, before the characters can be naturally delineated. Hence it is, that though few men have a greater veneration for Shakespeare than myself, yet I can conceive few things so absurd as a quotation from Shakespeare, taken indiscriminately, to ascertain the meaning of a word. From these, and other considerations, I should hold it as a maxim, that a lexicographer ought not to rest upon the authority of particular passages, taken from any author, as a sufficient, or indeed as a proper proof of the meaning of any word. Where he finds a difficulty in explaining the meaning of a word, he may indeed produce a phrase in which that meaning is truly adopted, not as a proof, but as an illustration only; and it does not matter whether that illustration be a phrase that has been actually employed by a good writer, or if it be composed by himself for the purpose, which, as being the easiest, ought, perhaps, to be recommended as the best mode of obtaining them.

A man, to be properly qualified for writing a dictionary, should, therefore, be possessed of such an extensive knowledge of the language in which he writes, as to be able to recollect, from a wide and general course of reading, the precise meaning of every word as it occurs, which he has stored up in

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his own mind, by a general comparison of the sense, in which that word has been most generally employ- ed by the best writers in the language; rejecting the casual deviations from it that occur even in the best authors. But where again, you ask, is such a man to be found? I know not; I do not expect ever to meet with such a one. I do not, therefore, expect to find a dictionary even approaching to perfection, that shall be written by any one man.

There are men, however, to be found, who possess uncommon talents for disquisitions of this nature; and where such a man can be found, much may be done. The quickest way of reaching perfection would be to set such a man, or several such men, if they can be found, to work, as it were in concert.

Let each write out the task assigned him in the most perfect way he is able. Let these several ar- ticles be read over with great deliberation, in a gen- eral meeting of a society of men, well versed in studies of this nature. Let such hints as occurred, for perfec- ting every article, be suggested to the whole, and in- vestigated by them. Let a second meeting of the same be called, and the same be read over with the improvements adopted. Let these, when approved, be put to the press. Let them be published to the world of philologists, as a grammatical sketch. A leaf or two of this might be published weekly, to be circulated among the learned, for their informa- tion and correction, accompanied with a general re- quisition, that every person, to whom any corrections, omisions, or improvements, occurred, would be so good as communicate these hints to the undertakers,

during the progress of the work, who should take care, after they had been duly considered and approved, to insert them under the proper heads, for a second and more correct edition of the work.

One stumbling block that lies in the way to mislead; or at least to add unnecessary bulk to a work of this kind is *etymologies*. These have been the source of much perplexity and error. But it is a hobby that learned men are so well pleased to mount, that it would perhaps be cruel to deprive them of the favourite recreation. It can do little other harm than adding to the *bulk* of a work, as men of sense have now little reliance upon it. They know, that without being certain of the language from which a word has been derived, the conclusions to be deduced from etymology are infinitely ludicrous; and who is it that knows all the languages from which words may have been derived? Some men know a few of the ancient languages of Europe; but is there any man that can say, with certainty, these languages were not composed of others that are now lost, without a knowledge of which, the radical etymology of many words may have been lost? Without this knowledge, etymologists might be compared to the *learned* apothecary, who explained the phrase *bernia humoralis*, (a cant phrase for the p—x.) by gravely saying it was a very good name, for certainly it is an eruption of the *humours*.

Among other particulars that should be adverted to in such a dictionary, should be obsolete words, and provincialisms. Words that are now obsolete are often very good, and might with propriety be adopted.

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at any rate their meaning ought to be preserved; but care should be taken to mark these words so as to be known, and I know no way in which the accurate knowledge of provincial words could be acquired but that which is here recommended.

Among the other advantages that would result from this mode of composing a dictionary, it would happen, that words which affected and conceited writers had invented through vanity, and a desire of distinguishing themselves, would be allowed to fall quickly into total oblivion, instead of being perpetuated, as they would be if the mere authority of the writer should be deemed a sufficient proof of their currency. There are, in every nation, to be found writers, who have acquired a temporary vogue by affectation and blameable singularities of language; and as the selecting of authorities is a mere mechanical labour, that must be intrusted to inferior assistants, these meaner geniuses could not fail to admire the popular writer of the day, and therefore would select with care all *the flowers of his oratory*, and store them up in their dictionary. Judicious men, who had made this branch of science a study, would know, that such words and phrases had not the authority of a general currency, and therefore they would be rejected.

It is needless for me to add, that I do not ever expect to see such a plan seriously adopted by a man, or men, who are qualified to carry it into full effect; but I may recommend it as a useful exercise to such of my readers as have a turn for things of this nature, to give an accurate explanation of any single

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word or more, just as they occur to them, and to send it here, if they incline, where it shall be printed with all due attention, and communicated to the public. This will be productive of two advantages,—first, it will make a small addition to our general fund of real knowledge, and secondly, it will accustom readers to a greater degree of accuracy of observation than they have been used to employ.

In some following number a few words shall be given as a specimen.

ACCOUNT OF ANTIQUITIES IN SCOTLAND.

Continued from p. 141.

V. CIRCULAR buildings, consisting of walls composed of stones firmly bedded on one another, without any cementing matter, usually called *duns*.

Of these I have seen many, more or less entire, some of which have been able to withstand the ravages of time for many centuries, even in the most exposed situations, where they have also been liable to dilapidations of various sorts. None that I have seen are probably half their original height; but I have heard of others much more entire, some of which to this day are not less than forty-five feet in height. It appears that all these structures, when entire, have resembled in some measure one of our modern glass houses; being of a circular form, wider at the base than the top, though there is no reason to believe that they ever tapered so much as the glass houses do, or were so narrow at top, which, like the other, was always open.

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This account of the upper part of these buildings I give merely from hear-say, as the walls of the most entire one that I have seen, did not, as I imagine, exceed twenty feet in height, and was at the top very little narrower than at the base. This was at a place called *Dun-Agglesag* in Rosshire, about ten miles west from Tain, on the south bank of the frith of Dornoch, which was in summer 1775, in the following condition :

The walls appeared to be perfectly circular. The internal diameter, (as nearly as I can recollect, having lost my notes of this tour,) was about fifty feet. The walls were about twelve feet in thickness, and the entry into it was at one place, by a door, about four feet wide. The height I could not exactly measure, as the passage, as well as the inside of the building, was choaked up in some measure with rubbish, so that we could not see the floor. The quoins of the door consisted of large stones, carefully chosen, so as exactly to fit the place where they were to be put; but neither here, nor in any other part of the building, could I discover the smallest mark of a hammer or any other tool. The aperture for the door was covered at top with a very large stone, in the form of an equilateral triangle, each side being about six feet in length, which was exactly placed over the middle of the opening. This stone was about four feet in thickness. It is impossible not to be surprised to think in what manner a rude people, seemingly ignorant of the powers of mechanism, could have been able to raise a stone of these dimensions to such a height, and to place it above loose stones, so

as to bind and connect them firmly together, instead of bringing down the wall, as would have inevitably happened without much care or skill in the workmen. Nor could I help admiring the judgement displayed in making choice of a stone of this form for the purpose here intended; as this is perhaps at the same time more beautiful to look on, and possesses more strength, for the same bulk and weight, than any other form that could have been made choice of.

The outside of the wall was quite smooth and compact, without any appearance of windows, or any other apertures of any kind. The inside too was pretty uniform, only here and there we could perceive square holes in the wall, of no great depth, somewhat like pigeon-holes, at irregular heights.

I have been informed that there is in many of these buildings a circular passage, about four feet wide, formed in the centre of the wall, that goes quite round the whole, on a level with the floor. I looked for it, but found no such thing in this place. At one place, however, we discovered a door entering from within, and leading to a kind of stair-case that was carried up in the centre of the wall, and formed a communication between the top and bottom of the building, ascending upwards round it in a spiral form.

The steps of this stair, like all the other stones here employed, discovered no marks of a tool, but seemed to have been chosen with great care of a proper form for this purpose. At a convenient height over head, the stair-case was roofed with long flat stones, going quite across the opening, and this roof

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was carried up in a direction parallel with the stair
itself, so as to be in all places of an equal height. It
was likewise observable, that the stair was formed
into flights of steps; at the top of each of which
there was a landing-place, with an horizontal floor, a-
bout six feet in length; at the end of which another
flight of steps began. One of these flights of steps
was quite complete, with a landing-place at each end
of it, and two others were found in an imperfect
state; the lowermost being in part filled up with
rubbish, and the highest reached the top of the wall
that is now remaining before it ended. Whether
these flights were regularly continued to the top, and
whether they contained an equal number of steps or
not, it was impossible for me to discover; but these
remains show that the structure has been erected by
a people not altogether uncivilized.

About twenty years ago, a gentleman in that
neighbourhood, who is laird of the spot of ground on
which this beautiful remnant of ancient grandeur
is placed, pulled down eight or ten feet from the
top of these walls, for the sake of the stones, to build
an habitation for its incurious owner. It may per-
haps be a doubt with some, whether the builders or
the demolishers of these walls most justly deserve
the name of a savage and uncivilized people? The fi-
gure annexed represents the appearance it made at
the time I saw it, very nearly.

By whatever people this has been erected, it must
have been a work of great labour, as the collecting
the materials alone; where no carriages could pass,
must have been extremely difficult to accomplish. It

must, therefore, have been in all probability a public national work, allotted for some very important purpose. But what use these buildings were appropriated to is difficult now to say with certainty.

There was a building called *Arthur's Oven* which stood upon the banks of the Carron, near Stirling, that was demolished not long ago. A drawing of it is preserved in Sibbald's "*Scotia illustrata*;" from which it appears, that in its general form, and several other particulars, it much resembled the buildings of this class; and if it should be admitted as one of them, it would be an exception to the foregoing rule, and tend to invalidate the reasoning I have employed. But although in some particulars it did resemble these buildings, in other respects it was extremely different. Its size is the first observable particular in which it differed from them, as there is hardly one of them which has not been a *great deal* larger than it was. These buildings are always composed of rough stones, without any mark of a tool. It consisted entirely of hewn stones, squared and shaped by tools, so as exactly to fit the place where they were to be inserted. The walls of *Arthur's Oven* were thin, without any appearance of a stair within them. In short, it bore evident marks of Roman art and architecture, and resembled *Virgil's tomb* near Naples, more than it did the structures we now treat of; on which account it has always been, with seeming justice, supposed a small temple, erected by the Romans when they occupied that station, and very different from the ruder, but more magnificent structures of these northern nations.

This structure at *Dun-Aggesag* has no additional buildings of any kind adjoining to it, although I had occasion to observe, from many others, that it has been no uncommon thing to have several low buildings of the same kind, joining to the base of the larger one, and communicating with it from within, like cells. The most entire of this kind that I have seen is at *Dun-robin*, the seat of the countess of Sutherland. The late earl was at great pains to clear away the rubbish from this building, and secure it as much as possible from being farther demolished. Unfortunately it is composed of much worse materials than that I have described.

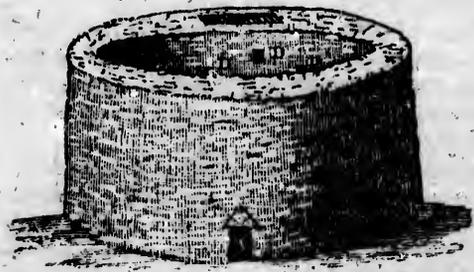
The only particular relating to the situation of this kind of buildings that occurred to me as observable, was, that they were all situated very near where water could be obtained in abundance. The side of a lake or river is therefore a common position; and where another situation is chosen, it is always observable, that water, in considerable quantities, from a rivulet, or otherwise, can be obtained near. It seems, however, to have been a matter of indifference, whether that water was salt or fresh, stagnant or running; from whence it would seem probable, that water, in considerable quantities, must have been necessary for some of the purposes for which they originally were intended.

In Caithness, as I have already hinted, the ruins of this kind of buildings are exceedingly numerous; but many of them are now such a perfect heap of rubbish, that they have much the same appearance with the *cairns* already mentioned, and might readily be confounded with them by a superficial observer.

The names in this case will be of some use to prevent mistakes, as every building of this kind seems to have been distinguished by the syllable *dun* prefixed to the word; so that whenever this is found to be the case, there is reason to suspect at least that it is not a cairn.

Dr Johnson, in his late tour to the Hebrides, was carried to see one of these buildings in the isle of Sky, which he seems to have surveyed rather in an hasty manner. He conjectures, that these structures have been erected by the inhabitants, as places of security for their cattle, in case of a sudden irroad from their neighbours. A thousand circumstances, had he bestowed much attention upon the subject, might have pointed out to him the improbability of this conjecture. We shall soon see that the inhabitants knew much better in what manner to secure themselves or cattle from danger than they would have been here.

I have annexed an elevation of the building *Dun-Aggiesag*, by the help of which you will be able to form an idea of other buildings of this kind.



ELEVATION of the BUILDING at DUN-AGGIESAG in ROSSSHIRE.

Scotland. Feb. 22.
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AGGLESAG in ROSSSHIRE.

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A represents the entry, C the stair-case seen from above, D, holes like pigeon-holes in the wall. This, and the foregoing sketches, are drawn from memory; and the elevation is too high in proportion to its other dimensions.

ON PHILOSOPHICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Continued from p. 163.

IN continuation of our account of the tropical winds, we shall briefly enumerate the principal inflections of the monsoons, and the other tropical winds of less extensive influence, that have been taken notice of, within or near the tropics, with the causes of these inflections.

Particular inflections of the monsoons.

In all that part of the Indian ocean, that lies between the island of Madagascar and Cape Commorin, the wind blows constantly from W. S. W. between the months of April and October; and in the opposite direction from the month of October till April, although with some variation in different places; these winds being neither so strong nor so constant in the bay of Bengal, as in the Indian ocean. It is likewise remarkable, that the S. W. winds, in those seas, are more southerly on the African side, and more westerly on the Indian, as appears distinctly in the map; but these variations are not repugnant to the general theory. It is sufficiently known, that in every part of the globe, high lands are much colder than low and flat countries; and as that part of Africa which lies within the tropics is very high

and mountainous, the cold in these regions is much greater than in the more flat countries of Arabia and India; so that the wind naturally blows from these cold regions, in the *summer* season, towards the warmer continent of Asia; which occasions those inflections of the wind to the eastward, that take place in these seas during the summer months. This effect is still farther promoted by the peninsula of India, the kingdom of Siam, and the islands of Sumatra and Java, on the eastern part of this ocean, lying so much farther to the south than the kingdoms of Arabia and Persia, which naturally draw the wind towards them, and produce the easterly variation of the monsoon which takes place in this part of the ocean, while the sandy deserts of Arabia draw the winds more directly northward, near the African coast.

In the eastern parts of the Indian ocean, beyond the island of Sumatra, along the southern parts of China, and among the Philippine islands, &c. to the north of the equator, the monsoons observe a different direction, blowing nearly due south and north.

Here the greatest part of the warm continent lies to the west of this district, which makes the wind naturally assume this direction. A little farther to the eastward, among the Marianne islands, *the general trade-wind* takes place, there being no continent to the north of them to occasion monsoons.

The monsoons are as regular in the eastern part of the Indian ocean for a small space, to the *south* of the equator, as they are to the north of it; here a northern monsoon sets in from the month of October till April, and a southern from April till October; and

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here, as well as to the north of the line, we find the direction of the monsoons varying in different places, according to particular circumstances. About the island of Sumatra, and towards the west of Java, the monsoons set in nearly from the north and south; but towards Celebes and Timur, they begin to tend a little more to the east and west, gradually declining as they approach the coast of New Guinea, near to which the northerly monsoon; from October till April, blows from N. W. and the opposite monsoon from S. E. between October and April. The reader will easily perceive that these monsoons are occasioned by the continent of New Holland; which being heated by the sun when in the southern signs, draws the wind towards it in the summer season, in the same manner as the continent of Asia produces the monsoons to the north of the line. The easterly deflection of this monsoon is plainly occasioned by the near approach of the large island of New Guinea, to the northern point of New Holland.

In the Red Sea the monsoon shifts as regularly as in other places; but being influenced by the coasts, it tends a little more to the north and south than in the Indian ocean.

Irrregularities in the monsoons on the eastern coast of Africa.

On the coast of Africa, to the south of Cape Corientes, and about the southern parts of the island of Madagascar, the regular trade-wind from the S. E. takes place between October and April; but from April till October, the wind blows from W. or N. W. and is at that season exceedingly cold.

