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BRIEF ACCOUNT

OF A

VOYAGE

TO ENGLAND AND AMERICA,

BY

ISHUREE DASS,

(OF FUTTEHGURH.)

—000000—

ALLAHABAD :

PRINTED AT THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION PRESS.

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18

Errata.

<i>Page.</i>	<i>Line.</i>	
17.	31.	<i>for attend, read attended.</i>
20.	9.	<i>for crowed, read crowded.</i>
27.	20.	<i>for exceeding, read exceedingly.</i>
29.	23.	<i>for throughly, read thoroughly.</i>
31.	3.	<i>for cabin, read cabins.</i>
34.	27.	<i>for son Anak, read son of Anak.</i>
37.	19.	<i>för of Atheist, read of an Atheist.</i>
45.	20.	<i>for stranger, read stronger.</i>
56.	6.	<i>for of ballot, read by ballot.</i>
58.	22.	<i>for took, read look.</i>
64.	32.	<i>for fellows, read fellow.</i>

DEDICATION

TO THE

HONORABLE JAMES THOMASON, Esquire,

Lieut. Governor of the N. W. Provinces.

May it please your Honor,

Graciously to condescend and accept from the humble Author, this really unworthy publication, as a trifling tribute of high respect, great esteem, and sincere thanks for all your Honor's hearty, energetic, and constant desires, exertions, and plans to meliorate the mental, moral, and national condition of his benighted countrymen.

Auspicious was the day for the North-West when its government came into the hands of a Ruler, who, being possessed of a thorough knowledge of the habits, customs, manners, and character of its inhabitants, was fully competent to devise and carry out schemes calculated for the substantial good of the country under his management and protection.

Your Honor's earnest endeavors and wise plans to educate the country and make it happy, are so publicly known and fully appreciated, that, it would be an utter presumption in the humble Author to make an attempt at a description of them. May he, however, be allowed to say, that few Governors have taken a like interest in the promotion, by every possible means, of the happiness of the subjects under their government; and few have had that intimate acquaintance with, and thorough knowledge of the condition and character of their subjects, and of the means calculated to render them happy, which your Honor possesses.

The illiterate are perhaps not fully aware of the immense benefits, which your Honor so graciously wishes to bestow upon them ;

but the educated and the enlightened do well appreciate them, and tender their most hearty thanks to your Honor for your kind exertions.

That all your Honor's endeavors may be rendered successful by God's help for the good of the country, and that your Honor may be blessed with a long, healthy, and prosperous life, is the sincere and unceasing prayer of your Honor's most humble, devoted, and obedient servant,

ISHUREE DASS.

Futtehgurh, 24th March, 1851.

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PREFACE.

THE writer of the following pages has, for some time, been traveling abroad ; and deeming that a short account of what he has seen and heard would be interesting to some, and entertaining to others, he takes the liberty of submitting this humble volume to their perusal.

He is a native of the Upper Provinces ; and before becoming a Christian belonged to the original agricultural class ; it is said *original*, because in the present age people of all trades and castes have taken that employment into hand, which, in days of yore, was exclusively followed by a certain portion of the community.

Having, by an afflictive dispensation of a wise Providence, lost his parents in early childhood, he was, by European instrumentality, put under the fostering care of CHAS. MADDEN, Esquire, a benevolent and pious gentleman in the Medical Service of the Honorable Company. He was with him about five years ; after which period, that gentleman having been removed to a very distant locality, a separation was rendered unavoidable. He was next placed under the protection of Rev. H. R. WILSON, a Missionary, with whom he was up to the period of his approximating to adult age. It was this gentleman, who had the extreme kindness to take him to England and America for better education and information. Here he might mention also, that his education has almost been entirely formed under the private tuition of his respective guardians, who, he is extremely thankful to say, have always paid the strictest attention to both his mental and moral improvement.

These pages are principally intended for such of the Native community as possess an acquaintance with the language of the British ;—and it is hoped they will, in some measure at least, be useful to them. But fearing that they (that is, his Native readers) might not be pleased to afford him due encouragement, he has had an eye to that part of the European Public also, who feel an interest in the progress of Native Education ; and this is the reason that in his relation he has confined himself more to generals and less to particulars, which latter perhaps would have been more useful to Natives. He acknowledges he has nothing *new* or *useful* to communicate to Europeans, and had he been sure of an extensive native patronage, he would have been glad to relieve them from the task of going through these unpretending pages. However, he trusts he may safely say, that though they will find nothing novel or useful in this brief account, still it will probably help them to beguile a couple of leisure hours.

