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THE
CANADIAN MAGAZINE,
AND
LITERARY REPOSITORY.

No. XVI.

OCTOBER, 1824.

VOL. III.

(For the Canadian Magazine.)

AN ACCOUNT OF THE POYAIS* SCHEME.

Mr. Editor,

In sending you for publication the following details respecting this singular *hoax*, I consider you, in giving it publicity, will be conferring a service on the public at large, and trust it will, both to the present and future generations, operate as a warning to prevent men entering too precipitately on similar pursuits; John Bull is proverbial for the facility with which he can be outwitted, and unparalleled for the avidity with which he will catch at any project however absurd, but reiterated instances of imposition will at last put him upon his guard.

Should it be thought in the following remarks that I have been unjustly severe against the authors of the Poyais scheme, those who blame me will be so candid as bear in mind that my relation is confined to what I have seen or had undoubted proofs of. I describe scenes in which I have been an actor. I detail distresses of which I have borne a part, and it will be admitted on a perusal of what I write that a bare account of this event, will be sufficient for my purpose, of a salutary warning, without exaggeration of description, or fictitious colouring.

Sir Gregor M'Gregor's first idea of forming a settlement on the Poyais coast arose from the following circumstance. After he had

* Poyais forms a part of that tract of country termed the Musquito shore on the north and eastern sides of Honduras. It is called the Musquito shore partly from the Indians who inhabited it, who were termed the Musquito Tribe, and partly from a bank and cluster of islands which lie near it in Long. 82. 10. W. Lat. 14. 30. N. It was first taken possession of by the English who after occupying it nearly 80 years abandoned it in 1787 and 1788.

been unsuccessful at Porto Bello, Sir Gregor sailed for Saint Martha, and from the latter place he hired a small schooner and went to Cape Gracias a Dios on the Musquito shore, in the year 1819. As soon as the vessel came to an anchor before this place, Sir Gregor went on shore for the purpose of paying his respects to the King* of that country.

It was during this brief interview that his Majesty expressed his desire to have a colony of Europeans settled in his country, no doubt with the hope that their steady habits and perseverance in commerce and agriculture might operate as influential examples among his own people. The effects of these habits had been witnessed by his Majesty while in Jamaica, and the attempt to introduce them among his subjects was a measure deserving of approbation.

It would appear that Sir Gregor readily agreed to forward his views, and as a preparatory step solicited from His Majesty of the Musquito nation a grant of land whereon he might place the settlers he promised to bring out. A deed of a tract of land was accordingly made out; but of such an extent as did not accord with the opinion of His Majesty, for he considering it as tantamount to divesting himself of his whole territory in favour of Sir Gregor, declined affixing his signature to it. Instead therefore of complying with the wishes of the latter to the extent required, the king ordered another deed to be made out, conveying to Sir Gregor a tract of country which might in justice have been considered sufficient to answer the intentions of all parties—at all events it ought to have satisfied any individual of moderate desires. This grant comprehended an extent of coast of about 30 miles, and reached 50 miles in the interior, commencing on the south side a short distance north of Plantain river, and on the north it was bounded by a line which touched the ocean about six miles north of Black River; and among other conditions of the deed, Sir Gregor was expressly prohibited from exceeding these boundaries. This document by which his Majesty still retained the sovereignty of the country, and at the same time ceded a liberal extent of territory for his favourite project of establishing a European Colony, was regularly signed, sealed and delivered to Sir Gregor, who was on his part bound by it to have a certain number of families on the ground within 15 months after the date at which the deed was passed.

It is proper to premise that the grant of land for which the application had been made in the first instance and which the King had refused to sanction with his signature instead of 30 miles of coast contained about 300, extending from lat. 11. 58. to 15. 53. north, and from long. 80. 6. to 82. 55. west, and included Nicaragua, which belonged to the Spaniards. By some means which still remains unexplained, Sir Gregor contrived to pass off the spurious deed containing this exorbitant grant as the true one; and it is exhibited with the signatures of the Musquito King and of two gentlemen, (Mr. Bagas and Captain

* The King of the Musquitoe country called George Frederick Augustus, is a young man, about 23 years of age at the period alluded to—was educated in Jamaica during the administration of the Duke of Manchester.

Smith) as witnesses to the transactions. It is hardly necessary to add that it is upon this document that the sales of land have been effected, the loan raised, and the whole proceeding carried on.

As soon as Sir Gregor had obtained the King's signature to the second deed as above mentioned, he left the Musquito country, and it does not appear he had been ever there either before or since that period. The next account that is heard of him is at St. Thomas in the West Indies, where he made several sales of land; and from thence returned to Scotland till the summer of 1822.

During this interval, no doubt with the design of attracting the public attention to the scheme, two pamphlets appeared in London, giving very glorious and attractive accounts of the Poyais country—and setting forth in the most seductive terms the advantages of soil, climate and situation it possessed. The truths these contained were testified by affidavits purporting to be taken in London by Mr. Bagas and Captain Smith, the two gentlemen whose names appeared as witnesses to the deed upon which Sir Gregor acted—and whom it is said were actually witnesses to the true deed which the Musquito King had signed.* The effect of these publications, completely answered the intention they were designed for; public interest was excited and confidence established in favour of the scheme, and upon the strength of the affidavits it was so managed that the deed was enrolled in chancery, which at once stamped its validity in the opinion of all.

The next step was to raise the loan.—This was soon accomplished; Sir Gregor having got the means provided for commencing it, and money being plentiful at the time, nothing more than a few respectable names at the top of the list was required to get it taken up. The amount was limited to £200,000, all of which was rapidly subscribed for and 15 per cent actually paid in upon this imaginary grant of land, by a great number of the stockholders.

A vessel was next advertised to sail for this land of promise, which had for richness of soil and quality of climate been trumpeted forth as unequalled by any other country; and people came flocking from all quarters anxious to obtain passages out. Among others, many respectable families relinquished their prospects and pursuits, and came up from Scotland wishful to embrace the earliest opportunity of sailing for the celebrated Poyais territory. There perhaps never was a scheme, entered into with so great and general an avidity since the celebrated Darien settlement.† Lands which had hitherto sold for 2s. 6d. per acre, suddenly rose to 4s. 6d. Sir Gregor assumed the title of "Cacique of Poyais"—appointed the various officers of his court—conferring on some of the chief, the title of "Knights of the green cross;" and assumed all the consequence of a petty prince.

* It has been since stated that Mr. Bagas is a native of the United States, and was at the period these pamphlets were written, in Carliagena, in South America, and never saw England—while Captain Smith, the other witness is said to have denied that he ever saw or witnessed such a deed.

† See No. XII. Vol. II. for an account of this scheme.

Although a vessel had been long advertised as about to sail, it was not till after the loan was on foot, and taking up, that one could actually be procured—after which the Honduras Packet, commanded by Capt. Thowas Hedgcock, an excellent officer and a master in the R. N. was *bona fide* chartered to take out emigrants to the Poyais country.

This vessel being only 150 tons burden was sufficient to accomodate but a small portion of those wishful to get passages out in her, but those who were for the time disappointed in this object consoled themselves in the hopes of being soon able to follow in subsequent vessels.

The Honduras packet being all prepared, sailed with about seventy passengers, in high hopes and spirits on the 21st of November 1822, but was prevented by *contrary* winds from reaching the Downs till the first of December. After encountering some very boisterous gales, and surmounting eminent danger of being all lost, they finally left the Downs with a favourable breeze on the 14th, in the hopes that their trials and difficulties were now at an end, and enjoying the cheering prospect of spending their remaining days in happiness and comfort.

It was the intention of the Captain to have touched at Madeira, but the wind veering towards the south, they stood to the westward, where falling in with the Trades, they had a pleasant run for St. Thomas. Having been at sea six weeks with a small and over crowded vessel—it was deemed prudent to stop at this place to refresh the crew and passengers, and for the purpose of procuring some supplies. After spending a few happy days at this island, we left it and bore away for Jamaica. The reason of taking this last island in our course was to procure some intelligence of three gentlemen who had left England before us with the machinery requisite for erecting saw and grist mills; and who were to proceed to Poyais by that route.

It was upon our arrival at Jamaica that we received the first intelligence, unfavourable to our prospects. One of the three gentlemen who preceded us, a Mr. Strangeways, and who had been represented as the writer of one of the pamphlets above alluded to, was dead. The other two not having got their supplies, sent after them according to promise, had been unable to proceed farther; and were from necessity compelled to embark in other pursuits. Our enquiries respecting the Poyais territory at Jamaica, were a source of mirth to those we addressed on the subject, for they concluded on hearing our intention that we were either all mad men, or had been made the dupes of rogues. While some of our party were inclined to believe what was told them of the impracticability of establishing a settlement in Poyais—others suspected the people in Jamaica were interested in preventing such a settlement from the fear it would eventually interfere with them in the sugar market. Neither side however were disposed to abandon their project when they had gone so far, upon the bare reports of others, who might be interested in misrepresenting it; and they left Jamaica for Poyais, with hopes not quite so sanguine, but far from being extinguished. We were now only two days sail distant from the spot where our expectations were to be disappointed or confirmed; and in the morning of the 30th of January 1823, the

Sugar Loaf Mountain, the land mark by which they steer for the mouth of the Black River hove in sight. Without this mountain it would be next to impossible to make the mouth of this river. The coast is low, with such a continual surf rolling in upon it as to prevent any vessel approaching it. The sensation, which was communicated to all on board as we approached the land, cannot be described. Few had ever before an opportunity of witnessing such a scene. The land as far as the eye could reach was flat, and bore a dreary aspect. It was covered with the tall deep green cocoa-nut trees, and even at this season of the year, (very different from what we had left) was in full verdure.

According to the Captain's instructions, the Governor's dispatches were not to be opened before we had reached 84. west, an order which had been most strictly adhered to, and as we now approached this longitude, all were on the tiptoe of expectation to discover the grand secret. At last the time and place arrived, the great box containing the instructions was opened. Its contents were less interesting than was expected—as far as regarded the settlers there was little that was unknown before, but the chief part of it was occupied with commissions for different officers, sufficient in number to form a splendid court or a standing army. Proclamations in abundance, all ready made—in short nothing had been omitted to contribute to the dignity of those at the head of this project, if we except the means necessary for carrying it into effect.

Heretofore the weather had been uncommonly fine; but the moment the dispatches were opened the sky became overcast and a gloom portending a storm supervened, lowering as an awful prediction of the blighting of all our fair and flattering prospects. We had been engaged all the morning on the outlook for the mouth of the Black River, the only harbour where we could land, and now finding ourselves as we supposed opposite to it, we came to an anchor about three miles from the coast, that being as near as we could prudently venture for the surf, notwithstanding it was a dead calm.

All eyes were now intently fixed upon the shore, some in their heated imagination could distinctly see, or fancy they did see the elegant church and houses in the town they were told of before leaving England. Others with better eyes, saw what was really the case, people moving about on the shore; the result of which was found to be correct, for in a short time a large canoe was seen putting off, and making for the vessel. This canoe was found to contain two Americans and four of the natives, who appeared quite friendly towards us, and still more so on being informed we were English.—But although it might have been expected that the singular appearance of the natives would have engaged all our attention, this was not the case; on the contrary but little attention was paid to them; all our anxious inquiries being addressed to the Americans, with the view of obtaining some information relative to the place. The world may judge of our surprise when they learn that by these people we were informed that these two Americans were the only white people in the country, and that the magnificent town which had been described to us was only a few scattered huts most conspicuous for displaying the poverty and

wretched condition of their inhabitants. These Americans received with surprise our account of having come out at the request of Sir G. McGregor, and informed us that he had not fulfilled the conditions he agreed upon with the King.

The canoe used by these people was formed of the cedar tree and of a sufficient size to contain twenty men, but which they managed with great dexterity. While we were in conversation with them, the lowering aspect of the skies began to encrease and every thing portended a storm. It was not long before we witnessed it in reality. The canoe, to avoid the approaching gale, left the vessel and made for the shore. At the same moment the wind veered round to the north, and when it blows from this point no vessel can live on the coast. Before the canoe could reach the shore it began to blow fresh, and the wind soon after encreasing to a gale, prevented our landing. At the same time our vessel parted from her anchors, and we were very near being driven on the coast, when all our hopes and fears would have been brought to a speedy termination. Fortunately for us at the moment, the wind shifted a little, and the captain having given orders to reef the sails, the ship fell away about 4 points, which enabled us to weather Cape Cameron. This being done, we lay too during the remainder of that day and the following night. After this the Captain of the vessel represented in strong terms to Colonel Hall, who was acting as Governor for the party, the impracticability of landing on a coast where there appeared no harbour, and the distress and danger the people of the settlement might be exposed to, there being no town as it was represented to them before leaving Britain. It was at least agreed that we should for the present make for the Island of Bonacea, a place formerly inhabited by the Caribs, but now only the haunt of wild animals. Here ten days were spent in watering, and recruiting our strength and spirits. This Island abounds with game and is surrounded with great quantities of fish, of which a large supply was taken, although the extreme heat of the weather during the day precluded many from sharing in these sports. I must here remark, that although we had been baffled with stormy weather, and tantalized with uncertain and contradictory reports tending to throw a damp on our ultimate hopes, we had hitherto been peculiarly fortunate on the score of good health. Notwithstanding the length of time we had been so crowded together in a small vessel, and although we had been in several of the West India islands, not one of the crew or passengers had suffered from sickness up to the period I mention.

After a short delay at this island, with undaunted spirits we again set sail for the coast on which we had before made so narrow an escape from shipwreck, and although contrary winds still prevailed, in the course of four or five days we found ourselves a second time in sight of the Sugar Loaf mountain, and stood in for the land; we had no sooner brought up than our old friends the Americans with some of the natives boarded us; kindly offering to take us on shore with their canoe it being, they said, safer than our boats. This offer however it was thought prudent to decline, as there had been no sea breeze during the day; the shore was perfectly calm and a landing

could be effected without any danger. Accordingly Col. Hall, the Secretary, and the men chosen to reconnoitre the land embarked in the boat and proceeded on shore amidst the hearty cheers and joyful exclamations of the remainder on board. The boat now passed the surf without any damage, but not without the impression of fear upon those who had never before experienced the effects of a heavy swell and a high surf rolling over a bar of not more than three feet water; to such, of course, the scene was new and not entirely destitute of alarm; but it was surmounted, and the old creek leading to where the town of St. Joseph's formerly stood was reached in safety.

The appearance of the country at this place was very attractive when viewed from the vessel. The cocoa-nut and mangroves were in full bloom; and in some places the cotton tree towering above the rest displayed its beautiful foliage in contrast with other trees which surrounded it to great advantage; while the lofty mountains rising high in the interior and frowning proudly over the flat country which stretched between them and the shore added much to the grandeur and effect of the scene.

As we advanced to within about a mile of the mouth of the river, we descried a miserable hut belonging to one of the Americans, and soon after two others belonging to the same people appeared in view; which together constituted all that was to be seen of the famous town of St. Joseph, of which such "flattering tales" had been told us. To our enquiries concerning the town (or rather the spot where it had been, for at present it seemed "vanished into empty air") the Americans replied that it was now too late to find its scite, but promised to accompany us in the morning—and in answer to our enquiries respecting the nature of the soil we were told that it was nothing but impenetrable *jungle* and swamp—information which to our sorrow we soon after found to be correct.

It was the design of this advanced party who had now landed to avail themselves of such poor accommodations as their miserable huts could furnish for the night, and commence landing the remainder next morning; but to their surprise, and the subsequent regret of others, they soon saw the other boats leaving the vessel, and making for the beach, loaded with men, women, and children. This step was a measure of the Captain's, who determined to avail himself of the favourable state of the weather (it being then a dead calm) to land as many as possible that evening. On the arrival of this unwelcome addition to our numbers, it was found that the huts were inadequate to contain one fifth of us, and we were reduced to the necessity of spending the night in the open air huddled together in one promiscuous mass. It was now that a sense of our cheerless condition began to break upon us; and to the lively feeling and buoyant hopes which had hitherto prevailed, there succeeded a silent but dissatisfied gloom depicted in every face; and a sense of despondency from which neither individual nor collected energy, could rouse our party. During the night the rain fell in torrents, and many for the first time in their lives, had to bear all the distressing sensations of spending a dreary night amidst myriads of mosquitoes, sandflies and gnats.

Next morning one party of us was sent under the directions of the

governor to clear a spot of ground sufficiently large to admit of their tents being erected; for "let well or woe betide" we determined to await the decree of Providence. Another party, along with some Caribs and natives were employed to land the cargo, consisting of provisions, &c. &c. In this undertaking we were equally unfortunate as in others. The sea breeze set in and blew so strong, hardly any thing could be got on shore without being damaged with salt water. This continued for four successive days, so that but a small portion of our provisions could be landed, during that time; and immediately after a hurricane came on which compelled the vessel to quit the coast with all the remainder on board, and very serious apprehensions were entertained that she would not be able to return. The vessel was compelled to bear away from the coast on the very day that our men had completed clearing a space for us to pitch our tents upon, so that although we were now provided with some shelter from the weather, for 12 tents were soon erected, other and more disastrous evils seemed to threaten us. None but those who have been in similar situations can form an idea of our state.—Landed on a desert coast in a season the worst in the year, and exposed to a climate against the effects of which none of our constitutions had been fortified—almost all our provisions gone in the vessel, which had been compelled by the stress of weather to abandon us; our condition was deplorable in the extreme. While a faint hope of the return of the ship was entertained, youth and vigor kept us alive—and we went on clearing while the Caribs or natives could be hired to assist us. Fortunately the dispositions of those were friendly towards us as appeared from their exterior demeanor; but we were well aware that inwardly they regarded us with feelings of suspicion; and as our little stock of money was fast evanishing we foresaw that we could not long depend on their assistance.

Still the farce of forming a government was kept up by those at the head of affairs, and much to the credit of the hardy old gentleman who acted as superintendent. He proceeded both by precept and example in such a way as to give encouragement to the rest, while he supported the dignity of the situation he had to fill. With the same degree of consequence as if the famous town of St. Joseph had been actually in existence, he issued an order for a store-house to be built, a measure justifiable on many grounds, but more particularly as indicating the design of making a permanent residence, and of course calculated to remove the fears, and fix the resolution of those who were desirous of abandoning the project. To be sure, there was something bordering on the ludicrous to see the first officers of the intended court of the Cacique of Poyais, resorting to the store (a bamboo hut covered with long grass) for their rations of beef and flour. To see them discharging the multiple duties of their own cooks, their own waiters and their own washer-women. While they had during the day to endure the broiling heat of the sun, and in the night to retire to a tent resembling a baker's oven half heated, and swarming with vermine of every description which infests that coast. Upon the whole it was a scene of distress hardly to be equalled, and was only borne by many from the exertions of our good old governor (Colonel Hall,) above mentioned made, to keep up our spirits in the hopes of the arrival of a

second vessel. The hot weather began to injure what little provisions we had.—The flour became black and hardly eatable—and we were under the necessity of burying a part of our beef to remove the stench which it produced. In little more than four weeks from the time we landed—these causes operated in producing diseases amongst us, of various kinds; one of the most distressing of which was ulcerations of the legs from the bites of musquitos and other vermin.

The Surveyors had been dispatched in various directions for the purpose of reconnoitering, with the view of finding if possible a more suitable position than our present for our residence—but after exploring different branches or creeks which are formed by the mouth of Black River, their reports were so unfavourable, that we determined to keep together and await the issue of our unfortunate scheme, till the arrival of another vessel.

(To be Continued.)

[If the Editor of the Canadian Magazine can find any thing in the following remarks worthy a place in his pages, they are very much at his service; if not he is at perfect liberty to use them as he pleases, but never to forget that he possesses from the writer his sincere wishes, for prosperity to his undertakings.

THE GRAVE YARD.

There is perhaps no spot on earth more fit for the indulgence of the finer feelings than that in which are deposited the remains of those whom we have loved and live to lament—it is there we can call to mind their many virtues, and learn to emulate them—there we may forget the faults of the silent dust before us, and there learn to estimate the frailty of human existence; and with this lesson of morality before us, we cannot but look from the grave to the world beyond, and losing sight of the ephemeral things of earth, our hearts may hold glad communion with our friends in that blest region, where “the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest.”

Indulging in these impressions, it has long been a source of regret to me that more has not been done to render our burying places fit spots for “musing meditation.” Instead of heaping the frail remnants of our dearest friends one upon the other in the centre of our most populous cities, where in the course of a short lapse of years their dust mingles in one promiscuous mass. Instead (I say) of having them so placed, and splendid monuments erected over them, which can only be gazed at through the interstices of a barred iron grate, we should select some rural spot far from the “city’s busy hum” sacred to sweet retirement and shade, to which we might retire to indulge our heart felt sorrows, free from the scrutinizing eye of vulgar curiosity. Where, under the foilage of the melancholy cypress, we might pay the tribute of our tears to the memory of those who have gone before us, unseen to mortal eye. There the weeping widow to

her darling son, should rehearse in broken accents the virtues of his father; and kneeling o'er the tomb, his little hands clasped together, he would breathe a prayer that he might in his voyage through life resemble him whose dust was the object which brought them thither.— There might the lover bedew with tears the lonely bed of his mistress, and the coy maiden might indulge the grief of her gentle bosom without fear of molestation. There we might imitate the beautifully simple and poetical custom of the Swiss peasantry in adorning the graves of our departed friends with shrubs and flowers. What volumes of fidelity might be registered in these precious mementoes? to teach us by a silence more eloquent than words, the sweet morality of affection that delights to cherish the remembrance of those who sleep in silent death.

Let no marble monument mark my resting place! "no storied urn or animated bust" point out my mouldering form; but may some gentle hand entwine the sprig's sweet flowers around my cemetery and teach them to blossom o'er my-silent bed.

" May flowers that blossom on my bier,
Need us dew green to dress them;
Their dew should be the widow's tear,
While bending orphans bless them."

In some countries much has been done in the improvement of their public repositories for their dead which reflects the highest credit upon them. It is a genuine proof not only of their good taste but of good feelings, and it requires no prophetic spirit to foretell its good effects on society at large.

While indulging in reflections of this sort, and when meditating on this subject the question has often occurred why would it not be well to adopt some shrub, flower or plant, by which to decorate the graves of the departed individuals, and which by being well chosen, it might be emblematic of the persons over whose dust it was placed. Where its waving foliage might not only serve to embalm their memories for their friends or relatives—but where its typical resemblance would point out to the eye of the passing stranger the country or profession of him who slept below.

The *Virgin rose* might adorn the last dwelling of the loveliest of her sex—while the *modest violet* should point out the remains of the retiring yet beautiful maiden. A *nole me tangere* might decorate the grave of a blue stocking aunt who had passed her "grand climacteric," and who would require an interpreter to tell who rested under the sod which should be covered with *Bachelor's Buttons*? A native of Caledonia would soon discover the spot where slept his countryman, by "the bonnie thistle," and the son of St. Patrick would repose no less sound if his lonely cell were shaded by "his own native *Shamrock*." The Welchman should have his *Leak*—the Dutchman his *Kitefoot*, and the Turk his *Poppy*. The *fleur de lys* should blossom on the ground of the Frenchman—and the "flush'd Lancastrian Rose with York's pale blossom" should unite on the beds where sleep the sons of old Albion. Some *Medical herb* should designate the lonely dwell-

ing of the sons of Esculapius.—The *Laurel* should ever be green o'er the grave of the Soldier. The *Bay* might crown the solitary bed of the Poet, and the *Knotty Ash* would do well enough for the Lawyer; the Pedagogue should have a Birch twig, to wave o'er him; St Crispin's disciple could not desire any thing more explicit than the *Lady's Slipper*; and honest Snip the Tailor might rest under the shade of his *Cabbage*; the Miser should have *Gold Thread* and *Fox Glove*; and for the Printer we might form a type of his profession in the ancient *papyrus*.

T. G. C.

The origin, rise and progress of the NEW GLASGOW SETTLEMENT, in the District of Montreal, Province of Lower Canada.

We have been favoured from a valuable correspondent, with the following account of this settlement, and feel highly gratified in being able by such communications, to lay before the living generation a display of the exertions which have been made, and an account of the successes which have crowned these exertions, in forming new settlements. Such accounts are doubly valuable to this colony in its present state, as giving correct details of the obstacles to be surmounted in such undertakings, and they will be read with interest by futurity when the present generations shall have passed away, and their progeny take their places, in situations where the art and labour of man has wrought such changes on the face of the country as to obliterate every trace of its present aspect. Our miscellany is devoted in a special degree to local affairs—among these, such as refer to the origin, rise and progress of new settlements, claims our first attention.—In many places now considered as old settlements, although but a few years have elapsed since they were rescued from the wild wilderness, no trace or record of their commencement is to be found. In our endeavours to supply this want in those places now locating, and in recording the names of such as have been instrumental in the formation of such settlements we have the gratifying feeling that we may be the means of handing down to posterity names, equally deserving to live in the remembrance of future ages, as those which have led fleets and armies on to shake the fate of empires and kingdoms.

“It was upon the 28th day of June, 1820, that a band of Scotchmen, nineteen in number, having joined the tide of emigration (then fast flowing from the mother country towards this colony,) reached the city of Montreal. Of this number some had been bred to very different pursuits from that they now designed to follow. Some of them were married and had families, others single. One point they all had their attention directed to, namely to settle upon lands, and they were equally united in the desire of keeping together, in the accomplishment of this object. With that prudent consideration which strongly characterises the peasantry of their country, they reflected that much depended on the selection of the spot on which they should commence their operations. This to them, was a matter of the highest importance; none of them were rich in money, but all possessed sound con-

stitutions and industrious habits. The latter sufficient to secure them success, if they fixed upon a favourable choice; whereas their scanty supply of the former would soon be expended and inevitable ruin follow their pitching upon a place which after trial should be found unsuitable to their views. A short time was necessarily spent in deliberating upon this point. They wisely concluded that the nearer Montreal they could fix their choice, the better. In coming to this conclusion they were actuated by two solid reasons; first that by making their selection in this place, they would be near a market for the sale of their produce or the purchase of their necessaries, and secondly, they would thus avoid removing to a great distance and the unavoidable expense, attendant on their so doing.

While deliberating on this important step, it came to their ears; that the Ho. Roderick M'Kenzie Seigneur of Terrebonne, had a large tract of land unconceded, lying at a suitable distance from the city of Montreal the depot and centre of Canadian commerce. Thither they resolved to move, which being done, they were received by that gentleman with that blunt and unceremonious, but sincere kindness which marked the man who drew his first breath on the same soil with themselves. Every facility in his power to give, was freely and frankly extended to forward their wishes. And it deserves to be recorded to the honour of his aimable lady, that nothing was wanting on her part to promote the same object. With that liberality dictated by true humanity, she attended to the various necessities of this infant colony. For their shelter she furnished them with tents—to the sick she supplied medicines, and to those in want of them she gave provisions. Seeds of various kinds were also furnished by her to many who were unable to purchase them, so as to enable them to commence their crops, after the lands were prepared for their reception. But in enumerating her kind attentions, I am outstripping the regular progress of the colony, they are well deserving of being known, and will long live in the grateful recollection of the settlers.

Being now arrived in a body at Terrebonne, it was agreed among them that a few of the young and more athletic should proceed into the woods to examine the lands, and select a tract on which they could settle, while the remainder should wait in their present position till their return. This advanced detachment of explorers, was composed of six men and a guide, who took provisions for one day, and set out on their destined expedition. It was on this business they received a lesson in the hard school of experience they never forgot; for they had not proceeded far into the woods before the guide lost all knowledge of the route, and all idea of the direction they ought to follow. In this dilemma, they wandered about for three days and nights, without food or shelter, and threatening to pick the bones of their guide for his temerity in undertaking a duty he was so incapable of performing. At length they reached an inhabited part of the country, and received directions which enabled them to retrace their steps back to their party.

Soon after this, the whole moved off to the bush in a body, and in the beginning of August 1820, they settled on the banks of the Lachigan, at the termination of the government line of road which

leads from Terbonne. Their condition will be best known at this time from the following account of it by one of the party: "Now here we were" says he "a motely groupe, composed of all trades, sizes and sexes—any thing and every thing but wood cutters, never one of us had felled a tree in our lives—afraid almost of our shadows—none dare trust himself a perch distance from the river side for fear of being lost in the forest—some of us had not one shilling remaining, and the small pittance of the greater number was nearly exhausted. This made it necessary to form a sort of community of our provisions.—The season was now far advanced, and as an indispensable necessary for it, huts were erected in the rudest style to shelter us from the weather. The mirth and hardihood of youth's buoyant spirit, aided by the patience of the old and middle aged, enabled us to pass over a long inclement winter with tolerable success; while the characteristic independence of our nation supported us without yielding to debasing mendicity, and all passed on. But although these aids enabled us to "wile away the time," upon reflection, or to a man capable of estimating our undertaking by our means, there could not perhaps have been presented a more complete Utopian scheme than that of our becoming bush-farmers."

From the foregoing interesting detail we cheerfully turn to the present state of this colony; only commenced as appears from the above date, four years ago, and this will exhibit in the most decided light what can be accomplished by patient perseverance and well directed energy. This little "band of brothers" appears to have commenced with increased perseverance and activity on the opening of the Spring 1821. Their successful efforts seem to have drawn others to settle in the same vicinity.

The river Lachigan is now settled on both sides for a distance of about six miles. These settlers consist of seventy seven householders, having a population of one hundred and eighty-one persons.—The greater part of them have only recently arrived; perhaps thirty eight additional souls may be considered as a fair average increase every year for the four which have passed since the commencement of the settlement. Eight hundred and thirty-nine acres of wood are cut down, which at 25s. per acre, amounts to 1048l. 15s. Four hundred and sixty-seven acres have been cleared for crops which at 35s. per acre amount to 817l. 5s. These two sums added together give the worth of actual labour which has been performed by the settlers annually for those four years past; and which will be found to be 49l. 2s. 1d. more than 12l. for each settler per annum.

To ascertain the result arising to the settlers for their labour thus expended, is a point which cannot be reached with accuracy, there having been no correct statement of the crops kept each year. That of the present season has been unusually abundant, the following may be considered as nearly the amount—certainly not exceeding it:

Suppose 77 Householders to have each one acre of wheat, at 20 bushels per acre will amount to 1540 bushels at 4s. each;	£308;
One acre potatoes, each 300 bushels per acre, 23000 bushels at 6d. each;	577, 10;

One acre oats each 20 bushels—1540 bushels, each 1s.	£77.
Half an acre barley, each 10 bush. 770 do. do. 2s.	77,
Ten bushels each of Indian corn, 770 each 4s 6d.	178,
The produce of 97 cows for 18 weeks at 4lbs. of butter per week, 6984 lbs. each 7½d.	218, 5,
Green crops, vegetables, &c. suppose each house-holder to have raised for 20s.	77,
	<hr/>
	£1512, 15.

