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# SATURDAY EVENING MAGAZINE.

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## PARAPHRASE OF PSALM CIV.

My soul, adore the Lord of night—  
With uncreated glory crown'd,  
And clad in royalty of light,  
He draws the curtain'd heavens around ;  
Dark waters his pavilion form—  
Clouds are his car, his wheels the storm.

Light'ning before Him, and behind  
Thunder rebounding to and fro—  
He walks upon the winged wind,  
And reins the blast, or lets it go :  
This goodly globe his wisdom plann'd—  
He fix'd the bounds of sea and land.

When o'er a guilty world, of old,  
He summon'd the avenging main,  
At his rebuke the billows roll'd  
Back to their parent-gulf again ;  
The mountains rais'd their joyful heads,  
Like new creations, from their beds.

Thenceforth the self-revolving tide  
Its daily fall and flow maintains :  
Through winding vales fresh fountains glide,  
Leap from the hills, or course the plains ;  
There thirsty cattle through the brink,  
And the wild asses bend to drink.

Fed by the currents, fruitful groves  
Expand their leaves, their fragrance fling,  
Where the cool breeze at noon-tide roves,  
And birds among the branches sing ;  
Soft fall the showers when day declines,  
And sweet the peaceful rainbow shines.

Grass through the meadows, rich with flowers,  
God's bounty spreads for herds and flocks :  
On Lebanon his cedar towers,  
The wild goats bound upon his rocks ;  
Fowls in his forests build their nests—  
The stor' amid the pine-tree rests.

To strengthen man, condemn'd to toil,  
He fills with grain the golden ear ;  
Bids the ripe olive melt with oil,  
And swells the grape man's heart to cheer ;  
The moon her tide of changing knows,  
Her orb with lustre ebbs and flows.

The sun goes down, the stars come out—  
He maketh darkness, and 'tis night :  
Then roam the beasts of prey about,  
The desert rings with chase and fight :  
The lion, and the lion's brood,  
Look up—and God provides them food.

Morn dawns far east—ere long the sun  
Warms the glad nations with his beams ;

Day, in their dens, the spoilers shun,  
And night returns to them in dreams :  
Man from his couch to labour goes,  
Till evening brings again repose.

How manifold thy works, O Lord,  
In wisdom, power, and goodness wrought !  
The earth is with thy riches stored,  
And ocean with thy wonders fraught :  
Unfathom'd caves beneath the deep  
For Thee their hidden treasures keep.

There go the ships, with sails unfurl'd,  
By Thee directed on their way ;  
There, in his own mysterious world,  
Leviathan delights to play ;  
And tribes that range immensity,  
Unknown to man, are known to Thee.

By Thee alone the living live—  
Hide but thy face, their comforts fly ;  
They gather what thy seasons give—  
Take Thou away their breath, they die ;  
Send forth thy Spirit from above,  
And all is life again and love.

Joy in his works Jehovah takes,  
Yet to destruction they return ;  
He looks upon the earth, it quakes—  
Touches the mountains, and they burn—  
Thou, God, for ever art the same :  
I AM is thy unchanging name.

## SOUTH SEA BUBBLE.

In 1711, the ninth year of Queen Anne's reign, a charter of incorporation was granted to a company trading to the South Seas : and the South Sea company's affairs appeared so prosperous, that, in 1718, King George I. being chosen governor, and a bill enabling him to accept the office having passed both houses, on the 3d of February, his majesty, in person, attended the house of lords, and gave the royal assent to the act. A brief history of the company's subsequent progress is interesting at any time, and more especially at a period when excess of speculation may endanger private happiness, and disturb the public welfare.

On the 27th of January, 1719, the South Sea company proposed a scheme to parliament for paying off the national debt, by taking into its funds all the debt which the nation had incurred before the year 1716, whether redeemable or irredeemable, amounting in the whole to the sum of £31,664,551 *ls.* 1½*d.* For this the company undertook to pay to the use of the public the sum of £4,156,306 ; besides four and a half years' purchase for all the annuities that should be subscribed into its fund, and which, if all subscribed, would have amounted to the sum of £5,567,503 ; amounting, with the above-mentioned sum, to £7,723,809 ; in case all the annuities were not subscribed, the company agreed to pay one per cent. for such unsubscribed annuities.

To this arrangement parliament acceded, and an act was passed to ratify this contract, and containing full powers to the company accordingly. In March following, South Sea stock rose from 130 to 300, gradually advanced to 400, declined to 330, and on the 7th of April was at 340. This so encouraged the directors, that on the 12th they opened books at the South Sea house for taking in a subscription for a portion of their stock to the amount of £2,250,000, every £100 of which they offered at £300; it was immediately subscribed for at that price, to be paid for by nine instalments within twelve months. On the 21st a general court of the company resolved, that the midsummer dividend should be 10 per cent, and that the aforesaid subscription, and all other additions to their capital before that time, should be entitled to the said dividend. This gave so favourable a view to the speculation, that on the 28th the directors opened a second subscription for another million of stock, which was presently taken at £400 for every £100, and the subscribers had three years allowed them for payment. On the 20th of May, South Sea stock rose to 550. So amazing a price created a general infatuation. Even the more prudent, who had laughed at the folly and madness of others, were seized with the mania; they borrowed, mortgaged, and sold, to raise all the money they could, in order to hold the favourite stock; while a few quietly sold out and enriched themselves. Prodigious numbers of people resorted daily from all parts of the kingdom to 'Change-alley, where the assembled speculators, by their excessive noise and hurry seemed like so many madmen just escaped from cells and chains. All thoughts of commerce were laid aside for the buying and selling of estates, and traffic in South Sea stock. Some who had effected sales at high premiums, were willing to lay out the money on real property, which consequently advanced beyond its actual value; cautious landholders justly concluded that this was the time to get money without risk, and therefore sold their property; shortly afterwards they had an opportunity of purchasing more, at less than half the price they had obtained for their own.