He is fully conscious of the innumerable faults which this little work contains ; but the principal of them may be summed up under the following heads :—viz. The extreme plainness of language, accompanied with a very small stock of words ; the simple turn of thought displayed ; and the lack of extensive information. The first is, in a measure, owing to English not being his mother-tongue ; the second, to a lack of sufficient cultivation of mind ; and the third, to a want of a minuter observation at the period of his travelling. But his earnest and respectful request to his gentle readers is, that they may be favourably inclined towards him, and cover all his faults and errors with the mantle of kindness, forbearance, and charity.

A BRIEF ACCOUNT
OF A
VOYAGE TO ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

CHAPTER I.

COMPARATIVELY few of my countrymen have visited foreign lands. They have however, gradually, begun to break those iron chains that have bound them for centuries; and judging from what is going on at the present day, it is highly probable that, after a quarter of a century more has rolled on, many more will burst their bonds, and gain knowledge and information by a personal observation of what is passing in distant countries. Those of my countrymen, who are still tenacious of their old ways, will not I hope, take umbrage at this anticipation, as it proceeds from a sincere desire for India's temporal and spiritual welfare.

I sailed from Calcutta in the *Tudor*, a large English vessel, bound for London, on the 16th February, 1846. But before I proceed further with my narrative I shall, for the sake of those of my native readers who belong to the Upper Provinces, endeavour in a few words to give a brief description of the ship in which I embarked and the seamen that manned her. This I have considered the more necessary, as some, who have never visited the "city of Palaces," entertain some absurd ideas with regard to shipping; and I hope, the good Bengalese, who may almost be said to be born and brought up on board ships, will not contemptuously laugh at my most simple and unpretending description.

A a

History tells us, we had ships before European nations touched our shores; deified heroes have used some in their warfare. But we may easily conjecture what they were by seeing one of the present day. The strictly native ships that I have seen floating about Calcutta are such rude, clumsy, and unwieldy masses that they scarcely deserve the name.

The Tudor, then commanded by Captain Lay, carried 1200 tons, (or about 33,600 maunds,) was newly built, and sailed well; she was a three decker; the lowest deck was for the cargo, and the two upper ones for passengers.

The cabins on the upper deck (eight in number) were the most comfortable and expensive; those on the second deck, were above forty in number, less convenient, and consequently their passage money consisted of a smaller sum.

This vessel, like every other large one, had three masts at regular distances from each other, which were called the Mainmast, Foremast, and Mizzenmast. The aft or hinder part of the ship was occupied by the passengers and her officers, and the forepart by the sailors and some of the live stock; in this part also was the Cook's department. All these were on the first and second decks, the third being entirely taken up by the cargo, for which it was intended.

The crew, that manned her, consisted of about thirty five able seamen with two or three apprentices; one boatswain (a petty officer) with his two mates; a carpenter and his mate; a cook, a baker, a butcher, and a steward with four cuddy servants; (the cuddy was the public room, where the passengers sat and ate; and cuddy servants were those who waited at table); a Captain with his four Officers; and four midshipmen. These last were young men, who had come out to learn the art of navigation; the Captain had received five hundred Rupees for each of them from their parents for one voyage.

There were three watches in this ship, (as there are in every

other.) The third Officer had the first watch, which commenced at eight o'clock both morning and evening, and ended at twelve. The second Officer had the second watch from twelve to four; and the chief Officer the last one from four to eight. Each of them always had a midshipman with him, who were both generally in the hinder part of the ship. The midshipman's duty was to strike the bell, to give word to the next Officer about his watch, and to run backwards and forwards on errands. The Officer on watch walks about on the poop, (or the roof of those cabins that are in the hindermost part of the vessel), and constantly looks at the compass to know the direction in which the ship is going. His attention is always turned to the wind, and when it veers even a little, he orders the sails to be put in as favorable a position as possible, or rather as his knowledge of navigation allows him to do.

There is always a watch of the sailors on deck, and whenever the whistle of the Boatswain sounds, they get ready to put in execution the orders of their Officer on watch.