Being the total value of the crops raised on this settlement during the last season, exclusive of the produce of pigs, poultry &c. &c.—and which exhibits a return for the value of their labour perhaps not exceeded in any other settlement in the two Provinces of the Canadas.

The following article is admitted at the urgent request of many of our respected patrons, and as being far removed from any thing which can give rise to religious controversy, we have given it insertion.

Edit.

A CHARGE.

Delivered to the Clergy of Upper-Canada, at York, on Sunday the 15th day of August; at NIAGARA, on Sunday the 22d day of August; at CORNWALL, on Sunday the 5th day of September, 1824, by the venerable GEORGE OKILL STUART, A. M. Archdeacon of York.

Reverend Brethren,

I address you in compliance with my duty. The present occasion on which you are assembled by official notice enables me to remind you of the nature, the obligation, and the duties of your sacred office, and I trust without subjecting you to greater expence and more serious inconvenience than you are able to sustain.

I address you as Missionaries who are labouring in the propagation of the Gospel and in disseminating the doctrines of our Lord Jesus Christ, and his Religion, and as Ministers of an established Church, under whose government, order, and discipline, you are stationed in your respective Congregations, and are maintaining a relation beneficial to their highest and dearest interests, and conducive to the welfare, peace and order of society.

Contemplating the character you bear, my mind is impressed with the awful responsibility attached to your sacred office. This feeling is accompanied with an earnest desire and fervent prayer, that while I am treating of the important charge that is committed to your care, we may be mutually benefited by the exhortation, and become more ardent in the work of our holy calling, prosecuting it with renewed zeal and diligence.

It is with that view, but more especially with regard to the performance of the offices that are strictly Episcopal, that visitations of the Clergy are held by our venerable Diocesan. The Archdeacons in obedience to Episcopal power, exercise authority over the Clergy

within assigned limits of the Diocese. They reprove, exhort and admonish; promoting by their counsel and prudence, the interests of the established Church.

The charges of his Lordship the Bishop of Quebec delivered to the Clergy of the Diocese were remarkable for excellence and energy of style and for the judicious counsel they contained. Being replete with salutary and useful instruction, they will be remembered with benefit and be transmitted to our successors, who also will derive from their lessons, equal advantage and delight.

You are sent forth and commissioned, to propagate the Gospel, the glad tidings of Salvation to man. Its divine doctrines you are bound by the solemn vows at your ordination to teach to the ignorant, in order that they may have light to direct them into the paths of peace and happiness. Its divine precepts you will explain to the wicked and profligate, in order that they may be deterred from their evil practices, and through your means under the divine blessing may become converted and saved. To give efficacy to our labours, and to ensure success to your ministrations you will endeavour to adorn your profession with all the virtues and graces of a christian life; being careful and zealous that your conduct be conformable to the doctrines you teach and inculcate.

I have stated the nature of our sacred office.—The obligation to fulfil its duties is founded on an authority emanating from our Lord Jesus Christ, and is conferred upon us by those persons to whom is intrusted the power of sending forth labourers into the vineyard of Christ and of extending the spiritual kingdom of our Lord and Redeemer.

The testimony we have is a consciousness I trust that the Divine Spirit has moved and influenced us to assume the care and charge of immortal Souls, and to lead guide and direct them to temporal and eternal felicity. This elevated destination implies in the discharge of our spiritual functions, the utmost zeal, fidelity and diligence. And shall we not be labourers and ardent in the exercise of our understandings in the use and application of the word of God, and in raising our affections to the love of God and man? Shall we not be faithful and diligent in the use of the means of grace in performing the solemn offices and in administering the sacred ordinance of Religion in the established church.

I am aware and fully sensible that your services will be duly appreciated, and that they will receive the approbation of the pious, wise and good, and above all that they will secure to you the protection, the favour and the blessing of the Divine Being. His reward will be superior to all this world has to bestow; for neither riches, nor honours, nor fame in their utmost abundance and to the greatest extent, can bear the slightest comparison with the reward that is promised to the pious, laborious and faithful ministers of Christ.

Let the expectation of this reward, animate and support you in all your labours and trials, and let our united prayers be offered that we may be instrumental to the conversion and salvation of multitudes; exhorting you to "be steadfast unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as we know that your labour is not in vain

in the Lord"; and more especially in the words of the apostle Paul to Timothy, "I charge thee therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and Kingdom."

"Preach the word, be instant in season, out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long suffering and doctrine."

I address you as Ministers of the Protestant United Church of England and Ireland, fully persuaded of your conviction that obedience to its authority and submission to its order and discipline are indispensable and are required from you as conducive to the prosperity of the established church.

With regard to your respective Congregations, it is presumed that on their part, they will assist, support and encourage you in all your undertakings for promoting the glory of God and the Salvation of man. They will piously and readily consecrate a portion of their wealth to sacred purposes. By their contributions they will enable you to purchase Bibles for distribution and Tracts embracing religious knowledge and instruction. They will consecrate a part of their wealth more especially to the erection, completion and decent ornament of convenient edifices for the performance of divine worship, the preaching of the word of God and the administration of the Sacraments. Connected with these important duties, they will give their countenance and support to the establishment of Sunday Schools, the nurseries of piety and virtue and the necessary preservative of youth from vice, misery and ruin.

To accomplish the first object, a connection must be formed with the Diocesan committee for promoting christian knowledge at Quebec, by the establishment of an Auxiliary Society and in subordination to it, and thus you will be remotely connected with the Society in England for promoting christian knowledge. Thus the blessings of religious instruction and comfort will be generally conveyed to the inhabitants of this Province. Their minds will be enlightened by the rays of divine wisdom, and their hearts will be purified by the refreshing streams of the waters of life. Thus you will be instrumental through God's Grace in delivering them from the miseries of sin in this life, and from more severe punishment in a future state, and of bringing them through our Lord Jesus Christ to the possession of eternal glory.

The erection of churches in several Townships in this Province is entitled to our mutual congratulations. The event has a claim upon our united thanksgivings to God, who by his Holy Spirit has influenced pious persons to erect decent and convenient edifices in many parts of this Province. Among the number, it is our duty to acknowledge with thankfulness the acts and example of our chief magistrate and many who sustain offices under his administration of our government. In these instances where the motives for this conduct are founded on piety and benevolence, none are more laudable, none are more pure, none are more acceptable to our Almighty benefactor. These actions are convincing evidences of sincerity and of devotedness to religion and its cause. And the edifices are durable and suitable monuments

of gratitude for the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and for divine mercy and favours.

In the sanctuaries the adorations, confessions, thanksgivings and praises of the congregation will ascend with holy fervour and becoming solemnity. In them you will administer baptism, by which under the influence of the Holy Spirit the persons will become regenerate and be admitted as members of the mystical body of Christ. In them the youth will be initiated in the knowledge of their Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier, and be catechetically instructed in the faith of Christ and in the evangelical doctrines and discipline of our venerable church. They will become prepared for the solemn rite of confirmation when they publicly, and solemnly before the congregation resolve to serve God and to live in the practice of the christian virtues. In them there will be conveyed from above to the faithful communicant the needed supplies of grace giving him strength after receiving the symbols of christian faith with due reverence, penitence and thanksgiving, to overcome the enemies of his salvation.

May the Divine Spirit, without whose aid and influence all our labours are ineffectual, pour down upon you the abundance of his grace, that in all your works, you may glorify God, and promote the Salvation of the Congregations committed to your charge.

To the Ministers of our Church and to their ministrations all persons will repair who are convinced of the benefits to be derived from our adherence to the faith and worship of the united Church of England and Ireland. They will perceive that the whole structure of our public prayers in their composition is admirably adapted to the wants and exigencies of a congregation. They will discover that our form of words is applicable to the particular case of many individuals composing the congregation. They will above all, discover that the prayers are founded on the word of God, and the doctrines of Christ, and are the work of holy and faithful men, under the influence of the Holy Ghost.

The most common and general objection to our form of worship is founded on an error in confounding private prayer with public worship and vainly supposing that the public and general prayers can be accommodated to the peculiar circumstances of every individual.

Let them make this distinction and while they cherish the flame of private devotion in retirement, and thus preserve that divine communion which every christian aspires to do with the Almighty through Christ, they will not neglect attendance in the midst of the congregation of the faithful.

This misconception and prejudice being removed, all they who dissent from our mode and form of worship will become persuaded that while the Church provides for their spiritual wants by suggesting suitable prayers in the public worship of God, her Ministers recommend the exercises of private prayer and the offices of devotion in retirement. The due performance of both constitutes the character and duty of a Christian.

Your labours and example, I trust under the divine blessing will have a tendency to make a due impression upon your hearers, more particularly upon the serious and religious portion of the community,

who will correct their errors and prejudices, and become members of a church, whose faith is sound and pure, whose doctrines are evangelical and whose worship is scriptural and rational, being far removed from the delusions of error and the reveries of enthusiasm.

May Almighty God by the influence of the Holy Spirit guide you into all truth and grant you the consolations of his grace in all your labours, trials and difficulties.—I sincerely and fervently implore the divine benediction upon you, that under God's providence you may continue by your prayers, labours and example to advance his glory and honour, and bring multitudes to the knowledge of Christ, and to the attainment and fruition of eternal felicity, and that from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, the name of the Lord may be great among the Gentiles, and that in every place, incense may be offered unto his name and a pure offering "for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the Lord of Hosts."

Selected Papers.

From the Aberdeen Chronicle.

ON NOVEL READING.

SIR,

Perhaps there is no custom, to which the youth of the present age are addicted, that is more likely to be attended with effects prejudicial to their real interests, than that of *Novel Reading*. When a young man by indulging too freely this vicious propensity for books, calculated merely to amuse, begins to loose relish for works that require thought and attention, the native vigour and energy of his mind, however great they may once have been, gradually waste away as it were in a consumptive disorder; and unless a remedy is speedily applied are in danger of becoming extinct for ever. The mind as well as the body is naturally fond of ease and relaxation—and the one is as much weakened and enervated by them as the other: strength and superiority, in regard to both can only be acquired by confirmed habits of diligence and activity. Unwearied application, and a well regulated plan of study, will enable men of very ordinary capacity to attain to respectability, if not to eminence, in any profession; while an indolent and listless state of mind, generally occasioned, and always increased by a course of indiscriminate reading, frequently proves the grave of the most promising talents, and cannot therefore be too carefully guarded against by all who wish to distinguish themselves from the merely vegetating mass of mankind. Before a person begins to read books of this nature, he ought to put the following questions to himself: What advantage do I expect to derive from a perusal of this work? Is it calculated to enlighten my understanding, to stimulate me to continued exertion, and thus pave the way for my being an honour-

able and useful member of society? Or has it on the contrary, a pernicious tendency? Have I not reason to fear, that instead of producing these beneficial results, it may damp the ardour of my mind, draw off my attention from more useful studies, and in the end render me incapable of receiving pleasure from any other sources, than those of supermarvelous fiction and bombastic romance? These are very important questions, and would deserve our most careful attention, although the dangers we had to fear were of a less threatening nature than what they are, and consisted chiefly in the loss of time, consumed in the reading of idle fabulous tales. But, when we consider the lasting effect such books are likely to have on our minds, and that what might easily be given up on its first appearance, becomes, when strengthened by frequent repetition, an inveterate habit, entwines itself with our very nature, and possesses a powerful influence over our future destiny and success in life; then, and not till then, are we qualified to give an answer to these questions; then indeed, the subject shews itself worthy of the most laborious investigation: and when the important consequences, which must result from our decision, are taken into the account, may justly be reckoned one of the most momentous that can engage the attention of a human creature. I am far from condemning the reading of fictitious writings; biography, &c. on account of any hypocritical or superstitious feelings. I am not of that gloomy cast who look upon every kind of innocent amusement with a jealous eye. No, Mr. Editor, that some little relaxation from study is absolutely necessary; I am well aware: but let us endeavour to preserve dignity and rationality even in our diversions; above all let us be careful to abstain from every species of pleasure which is apt to create a fatiguing anxiety in the mind, and encroach too far upon the time which ought to be employed in more serious and arduous pursuits: for by indulging in such as these, we counteract the very end we have in view, and instead of refreshing our faculties, and fitting them for more intense application, we overpower and enfeeble them, and completely stifle within our breasts that ardent desire of improvement, which alone is capable of resisting the numerous temptations to idleness and inactivity that constantly beset us. The novels by the author of Waverly, and some other pieces of a similar kind that might be mentioned, are to be excepted from this mass of spurious trash, as they contain something more than the history of an inglorious, but withal spotless couple dying in love, pining under difficulties which no one but themselves ever met with, and at length after combatting with devils or men, who partake of the same nature, triumphing in the end over the third or fourth volume over all their enemies, in a manner equally unnatural and unprecedented. But even to these, although they must be allowed to contain much useful information, and are well calculated both for instruction and amusement, the young student would do well not to devote too much of his time. Reading of this kind naturally steals on the mind, and it requires no common degree of exertion, on the part of its votary, to lay it aside after it has once become habitual. If, in after life, a man feels the want of this sort of knowledge, his deficiency will soon be

made up: but if the season of youth be lost, for implanting in the mind the seeds of elegant literature and science, his hopes are gone forever, the harvest can be expected to yield no increase, and disappointment in all its prospects is the bitter cup which inevitably awaits him. Few, indeed if any, are willing to contemplate their own deficiencies in a faithful mirror; few are willing to begin a course of study at thirty, in which they ought to have been far advanced at sixteen: but although they were, time once lost can never be recalled. Before a tolerable proficiency in any department can be acquired, the season of action is over, gray hairs are coming on apace, and they sink into the grave neglected and unknown; thus affording a melancholy warning to others, to avoid the dangerous rock on which they and many thousand more have split. Were seven-eighths of the demoralizing refuse with which the press now teems, under the names of novels, romances, tales, &c. committed to the flames, then might we expect to see a second revival of solid and substantial learning equally glorious with the first; then might we rationally entertain a hope, that our country would once more be distinguished for men of eminence in every profession. Let the thought of this arouse the minds of our aspiring youth; let them remember that they belong to the band which gave birth to a Brown, a Reid, a Hume, and a Robertson, men who were the pride and honour of the age in which they flourished, and whose names will descend to posterity with increasing glory and reputation.

THE MARINER'S DREAM.

In slumbers of midnight, the sailor boy lay
 His hammock swung loose at the sport of the wind,
 But watch-worn and weary, his cares flew away,
 And visions of happiness danced o'er his mind.

Oh sailor boy! sailor boy! never again
 Shall home, love, or kindred, thy wishes repay;
 Unbless'd and unhonor'd, down deep in the main
 Full many a score fathoms, thy frame shall decay.

No tomb shall e'er plead to remembrance for thee,
 Or redeem form or frame from the merciless surge,
 But the white foam of wave shall thy winding sheet be,
 And winds, in the midnight of winter, thy dirge!

On beds of green sea-flower thy limbs shall be laid,
 Around thy white bones the red coral shall grow;
 Of thy fair yellow locks threads of amber be made,
 And every part suit to thy mansion below.

Days, months, years and ages shall circle away,
 And still the vast waters above thee shall roll;
 Earth loses thy pattern forever and aye—
 Oh sailor boy! sailor boy! peace to thy soul!

THE ENGLISH STAGE.—(BY AN AMERICAN IN LONDON.)

I have seen the principal talent of the two great Theatres, but am free to say I am much disappointed, having witnessed infinitely better acting from the stationary corps of the Boston boards. I attended Macready's benefit at Drury Lane, when he figured in one of his most popular parts, Coriolanus, which, believe me, would in America be regarded a failure. It was a second edition of Kean whose style is not at all suited to this kind of characters; disfigured by extravagant and unnatural effort, clap traps, and strange contortions. Yet the actor was *bravod* from every part of the house, and at every violent burst, no matter how absurd, was sure to bring down thunders of applause. In the last scene of Coriolanus, he laboured excessively, but to my mind it was labor in vain. An American gentleman who stood near me took occasion to contrast it with the noble acting of Cooper; who, you know, "uses all gently" in "the very whirlwind of his passion." The truth is, the taste of the British audience is radically bad, and such players as Macready only minister to the corruption instead of uprooting it. A few wild starts, a ferocious aspect, a harshness of intonation, a hurried gait, and a most abrupt and extraordinary dropping of the voice from the highest to the very lowest tones, are all that is requisite to get into favor. To be applauded, an actor must do something out of nature.—Macready knows this, and the consequence is that he winds the audience at will. He raves and snarls, and suddenly stops short for a breathing spell—the audience break in with bravos—and the player, "applauded to the very echo," finishes the sentence in the most common place and colloquial manner. To say nothing of Cooper, it must be admitted that Wallack and Conway throw more correct study and effective interest into the part; and the result is, their merits here are greatly underrated. Macready's Cardinal Wolsey is much better, although the character is but a sketch; there was obviously less labour and straining after effect, and I thought the actor was very judiciously applauded. I cannot speak favorably of his light comedy, which is altogether of the trifling, colloquial sort, and deficient in point and spirit. In short, Macready would not please an American audience so well as Wallack, and in personal requisites, he is every way inferior. There is nothing native in his dignity; and his voice would appear to more advantage, were he to take less pains to render it harsh and inharmonious. Young, of Covent Garden, is by many considered the best actor on the English stage; and is particularly venerated as the only legitimate successor of John Kemble. I had a taste of him in Macbeth, and of course could not fail to contrast him with Cooper. He will not rise by this standard—it was one of the most prosing, pointless and ineffective performances, I ever saw; and I was heartily tired of it before he came to the last act. He has a bad trick (for it is nothing else) of mouthing and drawling out many of his speeches; so that he has become an object of ludicrous imitation from his brother actors. A Mr. Yates, in the same theatre, a sort of second Mathews, a few evenings before, in his comical touches on the same stage, hit off Young to admiration. The moment I

saw Young in Macbeth, I recognized the likeness; for it was an exact counterpart of his monotonous drawl. Young made nothing of the dagger scene, nor of the last act, notwithstanding his face is expressive, and his voice powerful enough for declamation. The only speech in which I thought him excellent, was that after the murder, in which Macbeth repents having killed the grooms. Here he seemed to be awake and to feel, and here for a moment, he left off *preaching*.—Cooper has been condemned for this very fault, but let those who complain of *him* attend to Young and be silent. Young does not know how to chide the “weird sisters”—he sermonizes to them as from a book. Indeed he seemed all the while to be *reading* the part instead of acting it. I cannot speak better of his deportment—his *dress*, but not his gait, was princely, and there was nothing in it of that “vaulting ambition which overleaps itself.”—It is strange that the English audience, who are so fond of Kean and Macready, should be content with this tameness; yet they are so, and I suppose for the sake of John Kemble, of whose school Young stands at the head.—Cooper, formerly of the Liverpool, latterly of the Drury Lane stage, seconded Young as Macduff. In voice he reminds me of Frederick Brown, and as an actor is about his equal. This is the man who played seconds the last season at Drury, and whose place is filled by Wallack. The latter is worth a hundred of him. I have seen Charles Kemble in two or three different characters—he is the most *gentlemanly* comedian I know of; but not so rich as Duff, although probably the best in his way on the English stage. Jones, the principal light comedian of Covent Garden, regarded the best since the days of Lewis, is nothing more than one of your middling sort—his simple smirking face and dapper deportment, may answer for valets; but are very unlike the gentleman. Elliston, of Drury, is one of your *has been's*. His hair has turned grey, his action has lost its flexibility, and his voice is tremulous and feeble. I can perceive in him the remains of a good actor—but he is now nearly done up. Fawcett, in a particular class of old men is excellent, so likewise is Dawton—but Liston, the noted low comedian, is evidently the great favorite of the public. His face is as inflexible as Timothy Quaint's. He never moves a muscle, and delivers the most humorous passages with a solemn gravity that is sure to make every one laugh. The grumness of his voice no doubt heightens the effect of his manner. On the first night of my arrival, I saw him at Drury Lane, in *Lord Grizzle*—Dawton played *King Arthur*; when his lordship with inconceivable seriousness addressed the Queen, saying, “O Queen of *blud and guts*”—Liston's peculiar emphasis set the house in a roar. He does every thing without effort, and the very *restraint* which he puts upon his feelings is the principal cause of his success. While other actors are *grinning*, and distorting their muscles, Liston's visage is as fixed as the statue of King Charles at Charing Cross; and let him say or do what he pleases, the audience are certain to join in a laugh. He is without doubt the first low comedian on the English stage. At Drury Lane, Mrs. Bunn takes the lead in tragedy, and is very respectable—while Mrs. Bartley, whom I saw in *Lady Macbeth*, stands first at Covent Garden.

A word or two as to the English singers. I have heard Miss Ste-

vens several times, and with increased admiration. Her beautiful black eyes, white teeth, and modest expression of face, set off her fine figure to great advantage, and induce you to be charmed with her at first sight. Her voice is the most sweet and delicate I ever heard, and her taste is evidently formed on the best models. You remember Phillips in *Eveleen's Bower*—you would cease to do so having listened to Miss Stevens—she has the power to draw you on to Elysium, and to keep you there entranced. Miss Povey and Miss Tree are also excellent, although in a secondary degree; and I may add, that there are in Drury lane three or four female voices superior to Mrs. Holman. Madam Catalani in musical power stands alone. I have heard her twice, and must truly say that her *execution and finish* are beyond any thing I can conceive in the shape of woman. From the highest notes of trille to the lowest of bass, she wielded her mighty voice with perfect command; and in all the choruses, (composed of the principal vocal talent of the stage, dressed in the marine character) her thrilling notes might be distinguished uppermost.

At the English Opera House they have a splendid constellation of vocal talent—Braham, Phillips, Pearman, Broadhurst, Miss Stevens, Miss Paton, Miss Harvey, Miss Povey, &c.; besides the great Miss Kelly, as a general actress, and Rayner in the country boys. I have seen Braham, Philipps, Broadhurst and Miss Harvey, all in the same Opera, and I need not remind you it was a treat. I was present at the benefit of Braham—play the *Devil's Bridge*, in which he took Count Belino. He is a short man, with a pretty Jewish face, and possesses great power, of execution. He does not, however, convey the sentiment so feelingly as Philipps; nor will he compare with him as an actor. He is not capable of reaching the *melo dramatic effect* which the latter throws into his songs, but sings with more delicacy and sweetness and unfolds a greater volume of voice. His *runs* are beautiful, yet his style is not divested of affectation. The superior *acting* of Philipps enables him to acquire the *mastery* in *Fancy's Sketch*; but in the exquisite solo of "Is there a heart," he must yield altogether to the mellifluous tones of Braham. I can conceive of natural voices superior to the last, but it is difficult to imagine one in higher cultivation.—After all, he fell short of my expectation, while Miss Stevens and Madam Catalani came up to it; either of which singers would I think, succeeded better in America, as either may be regarded in her prime. The English people are enthusiastic admirers of Catalani. Her *bravura* style every where meets a response in *bravos*, and at her *Rôle Britannia* and *God save the King*, the whole audience rise on the instant uncovered, mad with delight to hear their own praises from the mouth of a foreigner. There is a lady at the English Opera House, who came out on the opening, a few nights ago, under the auspices of Philipps and promises in a short time to be at the top of the ladder. I saw both master and pupil in the "Barber of Seville"; and feel safe in asserting, that, although just turned of sixteen, the young lady is the best singing *actress* of the day, certain it is I never witnessed her equal. The most satisfactory and finished piece of acting I have yet seen, was at Davis's (formerly Astley's) Amphitheatre,—the *Battle of Waterloo*. The whole performance was on a stage, and there were probably

one hundred and twenty or more persons engaged in it, besides a large number of horses. The character of Bonaparte was sustained to the life. The *historical points* are preserved with remarkable fidelity; such as the blowing up of the *ammunition waggon*, which in a blaze is drawn over the stage by horses—the attack on the *farm house*—the *death of the Duke of Brunswick*—the introduction of an Irish woman who followed the army, &c.; and what gives the piece additional interest is, that a considerable part of the troops are *Waterloo men*. There are three distinct battles, in which horse, infantry and artillery alike participate; and the whole thing is executed in a martial, soldierlike manner. Nothing of the *melo dramatic* sort has ever come up to this spectacle, which has run I believe for months, and is now a very prominent public attraction.

I forgot before to speak of Mathews, and to say that I send you a partial account of his American Trip, sketched by some one of the short hand writers, and, unauthorized, given to the public. You must not quote this as a fair sample of the piece, since it is but a meagre skeleton, differing materially, in many respects, from the representation itself. The whole affair is, I think, nationally unexceptionable—there are jokes and rubs to be sure—but it is all managed in a pleasant and amicable style, that forbids the least imputation of malevolence or unfairness. There are some true stories, very humorously told, particularly one by Jonathan W. Doubikin, who concludes by dunning his uncle Ben for "*that are small trifle*." Jonathan W. is the best drawn character in the piece, and furnishes a good specimen of the country yankee. There is a Mr. Pendleton, of the south, who, in the style of Curran, appears as a sort of national mediator, expressing his dislike of the abuse of the critics, and the attempts made to divide the two countries. I am told this was really meant for John Randolph—who has taken great umbrage at his introduction into the budget. The general complexion of the *trip*, is broad caricature—so that while the audience are exceedingly amused, they are not disposed to receive what they hear as much better than invention. It was dramatised, or put into form, by Smith, the author of the "*Rejected Addresses*"; and what does some credit to Mathews' heart is, that he actually took it out of the hands of a person who had prepared it full-charged with satire and abuse of the Americans, declaring at the same time, that if the piece could not be got up without reflecting on our country, it should be kept from the public. Two or three good jokes are cracked at the expense of our Boston friends. A popular fourth of July toast, of one of the *patriots of the revolution*, is put by Mathews into the mouth of a Frenchman:—"Here's to those who fought, bled, and died on Bunker's Hill, *of wick I was von*."

I have been rather diffuse on the subject of the stage, presuming you felt a paramount interest in it, but I will dismiss the matter with a single remark. In TRAGEDY, there is no one here to jostle with Cooper. In COMEDY, none to compete with Duff; and if Kilner, in comic hearty old men, has a rival, it is Dowton alone. With the exception of Liston, Hilson and Jefferson would find no competitor, while they are certainly much wanted, and would very soon get the wind of Messers; Knight and Harley.

Valerius, a Roman Story, in Three Volumes:—William Blackwood, Edinburgh, and T. Cadell, London,—1821.

Continued from page 233.

The loves of Sextus and Sempronia constitute a sort of under plot. The young spark will not yield to his father's wishes in regard to the rich widow Rubellia, although this paragon of dashing relicts is shrewdly suspected of calling in to the aid of her charms the hellish incantations of a professed witch called Pona. To check the proceedings of the mad enchantress now named, Valerius is induced by Dromo, the faithful slave of Sextus, to accompany him one night to the extensive burying-grounds outside the city-walls; and here they do, in fact detect the old beldame engaged in some of her diabolical pranks, and labouring to turn the heart of Licinius's heir to the amorous and despairing Rubellia. In the course of the night, however, Valerius finds other employment for his thoughts. A small party of Christian worshippers, among whom was Athanasia, had taken possession of the tomb of the Sempronii as a place of concealment, where they might perform the holy rites of their infant church; and Valerius having by accident, entered the vestibule of that magnificent sepulchre, was dragged in by Cotilius,—a pretended convert, and determined to rebel against the state,—and would, had not Athanasia interposed, been put to immediate death. Hardly had the timid fugitives recovered their composure, and the priest proceeded to administer the eucharist, when, behold, the tomb is surrounded by a party of the Prætorian guards, dispatched to seize the little congregation of Christians. Valerius, too, is made a prisoner, and carried forthwith to a distant place of confinement, Athanasia, and the old priest Aurelius, are carried to Rome. The detention of the young Briton was, however, of very short duration. He proceeds to the capital without delay, where he learns that his mistress and her spiritual father are imprisoned in the Mammertine, and that they are soon to be brought to trial before the Emperor, who had already found Cotilius guilty of treasonable designs against his government.

At night, when the unfortunate Aurelius and his charge were summoned to the palace, Valerius followed them, with the intention of learning as soon as possible the fate that awaited his Athanasia, and of using every means to save her life. He was accompanied by Silo, the keeper of the Mammertine, who turned out to be the brother of Boto, the domestic thrawl of Valerius, and a native of Britain. Having been slave to Domitian, whom he had also served as a freedman, he was well acquainted with all the rooms and passages of the palace, and being in possession of a key which opened many secret doors, he conducted Valerius into the very *penetrabilia* of the imperial dwelling.

“Where are we, Silo?” I whispered, “what place is this?—what means the unnatural light that beams from the walls about us?—and what, above all, betoken these strange relics, surrounded with so many symptoms of confusion?”

“ ‘Oh sir!’ he replied, ‘did you never hear men speak of the famous Phrygite walls? I thought all the world had heard of this place.’

“ ‘I never heard of it,’ said I, ‘nor do I know the meaning of what you say.’

“ ‘Then listen, listen, sir,’ he whispered, ‘and I will tell you what I thought all men had heard of. This is the place in which alone Domitian used to eat and sleep, and walk about for the last months of his life, when he was jealous of all men that came near him; and he contrived these walls, covered all over with the shining Ethiopian stone, that no one might be able approach him without being discovered.—The time that has passed since those days has somewhat dimmed their brightness; but then, sir, I promise you there was not a bit of all these walls, of which the finest dame in Rome might not have been glad to make her mirror. I swear to you sir, it was a strange sight to see, how, even when a slave entered with a goblet of wine in his hand, the poor prince would start and stare around him, as if every side of the chamber had been invaded by some host of men; and yet, perhaps, it was all the while nothing more than fifty different reflections of one trembling eunuch. Alas! sir, as I said to you before, it is a fearful thing to be a tyrant. I am sure there was never a boy in all the house that would have changed pillows in any night in all the year with Cæsar; for it was visible to the least of us, that a whisper or a shadow was enough to discompose his countenance in the midst of all this grandeur.’

“ ‘And where, Silo, did he fall?’

“ ‘The jailor pointed with his finger to the broken statue,—‘And look, look here, sir,’ he said—‘look upon this shattered piece of marble—it was behind this that they say “he ran for safety, when he had felt the first treacherous blow; but I came not into the chamber till all had long been over, and I saw nothing but the blood upon the floor, and the statue lying here just as it does at present. Look, yonder in the corner is the couch he slept upon, and he had always a dagger under his head, and he called to the little page that was waiting upon him, to fetch it from the place; but they had taken away the blade, and the scabbard only remained; and then in came Parthenius and Claudianus, and the gladiator, and all the rest, and he could make no resistance, and they soon finished what the cunning Stephanus had begun. But, oh, sir, we have seen enough of this terrible chamber; let us go on, for we have not yet reached the place to which I wished to bring you; but it is not far off now.’