On the 2d of June, South Sea stock rose to 890. On the 15th, many persons who accompanied the king on his foreign journey, sold their stock, which suddenly fell; but the directors promising larger dividends, it got up higher than ever. On the 18th they opened books for a third subscription of four millions more stock, at £1000 for each £100, and before the end of the month it had advanced to £1100, between which and £1000 it fluctuated throughout the month of July. On the 3d of August they proposed to receive subscriptions for all the unsubscribed annuities, and opened books for the purpose during the ensuing week, upon terms which greatly dissatisfied the annuitants, who, confiding in the honour of the directors, had left their orders at the South Sea House, without any previous contract, not doubting but they should be allowed the same terms with the first subscribers. Finding, to their great surprise and disappointment, that, by the directors' arrangements, they were only to have about half what they expected, many repaired to the South Sea House to get their orders returned; but these being withheld, their incessant applications and reflections greatly affected the stock, inasmuch that, on the 22d of the month, at the opening of the books, it fell to 820. The directors then came to the desperate resolution of ordering the books to be shut; and on the 24th they caused others to be opened for a fourth money subscription for another million of their stock, at £1000 for each £100, payable by five instalments within two years: this million was subscribed in less than three hours, and bore a premium the same afternoon of 40 per cent. On the 26th the stock, instead of advancing, fell below 830. The directors then thought fit to lend their proprietors £4000 upon every £1000 stock, for six months, at 4 per cent.; but the annuitants becoming very clamorous and uneasy, the directors resolved that 30 per cent. in money

should be the half-year's dividend due at the next Christmas, and that from thence, for twelve years, not less than 50 per cent. in money should be the yearly dividend on their stock. Though this resolution raised the stock to about 800 for the opening of the books, it soon sunk again.

On the 8th September, the stock fell to 640, on the 9th to 550, and by the 19th it came to 400. On the 23d the Bank of England agreed with the South Sea company to circulate their bonds, &c. and to take their stock at 400 per cent., in lieu of £3,772,000 which the company was to pay them. When the books were taken at the Bank for taking in a subscription for supporting the public credit, the concourse was at first so great, that it was judged the whole subscription, which was intended for £3,000,000, would have been filled that day. But the fall of South Sea stock, and the discredit of the company's bonds, occasioned a run upon the most eminent goldsmiths and bankers, some of whom, having lent great sums upon the stock and other public securities, were obliged to shut up their shops. The Sword-blade company also, who had been hitherto the chief cash keepers of the South Sea company, being almost drawn of their ready money, were forced to stop payment. All this occasioned a great run upon the Bank. On the 30th South Sea stock fell to 150, and then to 86.

"It is very surprising," says Maitland, "that this wicked scheme of French extraction, should have met with encouragement here, seeing that the Mississippi scheme had just before nearly ruined the nation. It is still more surprising, that the people of divers other countries, notwithstanding the direful effects of this destructive scheme before their eyes, yet as it were, tainted with our frenzy, began to court their destruction, by setting on foot the like projects: which gives room to suspect," says Maitland, "that those destructive and fatal transactions were rather the result of an epidemical distemper, than that of choice; seeing that the wisest and best men were the greatest sufferers; many of the nobility, and persons of the greatest distinction, were undone, and obliged to walk on foot; while others, who the year before could hardly purchase a dinner, were exalted in their coaches and fine equipages, and possessed of enormous estates. Such a scene of misery appeared among traders, that it was almost unfashionable not to be a bankrupt: and the dire catastrophe was attended with such a number of self-murders, as no age can parallel."

Hooke, the historian of Rome, was a severe sufferer by the South Sea bubble. He thus addresses Lord Oxford, in a letter dated the 27th of October, 1722: "I cannot be said at present to be in any form of life, but rather to live *extempore*. The late epidemical (South Sea) distemper seized me: I endeavoured to be rich, imagined for a while that I was, and am in some measure happy to find myself at this instant but just worth nothing. If your lordship, or any of your numerous friends, have need of a servant, with the bare qualification of being able to read and write, and to be honest, I shall gladly undertake any employment your lordship shall not think me unworthy of."

In 1720, soon after the bursting of the South Sea bubble, a gentleman called late in the evening at the banking-house of Messrs. Hankey & Co. He was in a coach, but refused to get out, and desired that one of the partners of the house would come to him. Having ascertained that it was really one of the principals, and not a clerk, who appeared, he put into his hands a parcel, very carefully sealed up, and desired that it might be laid on one side till he should call again, which would be in the course of a few days. A few days passed away—a few weeks, a few months, but the stranger never returned. At the end of the second or third year, the partners agreed to open this mysterious parcel, in the presence of each other. They found it to contain £30,000, with a letter, stating that it was obtained by the South Sea speculation, and directing that it should be vested in the

hands of three trustees, whose names were mentioned, and the interest appropriated to the relief of the poor, which was accordingly done.