When I first saw the sailors, they looked more like wild men than civilized beings, and appeared ferocious when compared with our poor boatmen; but by seeing them frequently I began to have a better opinion of them. They are well known to be a hardworking and daring race; and did their character in other respects agree with this, it would be all the better for them. Their morning fare consisted of tea, dry and course biscuit, and saltmeat; in the middle of the day, they had dry bread, potatoes, saltmeat, sometime pea soup, and every second day some kind of pudding. The evening meal also consisted of the same dry bread and tea. But at the time of their being in any port they were indulged with fresh provisions. On the whole, their fare seemed suited to their iron-strength like bodies and hard way of leading life.

There is an indisposition called *sea sickness*, which many of my readers have never experienced. It falls to the lot of almost all those, who venture to ride the waves of the "mighty deep." I

have never undergone it myself; and cannot therefore speak of it with any degree of positiveness; but it is said to be dreadful by those who have known it by experience. Indeed, it must be so, when it brings the stoutest man on board a ship to the same level with the weakest person that breathes there. It is a sickness (if it may be called by this name) that, instead of exciting our sympathies towards the sufferer, makes us laugh at him.

The ship being one of the largest size, there was a great particularity about her, as the custom is in all respectable vessels. The strictest attention was paid even to the coiling of ropes and other minor duties, both in the cuddy and out of it; and any neglect that came under the observation of the Captain was punished by his severe threat or otherwise, as the case required. The deck was scrubbed with a species of earth called holy-stone, and every part of the ship was well washed.

As the Tudor left Calcutta rather late in the season, she could not secure a sufficient number of passengers. There were now five of them; of whom two were ladies. Had there been more, we should in all probability have spent the passage more agreeably; but with so few, the ship had comparatively a lonesome appearance.

Their manner of passing time was as follows. In the morning they used to walk about for exercise till breakfast, which took place at 9, A. M. From this time to the middle of the day, they were accustomed to read, talk, and walk about. At 12 o'clock, those who wished, partook of some lunch, which consisted of biscuit and wine. Dinner was on the table at 4, P. M. A quarter of an hour before the exact time, the bugle sounded to give notice to all to get ready; when it was on the table, it sounded again, which brought the passengers to it. This meal consisted of almost all those things that one could have ashore, as a good supply of every necessary and luxury was laid up. They sat at table till about 5 o'clock, and, after that, rose up to walk about. Supper, which consisted of tea, biscuit of different sorts, and some other things,

was on the table when it was nearly dark. We may say, in pleasant weather the evening was the best part of the day, as at this time, the band (for we had one on board) was almost always ordered to play, and all the passengers were out to amuse themselves, some on deck and others on the poop; and the sailors being freed from their daily toil, were accustomed to enjoy themselves in various ways.

Besides the cuddy passengers, we had some insane soldiers too on board, who were being sent to England for the benefit of their health; most of them had nearly recovered, but one was at times very wild; this wildness, however, was supposed by some to have proceeded from his ill temper rather than from a deranged head.

For a considerable period after our sailing from Calcutta, we did not meet with any thing striking or remarkable; but there were times during this passage, when we had high winds and gales, which made the sea as boisterous as I could have wished to witness. There have been instances in my voyage, when I have seen the "mighty deep" in all its fury and excitement. These scenes, accompanied with thunder, lightning and rain, have been awfully sublime. When the ship is impelled by a steady breeze, her sailing is what may be termed *beautiful*; at such times she is gliding on smoothly, and there is little around you, to put you into unusual inward stir; but when the breeze is turned into a strong wind, or gale, or storm, then the *beautiful* is lost (almost always quite imperceptibly) into the *sublime*. This appears to be the highest kind of sublimity that one could witness. You behold the ocean in the greatest commotion and rising "mountains high," hear the "voice of many waters" and the angry roar of thunder, and see the vivid flash of lightning. At times like this, what is the largest ship compared with these mighty elements which contend with each other. When there are "voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and earthquakes," a vessel (even of the largest size) is as a light leaf tumbling about on the bosom of the ocean; she seems to be lost in nothingness in comparison with these irresistible elements that play

above, beneath, and round about her. Were it not for the particular providence of the Almighty in such circumstances, the slightest stroke of a heavy sea, would hurl her down to the bottom to rise no more.

