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# THE WEEKLY MIRROR.

Vol. 2]

HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 11, 1836.

No. 48.

## The Weekly Mirror,

Is Printed and Published every Friday,

BY H. W. BLACKDAR,

At his Office, nearly opposite Bauer's wharf, and adjoining north of Mr. Allan McDonald's.

WHERE

All kinds of Job PRINTING will be executed at a cheap rate.

Terms of the Mirror Five Shillings per annum payable in advance.

### NATURAL HISTORY.

#### FOSSIL ANIMALS.

Geologists, in searching into the structure of the earth, have discovered the remains of many animals, which are unknown in a living state. In the caverns of Germany, fossil bears have been found, larger than any now in existence, and with a head resembling that of the hippopotamus. Fossil wolves, foxes, gluttons, weasels, rabbits, and rats, have been found, nearly resembling the present species. The Megatherium appears to have been as large as an ox, and resembling the sloth. The bones were found in South America. Mammoth bones, resembling those of the elephant, have been found in various parts of the earth.\* The bones of the great Mastodon, an animal resembling the elephant, but much larger, have been found in the U. States. One entire specimen is preserved in Peale's museum at Philadelphia. Several kinds of fossil Reptiles have been discovered. The Ichthyosaurus was a species of lizard, but with ribs and paddles like a fish. Its length was twenty-five feet. The Plesiosaurus had the head of a lizard and the neck of a serpent, with paddles like a whale. Its length was sixty or seventy feet. It would appear from these facts, that whole races of animals some of monstrous size and extraordinary endowments, must have existed on the earth, which have now disappeared, only leaving their bones to give testimony to their existence.† This subject opens a field of interesting inquiry, which has been pursued with great industry and wonderful results by the late Baron Cuvier.

\* A thigh bone of an immense animal, supposed to be a mammoth, found in Cape Breton, was sent to the Halifax Mechanics Institute last week, to be deposited in their museum.

† To the naturalist Nova-Scotia affords a wide field of inquiry.—The Fossil botanist will find an immense range among our rocks, where kinds of living animals, of different classes, have been converted into stone; and plants, from the creeping lichen to the stately palm tree, have been imbedded and petrified, to an extent almost incredible.—(Dr. Gesner's Lectures.)

### BIOGRAPHY.

#### JAMES CRICHTON.

James Crichton, a celebrated Scotchman, of whom so many wonderful things are related as to have procured him the name of "the admirable Crichton." He was born about 1550, in the county of Perth, of a good family, and educated at St. Andrews, where he made a rapid progress in the languages and sciences. At the age of twenty he visited Paris, and acquired uncommon reputation as a disputant, and for his skill and activity in games of all sorts, as well as martial exercises. He next went to Rome, and displayed his talents in the presence of the pope and cardinals. From thence he travelled to Venice, where he became intimate with the learned Aldus Manutius, who dedicated to him the paradoxes of Cicero, in a strain of panegyric which borders on the ridiculous. At Padua he held disputations with the most learned professors, on a number of subjects, but particularly on the Aristotelian philosophy. We next find him at Mantua, where he is reported to have slain a famous fencing master in a duel. The duke of Mantua was so pleased with Crichton, as to appoint him tutor to his son, who was a very licentious young man. This appointment, however, proved fatal to him; for one night, as he was walking through the streets in carnival time, he was attacked by six assassins, and after a gallant defence lost his life. It is said that the person who gave him the fatal stroke was the prince his pupil. This event is placed in the year 1583.

#### THE THREE WISHES.

BY MARY HOWITT.