It has been calculated that the rise on the original South Sea stock of ten millions, and the subsequent advance of the company's four subscriptions, inflated their capital to nearly three hundred millions. This unnatural procedure raised bank stock from £100 to £260. India, from £100 to £405. African, from £100 to £200. York buildings' shares, from £10 to £305. Lustring, from £5 2s. 6d. to £105. English copper, from £5 to £105. Welsh copper, from £4 2s. 6d. to £95. The Royal Exchange Assurance, from £5 5s. to £250. The London Assurance, from £5 to £175, to the great injury of the various purchasers at such prices.

The South Sea scheme terminated in the sudden downfall of the directors, whose estates were confiscated by parliament, and the proceeds applied to the relief of many thousands of families, who had been wholly ruined by the speculation. These dupes of overweening folly and misplaced confidence, were further benefitted by a remission in their favour of the national claims on certain of the South Sea company's real assets. The extent of these donations to the sufferers amounted to £40 per cent. upon the stock standing in their names.

#### OTHER BUBBLES.

One consequence of the prosperous appearance that the South Sea scheme bore, till within a short period before its failure, was a variety of equally promising and delusive projects. These were denominated *bubbles*. Alarmed at the destructive issue of the master-bubble, government issued the following manifesto:—"The lords justices in council, taking into consideration the many inconveniences arising to the public, from several projects set on foot for raising of joint-stocks for various purposes—and that a great many of his majesty's subjects have been drawn in to part with their money, on pretence of assurance that their petitions, for patents and charters to enable them to carry on the same, would be granted—to prevent such impositions, their excellencies ordered the said several petitions, together with such reports from the Board of Trade, and from his majesty's attorney and solicitor-general, as had been obtained thereon, to be laid before them; and, after mature consideration thereof, were pleased, by advice of his majesty's privy-council, to order that the said petitions be dismissed." The applications thus rejected prayed patents for various fisheries, for building ships to let or freight, for raising hemp, flax and madder, for making of sail-cloth, for fire assurances, for salt-works, for the making of snuff in Virginia, &c.

In defiance of this salutary order, the herd of projectors, with an audacity that passed on the credulous for well-grounded confidence, continued their nefarious traffic. Proclamations from the king, and even acts of parliament, were utterly disregarded; and companies which had been established by charter increased the evil, by imitating the South Sea company's fatal management, and taking in subscriptions.—This occasioned the lords justices to issue another order, wherein they declared that, having been attended by Mr. attorney general, they gave him express orders to bring writs of scire facias against the charters or patents of the York-building's company, Lustring company, English copper, Welsh copper, and lead, and also against other charters or patents which had been, or should be made use of, or acted under, contrary to the intent or meaning of an act passed the last session of parliament, &c.

They likewise instructed the attorney-general to prosecute with the utmost severity, all persons opening books for public subscriptions; or receiving money upon such subscriptions; or making or accepting transfers of, or shares upon, such subscriptions; of which they gave public notice in the

Gazette, as "a farther caution to prevent the drawing of unwary persons, for the future, into practices contrary to law." This effectually frustrated the plans of plunder, exercised or contemplated at that period. How necessary so vigorous a resistance was manifestly obvious from this fact, that innumerable bubbles perished in embryo; besides an incredible number which could be named that were actually set in motion, and to support which the sums intended to be raised amounted to £300,000,000. The lowest advance of the shares in any of these speculations was above cent. per cent., most of them above £400 per cent.; and some were raised to twenty times the price of the subscription. Taking these circumstances into account, the scandalous projects would have required seven hundred millions sterling, if such a sum could have been realised in the shape of capital. To such a height of madness had the public mind been excited, that even shares were eagerly coveted, and bargained for, in shameless schemes which were not worth the paper whereon their proposals were printed, at treble the price they nominally bore. From a list of only a part of those that the air of 'Change-alley teemed with, the names of a few are here set forth,—

#### PROJECTS.

For supplying London with cattle.  
 For supplying London with hay.  
 For breeding and feeding cattle.  
 For making pasteboards.  
 For improving the paper manufacture.  
 For dealing in lace, holland, &c.  
 For a grand dispensary.  
 For a royal fishery.  
 For a fish pool.  
 For making glass bottles.  
 For encouraging the breed of horses.  
 For discovering gold mines.  
 For an assurance against thieves.  
 For trading in hair.  
 For loan offices.  
 For dealing in hops.  
 For making of china-ware.  
 For furnishing funerals.  
 For a coral fishery.  
 For a flying machine.  
 For insuring of horses.  
 For making of looking-glasses.  
 For feeding of hogs.  
 For buying and selling estates.  
 For purchasing and letting lands.  
 For supplying London with provisions.  
 For curing the gout and stone.  
 For making oil of poppies.  
 For bleaching coarse sugar.  
 For making stockings.  
 For an air-pump for the brain.  
 For insurance against divorces.  
 For making butter from beech trees.  
 For paving London streets.  
 For extracting silver from lead.  
 For making of radish oil.  
 For a perpetual motion.  
 For japanning of shoes.  
 For making deal boards of sawdust.  
 For a scheme to teach the casting of nativities.