However, taking another view of the sailing of a ship, it affords us a sort of pleasure. When the wind is high and the sea exceedingly rough, a vessel sails at a furious rate and with a great noise. The rough sea by the high waves, which rise in her path, impedes her course in a great measure, so that she has to struggle with the sea in making her way through them; but even then, large ships in general, run about ten miles an hour. Now consider the ship in the light of a mighty monster, struggling with the still mightier elements of destruction to make her way; and when you see that all around you is a vast and boundless expanse of troubled water, land at the distance of thousands of miles, the high winds wrestling with the powerful waves, and, if all this were not enough to terrify impotent man, the worm of the dust, you hear the thunder mingling its terrible peals with the loud and awful roar of the wind, as well as of the waves, and now and then the flash of lightning from the dark angry clouds dazzling your eyes; yet when you see the ship, with all this dreadful scenery about her, nobly making her way through the rough and troubled sea and going on at the rate of ten miles an hour, safely arrive at its "desired haven," say, is not this also *sublime*!

The Captain, at the time of our leaving Calcutta, had not as far we knew, designed to touch at the Cape; but afterwards he changed his mind. Our passage from Calcutta to this place had been unusually pleasant; but the weather about the Cape is well known to be boisterous and stormy; the sea that washes these shores has, doubtless, been instrumental in the destruction of innumerable ships and lives. As far as some trouble and a little delay were concerned, we also had our share; but at length on the 19th of April, we reached the Cape, which had been the theme of universal talk for a number of days. Our flags were hoisted up long before we

reached the Port: and the Medical Examiner was soon on board. Almost immediately after our arrival here, the ship was surrounded by small boats in which people came from ashore for various purposes:—some to satisfy their curiosity; some as suppliers of the necessaries wanted; some to invite passengers to their respective lodgings; while others had come to see whether they could find any employment as sailors. No one was prevented from coming on board; and some, that happened to find their acquaintances, remained on board to a late hour. I must confess that, I looked on most of these visitors as untameable wild men; which character of theirs might very properly be attributed to the vagrant life that they always lead. I can say, I never found any difficulty in distinguishing this class from the better sort.

On the evening of our arrival no body went ashore; but on the next day the Captain, with his lady and some others, set his feet on terra firma. The day when I landed was a disagreeable one, which circumstance left a very unfavourable impression on my mind, with regard to the Cape. The weather was wet, the streets muddy, and the town had an aspect of uncleanness about it; but of course I form no conclusive opinion from this. The houses and shops, and the make of streets and side paths I afterwards found to be like those of England. The population was a mixed one, composed of Europeans and Africans. The ship was to remain here only for a short time; I had no opportunity, therefore, of making even a short tour in the interior, and consequently my observations regarding it must be exceedingly limited.

From the very day that I reached the Cape, I had a great curiosity to see some of the miserable and long oppressed children of Ham in their own land. At last I saw alongside the ship a small boat, in which were an old man and a boy, who had brought some fruit for sale; so I gratified my curiosity by closely observing their peculiarities. I did this to a greater advantage however, when I was ashore. A great number of them were busy on the wharf. The first impression that they make on one is unfavourable to them;

but this gradually wears off by seeing them oftener. I shall not trouble my readers with a description of their features, &c. as they are generally known. I am inclined to believe they are a dirty race. The costume of the Cape Africans is somewhat like that of the English; but this holds true with regard to only those, who live in the colony; because others, who inhabit the interior, apart from all foreign influence, must have every thing original about them. The Colony Africans are said to be of the Christian religion; but before knowing this, I had the curiosity to ask some of them, whether they were Mahommadans, but they not understanding me, I enquired again, whether they believed in the Qurán, to which they answered, there was plenty of *corn* there; I asked them again whether they were Christians; but they pointed to a house and said, a European of that name lived there. These were poor labouring men, and of course very illiterate; their English was broken, because their *present* mother tongue is Dutch, which they have derived from their former masters.

The same inscrutable designs of Providence, which are to be met with elsewhere, appear to view here also; for with the exception of the two ancient celebrated nations, that is, the Egyptians and the Carthaginians, Africa has always been sunk in the grossest barbarism. From what account of certain of their tribes travellers and missionaries give, it is no wonder that some, who give no credence to Revelation, should take them for the connecting link between the brute and the human creation. However, from the signs of the times and the evident developement of certain prophetic writings, we may, I believe, safely conclude, that their deliverance from the chains of barbarism and ignorance draweth nigh.