"Well," said George, "if I might choose, I'd rather be Julius Cæsar than any man that ever lived! He was a fine fellow! he conquered all the then known world—from the pyramids of Egypt, to the Island of Thule—from the most remote provinces of Asia Minor, to the western shores of the Peninsula: in ten years only, he took eight hundred cities, subdued three hundred nations, and left a million of enemies dead upon his fields of battle! Now, he was a hero! And what a glorious thing it must have been, after subduing Britons, Gauls, Germans, and Russians, to return with his triumphal regiments, laden with spoil, and leading kings captive, a conquerer through

the streets of Rome! I never think of Julius Cæsar without longing to be a soldier. 'He came—he saw—he conquered!' How famous that was! I wish I had lived in his days; or, better still, I wish there was another world to conquer, and I were the Julius Cæsar to do it!"

"Upon my word," said Charles, "very well spoken! but if I might choose, I'd be Cicero. I'd rather be an orator, rather ten thousand times, than a warrior, though he were Julius Cæsar himself. Only think, George, when you came to die, how should you like to have the blood of a million of men on your conscience? Depend upon it, it's not such a fine thing to be a conqueror, after all! But an orator! his is a glorious character indeed. He gains victories over millions without shedding one drop of blood! Now let us match ourselves, one against the other: you a warrior, I an orator—each the most accomplished in the world. What can you do without your legions and your arms?—With ten thousand men at your back, armed at all points, where, pray, is the wonder that you take possession of a city or a country, weakly defended perhaps, both by men and means? But place me among Savages (provided only I can speak their tongue)—give me no arms—no money; nay, even strip me of my clothes, and leave me, a defenceless, solitary being among thousands, and what will follow? I drew tears from the eyes of the stoniest-hearted among them;—they shall give me bread to eat, clothing to wear,—they shall build a house to cover me,—and if my ambition extends so far, they shall choose me for their king; and this is only by the words of my mouth! Now who, I ask you, is most powerful, you or I? You think it was a glorious thing for Julius Cæsar to pass with his captives through the streets of Rome. I think it was glorious too for Cicero, when, after having exposed and defeated the horrible conspiracy of Cataline, and driven him from Rome, he was borne by the most honourable men of the city to his house, along streets crowded with thousands of the inhabitants, all hailing him father and saviour of his country! I wish I could be a Cicero, and you might be a Julius Cæsar and an Alexander the Great, for me! But come, William" said he, addressing his other brother,—“who would you choose to be? and what arguments can you bring forward in favour of your choice?"

"I," replied William, "would choose to be John Smeaton."

"John Smeaton?" questioned Charles, "and pray, who in the world was John Smeaton?"

"Bless me!" said George, "not know John Smeaton? he was a cobbler, to be sure, and wrote a punny pamphlet to prove how superior wooden shoes are to Grecian sandals!"

"Not he, indeed!" interrupted William, indignantly; "he built the Ldystone Light-house."

"Oh! yes, yes, to be sure he did! I wonder I should forget it," replied George. "He was a stone-mason, and had the honour of building a wall! Upon my word, William, yours is a noble ambition! Why Smeaton only did what any man might do!"

"Not so, either, my good Julius Cæsar! There are not ten men in England that could have built that Light-house as well as Smeaton did. It is a noble proof of the power and ingenuity of man. It defies the almost omnipotent ocean itself, and the other elements can never affect it.

"And now, George, consider Smeaton's case without your soldierly prejudices. Independently of his work being a masterpiece of human skill, its importance will not be lessened by time. Your conquests, most potent Cæsar! are wrested from you in your lifetime, and your successor will hardly thank you for exhausting your country's treasure and reducing its population, for distant empire, which, as soon as you have left it, rises in insurrection, and almost needs reconquering. Every year makes that work of Smeaton's additionally valuable; and as the commerce of the country increases, the importance of that wall, as you are pleased to term it, increases also. There's not a ship that comes into that sea but owes its preservation, in great measure, to that Light-house. Thousands of lives depend upon it; and, when I think of it on a tempestuous night, as I often do, shining out like a star when every other star is hidden, a blessing springs into my heart on the skill and service of that man who, when the endeavour seemed hopeless, confidently went to work, and succeeded.