#### JOINT STOCK COMPANIES OF 1825.

The large quantity of surplus capital and consequent low rate of interest during the last, and in the present year, induced its possessors to embark their money in schemes for promoting general utility. One of the advantages resulting from a state of peace is the influx of wealth that pours forth upon the country for its improvement. Yet it behoves the

prudent, and those of small means, to be circumspect in their outlays—to see with their own eyes, and not through the medium of others. The premiums that shares in projects may bear in the market are not even a shadow of criterion whereon to found a judgment for investment. This is well known to every discreet man who has an odd hundred to put out; and he who cannot rely on his own discrimination for a right selection from among the various schemes that are proffered to his choice, will do well to act as if none of them existed, and place his case where the principal will at least be safe, and the interest, though small, be certain. This month presents schemes for—

Twenty Rail Road Companies,  
Twenty-two Banking, Loan, Investment and Assurance Companies,

Eleven Gas Companies,  
Eight British and Irish Mine Companies,  
Seventeen Foreign Mine Companies,  
Nine Shipping and Dock Companies,  
and

Twenty-seven Miscellaneous Companies :  
Including,

A London Brick Company,  
A Patent Brick Company,  
A London Marine Bath Company,  
A Royal National Bath Company,  
A great Westminster Milk Company,  
and

A Metropolitan Water Company,  
An Alderney Dairy Company,  
A Metropolitan Alderney Dairy Company,  
A South London Milk Company,  
An East London Milk Company,  
A Metropolitan Milk Company.

A correspondent in the London Magazine declares, that "if we named the several divisions of the year after the French revolutionary fashion, by the phenomena observable in them, we should, from our experience of January, 1825, call it *Bubble*—it has been a month of most flagitious and flourishing knavery." He pleasantly assumes that Mr. Jeremiah Hop-the-twig, attorney at law, benevolently conceives the idea of directing "surplus capital" to the formation of "a joint stock company for the outfit of air-balloons, the purchase of herds of swine, and the other requisites for a flourishing lunar commerce: capital one million, divided into 10,000 shares of £100 each." The method is then related of opening an account with a respectable banking-house, obtaining respectable directors, appointing his son-in-law the respectable secretary, the son of a respected director the respectable standing counsel, and the self-nomination of the respectable Mr. Jeremiah H. & Co. as the respectable solicitors. Afterwards came the means of raising the bubble, to the admiration of proper persons who pay a deposit of £5 per share; who, when the shares "look down," try to sell, but there are "no buyers," the "quotations are nominal;" a second instalment called for, the holders hesitate; "their shares are forfeited;" the speculation is consequently declared frustrated; and there being only £10,000 in the bankers' hands to pay "Mr. Hop-the-twig's bill of £10,073 13s. 4d., that respectable solicitor is defrauded of the sum of £73 13s. 4d. This is the rise and fall of a respectable bubble."

Undoubtedly, among these various schemes afloat, some will be productive of great benefit to the country; but it is seriously to be considered whether the estimation of some of them in a money view be not too high, and forced to an undue price by the arts of jobbing.

Haste instantly and buy, cries one,  
Real Del Monte shares, for none  
Will hold a richer profit;

Another cries—No mining plan  
Like ours—the Anglo-Mexican;  
As for Del Monte, scoff' it.

This grasps my button, and declares  
There's nothing like Columbian shares—  
The capital a million;  
That, cries La Plata's sure to pay;  
Or bids me buy without delay  
Hibernian or Brazilian.

'Scaped from the torments of the mine,  
Rivals in gas, an endless line,  
Arrest me as I travel;  
Each sure my suffrage to receive,  
If I will only give him leave,  
His project to unravel.

By Fire and Life insurers next  
I'm intercepted, pester'd, vex'd,  
Almost beyond endurance;  
And though the schemes appear unsound,  
Their advocates are seldom found  
Deficient in appearance.

Last I am worried, shares to buy  
In the Canadian company—  
The Milk Association—  
The Laundry-men, who wash by steam—  
Rail-ways, pearl-fishing, or the scheme,  
For Inland Navigation, March, 1825.

#### THE STRAWBERRY.

My Lord of Ely, when I was last in Holborn,  
I saw good strawberries in your garden there—  
I do beseech you send for one of them.

The common species of this fruit obtained its name from the running stems which, in the language of our forefathers, were strawed or strewed over the ground, and the fruit of which had been inadvertently called a berry. The appearance of this humble bush, and the excellence of the fruit it bears, are well portrayed in the following plaintive lines:—

The strawberry blooms upon its lowly bed :  
Plant of my native soil! The lime may fling  
More potent fragrance on the zephyr's wing,  
The milky cocoa richer juices shed,  
The white guava lovelier blossoms spread;  
But not, like thee, to fond remembrance bring  
The vanished hours of life's enchanting spring;  
Short calendar of joys forever fled!  
Thou bidd'st the scenes of childhood rise to view  
The wild wood path which fancy loves to trace,  
Where, veild in leaves, thy fruits of rosy hue,  
Lurked on a pliant stem with modest grace.

It would be impossible to notice all the sorts of this delicate and salutary fruit, and improper not to mention the most remarkable. The first of these is the common wood strawberry; the fruit of which is small, and generally red. In England, where it is too much shaded by woods and hedges, it generally has but little flavour; though, in warmer countries, it becomes larger and higher flavoured. There is a subordinate variety of this sort called the white wood strawberry, which ripens rather later in the season. This is often preferred for its quick flavour; but, as it is less productive than the other, is not so much cultivated. The alpine strawberry-bush is taller than either of these; the fruit is larger, and both red and white. This is a very valuable kind, continuing in fruit from June till the autumn