This is evidently occasioned by a cause already taken notice of; for notwithstanding the high and cold nature of this part of the continent of Africa, yet when the sun is to the south of the line, his powerful influence at that season so far abates their natural degree of cold, as not to interrupt the general trade-wind between the months of October and April. But when he returns to the northern hemisphere, the high mountains of Africa resume their native coldness, and a strong current of air, rushing from them to warmer regions, repels the general trade-winds by its cold and more powerful blast, so as to produce the intemperate monsoon which here takes place between the months of April and October.

From Mozambique to Cape Guardafui, the monsoons are a little more irregular than in the other parts of the Indian ocean. It is observed that here, between October and January, the winds, though chiefly from the north, are variable. In January the N. E. monsoon sets in, and continues regular till the month of May. From May till October the winds, though chiefly from the southern points, again become variable, but in the months of June, July, and August, there are frequent calms, especially about the bay of Melinda, which sometimes continue for several weeks together, and extend only about one hundred leagues from the shore.

Before we can explain clearly the cause of this irregularity, it will be necessary to attend to the direction of the wind, on each side of this track, at each particular season. In the months of October, November, and December, the winds are here variable,

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but chiefly from the north. Now during these three months, to the south of this, beyond Cape Corientes, the wind blows from the S. W.; at the Red Sea, and all to the north of this track, the wind, during this season of the year, is from the N. E.; and as the sun is then perpendicular to the bay of Melinda, these opposite winds, here meeting and opposing one another, and being both of them stopped in their course westward, by the cold regions of Africa, will naturally produce the variable winds here observed, according as the one or the other of these three balancing powers happens to predominate: Although, as the coast here runs away towards the S. W. it is natural to expect that the northerly wind which follows the same direction, should more frequently prevail than those that are opposed to it, especially when we consider that the island of Madagascar, now beginning to be warmed by the influence of the sun, will concur in drawing the wind to the southward; and when the continent of Africa is more heated in the months of January and February, it does not oppose the easterly monsoon, so that the winds become then more fixed than before. But in the months of June, July, and August, the wind to the south of Cape Corientes is from the N. W.; and near the Red Sea, and throughout the northern part of the Indian ocean, the S. W. monsoon is then in its greatest vigour; so that on each end of this district the wind is blowing in an opposite direction; from which result these calms about Melinda, which we have just mentioned.

To be continued.

POETRY.

SIR,

HAVING accidentally met with the following lines, that I believe never were published, I send them to you, hoping you will find them not unworthy of a place in your Bee. By inserting them soon, you will oblige
AN ADMIRER OF NATURE.*

LINES WRITTEN WITH A PENCIL BELOW A PRINT.

REPRESENTING A SLEEPING CHILD WITH ANGELS.

*" Sweet is the sleep of innocence :
" No guilt disturbs, no cares annoy,
" But all is soft tranquillity
" And calm repose !-----*

SUCH are the thoughts that shoot athwart the minds
Of guardian angels, as they hover o'er
Their infant charge, when in the peaceful robe
Of holy innocence they rest secure :
Altho' 'tis said, the sympathetic tear
Of melting pity, sometimes steals adown
Their heavenly cheeks, when they the many ills
That but too soon await man's upper years
Anticipate.

*" Sleep on, sweet babe ! they say,---and may the time
" When conscious guilt shall banish rest, ne'er come :
" Nor when, bereft of those in whom thy soul
" Delighted, thou shalt still, thro' troubled sleep,
" In vain pursue the object of thy love,
" Which now, alas ! is gone,---to thee is gone,
" And never, never, never can return."*

TO THE SNOW DROP.

THOU ! who to heav'n lifting thy golden brow,
Ey'st unabash'd the glorious orb of day,
I praise thee not ;---I hate th' unblushing front.
But ever let me tell thy humbler worth,

*The Editor has seen these lines before. As the copy sent was imperfect, the errors have been corrected from an authenticated copy of the poems.

Ye simple snow drops! firstlings of the year!
 Fairest of flow'rs! sweet harbinger of spring!
 How meekly do ye hang your silv'ry heads!
 Like maidens, coyly stealing from the view.
 Ev'n so, upon the ground, her modest eye
 That fears to meet th' irrev'rent gaze of man,
 Beauty! unconscious bends; and so, more pure
 Than are your snow-white forms, Sophia strives
 To hide those charms, how matchless! from the world.

P. H.

AN IRREGULAR ODE, BY MATTHEW BRAMBLE.

To the Editor of the Bee.

QUEER PETER* since that thou art still
 In this vile world, not gone to heaven,
 Come brandish freely thy goose quill,
 Since wit to thee in store has given
 So many merry jests and harmless jokes.
 Poor Matthew† now is laid
 Within his little box,
 Beneath the yew-tree's shade,
 As dead as any fox
 As e'er on G-----'s grounds
 Was kill'd by F-----'s hounds.

Long rest and peace unto his gentle shade!
 For he wrote many an entertaining ode;
 And oft the matron grave, and coy maid,
 Would read them o'er and call them strange and odd.
 Ev'n bachelors, and the spruce Temple beau,
 His odes to actors often did admire;
 His wit and humour made each bosom glow,
 So manfully he strung the comic lyre,
 That surly critics gnaw'd their rotten grinders,
 And swore they were as dull as queer queer Pindar's.

Dear Matthew I am bold to take thy name,
 But if it's in my pow'r I will well use it,
 Tho' here I must confess, altho' with shame,
 I fear I really sometimes will abuse it;
 But Mat, I trust thy friends will now excuse it

* Queer Peter, Peter Pindar.

† Poor Matthew, the late ingenious Mr Andrew M'Donald, author
 of *Vimonda, the Independent, &c.* who wrote many an entertaining
 ode under the signature of Matthew Bramble, in the London prints and
 Edinburgh Magazine.

To whom shall I address this?---my first scroll!
 Why, says the muse, if you'll be rul'd by me,
 Address it to that honest hum-drum soul,
 The Editor of our new weekly *xxx*.

I will! I will!---do, pray, kind sir, accept it.
 But should you throw it by, and then neglect it,
 You'll put me in a mighty raging passion.
 What then?---Why, sir, you know it is the fashion
 Still to this day, as 'twas in former times,
 To d---mn the man who wont insert our rhymes.
 This, sir, is done by many a scribbling elf;
 You he cannot d---mn, but well may d---mn himself.

Kind Mr Editor 'tis my intention
 To write some *other* things as well as odes,
 In humble hopes that my poor, weak invention
 Will be made strong by muses' aid, and g--ds;
 I mean the gods, so do not call me bold,
 That poets made their own in days of old.

Now, sir, with glee I'll say a few words more,
 And tho' I am unfit thee to advise,
 I'll tell you, sir, what you must know before,
 One word is all-sufficient to the wise.
 And what is this one word to be,
 You certainly will ask the soaring poet;
 Why then, sir, since you're curious for to know it,
 It is to print this in your weekly *xxx*.

THE COMPLAINT, BY A LADY.

ALAS! how hard is woman's lot!
 To praise, to love, yet be forgot!
 Our hearts for one with fondness glow,
 Whose charms we feel, whose worth we know;
 Who fills alone, by day, our breast,
 And robs, by night, our eyes of rest;
 While he, perhaps, whom thus we prize,
 Seeks distant lands, and diff'rent skies;
 Around the world can lightly rove,
 'Scape thought and all the cares of love;
 Seek pleasure in her varied form,
 And thus dissolve the tyrant's charm.
 But we, by iron custom's doom,
 Must live, and think, and sigh at home;
 Forbid to wander as we please,
 Mix with the gay, consult our ease;
 Deny'd th' amusements of the day,
 To chase our irksome thoughts away,
 We o'er our cares are left to brood,
 In silence and in solitude.

PETER, A GERMAN TALE.

"MY dearest children, be always good, and you'll be always happy. Sixty long years have your mother and I enjoyed a happy tranquillity. God grant that none of you may ever purchase it so dearly!" Such were the words of Peter, a husbandman in a village of Bareith in Franconia, addressing himself to his grand-children one clear evening of autumn.

With these words a tear stood in the old man's eye. Louisa, one of his grand-daughters, about ten years old, ran and threw herself in his arms. "My dear grand-papa!" said she, "you know how well pleased we all are, when of an evening you tell us some pretty story; how much more delighted should we all be if you would tell us your own! It is not late—the evening is mild—and none of us are much inclined to sleep." The whole family of Peter seconded the request, and formed themselves in a semi-circle before him. Louisa sat at his feet, and recommended silence. Every mother took on her knee the child whose cries might distract attention: Every one was already listening; and the good old man, stroking Louisa's head with one hand, and the other locked in the hands of Theresa, thus began his history:

"It is a long time ago, my children, since I was eighteen years of age, and Theresa sixteen. She was the only daughter of Aimar, the richest farmer in the country, I was the poorest cottager in the village; but never attended to my wants, until I fell in love with Theresa. I did all I could to smother a passion which I knew must one day or other have made a wretch of me. I was very certain that the little pittance fortune had given me, would

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be an eternal bar in the way to my love ; and that I must either renounce her for ever, or think of some means of becoming richer. But, to grow richer, I must have left the village where my Theresa lived ; that effort was above me ; and I offered myself as a servant to Theresa's father.

" I was received. You may guess with what courage I worked. I soon acquired Aimar's friendship and Theresa's love. All of you, my children, who know what it is to marry from love, know too the heart-felt pleasure of reciprocity in every interview, every look, every action. Theresa loved me as much as she herself was loved. I thought of nothing but Theresa ; I worked for her ; I lived for her ; and I fondly imagined that happiness was then eternally mine.

" I was soon undeceived. A neighbouring cottager asked Theresa in marriage from her father. Aimar went and examined how many acres of ground his intended son-in-law could bring his daughter, and found that he was the very husband that suited her. The day was fixed for the fatal union.

" In vain we wept ; our tears were of no service to us. The inflexible Aimar gave Theresa to understand that her grief was highly displeasing to him ; so that restraint added to our mutual wretchedness.

" The terrible day was near. We were without one glimmering of hope. Theresa was about to become the wife of a man she detested. She was certain that death must be the inevitable consequence. I was sure I could not survive her ; we made up our minds to the only way that was left,—we both ran off, and—heaven punished us.

" In the middle of the night we left the village. I placed Theresa on a little horse that one of her uncles had made her a present of : It was my decision that there was no harm in taking it away, since it did not belong to

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her father. A small wallet contained her clothes and mine, with a trifle of money that Theresa had saved. For my part, I would take nothing with me; so true it is that many of the virtues of youth are the offspring of fancy; I was robbing a father of his daughter, and I scrupled at the same time to carry off the value of a pin from his house.

"We travelled all night; at day-break we found ourselves on the frontiers of Bohemia, and pretty nearly out of the reach of any who might be in pursuit of us. The place we first stopped in was a valley, beside one of those rivulets that lovers are so fond of meeting with. Theresa alighted, sat down beside me on the grass, and we both made a frugal but delicious meal. When done, we turned our thoughts to the next step we were to take.

"After a long conversation, and reckoning twenty times over our money, and estimating the little horse at its highest value, we found that the whole of our fortune did not amount to twenty ducats. Twenty ducats are soon gone! We resolved, however, to make the best of our way to some great town, that we might be less exposed, in case they were in search of us, and there get married as soon as possible. After these very wise reflections we took the road that leads to Egra.

"The church received us on our arrival; and we were married. The priest had the half of our little treasure for his kindness; but never was money given with so much good-will. We thought our troubles were now all at an end, and that we had nothing more to fear; and indeed we bought eight days' worth of happiness.

"This space being elapsed, we sold our little horse; and at the end of the first month we had absolutely nothing. What must we have done? What must have become of us? I knew no art but that of the husbandman;

and the inhabitants of great cities look down with contempt on the art that feeds them. Theresa was as unable as myself to follow any other business. She was miserable; she trembled to look forward; we mutually concealed from each other our sufferings—a torture a thousand times more horrid than the sufferings themselves. At length, having no other resource, I enlisted into a regiment of horse, garrisoned at Egra. My bounty-money I gave to Theresa, who received it with a flood of tears.

“ My pay kept us from starving; and the little works of Theresa, for indigence stimulated her invention, helped to keep a cover over our heads. About this time, a child coming to the world, linked our affections closer.

“ It was you, my dear Gertrude; Theresa and myself looked upon you as the pledge of our constant love, and the hope of our old age. Every child that heaven has given us we have said the same thing, and we have never been mistaken. You were sent to nurse, for my wife could not suckle you, and she was inconsolable on the occasion. She passed the live-long day working at your cradle; while I, by my attention to my duty, was endeavouring to gain the esteem and friendship of my officers.

“ Frederick, our captain, was only twenty years of age. He was distinguishable among the whole corps by his affability and his figure. He took a liking to me. I told him my adventures. He saw Theresa,—and was interested in our fate. He daily promised he would speak to Aimar for us; and as my absolute dependence was on him, I had his word that I should have my liberty as soon as he had made my father-in-law my friend. Frederick had already written to our village, but had got no answer.

“ Time was running over our heads. My young captain seemed as eager as ever; but Theresa grew every day more and more dejected. When I inquired into the

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reason, she spoke of her father, and turned the conversation off. Little did I imagine that Frederick was the cause of her grief.

"This young man, with all the heat incident to youth, observed Theresa's loveliness as well myself. His virtue was weaker than his passion. He knew our misfortunes; he knew how much we depended on him; and was bold enough to give Theresa to understand what reward he expected for his patronage. My wife witnessed her indignation; but knowing my character to be both violent and jealous, she with-held the fatal secret from me; while I, too credulous, was daily lavish in the praises of my captain's generosity and friendship.

"One day coming off guard, and returning home to my wife, who should appear before my astonished eyes, but Aimar! "At last I have found thee," exclaimed he, "infamous ravisher! Restore my daughter to me! Give me back that comfort thou hast robbed me of, thou treacherous friend!" I fell at his knees: I endured the first storm of his wrath. My tears began to soften him; he consented to listen to me. I did not undertake my own justification, "The deed is done," said I, "Theresa is mine;—she is my wife!—My life is in your hands, punish me;—forgive your child,—your only daughter. Do not dishonour her husband,—do not let her fall a victim to grief;—forget me that you may more effectually remember her." With that, instead of conducting him to Theresa, I led him to the house where you were at nurse, my girl. "Come," added I, "come and view one more, you must extend your pity to."

"You were in your cradle, Gertrude; you were fast asleep; your countenance, a lovely mixture of alabaster and vermilion, was the picture of innocence and health. Aimar gazed upon you. The big tear stood in his eye.

I took you up in my arms ; I presented you to him : " This too is your child," said I to him. You then awoke, and, as if inspired by heaven, instead of complaining, you smiled full upon him ; and extending your little arms towards the old man, you got hold of his white locks, which you twined among your fingers, and drew his venerable face towards you. Aimar smothered you with kisses ; and caught me to his breast. " Come," said he, " my son, shew me my daughter," extending one hand to me, and holding you on his arm with the other. You may judge with what joy I brought him to our house.

" On the road, I was afraid least the sudden sight of her father might be too much for her ; meaning to prevent any ill consequences, I left Aimar with you on his arm ; I ran home, opened the door, and saw Theresa struggling with Frederick, exerting all her power to save herself from his base embraces. As soon as my eyes saw him, my sword was in his body. He fell ; the blood gushed ; he pierced the air with a cry of anguish ; the house was full in a minute. The guards came ; my sword was still recking ; they seized me, and the unfortunate Aimar just arrived to see his son-in-law loaded with irons.

" I embraced him ; I recommended to him my wife, and my helpless babe, whom I likewise embraced, and then followed my comrades, who saw me lodged deep in a dungeon.

" I remained there, in the most cruel state, two days and three nights. I knew nothing of what was going forward ; I was ignorant of Theresa's fate. I saw nobody but an unrelenting jailor, who answered to all my questions, that I need not trouble myself about any thing ; for that in a very few hours, he was sure sentence of death would be pronounced on me.

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"The third day the prison gates were flung open. I was desired to walk out; a detachment were waiting for me; I was encircled by them, and led to the barracks green. From afar I perceived the regiment drawn up, and the horrid machine that was to put an end to a wretched life. The idea that my misery was now completed, restored the force I had lost. A convulsive motion gave precipitancy to my steps; my tongue of itself muttered Theresa's name; while I walked on my eyes were wildly in search of her; I bled with anguish, that I could not see her; at last I arrived.