"But I'll tell you a story now, about neither Julius Cæsar, Cicero, nor John Smeaton, and yet that is quite *apropos* :—

"There was a certain little city, formerly, that stood by the sea. It was very famous at that time; it had abundance of treasure, twenty thousand soldiers to defend its walls, and orators the most eloquent in the world. You may be sure it could not exist without enemies; its wealth created many, and its pride provoked more. Accordingly, once upon a time, it was besieged. Twelve thousand men encamped round its walls, which extended on three sides, and a powerful fleet blockaded its fourth, which lay open to the sea. The inhabitants of this little

city felt themselves, of course, amazingly insulted by such an attack, and determined immediately to drive their audacious enemies like chaff before the wind. They accordingly sallied out, but, unfortunately, were driven back, and obliged to shelter themselves behind their walls. Seven times this occurred, and the enemy had now been seven months encamped there: it was a thing not to be borne, and a council was called in the city. 'Fight! fight!' cried the orators; 'fight for your homes, for the graves of your fathers, for the temples of your gods!' But in seven defeats, the soldiers had been reduced to ten thousand, and they were less enthusiastic about fighting than the orators expected. Just then, a poor man came forward, and stepping upon the rostrum, begged to propose three things: first, a plan by which the enemy might be much annoyed; second, a means of supplying the city with fresh water, of which it began to be much in need; third, but scarcely had he named a third, when the impatient orators bade him hold his peace, and the soldiers thrust him out of the assembly, as a cowardly proser, who thought the city could be assisted in any way except by the use of arms. The people, seeing him so thrust forth, directly concluded he had been proposing some dishonourable measures, perhaps been convicted of a design to betray the city; they therefore joined the outcry of the soldiers, and pursued him, with many insults, to his humble dwelling, which they were ready to burn over his head.

*To be continued.*

*Scientific Discoveries.* Mr. Cross, of Bloomfield, Somerset, has discovered a method by which he can make twenty-four minerals, and even crystalline quartz. The principal agent used by him is galvanism. Mr. Cross says he uses water only to make his voltaic batteries, and that they will act for twelve months, without the aid of any acids. This gentleman, whose great discoveries will produce a complete revolution in science, expresses his firm conviction that at no distant period diamonds, and almost every kind of mineral, will be made by the ingenuity of men.

**CURIOUS NATURAL PROFILES.**—One side of Moel-y-gest, a hill near Tre Madoc, Carnarvon, when viewed from the high road at Criccieth, presents a profile of the human countenance, which bears a remarkable resemblance to the Duke of Wellington. This hill is about 1,000 feet high; and the side which presents this prodigious portrait, faces the north at an inclination of about 45 degrees, so that the face is turned upwards, as if the body lay in a horizontal position with its head raised upon a pillow. The features are very distinctly defined. A similar phenomenon is found in New Hampshire, United States, for, forming part of a range called the White Mountains, is the Profile

Mountain, so called in consequence of one side of it bearing a very accurate outline of the human face. Another occurs near Edinburgh. Immediately beneath the monument of Nelson, on Calton-hill, is a rocky precipice of about 100 feet high: the face of this precipice, when view from the south of Holyrood Palace, about half a mile distant, presents a profile in every way well proportioned, bearing a strong resemblance to the hero of Trafalgar. Another instance of the freaks of Nature exists at Malta, in the Lion Rock, which emerges from the sea to the height of several yards, and forms a gigantic statue of a recumbent lion. To these may be added a remarkable stone between Carnarvon and Beddgelert, about four miles from the latter place, which bears a strong resemblance to the profile of Pitt; the road passes close to it.—*Carnarvon Herald.*