frosts set in; and on this account the Dutch call it *everlasting strawberry*. The rough-fruited kind of strawberry is merely an accidental variety. This *Hautboy* is the kind most cultivated in England. This will soon degenerate where neglected; but, when well managed in a good soil, will produce a quantity of large well-flavoured fruit. The *Chili* strawberry yields plenty of firm well-flavoured fruit; but being unproductive, has been generally neglected. The *scarlet* strawberry, which differs very much from the common sort in leaf, flour and fruit, is the first strawberry that becomes ripe, and is also thought to be the best kind now known. The *pine* strawberry has something of the smell and taste of the pine-apple. Strawberries, either eaten separately, or with sugar and milk, are universally esteemed a most delicious fruit. They are grateful and cooling, and seldom disagree with the stomach, even when taken in large quantities. They promote perspiration, and have been known to give great relief in the gout and stone, when eaten daily. The first physicians have successfully prescribed them for consumptive habits. The strawberry surpasses the raspberry as a dissolver of the tartar which destroys the teeth, but requires more care in the cultivation. They grow best in a delicate loam, and will not bear much fruit in a light soil. The low growth and nature of this creeping plant are noticed by Shakespeare, who says, Henry V. act 1, scene I—

The strawberry grows underneath the nettle,  
And wholesome berries thrive and ripen best,  
Neighbour'd by fruit of baser quality.

We shall conclude the praises of the strawberry with the quaint saying of an old writer:—*God might have made a better berry than the strawberry—but certainly he never did.*

#### WHY DO WE LOVE?

I often think each tottering form,  
That limps along in life's decline,  
Once bore a heart as young, as warm,  
As full of idle thoughts as mine.

And each has had his dream of joy—  
His own unequalled pure romance;  
Commencing when the blushing boy  
First thrills at lovely woman's glance:

And each could tell his tale of youth,  
And think its scenes of love evince  
More passion, more unearthly truth,  
Than any tale before, or since.

Yes—they could tell of tender lays,  
At midnight penn'd in classic shades—  
Of days more bright than modern days—  
Of maids more fair than living maids;

Of whispers in a willing ear—  
Of kisses on a blushing cheek;  
(Each kiss—each whisper far too dear  
For modern lips to give, or speak.)

Of prospects too, untimely cross'd—  
Of passion slighted or betray'd;  
Of kindred spirits early lost,  
And buds that blossom'd but to fade.

Of beaming eyes, and tresses gay—  
Elastic form, and noble brow;  
And charms—that all have pass'd away,  
And left them—*what we see them now!*

And is it so?—*Is human love*  
So very light and frail a thing?  
And must youth's brightest visions move  
For ever on Time's restless wing?

Must all the eyes that still are bright,  
And all the lips that talk of bliss,  
And all the forms so fair to-night,  
Hereafter—only come to this?

Then what are Love's best visions worth,  
If we at length must lose them thus?  
If all we value most on earth,  
Ere long must fade away from us?

If that *one* being, whom we take  
From all the world, and still recur  
To *all she* said—and for her sake  
Feel far from *joy*, when far from her;

If that one form which we adore  
From youth to age, in bliss or pain,  
Soon withers—and is seen no more:  
Why do we love—*if love be vain?*

#### STONING JEWS IN LENT—AN OLD CUSTOM.

From the sabbath before Palm-Sunday, to the last hour of the Tuesday after Easter “the Christians were accustomed to stone and beat the Jews,” and all Jews who desired to exempt themselves from the infliction of this cruelty, commuted for a payment in money. It was likewise ordained in one of the Catholic services, during Lent, that all orders of men should be prayed for except the Jews. These usages were instituted and justified by a dreadful perversion of scripture, when rite and ceremony triumphed over truth and mercy. Humanity was dead, for superstition Molochized the heart.

From the dispersion of the Jews they have lived peaceably in all nations towards all, and in all nations been persecuted, imprisoned, tortured, and put to death, or massacred by mobs. In England, kings conspired with their subjects to oppress them. To say nothing of the well known persecutions they endured under king John, the walls of London were repaired with the stones of their dwellings, which his barons had pillaged or destroyed. Until the reign of Henry II., a spot of ground near Red-cross-street, in London, was the only place in all England wherein they were allowed to bury their dead.

In 1262, after the citizens of London broke into their houses, plundered their property, and murdered seven hundred of them in cold blood, King Henry III. gave their ruined synagogues to the friars called the fathers of the sackcloth. The church of St. Olave in the Old Jewry was another of their synagogues till they were dispossessed of it: were the sufferings they endured to be recounted we should shudder. Our old English ancestors would have laughed any one to derision who urged in a Jew's behalf, that he had “eyes,” or “hands,” “organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions,” or that he was “fed with the same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to the same diseases, healed by the same means, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer as a Christian is.” They would have deemed a man mad had one been found with a desire to prove that

—the poor Jew,  
In corporal sufferance feels a pang as great  
As when a Christian dies.

To say nothing of their more obvious sufferings for many centuries, the tide of public opinion raged against the Jews

vehemently and incessantly. They were addressed with sneers and contumely; the finger of vulgar scorn was pointed at them; they were hunted through the streets in open day, and when protected from the extremity of violence, it was in tones and looks denoting that only a little lower hate sanctuaried their persons. In conversation and in books they were a by-word, and a jest.