“ ‘With this Silo walked to the end of the melancholy chamber, and pressing upon a secret spring, where no door was apparent, opened the way into a room, darker and smaller than any of those through which we had come. He then said to me, ‘Now, sir, you must not venture upon one whisper more—you touch on the very heart of Domitian’s privacy. It is possible that the place I have been leading you to may have been shut up, it may exist no longer; but the state in which all things are found here makes me think it more likely that Trajan has never been master of its secret. And in that case, we shall be able both to see and to hear, without being either seen or heard,

exactly as Domitian used to do, when there was any council held either in the Mars or the Apollo.

"I started at the boldness of the project, which now, for the first time, I understood; but we had come a long way, and I was in no mood for hesitation.

"Silo laid his finger on his lips again and again as he looked to me, —very cautiously lifted up a piece of the dark-red cloth with which this chamber was hung,—and essayed another secret spring which commanded a very small and narrow door in the panneling beneath. Total darkness appeared to be beyond; but the jailor motioning to me to remain for a moment where I was, and to keep up the hanging, glided boldly into the recess. I wondered how he should tread so lightly, that I could not perceive the least echo of his footsteps; but this no longer surprised me, when I myself had been permitted to follow him, which, after being absent for several moments, he, appearing again at the entrance, and silently beckoning with his finger, invited me to do.

"I found myself in a very narrow place, the floor of which felt beneath my foot as if it were stuffed like a pillow; and, after we had dropped the hanging of the adjoining chamber, every thing was totally dark, as it had at first appeared to me, except only two points at some distance above my head, and considerably separated the one from the other, where—through divers small apertures, each about the size, it may be, of a human eye—there was visible a ray of light, manifestly artificial. Silo, taking hold of me by the hand conducted me up some steps towards the nearest of these places; and, as I approached it, I heard distinctly the voices of persons talking together in the room from which the light must needs be proceeding. I did not draw my breath, you may well believe, with much boldness at that moment; but my eye was soon fixed at one of the apertures, and, after the first dazzle was over, I saw clearly, for my position was close by one of its angles, the whole interior of the illuminated chamber beyond me. Silo took his station close by my side, and locking his arm in mine, gazed as earnestly as I did through one of these loop holes, which, that you may understand every thing about it, were evidently quite concealed among the rich carved work of the ivory cornice.

"The chamber was lighted up splendidly by three tall chandelabra of silver, close beside one of which was placed a long table covered with an infinity of scrolls and tablets. One person, who had his back turned towards us, was writing at this table and two others, in one of whom I instantly recognised the Emperor himself, were walking up and down on the other side, and conversing together as they walked.

"No Palma," said Trajan, for it was that old favourite whom he addressed—"I have quite made up my mind as to this matter. I shall never, so long as I live, permit any curious inquisition to be carried on concerning the private opinions of any man. Every man has a right without question, to think—to believe—exactly what pleases him; and I shall concede as much in favour of every woman, Palma, if you will have it so. But it is totally a different affair, when the fact no matter how, is forced upon my knowledge, that a subject, no matter who

or what he be—a subject of the Roman empire, refuses to comply with the first, the elemental, and the most essential, of all the laws by which the state is regulated. The man—aye or the woman—that confesses in my presence contempt for the deities whom the commonwealth acknowledges in every step of its procedure—that person is a criminal; and I cannot dismiss him unpunished, without injuring the commonwealth by the display of weakness in its chief. As for these poor fanatics themselves, you do not suppose that I authorise their punishment without the same feelings of compassion which you yourself express; but it is the penalty of my station that I must controul my feelings, and you well know that it is not on such occasions as this alone that I essay to controul them.

“‘But you are satisfied, my lord,’ said Palma, ‘that these people are really quite innocent as to Cotilius’s designs; and as it was upon that suspicion they were apprehended, perhaps it may be possible.’

“‘Possible!—Yes, Palma,’ interrupted the Prince; ‘quite possible and quite easy, too, provided they will condescend to save themselves by the most trival acknowledgement of the sort which, I repeat to you, I do and must consider as absolutely necessary. And women too—and girls forsooth—I suppose you would have me wait till the very urchins on the street were gathering into knots to discuss the nature of the Gods.—Do you remember what Plato says?’

“‘No, my lord, I do not know to what you refer.’

“‘Why, Plato says that nobody can ever understand any thing accurately about the Deity, and that, if he could, he would have no right to communicate his discoveries to others; the passage is in the *Timæus*, man, and Cicero has translated it besides. And is it to be endured that these modest fanatics are to do every hour what the Platos and the Ciceros spoke of in such terms as these? Why, really, I think you carry your tolerancè a little farther than might have been expected from such a devout disciple of the Academy.’

“‘I despise them; my lord, as much as yourself; but, to tell you the truth, it is this young lady that moves me to speak thus, and I crave your pardon if I have spoken with too much freedom.—Her father was one of the best soldiers Titus had.’

“‘The more is the pity, Palma. Have you ever seen the girl yourself? Did you give orders that she should be brought hither? I have not the least objection that you should have half an hour, ay, or an hour if you will, to talk with her quietly; perhaps your eloquence may have all the effect we desire.’

“‘I doubt it, my lord, I greatly doubt it,’ he replied; ‘but, indeed, I know not whether she be yet here—Did you not send to the Mammertine?’

“‘The man writing at the table, to whom this last interrogation was addressed, said; ‘I believe, sir, both this lady and the old man, that was in the same prison, are now in attendance.’ And upon this Trajan and Palma retired together towards the farther end of the apartment, where they conversed for some minutes in a tone so low, that I could not understand any thing of what was said. Trajan at length turned from his favourite with an air, as I thought, of some little displeasure, and said aloud, coming back into the middle of the room.—

“I know perfectly well it is so, Palma; but what is that to the affair in hand? I am very sorry for the Sempronii, but I doubt if even they would be so unreasonable as you are.”

“Will you not see the poor girl yourself, Cæsar?” said the favourite.

“Cornelius Palma,” replied the Prince, “you do not need to be told, that my seeing her would only make it more difficult for me to do that, which, seeing or not seeing her, I know to be my duty. Do you accept my proposal? Are you willing to try the effect of your own persuasion? I promise you, if you succeed, I shall rejoice even more heartily than yourself; but it is rather too much to imagine that I am personally to interfere about such an affair as this—an affair which, the more I think of it seems to me to be the more perfectly contemptible. Nay, do not suppose it is this girl I am talking of—I mean the whole of this Jewish, this Christian affair, which does indeed appear to me to be the most bare-faced absurdity that ever was permitted to disturb the tranquility of a great empire. Think of it, I pray, you but for a single moment. A mean and savage nation of barbarians have but just suffered the penalty of obstinacy and treachery alike unequalled, and from them—from the scattered embers of this extinguished fire, we are to allow a new flame to be kindled—ay, and that in the very centre of Rome—here—where I speak to you—within sight of my palace. I tell you, that if my own hand were to be scorched in the cause, I would disperse this combustion to the winds of heaven; I tell you, that I stand here Cæsar in the midst of Rome, and that I would rather be chained to the oar, Palma, or whipped for a slave, than suffer, while the power to prevent it is mine, the least, the tiniest speck to be thrown upon the face of the Roman majesty. By all the gods, Palma, it is enough to make a man sick to think of the madness that is in the world, and of the iron arguments by which we are compelled to keep those from harming us, that at first sight of them excite no feeling but our pity. But I am weary of these very names of Palestine—Jew—Christian; and, by Jupiter, I must have my ears rid of them. Go to this squalid girl, and try what you can make of her; but I give you fair warning, that I will have Rome troubled with no breeders of young Christians.”

Palma, after trying in vain every argument he could use with Athanasia, introduces to her Lucius and Velius, her uncles, together with an aunt, the priestess of Apollo, and the young Sempronia, her affectionate cousin. No intreaties, however, can move her. In reply to her imperious aunt, who places before her eyes the dreadful alternative which was before her, she exclaims, in much bitterness of heart,

“Oh God! how shall I speak that they may at length hear me!—My dear friends—my dear, dear friends—if you have any love, any compassion, I pray you kiss me once, and bid me farewell kindly, and lay my ashes—when I am no more—in the sepulchre of my father—beside the urn of my dear mother. I tell you truly, you need not fear that I will disturb the repose of the place—I tell you most truly, that I die not in anger against any one, and that I shall have rest at length when I am relieved from this struggle.—Oh! pardon me, if in any thing besides this I ever gave you pain—remember none of my offen-

ees but this—think of me kindly—And go now, my dear friends, kiss me once each of you; kiss my lips in love, and leave me to bear that which must be borne, since there is no escape from it but in lying, and in baseness, and in utter perdition here and hereafter. May the Lord strengthen his day soon, and may ye all bless the full day-light, although now ye are startled by the troubled redness of the dawn; Farewell—kiss me, Velius—kiss me, Lucius—my aunt also will kiss me, for she loves me, too; in spite of all things."

"They did kiss her, and tears were mingled with their embraces, and they said no more, but parted from her where she was; and Palma the Senator, lifted the desolate Sempronia from the ground, on which she had fallen, and he and her father carried her away, apparently quite senseless, with all her black tresses sweeping the pavement as they moved. And so Athanasia and Aurelius were once more left alone in the chamber.

"They were alone—and they were close together, for the old man hastened to Athanasia the moment the others had left her. 'The moment is come,' said Silo; 'now, now, at last, sir, prepare yourself to risk every thing where every thing may be gained.'

"He did not whisper this, but spoke the words boldly and aloud; and ere I could either answer any thing, or form any guess as to its meaning, he had leaped down from my side, and thrown open, by touching another secret spring, a door, which formed a communication (of course, entirely unsuspected) between our lurking place and the chamber in which our friends were standing. Silo rushed in, and I followed him. It was all done so rapidly, that I scarce remember how it was done. I cannot, indeed, forget the wild and vacant stare of Athanasia, the cry which escaped from her lips, nor the fervour with which she sunk into my embrace. But all the rest is like a dream to me. The door closed swiftly behind us;—swiftly—swiftly I ran, bearing the maiden in my arms through all the long course of those deserted chambers. Door after door flew open before us. All alike, breathless and speechless, we ran on. We reached the last of the chambers, the wide and echoing saloon, ere my heart had recovered from the first palpitation of surprise; and a moment after we breathed once more the free air of heaven, beneath the pillars of the portico.

"'Stop not,' said I—'for the sake of God, stop not. Hasten, Silo, it is you that must guide us.'

"'Ha!' said he, 'already have they perceived it? Great God! after all, is it in vain?' He paused as he said so, and we heard distinctly, voice echoing voice, and the clapping of doors. 'Treachery, treachery! Escape, escape!' they shouted at the gates;—and horn and trumpet mingled in the clamour of surprise, wrath, terror.

"'Ride, ride,' screamed a voice high over all the tumult—'ride ride this instant, and guard every avenue!'

"'Search every corner—search the wing of Domitian,' cried another.

"The horseman galloped furiously hither and thither across the courts; trumpet, and horn, and cymbal resounded above the shouting of men, and the neighing of the startled chargers.

"'We are lost—we are lost,' said Silo, clasping his hands upon his

Brow. 'We can never reach the gate, and they must discover every thing on the instant.'

"'Let us run to the Temple of Apollo,' said I—strange to tell, I felt comparatively cool at that moment—'the priestess will at least give shelter to Athanasia—we at least must try her.'

"'Thank God,' whispered Silo, 'there is one chance more.'—And so we began again to run as swiftly as before, and keeping close beneath the shaded wall of the edifice, and then threading under the guidance of the jailor, many narrow passages of the hanging gardens of Adonis, we reached, indeed, the adjoining court of the Palatine, and stood, where all was yet silent and undisturbed, within the broad shadow of a secret portico. The great gate we tried to open, but it was barred. Athanasia, however, who by this time had recovered herself astonishingly, pointed out a postern at the corner of the portico, and by that we, without further difficulty, gained the interior of the temple."

Having made good their escape, they take refuge for the night in the catacombs, or excavated galleries, under the city; whence, after a few adventures, they make their way to the coast, where a vessel is in readiness to convey them to the happy shores of Britain,—a land in which freedom of conscience and religious peace have ever had their loved and chosen abode. Sextus is united to the beautiful Sempronia, and is placed by Valerius in temporary possession of his magnificent palace at Rome; in the mutual expectation that happier times will allow them once more to renew their intercourse within the walls of the "Eternal city."

We have already given our opinion of this romance, stating it to be a work of very considerable talent, and in many parts of great interest. Could our sympathies extend back so far, and to a people with whom we have now so little in common, the author's powers of description would, no doubt, be more efficient, and our nerves more obedient to the pathos of his narrative. Perhaps somewhat more might have been made of the interesting period which witnessed the progress, among the noble and the mighty ones of the earth, of our holy and beneficent religion, and was illustrated by the constancy and devotedness of its first Gentile martyrs. Still, take it all in all, the work will be allowed to bear the strongest marks of genius, and to hold out a certain prospect of eminence and success, whenever the same pen shall be directed to a more propitious subject.

A Tom-Tit has actually built its nest in the body of the weather-cock on the steeple of St. Tavistock church, having gained an entry through the hole which admits the iron pivot. Like Cowper's jackdaw—

Fond of the speculative height,
Thither she wings her airy flight,
And thence securely sees
The bustle and the rare-show
That occupy mankind below,
Secure and at her ease.

BYRON AND BURNS.

There is a sort of spell connected with every thing which is said or done by men of genius which attracts the attention of others, and excites a desire to be acquainted with the most insignificant of their actions. Their sayings are treasured up, on record, and referred to as indicating their opinions on subjects the most trifling. Even the private moments of the genius, are haunted by an increasing curiosity, which prys into all his movements and notes down his most insignificant actions.

When this is the case with such characters in the every day occurrences of their lives, we need not wonder they become objects of interest doubly intense during that portentous moment when the fate of the ghastly tyrant reduces the Philosopher and the Fool to a level.—When the greatest genius and the most powerful mind finds it has to go through a scene unknown to all, and the explanation of which has defeated the deepest researches of man's philosophy. Under the influence of this common feeling, we offer no apology for inserting the following brief but we understand minute accounts of the last moments of two of the greatest poets Britain ever produced—Byron and Burns.

THE LAST MOMENTS OF LORD BYRON.

(From the Westminster Review.)

We present our readers with a very detailed report of Lord Byron's last illness; it is collected from the mouth of Mr. Fletcher, who has been for more than twenty years his confidential attendant:

"My master," says Mr. Fletcher, "continued his usual custom of riding daily, when the weather would permit, until the 9th of April. But on that ill-fated day he got very wet, and on his return home his Lordship changed the whole of his dress, but he had been too long in his wet clothes, and the cold of which he had complained, more or less, ever since we left Cephalonia, made this attack be more severely felt. Though rather feverish during the night, his Lordship slept pretty well, but complained in the morning of a pain in his bones and a head-ache; this did not, however, prevent him from taking a ride in the afternoon, which I grieve to say was his last. On his return my master said that the saddle was not perfectly dry, from being so wet the day before, and observed that he thought it had made him worse.—His Lordship was again visited by the same slow fever, and I was sorry to perceive on the next morning that his illness appeared to be increasing. His Lordship's appetite was also quite gone. I prepared a little arrow-root, of which he took three or four spoonfuls, saying it was very good, but could take no more. It was not till the third day, the 12th, that I began to be alarmed about my master, I therefore went to Dr. Bruno and Mr. Millengen, the two medical attendants, and inquired minutely into every circumstance connected with my master's present illness; both replied that there was no danger, I might

make myself perfectly easy on the subject, for all would be well in a few days. This was the 13th. On the following day, I found my master in such a state, that I could not feel happy without supplicating that he would send to Zante for Dr. Thomas; his Lordship desired me to consult the doctors, which I did, and was told that there was no occasion for calling in any person, as they hoped all would be well in a few days. Here I should remark, that his Lordship repeatedly said he was sure the doctors did not understand his disease; to which I answered, "Then, my Lord, have other advice, by all means." "They tell me," said his Lordship, "that it is only a common cold, which you know I have had a thousand times." "I am sure, my Lord," said I, "that you never had one of so serious a nature."—"I think I never had," was his Lordship's answer. "I repeated my supplications that Dr. Thomas should be sent for on the 15th, and was again assured that my master would be better in two or three days. After these confident assurances, I did not renew my entreaties until it was too late. With respect to the medicines that were given to my master, I could not persuade myself that those of a strong purgative nature were the best adapted for his complaint; concluding that as he had nothing on his stomach, the only effect would be to create pain. The whole nourishment taken by my master for the last eight days consisted of a small quantity of broth, and two spoonfuls of arrow-root on the 18th, the day before his death. The first time I heard of there being an intention of bleeding his Lordship, was on the 15th, when it was proposed by Dr. Bruno, but objected to at first by my master, who asked Mr. Millingen if there was any great reason for taking blood; the latter replied that it might be of service, but added that it could be deferred until the next day. And accordingly my master was bled in the right arm on the evening of the 16th, and a pound of blood was taken. I observed at the time that it had a most inflamed appearance. Dr. Bruno now began to say he had frequently urged my master to be bled, but that he always refused. A long dispute now arose about the time that had been lost, and the necessity of sending for medical assistance to Zante, upon which I was informed for the first time that it would be of no use, as my master would be better, or no more, before the arrival of Dr. Thomas. His Lordship continued to get worse, but Dr. Bruno said he thought letting blood again would save his life; and I lost no time in telling my master how necessary it was to comply with the Doctor's wishes; to this he replied by saying, he feared they knew nothing about his disorder, and then stretching out his arm said, 'Here, take my arm and do whatever you like.' His Lordship continued to get weaker; on the 17th he was bled twice, in the morning and at two o'clock in the afternoon; the bleeding at both times was followed by fainting-fits, and he would have fallen down more than once had I not caught him in my arms. In order to prevent such an accident, I took care not to let his Lordship stir without supporting him. On this day my master said to me twice—"I cannot sleep, and you well know that I have not been able to sleep for more than a week; I know, added his Lordship, 'that a man can be only a certain time without sleep, and then he must go mad without any one being able to save him'; and I would ten times sooner shoot myself than be mad, for I am not afraid of dy-

ing: I am more fit to die than people think." I do not however believe that his Lordship had any apprehension of his fate till the day after, the 18th, when he said, 'I fear you and Tita will be ill by sitting up constantly night and day.' I answered, 'We shall never leave your Lordship till you are better.' As my master had a slight fit of delirium on the 16th, I took care to remove the pistols and stiletto, which had hitherto been kept at his bed-side; in the night. On the 18th his Lordship addressed me frequently, and seemed to be very much dissatisfied with his medical treatment. I then said, 'do allow me to send for Dr. Thomas;' to which he answered, 'do so, but be quick. I am only sorry I did not let you do so before, as I am sure they have mistaken my disease: write yourself, for I know he would not like to see other doctors here.' I did not lose a moment in obeying my master's orders, and on informing Dr. Bruno and Mr. Millengen of it, they said it was very right, as they now began to be afraid themselves. On returning to my master's room, his first words were, 'have you sent?' 'I have, my Lord,' was my answer: upon which he said 'you have done right, for I should like to know what is the matter with me.' Although his Lordship did not appear to think his dissolution was so near, I could perceive he was getting weaker every hour, and he even began to have occasional fits of delirium. He afterwards said, 'I now begin to think I am seriously ill, and in case I should be taken off suddenly I wish to give you several directions, which I hope you will be particular in seeing executed.' I answered I would in case such an event came to pass; but I expressed a hope that he would live many years, to execute them much better himself than I could. To this my master replied, 'No; it is now nearly over;' and then added, 'I must tell you all without losing a moment.' I then said, 'shall I go, my Lord, and fetch pen, ink, and paper?' 'Oh, my God, no—you will lose too much time, and I have it not to spare, for my time is now short,' said his Lordship; and immediately after, 'now pay attention.' His Lordship commenced by saying, 'you will be provided for.'—I begged him, however, to proceed with things of more consequence; he then continued, "Oh my poor dear child! my dear Ada! my God, could I but have seen her! give her my blessing—and my dear sister Augusta and her children; and you will go to Lady Byron, and say—tell her every thing—you are friends with her.' His Lordship appeared to be greatly affected at this moment. Here my master's voice failed him; so that I could only catch a word at intervals, but he muttered something very seriously for some time, and would often raise his voice and say—'Fletcher, now if you do not execute every order which I have given you, I will torment you, hereafter if possible.' Here I told his Lordship in a state of the greatest perplexity, that I had not understood a word of what he said; to which he replied, "Oh, my God! then all is lost for it is now too late—can it be possible you have not understood me?" "No, my Lord," said I, "but I pray you to try and inform me once more."—"How can I?" rejoined my master; "it is now too late, and all is over." I said "Not our will, but God's be done;" and he answered "Yes, not mine be done; but I will try _____." His Lordship did indeed make several efforts to speak, but could only repeat two or

three words at a time; such as, "my wife! my child! my sister! you know all—you must say all—you know my wishes;"—the rest was quite unintelligible. A consultation was now held, (about noon,) when it was determined to administer some Peruvian bark and wine. My master had now been nine days without any sustenance whatever, except what I have already mentioned. With the exception of a few words, which can only interest those to whom they were addressed, and which, if required, I shall communicate to themselves, it was impossible to understand any thing his Lordship said after taking the bark. He expressed a wish to sleep. I at one time asked whether I should call Mr. Parry? To which he replied, "Yes, you may call him." Mr. Parry desired him to compose himself. He shed tears, and apparently sank into slumber. Mr. Parry went away, expecting to find him refreshed on his return, but it was the commencement of the lethargy preceding his death. The last words I heard my master utter were at six o'clock on the evening of the 18th, when he said, "I must sleep now:" upon which he laid down, never to rise again! for he did not move hand or foot during the following twenty-four hours. His Lordship appeared however to be in a state of suffocation at intervals, and had a frequent rattling in the throat; on these occasions I called Tita to assist me in raising his head, and I thought he seemed to get quite stiff. The rattling and choking in the throat took place every half hour; and we continued to rise his head whenever the fit came on, till six o'clock in the evening of the 19th, when I saw my master open his eyes and then shut them, but without showing any symptom of pain, or moving hand or foot. "Oh, my God!" I exclaimed; "I fear his Lordship is gone!" The doctors then felt his pulse, and said, "you are right—he is gone."

BURNS.

(From the London Magazine.)

The last time I saw Burns in life was on his return from the Browwell of Solway: he had been ailing all spring, and summer had come without bringing health with it: he had gone away very ill, and returned worse. He was brought back, I think, in a covered spring cart, and when he alighted at the foot of the street in which he lived, he could scarce stand upright. He reached his own door with difficulty. He stooped much, and there was a visible change in his looks. He was at that time dressed in a blue coat, with the undress nankeen pantaloons of the volunteers, and his neck, which was inclining to be short, caused his hat to turn up behind, in the manner of the shovel hats of the Episcopal clergy. He was not fastidious about his dress; and an officer, curious in the personal appearance and equipments of his company, might have questioned the military nicety of the poet's clothes and arms.

From the day of his return home till the hour of his untimely death, Dumfries was like a besieged place. It was known he was dying, and the anxiety, not of the rich and the learned only, but of the mechanics and peasants, exceeded all belief. Wherever two or three people

stood together, their talk was of Burns, and of him alone; they spoke of his history—of his person—of his works—of his family—of his fame, and of his untimely and approaching fate, with a warmth and an enthusiasm which will ever endear Dumfries to my remembrance.

His good-humour was unruffled, and his wit never forsook him.—He looked to one of his fellow volunteers with a smile, as he stood by the bed-side with his eyes wet, and said, “John, don’t let the awkward squad fire over me.” He was aware that death was dealing with him; he asked a lady who visited him, more in sincerity than in mirth, what commands she had for the other world—he repressed with a smile the hopes of his friends, and told them he had lived long enough. As his life drew near a close, the eager yet decorous solicitude of his fellow townsmen increased. He was an excise-man, it is true—a name odious, from many associations, to his countrymen—but he did his duty meekly and kindly, and repressed rather than encouraged the desire of some of his companions to push the law with severity; he was therefore much beloved, and the passion of the Scotch for poetry made them regard him as little lower than a spirit inspired. It is the practice of the young men of Dumfries to meet in the streets during the hours of remission from labour, and by these means I had an opportunity of witnessing the general solicitude of all ranks and of all ages. His differences with them in some important points of human speculation and religious hope were forgotten and forgiven; they thought only of his genius—of the delight his compositions had diffused—and they talked of him with the same awe as of some departing spirit, whose voice was to gladden them no more. His last moments have never been described; he had laid his head quietly on the pillow, awaiting dissolution, when his attendant reminded him of his medicine, and he held the cup to his lip. He started suddenly up, drained the cup at a gulp, threw his hands before him like a man about to swim, and sprung from head to foot of the bed—fell with his face down, and expired with a groan.

When Burns died I was then young, but I was not insensible that a mind of no common strength had passed from amongst us. He had caught my fancy and touched my heart with his songs and his poems. I went to see him laid out for the grave; several elder people were with me. He lay in a plain unadorned coffin, with a linen sheet drawn over his face, and on the bed and around the body, herbs and flowers were thickly strewn, according to the usage of the country. He was wasted somewhat by long illness; but death had not increased the swarthy hue of his face, which was uncommonly dark and deeply marked—the dying pang was visible in the lower part, but his broad and open brow was pale and serene, and around it his sable hair lay in masses, slightly touched with gray, and inclining more to a wave than a curl. The room where he lay was plain and neat, and the simplicity of the poet’s humble dwelling pressed the presence of death more closely on the heart than if his bier had been embellished by vanity, and covered with the blazonry of high ancestry and rank. We stood and gazed on him in silence for the space of several minutes—we went, and others succeeded us—there was no jostling and crushing, though the crowd was great—

man followed man as patiently and orderly as if all had been a matter of mutual understanding—not a question was asked—not a whisper was heard. This was several days after his death.

The multitude who accompanied Burns to the grave went step by step with the chief mourners; they might amount to twelve thousand. Not a word was heard; and, though all could not be near, and many could not see, when the earth closed on their darling poet for ever, there was no rude impatience shown, no fierce disappointment expressed. It was an impressive and mournful sight to see men of all ranks and persuasions and opinions mingling as brothers, and stepping side by side down the streets of Dumfries, with the remains of him who had sang of their loves and joys and domestic endearments, with a truth and a tenderness which none perhaps have since equalled. I could, indeed, have wished the military part of the procession away—for he was buried with military honours. His fate has been a reproach to Scotland. But the reproach comes with an ill grace from England. When we can forget Butler's fate—Otway's loaf—Dryden's old age, and Chatterton's poison cup, we may think that we stand alone in the iniquity of neglecting pre-eminent genius. I found myself at the brink of the poet's grave, into which he was about to descend for ever, there was a pause among the mourners, as if loath to part with his remains; and when he was at last lowered, and the first shovelful of earth sounded on his coffin-lid, I looked up and saw tears on many cheeks where tears were not usual. The volunteers justified the fears of their comrade by three ragged and straggling volleys. The earth was heaped up, the green sod laid over him, and the multitude stood gazing on the grave for some minutes space, and then melted silently away. The day was a fine one, the sun was almost without a cloud, and not a drop of rain fell from dawn to twilight.

Lines supposed to be addressed by King Edward the Fourth to Elizabeth Woodville, (whom he afterwards married) while an inmate of her father's farm house.—She was skilful in playing on the lute.

Lady, who, while others claim
Wit and beauty, boasts of youth,
Own than they a fairer fame—
Fame of innocence and truth.

Born in air untaint with art,
Bred beneath paternal eye,
Taught domestic woman's part,
Noblest in utility.

Music, from your tuneful fingers,
Steals on us like timorous deer,
While your voice attendant lingers,
On the still enchanted ear.

We alternate start and languish,
Heave our breasts, our accents die;
Such no less remains our anguish,
When the notes have ceas'd to fly.

If a sentiment can reach you,
If a sympathy can move,
If your own kind soul may teach you,
Smile on Edward's guileless love.

An account of the customs and manners peculiar to some of the tribes of the North American Indians, extracted from "Henry's Travels in the Indian Territories."

A knowledge of the habits and manners of strange nations, is a subject of more importance than a mere gratification of curiosity. It is from an intimate acquaintance with these, and a close observation of them that we can form an opinion of both the individual and national character of any people; and on our knowledge of it will depend the failure or success of our connection with them, either in trade, or in using them as enemies or allies in warfare. Besides, the customs and ceremonies of nations, are indicative of their opinions upon many subjects; from them we may learn their religious opinions, their notions of moral rectitude, and the conceptions they have of reciprocal justice. Many of their national ceremonies are a sort of heir-looms which have been handed down from father to son through different generations; many of them have originated in the opinions of the founders of the nation; and hence they are coeval with its existence; others of them have arisen from the prevalence of example, or the influence of some great cause which operated so powerfully on the whole inhabitants as to compel their adoption of such peculiar customs; and they have been conveyed down through ages long after the cause which gave rise to them had been forgotten. Great and important events often give rise to particular customs and ceremonies and these are kept up for ages in commemoration of such events. Viewing the subject in this light, it will be observed that, a knowledge of the customs and ceremonies of a nation will often lead to a discovery of its origin, and not unfrequently explain some part of its history, of which there are no other records to be found, and which forms another instance of the utility arising from a knowledge of them. In illustration of this we find that have decided in their own opinions, the long doubtful question as to the way America was peopled, by tracing a similarity between the customs of its natives and of those who inhabit the northern regions of Europe, or eastern boundaries of Asia.

Many writers have endeavoured by a description of the national customs in countries with which there has been but little intercourse to delineate their national character; but although much information regarding the native tribes of North America has been gained in this way, still our knowledge of them is very defective; and every additional fact which can be collected upon this subject ought to be considered valuable as it tends to supply this defect. Nor is our want of information on this subject to be entirely attributed to the fault of those writers; they have no doubt detailed the facts which came under their observation, with a steady adherence to truth; and in relating any thing upon hear-say evidence they would for their own sakes take every trouble to be satisfied with the veracity of the narrator from whom they derived their information. But with all the care they have taken, and notwithstanding the large mass of information they have given, the daily accounts of those who have had intercourse with them

prove that there are many tribes of natives who inhabit these vast regions of North America, with whose national character we have but a very limited acquaintance. While some of those travellers represent these Indians as kind, hospitable and trust-worthy; others bring forward no less efficient proofs of their being treacherous, cruel, and dishonest. To what, it may be asked, is this wide difference of opinion attributable? Both those who have painted them favourably and those who have exhibited them the reverse, are equally deserving of credit: Both have deduced their inferences from facts which came under their knowledge, and perhaps both have had equal opportunities of observing these people.