*Sublime Mathematical Calculation.*—What a noisy creature would a man be were his voice, in proportion to his weight, as loud as that of a locust! A locust can be heard at the distance of 1-16th of a mile. The golden wren is said to weigh but half-an-ounce; so that a middling sized man would weigh down not short of 4,000 of them; and it must be strange if a golden wren would not outweigh four of our locusts. Supposing, therefore, that a common man weighs as much as 16,000 of our locusts, and that the note of a locust can be heard 1-16th of a mile, a man of common dimensions, pretty sound in wind and limb, ought to be able to make himself heard at the distance of 1,000 miles; and when he sneezed "his house might fall about his ears!" Supposing a flea to weigh, one grain, which is more than its actual weight, and to jump one and a half yards, a common man of 150 pounds, with jumping powers in proportion, could jump 12,800 miles, or about the distance from New York to Cochin China. Aristophanes represents Socrates and his disciples as deeply engaged in calculation of this kind, around a table on which they are waxing a flea's legs to see what weight it will carry in proportion to its size, but he does not announce the result of their experiments. We are, therefore, happy in being able to supply, in some degree, so serious an omission.

**PRIDE.**—Pride is always a distinct thing from real elevation of mind; yet on some occasions it appears like it. This is especially the case when it opposes another pride, and repels its insolence. The following anecdote of the Bishop of Noyon is an instance of this kind:—A Duke and Peer of a late creation, once expressed to him his surprise that the Ecclesiastical Peers should have precedence in Parliament over the lay Peers, adding, that the ancient Peers of the realm (these were all feudal Sovereigns) took place

without opposition, of all the Prelatic Peers. "That is true," replied the Bishop; "but you do not consider that it was more honourable to follow such men as they were, than it is now to precede such men as you are."

**New-Brunswick.**

**DREADFUL CALAMITY!**

**STEAMER ROYAL TAR DESTROYED BY FIRE!**  
**THIRTY-ONE LIVES LOST!**—The above most melancholy intelligence was brought to the city early on Saturday morning last, by Captain REED, who with several of the Crew of the late Steamer Royal Tar, arrived from Eastport in the Sahr. Ploughboy. Never before, we may safely say, have our Citizens experienced so unexpected and tremendous a shock as was caused by the news of this awful calamity,—it arrested the attention and excited the most sympathetic feelings of every person, of all ages and conditions of life. Deep and universal regret for our unfortunate fellow creatures whose lives were so suddenly snatched away, was depicted in every countenance, and flowed from every heart; as well as strong sympathy on behalf of the survivors for the very severe loss they have sustained and hardships they experienced in their perilous situation.

From conversation with Captain Reed we have gained the following particulars of the melancholy catastrophe, which we lay before our readers.

The Steamer, having on board the Menagerie, consisting of the animals lately exhibited in this Province, with six horses and the large Omnibus, all on deck; and about 71 passengers, and crew of 21, amounting in all to 92 persons, left the harbour of St John, bound for Eastport and Portland, on Friday, the 21st October, at 11 A. M. The Boat left Eastport the same evening, but it blowing hard from the westward, they put into Little River. The gale continuing, the Boat remained at her anchorage until Monday afternoon, when they left. That there being a very heavy sea out-ride, and the wind still from the westward, they put into Michias Bay and again anchored. At twelve o'clock the same night, the wind shifted to the north-west, when they left and again proceeded. At 1 A. M., it commenced blowing hard from the N. W. but nothing material occurred until half-past one, P. M., on Tuesday, when the Engineer reported to Captain Reed, that the water had become too low in the boilers, (not that the boilers were dry as stated by Mr. Patten.) The engines were stopped, the safety valves opened, and the boat brought to anchor instantly, about one and a half miles from the Fox Islands, Penobscot Bay, when the fires were extinguished in the furnaces, by the order and in the presence of Captain Reed, and to all appearance effectually. The force pump was then set in motion, and to fill the boilers, but in about half an hour the vessel was discovered to be on fire, directly over the boilers, under the deck. The fire-hose was immediately screwed on to the force pump, but in about five minutes the men were driven off by the intense heat and smoke. Owing to the dryness of the deck, the flames spread with astonishing rapidity, rolling up the scuttles of the engine room. It being evident that the fire could not be subdued, and that the steamer must be abandoned to her fate, Captain Reed ordered away the stern boat, and got into it, with two men, while at the same moment the quarter boat was lowered, and sixteen persons got into her, the cable was slipped, the jib and mastsail set, and the steamer was round to run for the nearest land. Both boats pulled from the vessel, when J. T. Sherwood, Esq., British Consul at Portland, James H. Fowler, Esq. of this city, and a man belonging to the Caravan jumped over-board and were picked up by Captain Reed. The quarter-boat was put before the wind, and ran for an island five or six miles distant, while Captain Reed lay to in the stern boat a short distance to windward of the steamer. She then presented an awful spectacle, the passengers and crew being driven to either end, and the elephant loose on deck. The shrieks and screams of those on board are represented to have been most appalling, and the whole scene terrific in the highest degree.