The most unfavourable thing, that appears to be a preventive to the temporal comfort and happiness of this race, is, the general extreme dryness of their climate and the barrenness of their soil. Were this not the case, they might live with a measure of comfort, as far as their temporal support is concerned. But we believe every difficulty of this kind will yield, when revolutions and refor-

nations will take place in their moral and spiritual world ; when the divine power will descend to make the wilderness and the solitary place glad, and cause the desert to rejoice and blossom as the rose.

Our stay in this part of the world was very short ; we had arrived here, as I said before, on the 19th of the month, and left it after about a week. The Captain had got all that he required, and also six more passengers.

After leaving the Port we soon fell in with the Trade Winds. Of this second part of my passage Englandwards I have nothing particular to relate. It took about two months, in which time it was quietly accomplished. I had long been curious to see the English shore, and this I did on the 25th June, and among other things had a sight of the noted place in English History where Julius Cæsar landed with his troops to invade England. The Captain with some of the Passengers left us before we quite arrived at our place of destination. Shortly after, a steamer was engaged to tug us up, and in due time, the noble Tudor, after making her way through a vast multitude of ships, dropped anchor in the East India Docks.

CHAPTER II.

THE ship arriving in the Port, we landed after the Custom House Officer had examined the things that we were to take with us. The newly arrived vessel in London does not stand in the middle of the river as they do in Calcutta ; but the wharf is made in such a convenient way, that they come in entire contact with the shore, and people wishing to land have only to step over a plank of a few feet in length, which is placed there only for greater safety, as the ship on account of the water is in constant motion, and now and then moves back a foot or two, at which time if any person were

B

to step between her and the shore, he would be crushed to death immediately.

The evening that we reached this place was of necessity one of great bustle and confusion. The sailors and servants after the performance of their duties left the ship, which now presented a somewhat desolate and solitary appearance. A coach (a great many of which are always present at such places for the conveyance of passengers) was soon to be seen at the side of the vessel. We with our things got into it, which was ordered to be driven to Charter House square. This place was at some distance, and it took us about half an hour to reach it.

London was of course quite new to me, and before arriving here I had very naturally a great curiosity to see it; but it was somewhat strange that when I reached the place, and as I was being driven through part of it the first evening, I felt no unusual excitement, or was not extraordinarily aroused at the sight of the new things about me.

We arrived at Charter House square after some time, and then I became somewhat desirous to know how we should be able to put up. We entered the Hall of the Boarding House, and a man servant as well as a female, with some young ladies, presented themselves to our notice. The accommodations were good; and an old lady with her daughters was the manager of the place. The old gentleman, the Master of the house, had been rendered unable to attend to his household duties by disease; but his deficiency was made up to a very great degree by his wife and his daughters, which latter were now completely formed for this business.

Though our present residence was placed nearly in the centre of the city, it was extremely quiet; one of the reasons of which might be that the house was an enclosed one, and no public street or place could be seen from it. The room that was assigned to me was on the highest story, and looked on the back part of the house. This circumstance rendered the place to me more solitary

than would have been the case had I been accommodated in a lower story, where I could have perceived more signs of life. Very near to my room was an old monastery; the sound of the bell, which was of a strange kind, and which came to my ears very frequently, made me believe so; and upon enquiry I found that to be really the case; besides the somewhat awful stillness that reigned in the back part of the place easily gave it such an appearance, and any one could have taken it to be in some measure

Like those deep solitudes and awful cells,
Where heavenly pensive contemplation dwells.

The Charter House School also was quite near me, and from my room I used to see the students play on the ground which belonged to the School. The Institution called the Charter House (and after which the square in which I lived was named) is an Asylum for the benefit of those who had formerly stood high or at least respectable in the world, but by adverse circumstances have been brought down almost or even entirely to the verge of ruin. Christian charity has provided for them this Refuge, where they might pass the rest of their days in peace and quietness, without being exposed to the further miseries of life, or cast upon the cold charities of a selfish world. At the time of my being there a former Lord Mayor of London was one of its inmates. They have, I believe, a certain allowance of food and clothing per day and year, servants to attend them, and religious privileges for their spiritual benefit. Once, while I was boarding in the present house, the old gentleman or the master of the Boarding House mentioned above took me to their Chapel; and truly there was an air and appearance of something that told me that its attendants were not at present in their best and happiest state; the sight was not so pleasing as that of a village congregation altogether composed of poor and labouring people would be.