To this question we answer that neither have had an opportunity of observing these people, in such a light or under such circumstances as warranted their forming an opinion of their national character.— They have neither of them ever seen the son of the forest unagitated by his feelings, or unaffected by any powerful passion. Many of these writers have only had an opportunity of seeing those Indians who have become contaminated with foreign vices and frequent intercourse with European or civilized nations. Many of them in their traffic with this untutored people have over reached them in their bargains; the Indian with his mind uneducated and unrestrained by a sense of justice has been in self defence compelled to adopt cunning, deceit and fraud: and hence writers have set down these vicious propensities as a part of his national character, when they solely arose from his intercourse with the white man, whose conduct had taught him to practice them.

The importance of a knowledge of national character has been already mentioned; and there needs no farther proof of it than the fact that it becomes the first object of attention to every traveller on his first visiting any strange people. In reading the voyages of discovery which have been made, and the accounts of travellers, we find the navigator who touches at an island previously undiscovered to water his vessel, or the wanderer who meets with a few stragglers from a tribe hitherto unknown, attempts to describe their national character as being the first object of their notice. A moment's reflection will be sufficient to show the absurdity of this, and it is no difficult task to prove that intercourse under such circumstances, and of so limited a duration, is totally unfit to enable them to form an opinion of a national character.

It ought to be kept in mind that a European at first sight is as much an object of surprise to an Indian as the latter to the former: and while the intelligent traveller is closely examining the poor ignorant savage with the view of discovering his character, he sees him under the influence of fear, at the dress and figure of the new and to him nondescript animal, which is thus eyeing him; perhaps actuated with bashfulness which puts his conduct under restraint, and certainly under the impression of surprise, which will affect his demeanor. The Indian in such a situation must therefore be a very different being from what he is while roaming uncontroled amidst his native forests; or while engaged in the usual avocations of life: it is therefore

the height of absurdity to form an opinion of his national character under such circumstances.

It is no less unfair to judge of national character from the intercourse which takes place in the business of traffic. This is a species of acquaintanceship particularly unfavourable for this study. We have above observed, that the Indian character has received no very valuable acquisition from its connexion with civilized nations, and more particularly in this sort of intercourse with them. But to stigmatize a whole nation, or tribe with the character of cheats (unless the practice be inculcated as a branch of their education) because one has deceived you, would be no less unjust than to estimate the character of a British merchant by that of an old clothes man.

To study national character effectually requires a person to be a resident for some time among those he is studying—and he must be upon a footing of equality with them; neither so elevated as to impose a restraint upon their actions by his presence, nor so inferior as to be despised and excluded from their society. In short he must be received by them, admitted to participate in all their ceremonies and customs—and become as it were one of themselves, before he can observe all those minute circumstances of behaviour and those mental emotions in which national character is founded.

The writer from whom the following extracts are made possessed all those advantages in an eminent degree; and the carefulness with which he has noted them, along with the other facts detailed in his work prove him to have been a man of intelligence, and an attentive observer.

After travelling through the plains with a band of Indians of the Osinipoillas nation our author approaches the village where their chief resides and gives the following account of his visit to them.

“This evening, we had scarcely encamped, when there arrived two Osinipoilles, sent by the great chief of the nation, whose name was the Great Road, to meet the troop. The chief had been induced to send them through his anxiety, occasioned by their longer absence than had been expected. The messengers expressed themselves much pleased at finding strangers with their friends, and told us, that we were within one day’s march of their village, and that the great chief would be highly gratified, in learning the long journey which we had performed to visit him. They added that in consequence of finding us, they must themselves return immediately, to apprise him of our coming, and enable him to prepare for our reception.

“On the morning of the eleventh, the messengers left us before day-light. We had already charged them with a present for the chief, consisting in tobacco and vermillion. Of these articles, the former exceeds all others in estimation: for the Indians are universally great smokers, men, women and children, and no affair can be transacted, civil or religious, without the pipe.

“On the twelfth, at ten o’clock in the forenoon, we were in sight of a wood, or island, as the term not unnaturally is, as well with the Indians as others: it appeared to be about a mile and a half long.

Shortly after, we observed smoke rising from it, and were informed that it was the smoke of the village. The morning was clear, and the sun shining.

"At eleven o'clock, two fresh messengers came from the village, by whom the strangers were formally welcomed, on the part of the chief. They told us, that they were directed to conduct us and our servants to a lodge, which had been prepared for our reception.

"At the entrance of the wood, we were met by a large band of Indians, having the appearance of a guard; each man being armed with his bow and spear, and having his quiver filled with arrows. In this, as in much that followed, there was more of order and discipline, than in any thing which I had before witnessed among Indians. The power of these guards appeared to be great; for they treated very roughly some of the people, who, in their opinion, approached us too closely. Forming themselves in regular file, on either side of us, they escorted us to the lodge, or tent, which was assigned us. It was of a circular form, covered with leather, and not less than twenty feet in diameter. On the ground within, ox-skins were spread, for beds and seats.

"One half of the tent was appropriated to our use. Several women waited upon us, to make a fire, and bring water, which latter they fetched from a neighbouring tent. Shortly after our arrival, these women brought us water, unasked for, saying it was for washing. The refreshment was exceedingly acceptable; for, on our march, we had become so dirty, that our complexions were not very distinguishable from those of the Indians themselves.

"The same women presently borrowed our kettle, telling us, that they wanted to boil something for us to eat. Soon after, we heard the voice of a man, passing through the village, and making a speech as he went. Our interpreter informed us, that his speech contained an invitation to a feast, accompanied by a proclamation, in which the people were required to behave with decorum toward the strangers, and apprised, that the soldiers had orders to punish those who should do otherwise.

"While we were procuring this explanation, an Indian, who appeared to be a chief, came into our tent, and invited us to the feast; adding, that he would himself show us the way. We followed him accordingly, and he carried us to the tent of the great chief, which we found neither more ornamented, nor better furnished than the rest.

"At our entrance the chief arose from his seat, saluted us in the Indian manner, by shaking hands, and addressed us in a few words, in which he offered his thanks for the confidence which we had reposed in him, in trusting ourselves so far from our own country. After we were seated, which was on bear-skins, spread on the ground, the pipe, as usual, was introduced, and presented in succession to each person present. Each took his whiff, and then let it pass to his neighbour. The stem, which was four feet in length, was held by an officer, attendant on the chief. The bowl was of red marble, or pipe-stone.

"When the pipe had gone its round, the chief, without rising from his seat, delivered a speech of some length. The speech ended, several of the Indians began to weep, and they were soon joined

by the whole party. Had I not previously been witness to a *weeping-scene* of this description, I should certainly have been apprehensive of some disastrous catastrophe; but, as it was, I listened to it with tranquility. It lasted for about ten minutes, after which all tears were dried away, and the honours of the feast were performed by the attending chiefs. This consisted in giving to every guest a dish, containing a boiled wild ox's tongue—for preparing which, my kettle had been borrowed. The repast finished, the great chief dismissed us, by shaking hands; and we returned to our tent.

“Having inquired among these people, why they always weep at their feasts, and sometimes at their councils, I was answered, that their tears flowed to the memory of those deceased relations, who formerly assisted both at the one and the other;—that their absence, on these occasions, necessarily brought them fresh into their minds, and at the same time led them to reflect on their own brief and uncertain continuance.*

“The chief to whose kindly reception we were so much indebted, was about five feet ten inches high, and of a complexion rather darker than that of the Indians in general. His appearance was greatly injured by the condition of his head of hair, and this was the result of an extraordinary superstition.

“The Indians universally fix upon a particular object, as sacred to themselves; as the giver of their prosperity, and as their preserver from evil. The choice is determined either by a dream or by some strong predilection of fancy; and usually falls upon an animal, or part of an animal, or something else which is to be met with, by land or by water: but, the Great Road had made choice of his hair—placing, like Sampson, all his safety in this portion of his proper substance! His hair was the fountain of all his happiness; it was his strength and his weapon, his spear and his shield. It preserved him in battle, directed him in the chase, watched over him in the march, and gave length of days to his wives and children. Hair of a quality like this was not to be profaned by the touch of human hands. I was assured that it had never been cut, nor combed, from his childhood upward; and that when any part of it fell from his head, he treasured up that part with care: meanwhile, it did not escape all care, even while growing on the head; but, was in the special charge of a spirit, who dressed it while the owner slept. All this might be; but, the spirit's style of hair-dressing was at least peculiar; the hair being suffered to remain very much as if it received no dressing at all, and matted into ropes, which spread themselves in all directions.

“The same evening we were invited to a second feast. Every thing was nearly as before, except that in the morning all the guests were men, and now half were women. All the women were seated on one side of the floor of the tent, and all the men on the other, with a fire placed between them. The fire rendering the tent warm, the men, one after another, dropped the skins which were their garments,

* The Osinipouilles are the *Issati* of the older travellers, and have sometimes been called the *Weepers*.

and left themselves entirely naked. The appearance of one of them in particular, having led us, who were strangers, into an involuntary and ill-stifled laugh, the men calmly asked us the occasion of our mirth; but, one of the women pointing to the cause, the individual restored the covering of his robe.

"The women are themselves perfectly modest, both in dress and demeanour; and those, who were now present, maintained the first rank in the village; but, custom had rendered the scene inoffensive to their eyes.

"Our repast concluded, we departed, taking with us our dishes, in which the greater part of the ox-tongues, which had been laid upon them, remained unconsumed.

"All night, in our tent, we had a guard of six soldiers; and, when I awoke, as several times I did, I always found them smoking their pipes in silence.

"We rose at day-break, according to the custom of the Indians, who say, that they follow it in order to avoid surprises; this being the hour at which the enemy uniformly makes his attack.

"Our waiting-women arrived early, bringing wood and water.—Washing appeared to me to be a ceremony of religion among the Osinipoilles; and I never saw any thing similar among other Indians.

"From the village, I saw, for the first time, one of those herds of horses which the Osinipoilles possess in numbers. It was feeding on the skirts of the plain. The masters of these herds provide them with no fodder; but, leave them to find food for themselves, by removing the snow with their feet, till they reach the grass, which is every where on the ground in plenty.

"At ten o'clock, we returned to our tent, and in a short time the great chief paid us a visit, attended by nearly fifty followers of distinction. In coming in he gave his hand to each of us, and all his attendants followed his example. When we were seated, one of the officers went through the ceremony of the pipe, after which, the great chief delivered a speech, of which the substance was as follows: That he was glad to see us; that he had been sometime since, informed of a fort of the white men's being established on the Pasquayah, and that it had always been his intention to pay a visit there; that we were our own masters, to remain at our pleasure in his village, free from molestation, and assured of his special protection; that the young men had employed themselves in collecting meat and furs, for the purpose of purchasing certain articles, wherewith to decorate their wives; that within a few days he proposed to move, with his whole village, on this errand; that nothing should be omitted to make our stay as agreeable as possible; that he had already ordered a party of his soldiers to guard us, and that if any thing should occur to displease us, his ear was always open to our complaints.

"After the speech, the chief presented us with twenty beaver-skins, and as many wolf. In return, we gave two pounds of vermilion, and a few fathom of twisted tobacco, assuring him that when he should arrive at our habitation, we would endeavour to repay the benefits which we were receiving from him, and at the same time cheerfully exchange our merchandise, for the dried meat and skins of his village.

"A short time after he was gone, we received an invitation to a feast, from a subordinate chief. Our dishes were again filled with tongues, but roasted, and not boiled. To furnish us with water, we saw an ox's paunch employed as a kettle. This being hung in the smoke of a fire, was filled with snow; and, as the snow melted more was added, till the paunch was full of water. The lower orifice of the organ was used for drawing off the water, and stopped with a plug and string.

"The guards were changed daily. They frequently beat the people, for disobedience of orders, and the offenders made no resistance to the chastisement. We were informed, that there was at both extremities of the camp, or village, a picket of two men, whose duty it was not to allow any person to go beyond the bounds. The intention of this was to prevent stragglers from falling a prey to the enemy. General orders were issued by the chief, morning and evening, and published by a crier, in every part of the camp.

"In the course of the day, the great chief informed us, that he proposed hunting the wild ox on the following morning, and invited us to be of the party.

"In the morning, we went to the hunt accordingly. The chief was followed by about forty men, and a great number of women. We proceeded to a small island on the plain, at the distance of five miles from the village. On our way, we saw large herds of oxen, at feed; but the hunters forbore to molest them, lest they should take the alarm.

"Arrived at the island, the women pitched a few tents, while the chief led his hunters to its southern end, where there was a pound, or enclosure. The fence was about four feet high, and formed of strong stakes of birch wood, wattled with smaller branches of the same. The day was spent in making repairs: and by the evening all was ready for the hunt.

At day-light, several of the more expert hunters were sent to decoy the animals into the pound. They were dressed in ox-skins, with the hair and horns. Their faces were covered, and their gestures so closely resembled those of the animals themselves, that had I not been in the secret, I should have been as much deceived as the oxen.

"At ten o'clock, one of the hunters returned, bringing information of the herd. Immediately, all the dogs were muzzled; and this done, the whole crowd of men and women surrounded the outside of the pound. The herd, of which the extent was so great that I cannot pretend to estimate the numbers, was distant half a mile, advancing slowly, and frequently stopping to feed. The part, played by the decoyers, was that of approaching them within hearing, and then bellowing like themselves. On hearing the noise, the oxen did not fail to give it attention; and, whether from curiosity or sympathy, advanced to meet those from whom it proceeded. These in the mean time fell back deliberately towards the pound, always repeating the call, whenever the oxen stopped. This was reiterated till the leaders of the herd had followed the decoyers into the jaws of the pound, which though wide asunder toward the plain, terminated, like a funnel, in a small aperture, or gate-way; and, within this, was the pound itself. The

Indians remark, that in all herds of animals there are chiefs, or leaders, by whom the motions of the rest are determined.

“The decoyers now retired within the pound, and were followed by the oxen. But, the former retired still further, withdrawing themselves at certain movable parts of the fence, while the latter were fallen upon by all the hunters, and presently wounded, and killed, by showers of arrows. Amid the uproar which ensued, the oxen made several attempts to force the fence; but, the Indians stopped them and drove them back, by shaking skins before their eyes. Skins were also made use of to stop the entrance, being let down by strings, as soon as the oxen were inside. The slaughter was prolonged till the evening, when the hunters returned to their tents. Next morning, all the tongues were presented to the chief, to the number of seventy-two.

“The women brought the meat to the village, on sledges drawn by dogs. The lumps on the shoulders, and the hearts, as well as the tongues, were set apart for feasts; while the rest was consumed as ordinary food, or dried, for sale at the fort.

“The time was now passed in dancing and festivity, in all quarters of the village. On the evening of the day after the hunt, the chief came to our tent, bringing with him about twenty men, and as many women, who seated separately themselves as before; but they now brought musical instruments, and, soon after their arrival began to play. The instruments consisted principally in a sort of tambourine, and a gourd filled with stones, which several persons accompanied by shaking two bones together; and others with bunches of deer-hoofs, fastened to the end of a stick. Another instrument was one that was no more than a piece of wood, of three feet, with notches cut on its edge. The performer drew a stick backward and forward, along the notches, keeping time. The women sung; and the sweetness of their voices exceeded whatever I had heard before.

This entertainment lasted upward of an hour; and when it was finished a dance commenced. The men formed themselves into a row on one side, and the women on the other; and each moved sidewise, first up, and then down the room. The sound of bells and other jingling materials, attached to the women's dresses, enabled them to keep time. The songs and dances were continued alternately, till near midnight, when all our visitors departed.

“These amusements were given us complimentarily, by the chief. He took no part in the performance himself; but sat smoking while they proceeded.

“It had been my wish to go farther on the plains, till I should have reached the mountains, at the feet of which, as I have already observed, they lie; but, the chief informed me, that the latter were still at the distance of many days' journey, and that the intervening country was a tract destitute of the least appearance of wood. In the winter, as he asserted, this tract cannot be crossed at all; and, in the summer, the traveller is in great danger of perishing for want of water; and the only fuel to be met with is the dung of the wild ox. It is intersected by a large river, which runs to the sun's rising, and which has its sources in the mountains.

“With regard to the country of the Osinipoilles he said, that it lay between the head of the Pasquayah, or Sascatchiwaine, and the country of the Sioux, or Nadowessies, who inhabit the heads of the Mississippi. On the west, near the mountains, were the Snake Indians and Black-feet, troublesome neighbours, by whose hands numbers of warriors fell.

“The Osinipoilles have many villages, composed of from one to two hundred tents each. Few exceed the latter number. They often go to the mountains, on war-parties, and always on horseback. When the great chief intends to go to war, he sends messengers to the several villages, directing the warriors to meet him at an appointed place and time. With regard to the latter, it is described by the moon, as the beginning, full, or end. In obedience to the summons, they assemble in greater numbers than can be counted,* armed with the bow, sling and spear, and with quivers full of arrows.—They have still another weapon, formed of a stone about two pounds weight, which is sewed in leather, and made fast to a wooden handle, two feet long. In using it, the stone is whirled round the handle, by a warrior sitting on horseback, and, attacking at full speed. Every stroke which takes effect, brings down a man, or horse; or, if used in the chase, an ox. To prevent the weapon from slipping out of the hand, a string, which is tied to the handle, is also passed round the wrist of the wearer. The horses of the Osinipoilles were originally procured from white people, with beards, who live to the southward; that is the Spanish colonists, in New Mexico

“In their religious notions, as well as in their dress, arms and other particulars, there is a general agreement between the Osinipoilles and the Cristinaux.† They believe in a creator and governor of the world, in a future life, and in the spirits, gods, or *manitos*, whom they denominate *wakons*. Their practices of devotion consist in the singing of songs, accompanied by the drum, or rattle, or both; and the subjects of which are prayers and praises: in smoking-feasts, or feasts of the pipe, or calumet, held in honour of the spirits, to whom the smoke of tobacco is supposed to be a most acceptable incense; and in other feasts, as well as in fasts and in sacrifices. The victims of the sacrifice are usually dogs, which being killed, and hung upon poles and left there to decay.”

The following account of the ceremony of marriage among the Indians will be new to some of our readers; and although not with all the refinements is a proceeding carried on with as much delicacy (according to their ideas of the term,) as among those who boast of their civilization.

* This was the chief's expression.

† Such of the Cristinaux as inhabit the Plains, have also their horses, like the Osinipoilles. By language, the Osinipoilles are allied to the Nadowessies; but they are always at war with them. Of the language of the Nadowessies, Carver has given a short vocabulary.

“Many Travellers have described the marriages of the Indians; but, as they have greatly disagreed in their delineations, I shall venture to set down such particulars as have presented themselves to my immediate view. Though inserted here, they have no exclusive relation to the Osinipouilles; all the Indians, whom I have seen, having similar customs on this head.

“A young man, desirous of marrying a particular young woman, visits the lodge in which she lives, at night, and when all the family, or rather families, are sleeping on their mats around. He comes provided with a match, or splint of wood, which he lights among the embers of one of the fires which are in the middle of the lodge. The only intention of this, is the very obvious one, of finding, by the help of the light, the young woman whom he means to visit, and whom, perhaps, he has to awaken. This done, he extinguishes the light. In speaking to her, he whispers, because it is not necessary to disturb all the lodge; and because something like privacy and secrecy belong to the nature of the occasion. If she makes no reply to his address, he considers his attempts at acquaintance as repulsed, and in consequence retires. If the young woman receives him with favour, he takes part of her mat. He brings with him his own blanket. I consider this practice as precisely similar to the *bundling* of New-England, and other countries; and, to say the least, as not more licentious. Children, born out of wedlock, are very rare among the Indians.

“The lover, who is permitted to remain, retires before day-break. When the young woman has consented to be his wife, he opens the affair to his own mother, by whom it is communicated to hers; and if the two mothers agree, they mutually apply to their husbands.

“The father of the young man then invites the father of the young woman to a stew, or sudatory, prepared for the occasion, and at which he communicates the wishes of his son. The father of the young woman gives no reply till the day following, when, in his own turn, he invites the other to the sweating-house. If he approves of the match, the terms upon which it is to be made are now settled.

“Stews, sudatories, or sweating-houses, are resorted to for cure of sickness, for pleasure, or for giving freedom and vigour to the faculties of the mind; when particular deliberation and sagacity are called for. To prepare them for a guest, is, therefore, to offer every assistance to his judgment, and manifest the reverse of a disposition to take an unfair advantage of him: it is the exact opposite of offering him liquor. They are constructed of slender branches of trees, united at the top, and closely covered with skins or blankets. Within, water is poured upon a red-hot stone, till the steam induces perspiration.

“The terms are either, that the young man, as was most usual in older times, shall serve the father of the young woman for a certain period, (as for three years,) or that he shall redeem himself from this obligation by a present.

“If he be to serve, then, at the time fixed, he goes accompanied by his father and mother, to the lodge of the young woman's family.— There, he is desired, by her mother, to sit down on the same mat with her.— A feast is usually served, and the young woman's father deliv-

ers a suitable speech. The young man is thenceforward regarded as one of his wife's family, and remains in the lodge accordingly.

"If, on the other hand, he redeems himself by a present, then his father and mother go alone to the lodge of the young woman's family, carrying a present. If the present be accepted, they leave it, and return home; and, shortly after, the father and mother, accompanied by their daughter, go to the lodge of the bridegroom's family, where the bride is desired to sit down beside her husband. The feast and speech are now made by the young man's father, and the young woman is received into his family.

Every man marries as many wives as he pleases, and as he can maintain; and the usual number is from one to five. The oldest, in most cases, is the mistress of the family, and of the other wives among the rest. They appear to live in much harmony. Polygamy, among the Indians, conduces little to population. For the number of adults, the children are always few."

The burial of the dead is a performance attended with some ceremony and form in every nation which has yet been discovered. The following is the mode of proceeding among the Osinipoilles.

"With respect to the burial of the dead, if the death happen in the winter-season, and at a distance from the burial-ground of the family, the body invariably accompanies all the wanderings and journeys of the survivors, till the spring, and till their arrival at the place of interment. In the mean time, it is every-where rested on a scaffold, out of the reach of beasts of prey. The grave is made of a circular form, about five feet deep, and lined with bark of the birch, or some other tree, or with skins. A seat is prepared, and the body is placed in a sitting posture, with supporters on either side. If the deceased be a man, his weapons of war, and of the chase, are buried with him, as also his shoes, and every thing for which, as a living warrior or hunter, he would have occasion, and, indeed, all his property; and I believe that those, whose piety alone may not be strong enough to insure to the dead the entire inventory of what is supposed to be necessary for them, or is their own, are compelled to do them justice by other arguments, and which is, the fear of their displeasure. A defrauded or neglected ghost, although invisible, can disperse the game of the plains or forests, so that the hunter shall hunt in vain; and, either in the chase or in the war, turn aside the arrow, or palsy the arm that draws the bow; in the lodge, it can throw a child into the fire.

The body and its accompaniments are covered with bark; the bark with logs; and the logs with earth. This done, a relation stands up, and pronounces an eulogium on the deceased, extolling his virtues, and relating his exploits. He dwells upon the enemies whom he slew, the scalps and the prisoners which he took, his skill and industry in the chase, and his deportment as a father, husband, son, brother, friend, and member of the community. At each assertion which he makes the speaker strikes a post, which is placed near the grave; a gesture of asseveration, and which enforces the attention of the audience, and assists in counting up the points delivered.—

The eulogium finished, the post is painted,* and on it are represented the number of prisoners taken, by so many figures of men; and of killed and scalped, by figures without heads. To these are added his badge, called, in the Algonquin tongue, a *totem*, and which is in the nature of an armorial bearing. It informs the passing Indian of the family to which the deceased belonged. A serious duty at the grave, is that of placing food, for the use of the dead, on the journey to the *land of souls*. This care is never neglected, even under every disadvantage of molestation. In the neighbourhood of the traders, dishes of cooked venison are very commonly placed on the graves of those long buried, and as commonly removed by Europeans, even without offence to those who placed them there. In situations of great want, I have more than once resorted to them for food.

We are not certain if the barbarous practice of slavery has been borrowed by the Europeans from the Indians or *vice versa*, but the following extract affords a sufficient proof that the more ignorant the master the more cruelty will he evince towards his slave.

“The men, among the Osinipoilles, are well made; but, their colour is much deeper than that of the more northern Indians. Some of the women are tolerably handsome, considering how they live, exposed to the extremes of heat and cold, and placed in an atmosphere of smoke for at least one half of the year. Their dress is of the same materials, and of the same form, with that of the female *Cristinaux*.—The married women suffer their hair to grow at random, and even hang over their eyes. All the sex is fond of garnishing the lower edge of the dress with small bells, deer-hoofs, pieces of metal, or any thing capable of making a noise. When they move, the sounds keep time, and make a fantastic harmony.

The Osinipoilles treat with great cruelty their slaves. As an example, one of the principal chiefs, whose tent was near that which we occupied, had a female slave, of about twenty years of age. I saw her always on the outside of the door of the tent, exposed to the severest cold; and having asked the reason, I was told that *she was a slave*. The information induced me to speak to her master, in the hope of procuring some mitigation of the hardship she underwent; but, he gave me for answer, that he had taken her on the other side of the western mountains; that at the same time he had lost a brother and a son, in battle; and that the enterprise had taken place, in order to release one of his own nation, who had been a slave in her's, and who had been used with much greater severity than that which she experienced.—The reality, of the last of these facts, appeared to me to be impossible. The wretched woman fed and slept with the dogs, scrambling with them for the bones which were thrown out of the tent. When her master was within, she never was permitted to enter; at all seasons, the children amused themselves with impunity in tormenting her, thrusting lighted sticks into her face; and if she succeeded in

* Hence, *The Painted Post*, the name of a village in Pennsylvania;

warding off these outrages she was violently beaten. I was not successful in procuring any diminution of her sufferings; but, I drew some relief from the idea, that their duration could not be long. They were too heavy to be sustained.

"It is known, that some slaves have the good fortune to be adopted into Indian families, and are afterward allowed to marry in them; but, among the Osinipoilles, this seldom happens; and, even among the Chipbeways, where a female slave is adopted and married, I never knew her to lose the degrading appellation of *wa'kan'*, a slave."

(*To be Continued.*)

From the New Monthly Magazine.

LETTERS FROM THE EAST.

ALEXANDRIA.

We left the "Pride of the East" at last, at sight of which, the prophet might have smiled with much greater reason than he had at that of Grand Cairo. We sailed from Constantinople on board an English vessel bound to Smyrna.—Having cast anchor near the town of the Dardanelles on the following morning, we went on shore to visit the site of the ancient Abydos, about two miles distant. A lofty tumulus, with some remains of walls on the side towards the sea, mark the spot. The distance across the strait to where Sestos is supposed to have stood, is scarcely a mile; and any strong and practised swimmer might pass it without much difficulty. I was little aware then, that this passage was destined to be a fatal one a few weeks afterwards to a young and very amiable traveller; who perished in consequence of attempting to imitate Leander and Lord B., of a violent fever, brought on by over-exertion, and the being so long in the water. It was a lovely moonlight night when we lost sight of the shores of the Dardanelles; and a fine wind bore us towards Scio. On board were two natives of the northern part of England, who had gone to Persia with the hope of getting rich by engaging in a cotton manufactory, set on foot at Tebris by a young English merchant. The latter had lost all his property in the attempt, having been deluded, he said by false representations; and at last after a long and difficult journey over land with the two natives of Lancashire, had succeeded in reaching Constantinople. To hear the latter in their broad provincial dialect, relate their adventures in Persia: their passage over mountains covered with snow, and plains parched with heat, half starved at one time and abused or pursued at another, was very amusing. Amidst the tumults and massacres of Stimool, a piece of peculiar good fortune befel me; in the engaging my romantic and invaluable servant, Michelle Milarish, a Slavonian; had I been a Moslem, I would ever after have blessed the Prophet for causing that day to shine on me. He spoke seven languages, had read a great deal, and travelled yet more, was perfectly brave, conversed with much intelligence, and to wander

through new scenes was his passionate delight: "I have heard, Sir," he first addressed me, "you are going to Egypt, and shall be very happy to attend you there. I have travelled over the greater part of the world, but cannot die in peace till I have seen the Pyramids and ruins of Thebes." My only companions in many a solitude and sorrow, more than once the preserver of my life, and always devoted and faithful; how can I ever think of him without attachment, or forget his tears when we parted?

On the fourth morning, as the sun rose, we were close to the Isle of Scio. Its appearance is very singular; six or eight miles from the shore is a lofty chain of barren and purple rocks, which shut out all view of the interior, and the space between these and the sea, is covered with delightful gardens and verdure, which inclose the town on every side, except towards the main.

The fine climate of this isle, the profusion of delicious fruits, the beauty of its women, and the friendly and hospitable character of the people; caused it to be preferred by travellers to any other of the Greek Islands. In the evening when the setting sun was resting on the craggy mountains and the rich gardens at their feet, the shores and the shaded promenades around the town were filled with the Greek population, among which were multitudes of the gay and handsome women of Scio, distinguished for their frank and agreeable manners.