In about half an hour a schooner was discovered bearing down, which proved to be the U. S. Revenue Cutter, Veto, Captain Howland Dyer, of Canine. Captain Reed boarded her, and they ran down to the steamer, when the Cutter bore to, and Captain R. in the small boat with two

seamen, succeeded, not without great hazard and difficulty, in saving forty more persons, whom he placed on board the Cutter at several tips.

In going along side the steamer each time, there were great danger from the rush made for the boat, and the fear of the elephant jumping overboard, which he at last did, when several persons, who were hanging over the bows by a rail were drowned. Six horses and two camels had previously been thrown overboard; two of the horses were seen to land, but the fate of the rest and the camels and elephant are not known. The other animals were either burned or suffocated in their cages.

When the last survivor had been taken off the burning wreck, it had drifted 5 or 6 miles from its first position. It had become a mere shell, being one sheet of flange iron stem to stern, with out any of the deck or beams to be seen, both masts and funnel gone, driving directly out to sea. The cutter having circled round the wreck to ascertain if any person had been left, made sail for the late of Holt, but had much difficulty in reaching it from the violence of the wind. The Passengers and Crew of the steamer were landed about 7 P. M. and received with the greatest kindness by the inhabitants, who treated them with exceeding attention and hospitalty during their stay. The wreck continued drifting to sea, and was distinctly seen until about 10 P. M. when it suddenly disappeared and is supposed to have gone to bottom.—On the arrival of the Cutter at Isle of Holt, it was found that the quarter-boat, with the 16 persons, had landed there previously in safety.

Every article of baggage and the letter bag were lost, no person saving more than what he stood in. A number of trunks and portmanteaus were thrown overboard, but none had been recovered.

The Revenue Cutter was a very small vessel of the bu then of about 40 tons only, with two boats, neither of them of any service, from their small size. Great praise must be given to William Brown, the Steward, and the men in the boat for their very great exertions during nearly four hours in saving the lives of the passengers, under the most trying circumstances, and in situations of great peril.

**Lost**—Cabin Passengers—Mr Price, of St. John River; Mr Siller, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Ryan, and a boy, of the Caravan.—5

**Forward Passengers**—Matty Smith; Peggy Cochlan; Mary Caton; Charles Curtin, wife and child; Margaret Martin; Margaret Hogan, and child; Thomas Mahony; Dennis O'Brien; Margaret Hinkley; Fanny Martin; John Hogan; Luiza Hogan; and eight children.—23