"My sentence was read; I was given into the hands of the executioner; and was preparing for the mortal blow, when sudden and loud shrieks kept back his falling arm. I once more stared round, and saw a figure, half naked, pale, and bloody, endeavouring to make way through the guards that surrounded me;—it was Frederick. "Friends!" exclaimed he, "I am the guilty man; I deserve death; pardon the innocent. I wished to seduce his wife; he punished me; he did what was just; you must be savages if you attempt his life." The colonel of the regiment flew to Frederick in order to calm him. He pointed out the law that doomed to death whoever raised his hand against his officer. "I was not his officer," cried Frederick, "for I had given him his liberty the evening before under my hand. He is no more in your power." The astonished officers assembled together. Frederick and humanity were my advocates; I was brought back to prison; Frederick wrote to the minister,—accused himself,—asked my pardon,—and obtained it.

"Aimar, Theresa, and myself, went and threw ourselves at the feet of our deliverer. He confirmed the presents he had made me of my liberty, which he wished to heighten by others that we would not receive. We returned to

this village, where the death of Aimar has made me master of all he possessed, and where Theresa and I shall finish our days in the midst of peace, happiness, and you, my children." Peter's children had crept close to him, during the narrative; and, though finished, they still were in the attitude of people who listen; the tears trickled down their cheeks. "Be happy," said the good old man to them, "heaven has at last rewarded me with your love." With that he embraced them all round; Louisa kissed him twice; and all the happy family withdrew for the night.

 TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The communication by *Alexander Simple* is received, and shall have a place as soon as possible.

The gentleman who has taken the trouble of transcribing some chapters from *Humphry Clinker*, has engaged in a very fruitless labour; as no extract from a work so universally known would be proper for the *Bee*.

The Editor does not recollect to have seen the epistle signed *Capricornus*. He is at great pains to notice all the pieces he receives, as soon after they come to hand as possible, and he believes very few have escaped his notice.

The letter communicated by *Entbusius*, is not in the happiest strain of humour; nothing in that strain which is not excellent, should be published.

The performance communicated by a *good fellow*, has been frequently printed; and its excellence is not such as to entitle it to a republication in the *Bee*.

The performance by *A. M. M.* is received, and shall be duly attended to. *Benedict's* very excellent fable was duly received; it was an omission not to have sooner mentioned it, which arose from a circumstance entirely accidental.

The verses by *Voltaire*, translated by *J. D******, were scarcely worth the trouble.

The Editor is much obliged to *A. B.* for the very beautiful unpublished song, by *Theman*. His directions shall be duly followed.

The translation of the French lines by *M. S.* is indeed far from being literal; so far from it, that the leading idea is entirely lost.

The verses by *J. B.* would require to be better polished before they be laid before the public. It is recommended to the writer to keep them by him for some time and revise them.

The sonnet of *Palaeologus* is received, and under consideration.

The very obliging letter of *Theologus* is received. It will give the Editor much pleasure, if his wishes shall be accomplished; but that depends on others.

The competition piece *O. Cross*, &c. came just in time, and no more; as also that by *Messerschabel*.

THE BEE,
OR
LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1792.

ON THE POLITICAL PROGRESS OF BRITAIN.

Continued from p. 271.

Feliciores enim
Angustis opibus: mallem tolerare Sabinos,
Et Vejosi: brevior duxi securius ævum,
Ipsa nocet moles.

CLAUDIAN.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I BEG leave to continue my miscellaneous remarks on the political progress of Britain.

It is now eighty-seven years since * we surprised Gibraltar. We have retained this barren, useless rock, under the idea of protecting our trade in the Mediterranean; but that trade was at least as flourishing in the last century as it is now; and this unquestionable fact proves the futility of such reasoning. Besides, the memorable progress of admiral Blake, on the coast of Barbary, evinces, that while we possess a superior navy, manned as it is by a race of veterans, beyond all praise, we can always command a free navigation in every harbour of the globe. The

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* In 1704.

fortress, for a long period past, has cost us five hundred thousand pounds a-year, besides the extraordinary advances in time of war, and the sums which the garrison, by sober industry, might have earned at home in time of peace. For the sake of moderation, let us compute that Gibraltar, during the whole space of our possession, has required upon an average only two hundred thousand pounds *per annum*; on multiplying this sum by eighty-seven, we are presented with an amount of seventeen million and four hundred thousand pounds sterling. Could the premises be disputed, the total expence would exceed credibility; for at the rate of five *per cent.* of compound interest, a sum doubles itself in fourteen years; and, consequently, in the course of eighty-four years, two hundred thousand pounds will increase to twelve millions and eight hundred thousand. This, however, concerns only *one* year of our conquest. The reader may prosecute, and contemplate the sequel of the calculation. All the current cash in Europe would come far short of discharging such a reckoning. Britain may be supposed at this time to contain about fifteen hundred thousand families, besides those who are supported upon charity. Now, dividing five hundred thousand pounds equally among them, it amounts to a share of six shillings and eight-pence *per family*. The money ought to be raised under a distinct title, such as the Gibraltar *additional shilling of land tax*, the Gibraltar *malt tax*, the Gibraltar *excise on tobacco*, the Gibraltar *game licence*, the Gibraltar *horse licence*, the Gibraltar *attorney licence*, or the Gibraltar *stamp duty on legacies*. In that case the nation would instantly consider what they were

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1792. *political progress of Britain.* 307
about, and cast off such a preposterous burden. The
payment of 6s. 8 d. is frequently the smallest part
of the grievance. By the expence of excisemen,
of prosecutions, and of penalties, 5 s. of revenue often
cost a British *freeman* at least as many pounds ster-
ling*.

Before the acquisition of Gibraltar, England, in the
whole course of her history, had only three wars
with Spain. The first in 1588, was produced by
the piracies of Drake and others, and by the assis-
tance which Elizabeth afforded to the Dutch revol-
ters. The second war was likewise unprovoked, on
the part of Spain. Cromwell found it necessary to
vent the turbulence of his subjects in a foreign quar-
rel, and Jamaica was invaded and seized without
even a pretence of justice. On this conquest chiefly
has England founded that hopeful branch of her com-
merce, the slave trade, while the climate has annual-
ly extirpated, by thousands, the vagrants from Eu-
rope. The third Spanish war had an origin worthy

* I shall mention an example which occurs while I am now writing.
An old woman had been in the practice of supplying her neighbours with
halfpennyworths of snuff. She was ordered, under a penalty of *ffiy*
pounds, to take out a licence, and she did so. Had she been able to buy from
the manufacturer four pounds of snuff at a time, the business might have
rested there; but as this was beyond her power, it was required by the ter-
riers of taxation, that she should make oath, once a-year, to the quantity
she sold. Her memory failed, and she is now, with a crowd of other vic-
tims, in an excise court, which will very possibly bring her to beggary.
This is like a drop in the ocean of excise. The very sound of the word
announces utter destruction; for it is derived from a latin verb, which
signifies *to cut up by the roots*.

What "our excellent constitution" may be in theory, I neither know
nor care. In practice, it is altogether A CONSPIRACY OF THE RICH
AGAINST THE POOR.

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of its predecessors. The king of Spain, by his will, transferred his dominions to a prince of the house of Bourbon. His subjects consented or submitted to the choice, and England, with a degree of insolence unmatched in history, interfered in favour of an Austrian candidate. The contest ended with her acquisition of Minorca, and Gibraltar; an injury to Spain of the most offensive nature. Since that period the nation has always been forward to contend with us; and five wars*, begun and terminated in the short space of sixty-five years, assure us of their indelible indignation. Nor can we be surprised at their animosity: for what would an Englishman say or feel, were Plymouth and Dover fortified by a French garrison. Happily for the species, our countrymen at Gibraltar have been but seldom attacked. Hence, in a time of war, they have commonly inflicted and suffered far less mischief than must have been committed on both sides in a piratical expedition to the coast of Peru, in desolating the plains of Hindostan, in burning the shipping at St Maloes, or in storming the pestilential ramparts of the Havannah †.

In 1708, we captured Minorca, and it is unnecessary to expatiate on the monstrous expences which it must have cost us during half a century, till it was in 1756 surrendered to the French. On this event the whole English nation seemed to have run out of their senses. Yet to the loss of this fortress, we

* *Viz.* in 1718, in 1727, in 1739, in 1762 and in 1779.

† The major of a British regiment who served at that siege, had in his company, on his arrival at Cuba, an hundred and nine healthy men. Of these, as he himself told me, five only returned to Europe.

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may in some measure attribute our success, as it was
called, in that war ; for the charge of supporting
Minorca must have been felt as a dead weight upon
our other operations. It was restored in 1763, and
in 1781, it was a second . . . , and I hope for ever, se-
parated from the British dominions. By the loss of
this fortrefs we save an ineessant and extravagant
expence. With me it is an object of regret, that the
brave Elliot and his garrison had not been forced to
capitulate by the first bomb discharged against them.
The individuals, acting as they did, from the most ge-
nerous and honourable principles, have acquired and
deserved our warmest gratitude ; and, as it may be
expected that such events will hereafter become less
frequent, their glory will descend with increasing lustre
to the last generations of mankind. But their efforts
were fatal to this country ; for it is self-evident that
we had much better have wanted this mock appen-
dage of empire. The siege itself produced scenes of
such stupenduous destruction that they cannot be per-
used without horror. Nine years of peace have since
elapsed, and, in that time, including the vast expence
of additional fortifications, it is probable that Gib-
raltar has cost us at least five millions sterling ; besides
we have been again on the verge of a war with Spain,
which has added a comfortable *item* to the debts of
the nation. If the annual expence of Gibraltar, a-
mounts to five hundred thousand pounds, this is about
one thirty-second part of our public revenue. No-
thing but the power of its disposal can obtain for a
British minister a majority in the house of com-

mons. Three hundred and twenty members are about the usual number *under his influence* *; and therefore the patronage of Gibraltar may be conjectured to purchase ten votes in the market of St Stephen's chapel.

Though writers have presumed to specify the annual charge of Gibraltar, an exact estimate cannot possibly be obtained. The public accounts are presented to parliament in a state of inextricable confusion. Indeed their immense bulk would alone be sufficient to place them far beyond the reach of any human comprehension. A single circumstance may serve to show the way in which parliamentary business is commonly performed. A statute was passed and printed some years ago, containing three successive references to the *thirty-first* day of November.

For a foreign contest, our government is most wretchedly adapted. In the war of 1756 Frederick, that Shakespeare of kings, fought and conquered five different nations. In the course of his miraculous campaigns, he neither added a single impost, nor attempted to borrow a single shilling. At the same time our boasted earl of Chatham was overwhelming this country with taxes, and contracting an annual debt of fifteen or twenty millions sterling. With a more destructive minister, no nation was ever cursed. Yet this man we prefer to Sir Robert Walpole,

* When the whole strength of each party is called forth, a minority are commonly within an hundred voices of a minister, which corresponds with tolerable accuracy to the computation in the text. In the regency question, Mr Pitt with the whole nation at his back, mustered only two hundred and sixty nine members.

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a statesman, whose maxim it was to keep us, if pos-
sible, at peace with all the world.

In 1662, Dunkirk, then possessed by England, cost
an annual expence of a hundred and twenty thousand
pounds. At the same period the whole revenues
of the nation did not amount to eleven hundred thou-
sand pounds. The retention of the town must have
proved a hot bed of future wars with France.
Charles II. at this time sold it to Lewis XIV. for the
sum of four hundred thousand pounds. This was, I
believe, the only wise, laudable, or even innocent ac-
tion of his reign. It had almost produced a rebel-
lion; and, as Mr Hume observes, "has not had the
"good fortune, to be justified by any party."

Domestic improvement is, in all cases, more ad-
vantageous than military acquisition. Yet in the
great outlines of their history, the English nation
have incessantly forsaken the former, to pursue the
latter. James I. though in private, and even in pub-
lic life, universally despised, was one of the best
sovereigns that ever sat on the British throne.
Without a single quality which could recommend
him to our esteem, he preserved the English nation,
though much against their will, in peace, during his
entire reign of twenty-two years. Hence both islands
made rapid advances in wealth and prosperity. "Ne-
ver," says Stowe, "was there any people, less con-
siderate and less thankful than at this time, being
"not willing to endure the memory of their present hap-
"piness." On the same principles of rapine, which
dictated the retention of Dunkirk, James has been
severely blamed for delivering back to the Dutch
three of their fortified towns, which had been put into

the possession of Elizabeth. Mr Hume has, with much propriety, vindicated his conduct. Had it been possible that the life of such a prince, and the tranquillity of this country, could have been prolonged to the present day, it is beyond the power of British vanity to conceive the accumulated progress of this time, have advanced to a state of cultivation, not inferior to that of China. The productions of the soil, and the number of inhabitants, might have exceeded, by tenfold, their present amount. Public roads, canals, bridges, and buildings of every description, must have multiplied far beyond what our most sanguine wishes are capable of conceiving. A short review of the destruction committed by foreign wars within the last hundred years of our history, can hardly fail to amuse and may perhaps instruct the reader. This will furnish materials for another letter from
Laurence Kirk F. b. 25. 1792. **TIMOTHY THUNDERPROOF.**

 NOVUM ORGANUM POLITICUM.

BEING AN ATTEMPT TO SHEW
 THAT THE ÆRA OF SCIENTIFIC GOVERNMENT IS ARRIVED.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

THE study of human nature, and the knowledge of what has happened to mankind in the various ages, climates, and nations of the world, leading to the improvement of his nature by good government, are the elements of the first of arts, and the first of sciences.

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All political institutions, till lately, have arisen from chance, necessity, or imitation; and none have been formed, few even improved, on the radical principles of man's nature; because all legislators have either made laws on the spur of the occasion, or laid plans for the government of men, such as they ought to be, but such as they are not, and cannot be rendered, but in the lapse of ages.

It is, therefore, the proper object of him who searches into antiquity, to contemplate the history of the world as a politician, to discover the propensities of social man, his natural habits, and consequent customs, which are too strong for laws alone to obviate, or to reform; and those errors in legislation, which have successively brought every nation to its fall, by gradations so uniformly marked in the page of history, that they invite the friends of humanity to attempt, by unfolding the causes, to point out the cure of political disease.

To perform this task would fill a volume; and I mean only to lay before your readers a few observations, tending to shew, that a new æra of liberty and legislation has appeared, which promises to render mankind, in general, wiser and better, and consequently happier than they have been in past ages.

The general and individual wealth of nations, created by the improvement of agriculture, trade, and manufactures, and the almost universal dissemination of knowledge among the lower ranks of mankind, by education and the art of printing; the continual intercourse created by navigation and posts, and the multiplied organization of men into societies, for com-

mon interest, or common information, have, in the course of two centuries, totally changed the structure of society at large.

The strongest holds of regal authority and superstition have been happily pulled down. Men have become acquainted with their own rights, and have been enabled to associate, for their defence, or for acquiring that to which they are entitled.

England excluded, in the last century, the king, and discarded him and his family, as a well ordered family would exclude and discard the principal servant, who acted without its authority, and against its interest. But England was not sufficiently enlightened then to amend her faulty constitution; because a veneration for the old established forms possessed the minds of the people. In the present age we have seen north America form herself into an independent nation, on the luminous principles of philosophy, after having thrown off the yoke of tyranny, without the intervention of religious zeal, or of superstition; and still more recently we have seen the great nation of France, dissolving altogether, and in one moment, a fabric of preposterous government, that had been erecting for three centuries, and replacing it, by a grand and beautiful structure, erected on the basis of general and equal liberty, which I trust will withstand the shock of ages, unhurt by the subtilty of princes, or the imprudence of the people.

We have seen the unity of the legislative power established, by rejecting the project of a third estate, forming a body of janizaries, for the king and the

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church, as in other countries; an institution by no means coeval with the free governments of Europe, but formed in England by Henry III. and in Scotland attempted by James I. unsuccessfully.

We have seen the unjust and impolitic right of primogeniture, destroyed.

The distinctions of men preserved, but hereditary right to distinction and prerogative, abolished.

The power of the crown, to ruin the people by foolish wars, to flatter its ambition, or to defend the sullied reputation of an infamous relation, abrogated, and invested in the legislative body.

The right of trial by jury, judges both of the law and the fact, fully established.

Universal toleration of religious opinion.

All christians admitted to a share of the political liberty of the nation, by the capacity of being elected legislators, or appointed to offices in the state.

Corruption among the people for the election of representatives, obviated, by the diffusion of the right of suffrage.

Power of the first magistrate defined, and determined.

No power of remission of crimes against the state, but by recommendation of mercy from the juries and judges.

A scale of punishments, suited to crimes.

The expence and delay of the law, and of justice, regulated and limited.

The revenue of the state, not to be raised in a way injurious to the morals of the people, or to their health and comfort.