On landing we went to the consul's house: he was a Sciote, and received us with much civility. His wife and daughter, who were both very plain, made their appearance, and sweetmeats and fruit, with coffee were handed round. The day was sultry, and the water-melons and oranges, which were in great abundance, were very refreshing.—The unfortunate Sciotes were the most effeminate and irresolute of all the Greeks. The merchants lived in a style of great luxury, and the houses of many of them were splendidly furnished. From the commencement of the revolution they contrived to preserve a strict neutrality; and though often implored and menaced by their countrymen, refused to fight for the liberties of Greece, or risk the drawing on themselves the vengeance of the Turks. So well had they kept up appearances that the Ottoman fleet never molested them: till, unfortunately, one day a Greek leader entered the harbour with some ships; having a body of troops on board, who were landed to attack the citadel, in which was a small Turkish garrison; and the Sciotes, fancying the hour of freedom was come, passed from one extreme to the other, rose tumultuously, and joined the troops. The fort was soon taken, and the garrison, together with the Turks who were in the town, was put to the sword. This was scarcely accomplished when the Ottoman fleet entered the harbor; and the Greek forces, who had come from Samos, too inferior in number to cope with them, instantly embarked, and took to flight, leaving the island to its fate. Those Islanders who had taken part with them, consisted chiefly of the lower orders, and two hundred of the chief merchants and magistrates repaired on board the ship of the Captain Pacha, and made the most solemn protestations of innocence, and unqualified submission to the Porte. The admiral received them with great civility, expressing himself willing to forget all that had passed, and ordered coffee and a

variety of refreshments. But no sooner had the Pacha landed his forces, about six thousand men, than he gave the signal for the massacre. The details given me afterwards by the Sciotes who had escaped, were enough to harrow up the soul.—During the massacre, the Turks, exhausted, sheathed at times their bloody sabres and staghans, and, seated beneath the trees on the shore, took their pipes and coffee, chatted, or fell asleep in the shade. In the course of a few hours they rose refreshed, and began to slay indiscriminately all who came in their way. It was vain to implore mercy; the young and gay Sciotes, but a few days before the pride of the island, found their loveliness no shield then, but fell stabbed before their mother's eyes, or flying into the gardens, were caught by their long and braided tresses, and quickly despatched. The wild and confused cries of pain and death were mingled with fierce shouts of Mahommed and vengeance; the Greek kneeling for pity, or flying with desperate speed, and the Turkish soldier rushing by with his reeking weapon, or holding in his hand some head dripping with blood. The close of the day brought little reprieve; the moonlight spread vividly over the town, the shores, and the rich groves of fruit trees, rendered escape or concealment almost impossible.—But, as the work of death paused at intervals from very weariness, the loud sounds of horror and carnage sunk into those of more hushed and bitter woe. The heart-broken wail of parents over their dying and violated child—the hurried and shuddering tones of despair of those to whom a few hours would bring inevitable death—the cry of the orphan and widowed around the mangled forms of their dearest relatives, mingled with curses on the murderer went up to heaven! But the pause for mourning was short—the stillness of the night was suddenly broken by the clash of arms and the dismal war-cry of the Ottoman soldiery “Death!—death to the Greeks—to the enemies of the Prophet—Allah il Allah;” and the Captain Pacha in the midst, with furious gestures, urged on his troops to the slaughter. Every house and garden were strewed with corpses: beneath the orange-trees, by the fountain side, on the rich carpet, lay the young, the beautiful, and the aged, in the midst of their loved and luxurious retreats. Day after day passed; and lying as they fell, alone or in groups, no hand bore them to their graves, while survivors yet remained to perish. At last, when all was over, they were thrown into promiscuous heaps, the senator, and the delicate and richly attired women of rank mingled with the lowest of the populace, into large pits dug for the purpose, which served for universal sepulchres.

Twenty thousand are computed to have perished during the few days the massacre lasted. Happy were the few who could pass the barrier of rocky mountains, beyond which they were for the time secure, or were received into some of the boats and vessels on the coast and thus snatched from their fate. It was my fortune afterwards to meet several times with these wretched fugitives, wandering in search of an asylum; so pale, worn, and despairing, they presented a picture of exquisite misery—girls of a tender age on foot, sinking beneath the heat and toil of the way, yet striving to keep up with the horses that bore the sick and disabled of the party; and mothers with their infants whom they had saved, while their husbands and sons had per-

ished. One who had been a lady in her own land, weeping bitterly, related to me the murder of all her children, who were five young men. Many a young Sciote woman was to be seen, her indulgent home lost forever, her beauty and vivacity quite gone, with haggard and fearful look, seeking in other lands for friends which she might never find.

About two or three hours walk along the shore is the spot where Homer is said to have kept his school; it is a rock within which are still visible the remains of seats cut out. The poet certainly displayed an excellent taste in his choice of a situation; a noble group of trees stands close by, and a fountain of the purest water gushed out in their shades in front, and around the beautiful harbour, cottages amidst delicious gardens, and behind precipices of purple rocks rising in their nakedness. The Turks are fond of enjoying the coolness and shade of this spot; the follower of the prophet smoking his pipe and performing his ablutions where Mæconidea was inspired! A few miles from the town, and approached by a rugged path is the large convent of Nehumonce. The chapel is richly ornamented, the dome being formed of different kinds of marble, varied with pieces of richly stained glass, has altogether a strange appearance—the lofty mountains around have many of their abrupt declivities covered with fires. The condition and advantages of the Greek Clergy are much superior to those of the Catholics. The former are allowed to marry if they have not taken priest's orders; and appear to lead a more pleasant life, and are more free and courteous in their manners, than their brethren of Rome: and their convents are infinitely more neat and clean. This monastery of Nehumonce allows every traveller the privilege of remaining several days under its roof, where he will find a comfortable chamber and good fare; for if there are any wines or provisions *par excellence* in their neighbourhood, monks are sure to have them.—The soil of this island produces an abundance of excellent fruits, the fig, olive, orange, almond and pomegranate; and the climate is healthy and delightful: and with the exception of the Isle of Rhodes, a stranger could not find a more desirable residence. The red wine is the most esteemed in the island: a small part only is exported, the Greeks making too good use of it themselves. It cannot greatly soothe or propitiate a Turk's feeling towards the despised and infidel Greeks, to see them quaffing with keen delight the rich juice of the grape, and giving loose in the moment to unbounded gaiety, while he poor forbidden follower of Islam! must solace himself gravely with the pure fountain, his meager sherbet, or at most a cup of the coffee of Mocha. At the distance of some miles in the interior, are seen at intervals the country seats of the rich Greeks and Turks; very handsome residences, built of stone, with luxuriant gardens adjoining, and placed often in romantic situations; and such a number of romantic shrubs are scattered over the country that the air is perfumed with their fragrance. The gum-mastich grows here, which is used by the Grecian and Turkish women; but the former strive to heighten their charms by adding paint; they go unveiled, and are gaily and richly dressed.

But no aid or ornament—not even the faint remains of the adorned features of antiquity—can invest the Greek with the dignity of air and carriage, and the elegance and mildness of manners of the Ottoman lady. But it is hard to leave a Grecian isle without feelings of regret. Of the different countries it has been my delight to visit, were I to choose a residence, it would not be on the shores of the Bosphorus, with the mountains of Europe and Asia rising from the water's edge; their sides covered with groves, villages, and delicious retreats, and between their feet the deep and lovely glens which put a Moslem in mind of Paradise—nor in the glorious plain of Damascus, with its rushing streams and gardens of unrivalled luxury, embracing the sacred city in their deep bosom—but in some isle like Scio or Rhodes, of a pure and equal climate; its shaded walks leading through woods of orange, almond and citron; above which rise its pointed and purpled mountains, their wild bosoms covered with a thousand fragrant shrubs, the odours of which fill the air; where the sun sets in glory on the wave, and gilds the summit of other isles, which appear all round at the horizon's verge; and the moonlight brings softer scenery, with the guitar, the sweet island songs, and the murmur on the shore.

We left Scio at last, and on the following evening arrived in the harbour of Smyrna. It is of great extent, and you sail a long time between its shores of ragged mountains, with a line of rich verdure and trees at their feet, ere you arrive at the city, situated at its very extremity. Smyrna possesses a large population, and an extensive commerce; the streets are narrow, but the quarter inhabited by the Frank merchants and consuls contains a number of excellent houses, with terrace walks, which afford a pleasant promenade. Many of the Europeans intermarry with the Greek families; and the Smyrniote ladies, thus blending Oriental and Frank manners and customs, are considered extremely attractive; the turbaned head bent over the harp and piano, and the Scotch and Irish melodies sung on the shores of Asia, are no common fascinations. The Turkish burying-ground stands on the slope of the hill at a small distance from the town, near that of the Jews, and is encircled by a deep grove of cypress trees.—No guard or shade around a cemetery can be so suitable as that of this noble tree; with its waveless and mournful foliage, it looks the very emblem of mortality. The Orientals love that every thing should be sad and impressive around the abodes of the dead, which they never approach but with the deepest reverence; and they often sit four hours in their Kiosques on the Bosphorus, gazing with mournful pleasure on the shores of Asia, where the ashes of their fathers are laid for the rich Turk of Stamboul generally wishes to be carried after death to the Asiatic side, which he believes destined to be the last resting-place and empire of his countrymen, "when the fair men from the north shall have driven them from Europe."

The society of Smyrna, consisting of the European merchants and their families, who mixed together on the most friendly footing was very agreeable: the public rooms, called the Casino, handsomely fitted up, were open at eight o'clock every evening and possessed a reading room; travellers and strangers from all parts met there to tak

refreshment, and enjoy the society; and balls were occasionally held. But the face of things was entirely changed at the time of our residence there. The Casino and its amusements were closed, there was little interchange of visits between European families, and the charming promenades around the town were deserted, the whole of the Greek families of the better order having fled; the bazaras looked silent and empty, and the numerous caravans from the interior no longer arrived. The village of Bournabat, is composed chiefly of the handsome country-houses of the European merchants, is distant a few miles from the city, and affords a very pleasant ride to the traveller, the country around being well cultivated, and adorned with groves of olive and other trees. The storks are seen in great numbers at particular seasons around Smyrna and Bournabat; they are very tame and regarded with a superstitious feeling by the Turks. They sometimes frequent the ruins of temples and villages; but their appearance, and the noise they make, harmonize little with the aspect of desolation and decay; the clusters of pigeons of many-coloured plumage, which flew around and nestled amidst the ruins of the Temple of the Sun at Balbec, had an effect much more in harmony with the splendid remains and scenery of the plain, so truly and beautifully described in "Lalla Rookh."

In Smyrna, we lodged at the hotel kept by an Italian. The windows of the apartments commanded a fine view of the bay and its romantic shores. Several Greek priests and merchants dined at the table d'hôte, where we had a medley of Greek and European dishes; they looked very care-worn and suspicious; and they had good reason, for they could not go out of doors without danger of being murdered. One morning, as I stood in the street, a Greek servant, for declining to buy meat at the stall of a Candiot butcher not far off, was stabbed by him with his long knife, and fell bleeding on the pavement.—About fifty Greeks got on board a Ragusan vessel, in order to escape, the captain having been paid a large sum of money by them. Instead of instantly making off he continued to loiter in the harbour, in spite of the warnings of the consul; when one night he was surrounded by three Turkish vessels, and all on board seized. The captain and crew were hanged, and the Greeks were beheaded in a small square in the city, at sun-rise, during our stay.—The French consul, to his immortal honour, has saved the lives of hundreds of the Greeks, by his active and spirited interference; and rescued them from the hands of the soldiery, about to put them to death. In walking through the city you see these unfortunate people looking over the walls, and listening to every passing sound. At any sudden noise in the streets, the faces of the women—and some of them beautiful—were seen thrust out of the windows of the lofty houses, where they had taken refuge; thereby exposing themselves to fresh damage, yet unable to repress their anxiety and curiosity.—The only Greek I ever saw, whose face and form in any way realized the *beau idéal* of antiquity, was at the entrance of a poor dwelling in the skirts of the city: her fine tall figure, reclined against the wall as she stood, and her head bent towards some unhappy countrymen, whom she was addressing, gave ad-

ditional interest to the perfect symmetry of her noble and classic features.

The inextinguishable lightness and versatility of the character of the Greeks are real blessings in their present situation; no vicissitudes appear to strike them with surprise or despair: active enterprising and indefatigable, they possess the materials for making excellent soldiers: vain to excess, and ever sanguine in all their hopes and undertakings, I heard them exclaim as they marched out of Tripolizza to attack the Turks, "We have beat them with sticks ere now; and shall we not drive them before us with our swords?"—Call on a Greek to die, and he will take leave of the world, to appearance, passionless and undismayed: bring the guitar and the wine, and he will dance, and talk with infinite gaiety, and sing the Morite songs all the night long.

A circumstance of a very interesting and affecting kind occurred at the same time in one of the Greek isles. A number of the Islanders terrified at the approach of a Turkish force, hurried on board a large boat and pushed off from the land. The wife of one of them, a woman of uncommon loveliness seeing her husband departing, stood on the shore, stretching out her hands towards the boat, and imploring in the most moving terms, to be taken on board. The Greek saw it without concern or pity, and, without aiding her escape, bade his companions hasten their flight. This unfortunate woman, left unprotected in the midst of her enemies, struggled through scenes of difficulty and danger, of insult and suffering, till her failing health and strength, with a heart broken by sorrow, brought her to her death bed. She had never heard from her husband; and, when wandering amongst the mountains, or lying hid in some wretched habitation, or compelled to urge flight amidst cruel fatigues, her affection for him and the hope of meeting again bore up her courage through all. He came at last when the enemy had retreated, and the Greeks had sought their homes again; and learning her situation, was touched with the deepest remorse.—But all hope of life was then extinguished; her spirit had been tried to the utmost; love had changed to aversion and she refused to see or forgive him. There is at times in the character of the Greek women, as more than one occasion occurred of observing, a strength and sternness that is truly remarkable. Her sister and relations were standing round her bed; no, never in the days of her health and love, did she look so touchingly beautiful as then—her fine dark eyes were turned on them with a look, as if she mourned not to die, but still felt deeply her wrongs; the natural paleness of her cheek was crimsoned with a hectic hue, and the rich tresses of her black hair fell dishevelled by her side. Her friends, with tears, entreated her to speak to, and forgive her husband; but she turned her face to the wall, and waved her hand for him to be gone. Soon the last pang came over her, and then affection conquered;—she turned suddenly round, raised a look of forgiveness to him, placed her hand in his, and died.

We took passage on board a French ship bound to Alexandria, and for three days had a favourable wind, when we fell in with a division of the Greek fleet; they obliged us to bring to, and sent an armed boat on board to demand our destination and cargo, and whatever in-

telligence we could give them. These Greeks behaved very civilly : their best ships were merchant vessels turned into those of war, and carried twenty guns : they were from the isle of Hydra, the natives of which are the best and boldest sailors in their navy. The wind failed us ; and we were put to our resources to pass the time agreeably ; but in French vessels, a passenger is always less at a loss in calms and baffling winds than in any other, as the men seldom lose their gaiety & good spirits. The mate, who seemed to have the chief command, was a fine and animated young Frenchman, who had a small collection of interesting books ; the nominal captain Monsieur Gras by name, was a little fat man, with a serious melancholy aspect. Every morning and evening, before breakfast and supper, the crew were summoned to the poop, and he recited prayers in a sad and distinct tone, to which they all responded. On board was a most motley assemblage of passengers ; a fat young German, who was on his way to Grand Cairo, to set up for a doctor, and cure the Turks and Arabs without knowing a word of their language ; and he was accompanied by a sprightly young Italian woman, who had left her dear land to live with this phlegmatic fellow on the banks of the Nile : his pipe scarcely ever quitted his mouth, and he told marvelous tales, sitting on the deck with a naked neck and bosom *à l'oriental*. There was a tailor from Italy, of a pale countenance and spare figure, destined for Alexandria to exercise his calling ; and he put one in mind of a button-maker from Sheffield, who came on speculation to Constantinople with a cargo of his material, and found the Turks never wore buttons. A third was a dog-merchant, also an Italian, with his wife : he had a number of dogs of a very fine breed, to dispose of ; in Egypt, he could find purchasers among the Franks or the faithful. These three worthies and their two *chere amies* (the tailor having no tender companion with him) travelled in great harmony together, and while the baffling winds lasted, afforded no small amusement. But at last we drew near the low and sandy shores around Alexandria. How sweet after a voyage the first sight of land is, every traveller has felt ; and Pompey's Pillar on the eminence above the town, the canal from the Nile just beyond, and a thousand recollections attached to the residence of Cleopatra, gave an intense interest to that now before us.

THE DANDY.

"To this night's masquerade," quoth Dick,

"By pleasure I am beckoned ;

And think 'twould be a pleasant trick

To go as Charles the second."

Tom felt for repartee a thirst,

And thus to Richard said :

"You'd better go as Charles the First,

For that requires no head."

AN ACCOUNT OF THE DISTRICT OF GASPE.

Short as the administration of the late Duke of Richmond was in this country, it was in every step marked with so ardent a desire to promote the interest of the colony; and so characterised by extensive and well formed plans to effect this object; that its limited duration will long be a source of regret. As a preparatory step to effecting an improvement in any part of the Provinces; His Grace's first attention was very properly directed to obtaining a complete knowledge of the district wherein the improvement was said to be wanted. Legislative authority was applied to this purpose; and by its aid under the direction of gentlemen of talents; much useful information was obtained respecting portions of British America, hitherto but little known. The accounts of these were communicated in the shape of reports; made to the Provincial Legislature; by commissioners appointed by act of Parliament for that purpose. The following is one of the most important both for the clear and explicate manner in which it is drawn up, and from the information it contains relative to an interesting part of this Province, we are confident will be read with interest by many who have not before had an opportunity of perusing it: The order for its being made was issued by command of the Duke, and bears date at the Castle of St. Louis, the 9th of June, 1819, but it was not completed till Dec. 1820; when his untimely death had snatched him away at the moment he was engaged in objects; involving the most important advantages to the Canadas.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable the EARL OF DALHOUSIE, Governor in Chief in and over the Province of Lower-Canada and its several dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

May it please Your Excellency;

We the Commissioners appointed in virtue of an Act of the Provincial Parliament of the fifty-ninth year of the reign of His late Majesty, George the third intituled, "An act to secure the Inhabitants of the Inferior District of Gaspé in the possession and enjoyment of their lands," in obedience to the orders of His Grace the late Duke of Richmond, Governor in Chief, signified to us by letter from Mr. Secretary Ready, of the 9th June, 1819, of which a copy is herewith annexed; directing us, in addition to the provisions of the said Act; to give our attention to the state of the Fisheries in the said District; and requiring our opinion as to the most proper mode of encouraging the same; to take a census of the population, and to ascertain the state of Agriculture in the said District; the nature of its soil, and its various productions, the general quality of the unsettled lands, the places best suited for the location of settlers; the state of the Internal Communications and places most in want of highways and roads; and in general, all such information as might, in any wise, tend to the public utility, have now the honour of submitting our Report on those subjects to Your Excellency, independently of the Report which, a

agreeably to the fifteenth section of the said Act, we are bound to make.

To fulfil the views of his Majesty's government, it is in the first place necessary to give a general statement of the district of Gaspé, which we have been enabled to digest through the liberal and ready assistance of divers respectable and intelligent persons resident in the District; and is as correct as the times and circumstances under which it was made would admit, and may convey a tolerable idea of the state of that District, and of the Fisheries at the several places therein-mentioned.

The District of Gaspé, extending from Cape Chat in the River St. Lawrence, to Cape Rosier, and from thence along the coast to the River *Ristigouche*, at the head of the Bay des Chaleurs, comprehending Gaspé Bay and the North Shore of the said Bay des Chaleurs, including some excellent harbours and secure roads for anchorage, is a country of agriculture, fishery and trade, which, with some encouragement, may ultimately become of much importance to the Province, and one of its most considerable Districts. With respect to climate, the Bay des Chaleurs has much the advantage of Gaspé Bay and the adjacent coast of the River St. Lawrence. The soil is in general of a good quality, with the exception of a few places in the Bay des Chaleurs, from Port Daniel to New-Richmond, an extent of twenty leagues or thereabout. The country is level and the soil of an excellent description; the other parts of the District are less level, and in some places, as at Maria and Carleton, the land rises into lofty mountains, especially along the St. Lawrence, from Cape Gaspé to Cape Chat, where, however, it is at some places intersected by rich vallies, bounding with wood. The Bay of Gaspé and particularly the Bay des Chaleurs are susceptible of the most improved Agriculture, and have in this respect, a decided superiority over the Island of Newfoundland and the Islands in the Gulf. The improvement of the District will principally depend on the attention which its inhabitants bestow on the culture of the soil, and the encouragement they may find in its pursuit. The Fisheries may occasionally fail, and the consequent decline of trade would materially prejudice the District, unless it contain within itself sufficient resources for its own subsistence. For the establishment of Emigrants, no part in Canada offers such immediate resources of livelihood as may be derived from the Fisheries. It is a fact worthy of notice that in the year 1816, when the lower parts of the Province were afflicted with a famine from the destruction of the harvest with frost, no such inconvenience was experienced at Paspédiac, nor at any other place within the level tract above mentioned. We are of opinion that to establish these parts for the purposes of Agriculture, it would be expedient to divide and subdivide such parts of the District as are susceptible of improvement, into Townships and Lots, which would soon be taken up by the natives of the Province, and by the British Emigrants. The establishment of an Agricultural Society, as in other Districts, would, with some public assistance and judicious management, on the part of its members, essentially promote the Agriculture and general welfare of the District. The due execution of

the road-laws and moderate legislative aid in those cases which the road laws do not reach, would also much contribute to its prosperity. To this subject we shall again more particularly advert in the present report. The total want of Public Notaries and Land Surveyors in the district, by whose professional assistance many family differences might have been adjusted, is, we consider, one cause among others, which may have contributed to retard the improvement of the District; and it may be worthy of consideration, whether some inducements ought not to be afforded to persons of character and capacity to be exclusively devoted to these professions to settle in this District.

The staples of the trade of the District are fish and oils; that is to say, green and dried cod-fish, salmon and herring, whale and cod oils. The most considerable of the fisheries is the cod, which commences in May and terminates in October. It is principally carried on in open barges of eighteen feet keel, each conducted by two fishermen, who daily go to the distance of three or four miles from the land to fish. There are not less than 680 barges employed in this manner along the coasts. This fishery is also distinguished into summer and fall fisheries. The former is by far the most considerable. The cod fishery is also carried on in small craft or vessels, which proceed to greater distances than the barges from land, and fish for several days at a time on the neighbouring banks. There are ten or twelve vessels of this description belonging to the District, manned with from six to ten men each, thus employed for about two months in the summer season. They who fish in barges, for the most part, form a sort of co-partnership for the purpose, one party taking charge of the boating business while the other is charged with the concern on shore. The former provides a man to assist him in fishing and managing the barge and furnishes the fishing gear; the latter receives the fish ashore, splits and prepares it for salting, furnishes the salt and the flakes and stages, where it is cured and dried by him. A barge makes in the course of a season from 150 to 300 quintals of dry fish; this is disposed of to the traders who visit the coasts or who are settled in the country, some of whom also carry on very extensive fisheries. The far greater part of the choicest fish is sent to the south of Europe—a quantity is exported to the West-Indies as well as to Quebec—that for the European market is invariably of the first quality, white, smooth and well and cleanly cured and dried—that for the West Indies and Quebec markets is of a secondary quality. The cod-fisheries employ about eighteen hundred persons of both sexes, of whom about five hundred are men who go thither for the season, from the parishes in the neighbourhood of and below Quebec. The whole product of the cod-fishery may be estimated at about fifty thousand quintals of dried fish and ten thousand quintals of green fish, with about twenty thousand gallons of cod oil which is sent to Quebec. The fishermen are occasionally employed at the herring fisheries; which while fresh, are useful as bait for cod fishing. About four thousand barrels, as well smoked as pickled, are annually sent to Quebec. The salmon fishery is, in part, carried on along the sea coast, but principally in the rivers, the chief of which is the *Ristigouche*; the north side of this river is in this Province, the opposite shore belongs to New-Brunswick. The

annual product of the salmon fishery in the Ristigouche; formerly amounted to three thousand barrels; at present, the whole amount of the salmon fishery throughout the District, is estimated at little if any thing more than two thousand barrels. This fishery is carried on by persons who are not engaged in the cod fishery; the salmon is exported to Quebec, Halifax and the West Indies.

The whale fishery is carried on with some success, by a few active and enterprising inhabitants of Gaspé Bay, who are almost exclusively employed in this kind of fishery. Four or five large schooners, manned each with from eight to twelve able & skilful persons, are occupied in whaling during the summer months. This business yields about eighteen thousand gallons of oil, which is principally sent to Quebec. The number of hands employed in reducing the blubber to oil, preparing casks and other incidental labour, may altogether amount to about one hundred. This valuable fishery, so peculiarly favoured by Great Britain, and of a nature so well adapted to the mutual interest of the mother country and the colony, we feel it our duty particularly to recommend to the favorable consideration of your Excellency, as deserving of every encouragement and assistance from His Majesty's Government and of Legislative provision, by bounties or otherwise, as may be thought expedient.

Upwards of sixteen square-rigged vessels are annually employed in the export of dried fish to the south of Europe; most of these vessels are built in the District, and are of the first class of Merchants' ships. Upwards of fifty small vessels are constantly, during the summer months, employed in the coasting trade, and from thence to Quebec, Halifax and the West-Indies.

It is asserted by the inhabitants of the District, that the cod and salmon fisheries diminish annually. In former years, three hundred quintals of dried fish might be realized per barge, at present it is with much exertion that one hundred and fifty are obtained. This diminution they attribute to various causes; principally to the great number of American bankers, who, by splitting their fish and casting their offal over-board, draw the cod from the coasts. This is greedily devoured, and in addition to the inconvenience above mentioned, impoverishes and destroys the fish by the great quantity of indigestible bones adhering to the offal; from experience this supposition seems to be well founded; during the late American war, when the American fishermen were excluded from the Gulf, the cod fisheries along the coast were unusually productive; since the war and the return of these fishermen, they have sensibly diminished.

The Salmon fisheries decline so rapidly as to give cause to apprehend their total annihilation in a very short time, unless immediate Legislative provision be made to prevent the destruction of this kind of fish by the alarming abuses committed.

Complaints are made that some of those concerned in this fishery obstruct the entry and channels of the rivers with nets, so as to prevent the salmon from ascending; that others, after the fish have surmounted these obstructions, shut them up in certain parts of the rivers and destroy them while spawning.

The inhabitants are desirous that some Legislative regulations be made to prevent the banking vessels from throwing the offal of their fish into the sea, to enforce such regulations, we apprehend, however, would be extremely difficult if not impracticable. They also suggest that to encourage the fisheries, it might be expedient to exempt from duty all twine for nets, cordage and fishing tackle and apparatus necessary for the fisheries, and to allow a moderate bounty on the exportation of fish—that it be prohibited to fish for salmon after the 29th July, or to purchase the same from the Indians after that time, and that the Indians themselves be prohibited from taking salmon after that period, unless for their own subsistence; and that on no account they be allowed to fish for salmon after the 15th of August. And finally that to obstruct the rivers with nets be strictly forbidden under a penalty. It is believed that some such regulations as these would, in a few years, restore the former abundance of salmon, as after the fishing season were over, they would be left undisturbed in their spawning recesses and would annually re-people. The inhabitants along the rivers, concerned in the salmon fishery, would, by such regulations, more equally enjoy the advantages of the fishery than at present; as by the obstructions complained of, many of them labour under peculiar disadvantages. It is, however, to be observed that any regulations on this subject, affecting the River Ristigouche, must prove ineffectual, unless corresponding regulations be also adopted in New-Brunswick. We are of opinion that the Act 47th Geo. III, cap. 12, with some modifications, might answer the purpose. From the impracticability of providing adequate legislative regulations for every local and temporary inconvenience relating to the fisheries, it might probably be expedient to invest the Grand Juries of the District, with authority to make, at the recommendation of the Justices of the Peace, temporary regulations on this subject, liable to the approbation of the Governor or Lieutenant Governor of the Province.

Among the subjects requiring our most serious attention, and which we probably shall find the most difficult of adjustment, are the claims for fishing rooms, or beach lots. The most eligible spots along the coast for curing and drying fish have been taken up & temporary buildings and scaffoldings have, for this purpose been erected on the brink of the water, by the occupants; and in some places, as it suited their convenience, without regard to the rights of the proprietors on the front of whose grounds they have so built. On the regulations which may hereafter be introduced on this subject, the harmony good order, and prosperity of the District will most essentially depend. We have studiously consulted the most intelligent persons of the District on this point, and although they unanimously concur in the wish for some proper regulations; they differ widely in opinion, with respect to those which it might be expedient to adopt. It is thought by some, that to grant them would encourage the proprietors to make more substantial improvements with a view to the fisheries; as the bare occupancy engenders endless quarrels among the occupants, who, from the uncertainty of their respective limits, sometimes encroach on each other. On the other hand, it is contended, that by granting the

beaches; they would ultimately fall into the hands of a few wealthy proprietors, and thus turn to the disadvantage of the fisheries in general. We humbly suggest the two following propositions for consideration:—First, to grant the beach lots in proportion to the number of barges to be employed in fisheries, giving the preference to the present occupants:—Second, to lease upon such terms as to preclude the danger of monopoly, the said beach, in lots proportioned to the number of barges to be employed in the fisheries. It appears to us, that some suitable and permanent regulations ought to be provided as early as possible, to prevent the many controversies which exist, and must continue to follow from the present state of things in this respect. We are not, however, prepared to submit to Your Excellency, the best regulations which might be adopted on a matter of such vital importance to the fisheries; sensible as we are, that to innovate precipitately, might occasion incalculable mischief. His Majesty's instructions on this subject, at divers periods since the conquest, might, after all, be the most proper and salutary regulations that could be devised.

The exports of the District, besides fish, consist of lumber and a small quantity of peltry. The imports from Europe, as well as from the other Districts of the Province, of course, correspond with their exports, and realize a revenue considerably beyond the public expenditure for the civil government of the District. The lumber trade has only commenced in the District of Gaspé, within four or five years past. In 1818, four vessels sailed from thence laden with lumber. In 1819 and 1820, the number was much increased; and this trade, from the abundance of pine in certain places, is susceptible of great augmentation.* On the New-Brunswick side of the Bay des Chaleurs, it has recently been carried on to a very great extent. Exclusive of other benefits arising from this trade, the employment of a number of hands in the winter season, when, from the suspension of the fisheries, they would otherwise remain idle, is a considerable advantage. Strong remonstrances have been made against the havock committed in felling the timber for exportation, in such quantities, as to threaten the total destruction of that article: it is cut down and carried off without regard to any authority, and in violation of repeated injunctions; by the Magistrates; to trespassers to refrain from this kind of depredation. Quantities have been felled and carried away by persons from New-Brunswick, who, aware of the weakness of the civil power in that District, come over and audaciously plunder the crown lands of the choicest pines, in defiance of the public authorities. From depredations of this description, by unauthorised speculators in timber, and from the want of some effective regulations on the subject, much mischief has sprung; attended with some instances of crime of the most aggravated & alarming nature. Should any regulations be established on this subject, they ought to be so framed, as to secure the useful pines, and at the same time afford an equal chance to the Lumber-men in obtaining those of an inferior description. The re-

* White pine forms the chief description of timber: black birch next.

gulations established in New-Brunswick; may be consulted with advantage. We, however, consider the interests of agriculture entitled to a decided preference over that of the lumber trade, and, therefore, that in every instance where lands are required for immediate settlement in that District, it would be for the public advantage, to grant them without reserve. The provisions of the Lumber Act, we are of opinion, ought to be extended to the Bay des Chaleurs and Gaspé, an omission which was overlooked when that Act was passed.