During my residence here, I was in the constant habit of walking about and amusing myself with the novel sight of extensive

shops and houses and various sorts of people. The shops are built very neat and beautiful, and have glass doors through which things are exposed to the view of passengers in streets. Among the members of the family were two lads, who often had the kindness to take me about and shew me places which they thought were calculated to please me. Among other wanderings was an excursion in a Steam-boat on the Thames. The river is constantly plied by a great many of these water vehicles, on which people go about for amusement; from the number of passengers and the fare that they have to pay (which is only one penny), it would appear that the proprietors of these boats derive no small profit from them. They are almost always literally crowded with people; at which there is no wonder, when we remember that London is a world in itself. At this time the Parliament was in session, and crossing the river I happened to be near the Houses of Parliament just as they were assembling. There was a vast concourse of people about the place eying the Magnates of the land with intense curiosity as they were passing along; among others was also the Duke of Wellington, the famous Warrior; at the moment of making his appearance and entering in the whole crowd ran after him with a great noise (which consisted of loud cheers); but they were prevented from going in by Policemen who were standing at the doors.

Now we had been here about a fortnight; after this time we found it necessary to change our residence on two accounts, which were, the general unhealthiness of the place, (for being in the centre of the city there was here no great circulation of air), and the extremely high charges of the old lady, the manager of the house; she seemed inclined to get as much money from my guardian as possible; for in the short space of two weeks or rather twelve days, he was obliged to pay her £22 for five adults and two young children.

Our second accommodation was at Hackney, which was much healthier. The house in which we took quarters was a private

one, and belonged to a maiden lady ; she was genteel and pious, and tried her best to make us comfortable, in which attempt she was quite successful. Here I passed my time more pleasantly than I had done in the Charter House Square. Being in London for about two months, and somewhat anxious to know as much of it as I could, I was accustomed to spend the greater part of my time in taking long walks, which were principally directed to the city ; but still I must confess, that I did not exert myself sufficiently, or I should have become better acquainted with many things of which I could have now given a better account to my countrymen. I shall, however, mention here some of the most prominent things that for a longer or shorter time occupied my attention and thoughts in the " great city."

Near the place where we had our lodgings was a College belonging to a dissenting body, and intended entirely for those young men who were pious, and had thoughts of entering in the ministry. It might more properly be called a school, for though the course of instruction imparted was (as far as circumstances allowed) similar to that pursued in the higher seminaries of learning, yet the number of students was very small, and the means too limited to suffer the institution to assume a more important and respectable air and position. The President or Principal of the Seminary was an old and erudite gentleman, well known in the religious and learned world ; he is also a respectable Author. During my being there I paid him two or three visits ; the first time that I called upon him was in the evening ; before I had reached his house and while I was yet at some distance the old gentleman ran to me, and shaking me by the hand, said, " God has formed all nations of the same blood" and shewed his gladness to see me.

The examination of his College took place while I was yet in London ; and I attend that of one of the classes. There were present about eighteen gentlemen, all of whom took great interest in the exercises before them. Two Essays also were read ; one on Metaphysics, and the other on the character of the Apostle St.

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John. The former was believed to be the more finished and talented.

During my residence in London, the great Temperance Convention was held. I was present at one of their public meetings, which took place in a Theatre for want of a better accommodation. Several hundred people attended it; and representatives were present from various parts of Christendom, even from America. The room was almost full to suffocation; several speeches were delivered by delegates and remarks were made by others also, the tenor of which was, that the blessed work in which they were engaged was quite cheering, on account of the success with which they had met. The addresses were in general interesting, but I thought there was a great sameness in them, insomuch that the Chairman was often obliged to check the speakers. The usual acclamations of applause were made to deliverers of speeches after they had done speaking and were about to retire from the stage. But all of these speakers did not seem equally accustomed to their task; for I remember an elderly man who, after saying a few words, hastily and abruptly retired from the stage, and this in such a manner, that he seemed to have forgotten his way. The World's Temperance Convention continued for several days, but this was my first as well as last attendance there.

Before I left India, I had never thought that the Temperance cause had attracted so much of the attention of Europeans and Americans. My impression is that the evil of drunkenness is more common in the West than in these parts; or at least that in this country people do not drink to that excess which would lead to the ruin of their families;—whereas instances of this kind have been, and I believe still are, quite numerous in the West. To prevent as much as possible that indescribable misery, which is the consequence of intemperate drinking, many philanthropic men have formed themselves into societies. These bodies do all their best to persuade drinkers to flee from the demon, and induce many of them to sign a paper with a solemn promise that they will

never any more taste any intoxicating liquor. Of course, there are many failures, that is, some people through the force of either strong temptation or habit break their promise ; but notwithstanding this, the societies have found their work highly cheering and encouraging, and thousands of confirmed drunkards have thoroughly been reclaimed and made the instruments of restoring peace, comfort and happiness to their families.