Oaths on frivolous occasions, to be abolished.

Agriculture, as the foundation of national prosperity, to be encouraged, and rendered honourable.

No man to suffer infamy, or loss by the infamy or crimes of his ancestors, or relations.

These, Sir, and other institutions, connected with the principles upon which they were enacted, do sufficiently evince, that the æra of *scientific government* has arrived. Governments have been formed in America, and in France, upon the everlasting foundations of justice and truth; not as formerly, by collision of interests, and a jumble of fortuitous incidents, and by political and religious rage.

The power and wealth of the priesthood have been reduced to a standard, consistent with the good of the state.

The torture has been abolished, and slavery, notwithstanding the vile example of Britain, will be abolished in France as it has been in America.

The liberty of the press secured.

Wars of conquest and plunder prevented.

A system, formed in Europe, for a perpetual congress of deputies from the various states, to determine disputes, and thereby prevent expensive, bloody, and useless wars, on account of commercial or territorial differences.

An uniformity of general commercial laws.

And an uniformity of weights and measures all over the world.

No shelter to be given to criminals in any foreign state.

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Thus, Sir, have I endeavoured slightly to sketch the outlines of that scientific system of government, which seems likely to be established for the happiness of future generations; and shall conclude this letter, by an extract from a writer who has been an old, sincere, and useful friend to its accomplishment.

“The great instrument in the hand of divine providence, for the progress of mankind towards perfection, is *society*, and consequently government. In a state of nature, the powers of any individual are dissipated by an attention to a multiplicity of objects. The employments of all are similar. From generation to generation, every man does the same that every other does, or has done, and no person begins where another has ended; at least general improvements are exceedingly slow and uncertain. Whereas a state of more perfect society admits of a proper distribution and division of the objects of human attention. In such a state, men are connected with, and subservient to one another; so that, while one man confines himself to one single object, another may give the same undivided attention to another object. Thus the powers of all have their full effect; and hence arise improvements in all the conveniences of life, and in every branch of knowledge. In this state of things, it requires but a few years to comprehend the whole preceding progress of any one art or science; and the rest of a man's life, in which his faculties may be the most perfect, may be dedicated to the extension of it. If, by this means, one art or science should grow too large for an easy

comprehension, in a moderate space of time, a commodious subdivision will be made. Thus all knowledge will be subdivided and extended; and knowledge, as Lord Bacon observes, being power, the human powers will in fact be enlarged; nature, including both its materials, and its laws, will be more at our command; men will make their situations in this world abundantly more easy and comfortable; and will grow daily more happy, each in himself, and more able (and I believe more disposed) to communicate happiness to others."

Now, Sir, nothing can secure this wonderful, yet certain progress of human improvement, but the continuation of wise, just, and uniform governments, that shall neither be subject to injury from without nor within, as the crude governments of ancient nations were, that brought all of them, within the space of a thousand years, to utter destruction.

One great engine for raising and supporting the body politic, and preventing the deterioration of mankind, is education of youth, particularly of the female sex, which has never yet entered *as a code* into any constitution of government; and I observe, with deep regret, that it has escaped the notice, or at least the attention of America and of France.

It never can be too late to adopt one, and much has been done lately in the republic of letters, to enable legislators to form one upon principle, as well as upon experience of ages.

I shall not venture to hazard any opinion upon this infinitely important subject; but desire to suggest the contemplation of it to every friend of huma-

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nity, into whose hands these poor papers of mine may
happen to fall, assuring you, that, could I suppose that
my suggestions of this contemplation would, in the
smallest degree, tend to promote a general conversa-
tion on the subject, I should think the object, great as
it is, almost certain of being attained. It is not grave
and voluminous books that touch the public mind, but
vivid flashes of truth that call a general attention, and
by degrees move the mighty machine of popular opi-
nion. I am, Mr Editor, with regard,
your humble servant,

ALBANICUS.

REMARKS ON THE ABOVE BY THE EDITOR.

I have found, by experience, what I would not have
expected, from reasoning *a priori*, that many of my
readers are inclined to believe, that I myself adopt
the sentiments of all the writers whose lucubrations
appear in this miscellany. Were this, however,
to be the case, the work would very soon fall in-
to deserved contempt. Truth is the great object of
pursuit with me; but how could that be attained,
were the performances of all those who think diffe-
rently from myself, to be refused admission into it?
Should I err, would not this conduct be effectually shut-
ting the doors against the admission of truth? This
would counteract the avowed intention of the author.

The ingenious performance above, is probably writ-
ten by one who has had much better opportunities
of observing facts, and who is much more capable of
drawing proper inferences from these than I could
do. I am proud to lay them before the public with-
out disguise, though I am by no means prepared to

go all the lengths this ingenious writer requires. The theory of government, if we are to take *experience* for our guide, is a subject too complicated for the human mind to grasp, though, from the same experience, we are taught that nothing is more easy in speculation. An infinite number of governments have been established on the globe since the beginning of time, most of which were deemed unexceptionably good, before experience had discovered the evils to which they were to give birth. In all of them innumerable defects have been discovered by time; and the predictions of immortality, which were lavished upon them at their birth, have soon been proved to be fallacious. To a person who seriously reflects on what has already happened, nothing but the test of actual experience, continued for ages, seems to be enough for giving any system of government a just title to applause,—all exultation before hand must be deemed premature. On this principle, those who are friends to the cause of humanity will ardently wish, that every attempt to alter fixed governments may tend to the public weal, though they will not be disposed rashly to make innovations themselves, till they shall have seen, that experience shall have fully confirmed the justness of the reasoning which gave rise to these changes. Till then, a wise man will look upon the whole as hypothetical reasoning, in similar cases. Those who are mere lookers on, may be deemed peculiarly fortunate, as, if they have patience, they will have the benefit of deriving instruction from the experiment, without running the risk of the derangements that must be felt by those who try the experiment themselves.

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PHILOSOPHICAL GEOGRAPHY.

VARIATIONS OF THE GENERAL TRADE-WINDS WITHIN THE TROPICS.

*Continued from p. 293.**Summasenta and other trade-winds on the eastern coast of America.*

THE only places in America where the wind shifts regularly, are the bays of Honduras and Campeachy, on the east, and a small tract upon the coast of Brasil, and that of Panama, and some parts on the coast of Mexico, on the west. In the south part of the bay of Honduras, between Cape Gratia de Dios and Cape la Vela, the common trade-wind between E. and N. E. blows between March and November; from October till March there are westerly winds, not constant nor violent, but blowing moderately, sometimes two or three days, or a week, and then the easterly breeze may prevail for an equal length of time. The reason of the peculiarity here observed is this: During the summer season, the high land on the isthmus of Darien is so much warmed, as not to interrupt the course of the general trade-winds; but when the sun retires to the southern hemisphere, the cold upon the isthmus at that season becomes so great as to condense the air, to such a degree as to repel the trade-wind for some time; but not being rendered so intensely cold as in some of the larger continents, the trade-wind, at times, in its turn overcomes and repels these land breezes, and produces the phenomenon above described. Hence it is

that the land breezes are most prevalent, and of longest duration, in the coldest months of December and January; before and after which two months, the trade-winds prevail; being generally checked only a day or two about the full or change of the moon. As these western breezes on the coast, take their rise from the same cause as the diurnal land breezes in warm climates, they may be considered as land breezes of two or three days continuance, and forming an intermediate step between the land breezes and monsoons.

Although the influence of these breezes is felt farther off at sea, than the common diurnal breeze, yet they do not extend a great way, being seldom felt above twenty, thirty, or forty leagues from the shore; and about Cape la Vela, which is much exposed to the east wind, these breezes seldom extend above eight or ten leagues from shore.

Land breezes of the same nature, and proceeding from similar causes, are also experienced in the winter season, in the bay of Campeachy, which are there known by the name of *Summasenta winds*. Beyond Cape la Vela these western breezes are not felt, which is undoubtedly occasioned by the whole of that coast, as far as Cape St Augustine, being so much exposed to the general trade-wind, which here sweeps along it with so much violence, as almost totally to repress the weaker influence of the breezes. But between Cape St Augustine and St Catharine's island, or a little farther, we again meet with a variation of the wind at different seasons, as it is here observed to blow in an E. or N. E. direction

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from September till April; and from April till Sep-
tember from the S. W. This variable wind or mon-
soon, like the others on this coast, extends but for
a very short way from the shore, and is evidently
occasioned by the same causes as the other periodical
winds. For during the summer, which in this cli-
mate is between September and April, the land of the
continent being heated by the sun, draws the trade-
wind from its common course of S. E. a little to
the westward; and as the coast here bends towards
the S. W. the wind in some measure. (as it always
does) follows the same direction, and produces this
E. N. E. monsoon. But in the winter, when this re-
gion becomes more cool, the east wind is repelled
by the dense cold air from the mountains; by which
means it is bent to the northward, and is forced a-
long the coast to Cape St Augustine; where, meet-
ing with no farther hinderance, it again falls in with
the general trade-wind, and is carried along with it in
its proper direction.

Winds on the coast of Chili and Peru.

We have purposely omitted mentioning the winds
on the west coasts of Africa and America, till the
others were explained, as the causes of the peculiari-
ties here observed will be now more easily compre-
hended. On the coasts of Chili and Peru, in America,
from 25°. or 30°. of south latitude to the line; and
on the parallel coast of Angola, &c. in Africa,
the wind blows all the year from the south, varying in
its direction a little in different places, according to
the direction of the coast, towards which it always in-

clines a little. But whatever is the direction at any one place, it continues the same throughout the whole year, without any variation, and always blows from some southerly point. But there is this difference between the wind on the coasts of Chili and Angola, that it extends much farther out to sea upon the former than upon the latter.

In order to explain the cause of this singular phenomenon, it is necessary to recollect, that the general trade-wind is produced by the concurrence of two separate causes. One is the great heat of the equatorial region, by which alone would be produced a constant north or south wind. The other is the diurnal revolution of the earth, which would cause a perpetual tendency of the air in these warm regions from east to west. From the concurrence of these two causes result the general trade-winds, which would constantly blow from S. E. or N. E. as we have already demonstrated. But if, in any particular place, one of these two powers be prevented from acting, while the other continues to exert its influence, the general direction of the wind will be varied. Thus, if the east wind was checked, while nothing interrupted the south or north wind, the air would rush towards the equator in that direction which was nearest and easiest, whether that should be pointing eastward or westward. Now, as the high mountains in the internal parts of Africa and America interrupt the course of the east wind, near the surface of the earth, while those coasts, of which we now treat, are entirely open to the south, the wind naturally rushes along the coasts of Chili and Angola from south to north; and as the low

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lands, near the shore, in these warm regions, are generally warmer than the sea; the wind will naturally point in towards the shore, as is generally observed there to take place.

This then is evidently the cause of the south wind which always prevails upon the coasts of Chili and Peru, as well as along the shores of Angola, Loango, in Africa, &c. But it is only near the shore that this can take place; nor can it extend a great way above these low and fertile regions. For as the internal parts of these countries are exceedingly high, but more especially the Andes of America, which experience a perpetual degree of cold, more intense than some polar regions ever are subjected to, the air must here be condensed to a very great degree, and send forth from these high regions a perpetual wind to every side, which occasions almost all the peculiarities that have been remarked in these climates; for, by opposing the general current of the trade-wind upon the eastern parts of these continents, they produce those deluges of rain which feed the immense rivers of the Amazons, la Plata, &c. These rivers do not, like the Nile and Gambia, swell only at a particular season, and then shrink into a diminutive size again; but continue throughout the whole year, with a less variation of size, to pour their immense floods into the ocean. These cold winds, likewise, stretching to the westward, at a considerable distance above the warmest regions of the sea coast, at length descend as low as the ocean, and form the general trade-wind, and occasion that unusual degree of cold which mariners have so often complained of, even under the line, to the westward of America.

To the same cause also must we attribute the thick fogs so common upon the southern parts of Chili, and along the coasts of Peru, with the other peculiarities of that singular climate about Lima, and the kingdom of Valles, in South America; for the vapours which are exhaled in such great abundance in the warm regions on the sea shore, are, at a little height above the earth, condensed by the cold winds which come from the mountains, and form these thick mists which are so often observed in this climate.

The same effects are felt in some degree on the similar coasts of Africa. But as the mountains of Africa are not so high as the Andes of America, nor approach so near the western coast, the effects are less sensible here than in America. The great height of the Andes, above the mountains of the similarly situated country of Africa, is the only reason why the effects on that coast are not felt to an equal degree, although similar in kind.

Winds in the bay of Panama and on the Guinea coast.

A more singular deviation of the trade-wind is observed to take place on the African and American coasts to the north of the line, than those we have taken notice of to the south of it. For it is observed, that from California to the bay of Panama, all along the coast of New Spain, the winds blow almost constantly from the W. or S. W. nearly directly opposite to the trade-wind; and on the coast of Africa from Cape Bayador to Cape Verde, they blow chiefly from the N. W. standing in upon the shore; from thence the wind bends gradually more and more from the north to the west, and so round to S. W.

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all along the coast of Guinea, as will be distinctly
seen by the map.

After what we have said of the winds on the southern parts of these regions, it will be unnecessary to spend much time in explaining the causes of these peculiarities, as it will evidently appear that they are nearly the same; the variation here observed being occasioned by the particular direction of the coast. Thus, along the coast of New Spain, the wind blows nearly in the same direction in every place, as there are no remarkable bendings on that coast; being uniformly drawn towards the shore, by the great heat of the continent near the sea, which in these regions is always more heated than the water of the ocean, and occasions that inflection. But, as the coast of Africa is more irregular, the winds are also found to be more different in their direction. To the north of Cape Verde, as the coast stretches nearly south and north, the wind being drawn towards it a little, blows from the N. W. But beyond that the coast bends more eastward to Cape Palmas; from which it runs E. or N. E. all along the coast of Guinea, the wind shifting gradually more and more to the west, still pointing in upon the coast. And as there is nothing to oppose the current of air, which comes from the south along the coast of Angola, it stretches forward till it comes within the influence of the coast of Guinea, and is there drawn in towards the shore in a S. W. direction, but as it is only the lower regions of the coast of Guinea which are so much warmed, the high mountains within continuing cold, the northerly wind coming from these, meeting

and opposing the southerly winds in the higher regions of the air, by their mutual conflicts occasion those incessant rains and tremendous thunder-storms so remarkable along the whole of this uncomfortable coast.

It has been observed by mariners, that there is a tract of sea, to the west of Guinea, from five to ten degrees of north latitude, in which the trade-wind blows with less steadiness than in any other part of that ocean, being almost constantly troubled with calms and tornadoes. The cause of this the reader will perceive by inspecting the map, as he will easily see that the winds are drawn from this quarter, almost in every direction, so that there can be here no constant wind; but being exhausted of its air, it must become lighter than the circumjacent parts, and must then be supplied from either side as chance or occasional circumstances may direct, which occasions those sudden hurries and tornadoes here observed.

To be continued.

REFLECTIONS OF FREDERICK THE GREAT.

Continued from p. 248.

“No, my dear Anaxagoras, my philosophic zeal does not vent itself against you, who are a true sage, but against those blockheads, who, assuming the specious title of philosophers, take upon themselves to make worlds according to their whimsical hypotheses.

I had taken it for granted, from the progress of good sense, that science would at last have undeceived those who scrutinise nature; but I see I have been mistaken. Such world-makers I consign to the hospital for learned lunatics.”

Letter CCXX.

To be continued.

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Letter CCXX.

POETRY.

For the Bee.

TO MYRA*.

A SONG BY THOMSON NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED.

I.
O THOU whose tender serious eyes,
Expressive, speak the mind I love;
The gentle azure of the skies,
The pensive shadows of the grove:

II.
O mix their beauteous beams with mine,
And let us interchange our hearts;
Let all their sweetness on me shine,
Pour'd thro' my soul be all their darts:

III.
Ah!—'tis too much!—I cannot bear
At once so soft, so kern a ray:
In pity, then, my lovely Fair!
O turn these killing eyes away!

IV.
But what avails it to conceal
One charm, where nought but charms we see?
Their lustre, then, again reveal,
And let me, Myra, die of thee!

LINES FOUND IN AN OLD BOOK.

THERE was a man whose name was *semper idem*,
And, to be brief, he was *mercator quidam*,
He had a wife who was neither tall nor *brevis*,
Yet in her carriage was accounted *levis*.
He to content her gave her all things *satis*,
She to requite him made him cuckold *gratis*,
He for that same act turn'd her out of *facis*,
And bade her go and learn some better *mores*. DOMINE FELIX.