The administration of justice, we regret to say, is extremely defective. The jurisdiction of the Provincial Judge of Gaspé is limited to £20; nor can any process issue from his court against real property, as in the other Districts, for sums exceeding 10*l.* To those who do business extensively, the consequences are ruinous, inasmuch they are obliged to have recourse to the courts at Quebec, for the recovery of debts exceeding 20*l.* The expenses of suits, the distance and unavoidable delay, that necessarily result, are often such as to render the debt scarcely worthy the pursuit, and in some instances, it might be preferable to sacrifice the debt rather than to sue for its recovery. By law, the Provincial Judge cannot issue Writs of *Capias* or attachment; a defect of which traders and other transient persons of bad faith sometimes take advantage. The influence which these disadvantages must have on the trade is obvious; they have, we conceive, materially delayed the progress of the District.

The Law has made ample provisions for the holding of Courts of Quarter Sessions, in the District, in four different places, and it is the only District in the province which, in this respect, has been so favored. The want of a prison has, however, heretofore prevented the District from enjoying the full advantages of this Law. At New-Carlisle, in the Bay des Chaleurs, there is a prison not yet fully completed, but which it is of the utmost importance to finish with the least possible delay. A sum of £1,800, or thereabout, will be necessary as well to complete the same as to pay certain arrears due by the Commissioners on account of its construction.

The Act 48th Geo. III. Chap. 13th, authorizes the erection of a Gaol at Percé, (twenty-three leagues from New-Carlisle) for which £1,000 were appropriated by that Act, this sum having been ascertained to be very inadequate, nothing has consequently been done. This being a place of much business, and a general rendezvous for shipping and trading craft, a building of this nature ought to be of the most substantial materials. The multiplied delinquencies of the most atrocious kind, such as murders, burglaries, arsons, highway robberies, without taking into account those of an inferior description which remain unpunished, cannot fail to fill the peaceable and respectable inhabitants with alarm; while the magistracy, unable from the want of secure places of confinement, are compelled to wink at the crime, rather than incur the risk of being insulted and probably maltreated in turn by the criminal, bold in the consciousness that there are no means of confining him, however flagitious his conduct may be.— Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery which, after suitable prisons are erected, may occasionally be found necessary, would soon restore order, and suppress the many evils so justly com-

plained of throughout the District, which, owing to the total suspension of criminal justice, is scarcely sensible of the protection of the Government to which it belongs, and the benign influence of the Laws.

The Court of Quarter Sessions has not been held for many years past, nor has the Sheriff summoned for that purpose any grand or petit Jury, assigning as a reason that no precept had ever been issued or addressed to him to that effect by the Justices of the Peace, under pretence that without a prison the administration of Justice must, by a Court of Quarter Sessions, be utterly ineffectual. This may indeed be in part true, but we are nevertheless humbly of opinion that this is not a sufficient reason to prevent the assembling of the Juries at the proper seasons and places, as by Law required. By this omission the District has, for a number of years, been deprived of some of its most important rights; the representations which might have been made to the Legislature and to the Government, by the Grand Juries, concerning the state, the grievances, and the needs of the district, would have been attended to, as expressing the sense of the population. The little information heretofore possessed of the true state of the district we attribute, in a great measure, to this inexecution of the laws, which must, no doubt, have been otherwise highly prejudicial to the general welfare and improvement of the District. Several Justices of the Peace and other respectable persons have we are well informed, long felt and in vain protested against this neglect in conforming to the laws; but the Justices of the Peace, doubtful of their own abilities, and unskilled in the laws of the Province, have thought it more prudent to decline any attempt to administer justice in the Quarter Sessions than to incur the risk of not strictly proceeding according to the established forms of law; which, however conscientiously they might endeavour to discharge their duty, they were not to be supposed qualified to pursue without professional aid. We are humbly of opinion that it is incumbent on the Provincial Judge to impart this aid to the Justices of the Peace as the only officer of professional acquirements in the District, to whom they can consistently resort for instruction in this respect. Indeed it seems the Law intended that this officer should be particularly charged with the principal conduct of the Criminal Justice in the District, the terms of the Court of Quarter Sessions being so ordained as not to interfere with the Civil terms, but immediately succeed them, at the several places where by Law the latter are held.

In this District there are but two schools, one at Douglas Town, in Gaspé Bay, the other at New-Carlsile, in the Bay des Chaleurs. The inhabitants in other parts of the District universally desire the advantage of similar establishments. The Law for preventing the introduction and spreading of infectious diseases does not extend to the Bays of Gaspé and Chaleurs. The consequences of this oversight have been serious in the loss of some respectable and valuable inhabitants, by contagion, particularly at Gaspé, by vessels arriving from Europe with infectious diseases, generated among the passengers in the course of the voyage.

The roads are generally in a very bad state, and in some places im-

passable, in others they are merely foot-paths of from three to ten feet wide; in many places there are no roads at all; the inexecution of the road Laws, viz. 36th Geo. III. chap. 9th, and 48th Geo. III. chap. 25th, is a cause of much dissatisfaction. These Laws do not require the Grand Voyer of the District to visit the Bay of Gaspé annually, which is nevertheless necessary. This officer has but the small salary of £50 per annum, as a compensation for the duties of his office, and the appointment of his Deputy, which, considering that his duties are more difficult in the execution than those of any other Grand Voyer in the Province, we consider as inadequate; and we therefore humbly submit the expedience of enabling this officer suitably to fulfil his duties; otherwise the improvement of the District must be essentially retarded. The road Laws, with the exception above stated, are, we apprehend, if duly executed, sufficient for those places which are already settled.

It would be easy to open roads of communication throughout this District, and the adjacent County of Cornwallis, in parts where the existing Laws have not provided for making them. The roads which it may be expedient to open for the particular advantage of these counties, may, at the same time, be connected with a general system of communication between this and the neighbouring Provinces of Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick. The frequent and melancholy instances of shipwreck along the coast, and amongst them, the recent misfortune of Mr. Thérien, at Mount Louis, with the total loss of his property, and some lives, for the want of assistance, shews the necessity of some establishment, such as Post-Houses and roads along the uninhabited parts of the coast, by which the unfortunate might find some relief; the sum of £5000, including £1000 already appropriated for the purpose by the Legislature, would, on granting the lands on the road, so soon as the same is opened, be sufficient. This aid, we conceive, ought not to be considered as a benefit exclusively conferred on the County of Gaspé; but such as the Province at large will experience the advantage of, from the facilities afforded to its trade and navigation.

The roads, which we apprehend, would be of the most immediate use, are as follow; that is to say, from Gaspé Bay across the Peninsula to Griffin's Cove, on the St. Lawrence, about ten miles—From Lake Matapediatch to Grand Mitis, on St. Lawrence, twenty-four miles—From the source of the Ristigouche to the River St. John, about thirteen miles—A road from the Basin of Gaspé to Percé, over ungranted lands, about twenty-four miles—From Percé to New-Carlisle, over the intervening ungranted lands, about twentyfour miles—From New-Carlisle to Carleton, about nine miles, over ungranted lands—From Carleton to Ristigouche, twelve miles, over ungranted lands—From Mitis to Cape Chat, sixty-six miles—From Cape Chat to Fox River, one hundred and five miles; and from thence to Griffin's Cove, about six miles. It is to be observed, that from Cape Chat downwards, there are several places where it would be necessary that the road should pass behind the Mountains; and in some places there may be interruptions from ravines and guillies. These roads, it would, at first, only be necessary to open in a rough manner: that is to say, about twen-

by two feet wide, twelve feet of which to be clear of impediments, (which might cost about £10 per mile, as paid by the Commissioners of Internal Communications in the District of Quebec, for work of a similar description) leaving them to be hereafter improved by the grantees occupying the adjacent land; as provided by the Act 36th Geo. III. chap. 9. Those roads upon which it might be expedient to establish Post-Houses at an early period, might be done with more particular care. A line of Posts from that District to Quebec, must, for the above as well as other manifest reasons, be of essential advantage to travellers, as well from Gaspé and Chaleurs Bay, as to those arriving from parts beyond the sea, who, on making the coast, might find it preferable to proceed by land to Quebec. From Grand Mitis to Quebec, the road is already opened, and for that part of it which is near Mitis, the country is indebted to the public spirit of John Macnider, Esquire, of Quebec; who, at his own private expense, has cut several practicable parts of the road over points of land between Rimouski and Mitis, by which means the communication with the latter place is not only opened, but materially shortened. This road is connected with that opened from Rimouski to Trois Pistoles, in virtue of an Act for improving the Internal Communications.

We have also to observe, that to accomplish the improvements we have the honour to suggest, it will be expedient that the Proprietors of the Seigneurie on the Lake Matapediatch, in conformity with the obligation of the titles, should make some establishments on that Seigneurie. The land round the Lake is good and abounds with excellent timber; which, having travelled over it, we have ascertained from personal observation. A settlement on this Lake would most materially facilitate the communication between Quebec and Ristigouche as well as New-Brunswick; and when the public and private advantages resulting from such a settlement, are considered, the proprietors of that Seigneurie could not have cause to complain of injustice, in being called upon to make an immediate settlement.

In this District there are several valuable rivers, the navigation whereof, is, in some places, obstructed by the accumulation of drift wood. The appropriation of a small sum of money would be of great service in removing these impediments, which prevent the inhabitants from rafting down their timber in safety.

The Harbour and Basin of Gaspé is said to be one of the best and most commodious harbours in America; and is capable of containing more than three hundred vessels in the most perfect security. It is easy of access, and may, probably, at some future day, be of importance as a rendezvous for the homeward and outward bound fleets. At present, it is frequently resorted to by ships on their way to and from Europe, meeting with tempestuous and adverse weather in the Gulf. This place deserves attention by persons skilled in nautical affairs, and competent to give a correct view of the advantages it possesses as a Port. Applications have been made for grants of water lots in the Basin, by several persons, which it might be expedient to grant under certain conditions, such as the immediate erection of wharves and store-houses for the convenience of shipping and trade; taking

care however, to make suitable reserves for the public purposes, such as laying up and repairing vessels, &c. This, we apprehend, would not be attended with any detriment to the fisheries, none being carried on at this spot.

The matters we have thus submitted to Your Excellency, we consider of the utmost importance to the improvement of this District, so long neglected and so imperfectly known; and we consider it peculiarly entitled to Your Excellency's protection and encouragement, as an indemnity for the neglect which it uniformly experienced previous to the solicitude with which Your Excellency's predecessors, the late Duke of Richmond and Sir John Coape Sherbrooke, were pleased to receive the remonstrances of its inhabitants.

By some, this District has been thought of no advantage to this Province, and that it ought properly to be an appendage of one of the adjacent Provinces. This, we are of opinion is erroneous; as it must from its geographical position; become an *entre-pot* of trade between Quebec, the West-Indies, Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick. The merchandise it receives through Quebec, would, if attached to another Province, be subjected to certain additional duties. Our coasting trade would also be exposed to additional charges on entering and clearing out of the ports in that District. The valuable trade which might be carried on with the South of Europe, by the merchants of this Province in common with industrious and intelligent merchants of Jersey and Guernsey, would, no doubt be, in some respects, impeded, and the demands for Canadian produce in that quarter consequently diminished. The returns to these fisheries from the West-Indies, the Mediterranean, the ports of Spain and Portugal, will, sooner or later, afford employment to a numerous river craft. In fine, this district gives to the Province the command of the Gulf trade, in which it is more than any other Colony concerned; and therefore, ought to be maintained. The same may be said of the Islands of Anticosti, Mingan and St. Paul, which properly ought to be long to this Government; and so true is this, that Lower-Canada is obliged to maintain, at its own expense, an establishment on Anticosti, (an appendage of the government of Newfoundland) for the convenience of the Gulf navigation and to relieve and assist the shipwrecked,

The whole, nevertheless, most respectfully submitted.

(Signed) J. T. TASCHEREAU,
L. JUCHEREAU DUCHESNAY.

Quebec, 27th December, 1820.

On the Expediency of instituting a LITERARY SOCIETY on a Prudential and Permanent Plan.

TO THE AUTHOR OF THE ESSAY ON MEN OF GENIUS, IN OUR LAST;

(See Page 268.)

SIR.

I was so much pleased with the hints you threw out in the last month's Magazine, respecting the absurdity of professed Authors living at constant variance with each other, and the necessity of their coalition, like other bodies of men, for their mutual advantage: that I regretted your referring the pursuance of the thought to any other pen. To an abler pen I conceive you could not refer it: at least I by no means pretend to take it up in that light; though, having frequently animadverted on the subject, I cannot help seconding your motion, by making some remarks that have occasionally suggested themselves.

A late ingenious writer in a tract entitled *The Case of Authors*, while he shews the expediency of such an establishment, despairs of its being carried into execution. "Not many years ago, says he, there was a Society for the Encouragement of Learning, who raised a fund, hired a house, employed a secretary, and undertook to furnish paper and print to Authors, on condition of being re-imbursed out of the sale of the work. Their plan was too narrow; they also forgot that the Booksellers were masters of all the avenues to every market, and by the practice of one night's postage, could make any work resemble Jonah's Gourd after the worm had smote it: it consequently miscarried."

"Authors at large," continues this writer, "are, as Lord Shaftesbury observed, in a manner professed masters of understanding to the age. It is also universally allowed, that such among them, as have the knowledge, prudence, probity, and spirit, requisite to so high a calling, are an ornament to the state they belong to. And in Churchill's Collection of voyages, an Italian traveller, one Gemelli, gives all Europe to understand, that he could find nothing amongst us but our writings to distinguish us from the worst of Barbarians. Instead of reproaching Authors, therefore for living by their labours we ought to reproach ourselves for allowing them no other means to live. The expedient of exalting them so high in the regions of speculation, that they should be above all worldly inducements, and that of paying them, therefore, with *praise*, was a subtle one at least: but this of decrying and undervaluing them, for descending to do as other folks do, is as course as it is cruel. In a Court of Criticism, impeach an Author and welcome for his faults and his follies! In his Majesty's Courts do the same, for any offence against the laws! or in the Court of Commonsense for writing at all! But even in the Court of Conscience itself, absolve him, as you ought to do, for trusting as little as possible to the gratitude and generosity of an insensible age!"

It is on this consideration our Author thus apostrophizes: "Combine, combine, and you may even out-combine the Booksellers." With

deference, however, to this writer and others who conceive that Authors should combine *against* the Booksellers, I think they cannot do better than to combine *with* them.

It is a mistake to infer, as some do, that because industrious Booksellers grow rich, and indolent Authors remain poor, that the former thrive undeservedly on the labours of the latter. The more respectable part of the Trade, by which I mean those who purchase original copies, or engage able writers in useful and necessary compilations, are the best friends to Authors, and to Literature in general. Industry and economy are so seldom allied to parts and genius, that without the aid of the Bookseller, the best designs of the Author might perish in embryo; and his talents, however great, remain unprofitable to himself and useless to the world. I would by no means therefore wish to see the institution of a Literary Society that should set its face against the Booksellers, even could the combination of the Literati, as Mr. Ralph supposed, *outvie* with that of the Biblioplists; which I do not conceive would ever be the case.

A complaint, indeed, is urged against the Booksellers, that, being solely intent on gain, they give no encouragement to the promising parts of rising Genius, but are liberal only to Authors of established reputation, by whose works they expect to be soon and largely reimbursed from the Public. The complaint is well founded, and the Booksellers who set themselves up as patrons of Literature are certainly to blame; but as to the Trade in general they are excusable. Gain is the God of *Tradesmen*; and however zealous the idolatrous Pietists may be in their devotion, we should quarrel with none on the score of religious principles. But the Booksellers are still more excusable than others, in that they are perhaps the only tradesmen who deal in a commodity, of which they know not the value.

Much it is true, is plausibly said about fostering the tender plant, and cherishing the opening bud of Genius, as the only means to revive the drooping cause of Literature, and push its progress to perfection. For my own part, I am of a different opinion. The Augustan Age of English Literature is passed. Letters and perhaps Science hastening together from the summit, are in this country on the decline. Their professors are too numerous, their cultivation is become an object of traffic, and few will study to know more of them than they can turn to pecuniary profit. Even our Patricians and Senators find their account in acquiring a little flashy oratory; and the learned professions, though knowledge be their pretended stock in trade, are become ignorant to a proverb.

As to professed Authors, they are neither more venal nor more ignorant, and yet they are two numerous. It is with theirs, as with almost all other professions in this country—it is overstocked;—and the young adventurer, whose pliant genius hath not yet taken its determined and unalterable bent, should therefore be rather discouraged than abetted. The Society of Artists behaved with much good sense and propriety some years ago, when a project was on foot for apprenticing the Foundlings to the Fine Arts. They opposed it for the same reason; and yet the arts of Painting and Sculpture were

not so far advanced in their career among us, as are those of Poetry and Rhetorick.

For some time after a nation emerges from a state of barbarism, before its language is well formed, and the storehouse of Nature ransacked for images, or the writers of other nations rifled for ideas to cultivate its improvement; in such a state, when writers are few, and few thoughts have as yet been well expressed, the cherishing of rising Genius is a laudable, a necessary object. But in such times as ours, when every ground is already occupied, when scarce an idea can be started, or a turn of expression devised, that wears the stamp of novelty; there is little need or use for being so chary of the productions of puny pretenders to Literature. Hence literary patronage among the Great has ceased with the cause that gave rise to it; and as literary property has risen upon its ruins, the once divinely inspired, disinterested Author is sunk into the wordly-minded, interested Man of Business.

Nor is the change, if Authors would sacrifice pride to prudence, at all to be lamented. We do not find that Patronage afforded any favours to the divine *Milton*, equal to the property he might in these times have derived from a Bookseller for the copy of that immortal work, which he sold, after much haggling, for the pitiful sum of fifteen pounds. How altered the times! By that very work the Booksellers have got thousands, and still hold the copy, so cheaply purchased; at a prodigious value. *Hume*, *Robertson*, *Blackstone*, and others, have made considerable fortunes by their writings; nay, we have been recently told, the copy of a poultry compilation of Ships' Journals and Log-books, hath sold for no less a sum than six thousand pounds: and that even after the Compiler had been gratified with fifteen hundred for being at the trouble of executing it.

Is not such a change of times devoutly to have been wished? In former days, an *Otway* perished in the streets, for want of bread. In ours, a *Hawkesworth* is paid a gentleman's income for compiling a sixpenny Magazine: till getting a better job, he quits converts with printers' devils at Clerkenwell, to keep company with stock-jobbing Peers, and to take his place as Director at the East-India House. What golden days for Authors! What a temptation this for every conceited stripling that can tag a rhyme, or turn a period, to enlist himself under the banners of the Muse, and turn Author by profession! A reflection that affords another reason for discouraging the feeble attempts of the ignorant and unqualified. Nor need we be under any apprehensions of checking a Genius of any importance. The half-hatched chick that cannot burst its shell, may without much loss be left to perish within it. A ricketty Genius is not worth the rearing! A robust one (and to no other can letters or science be in their present state much indebted) will sustain every weight of incumbrance and rise superior to every depression. Let us take a review of those to whom English Literature has been most obliged. Are they such as have been sheltered in Academic groves, possessed of patrimonial property, or fostered by the hand of ostentatious munificence? By no means. Our Universities have produced Scholars, and it would be

a wonder, if, among so great a number of students, some of them had not proved men of genius. They have proved so. But from the first institution of those learned Seminaries to this day, have they produced any two equal to *Shakespear*, and *Ben. Johnson*? the one without any scholastic education, and in his youth necessarily employed in the lowest offices of life; the other a scholar, in spite of being compelled to carry his own hod at the mechanical and labourious employment of bricklayer; and yet both superior, as men of genius, to any of their countrymen. If we look round among our contemporaries, we shall find the Universities have turned out several men of parts. Among those we have a *Hurd*, a *Mason*, a *Whitehead*, a *Warton*, a *Colman*, a *Carlisle*, an *Evan Lloyd*, and many others; but what have they produced more than might be expected from men of moderate talents, improved by a classical education? Nay, set the schools, and manhood aside, what have they done so much as even the unschooled females of the present age have not more than equaled! Will any of them enter the lists against a *Carter*, a *Montague*, an *Aikin*, and let me add a *Macaulay*, though I should omit many a greater favourite, whose name does not happen to be just at the nib of my precipitate pen. What then shall we say, if we turn to the many genuine Geniuses of the masculine gender, who have not had the advantages of, or profited by, an early and formal initiation into the mysteries of scholastic erudition! We have a *Garrick* of unrivaled wit and acumen; who nevertheless with a moderate share of scholarship, employed his matchless genius in a plodding business, till he was reclaimed by his rightful mistresses the Muses. We have a *Goldsmith*, deservedly admired as one of the first of our poetical geniuses, who, though bred at college, was, like another *Swift*, refused his degree at the University where he studied, and where he got it since, or whether, like *Swift* also *speciali gratiâ*, I have never been able to learn. We have a *Kelly*, who has received the highest applauses from the public, as an essayist and dramatic writer, and has now qualified himself for a respectable and learned profession, though he was bred to a mechanical employment, which precludes the idea of any thing like early erudition.

The inutility of this to real genius, is sufficiently proved in the examples, among many others that might be given of a *Falconer* and a *Thompson*, who, with the education of a country academy, cultivated the favour of the Muses with success, even amidst the discordant notes of whistling winds, of roaring seas and ignorant tarpaulins.

Again, what shall we say to the Herculean genius of a *Kenrick*, who, with the early knowledge only that is usually attained at a common grammar school, and under the disadvantage of having thrown away great part of his youth in the exercise of the manual arts, ever tending to depress the mental powers, has yet been repeatedly crowned with academical honors, and carries, like another *Atlas*, the world of science and literature on his back; setting the whole body of Book-sellers combined, and I may add Authors too, at defiance, I adduce these instances for two reasons; the first, to check that supecilious arrogance which militates against the amicable institution projected, and which is affected by those who, having had the good luck to be born

to affluent or easy fortunes, have been bred up at Oxford or Cambridge; a circumstance which, in fact, they have no great cause to be proud of: for though literary honors *may sometimes* be ill bestowed in other colleges; in them, by the laws of the University, they frequently must be prostituted. In others, degrees are conferred as honorary rewards, on presumed or acknowledged merit; at these, the student is sure in time to be pronounced learned, if he has but the patience to continue a certain number of years a professed dunce. My other reason is, what I have before hinted. I would have the institution in question rather calculated to correct, improve, and cherish our present race of writers, than to encourage an unnecessary multiplication of such as are still less qualified to shine in so arduous a department.

At the same time also, as I would have such an institution prove of use to Authors, I could wish to see it equally useful to the Public. Such a Society, Sir, under proper regulations, might become not only protectors of the property, but guardians of the liberty, and chastisers of the licentiousness of the press. But, having run this letter to a considerable length, I must defer giving a further explanation, as well as a sketch of a plan of such regulations, to another opportunity.—I am, your's, &c.

Q. R. S.

POWER OF AUSTRIA.

(From the Edinburgh Review.)

Austria is poor in money and heroism,—but she is rich in men.—Her perseverance is not at all akin to that of ancient Rome, which never made peace till victory enabled her to dictate the terms. Austria, on the contrary, has repeatedly submitted to save her existence by passing under the yoke. She never gives quarter, but she has no objection to receive it. With all this command of men however the miserable state of her finances will not allow her to bring great armies at once into the field. When Louis XIV. had 400,000 men in arms, Austria could with difficulty embody 70,000. In 1756, she raised 100,000 to oppose the King of Prussia with 200,000. In 1792, she took the field with 170,000, against France with an army of 600,000. In spite of the numerous subsidies which she draws from other countries, she still remains poor. During the last war, notwithstanding the immense loans which she received from England, she was obliged to have recourse to a paper currency, and five times failed in her engagements with her creditors. But if her poverty prevents her from raising large armies she can recruit them easily—for the materials are never wanting. Her strength, therefore, is not shewn by one, but by successive efforts. What she wants in extension, she makes up in depth. As she can dispose of men like property, her conscriptions have no limit, not even that which high prices usually put upon the consumption of other articles; for in Austria the expenses of living, of clothing, of education, &c. do not amount to the fifth part of what they do in England. It is

the small value of individual lives, which explains how such immense armies were consumed by the Eastern Governments, by Turkey, and by the Crusades. England, from a contrary cause, has always been sparing of men.

It is this continuous force which Austria possesses, that affords the key to her unwearied obstinacy in war; to the interminable campaigns of Charles V.; his extravagant expeditions to Africa; the 30 years war; the war of the succession of Spain; that of the succession of Chs. VI.; the second seven years' war against the King of Prussia; and lastly, the 22 years' war against the French revolution. The armies of Austria, if they are not immortal for their heroism, may be said to be so by the rapidity of their resurrection. Napoleon, in order to make himself master of Upper Italy, in 1796, was obliged to destroy five armies in one year. The best plan, therefore, of vanquishing Austria is that which Napoleon in all his campaigns adopted, of invading and surprising her without leaving her time to recover herself. Give her breathing time, and she will soon recruit her armies, from her immense depots in Hungary, Transylvania and Croatia.

Among all the automata that allow themselves to be slaughtered for fivepence a day, the Austrian soldier is the most deserving of compassion. The chastisement which awaits him for the slightest offences, is the most ignominious that can be inflicted: the reward of his toils and his bravery, the most miserable that can be given. The food, the pay, and the cloathing of the Austrian are inferior to those of any other soldier in Europe.

Austria acquires with difficulty, but she never abandons her acquisitions. The cession or the restitution of a province, feels like a dismemberment; for all that she acquires she incorporates. She cannot forget any thing which she has once possessed. Maria Theresa, when ever Silesia, acceded to Frederick, was mentioned, used to exclaim, in a tone of emotion 'I feel it in my heart!' Although Austria had recognized the Cisalpine republic by the treaty of Campo Formio, when she re-entered Italy in 1799, she annulled the sales of national property, and chastised as rebels, all the Italians who had entered into the service of the Republic. In the wars of 1805 and 1809, the Italian officers who were made prisoners were reproached as rebels to the house of Austria; and, in 1814, when she took violent possession of the Italian provinces, she announced that she was about to re-enter her old dominions! For Austria there is no such thing as prescription. Treaties she looks upon merely as truces, that enable her to recover breath and vigour for the next attack.

How, then, it may be asked, does Austria oppose her foreign enemies? We answer, 1. By mere physical strength. 2. By the supplies she receives through her alliance with England. 3. By the deceit and meanness which she makes use of in diplomacy. Before England by its commercial wealth, acquired the ascendancy in Europe, the Austrian government existed principally by the sale of titles and investitures, and by supplies, sometimes obtained voluntarily, sometimes extorted by deceit, or by force. Maximilian borrowed from every body, paid nobody, and yet was constantly in want of money. But when England became one of the principle states of Europe, they abandoned their profession of Chevalier d'Industrie for the safe trade of

receiving the pay of England. And as long as England has continental enemies to hold in check, and is willing to pay in subsidies for the assistance of Austria, there is little doubt that Austria will neither alter her system of finance, nor her plan of depression and darkness.— Maria Theresa herself, rather than civilize Transylvania, Croatia, &c. and thus increase the taxable property of the empire, descended to sanction a plan of public begging in all the churches. On the contrary; should the supplies of England cease, Austria, if she wishes not to sink at once into a power of the third rank, being no longer able to sell the services of her armies to England; will be compelled to sell prosperity and moral dignity to her subjects.

The Emperor Frederick III. used to compare himself to a willow that bent with the blast, and rose again when the storm had passed over: and this comparison may be applied to the policy of all his house: Its power of resistance consists in its pliability: it has adopted as a rule of conduct, the maxim in fencing. 'La foiblesse-fuit la force.' Vienna was once besieged by the Bohemians; once by the Turks; and has been twice taken in our own times. But the government always bent without breaking.

The result of the whole then is, that Austria does not aspire after glory—she is content with a tranquil longevity. She avoids all strong sensations, lively pleasures, and violent shocks, like those phlegmatic persons to whom mere existence is enjoyment. England enriches herself by commerce and conquest; but her riches and her commerce are liable to all the variations of accident. The war with her American dominions, and the continental system of Napoleon, were two dangerous crises in her history; and already the state of her Indian provinces is a subject of anxiety. The conquests of France are rapid, but her reverses are not less so. Her glory is purchased at the price of comfort, peril and anxiety. The history of the reign of Charles VIII. of Francis I. Henry IV. of the wars of the League and of the Fronde, the Regency, the late Revolution, have all the startling effect of romance. And yet France, after all her triumphs and her toils, has lost the greater part of her colonies, and some portion of her proper territory. Warlike France, the terror of the nineteenth century, after twenty years of brilliant victory, is less extensive and less powerful at this moment than the supine, voluptuous France of the eighteenth. Austria, again, rises slowly secretly, almost imperceptibly—she creeps along the ground, undisturbed by the anxieties that are bred in the higher regions, and suffering only from the occasional and temporary injuries which she receives in war. After having been the scorn and the mock of Europe for 20 years, she is at this moment stronger, more extensive, more compact than before her defeats! The anagram of Ferdinand III. A. E. I. O. U. which he interpreted, Austria est imperare orbi universo, is not very likely, we think, to be verified in our day; yet it is not to be supposed, that, because Austria does not openly aspire after the sceptre of the world, she has entirely renounced the hope or wish of conquest. Austria is poor, but her ambition peeps out under her rags. She wants nothing but money to make her formidable. In this view the possession of Italy is an incalculable advantage. If it exacts from her some vigilance,

and causes her some anxiety, it furnishes her at the same time with the means of supporting a numerous army in the time of peace. She draws from her Italian provinces more than a million sterling, free of all expense; and the other little kingdoms of Italy all pay her tribute. Naples, for four years, has had to maintain, at her own expense, 40,000 Austrian troops; and Piedmont 15,000 for two years. The Italian princes pay to Austria an annual tribute for their provincial pashaliks, and Austria finds her strength in their weakness. We cannot understand how France and Russia can thus allow Austria to exercise this absolute dominion in the Italian peninsula, and treat the Italian princes as we do the Nabobs and Rajabs of India. And although our cabinet supported Austria for twenty-two years during the last war, it is scarcely our interest, one would think, that Austria, by the possession of Italy, should be enabled to dispense with our assistance. If she ever becomes rich she will bid adieu to the Bank of England; and England will loose in Austria, the assistance of that arm which was ever ready to fight for any one who choose to pay.

From the time of Duke Albert to the present day, this house has been engaged in a continual war against liberty. There is no other instance in the history of the world of a struggle thus protracted for six centuries, and even now carried on with more ferocity than ever. She began her career by persecuting the inhabitants of some barren Swiss mountains; she destroyed the Cortes in Castile and Arragon; ravaged Flanders and Holland with fire and sword; extinguished the Italian republic in the 18th century, and wasted Germany for thirty years, scattering pestilence and death wherever she turned. She destroyed the 72 Hanseatic cities that existed in Germany—the constitution, the liberty, the prosperity, even the books and language of the Bohemians. She deprived Hungary of her independence, her privileges, her rights, and even the crown of St. Stephen—the Hungarian Palladium. She violated the Constitution which had been guaranteed to the Low Countries by the maritime powers, by the barrier treaty.—But the list is endless. How many nations might demand from Austria a fearful reckoning for the prosperity, the independence, the liberty of which she has deprived them! And what benefits has she ever conferred on Europe in return?