**Crew**—Charles Ford, and John Day, Seamen; Margaret Watts, Stewards.—3. **Total lost**,—31.

**SAVED**—Cabin Passengers—Mrs. Linton, Capt. Edward Waite, Captain John Hammond, Messrs. J. T. Sherwood, McGlinchey, Ring, S. Patten, A. Garrison, J. Ansley, J. H. Fowler, H. H. Fuller, A. Fuller, C. Fuller, Wheeler, W. A. Kipp, Marmon, Lowrey, J. Hetherby, Stevens, Layton, Carson, Burgess, Hodges, Ganson, Willoughway, Potter, G. Eaton, Harrison, Murphy Forward Passengers—Mary Donough, Owen Dakorly, Mary Muldoom, John Martin, Pat Moor, Mic Moor, Mic Doolin, John Doolin, Edward Hogan, Mic Mahony, William Margarrow, Richard Hensall, John Triner. **Crew**—Thomas Reed, Master; Mr. Atkins, Pilot; Francis Black, Mate; N. Marshall, Engineer; J. Kehoe, 2d do.; W. G. Brown, Steward, W. Connor and D. Williams, Cooks; H. Luff, J. Northweay, and Owen Atkins, Seamen; Mic Kehoe, H. Blaney, Mic McFadyan, and D. Mcfatyre, Firemen; Pat Daly, J. McElvoy, and W. Noggus, Cabin boys.

All the accounts which have reached us concur in giving unqualified praise to Capt Reed, for his exceeding coolness energy and activity under the most trying circumstances, and throughout a scene of horror seldom equalled. His determination in keeping off the small boat and thus preventing its being sunk by the general struggle to reach it, was eventually the means of saving a great number of lives which would have been lost.

While we deeply deplore this distressing calamity, and sympathize with the friends of those who have met an untimely fate, yet we cannot help feeling thankful that so many have been saved. Had the fire occurred in the night or at a greater distance from land, few, if any, would have survived to tell the tale.

**HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 11, 1838.**

The following Candidates have offered since our last:—County of Halifax—Wm. Lawson, H. A. Gladwin, Joseph Howe, and William Amund Esquires. County of Juste-an-Corps—William Young, Esq. County of Sydney, John Young Esq. County of Cumberland—A. Stewart, Esq. County of Lunenburg—Garret Miller, Esq. Township of Halifax—Joseph Starr, and Thomas Forrester, Esquires.

☞ The Mail for England, by His Majesty's Packet Delight, will be closed on Monday evening next, at 5 o'clock.

**MARRIED.**

On Tuesday evening last, by the Rev. John Martin, Alexander A. Black, merchant, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of James Leishman, Esq.

**DIED.**

Monday morning, in the 90th year of his age, Mr. Joseph Kirk, one of the oldest inhabitants of this town.

Tuesday evening, aged 2 months, Charles, son of Mr. James Scott.

Wednesday Morning, Simeon, infant son of Mr. Edward Midalemass, of this town, aged 5 months.

**WESLEYAN METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.**

A Sermon will be preached, and a collection taken, in aid of the above institution, at the Brunswick Street Chapel, on Sunday evening next, November 13th, and at the old Chapel, Argyle Street, the following Sunday evening. The friends of Religious Instruction, are respectfully invited to attend; service to commence at 7 o'clock.

November 11.

**H. W. BLACKADAR,**

BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,

One door north of Mr. McDonald's Tobacco Manufactory, and nearly opposite Bauer's Wharf.

☞ Pamphlets, Cards, Catalogues, Handbills, Blanks, and Printing in general, executed with neatness, and at a very cheap rate. October 21, 1838.

**G. HOBSON,**  
**Engraver and Copper-Plate Printer,**

No. 39, DUKE-STREET.  
 ☞ Maps, Plans, Bills of Exchange, Bill Heads, Address and Visiting Cards, Arms and Crests, Labels, &c. neatly designed, engraved and printed. Metal Seals, Door Plates, Dog Collars, and Dandy Ornaments, neatly engraved. May 13, 1836.



### THE MECHANICAL POWERS.

The moving power of simplest kind,  
Is said to be the plane inclined;  
On which all heavy bodies tend,  
If not prevented, to descend.

The wedge is very simple too,  
Yet many wondrous things can do;  
Such as from hard and solid rock,  
Detach a large and massy block.

The lever often is applied  
To move with ease to either side,  
A mass which by mere strength alone,  
Could not by many hands be done.

The pulley an enormous weight  
Will raise to a surprising height,  
Or rapidly extend the sail  
To catch the favouring breeze or gale.