THE DETERMINATION.

Love and truth warm the mind of my beautiful Fair,
And each tender tale wins her heart;
Sensibility's shrine is bedew'd with a tear,
When fortune proclaims we must part.
Than leave the sweet maid each ill I'll endure,
Bear insult and poverty's dart;
For riches without her to me is no lure.
We never,—we never can part! M.

* This beautiful song, tho' address'd to Myra, was meant for Amanda;
and the last line has been changed in the song set to music by Mr Urbani.

VOL. vii.

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INTELLIGENCE RESPECTING ARTS.

Plan for moderating the price of sugar.

THE present extravagant price of sugar has attracted the attention of every class of persons in this island, and has brought forward many plans for remedying that evil, some of which will no doubt take effect at some *future* period; but there is reason to suspect, that the nation must submit to the hardship for a good while, before things can be brought to bear.

Among the first plans that was suggested for this purpose, was that of manufacturing sugar from the maple tree, in America. It has been long known, that the juice of one kind of maple, common in most of the American states, can afford a grained sugar, without any other process than that of evaporating the watery parts by boiling; but the quantity of water that requires to be dissipated, renders that process so tedious and expensive, in a country where labour is very high, as gives reason to fear the assistance that can be derived from thence will be but very inconsiderable.

The quantity of sugar that may be imported from the East Indies, and from Africa, may be indeed immense; and if ever government shall regulate the duties, and drawbacks, so as to put the sugars obtained from British settlements in these parts, on the same footing as those from the West Indies, there seems no reason to fear that ever this country will run a risk of being again thrown into such distress for this article as it is at present.

But should government refuse to relax the monopoly in favour of the West India islands, it does not seem to be altogether beyond the bounds of *possibility* to supply ourselves with sugar from the produce of our own fields; for I know of no law in existence, that authorizes the sheriff

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sugar raised in Britain.

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of each county *to pluck up by the roots* the plants that pro-
 duce it, as he is required to do with regard to tobacco;
 and I trust the era is past, in which the nation will submit
 to the enactment of a new law, by which its people should
 be effectually debarred from cultivating their own fields
 to the best advantage. This would, indeed, be submitting
 to a slavery more cruel than the bondage of the Israelites
 in Egypt.

Many plants, that are natives of Britain, can be made to
 yield *sugar* in considerable quantities, as has been fully de-
 monstrated by a set of experiments, conducted with great
 care, about forty years ago, by a celebrated French chemist.
 It is unnecessary to enumerate the whole here. It is
 enough to say, that he found no plant which afforded so
 much sugar as the root of the common green beet; a plant
 which can be reared with as much facility as any one that
 grows in our climate.

The result of many trials fairly ascertained, that from
 sixteen ounces of the fresh root, one ounce of grained
 sugar can be obtained. From this fact, we may compute
 what might be the produce in sugar from an acre of
 ground in this way.

A Scots acre*, it is well known, has been made to produce,
 in one season, seventy-two tons of parsnip root. I sup-
 pose an equal weight of beet root could be obtained; but,
 for the sake of moderation, call it only sixty tons; at that
 rate an acre might produce 8400 pounds of sugar at one
 crop; which at threepence *per* pound, would be worth
 precisely one hundred guineas. The root of scarcity,
 which is a plant of the same genus, and yields roots
 more fleshy and free from fibres, might probably be found
 to yield an equal quantity of sugar, and could perhaps
 be cultivated with more profit than the common beet.

* Four Scotch acres are nearly equal to five English.

These facts have been long known to philosophical readers, but the circumstance which has deterred any person from ever having attempted to extract sugar, on a large scale, from this plant, is the seeming difficulty and expensiveness of the process; a difficulty which, however, appears to be by no means insurmountable in Britain; where large capitals can be applied to purposes of this sort, when suitable returns may be occasionally expected.

The expence of the process arises from this circumstance, that the sugar must be extracted from the root by means of ardent spirits; now, in making such an extract in open vessels, great must be the waste by evaporation. If, however, the process were carried on in close vessels, no loss could possibly be sustained from evaporation; and to any person who reflects upon the subject for a moment, it will appear obvious that nothing but the expence stands in the way of having an apartment, made of any size that should be required, perfectly close, in which the whole process of digestion, for making the extract, could be performed without the smallest waste. And this apartment, or vessel, being *once* made, would stand in very little need of repairs to keep it in perfect good order for many years to come. It is unnecessary to add, that the extract being once made, the evaporation of the spirit should be made in a still, properly adapted for that purpose; by which process, the spirit would be again obtained pure for carrying on the business by a second process. In this manner, a stock of spirits once obtained, might be continued for a long time with very little diminution, as to quantity; and consequently with little expence to the undertaker.

It is not impossible indeed but the spirit, during this process, might be refined, and improved, so as to become an additional source of profit to the undertaker. But without dwelling on that head, or on the collateral advantage the farmer might derive from the leaves, while the plant

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was growing, or the refuse of the root after the sugar was extracted; which would probably be of equal value with the raw root itself as a food for his cattle; it is enough barely to have shewn the practicability of obtaining sugar with advantage from our own fields, in abundance to supply our own wants, without having recourse to foreign aid, or to the labour of slaves for that article. Thus might the slave trade be annihilated, even without the intervention of law; and without the convulsive struggle that may be dreaded, should that measure be pushed forward in spite of the opposition to be expected from those who believe their interest would be affected by any alteration in the law respecting this article. A struggle of another sort might be expected should this measure be seriously adopted; and though it might be possible to show that this opposition also would arise from *ignorance*, yet it is unnecessary now to combat it. "Sufficient to the day is the evil thereof."

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

CORN BILL.

Continued from p. 2—262.

THE committee again sat on the 16th of March, when *Mr Ryder*, said, that having moved an instruction to the committee, to provide for the importation of corn from Ireland, from Quebec, and from his majesty's colonies in North America, upon lower duties than from foreign countries, he begged to state, by way of notice, what the regulations would be that he meant to propose. The proposition would be to admit wheat from Ireland, when the average price was in this country from 46 to 48 s. the quarter, at a duty of 2 s. and 6 d.; when the average should be above 48 s. at 6 d.; upon conditions, however, that the Irish legislature should adopt similar measures with respect to Britain. Several observations of little importance

were made on the subject. The proposition was agreed to.

March 30. *Mr Powys*, moved that an humble address be presented to his majesty, that he would be graciously pleased to lay before the House of Commons, copies of all such information as had been received by the committee of privy council, relative to the present state of agriculture in Great Britain and Ireland, &c. His reason, he said, for requiring this information, was to ascertain whether or not the assertion of some people was well founded, that neither Great Britain, nor Europe, produced a sufficient quantity of grain for the consumption of its inhabitants.

Mr Ryder objected, because some inconvenience would arise from divulging the price of corn at certain periods. He farther said, that the privy council had not gone into the state of agriculture in this country and Ireland. The motion was negatived; and *Mr Powys* gave notice that he should make a similar motion on Friday, April 1.

April 1. *Mr Powys* having accordingly made a similar motion in the house, it was negatived. He then moved, for an account of the quantities of corn, that had been imported from Ireland into Britain, and the quantities that had been exported from Britain into Ireland, for the last ten years.—Negatived.

Monday, April 4. In a committee on the corn bill, objections were made to the clause, subjecting vessels to forfeiture, by *Mr Alderman Curtis* and *Lord Sheffield*.—Opposed by the chancellor of exchequer, on a motion by *Sir Peter Burrel*, that L. 100 for every hundred tons of the burden, should be deposited in the hands of some proper person till it should be proved that the vessel was properly seized. The amendment was rejected;—ayes 39, noes 64. *Mr Powys* then moved, that the ports should not be opened for the importation of foreign wheat, till the average price rose to 52s. instead of 48s. as proposed, contending that this would tend to encourage the agriculture of the country.

Mr Ryder strenuously opposed the motion.

Lord Carysfort, *Mr Pelham*, *Mr Pultney*, *Mr Bastard*, *Lord Sheffield*, *Mr Harrison*, *Mr H. Browne*, and *Mr Fox*, supported the amendment. By these gentlemen it was in general contended, that the scarcity complained of in late years, had not been owing to a natural scarcity; but

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motion. Pulney, Mr Bastard, Browne, and Mr Fox, ese gentlemen it was city complained of in natural scarcity; but

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parliament. Corn bill.

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they ascribed it entirely to a departure from the old principles of the corn laws, by the act which took place in 1773, which had tended to induce farmers to throw their lands into grass instead of corn, from the encouragement it gave to the introduction of foreign grain. They wished now, they said, to recur to the former principle, and the former plenty would of course be restored.

Mr Ryder, and Mr Pitt opposed the amendment, ascribing the scarcity in late years, not to the operation of the law complained of, but to the encrease of wealth, of population, of luxury, of horses, of distilleries, &c. On a division the amendment was carried;—ayes 59, noes 63. Adjourned.

April 11. The committee again sat, when a long and warm debate took place, on the clause permitting the warehousing of corn.

Mr Powys complained, that after it had been once rejected, it had been again introduced without sufficient warning having been given of that intention. This position was warmly disputed by Mr Ryder.

Lord Sheffield argued with great force of reasoning against the whole clause; alleging many arguments to prove that it must be highly pernicious to the agriculture of this country. Among other particulars, he stated, that one hundred thousand tons of shipping came annually from the Baltic, from Flanders, and Ireland, to Liverpool for salt, [he did not specify coals,] and could afford to bring 500,000 quarters of wheat at a very small expence. He said farmers would soon see they could not raise corn in competition, and would necessarily turn from tillage to pasture. He added, those magazines were unnecessary, as we never had found occasion for them during the prosperous times of our corn trade.

Many other members having objected, in particular, against that part of the clause for paying the expence of warehousing by the public, Mr Ryder agreed to withdraw this part of the clause.

The committee then divided;—ayes for retaining the clause thus amended 86, noes 70,—majority against it, 14.

A division also took place on the clause for dividing the kingdom into districts,—ayes 65, noes 58,—majority in its favour, 7.

The remainder in a succeeding number.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE Editor owes many apologies to his correspondents for delaying their communications so long; but his narrow limits prevent him from gratifying himself by complying with their wishes, as early as they might desire. To several respectable correspondents who have honoured him with large communications, particular apologies are due: Among these *Urania*.

To *B. A.* for his elegant essays on taste, he begs leave to say, that as it is ever his wish to avoid giving part of an essay in one volume, and part of it in another, where it can be at all done, he was induced on that account to delay the whole of his essays till the following volume, in which he hopes to get the whole included.

The same reason induced him to defer the valuable account of a journey to the Hebrides, by his much respected correspondent *Piscator*, whose modesty can only be equalled by his candour and liberality of sentiment. These travels will furnish some interesting articles in the ensuing volume.

For the same reason the very useful observations of *E. T. obscure*, on female education, have been longer delayed than could otherwise have happened.

The important observations of *Thomas Telltruth* have been deferred to give place to the spirited remarks of *Timothy Thunderproof*, which were begun before his second No. of the *Informer* was received.

The readers of the *BEE* are respectfully informed that the Editor has been favoured with clear, concise, directions for the recovery of persons apparently drowned, being the result of the whole collected experience that has yet been derived from the efforts of ingenious men in the practice of this salutary art, in the different countries of Europe, communicated by a gentleman of the Faculty, whose name, were it allowed to be mentioned, would recommend it to the attention of the Public. No longer, therefore, will these important directions be confined to the cover of the *BEE*;—they will be now inserted in the body of the work, in compliance with the wishes of many correspondents.

In answer to the many inquiries lately received about the poor's laws in Scotland. The Editor has the prospect of being enabled, during the currency of next volume, to present his readers with a practical disquisition on the best mode of providing for the poor, containing an historical account of the origin, progress, and nature of the poor's laws in England and in Scotland; with a concise view of the tendency of compulsory and voluntary provisions for the poor, in respect to the morals, industry, and domestic oeconomy of the people.

To those who have, from different quarters, solicited farther information respecting the rearing of silk worms in this country, he begs leave to say, that as he always prefers the result of practice on the spot, to accounts derived from countries possessing a different climate from our own, the Editor has set on foot inquiries in different quarters, respecting this important department, from persons who have had experience in it; and he has reason to believe he will soon be favoured with information that may be depended on, which shall be delayed no longer than is necessary for obtaining it authentic. A little delay, when this is the object, will, he hopes, be readily approved of.

* * * The letter respecting Virgil's *Georgics* is just received. What the writer suggests, shall be duly noticed in our next number.

Feb. 29.

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SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

January 18. 1792.

FOREIGN.

THAT heavy political cloud which has long lowered over the horizon of France with a threatening aspect, has, of late, become more and more gloomy, and seems to portend that an important crisis is at hand, big with the fate of thousands, which excites a foreboding anxiety in the mind of every attentive beholder. The emigrant princes, on the one hand, have omitted no exertion that was in their power, to rouse up foreign enemies to the late established constitution of France, and to encourage internal divisions in the state; while the new national assembly, on the other hand, appear to be equally forward in alarming the national fears, and exciting the ardent spirit of the French, not only to take up arms in their own defence, but even to rush forward in quest of their enemies, where-ever they can find them, even in the territories of other princes. Whether they will carry these rash threats into actual execution,

vol. vii.

no person can tell: For altho' it indicates a degree of political insanity, that nothing but actual desperation could excuse, yet such acts of desperation have been seen; and no nation seems to be in a fitter state for it, than the French at the present moment. The present national assembly, unacquainted with the functions of the important business devolved upon them, seems to be exceedingly embarrassed on all occasions how to proceed. The levies of the taxes have fallen so exceedingly short of the necessary expenditure of the state, and the difficulty of enforcing the collection of these in the present state of affairs, seems to them to be such as to deter them from attempting it. To lose time, in these circumstances, would seem to threaten, in their eyes, evils of a more serious nature, than those they are going to encounter. In this deranged state of their finance, they have resolved to put arms in the hands of more than 300,000 men. To let

these men loose, without a regular fund for paying them, among the subjects of the French nation themselves, seems to be an idea too frightful to the national assembly. Better carry the war into the territories of another state, where pillage will not appear to be a crime altogether of such a heinous nature, as it would be in their own country. Whether king and his friends will be able to moderate these exertions, as they seem to wish, cannot as yet be known.

The lesser states that border upon France, are not insensible of the danger they run in this extremity, and appear to be well disposed to avert the evil by every possible concession. But the emperor, and the greater princes, whose states are not in the same degree of danger, having determined to oppose any attack upon the Germanic body, will possibly prevent them from complying with the requisitions of the French, in the manner that is required. In these circumstances it seems to be impossible to guard against the shock of arms.—The sword is, to all appearance, soon to be drawn; and when it will be sheathed again, no human foresight can foretell.—God grant it may be soon! But before that can happen, the effusion of much human blood can hardly be avoided, and the distrels that

these scenes must occasion to many individuals, who may survive the carnage of their friends, and the ruin of their affairs, must be dreadful to contemplate.

The emperor and the king of Prussia have concluded a defensive alliance, the preliminaries of which will be signed at Vienna in a few days.

In the new treaty between the emperor and the king of Prussia, the latter has undertaken to guarantee the Germanic constitution, and all the rights and possessions of the empire.

The message of the national assembly to the king, recommending vigorous measures against the powers who suffer the emigrants to assemble in arms on their territories, has produced different effects in the petty courts of Germany.

The elector of Mayence, confiding in the distance of his territories, which the French cannot enter but through the Palatinate, wrote to the magistrates of Worms, of which he is bishop, to disregard all menaces of hostility, and to answer openly, that the emigrants were assembled, armed, and exercised, by the express permission of his Electoral Highness.

The prince bishop of Spire, being open to attack, and dreading the defection of his own subjects, thought it prudent to adopt more pacific measures.

The elector of Treves, in a letter to the princes at Coblenz, renewed, but in the most mild, and apparently reluctant terms, his declaration, that he could not permit any recruiting or embodying of men, or any armed corps of any description, within his territories; assigning as a reason, that although he was under no apprehension of an invasion from France, it was his duty to quiet the alarms of his own subjects; and concluding with expressing his hopes, that the princes would give a declaration in writing, of their resolution, to take the necessary measures to deprive the military of France of all pretext for hostilities against those who had afforded them an asylum, and every aid in their power.

Vienna, Dec. 3. the emperor has set at liberty Madam Theroin, and has ordered all the expences of her journey to be paid. This young lady, after having been a long time detained in the fortrels of Kuffstein, in Tirol, was brought to Vienna to undergo an examination touching the pretended plot against the life of the queen of France.