From this brief sketch of her fixed and unchangeable policy, we may gather, that Henry IV. would have conferred a blessing on Europe, if the hand of an assassin had not cut short his life, & his projects for leaguuing Germany against the house of Austria; and we ought to feel grateful to our illustrious Chatham who, to controul her fatal predominance, created, during the last century, a rival kingdom in Prussia. Among those indeed who are aware of the facts to which we have hastily referred, there can assuredly be but one opinion as to the merits of a government, which excommunicates knowledge, prescribes every liberal institution and is the professed enemy of the amelioration of the human race. Writers of all countries have accordingly concurred of late in reprobating its meanness and cruelty, and have exerted themselves to place Austria under the ban of Europe, with far more justice than she herself, of old, used to place under the ban of the Empire, the electors by whom she was resisted.

POETRY.

ANCIENT POETRY AND ROMANCES OF SPAIN, SELECTED AND TRANSLATED

BY, J. BOWRING.

Mr. Bowring's industry is sufficient to redeem the whole race of poets from the charge of laziness. However diversified the instruments he employs, his talents and zeal are ever enlisted in the dissemination of national and individual excellence. There is so much valuable originality mixed up in the sayings and doings of Mr. B. that we are almost induced to regret that he should spend his time in giving currency to the thoughts of others, rather than to his own; and it is this feeling which leads us to select a few lines in his short preface, in preference to the thousand sweet and playful thoughts with which this elegant little volume abounds. There is much of plain-speaking honesty in the following declaration:—

"And I suspect, as a man grows older, if his honesty grows with his years, he will set a less value upon the sum of contribution to the mass of knowledge which he is enabled to bring. He will find he has little to say which has not been said before and little to communicate which is not already known."

It is in this spirit of candour that Mr. Bowring avows his unabated confidence in the eventual triumph of Spanish independence: this declaration is particularly exhilarating to those who, with him, wish well to the triumph of liberty in every clime, as proceeding from an individual, who perhaps of all others possesses the best means of knowing the real state of that priest-ridden country; and this, too, at a time when men are anxious to palliate their indifference by pretending to have discovered inherent defects in the characters of those who, when successful, they extolled without measure and without reserve. "In Spain," says Mr. B. "I have passed many happy days; to Spaniards I owe many delightful recollections. My estimations of the Spanish character, my hopes of Spanish re-generation, have not been shaken by the disasters which have filled some minds with disappointment and others with despair. I wish to record this confidence in the day of adversity." To the lovers of soft sentiments and breathing sighs; to those who delight to repose on daisied banks, and by the side of the murmuring stream, these ancient romances offer a rich repast; and many are the exquisite lines we might quote in confirmation of this statement: but it is more in unison with our present feelings to inspire the patriot with confidence, and to kindle his enthusiasm with the charms of poetry; we therefore extract the following "National Air:"—

"How wretched the fate of the fetter-bound slave!
How green and how holy the patriot's grave!
Let us rush to the field—for the trump from afar
Call Spaniards to triumph, and heroes to war!
Our Country, in tears, sends her sons to the plain,
To conquer or perish for freedom and Spain!

Oh, list to the summons! the blood of our sires
Boils high in our veins,—and 'tis vengeance inspires!
Who bows to the yoke—who bends to the blow?
No hero will bend, and no Spaniard will bow;
Our Country, in tears, sends her sons to the plain,
To conquer or perish for freedom and Spain!

My children, farewell!—my beloved, adieu!
My heart's-blood shall flow in its torrents for you:
These arms shall be red with the gore of the slain,
Ere they clasp thee, fond wife, to this bosom again!
Our Country, in tears, sends her sons to the plain,
To conquer or perish for freedom and Spain!

TROUBADOUR SONGS.

The warrior cross'd the ocean's foam,
For the stormy fields of war;
The maid was left in a smiling home,
And a sunny land afar.

His voice was heard where javelin-showers
Pour'd on the steel clad line;
Her step was 'midst the summer flowers,
Her seat beneath the vine.

His shield was cleft, his lance was riven,
And the red blood stain'd his crest;
While she—the gentlest wind of Heaven
Might scarcely fan her breast.

Yet a thousand arrows pass'd him by,
And again he cross'd the seas;
But she had died as roses die,
That perish with a breeze!

As roses die, when the blast is come,
For all things bright and fair;—
There was death within the smiling home,
How bad death found her there?

They rear'd no trophy o'er his grave,
They bade no requiem flow;
What left they there to tell the brave
That a warrior sleeps below?

A shiver'd spear, a cloven shield,
A helm with its white plume torn,
And a blood-stain'd turf on the fatal field,
Where a chief to his rest was borne!

He lies not where his fathers sleep,
But who hath a tomb more proud?
For the Syrian wild his records keep,
And a banner is his shroud!

 INSCRIPTION FOR A COLUMN AT SCIO.

Stranger, hast thou a home, and dost thou love
To think of it; and do fair visions rise,
Cheering thy path, of that all-hallowed spot?
And is thy cot, though humble, guarded well
By that impartial sword of law which turns,
Still turns its fiery edge to all who dare
Insult thy dear Elysium? then to Heaven
Bend thou the knee of gratitude; thy cup
Of blessedness is full. But haply thou
Wilt drop a tear for us, for Scio,—once
The loveliest of those blooming isles that stud

The bright, the beautiful *Ægean*.

Pause,

Stranger, a moment here; for we had homes
Sacred as thine; and we were rich in all
That makes home—heav'n, On rapid, noiseless wing
Passed by the harmonious seasons, Summer breathed
Her gentlest breezes on the sea; the sea
In music broke upon the strand; and there
The unconscious children played, while smiling age
Looked on refreshed; as infancy renewed
The frolics of a far-gone hour. The lute
Was heard from many a bower;—the maidens led
The dance of *Ariadne*. O'er their heads
The living canopy of flowers and fruits
In beautiful confusion droop'd; the vine
Sun loving shed its clusters, purpling there
Like *Amethysts*; the luscious orange hung
Its golden spheres; while in the genial ray
The red pomegranate glow'd. And some awoke
The pastoral strain, where on its emerald stem
Up rose the olive, or the plane diffused
Its ample, grateful shade.

As springs the wolf

Upon his unsuspecting pray; as swoops
The eagle on the ring dove; nursed in crime,
Fanatics, pitiless, revengeful, rush'd
The sanguinary Moslem! One wild cry
Rang round the wretched isle. Before the steps
Of that ferocious Scythian lay the land,
Smiling like *Eden*, and behind him frown'd
A dreary wilderness. That peaceful strand,
Where play'd the children, redden'd with the blood,
The mingled blood of youth and age. At once
Temple and cot, and bower and grove, upflam'd,
The mother clasp'd her child in vain—in vain
“Shriek'd to mute Heaven the violated maid,”
And forms as fair as *Helen*, fair as she
Of *Cytherea*, forth the spoiler dragg'd
To foul captivity!

But by the wrongs

Of those who writhe in rank pollution's arms,
And call on us for help—by ages past
Of bitter bondage—by that sacred Cross
Which is our hope and battle sign, though scorn'd
By Christian Europe—by that innocent blood,
The cry of which e'en now is pealing round
The throne of the avenger; not in vain
Shall suffering woman plead. Again it comes,
The antient unsubmitting spirit comes;
The high resolve—the proud contempt of pain,
Of danger, death, and as indignant Greece
Leads on her sons to victory, the hand,
City of blood, *Stamboul*—the unerring hand
Of fate rings deeply on thy startled ear
The knell of tyranny.

N. T. C.

TRANSLATION OF AN ANCIENT SPANISH BALLAD.*

Your horse is faint, my King, my Lord,
 Your gallant horse is sick;
 His limbs are torn, his breast is gored,
 On his eye the film is thick;
 Mount, mount, on mine! oh, mount apace?
 I pray, thee mount and fly:
 Or in my arms I'll lift your Grace—
 Their trampling hoofs are nigh.

My King, my King, you're wounded sore;
 The blood runs from your feet:
 But only lay a hand before,
 And I'll lift you to your seat:
 Mount, Juan! for they gather fast—
 I hear their coming cry;
 Mount, mount! and ride for jeopardy—
 I'll save you though I die!

Stand, noble steed, this hour of need:
 Be gentle as a lamb:
 I'll kiss the foam from off thy mouth:
 Thy master dear I am.
 Mount, Juan, mount! whate'er betide;
 Away the bridle fling,
 And plunge the rowels in his side—
 My horse shall save my king!

Nay, never speak! my sires, Lord King,
 Receiv'd their land from yours,
 And joyfully their blood shall spring,
 So it but thine secures:
 If I should fly, and thou my King,
 Be found among the dead,
 How could I stand 'mong gentlemen,
 Such scorn on my grey head?

Castile's proud dames shall never point
 The finger of disdain,
 And say "there's ONE that ran away
 When our good Lord was slain."
 I'll leave Diego in your care;
 You'll fill his father's place—
 Strike, strike the spur! and never spare:
 God's blessing on your Grace!

—So spake the brave Montanez,
 (Butrago's Lord was he,)
 And turned him to the coming host
 In steadfastness and glee:
 He flung himself among them,
 As they came down the hill;
 He died, God wot! but not before
 His sword had drunk its fill.

* The incident on which this ballad is founded is supposed to have occurred on the famous field of Aljubarrota; where King Juan the First, of Castile, was defeated by the Portuguese. The King, who was at the time in a feeble state of health, exposed himself very much during the action, and, being wounded, had great difficulty in making his escape. The battle was fought A. D. 1385.

MONTHLY REGISTER.

Foreign Summary.

OCTOBER; 1824.

EUROPE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Parliament has been further prorogued until the 4th November. It is said, that, both Houses will then meet for the despatch of business, and it is expected that a dissolution will take place in the course of the spring.

In consequence of the expected dissolution of Parliament, the candidates for seats in the new Parliament are beyond all precedent. Not only the sons of nobility, but the landed and commercial interests, are equally anxious to become members at the approaching election, and which has occasioned a most extraordinary sensation with persons who have any interest in boroughs.

By a report of the Committee of the House of Commons for improving the foreign Trade of the country made during last June, it appears that the Committee reported a general reduction of pilotage rates on vessels arriving in England of 12½ per cent, as the "scale of freights which has obtained since the peace, the rates of which, from various circumstances connected with a long continued state of hostility, has been subjected to an unnatural depression," when taken in consideration with the interests of "a most useful and valuable class of mariners" the pilots, appeared to have called for such a reduction.

LONDON GAZETTE, Tuesday, Sept. 7, 1824.

This Gazette announces the appointment by the Right Honourable Thomas Lord Manners, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland, of Richard Brooke, Attorney-at-Law as a Master Extraordinary of the High court of Chancery, in Ireland, vice Philip Kewley, deceased.

Also his appointment by the Right Honourable Charles Kendal Bushe, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench in Ireland, and by the Right Honourable John Lord Norberry, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in Ireland, as a Commissioner to take Affidavits in those respective Courts.

Also his appointment by the Right Honourable William Baron Stowell, president and Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, in England, as a Commissioner to take Bail in that Court.

Foreign Office Sept. 10, 1824.

The King has been graciously pleased to nominate and appoint the Right Hon. Sir Wm. A'Court, Bart. K. B. now his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to his Catholic Majesty, to be his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to his most Faithful Majesty.

The King has also been graciously pleased to nominate and appoint the Hon. Francis Reginald Forbes, now Secretary to his Majesty's Legation at Lisbon, to be Secretary to His Majesty's Embassy at that Court.

The King has been graciously pleased to nominate and appoint the Right Hon. William Noel Hill, now his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Sardinia, to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Naples.

The King has also been graciously pleased to nominate and appoint the Right Hon. Augustus John Foster, now his Majesty's Envoy extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Denmark, to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Sardinia.

The King has also been graciously pleased to nominate and appoint Henry Watkin Williams Wynn, Esq. now his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Wirtemberg, to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Denmark.

The King has also been graciously pleased to nominate and appoint the Right Hon. Lord Erskine to be his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Wirtemberg.

The new London Bridge is to be called Trafalgar Bridge. This, with the magnificent bridge erected a few years ago, opposite Somerset house, and denominated Waterloo Bridge, will serve most appropriately to perpetuate the memory of England's two greatest triumphs.

An extraordinary phenomenon occurred on the 2d Sept. near Haworth, about 24 miles from Leeds. A part of the high lands on the moors, opened into chasms and sunk to the depth of 5 or 6 yards in some places, and formed two cavities, one about 200 and the other about 600 yards in circumference. From these issued two immense volumes of muddy water, which, uniting at the distance of 100 yards from their sources, overwhelmed the country for about two hours from 30 to 50 yards in width, from three to four yards in depth, and for a distance of six or seven miles.—All this way there was deposited a black moorish substance, from 3 to 36 inches in depth, mixed with sand, rocky fragments, &c. A paragraph dated Leeds, Sept. 6, states that the River Ayre still presented the most extraordinary appearance—resembling exactly the grounds of coffee. All the woolen manufactures, dye houses, &c. upon its banks, were completely at a stand, and the most lively apprehensions prevailed as to the ultimate consequences of this unusual phenomenon.

The harvest has commenced in Scotland, under very favorable circumstances. In England, there was every prospect that the crop of hops would be abundant. From Canterbury and Maidstone the most flattering accounts had been received. The crop of Flax in Ireland is abundant and good throughout the country. The consumption of Flax seed in Ireland last year, was 10,000 hhd. more than the preceding year, and double what it was ten years ago. The quantity remaining on hand on the 5th of July, 1823, was 2,213 tierces.—The quantity on the 5th of July 1824, was 14,600 tierces. Last sales in June 45s 6d.

A gentleman in Edinburgh is in possession of the cap which the Earl of Argyll, who was beheaded in 1685, upon an iniquitous sentence, wore upon the scaffold.—It is of white satin, lined with linen, and having a border beautifully wrought. It is also much stained with the blood which flowed from the veins of the noble Martyr.

There is at present residing at Pelton, near Chester-le-street, a woman who was christened on the 30th July, 1721, and is consequently 103 years old: and who travels between the two places, the distance being two miles, three or four times a week.

At a public meeting in Glasgow in the latter part of August, at which his Grace the Duke of Hamilton presided, it was resolved to form a Joint Stock Company, with a capital of no less than £.20,000, to be raised in shares of fifty pounds, which, under the sanction of Parliament, should devote that capital to the improvement of the Clyde above Glasgow, and to the formation of rail-ways, branching therefrom in various directions.

The Duke of Devonshire's improvements at Chatsworth will cost, it is said, two hundred thousand pounds.

It is supposed that no fewer than three thousand houses will be built in Birmingham, and its environs during the present year.

A number of Noblemen and Gentlemen, in Great Britain and Ireland, conceiving that it is quite practicable, and desirous to render the communication between the South West of Ireland and North America, more expeditious and safe, by the means of Steam Boat Navigation, have published the following Scheme.

It is proposed to establish a line of Steam Packets of 1000 tons, from the excellent harbour of Valentia, in the south west extremity of Ireland, to the city of N. York, touching a Canso, in Nova Scotia.

▲ mail coach would at once be established from the above mentioned harbour,

twenty five miles, by a level and picturesque road to the celebrated town of Killarney.

From Killarney a well appointed Mail Coach now runs daily, through Cork to Waterford and through Limerick to Dublin and Belfast.

From Dublin and Waterford the Post Office Steam Packets pass daily across the channel to Holyhead and Milford Haven. From Cork, Dublin, and Belfast there are also regular Steam Vessels to Bristol, Liverpool and Glasgow.

From New York there is a direct and rapid communication to Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, and all other cities of the Union—to Montreal and Canada—to the Ohio, the Mississippi, and New Orleans—to Mexico and the West Indies—and the direct line of Navigation from New York to Ireland passes near Halifax and Newfoundland, so that, if found desirable, no difficulty will arise in communicating with these parts of British America.

IRELAND.—Lord Norbury resigns, and is to be succeeded as Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas by Mr. Joy, the Solicitor General of Ireland. Mr. Sergeant Lefroy will, it is said, be the new Solicitor General; and in the room of the latter, Mr. Leslie Foster, the new Sergeant.—Lord Norbury is the oldest Judge in the United Kingdom, and is, we believe, 87 years of age. At eighty he partook of the pleasures of the chase, and was the boldest fox hunter in the kingdom.

Government are gradually undermining the strong holds of faction. The bitterness of those who boasted of exclusive loyalty, because they thought they had a prescriptive right to insult and persecute their Catholic countrymen; is the best evidence that they feel that the day of their power is fast waning. Of all men, it is the duty of the Catholic gentry to labour, by night and by day, to preserve the peace of the country and the loyalty of the people; Midnight legislation and outrage never did, nor will, benefit any people. If our population were universally tranquil and obedient to the laws, we may judge of what government would do for them from what it has been quietly accomplishing during the last 12 months.

The Dublin Mercantile Advertiser of the 6th Sept. says "it is certain that a silent, but what the event as we are persuaded will prove, a radical change, is about taking place in the commercial relations of this country with England, and in the condition of her mercantile classes. Whether this change will operate favorably or otherwise time only will enable us to judge. The attention of Parliament having been turned to this country, great hopes are entertained of the results of the investigation. But not only the Legislature, but British Capitalists have turned their attention to Ireland. Mr. Maberly is certainly going to embark a considerable property in this country, and we have reason to believe that his example will be followed by others. The establishment of Irish Mining Companies is one of several good efforts."

A Limerick paper of the 2d August, gives a most flattering account of the prospects of an abundant harvest. The cuttings had commenced in that neighbourhood, and it is remarked for the last fifty years there had not been a prospect of a more abundant harvest and with the smiles of providence for a few days, Ireland will have an almost inexhaustible supply for her immense population, if they had money to purchase food.

FRANCE.—Private letters from Paris represent the King's health to be in a very precarious state, and even go so far as to say that the King's physicians have given it as their opinions that his life would not be prolonged beyond the middle of September. Apprehensions were entertained by some, that his death would create political troubles—but these fears are idle. The Paris papers of the 4th however, state that His Majesty's health had somewhat improved, and that he was able on that day to transact business with Count de Ville.

An insurrection among the felons confined to the galleys at Toulon, took place on the 29d of August. Some suspicions of the project were entertained, and measures taken to put it down promptly, if it occurred. At noon of that day, at the moment that those of them who were employed upon the ground of Mourillon were entering a shed under which they repose during suspension from labor, one of them, with a cutting instrument, struck the sergeant of the guard, who finding himself attacked, drew his sword and stretched the felon who had wounded him dead at his feet. This was the signal of revolt. They all rushed upon the guards, who in defence, fired up-

on the assailants. M. Reynaud, Commissary of Marine, hastened to the spot, and order was promptly restored. In this unfortunate circumstance sixteen of the galley slaves were killed and several wounded.

The French Press—Paris August 16.—Louis by the grace of God, &c.—Having seen the 4th Art. of the law of the 17th March, 1822, which provides as follows:

“If in the interval of the sessions of Chambers, grave circumstances should render insufficient the established regulations for controuling the press, the laws of the 31st of March, 1820, and the 26th of July, 1821, may be immediately put in force by an ordinance of the king, deliberated in council, and countersigned by three ministers.

“This disposition shall cease one month after the opening of the Sessions, if during this period it shall not have been converted into a law.

“It shall equally cease on the day on which an ordinance shall be published pronouncing the dissolution of the Chamber of Deputies.

“Considering that our courts of law have recently recognized in the journals an existence *de jure*, independent of their existence *de facto*.

“That this interpretation furnishes sure and easy means of eluding the suspension and the suppression of the journals.

“It follows that the means of suppression established by the 3d article of the law of the 17th of March 1822, have become insufficient.

“Desiring under existing circumstances, and until the next meeting of Chambers, to provide efficaciously for the maintenance of public order: Having heard our council, We have ordered and do order as follows:—

“Art. 1. The laws of the 31st of March, 1820, and 26th of July, 1821, are restored in full force from the present day.

Our Minister Secretary of State of the Department of the Interior is charged with the execution of the present ordinance.

LOUIS.

LOUIS, &c. Referring to an ordinance of yesterday ordering the re-establishment of the laws of 31st March, 1820 and 26th July, 1821, relative to periodical papers and writings; upon the report of our minister, the Secretary of the Interior, we have ordered and hereby order as follows:

Art. 1. There shall be immediately formed at Paris, near the Ministry, of the Interior and under the presidency of the Director of the Police, a committee charged with a preliminary examination of all journals and periodicals. It shall be composed, not including the president, of six members named by the Secretary of the Interior.

2. Every article of a paper or periodical must before being printed, be furnished with a *visa*; setting forth that the said article has received the previous examination and approbation required by article 5th of the law of 31st March, 1820; which *visa* shall be given by the Sieur Deliege, whom we name, with that view, secretary of the said committee.

3. In the departments, the Prefects shall name, as required by circumstances, one or more censors, charged with the preliminary examinations of journals and periodicals published there.

4. Our Minister of the interior is charged with the execution of the ordinance.

Given at the Thuilleries, 16th of August, 1824, and of our reign the 30th!

LOUIS.

“Paris, August 21.—There is very little generosity in some Journals, in which the blank spots of other Journals are held up to ridicule. If we have not filled our sheet, it was because we wanted matter, though we have sent articles enough to fill several Journals. We do not know our censors—we know nothing of what instructions they have received, and we cannot even guess at their tenor by the retrenchments already made. We were obliged, therefore, to leave those places vacant which we could not fill without violating the law, and then the Journals which censure us for the vacant places, would have shouted for joy if we were condemned for having done it. In 1815, when the censorship was established, a Censor was appointed for each journal; explanations could be entered into with him, and without giving up his secret, he allowed the intentions of the Government to be divined. He was not only an overseer, he was guided. At present, wherever the Censorship exists in Germany, it is exercised in this manner. When the Governments suppose themselves obliged to have recourse to some guarantee, at least they do not make it ruin for Authors and Editors.”

The following is the polite note addressed by the Police to the editors severally.

“PARIS, August 16, 1824.

“Sir—An ordinance of the King, dated yesterday, and inserted to-day in the *Moniteur*, signifying that the laws of the 31st March, 1820, and of the 26th July, 1821, relative to the journals, should be again put in force; and another ordinance of his Majesty, regulating the mode of execution, having also appeared, I invite you to send this evening to the Hotel of the Director of Police, No. 116, Rue de Greelle, St. Germain, two proofs of the journal of which you are the responsible publisher, to be there examined; and approved if proper (s'il y a lieu).—Accept, Sir, the assurance of my perfect consideration,

“The Counsellor of State, Prefect of Police

“DELAUVAU.”

SPAIN.—Communications from Seville of the 2d August, state some curious facts as to the mode adopted by Ferdinand to “raise the wind.” He has entered into a contract with some English speculators, in Madrid, to let to them for certain fixed sums the privilege of collecting the duties on the entry of merchandise into the large towns. At Seville, where the same duties are chargeable as at Cadiz, but which the Spanish officers have never been able to collect, the privilege was let by Ferdinand for five millions of reals (£50,000) annually. The Chamber of Commerce of that city having remonstrated in vain against this act, have taken advantage of a local charter in their favour, to set aside the contract, upon condition of their paying the same sum to Ferdinand as the English company had agreed to pay. To cover this undertaking, the Chamber have decided upon levying only a small duty, under the impression that the trade will be chiefly carried there; and that the inhabitants will benefit largely by this moderation.

Madrid, Aug. 23.—The Gazette which will be published to-morrow is to contain the following decree respecting the events at Tariffa:

Art. 1. Every Spaniard coming from the Bay of Gibraltar, or from any other point, who shall have embarked, on the coast of Spain, or the adjacent islands, and who by arms, by placards of a seditious nature, or by any other means, shall endeavour to establish the anarchical system *Constitutional*; shall be shot as soon as taken, whether he be armed or unarmed:

2. Strangers who shall commit the offences mentioned above, shall be subject to the same punishment, if they be taken in company with the constitutionalists.

3. Those also shall undergo a similar punishment who, after landing, shall join the Constitutionalists, or whatever positions they occupy, and who may be taken armed or unarmed:

4. Those who from the interior or places abroad shall hold correspondence with the Constitutionalists, or shall supply them with arms, munitions, horses, provisions, dress, or money, shall be placed at the disposal of the Military Commissions, and tried without the least delay, conformably to a decree of the 13th of January last.

5. Those Commissions, shall, in these proceedings, decline every information which may not be absolutely necessary to prove the crime.

6. Every individual of the Revolutionary band who shall deliver up his chiefs or officers, shall obtain pardon; he will also receive a reward, if the particular circumstances render him worthy of it. Favour is also granted to those persons, who, being made the depositaries of secrets of the Constitutionalists, shall reveal them to a competent authority, or shall contribute to the apprehension of these persons or of the effects mentioned in Art. 4.

FRENCH ARMY IN SPAIN.—Paris, August 30.

“Order of the Day.—“A revolutionary party, consisting of about 100, had taken possession of the fortress of Tariffa, on the morning of the 3d of August, after having surprised the Spanish garrison, the rebels, commanded by an individual, named Valdes, had increased their number by liberating the galley slaves who were in prison at Tariffa, a recruit worth of them; these and some soldiers of the garrison, a few Spanish deserters and outcasts of society, who joined them, augmented this troop to about 400 men.

On the first intelligence of this event, the Lieut-General, Commandant of the

Division of Cadiz, sent a column of Infantry and Cavalry, under the orders of Count d'Astorg. Colonel of the 14th Regiment of Chasseurs, and on the 7th Tarifa was blockaded by land, and soon afterwards by sea; but as it is surrounded by ramparts, the heavy artillery was of necessity, brought up against it to effect a breach.

"At length, on the afternoon of the 19th, the breach was practicable at 4 o'clock. The town was taken by assault, as was also the fort of St. Catherine, by the brave 24th of the line, and Spanish troops who had come from the camp of St. Rochi.

"The following morning (the 20th) at day-break, the isle defended by 20 pieces of cannon, in which a party of the Rebels had taken refuge after having abandoned Tarifa, fell into our power.

"We have made prisoners two Chiefs, Pedro Valdez, and Domingo Gouzales, and 160 of the factious band; the principal Chief made his escape in a cowardly manner during the night.

"During the whole course of the expedition against Tarifa, we have to regret the loss of one Lieutenant of the 24th, and 2 non-commissioned officers and soldiers killed; two artillery officers, and 27 non-commissioned officers and soldiers were wounded."

(The order proceeds to mention the names of the officers who particularly distinguished themselves; and to eulogise the steady conduct and bravery of the troops, and thus concludes)

"It is under these happy auspices that the French troops will to-morrow celebrate the day of St. Louis, the festival of their good King. *Vive le Roi long temp! et les Bourbons toujours!* (May the King live long! and the Bourbons always!)

"Head-quarters at Madrid, August 24.

"(Signed)

"Viscount DIGEON.

"The General Commandant in Chief."

PORTUGAL.—The King of Portugal is about to bring to Justice the revolutionists in his kingdom who were concerned in the affair of 30th of April last.

The Journal of Commerce of the 18th ult. contains the following account from Lisbon of the 31st of July:—"The expedition fitting out at this place for Brazil, is preparing with great activity." [One or two vessels have arrived in this country, which left Lisbon about the 5th of Aug. the masters of which saw nothing of any naval preparations in the harbor.]

The Portuguese government have ordered an extraordinary levy of troops—the time of service for the artillery and cavalry is for 9 years; infantry 7 years, and volunteers 2 years.

A Lisbon paragraph of Aug. 24, announces the sailing of the Para, with 158 Brazilian soldiers, which had been sent prisoners from that province by Gov. Meira. Orders have been given for sending home those who were sent from Maranham, under like circumstances,

GREECE AND TURKEY.—The latest intelligence of the Turkish fleet is contained in a letter from Smyrna, dated May 22, at which time it was stated that the fleet was at Salonica, for the purpose of taking on board 18,000 troops.

Letters have been received from Salonica, which advise the arrivals in the Gulph, which bears that name of the Turkish fleet consisting in all of nearly sixty ships. It was reported that it would be joined by thirty transports, having six thousand troops on board, and then proceed against some of the most powerful islands in the Archipelago. This force, in addition to the troops expected from Smyrna and Egypt, will again render the Ottomans formidable to the Christians, and unless there should be more unity among the Grecian chieftains, the successful finish of the war may be more distant, than the favourable conclusion of the last campaign led the friends of Grecian Independence to expect. Jealousy has hitherto prevented the reduction of the fortress of Patras, and of the castles of Lepanto; and as the Turkish fleet will now probably supply these garrisons with provisions & military stores, a considerable period may still intervene before the barbarians be entirely expelled from the Morca.

The Turkish forces made a descent on the island of Ipsara, and were successful in carrying it, but at a dreadful expense of lives—when no longer able to resist the attacks, the few surviving Greeks retired to the fortress, and on the Turks entering it blew up the whole garrison.

"About 10 or 12 of the best Greek vessels with the richest Greeks on board with their families, and it is said the public treasure, escaped at the very onset of the business. They sailed out of Port, telling their betrayed countrymen, that they would attack the Turks at another quarter of the island, and cause a diversion!" All the fire ships, and about 12 or 14 armed vessels of the Greeks were destroyed (burnt) by the Turks, and 18 or 20 of the former struck their colors, and had the Turkish flag flying when the last accounts came away. "The fleet will go next to Samos, which will most likely be attacked in a very few days." "We have just learned officially that the island of Samos has sent in its submission to the Porte."

Another letter from Smyrna, dated the 10th of July, states that the Captain Pacha had 80 vessels, large and small when he attacked the island of Ipsara, and having landed 14,000 men, it was unnecessary for the Turkish fleet to fire a gun. The sea was covered with the bodies of Greeks who endeavoured to escape in small boats and vessels so heavily laden, that they sunk. The Albanian Greeks made some resistance, but were repulsed, after killing about 500 Turks, and they took refuge in the last fortress on the eastern side of the Island which held out the whole day.

The Primates of the Island and the Senate had time to escape with their families in their own vessels, which were lying at Anti Ipsara, whence they made sail. The Captain Pacha despatched some frigates after them, but without overtaking them. The Captain Pacha intends to proceed immediately to Samos, to Tina, and thence to Hydra, to complete by force the submission of the Greeks. He has sent a squadron before him to invite the islanders to submit voluntarily, and to prevent the effusion of blood.