A work printed in 1628, for popular entertainment, entitled "A Miscellany of Seriousness with Merriment, consisting of Witty Questions, Riddles, Jest," &c. tells this story as a good joke. A sea captain on a voyage, with thirty passengers, being overtaken by a violent tempest, found it necessary to throw half of them overboard, in order to lighten the vessel. Fifteen of the passengers were Christians, and the other fifteen were Jews, but in this exigency they unanimously agreed in the captain's opinion, and that he should place the whole thirty in a circle, and throw every ninth man over till only fifteen were left. To save the Christians, the captain placed his thirty passengers in this order, viz.: four Christians, five Jews; two Christians, one Jew; three Christians, one Jew; one Christian, two Jews; two Christians, three Jews; one Christian, two Jews; two Christians, one Jew. He began to number from the first of the four Christians thus:

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CC. J.

By this device, the captain preserved all the Christians, and *depeet* all the Jews.

Selden says, "Talk what you will of the Jews, that they are cursed, they thrive wherever they come: they are able to oblige the prince of their country by lending him money; none of them beg; they keep together; and for their being hated, my life for yours, Christians hate one another as much." This was true, but it is also true that three quarters of a century have not elapsed since hatred to the Jews was a national feeling. In 1753, a bill was brought into the House of Lords for naturalizing the Jews, and relieving them from persecuting disabilities. It passed there on the ground that it would operate to the public advantage, by encouraging wealthy persons professing the Jewish religion to remove hither from foreign parts to the increase of the capital, commerce, and credit of the kingdom. The corporation of London in common council assembled, petitioned against it on the ground that it would dishonour the christian religion, endanger the constitution, and prejudice the interest and trade of the kingdom in general, and London in particular. A body of London merchants and traders also petitioned against it. Certain popular orators predicted that if the bill passed, the Jews would multiply so fast, become so rich, and get so much power, that their persons would be revered, their customs be imitated, and Judaism become the fashionable religion; they further pledged that the bill flew in the face of prophecy, which declared that the Jews should be scattered without a country or fixed habitation till their conversion, and that in short it was the duty of Christians to be unchristian. But the bill passed the commons after violent debates, and received the royal sanction. The nation was instantly in a ferment of horror and execration; and on the first day of the next session of parliament, ministers were constrained to bring in a bill to repeal the act of naturalization, and to the foul-dishonour of the people of England at that period, the bill was repealed. From that hour to the present, the Jews have been subjected to their old pains, penalties, disqualifications, and privations. The enlightenment of this age has dispelled much of the darkness of the last.— Yet the errors of public opinion then respecting the Jews, remain to be rectified now by the solemn expression of a better public opinion. Formerly, if one of the "ancient people" had said in the imploring language of the slave, "Am I not a man, and a brother?" he might have been answered, "No, you are not a man, but a Jew." It is not the business

of the Jews to petition for justice, but it is the duty of Christians to be just.

In the "General Evening Post" of June 21, 1777, a paragraph states, that "the following circumstance is not more ridiculous than true;" and it proceeds to relate, that some years before, at Stamford, in the province of Connecticut, America, it was determined to build a church; but "though the church was much wanted, as many people in that neighbourhood were at a loss for a place of public worship, yet the work stood still a considerable time for want of nails (for it was a wooden building); at last, a Jew merchant made them a present of a cask, amounting to four hundred weight, and thus enabled the church to proceed." Such an act might make some Christians exclaim, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Jew rather than remain a Jew-oppressor under the name of a Christian." It is not, however, on private, but on open grounds and high principle, that justice should spontaneously be rendered to the Jews. The Jew and the Christian, the Catholic and the Protestant, the Episcopalian and the Dissenter, the Calvinist and the Arminian, the Baptist and the Unitarian, all persons, of all denominations, are willed and empowered by their common document to acts of justice and mercy, and they now meet as brethren in social life to perform them; but the unsued claim of their elder brother, the Jew, is acknowledged no where, save in the conscience of every "just man made perfect."

To extend the benefits of Education to the children of the humbler classes of Jews, is one of the first objects with their opulent and enlightened brethren. The "Examiner" Sunday newspaper of the 4th of February, 1825, cooperates in their benevolent views by an article of information particularly interesting:—

"On Friday last, the Jews held their anniversary, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to celebrate their plan for the education of 600 boys and 300 girls, instituted April 20, 1818, in Bell-lane, Spitalfields. It was gratifying to contrast the consideration in which the Jews are now held in this country with their illiberal and cruel treatment in former times; and it was no less gratifying to observe, that the Jews themselves are becoming partakers of the spirit of the present times, by providing for the education of the poor, which, till within a very few years past, had been too much neglected; another pleasing feature in the meeting was, that it was not an assemblage of Jews only, but attended by people of other denominations, both as visitors and subscribers.— Samuel Joseph, Esq. the president, was in the chair. Some loyal and patriotic toasts were given, appropriate addresses were delivered by different gentlemen, and the more serious business, of receiving and announcing new subscriptions, was much enlivened by a good band of vocal and instrumental music. Among the subscriptions referred to, one was of a peculiarly generous nature. An unknown hand had forwarded to the treasurer on the two last meetings a sum of £200. This year he received instructions to clothe all the children at the expense of the same generous donor. The procession of the children round the hall was an agreeable scene at this important meeting. A poetical address in the Hebrew language was delivered by one of the boys, and an English translation of it by one of the girls, each with propriety of accent, and much feeling."