The ax's and its powerful wheel  
Makes things a regular impulse feel;  
And therefore much employed has been  
In both the small and great machine.

The screw, though call'd a force compound  
Is also very useful found,  
For speedily it can apply  
A pressure that would tons defy.

**TOO MANY STUDIES AT ONCE.**—Young ladies engage in too many studies at once. It is not an unfrequent occurrence for a young lady to engage in five or six different branches of science at one time. It is a common, and I think a true saying, that a 'Jack at all trades is good at none'; and I feel sure that a young lady who recites in French, Latin, Geography, Natural Philosophy and Music, every day, cannot understand what she learns. It appears to me to be the perfection of education to learn to concentrate all the powers and faculties of the mind upon one subject, until that is perfectly understood. If a young lady commences the study of Natural Philosophy, and pursues it to the exclusion of all other studies, she not only retains what she learns, but she reflects upon the facts which she has collected during the hours of relaxation. And in a short time her whole soul will be engaged in it. Let a young lady commence her studies, and confine herself to one, or at most two books at one time, and if she does not finish her education too early in life, she will have laid up a vast fund from which she can ever after draw the richest draughts of enjoyment.

**LABOUR.**—No man should be exempt from labour, nor any loaded with it; but, by dis-

tributing employment according to capacity, we might make labour a source of universal satisfaction, and a bond of union, realising, as regards the world's business, the old adage—"that many hands make light work." With these convictions, one man might believe in purgatory, and another in predestination, and yet not war with each other—each would follow his own peculiar form of worship, and the fiat as to its truth would be removed to that sphere in which the voice of man has no weight. With these convictions each would desire only such leisure as healthy labour would furnish him with the means of enjoying.

**ANTHROPOLOGICAL WONDERS.**—At the last meeting of the Association of Science, at Bristol, Dr. Buckland noticed that undoubted traces remained, of animals (the Iguanodon, for instance) which must have been of such gigantic size, that, compared with it, the elephant was a mere shrimp. Many who have travelled to Brighton were not, perhaps, aware that they were crushing beneath their chariot wheels the remains of tens of thousands of animals, which, had the travellers lived a hundred thousand years ago, would have turned the tables upon them. There were at this time, in the College of Surgeons in London, the remains of an animal whose tail was more than a yard in circumference, as was proved by the existing vertebrae.

**ORIGIN OF GAMING.**—The invention of this curse is attributed to the Lydians when under the pressure of a great famine. To divert themselves from dwelling on their sufferings they contrived dice, balls, tables, &c.; and, it is added, that to bear their calamity the better, they used to play a whole day without interruption, that they might not be racked with the thoughts of food. Here is another proof that the best things, perverted from the original purpose, become the worst. This invention, intended for a remedy against hunger, is now the common and hateful cause of it.

**THE SILENT WOMAN.**—Madame Reguer, the wife of a Law Officer of Versailles, while talking in the presence of a numerous party, dropped some remarks which were out of place, though not very important. Her husband reprimanded her before the whole company, saying—"Silence, Madam; you are a fool!" She lived 20 or 30 years afterwards, and never uttered a single word, even to her children! A pretended theft was committed in her presence, in the hope of taking her by surprise, but without effect; and nothing could induce her to speak. When her consent was necessary for the marriage of any of her children, she bowed her head and signed the contract.—Madame Campana's Journal.

**FREEDOM.**—None can love freedom heartily but good men. Every man who ably and honestly advocates the cause of freedom and good government is popular in England. For, naturally, and of necessity, the people's sympathies are linked to their burthens, and diffuse among them a just and wholesome relish for knowledge; to provide civil and religious instruction for their children, and raise them to that mental condition in which they may, with safety to themselves and to the State, exercise all the rights of freemen.

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"A little sighing,  
A little crying,  
A little dying,  
And a deal of lying.

This is probably the "abstract and brief chronicle" of half the love-sick heroes that have been written since the beginning of the world.

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