After the melancholy intelligence of the capture of Ipsara by the Turks, we turn with pleasure to the following cheering reverse in favour of the Greek cause:—

The London Courier of the 30th contains advices from Smyrna and Constantinople, by way of Italy; according to which no doubt remains of the destruction of the Turks at Ipsara. It appears from the reports, that the blowing up of the fortress destroyed the most of the Turks who were about the fort. A letter published in the Journal of Missolongi, received at Corfu on the 21st of July, by express, gives the following account of the Greek success:—"The Greek fleet which left Hydra the 6th July, hastened to the coasts of Ipsara, where the Captain Pacha still cruized.

A battle which took place there between the two fleets was most furious. The Greeks succeeded, by means of fireships, in burning three Turkish frigates, which were commanded by the Capoudna Beg-bey (Vice-Admiral), the Patrona-bey (Sub-Admiral,) and the Reala-bey (Rear-Admiral,) blew up. The Captain Pacha saved himself, but his vessel was very much damaged; many other Turkish vessels of different dimensions were burnt or taken, the remainder of the Ottoman fleet fled, and took shelter, in very bad condition, at Mitylene. [This statement very satisfactorily accounts for the Constantinople story of his returning to Mitylene, to land his wounded, and repair his frigates which could not keep the sea.] After this decisive victory the Greeks effected a landing on the island of Ipsara. More than 2000 Ipsariots held out in two forts of this Island. They favoured effectively the descent of their co-patriots. From five to six thousand Turks who were in the Island, terrified at the defeat of their fleet, took to flight, and being pursued to the utmost, were cut to pieces."

This cheering intelligence is corroborated from various sources. It was brought to Hydra by "an advice-boat, swift as the wind." The blow was struck by 2000 Samians.

ALGIERS.

From the London Gazette, August 17.

TERMINATION OF THE WAR WITH ALGIERS.

Admiralty Office, August 16.—Dispatches have been received, dated in the Bay of Algiers, July 26th, reporting that the differences between this country and the Regency of Algiers were on that day satisfactorily arranged, and that hostilities had accordingly ceased.

An official notice from the "Foreign Office informs that the blockade of Algiers has been discontinued.

SIERRA LEONE.—D. M. Hamilton, Esq. has assumed the Government of Sierra Leone. By Proclamation of April 16, a mourning of six weeks was ordered for Sir Charles M'Carthy and his officers.

Major General Sir Charles Turner is appointed the successor of Sir Charles M'Carthy in the Government of the Western Coast of Africa.

Official accounts have reached England of another engagement with the Ashantees, on the 21st of May, in which the British lost 93 killed, and 678 wounded. The Ashantees are said to have sustained a great loss. Having retreated, they were pursued for two days, but being reinforced and joined by their king, the British were obliged to return, and it was expected an attack would soon be made on the castle, from which the Ashantees were only five miles distant on the 31st of May. The Fantees, allies of the British, are stated to have behaved very ill on the above occasion.

Vienna, July 19.—Professor Gruithausen, in Munich, has now published the 3d part of his "Essay on the many plain indications of Inhabitants in the moon, and especially of a Colossal Building." The *Munich Gazette* communicates some of the most remarkable results derived from a great number of observations made last year; they answer three questions.

1. To what latitude in the moon are there indications of vegetation?
2. How far are there indications of animated beings?
3. Where are the greatest and plainest traces of art on the surface of the moon?

With respect to the first question, it appears from the observation of Schroter and Gruithausen, that the vegetation on the moon's surface extends to 55 deg. south latitude, 65 deg. north latitude. Many hundred observations have shown, in the different colours and monthly changes of the parts evidently covered with plants, these kind of phenomena which cannot possibly be explained except by the process of vegetation.

To the second question it is answered that the indication from which the existence of living beings is inferred, are found from 50 deg. north latitude, to 37 deg. and perhaps 47 deg. south latitude.

The answer to the third question relates to the observations pointing out the places in the moon's surface, in which are appearances of artificial causes altering the surface. The author here examines the appearances that induce him to infer that there are artificial roads in various directions; and he also describes that great colossal empire resembling our cities on the most fertile part near the moon's equator; it is remarkable that it stands accurately according to the four cardinal points, and that the main lines are in angles of 45 deg. and 90 deg. and a building resembling what is called a star redoubt is attached to it, which the discoverer presumes to be dedicated to religious purposes; and as the Sillnotes can see no stars in the day time (their atmosphere being so pure,) he thinks that they worship the stars, and consider the earth as a natural clock. The Essay is accompanied by several plates.

GERMANY.—On the 27th of August, the town of Carpsen, in Hungary, was nearly reduced to ashes. The churches, and school, the convent of the Pearists, the town hall, and all the buildings both in the town and suburbs were totally destroyed. Two women perished in the flames, and many persons were seriously injured. The fire broke out at four in the afternoon, when the inhabitants were in the field. On the 14th ult. 200 houses and many barns were reduced to ashes in the space of four hours in the populous town of Werboez, in Hungary. On the 27th ult. a dreadful storm laid waste the whole of the country about Arva, in Hungary. Trees of the largest size were torn up by the roots, houses levelled with the ground, the hail (the stones weighing 1½ lbs. each) destroying all the standing crops in 27 parishes, killed many hundred oxen, and almost all the sheep that were in the fields. About 20,000 persons are hereby reduced to the greatest misery.

Provincial Journal.

OCTOBER, 1824.

NOVA SCOTIA.

FIRE.—A little before 11 o'clock on Thursday night Halifax was alarmed by the cry of fire. It had burst out suddenly from a barn belonging to a house in Duchtown occupied by Major Blair; and an immense crowd was speedily drawn together from all quarters. The flames raged with uncommon fury, and as they had caught the dwelling house, the fire-wardens ordered it to be pulled down. Great exertions were made by several individuals in cutting away the sides of the house and roof, among whom the officers of the Navy were particularly distinguished.

At a Meeting held on Monday the 4th inst. at the request of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best method of establishing a *Bank for the safe custody and increase of the small savings of the industrious classes of Society*—His Excellency having been pleased to offer himself as Patron, opened the proceedings by a statement of the advantages to be derived from such an Institution.

Deposits are to be received of not less than one shilling, and when they amount to one pound, that sum should bear interest at the rate to be settled hereafter, to be reckoned from the first day of every month.

The deposit to be entered in a book at the time it is made, in the presence of one of the Directors and of the Depositor, who shall receive at the time of his first deposit an extract of the rules, and a Bankbook, or duplicate of his account which book must be brought to the Directors every time any further sum is deposited, or drawn out, in order that the entry in the Depositor's books and in the book of the Institution may agree.

The account with each Depositor to be settled twice a year, whatever is then due for both principle and interest, should be added together, to become principle, and bear interest accordingly.

To defray the expence of books, stationary and Clerk's wages, a subscription to be entered into, that no expence may, at present, fall upon the Depositors.

Upon which it was Resolved, that a Committee of management should be appointed consisting of a President, Vice-President, four Directors, and a Secretary and Treasurer—whereupon the following Gentlemen were nominated:—

Hon. John Robinson, Esq. President—*Hon. William Black, Esq.* Vice-President—*Ward Chipman, Thomas Heavyside, Hugh Johnson, junr. James Cudlip, Esquires,* Directors—*A. Wedderburn, Esq.* Secretary and Treasurer.

And it was further recommended that the Committee of management proceed to procure information, and devise a plan for carrying the design into execution with the least possible delay.

A new paper called *The Philanthropist*, is published in Halifax, devoted to Religion, Science, Politics, Agriculture, Commerce, &c. It is very respectably printed, and we doubt not will be a useful vehicle of intelligence.

The Rev. Dr. INGLIS, Ecclesiastical Commissary of Nova-Scotia, and Rector of St. Paul's, Halifax, has been consecrated Bishop of Nova-Scotia, in room of the Right Reverend Robert Stanser, D. D. who retires on an annuity.

Provincial Appointment.—CHARLES DOUGLAS, Esq. to be Private Secretary to His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor.

New Brunswick.

Saturday the 2d. being the day appointed by the New Brunswick Society for encouraging the improvement of Horses and other Cattle, for the first general exhibition, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, having graciously communicated his intention to be present and to preside as Patron of the Institution, repaired at twelve o'clock, attended by the President and Officers of the Society, to the ground set apart for the Exhibition, when a number of Cattle, far surpassing what had been expected, were produced as competitors for the premiums offered by the Society.

On returning to Lawson's Hall, where the members of the Society and many of the most respectable inhabitants assembled, his Excellency opened the proceedings by addressing the Society.

The Secretary was then called upon to declare the successful competitors, he therefore stated, that the Judges had awarded the premiums as follows, viz.

1st Class—Mr. Gidney's horse Eclipse, as uniting in the greatest degree the properties requisite for this Country, the first Prize, value,	£20
———— Judge Botsford's horse Sackville, of the draught breed, second Prize, value	£10
2d Class—Mr. Carman's Ayshire Bull three years old, the first prize, value	£10
———— Mr. Lockhart's Bull, bred in New Brunswick, from English stock, second Prize, value	£5
3d Class.—Mr. Hennigar's Ram, bred in N. B. from South Down stock.	£3
4th Class.—Mr. Waters' Bour, bred in New-Brunswick,	£2

Lower Canada.

The Provincial Parliament of Lower Canada is further prorogued by Proclamation from the Eighth of October to the Seventeenth day of November next. The Provincial Parliament of Upper Canada is prorogued to the twenty-fifth of October.

DISTRICT OF MONTREAL.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR OCTOBER.

As this month closes the scene of operations in husbandry the objects are confined to a relation of the success of the Root crops. The weather since the 5th inst. has been very unfavourable to gathering of roots, from the frequent rains. The great potatoe planters have met with much difficulty from the scarcity of hands, and the price for labour has been exorbitant almost beyond example, at the close of the month there was considerable pieces to get up, what have been gathered are of excellent quality and the crop is very abundant.

The Manglewurzel is mostly got up, the return has been equal to any year since its introduction. It offers great advantage to the country, being a substitute for turnips, answering every purpose that that root was applied to, and surpassing them in one point, they being applicable to the feeding of swine, also. Turnips have succeeded extremely well on new land, this season. Carrots are likely to be discontinued in field culture from the superior production of the Manglewurzel.

Ploughing.—The lay lands are mostly finished; the potatoe lands are backward from the heavy rains having rendered them too wet to work.

DISTRICT OF QUEBEC.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER.

This month has generally been dry; till the 16th there were from time to time light rains, and from that date to the end of the month, the weather was dry and fine, the first frost was on the 24th, the effects of which were visible on the potatoe stalks; many tender plants were however, not effected at the end of the month. The leaves of the forest trees began to change colour after the 24th. *Outards* made their appearance on the 22nd.

The Wheat, Peas and Oat crops were generally housed in good order before the close of the month. The reports from all parts of the District are rather favorable than otherwise. Grain, generally is said to be of a very good quality: in the upper Districts the reports are equally favourable. In some of the distant parts of the District of Montreal new wheat has been sold at 3s. the *Minot*, or Canada bushel.

The fineness of the season induced some farmers to commence raising their Potatoes before the end of the month. The practise is however injurious, as they keep better, particularly if the weather should prove warm, by being suffered to remain longer in the ground, The crop of this root proves abundant, and the price has already fallen to one shilling the *minot*.

Turnips properly cultivated in drills and kept clean, have completely succeeded this year, for the seventh year in succession, since they were introduced into this neighbourhood and cultivated on a large scale: they were sown this year as late as the 15th July and will give between four and five hundred bushels per arpent, leaving the ground perfectly free from weeds, and in better heart for a grain crop than after potatoes. It has now been fully proved by experience, that this climate, on all light soils, is as well calculated for the improved system of cropping as Great Britain, viz. commencing after pasture; 1st year, Grain; 2d year, Roots, in Drills, cleaning and manuring; 3d year, Grain, with Grass seeds, Timothy and Clover in equal parts, say from four to eight quarts, sown immediately after the grain is harrowed in; 4th year, Hay, generally from three to four hundred bundles per arpent; 5th year, Pasture; 6th year, commencing with Grain; giving in six years three Grain crops, one Root crop, one Hay crop and one year's Pasture, a fortnight earlier and later and four times the quantity of the common pastures. The arable part of a Farm being divided into five equal fields under this rotation, of course gives 2 fields Grain and Peas, 1 Roots, 1 Hay and 1 Pasture every year; any additional pasture or hay, which circumstances may require, is readily supplied by land not arable. Under the foregoing course the land improves in quality and produce annually. The whole produce of the six years will at least be double the produce raised from the land by the present method of alternate cropping, and the labour required be about the same. In the general form of the lands in this District, two additional cross fences are required, say from four to six arpents of fencing.

The pastures of this District continue abundant, and the stock in good order. Cattle for the knife, however, bear the best price of any article of farm produce.

The orchards and Gardens this year yield fully as well as usual: Upon the whole, the fruits of the earth this season will afford plenty, both for man and beast, the low price of the surplus articles of the farmers produce will, however, confine him to the use of few articles of foreign produce, which, unfortunately for him, are not all luxuries. These are raised in price by artificial regulations and taxes, which the consumer here must pay, while his own produce is comparatively depressed in value by the same cause. Imported goods are now about the same price as in 1817, and the produce with which they must be paid for, is not one half of its price at that time, making an increase in the price of imported goods to the farmers of 100 per cent, which must produce a diminished consumption among them of one half or debt and probable bankruptcy.

Agricultural Exhibition for the District of Quebec.—The eight annual Cattle Show, Exhibition and Ploughing Match for the District of Quebec, established by the Quebec Agricultural Society, was holden on Mr. Anderson's Farm, near Dorchester Bridge, on Thursday the 7th instant.

The premiums were severally reduced this year to about one half their usual a-

mount, and diminished in number, no recommendation for a Grant of Money having been made by the Governor in Chief to the Legislature at its last Session, and the Society's funds consisting only of its savings from the former year and the subscriptions of its Members. The competitors were, however, nearly as numerous as heretofore, and the Show, particularly of Fruit and Garden Stuffs, was in many respects superior to former years, and would have done credit to any country. A considerable improvement was also observable in the quality of the ploughing, although it still falls very short of the best ploughing in Europe. A large number of practical farmers attended, but few from a distance of more than twenty or thirty miles, probably on account of the smallness of the premiums, and the badness of the weather.

The following is a summary of the articles entered :

Stallions,.....5.	Milch Cows,.....16.
Brood Mares,.....8.	Sheep,.....44.
Bulls,.....4.	Swine,.....13.
Butter, Cheese, Seeds and Garden Stuffs,.....54.	
Ploughs,.....20.	

Total Entries, 164.

A number of articles were produced, which could not, conformable to the advertisements and regulations, be decided before the Show on the 30th March next, entries of which are to be made with the Assistant Secretary, by the 15th of that month.

The usual Show of Hogs and Poultry takes place on the Upper-Town Market, place, the 15th of January next.

A number of Premiums were adjudged at the present Meeting, of which an official list will be published:

Nicolet Fair.—The first fair under the late act of the Provincial Legislature was held at this place on the 14th instant. The show of cattle and other commodities was sufficiently numerous and satisfactory for the first occasion: the nature and advantages of fairs being as yet little understood in the country Parishes.

A gentleman who lately returned to Québec from the *Labradore coast*, and whose attention has been successfully turned to the Mineralogy of the *Gaspé* district, from which some very valuable and beautiful specimens of the Quartz family, particularly the different varieties of *Cornelian*, *Agate*, *Opal* and *Jasper* have been introduced into the Province, and cut into different ornamental articles by Mr. *Smillie*, Lapidary, of Québec, brought up some beautiful specimens of a sky-blue variety of the *Labradore feldspar*, a mineral first, and as yet almost exclusively found on that coast. The others, and almost all the different varieties of this mineral it is stated are found on the same coast, viz: green, yellow, red, and pearl-grey; the present specimen, as stated above, is of the blue; it is hard and takes a fine polish, the changability of colour from a dark grey to the most bright and vivid sky-blue, is beautiful and makes it very valuable and well adapted for cutting into snuff-boxes, ring-stones, &c.

The specimens alluded to were found at *Mingan*; and appear to be imbedded in a gigantic rock.

The whole *North Shore* of the *St. Lawrence*, from Québec to its mouth, and the *Labradore Coast*, offers to the Geologist and Mineralogist a field for research, such as we believe cannot be met with in any other country. It has never been examined by scientific men, or at least we have seen no work in which it was intimately spoken of. The greater part of it, bordering on the *Gulf of St. Lawrence*, appears to be primitive, with generally, along the rivers, the earlier formations of rocks. The *Saguenay* is, however, a remarkable exception to this, and as far up as *Chicoutimy*, 25 leagues from its mouth, the foot of the high, sometime bold and scantily wooded, granite mountains are washed on both sides by its waters. The *pointe aux bouleaux*, on this side of its mouth, is an alluvial deposit, and is perhaps the richest soil in the world, being composed of a species of grey marl of thirty or forty feet in depth.

MONTREAL.

Ploughing Match.

Pursuant to advertisement a Ploughing Match took place on Mr. *Burges's* farm at *St. Marie*, near *Montreal*, on the 21st inst. Fourteen Ploughs started for the different premiums, many more were entered, but from the badness of the weather were

unable to join the match: the work done was equal if not superior to any done before, on similar occasions the successful candidates were

1st Premi. to Donald Ferguson, Ploughman to Mr. Burgess,	12 10 0
2d do. to Fr. Drummond, Ploughman to Mr. Wait,	2 0 0
3d do. to James McConiehy,	1 10 0
4th do. to Alexander Scott, Ploughman to Mr. Snowden,	1 0 0

The sum of two dollars was given to Joseph Boucher, he being the only Canadian present, and one dollar to each other unsuccessful candidate.

Amongst the steps which have been taken of late years to improve this colony, none offered more advantage than the establishment of Agricultural Societies, because a body of men skilled in that science can diffuse more benefit in that way towards ameliorating the country than in any other. Indeed a spirit of enquiry had begun to diffuse itself in this district, in consequence of the rewards given by the Agricultural Society, and the country began to have an improved appearance. But unfortunately for these two years past, nothing has been done to keep that spirit in action, and that rising emulation has been suffered to cool for want of rewards. This cannot be attributed to the society of this District, their funds being exhausted, they of course cease to reward.

This however has been a matter of no small regret to many to see so valuable an institution fall to decay as it might be said in the bud, and the hopes of the country disappointed by the discontinuance of rewards for the various pursuits in rural affairs: These circumstances induced some of the farmers of the country of Montreal to form a Club in order to have a ploughing match in the month of October, that the first operation in husbandry should not fall into decay. In order to raise a fund for the purpose, recourse was had to a subscription and much praise is due to several Gentlemen in Montreal, who subscribed very liberally to the fund. The members of the club inform the public they are desirous to give Premiums for fat Cattle and Sheep, that may be brought to the Montreal Fair in March next, as also for Horses, Cattle and Sheep that may be brought in the following September to the Fair. As this infant institution requires the patronage of the public to bring it to maturity, the members of the club wish it to be understood that the Premiums are intended for the country only.

Horticulture.—The Montreal Horticulture Society held their annual Vegetable show on Wednesday 15th, when the finest Celery, was produced by Mr. Angus McGillivray, Gardener; the finest Brocoli, by Mr. Alexander McKiuzie, Gardener;—the finest Red Cabbage, and Cauliflower, by James King, Gardener, to J. McGill Desrivieres, Esq.; the finest winter Cabbage, by Francis Fresne, Gardener; the finest Red Beets, and Carrots, by Mr. Robert Donnally, Gardener; and the finest Onions, by Mr. Alex. Sutherland, Gardener to W. Bingham, Esq.

The following members were elected to be the Committee for the ensuing year,

The Hon. John Richardson, Esq. President—Mr. Henry Corse, Vice-President; Angus McGillivray, George McKerrucher, Stewards; A. McKenzie, Treasurer, and R. Cleghorn, Secretary.

INCIDENTS, DEATHS, &c.

QUEBEC:

A daring robbery was committed, on the 9th, at a house in Mountain Street, the lower part of which is occupied by Mr. Wells, as a Watchmaker's shop, and in which no person slept. The robbers took a ladder lying near the House, and ascended to one of the front windows, two panes of which were broken, and admittance in this manner gained; they then went below and burst the door that leads to the Shop, from which they took 32 watches, 15 of which were of gold, leaving a desk, in which there was some cash, & a few common and not valuable watches untouched.

A dead body, in a putrid state, and entirely naked, with the exception of a handkerchief about the neck, was accidentally discovered under Jones's wharf, about eight o'clock A. M. on the 9th. The mate and crew of the Clarkstone used their endeavours to get it out, but the tide flowing rapidly, they were obliged to desist; they have, since, with some others, renewed the attempt without success. The body is supposed to be that of a woman, and it is ascertained that it has one arm off at the elbow, and one leg below the knee. It will probably be got out this evening.

The body of a new born male infant, wrapped up in a piece of coarse woollen cloth, was found on the 16th, in a field to the left of St. Lewis Gate, near the ramparts, which has excited strong suspicion that it was suffocated after birth. A woman named Catherine Nolen, living in St. Lewis Suburbs, and suspected of being the mother, has been taken to the Emigrant's Hospital; her sister, and a brother-in-law inhabiting the same house, and supposed to have been parties in making away with the child, are in custody at the jail.

An inquest sat on the body this day, and adjourned until Wednesday next.

ORDINATION.

On Wednesday, 29th being St. Michael's day, the Revd. A. N. BETHUNE was admitted to Priest's Orders, in the Cathedral Church of this City by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, assisted by the Archdeacon of Quebec, (who has just returned, by the Indian route through the woods, from his visitation in the District of Gaspé,) the Revd. Dr. MILLS, Chapl. to H. M. Forces, and the Revd. G. ARCHBOLD, Preacher to Protestant settlers, in parts adjacent to Quebec. The ceremony was to have taken place after the Ember-days on Sunday, 19th but the state of the Bishop's health did not permit his Lordship's attendance on that day. Mr. Bethune has been licensed to the Mission of Grimsby, Niagara District, Upper Canada.

A new Protestant Episcopal Church is just completed at Nicolet, and we understand the Rev. Dr. MILLS left town on Thursday last, to officiate at the opening thereof on Sunday next.

Casualty.—Andrew McDonald, a tide waiter, was unfortunately drowned from off Mr. Atkinson's Wharf on Thursday last. He was a discharged soldier, a pensioner, and bore an excellent character, we understand that he has left a wife and three children, who were solely dependant upon him for support, and who are reduced to great distress by his untimely death.

Launch.—A new Brig called the VERONICA, burthen 330 tons, belonging to Messrs. McKenzie and Bethune, was Launched on Saturday last from Mr. Young's yard Montreal. She went off in fine style amidst the cheers of a numerous concourse of Spectators.

On Saturday 9th, the new Brig called the NIAGARA, built by James Millar, Esq. was safely launched from the ship yard of Messrs. Hart, Logan & Co. same place.

Deaths.—On his passage to Quebec in the Ship Recovery, from London, 17th Sept. last, Mr. Richard Dallow, Junr. aged 21 years, eldest son of Mr. Dallow, of Quebec.

In London on the 1st ult. Dr. Luby, suddenly. This distinguished Physician, spent the greater portion of his life in the service of His Majesty.

At the same place on the 9th, the Right Honble. John Viscount, Hampden, in the 76th year of his age.

At Brighton (England,) on the 30th August the Honble. Mrs. Francis Wall, daughter of the late Lord Fortrose, in the 75th year of her age.

On Thursday last, 21st inst. Joseph Mountain Fletcher.

At New York, 26th Sept. Mr. John Bennie, Printer, a native of Scotland aged 26 years.

At Lyons, M. Montehore, the brother-in-law of Rothschild, worth more than half a million sterling.

At Three-Rivers, on the fourth instant, aged 40, William Anderson, Esquire, universally regretted.

Some day between the 28th and 30th ult. Mr. John M'Euen, long a merchant in this town, about 45 years of age.—The circumstances of the death of this gentleman are very mysterious: on the evening of the 8th ult. he was seen in the house of Mr. Dunn, Innkeeper of this town, very much intoxicated—it is said he disappeared about 12 o'clock: and although a general search was made during the following day, no trace could be discovered where he had gone till the 30th, when his body was found in a stagnated pond of water, about a mile from whence he had been last seen. Mr. M'Euen had been, for some years, owing to an almost constant state of inebriety, (and in some measure to a hurt he had received on his head) in a state of partial derangement.—How, or by what means he came to his death remains a mystery to many.

At Rigaud, on the 4th inst. *passé-par-tout*; aged 75 years, a celebrated N. W.

Voyageur, whose real name was Jos. Marchand, though called Jos. Nasplette on the Athabasca N. W. Ledger of 1803. He was a native of the parish of Verchères, in Lower Canada, of which his father, a native of France, had been Bedeau. His memory failed him much at last, but it is supposed that he had been 47 years in the Indian Country, though he died as poor as a rat!

Upper-Canada.

REPORT OF THE ENGINEERS OF THE WELLAND CANAL.

Sir.—For the information of the Stock-holders and public in general, the Directors of the Welland Canal Company request you will publish the accompanying reports.

On the formation of the Company, Messrs. Samuel and James Clows were employed to lay out a Canal from the river Welland to Lake Ontario, two routs were explored, one terminating at the mouth of the 12 mile Creek, the other at Niagara, the summit level at Lock No. 1, about three miles and a half from the Welland, being common to both, a dividing ridge one mile and a half within this distance is the only obstacle of any magnitude in either route.

On receipt of Messrs. Clows' report it was intended to put this part of the land under contract, by cutting open or tunnelling, to be determined by offers most advantageous to the company. Those gentlemen having offered to complete the work on their own estimate, to be paid mile by mile as each was finished, agreeable to their report published about three months since, as well as from information obtained from various sources, the directors were fully satisfied of the correctness of their statements and the necessity of commencing the work at this point immediately.

Unfortunately for the prosecution of the work, a contrary opinion was at this period advanced and industriously circulated by some gentlemen in this District, who never gave themselves the trouble to ascertain the natural facilities of the routes or the merits of the undertaking, and even represented to the Stockholders of Lower Canada as altogether fulacious and visionary, advising them to withhold their subscriptions.

To silence and rebut those statements, and re-establish public confidence beyond a doubt, the Directors determined on suspending all operations, until they could lay the reports of the most scientific enquiries that could be obtained, of the whole route from Grand River to Lake Ontario: from ill health of Mr. Clows, and delay in obtaining Mr. Roberts from the Erie Canal, more time has been taken up than was anticipated.

The following is an abstract of the different estimates.

Messrs. Clows and Hall's estimate from Grand river to the River Welland,	}	£7,456 18 0
Messrs. Samuel and James Clows, for completing a Tunnel from Welland to Lock, No. 1, 3 1-2 miles,		
From Lock No. 1, to Lake Ontario,	}	14,348 13 4

£33,456 18 0

Mr. Hall's estimate for open cutting exceeds Messrs. Clows' by tunnelling,	}	£3,025 14 3
Mr. Roberts, by open cut,		
but corroborates Messrs. Clows' report, from the Welland to Lake Ontario, £26,000;		£10,482 17 4
he did not examine the route from the Welland to the Grand River.		

Mr. Samuel Clows is an engineer of great experience in constructing canals in Europe, and some in America, has been and still is employed by Government in this country, in laying out the line of a canal from Kingston to the Ottawa.

Mr. Hall is a scientific engineer, and has had much practical experience in Europe, under the celebrated Telford, is now employed in constructing the canal at Burlington Beach.

Mr. Roberts has been several years employed on the Erie Canal; levelled and laid out the western section of the same, which is now under his entire management and direction.

The Directors are sanguine to believe the corroborating reports of such men, as to the facility, utility, profit and expense of the project, must throw every shadow of doubt from the minds of the most sceptical, and I feel sensible a discerning public will see the propriety and even necessity of the undertaking, and be no longer amused by the unfounded reports of those inimical to a work fraught with such infinite advantages to the public and province in general.

Signed,

GEORGE KEEFER.

President of the Welland Canal Company.

St. Catharines, 1st September, 1824.

The Niagara Gleaner gives the following as "a copy of the Inscription intended to be engraven on the Monument erected to the memory of Sir Isaac Brock."

The Legislature of Upper-Canada.

Decreed this Monument:

To the very eminent Public Services of the late
SIR ISAAC BROCK, K. B.
Major General, Commanding,
And Administrator of the Civil Government of the
Province,

Whose Remains are deposited in the
Vault beneath.

Advancing to dislodge the Enemy from

These Heights,

HE FELL IN ACTION,

On the 13th of October,

Anno Domini, 1812.

In the 43d Year of his Age:

Honoured and beloved by the people whom he Governed,

And deplored by his Sovereign,

To whose service his life had been devoted.

MONTREAL PRICE CURRENT—OCTOBER 1824.

PRODUCE OF THE COUNTRY.

Pot Ashes, per cwt.	54s.	a	37s.	6d.
Pearl Ashes,	...		34s.	0d.
Fine Flour, per bbl.	22s.	6d.	a	25.
Sup. do.	...		27s.	6d.
Pork, (mess)	...		85s.	scarce.
Pork, (prime)	...		72s.	6d.
Beef, (mess)	...		00s.	
Beef, (prime)	...		00s.	
Wheat, per minot	4s.	2d.	4s.	6d.
Barley,	...		2s.	6d.
Oats,	...		1s.	a 1s. 3d.
Pease,	...		1s.	10d. a 2s. 2d.
Oak Timber, cubic ft.	...		10d.	a 11d.
White Pine,		3d.	
Red Pine,		none.	
Elm,		3d.	a 4d.
Staves, standard, per 1200,	£32,		10s.	
West India, do.	...		13,	10s.
Whiskey, country m.	3s.	4d.	1 to 3,	

IMPORTED GOODS &c.

Rum, (Jamaica) gall.	4s.	2d.	a	4s.	6d.
Rum, (Leew'd)	...		3s.	4d.	a 3s. 6d.
Brandy, (Cognac)	...		6s.	0d.	a 6s. 3d.
Brandy, (Spanish)	...		5s.	1d.	a 5s. 3d.
Geneva, (Holland)	...		4s.	6d.	a 4s. 9d.
Geneva, (British)	...		none.		
Molasses,	...		2s.	3d.	a 2s. 4d.
Port Wine, per Pipe,	£36	a	£50.		
Madeira, O. L. P.	£40	a	£75.		
Teneriffe, L. P.	£28	a	£32.	10s.	
Do. Cargo.....	£22.				
Sugar, (mus.) cwt.	47s.	6d.	a	50s.	0d.
Sugar, (Loaf) lb.	0s.	7d.	a	8½d.	
Coffee,	...		11d.	a	1s. 1d.
Tea, (Hyson)	...		6s.	6d.	
Tea, (Twankay)	...		5s.	4d.	a 5s. 6d.
Soap,	...		4½d.		
Candles	...		8½d.		