A record testifying the liberal disposition and humane attention of the Jews to their offspring, is not out of place in a work which notices the progress of manners; and it is especially grateful to him who places it on this page, that he has an opportunity of evincing his respect for generous and noble virtues, in a people whose residence in all parts of the world has advantaged every state, and to whose enterprise and wealth, as merchants and bankers, every government in Europe has been indebted. Their sacred writings and their literature have been adopted by all civilized communities,

while they themselves have been fugitives every where, without security any where. They are

————— a people scatter'd wide indeed,  
Yet from the mingling world distinctly kept;  
Ages ago the Roman standard stood  
Upon their ruins, yet have ages swept  
O'er Rome herself, like an o'erwhelming flood,  
Since down Jerusalem's streets she pour'd her children's blood,  
And still the nation lives!

## SONNET, ON SEEING A BEAUTIFUL INFANT DEAD.

Can this be death? Can this be that fell pow'r  
Which robs the world of beauty and of bliss?  
It looks like slumber's softest, calmest hour—  
And may the infant never wake from this?

Alas! its lips are pale—no gentle breath  
Escapes from them, like Summer's mildest sigh,  
No throbbing pulse is there—it must be death!  
But who shall tell us what it is to die?

All that we know of life is like a dream—  
A dream that ends when death's dark hour is giv'n—  
But death we know not: only that we deem—  
In holy hope—it leads the soul to Heav'n!

Farewell, sweet babe! thou wert an angel here—  
Now thou'rt a scraph in a higher sphere.

## ON THE RUINS OF PESTUM.

"I ask'd of Time, from whom those temples rose,  
That prostrate by his hand in silence lie.  
His lips disdain'd the mystery to disclose,  
And, borne on swifter wing, he hurried by!—  
'These broken columns whose?' I ask'd of Fame—  
(Her kindling breath gives life to work sublime.)  
With downcast looks of mingled grief and shame,  
She heav'd th' uncertain sigh, and follow'd Time.  
Wrapt in amazement, o'er the mouldering pile,  
I saw oblivion pass, with giant stride;  
And whilst his visage wore pride's scornful smile,  
'Haply thou knowest, then tell me whose,' I cried—  
'Whose these vast domes that even in ruin shine?'  
'I reek not whose,' he said—'they now are mine!'"

## ST. AGNES' EVE.

Formerly this was a night of great import to maidens who desired to know who they should marry. Of such it was required, that they should not eat on this day; and those who conformed to the rule called it fasting St. Agnes' fast.

And on sweet St. Agnes' night  
Please you with the promis'd sight,  
Some of husbands, some of lovers,  
Which an empty dream discovers.

BEN JOHNSON.

Old Aubrey has a recipe, whereby a lad or lass was to attain a sight of the fortunate lover. "Upon St. Agnes' night you take a row of pins, and pull out every one, one after another, saying a Pater Noster, sticking a pin in your sleeve, and you will dream of him or her you shall marry."

Little is remembered of these homely methods for knowing "all about sweethearts," and the custom would scarcely have reached the greater number of readers, if one of the sweetest of our modern poets had not preserved its recollection in a delightful poem. Some stanzas are culled from it, with the hope that they may be read by a few to whom the poetry of Keates is unknown, and awaken a desire for further acquaintance with his beauties:—

## THE EVE OF ST. AGNES.

St. Agnes' Eve? Ah, bitter chill it is!  
The cock for all his feathers, was a-cold;  
The hare hop'd trembling through the frozen glass,  
And silent was the flock in woolly fold.

They told her how, upon St. Agnes' Eve,  
Young virgins might have visions of delight,  
And soft adorings from their loves receive  
Upon the honey'd middle of the night,  
If ceremonies due they did aright;  
As, supperless to bed they must retire,  
And couch supine their beauties, lily white—  
Nor look behind, nor sideways, but require  
Of Heaven, with upward eyes, for all that they desire

Full of this whim war thoughtless Madeline

Out went the taper as she hurried in—  
Its little smoke, in pallid moon-shine, died:  
She clos'd the door, she panted, all a-kin  
To spirits of the air, and visions wide,  
No utter'd syllable, or woe betide!  
But to her heart, her heart was voluble,  
Paining with eloquence her balmy side;  
As though a tongueless nightingale should swell  
Her throat in vain, and die, heart-stifled, in her dell

A casement high and triple-arch'd there was,  
All garlanded with carved imag'ries  
Of fruits, and flowers, and bunches of knot-gms,  
And diamonded with panes of quaint device,  
Innumerable of stains and splendid dyes,  
As are the tiger-moth's deep damask'd wings;  
And in the midst, 'mong thousand heraldries,  
And twilight saints, with dim emblazonings,  
A shielded scutcheon blush'd with blood of queens and kings.

Full on this casement shone the wintry moon,  
And threw warm gules in Madeline's fair breast,  
As down she knelt for Heaven's grace and boon;  
Rose-bloom fell on her hands, together prest,  
And on her silver cross soft amethyst,  
And on her hair a glory, like a saint:  
She seem'd a splendid angel, newly drest,  
Save wings, for Heaven:—

————— Her vespers done  
Of all its wreathed pearls her hair she frees;  
Unclasps her warmed jewels one by one—  
Loosens her fragrant bodlice—by degrees  
Her rich attire creeps rustling to her knees:  
Half hidden, like a mermaid in sea-weed,  
Pensive awhile she dreams awake, and sees,  
In fancy, fair St. Agnes in her bed,  
But dares not look behind, or all the charm is fled

Soon, trembling in her soft and chilly nest,  
In sort of wakeful swoon, perplex'd she lay,  
Until the poppi'd warmth of sleep oppress'd  
Her soothed limbs, and soul fatigued away;  
Flown, like a thought, until the morrow day,  
Blissfully haven'd both from joy and pain;  
Clasp'd like a missal where swart Paynim's pray;  
Blinded alike from sunshine and from rain,  
As though a rose should shut, and be a bud again.