On the 15th Dec. the new officers of the national guard, to the number of 1800, took (in the square before the town-hall) the oath prescribed, in the presence of the mayor, and the municipal officers; and af-

terwards, preceded by the municipality, they waited on the king, and were introduced to him immediately; they filed off before his majesty in the apartments, whilst the band of music played in the gallery. The queen, the prince-royal, and madame Elizabeth, were present at the ceremony.

New York, Sept. 13. We are assured from unquestionable authority, that the gentleman (Mr H——gs) who purchased of the commissioners of the Land Office upwards of four millions of acres of land, (equal to about a seventh part of the whole territory of the state,) has refused L. 50,000 for his bargain, estimating the nett profit of his contract at L. 250,000, he is to pay to the state only L. 137,000 for the whole purchase in six years.

Several ships arrived at St Maloes with letters from the Cape, dated the 25th and 26th of October bring accounts of the entire suppression of the negroes there.

The Highlanders who emigrated last season to Nova Scotia are said to be in the most melancholy situation.

The state of Venice fearing, like Sweden, to experience the anger of the barbarian states, has added considerably to the customary present of 10,000 sequins, which was annually made to the latter power.

By the last American news-

papers, it appears that the federal legislature has proposed an amendment to the United States,—namely, to increase the number of representatives from the respective states of that nation, so that the congress shall, in future, consist of 200 members, instead of 100, as originally settled by the constitution.

The princes in the neighbourhood of France, as the duke of Wirtemberg, have been solicitous to testify how much they desire even to live in good understanding with France, by giving it no cause of uneasiness. On this subject the duke has written a letter to general Luckner, to remind him, that if he should be obliged to enter his country, he hoped that he, the general, would distinguish it as that which is most deserving of the consideration of the French nation.

The king has astonished France by refusing his assent to the decree concerning the clergy; the national assembly, however, heard their will opposed with wonderful composure, and a species of dignity, of which even their partisans did not think them susceptible; not a breath was stirring when the royal negative was announced; but the day after, a member moved for an appeal to the nation, who alone could decide whether *an individual* should be allowed the dangerous power

of invalidating the volition of twenty-five millions of men;—the motion was loaded with contempt. The different sections of the capital, are, however, now assembling to express to the assembly their high displeasure at the king's conduct, which they construe into treason against the nation.

The pope, before his illness, was making some considerable additions to the Vatican palace; in one angle of which is a superb room for the reception of the valuable antiquities which have been dug up within the last three years, among which is a beautiful chariot, which the ancients used in their races, and an immense vase of porphyry. His holiness has likewise laid the foundation of a magnificent palace in the Piazza de Pasquino for the residence of his nephew.

A letter from Dr Magenis, of the Irish college at Lisbon, gives a most awful account of the earthquake which happened in that city on Sunday night, Nov. 27. The first shock was felt about twenty minutes after eleven, and consisted of five or six strong vibrations, so closely following each other, that they could scarce be distinguished. After a pause of near five minutes, one very violent undulatory motion, that shook the whole house, succeeded, attended by a loud and tremendous crash, which, after a rustling

historical chronicle.

noise, and several hisses, like those we might imagine to proceed from a great mass of flaming iron suddenly quenched in cold water, went off with the report of a cannon. Mean time the streets were crowded with the multitudes flying from their houses, whose chimnies were falling about their ears. The bells of St. Roche tumbled in all directions, and tolled in the most horrid sounds.

After the first fright had a little abated, the churches were opened, and soon filled with multitudes, to deprecate the mischiefs of 1755, and implore the divine mercy. Between six and seven, her majesty, with her household, set out for Belem, followed by almost every person of quality, who retired to some distance.—So lasting was the consternation, that no business was done at the exchange, the custom-house, or quays.—The theatres were shut, and all public diversions forbid till further orders. Prayers were made three times a-day in the churches, and the whole city, like that of ancient Nineveh, seems repenting in sackcloth and ashes.

DOMESTIC.

It is said, that great as the surplus of the revenue was last year, that of the present year will exceed it by L.1,600,000. The Fazely and Birming-

ham canal, which has proved so advantageous to that seat of industry and arts, on which was expended upwards of L.100,000 a few years ago, is now so far improved in value, that a share which cost L. 140 was lately sold for L. 1080.

Conjugal fidelity.—A female, wife to a man who was sometime since transported to New South Wales for robbing a bookseller, having the sum of L.2000 lately left her by a relation, has engaged herself a passenger to that settlement.

It is computed, that upon an average, the Dutch receive annually from this kingdom not less than L.80,000 for the single article of turbot.

Friday morning, Dec. 16. about two o'clock, Mr Justice Hyde, accompanied by Tapp, the high constable, and about forty petty constables, went to a gaming-house in St James's street kept by a Mr W——, and knocked at the door, which was opened directly, on which Tapp and the whole party rushed in, and on proceeding up one pair of stairs, found about twenty gentlemen at play at different games, and near five hundred guineas on the table, which the magistrate immediately took into custody, while the constables did the like to the gentlemen, who were taken to the office in St Martin's street, and were afterwards bailed out. Among them

were several officers of the guards, and some men of very high characters and credit.

After they had secured all they found in the above house, they proceeded a little higher up the street, to the house of

Mr B——, a place dedicated to the like sports; but the alarm having been given by some chairmen who had seen the business at the former place, when the worthy magistrate and his party arrived, the house was quite empty; but the tables at this, as well as the other place, were brought away, with a great number of cards, dice, &c. which were yesterday afternoon taken in a cart, from St Martin's street to St James street, about one o'clock, and burnt opposite the respective houses from which they had been taken, to the great satisfaction of his *worship*, and about five hundred of the *citizens*, who had assembled on the occasion. It was four o'clock before they were all consumed.

One of the gaming-tables burnt on Friday, in St James's street, was of curious and exquisite workmanship, and cost L. 150.

On Tuesday, Dec. 19. the high Court of Justiciary met, according to adjournment of Monday.

James Plunket was put to the bar, the sentence of death, pronounced against him by

the last circuit Court of Justiciary at Glasgow was read over, and afterwards his own judicial confession and declaration, acknowledging that he was the same James Plunket.

Their lordships then delivered their opinions, purporting, that nothing remained with the court but to appoint a day for his execution, in terms of the former sentence; and, though they were not tied down to grant a specific number of days, in this case, between passing sentence and ordering the same to be put in execution. The time fixed for his execution was therefore appointed to be Wednesday the 11th of January next, to take effect at Glasgow, the place where the crime was committed.

On Tuesday a cause was determined by the Court of Session, which will settle a point upon which a judgement was much wanted.

The question was shortly this, whether the proprietor of a dog was liable for the damage done by him? Several months ago, two dogs went into a sheep fold in Leith links, in the night time, and killed a number of sheep. The proprietor of the sheep brought an action against the owner of the dogs for an indemnification of his loss. After various procedure, their lordships found, that the proprietor of the dogs was liable for the damages they

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had done, and also for the expenses of process.

Enormous increase of West India property.—Mr Baillie of Bedford-square lately purchased an estate in Grenada for L. 100,000, which, by the increase of the price of sugars, nets L. 10,000 *per annum*. An adjoining estate of Sir James Johnstone's, which lately only produced *seven*, now nets *eleven* thousand, and is daily increasing in value.

Mr Beckford's estate in Jamaica this year nets 2200 hogheads of sugar, and from the high price which that article bears, his revenue may be estimated at 82,000 l. These are the consequences of monopoly.

The prime cost of sugars at Jamaica is now 60s. the hundred weight;—a price which was never before known.

On Saturday last, a young man of about 16 years of age, the only support of an aged father and mother, while endeavouring to clear the snow off a window in the roof of Messrs Fulton's cotton work at Lochwinnoch, fell to the ground, and was unfortunately killed. Messrs Fulton, in order to prevent the old people from becoming a burden on the parish, have generously made a provision for them equivalent to what the son earned in their service.

The enemies to the slave trade are encouraged in their

exertions by an advertisement announcing the sale of what are termed free sugars,—that is, sugars imported raw from the East Indies, and refined here, being entirely the produce of the labour of free men.

Last Sunday Dec. 25. between six and seven in the evening, there was a great storm of thunder at Greenock; the flashes of lightning were very vivid; two of the peals of thunder seemed to be very near the town: Some sailors on board the *Minerva*, at the tail of the bank, were stunned by the lightning, but soon recovered.

A duel was fought at Ramsgate, Yorkshire, between John Watson, of Nenagh, in Ireland, and C. H. Fox, Esqrs; the latter of London; when, after exchanging one shot each, Mr Fox received a ball under his right breast, in consequence of which he died since in London, where he was removed by his own desire the day after.

The Pitt Manning, bound to Botany Bay, with convicts, lost, in her voyage to Port Praya, only eight males and three children.

Dec. 30. died at his house in Throgmorton street, Mr John Ellis, at the very advanced age of ninety-six. He, a few days ago, resigned the office of deputy of Broad street Ward, owing to infirmity of body. He has been a member

of the corporation nearly half a century.

Mr Ellis was a man of literature, and the pleasure he received from literary amusements remained with him to the last. He wrote some poems in Dodsley's collection, and some Hudibrastic translations; but never put his name to any thing he published.

On Wednesday, Jan. 4. the sugar lately imported by the East India Company, was sold at the India House.

It was partly in bags, of about two and a half hundred weight each, and partly in casks of about three hundred weight each; the whole quantity sold was about 15,000 cwt.

It was all, except four lots, bought by one man, at the price of nearly L. 7 *per* cwt. The real purchaser is said to be a sugar refiner, who professes to deal in sugar that is not raised by the labour of slaves.

The West India planters begin to fear that parliament will lower the duty on sugar imported from the East Indies, to the standard of the duty on sugar imported from the West. Such prices as the above would be a sufficient inducement to import from the East Indies without any alteration of the duty.

The mere marble of Mrs Damer's Colossal statue of the king, costs between two and three hundred pounds! It is for the Register Office in Scotland.

We hear that a question of infinite concern to retail lin drapers will be brought forward the ensuing term. The question is, whether gown patches or part of pieces, are liable to seizure as whole ones, notwithstanding stamps on the end. A seizure of this kind was lately made at Sunbury, in Middlesex, and this important question will be tried in the Court of Exchequer, in order that no future misunderstanding may arise, and a final period be put to an affair which for many years proved a great inconvenience to the retail traders in the kingdom.

The late elopement of Miss S— with Mr N— has been much spoken of. It appears that the young lady found her father rather disagreeable, from the severity of her parents towards her, and therefore availed herself of the opportunity of receiving the offer of Mr N— who took her off to Greenwich, from whence they just returned. The young lady is only seventeen, and has a very handsome fortune; the gentleman is much older, and has nothing.

The effects of novel reading shew that they ought to be discouraged in boarding-schools. A school girl affecting to read in church, for the purpose of going off with a jovial tar, in clerical habit, is doubtless an incident suggested by some modern romance.

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The late elopement of Miss — with Mr N — has been much spoken of. It appears that the young lady found home rather disagreeable, from the severity of her parents toward her, and therefore availed herself of the opportunity of receiving the offer of Mr N —, who took her off to Gretna Green, from whence they are just returned. The young lady is only seventeen, and has a very handsome fortune; the gentleman is much older, and has nothing.

The effects of novel reading shew that they ought to be discouraged in boarding-schools. A school girl affecting to faint in church, for the purpose of going off with a jovial tar, in a clerical habit, is doubtless an incident suggested by some modern romance.

SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

February 8. 1792.

FOREIGN.

Most of the English families resident within the French territories on the German frontiers have received a general intimation, by order of the National Assembly, that their removal out of France is necessary for their own security.

A few weeks ago at Liege, at the sale of a library belonging to a deceased lawyer, the sale of Voltaire's Questions on the Encyclopedie and Montesquieu's Spirit of Laws were forbid by order of the Government.

Twelve or fourteen persons were killed, and many more wounded, by an earthquake in Zante, on the 13th of November. The greatest part of the inhabitants have since resided in tents in the open country.

Emigration.—A gentleman of Glasgow has received a letter from a correspondent in New Brunswick, dated 10th November 1791, in which, after giving a flattering account of the country, in order to induce his friend to settle there and begging this account may

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be spread, he adds,—“Do you still follow the sea?—There is great room for speculation with an cargo of men and women servants from the north of Scotland, who would sell to much profit, if indentured for four or five years.”

Two hundred and fifty in a brig would not stock this place with any superfluous number, as labourers on farms, and some mechanics, (*viz.* weavers, wrights, masons,) are much wanted by the landed gentlemen here.

The cattle list for the city of Paris last year, is 130,000 oxen, 76 calves, 850,000 sheep, and 30,000 pigs.

Accounts received in town lately from Brest, announce the speedy preparations making there for equipping, with all expedition, thirteen sail of the line and four frigates.

In the course of last month, two English ships arrived at Marseilles; on coming to anchor, they fired a salute, which was returned by one of the forts. They then hoisted the French national flag, and saluted it with three cheers. This compliment

historical chronicle.

was not to be withstood by the patriotism of the city. The municipality, in their robes of ceremony, came down in procession with 2000 marines, and carried the crews of the two vessels on shore, where they were entertained with whatever they pleased to call for the whole day. It is almost unnecessary to add, that the captains disposed of their cargoes, and had their choice of a fresh lading with all possible dispatch.

Trieste, Dec. 6. We have received here a fresh confirmation of the troubles which have broken out in Asia. The city of Damascus and the neighbouring district have taken up arms to free themselves from the numerous imposts with which they were burthened. The pacha of Bagdad had received orders to march against the rebels, but excused himself from so doing, as being fearful of his own city. The provinces which have revolted, are three in number, and have for their chief Myr-Timur Khan, who, we are assured, has secret connections with Persia.

Constantinople, Dec. 17. The insurrection of the Beys of Egypt becomes daily more alarming, and causes much uneasiness to his highness.

The Stamp-office at Brussels has been broken open, and robbed of 15,000 florins.

The queen of Portugal has granted to the company of cultivators of vines, on the banks

of the Duero, a new patent for twenty years, to take place from the year 1797, as a recompence for the capital laid out by them upon several new commercial undertakings.

The earthquake so much felt at Lisbon, was perceived also in several other parts of Portugal. At Baje, the inhabitants quitted their houses, and formed a camp in the neighbouring plains.

Lisbon, Dec. 27. We are assured that the king of Prussia has declared to the empress of Russia, that he will not meddle, either directly or indirectly in the affairs of France. This does not entirely agree with what passed at Pillnitz, where the affairs of France were particularly mentioned: Many people, however, are of opinion that this is only matter of form.

The sums issued for secret service, by the states of Brabant to some of their own members, amount to L. 1,844,756.

The same earthquake that ravaged the little island of Zante, has been also experienced in the Morea, where its effects have been dreadful.

A letter is received in town from Jamaica, dated the 21st of November, by the ship George, arrived at Lancaster, giving an account of the death of the Right Hon. the Earl of Effingham, Governor of that island, on the 19th of November. On account of his Lordship's illness the packet had been detained

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for some time, but was to sail
about the 28th November.

The empress of Russia, in
the definitive treaty with the
Turks, has insisted upon, and
obtained every point in her
favour contained in the preli-
minary articles, although the
signing of those articles cost
the Turkish Minister his head.

Letters from Jamaica inform
us, that some symptoms of dis-
turbance among the negroes
had been manifest in that island;
in consequence of which the
government had sent all the frig-
ates on that station to coast
round it, and throw in stores
at every principal town.

The Prince of Condè, pre-
vious to his quitting Worms,
assembled his noble army, and
thus addressed them: "Gentle-
men. It is giving you no in-
formation to tell you that *cir-
cumstances* compel us to change
quarters; it is a *contre tems*, no
doubt, but I hope it will not
affect your ardour more than it
does mine—my resolution is
fixed not to abandon you but
in *death*: In proportion as we
approach *the mark*, and we are
hasting to it, we must expect
that persecutions will increase;
but between persecution and
succefs there lies no middle way;
we must submit to one in or-
der to obtain the other."

The treaty of mutual guaran-
tee and defensive alliance lately
concluded between the empress
of Russia and the King of Swe-

den, for the protection of their
European dominions, is to con-
tinue for eight years.

Should the king be attacked
by any hostile power, the em-
press engages to assist him, as
soon as possible after the requi-
sition, with 22,000 infantry, and
3000 cavalry, to serve where-
ever he may have most occasi-
on for them. The troops to
be ready in one, two, three, or
at most four months, fully e-
quipped with arms, provisions,
&c. She is also to furnish ele-
ven ships of the line and three
frigates; the first mounting
from sixty to seventy, the latter
thirty guns each.

The king, in his turn, enga-
ges to supply the empress when
called upon, with 8000 foot,
and 2000 horse, six ships of
the line and two frigates, car-
rying the same metal as those of
the empress.

Paris Jan. 19. The emperor
has ordered quarters to be pre-
pared near the frontiers, from
Neufchateau to Coirton, for
10,000 men; from Coirton to
the neighbourhood of Metz,
for 5000; and magazines of
forage, provisions, &c. &c. for
30,000 are also preparing at
proper distances.

His policy is now decided;
he makes his stand behind the
treaty of Westphalia, and seems
to leave the emigrants to them-
selves.

All the late advices from
Oporto, confirm the accounts

of the short produce of their last vintage, and the increased demand for their wines. The farmers in consequence, have so raised their prices to the merchants, that port wine is already advanced three pounds the pipe.

Barcelona, Dec. 23. A few days ago, about 200 officers arrived in Catalonia from Rousillon and Perpignan, from whence they made their escape.

Genoa, Dec. 24. On Wednesday last died, at the age of eighty, Mark Durazzo, ex-doge of this republic.

Letters from the isle of France inform us, that the flag of independence has been hoisted at the Cape of Good Hope; the inhabitants who have been oppressed by the monopoly of the Dutch East India Company, assembled, and declared to the governor, that they were determined on having a free trade, and no troops, finding themselves fully competent to their own protection; at the same time signifying that if he did not chuse to comply with their terms, there was a vessel ready to convey him to Europe.

Three hundred houses were burnt at Port-au-Prince, in St Domingo, in the fire maliciously occasioned by the mulattoes on the 22d of November, and which lasted from Tuesday morning to Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock.

Recent accounts from St Do-

mingo inform that the affairs of that colony are in a train of being settled, the negroes appearing to be weary of doing mischief. But the destruction which has already been committed there, has wholly ruined every prospect of revenue from it for many years to come.

M. Bouille has not succeeded in his negociations for 10,000 Hessians for the emigrant Princes, but the Landgrave is said to have agreed to let them have all the malefactors at a louis d'or a head. This is certainly much more economical than Mr Pitt's plan of transportation to Botany Bay.

The adherents of the French Princes, like the followers of the house of Stuart, were encouraged to quit their country, and ruin their fortunes, to promote the views of foreign powers; and for the convenience of those very powers, they are now driven from one place of refuge to another, in the rigour of winter, and through roads almost impassable. Several hundreds of Mirabeau's legion have returned to France with their arms and baggage.

DOMESTIC.

The prince of Wales in company lately declared aloud his determination of relinquishing the turf for ever, and that his stud of running horses at New-

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historical chronicle.

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market would forthwith be brought under the hammer.

Prince Edward, during his residence in Canada, has conducted himself with such propriety and affability, as has acquired him from the inhabitants a kind and degree of esteem, far exceeding that senseless veneration shewn merely to birth and high rank.

It is said that the expence for paying off the Russian armament last year, will not be deducted from the surplus of revenue, but will be defrayed by extending, for a short time, the taxes imposed for defraying the expences of the armament against Spain.

The West India merchants have voted a present of L. 500 to captain Bligh, of his majesty's navy, as a compliment for services rendered while on the West India station.

They have also voted a present of a handsome sword, value L. 200, to captain Samuel Hood, of the navy, for saving, at the hazard of his own life, while on the West India station, the lives of three seamen who were floating at the mercy of the waves on a raft of timber.

The East India Company have presented to the Peltham of Mahrattas, a pair of magnificent globes, of the value of 500 guineas,

The globes in their mounting, stand five feet high. They are twenty-eight inches in diame-

ter. The advantage from the high mounting is, that the observer sitting, has in his view, without turning the globe, the whole range of latitude from one pole to the other.

The celestial globe so far differs totally from the ordinary custom, that all the imaginary forms are omitted. The surface is blue foil; on it above 5000 stars are laid down in the prescribed positions, and discriminated farther by their size and colour. The spots thus representing stars, gold, silver, and red foil, all are within the surrounding varnish.

The mounting of both globes is in silver.

Mr John Wallis, *jun.* who was shot by Hubbard, the mock duke, (and for which he is now in confinement in Warwick goal,) is in a state of perfect recovery.

Jan. 14. Between two and three o'clock, a fire broke out at the Pantheon in Oxford street, which has entirely destroyed the whole of that beautiful building, so long dedicated to purposes of public amusement, and lately fitted up as a theatre for the Italian operas.

The fire began in a room where some painters had been at work the evening before, at the farther end of the building which communicated to the stage, and from thence to the audience part. The fire did not materially damage any of

the houses near. Nothing was saved but a few benches and a little stage *property*,—and this large fabric is now one entire shell.

Nothing is talked of in great circles but the winnings and losings at the faro table. Tho' this game is common in most countries, it is no where carried to so criminal an extreme as in England.

The immense bounty given at this time on sugars exported, amounting to 31 s. 6 d. *per* cwt. empowers the West India merchants, and their friends, the *grocers* and *refiners*, to vend goods to foreigners of the same quality sold here for 112 s. at 90 s. 6 d. by which there is a gain of 10 s. *per* cwt. more than selling here at 112 s. and the foreigner receives the produce of our colonies, at a guinea and sixpence less price than the Englishman.

Longevity.—Near Tuam, in Ireland, lately died, Thomas Wims, in the 117th year of his age. He fought in 1701 at the siege of Londonderry.

It is said that the produce of the Excise in the year 1791, exceeds that of the preceding year, in no less a sum than L. 1,234,000.

The remainder of Mr Farrer's estate is now finally sold. It was bought in the year 1703 for L. 27,000. It was sold for L. 90,500!

A number of sheep, in the

high grounds of Scotland, have been lost in the snows. The severity of the weather, and the drifting of the snow, have also been fatal to many in the south, as well as the west and northern parts of the country.

The Duke of York has signified to his friends, that he expects daily to be called on urgent affairs to his principality in Germany; and farther that he is likely to be appointed to a principal command in the Prussian service, should that power take any active part in attempting a counter-revolution in France.

Mason, the poetical veteran, has at length put an end to the impudent usurpations of his merits, by confessing himself the author of the heroic epistle to Sir William Chambers.

A more critical winter for the underwriters has not been witnessed for many years. Almost every port on the coast, from the number of vessels put in for succour, gives evidence of the disastrous effects of the late tempestuous weather. Dover, Ramsgate, Dartmouth, and Plymouth harbours, are crowded with nearly an equal proportion of distress; and in Cowes no less than twenty foreign ships are now unloading to repair damages sustained.

Upon his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales entering the audience-room on Wed-

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ce of Wales entering
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nesday; a nobleman cautioned
him to be upon his guard, as he
was very suspicious of there be-
ing some thieves in the room;
soon after an attempt was made
by a person unseen to break
the guard from the sword,
which his Royal Highness per-
ceiving, immediately turned,
and found it hanging by a mere
thread.

The diamonds that they would
have obtained, had they effected
their purpose, would have been
worth about L. 3000 pounds.

Remarkable instances of industry.

Mr Peele, of Manchester,
was (to his great credit be it
spoken) a porter at 1 s. a-day.
He gave a draft for L. 63,000
when he bought the borough
of Tamworth of the present
Marquis of Bath.

His partner, and Mr Phillips
were common workmen also.

Sir R. Arkwright was a bar-
ber at Manchester in 1774.
Sir Frank Standish kept him
at Preston, to qualify him as a
voter there.

In 1790, General Burgoyne
was not a little alarmed, ex-
pecting Sir Richard Arkwright
to be a candidate against him.

John Wilkinson, Esq; now
by his successful skill, one of
the first iron masters and coal-
miners in the kingdom was, 20
years ago, a common clerk at
Ruabon and Wrexham.

Sir R. Hotham, who is so well
known for his opulence, and
his use of it, was at his outset a
domestic to Calcraft, the agent,

Sir Richard has, among other
instances of rare magnificence,
built an inn, a church, and a
town, on the coast near Chi-
chester, exceeded by none but
the similar buildings of the mar-
quis of Down.

A forgery to a very consider-
able amount, it is said, has been
discovered on the Bank of Eng-
land; the parties suspected are
two of the clerks; one is now
in custody, the other is ab-
sconded. A private exami-
nation took place last night be-
fore the Directors and two
Magistrates, the result of which
was, a committment of the
party suspected, for farther ex-
amination.

On Thursday the price of
sugars rose 9 s. per hundred
weight, and even at this exorbi-
tant price there were not many
people inclined to sell. About
50 hogshheads were sold.

A person has made some
discoveries respecting the fire
at the Pantheon, which may
lead to strong suspicion, and
confirm the idea, that it was
set on fire wilfully, but by
whom perhaps will never be
proved.

One ship has sailed, and a-
nother is setting out from Bri-
stol for the new settlement of
Sierra Leona, on the coast of
Africa. They are loading
with all kinds of implements
for building, and with tools for
carpenters, joiners, blacksmiths,
and other trades, as well as

with instruments for cultivating the ground, which is represented as remarkably fertile.

In each ship are accommodations for forty or fifty artificers and husbandmen, who are going to settle in the country under the protection of the company.

It is supposed that by the beginning of the ensuing year, the company will have 2000 acres planted with sugar canes. The natives of the country are to be engaged to work for hire, and to the people who go out from hence tracts of land are to be assigned. Every man is to have twenty acres; if he has a wife, he is to have ten more; and for each child an additional five acres.

It is reported, that the Dutch sold out above L. 700,000, from our funds on Tuesday; notwithstanding which, the stocks rose.

The poor laws, and the evils they produce among the people, are at length beginning to receive some small check by local arrangements of different districts. The burthens upon the people, for the payment of interest on the national debt, by the wisdom and humanity of former governments do not exceed seventeen millions—while for the poor rates alone above L. 31,000,000. Sterling are now drained from the people!—At such enormity of oppression, the smallest partial redress ef-

fects must be acceptable tidings to the community. At Shrewsbury, by introducing invariably a plan of systematic labour, they make the poor earn more than they spend. At Wrexham no pauper is relieved that keeps a dog. At Norton in Staffordshire, no pauper is relieved who drinks tea and sugar.

The Shrewsbury economy on the poor rates is thus remarkable;—there are six parishes in the town—the expence of one of them, under the mischievous authority of the poor laws, was L. 2700 a-year—at present the whole six parishes do not spend L. 2600 a-year.

A very splendid embassy to the Emperor of China, is about to be sent from this country, and Lord Macartney has had the offer of being appointed to it.

The Swallow packet which has been so anxiously looked for from India has at last reached England.

Intelligence of this kind was received lately in the city and was announced at the India House.

About three weeks ago, a farmer in the parish of Borthwick, Scotland, sold 100 lambs to a butcher in Edinburgh for 100 guineas. Last year he did the same.

The many alarming fires that have taken place in this city of late through carelessness, call for the serious attention of the inhabitants.

SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

February 20. 1772.

FOREIGN.

AFTER the public had waited with great impatience for news from India, by the arrival of the Swallow packet, that impatience has been in part abated, in a manner highly satisfactory to the minister. By this packet, which arrived three days before the meeting of parliament, the Madras courier, has been brought over as low down as October 15, by which, affairs in India are represented to be in a situation much more favourable for the British arms than we had any reason to expect; and such parts of L. Cornwallis's dispatches as have been made public concur in cherishing the same ideas, altho' we were formerly told, that in the hasty retreat from Seringapatam, and the still more hasty march of general Abercrombie, the British train of artillery, and baggage, were in both cases abandoned, and that the army had suffered very much from famine and fatigue; yet that still, as if it had raised battering cannon from heaven, they are

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ready to take the field, as soon as the dry season sets in, with the most assured prospect of success. We are told that Tippoo, who carried his whole army and baggage across the Cavary, in the face of the enemy, with scarcely any loss, is now reduced to the most deplorable distress; that he has neither resources of money nor of men; yet it has happened that scarcely one deserter has left him to join the enemy. How these accounts and facts are to be reconciled, time will discover.

We were told, before the war began, that Tippoo was one of the most cruel despots that ever ruled over a nation; that he was so much disliked by all his subjects, that he would be infallibly deserted by his whole people, as soon as any army should appear in the country, powerful enough to afford his subjects protection against his fury. We now know that all these assertions have been contradicted by the most undeniable facts. His troops

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have stood firm to their duty, not a man has deserted him; and so faithful have his subjects been that our generals have been unable to obtain intelligence, even of the movements of the different parties belonging to ourselves. Our troops have been wandering like men in a mist, and have not known of the approach of either friends or foes, till they came within sight of each other; while Tippoo has had the best intelligence of all our movements on every occasion. It now appears that this ferocious monster, as we have been accustomed to call him, is a kind and affectionate son, and an indulgent master, that he has been busied during his whole reign in protecting the lower orders of his people from the ruinous gripe of grantees, and in promoting manufactures and agriculture in his dominions, in which he has succeeded in a manner unexampled in Europe, even not excepting the great Frederick himself. This will appear from the following private letter brought from India by the Swallow packet, written by an eye witness, and communicated by a friend. It gives, besides, a view of generalship *on our side*, that cannot fail to command the admiration of gentlemen in the army; yet this is the man whom every British subject, in idea, talks of exterminating with as much indifference as we would

talk of plucking up a thistle by the root; and all this for what? To satisfy the caprice of a banditti who are eager to share in the spoils. Who is to suppress the ravages of the Marhattas after Tippoo shall be extirpated? This is a question that requires at least a serious discussion, which it seems not yet to have obtained, either in India or in Britain.

Extract of a letter from Bangalore, Sept. 19. 1791.

"You will perceive by the Madras courier, that though little decisive has been done since the capture of Bangalore, yet that Tippoo is now nearly vanquished; the loss of that fort ruined him, and our getting possession of it may be looked upon as one of those fortunate circumstances which decide the fate of an empire. I say fortunate; for we had no right to expect it; and, in all probability, Tippoo would then have reduced us to the lowest ebb. The fort is a large oval, with thick high ramparts, and a very deep and dry ditch around, except at the two extremities, where the gate-ways are. At each end there are five gate-ways, inclosed in a large square projection, with towers, ramparts, &c. which was thought by Tippoo to be very strong; here the ditch was discontinued. We had for a long time breached one of the curtains, but found

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that there was a deep ditch in
front, that would have probably
baffled our attempts to get in.
On learning that there was no
ditch at the gate-ways, the guns
were turned against them, and
very great destruction done in a
short time. It became however
necessary to take it or abandon
it immediately; there was not
above one day's ammunition re-
maining, and Tippoo had cut
embrazures through the bank
of a tank, that would have
flanked our batteries, and obli-
ged us to storm them next
morning, though protected by
the guns of the fort, which kept
up a tremendous, though ill di-
rected fire. The enemy had
expected a storm for two nights
before, and had been on the
watch; but being fatigued,
they were surprised on the
third. There were only two
possible ways to get in, both
of which might have been easi-
ly defended, the tops of the
two retaining walls of the
square inclosure that communi-
cated with the ramparts, upon
which we got up by the slope
occasioned by the destruction
of the walls.

The storming party, when
they ascended the gate-way,
contrary to what was intended,
gave a huzza, which convinced
the garrison that they were
near at hand, though they were
by no means in possession of
the place. The garrison was
immediately panic struck, and,

instead of doing any thing effec-
tual, they began firing all the
guns of the fort, in every di-
rection, to drown their fears.
There were near fifteen hun-
dred killed that night, and a-
bout fifty every night of the
siege.

Lord Cornwallis was ex-
ceedingly anxious all the time;
he knew, if we failed, that we
must have decamped, and left
every thing on the ground, as
most of the cattle were dead,
and the remainder so debilita-
ted as to be nearly useless.