Stol'n to this paradise, and so entranced,  
Porphyro gaz'd upon her empty dress,  
And listened to her breathing.——



Shaded was her dream  
By the dusk curtains :—'twas a midnight charm  
Impossible to melt as iced stream :—

He took her hollow lute—  
Tumultuous—and, in chords that tenderest be,  
He play'd an ancient ditty, long since mute,  
In Provence call'd, "La belle dame sans mercy :"  
Close to her ear touching the melody :  
Wherewith disturb'd, she utter'd a soft moan :  
He ceas'd—she panted quick—and suddenly  
Her blue allrighted eyes wide open shone :  
Upon his knees he sank, pale as smooth-sculptured stone.

Her eyes were open, but she still beheld,  
Now wide awake, the vision of her sleep :  
There was a painful change, that nigh expell'd  
The blisses of her dream, so pure and deep,  
At which fair Madeline began to weep,  
And moan forth witless words with many a sigh,  
While still her gaze on Porphyro would keep ;  
Who knelt, with joined hands and piteous eye,  
Fearing to move or speak, she look'd so dreamingly.

" Ah, Porphyro !" said she, " but even now  
" Thy voice was at sweet tremble in mine ear,  
" Made tuneable with every sweetest vow ;  
" And those sad eyes were spiritual and clear :  
" How chang'd thou art ! how pallid, chill and drear !  
" Give me that voice again, my Porphyro,  
" Those looks immortal, those complainings dear !  
" Oh, leave me not in this eternal woe—  
" For if thou diest, my love, I know not where to go."

Beyond a mortal man impassion'd far,  
At these voluptuous accents he arose,  
Ethereal, flush'd, and like a throbbing star,  
Seen 'mid the sapphire heaven's deep repose,  
Into his dream he melted, as the rose  
Blendeth its odour with the violet—  
Solution sweet : meantime the frost wind blows,  
Like Love's alarm pattering the sharp sleet  
Against the window-panes.

" Hark ! 'tis an elfin storm from fairy land,  
" Of haggard seeming, but a boon indeed :  
" Arise—arise ! the morning is at hand—  
" Let us away, my love, with happy speed.

And they are gone : ay, ages long ago  
These lovers fled away into the storm.

On the 20th of February, 1749, Usher Cahagan, by birth a gentleman, and by education a scholar, perished at Tyburn. His attainments were elegant and superior ; he was the editor of Brindley's beautiful edition of the classics, and translated Pope's " Essay on Criticism" into Latin verse. Better grounded in learning than in principle, he concentrated liberal talents to the degrading selfishness of robbing the community of its coin by clipping. During his confinement, and hoping for pardon, he translated Pope's " Temple of Fame," and his " Messiah," into the same language, with a dedication to the Duke of Newcastle. To the same end, he addressed Prince George and the Recorder in poetic numbers. These efforts were of no avail. Two of his miserable confederates in crime were his companions in death. He suffered with a deeper guilt, because he had a higher knowledge than ignorant and unthinking criminals, to whom the polity of society, in its grounds and reasons, is unknown.

Accomplishments upon vice are as beautiful colours on a venomous reptile. Learning is a vain show, and knowledge mischievous, without the love of goodness, or the fear of evil. Children have fallen from careless parents into the hands of the executioner, in whom the means of distinguishing between right and wrong might have become a stock for knowledge to ripen on, and learning have preserved the fruits to posterity. Let him not despair who desires to know, or has power to teach—

There is in every human heart  
Some not completely barren part,  
Where seeds of truth and love might grow,  
And flowers of generous virtue blow :  
To plant, to watch, to water there,  
This be our duty, be our care.

BOWRING.

#### THE MOORISH BRIDAL SONG.

It is a custom among the Moors to sing the bridal song when the funeral of an unmarried woman is borne from her home.

The citron groves their fruit and flowers were strewing,  
Around a Moorish palace, and the sigh  
Of summer's gentlest wind, the branches wooing  
With music through their twilight-bowers went by ;  
Music and voices from the marble halls,  
Through the leaves gleaming, 'midst the fountain-falls.

A song of joy, a bridal-song came swelling  
To blend with fragrance in those silent shades.  
And told of feasts within the stately dwelling,  
And lights, and dancing steps, and gem-crown'd maids ;  
And thus it flow'd—yet something in the lay  
Belong'd to silence as it died away.

" The Bride comes forth ! her tears no more are falling  
To leave the chamber of her infant years—  
Kind voices from another home are calling :  
She comes like day-spring—she hath done with tears !  
Now must her dark eyes shine on other flowers—  
Her bright smile gladden other hearts than ours !—  
Pour the rich odours round !

" We haste ! the chosen and the lovely bringing,  
Love still goes with her from her place of birth—  
Deep silent joy within her heart is springing—  
For this alone her glance has less of mirth !  
Her beauty leaves us in its rosy years,  
Her sisters weep—but she hath done with tears !  
Now may the timbrel sound !"

Know'st thou for whom they sang the bridal numbers ?  
One, whose rich tresses were to wave no more !  
One whose pale cheek, soft winds, nor gentle slumbers,  
Nor Love's own sigh to rose-tints might restore !  
Her graceful ringlets o'er a bier were spread—  
Weep for the young, the beautiful, the dead ;

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