I have given you this hasty
detail as the newspaper in In-
dia seldom contains any but the
most flattering accounts. The
particulars since Bangalore you
will find correct enough in the
courier. Our situation at Se-
ringapatam was also critical;
and, if the Mahrattas had not
very unexpectedly joined us
with great supplies, the army
would have been very much di-
stressed, we could always how-
ever have got back to Ban-
galore. Tippoo now is at the
lowest ebb;—no avenues, and
little territory not over-run by
the Mahrattas, and his troops
now obliged to desert him from
want. He is said to be an im-
petuous, self-conceited man,
very mistrustful of all around
him, and seldom inclined to
take advice; cruel to a degree
against his enemies, or those
who oppose his will, but a mil-
linary master to the bulk, *i. e.* th

poor part of the inhabitants. In the pettah, or town of Bangalore, it is said, there were 12,000 weaving families, and we found great quantities of cotton;—he had introduced the manufacture of silk;—his southern countries, where soil and water would admit of great cultivation, are every where full of inhabitants, and every where cultivated. Mysore proper is rather a poor country; but a great deal had even been done there since the time of General Smith, so that three immense Indian armies have every where found water, and hitherto provisions, which was not before thought possible. We have frequent reports of peace, but the Mahrattas are too inveterate against Tippoo, for his treatment of the brahmins, to be satisfied with less than his extirpation. If every thing is amicably settled, it is likely that India will enjoy peace for a long time; but Lord C. has a difficult card to play with his allies, they are a very powerful, enterprising people, and the Mahrattas, though they cannot fight us, may harass and ruin our countries by their multitudes of horse.

While the military gentleman in India, are thus contriving destruction to a great many unhappy wretches, who have no knowledge of them nor their concerns, one gentle-

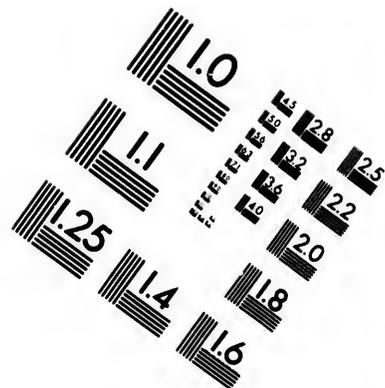
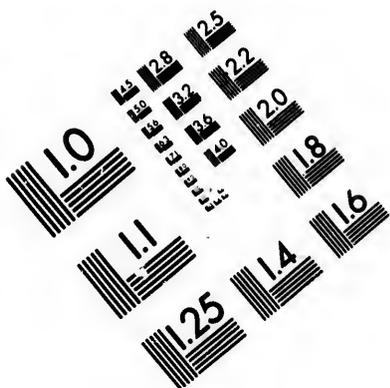
man in India, Dr James Anderson physician, at Madras, is exerting himself to the utmost of his power to provide some remedy for these evils; not by trying only to heal the wounded, in the way of his profession; but by devising means for procuring a subsistence for the people after the devastations of war shall cease. He has kindled a generous ardour in pursuit of useful knowledge, and a general desire to provide employment for the people in peace, throughout the whole peninsula of India, the effects of which will be felt, long after he shall for ever cease from his labours*! The rearing of cochineal, of indigo, of silk, of vines, and spiceries, not yet known there, are the objects of his successful pursuits; an account of which we shall take an early opportunity to lay before our readers. May the time soon arrive, when the sword shall be beat into a ploughshare, and the spear into a pruning hook; when the wolf shall lie down with the lamb, and the child shall lay its hand on the cockatrice den; when every

* Mr T. Towns writes thus from Vizagapatnam, 19th May 1791: Certain I am that this country is not cultivated to one half of its value, where it is in best order; and it is an obvious and deplorable truth, that upwards of 5000 inhabitants have died this year from the want of employment, and that several villages are destitute of people which used to be fully inhabited.

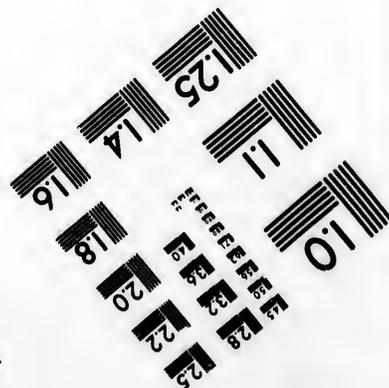
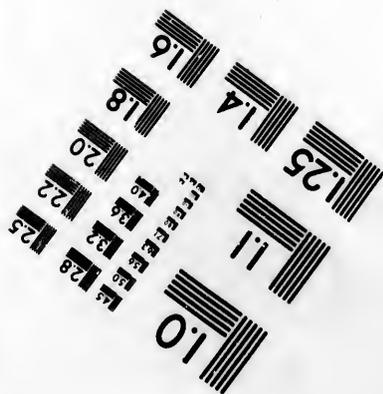
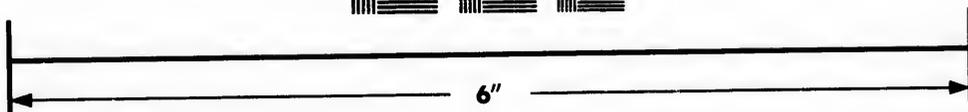
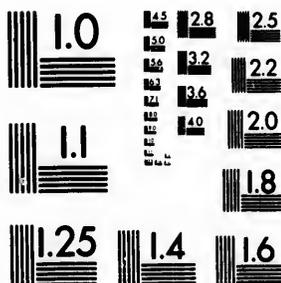
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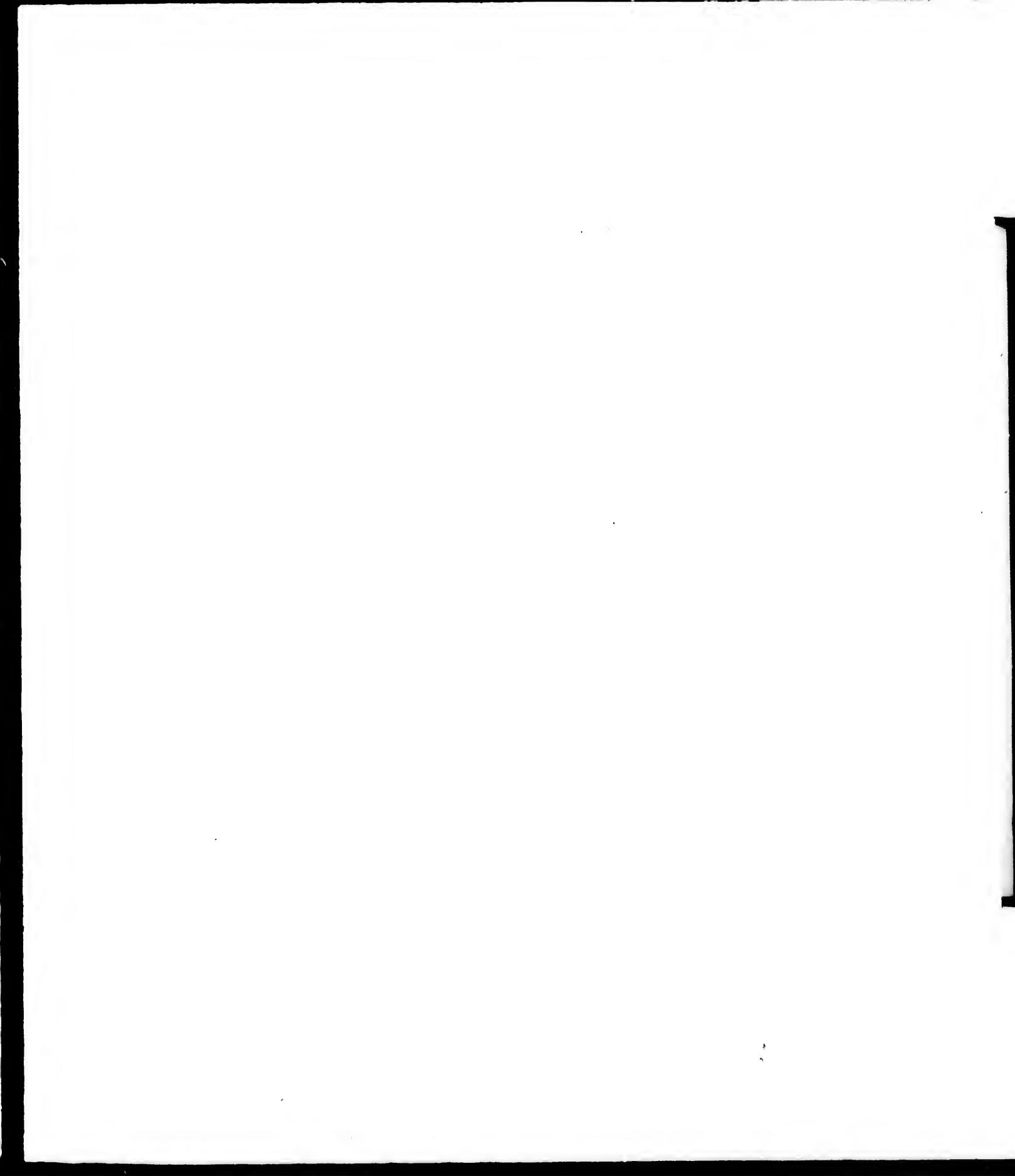
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man shall sit under the shade of his own fig-tree, and eat the fruit of his own vine; and when no man, armed with the terrors of power, shall dare to pluck the morsel out of their mouth.

France.

The eyes of all Europe are still directed towards France; and every day brings forth new events, the probable issue of which no human sagacity can foresee. A few weeks ago appearances were strong that war would have been carried into the heart of Germany, by the military ardour of the French troops. Fortunately for the cause of humanity, the rulers of that extensive empire have yielded to the storm, by discountenancing the emigrant princes. In this prudent caution every friend to humanity will rejoice: Long may such salutary counsels prevail! Still however new rumours of the hostile intentions of foreign princes are kept up in France, though it does not clearly appear that there is any just foundations for these reports.

In regard to their internal situation, a great, and almost unperceived revolution, has gradually taken place of late. The king, now evidently under the influence of some person of great judgement, has acted with a steady mildness, and with a judicious attention to the preservation of order and decorum in government, and has so pro-

perly interposed his influence to allay the heats of a popular assembly, as yet but novices in the art of legislation, as has tended greatly to preserve good order in the state, and to check some rash enterprises that otherwise would have been too hastily entered upon by the nation. By this means the preponderance of the royal authority has been much augmented in the national assembly, and among the people; may it never be carried too far!

Distraction still prevails in St Domingo to an astonishing degree; and there seems to be no reason to hope that their animosities will cease but with the extirpation of one of the parties. The whites appear to be the weakest. Troops are now preparing to be sent from France thither. These, it is probable, will join with the people of colour, whose cause is the popular cause of the day. In that case the contest will be soon ended. The white men will be driven away; but how they will afterwards settle with the mother country, time only can bring to light.

Popular commotion at Madrid.
A great commercial house at Bourdeaux has received a letter from a correspondent at Madrid, dated January 26. stating that the inhabitants of the capital of Spain are in a great ferment, and the court in the utmost consternation.

The occasion is stated to have been as follows :

The Corregidor of Madrid had given leave to a bookseller to print an edition of the French constitution, on condition of printing but a very small number of copies. Five or six thousand were, however, printed, which were instantly purchased and carried off.

Count Florida Blanca, the Minister, gave order to seize the printer, the Corregidor, the copies, and the buyers of the work.

This proceeding roused the indignant people; and it is also stated, that the minister paid very dear for his arbitrary rath- nels.

The letter concluded thus—
“ Things are going forward here which I dare not trust to paper !”

DOMESTIC.

The minister, with an allowable exultation, announced to the parliament, the flourishing state of the nation, and the productiveness of the revenue which would enable him, he said, to take off some of the taxes that proved most oppressive to the people. This proposition was received with universal satisfaction by all parties; and if it can have the good effect, to make any one party be fully convinced of one momentous truth, that the universal prosperity of the people, is the

only true source of an abundant revenue, it will be a blessed effect indeed; for then we should see, not a few, but many taxes repealed, and the revenue by that means augmented.

Of another truth, it ought also to convince us, *viz.* That to lose a burthen, is to make a real acquisition of wealth. By the last war we had the good fortune to lose a great portion of America, and Minorca. These were two grievous loads which weighed us down, and not only consumed unprofitably great sums of the national treasure but, by retarding our internal prosperity, diminished all the sources of revenue, and of course loaded the nation with a number of ruinous and unproductive taxes. We begin to feel the effects of this alleviation of our expatriotic territorial possessions; pity, that so small an alleviation had been produced, and that such a struggle should have been maintained before we could attain it. When shall the time come, when the people of this island shall be convinced, that we should not only never make war for the acquisition of trans-maritime territory; nor fight with any nation to retain it; but that our interest would be greatly promoted by giving them all up voluntarily to the freedom of their own wills? The only answer this query that can now obtain, is, that this period is not

yet arrived; that it will arrive in time is scarcely to be doubted; and at that period; the minister of the day may boast of the ample revenues that his administration has obtained.

Miscellaneous articles.

On Monday evening Jan. 30. Mr Sutherland, son of the late Capt. Sutherland, who shot himself last year as his Majesty was passing through St. James's park to the house of peers, stabbed himself in two places, at his lodgings in Rufsels-street, Bloomsbury. Dr Hunter was called in to see him, and declared the wounds to be mortal.—A degree of insanity is thought to pervade the male branches of this unfortunate family.

January 31. his Majesty, attended by his usual state, opened the session of Parliament, by a speech from the throne.

The Duchess of York was yesterday in the house of peers, while his majesty read his speech.

There were yesterday within the bar of the house of peers, near 150 Ladies of the first distinction.

Feb. 3. The unfortunate Captain S——d is declared by his Surgeons to be out of danger from the desperate wounds he gave himself in a fit of despair, at his lodgings in Great Rufsels-street.

By accounts received with the Swallow, we are happy to inform the friends of the parties, that Mr Drake a midshipman,

and three seamen belonging to the Hannibal, a seaman belonging to the Fortitude, and one belonging to the Chaser, all of whom were taken last war, have escaped from Chitteldroog to a Mahratta fort, and were expected daily to join the Bombay detachment.

During the last year 109 Hull ships cleared out at Peterburgh.

In the year 1791 there entered at the port of Liverpool, 4035 vessels, which paid dock duties to the amount of L. 11,645 6 s. 6 d. An increase in the last ten years of upwards of L. 7000.

The Morgan Rattler, smuggling vessel, that frequents the Irish channel, and so barbarously and piratically treated one of the Excise cutters on that station, is now at Dunkirk, her captain not being able to prevail upon the crew to put to sea in her, for fear of the out-lawry that now hangs over them. She is the fastest sailing lugger in the world, and mounts 32 six pounders.

Feb. 14. The hop planters are to have a meeting this week, in order to resist the increased demand of tithes which has been set up in some parts of the country. A difference between the impropiator of tithes, and the hop planters of the parish of Farnham, in Surrey, is to be the ostensible cause of this meeting; 20 s. *per acre* has hitherto been paid at that place

for the tithe on hops, and a demand is now made of no less a sum than L. 3 : 12 : 6 *per* acre.

Tuesday, Feb. 7: exhibited an extraordinary scene on Change. Several merchants of eminence were *arrested* at the suit of government for money due on Custom-house bonds; on account, as we understand, of some disputed duties. One of the sheriffs attended in his carriage to witness the execution of the writs.

A beautiful monument is just completed intended to be erected in Chichester cathedral, to the memory of Collins the poet; it consists of a striking bust to the memory of that elegant writer, with a simple inscription, and underneath appear the Passions in bas relief, most expressively copied from the inspiration of his own pen.

A few nights ago, four old houses in Virginia-street, Ratcliffe-highway, fell down. Fortunately the wall made a crash, the noise of which awoke the inhabitants, who had been in bed some hours.

Forty thousand a-year *additional income* is talked of for a certain young Gentleman. It is to be wished that some person might be appointed to controul the application, and that, as the revenue will then be princely indeed, the expenditure may be in a manner, and on matters worthy a prince.

A singular mistake.—J. Watson, esq; of Mansfield, in Not-

ingham shire, one of the gentlemen named as a sheriff for that county, has been dead these three years past!

By the last accounts from St Domingo, it appears that the disorders there have not yet subsided.

The earl of Glasgow lately ordered 400 hutches of coals to the poor of Paisley.

M. Talleyrand de Perigord spent one of his first days in this country thus actively:—In the morning he had an audience of Mr Pitt; after which he dined with the Duke of Leeds; and then called separately upon Mr Fox and Mr Burke.

One purpose of M. Talleyrand's mission to his country, is said in Paris to relate to the sale of the forests in France, to a body of English merchants who have offered to purchase them.

A Mr Wilson, said to be upon the half-pay of the English Navy, has just presented to the National Assembly of France, a musket, which may be discharged seven times in succession upon one loading.

It is rumoured that the minister has in his possession some letters (written by a leading member of opposition) during the late negotiation with Russia, which are said to be of a very exceptionable if not treasonable nature—but like many other rumours of late, this is probably without foundation; or at least exaggerated.

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