About this time also was held the Evangelical Alliance, which consisted of all denominations of Christians that agreed in all the fundamental doctrines of the Bible. Its great and sole object was to maintain peace and harmony between the different persuasions. The cause was certainly very noble, and such an one as had never taken place since the commencement of the world ; and it was no wonder that it attracted the attention and engaged the interests of all in the Metropolis, as well as in the country, and generally of all Christian lands. Certain articles embracing all the fundamentals of the Christian Religion were drawn up, and it was a necessary condition that all those who were desirous of taking part in the Alliance should agree to them.

This meeting also continued for a number of days, and had respectable representatives and delegates from all parts of Christendom. I attended it only once ; this one was of a public nature and was held in Exeter Hall, a very spacious building, where large meetings on all important occasions generally take place. All attendants (including the fair sex too) were obliged to pay a shilling for their admittance, which sum, considering the multiplicity of auditors, must have swelled itself to a large amount. The house was entirely full, and was said to be roomy enough for about four thousand people ; but had I not known that the place could not hold a greater number I should have been tempted to swell it to six thousand. Here I believe the number of delegates, amongst whom were laymen also, and those too of great distinction, consisted of about three hundred. All these had their place on the stage, opposite to the seats, and was a venerable looking body.

The meeting that I attended took place on the 26th August ; it commenced at 10, A. M. and continued to 3, P. M. A great many addresses suited to the occasion were delivered by the representatives, whose order of speaking was appointed beforehand. The speeches that I heard here were much more interesting and of a graver nature than those that were given in the World's Temperance Convention ; and the meeting also was, I believe, much greater in numbers as well as superior in respectability. The room was so crowded and the heat at times so great that it was very unpleasant ; and it must have in an especial manner been so to the fair and delicate beauties that had the pleasure to attend the meeting. There were a vast number of these flowers, in all the rich and great variety of silks, which, however, were nothing compared with their original and personal loveliness and grace. They would have done honour to any assembly, and they did so to this Alliance.

The meeting had continued now for several hours, and the closeness of the room, accompanied with my slacking curiosity in what was going on began somewhat to fatigue me, and I was glad when it broke up about 4, P. M. But I should mention here that before the Meeting came to an end, I had formed an acquaintance with a gentleman that was sitting close to me. He expressed his gladness to see me, who being a foreigner from a heathen country had made a profession of the same faith to which he and his countrymen belonged. We did not converse much within the walls, but had enough of words between us to make us acquainted with each other. After coming out of the building, he desired me to go with him and take some refreshment in a place of public entertainment, (because his home was at a great distance from here ;) I consented to his request ; but even after this he would not let me go on my way, which shewed the interest he had taken in me. The greater part of that afternoon I was with him ; he took me to St. Paul's Cathedral, and to a neighbouring printing establishment, to shew me the operations of the place. Though he was not acquainted with the head of the Press, yet the latter did not

make any objection to my being there, but kindly allowed me to see what I saw worth witnessing. After I had been here, he took me to the Depository of the London Religious Book and Tract Society, and presented me with a small but interesting and useful book, to serve as a memento of the Christian acquaintance, that we had formed at the meeting of the Evangelical Alliance.

In the evening we again took supper in a public house. I must here observe that these places are of great comfort to people; you only want an appetite, and then step into one of them with something in your pocket, and there you have every thing that you require to kill hunger. It is an extremely convenient thing for England, as well as other christian countries, that no unmeaning and false system of caste operates there. The waiters, (who in small places are always females) are very polite and attentive to their boarders. Many of them are very beautiful and young too, and one would be inclined to think it a great pity that these pretty creatures should be subjected to such drudgery; creatures! who were they transferred to any part of Asia would form precious ornaments in the palaces of kings and monarchs. They are to be found in all sorts of shops, and generally follow the various trades of their fathers, at least so long as they are not married.

But to return to my gentleman. After we had finished our supper it was almost evening, and as both of us had to go some distance we now thought of parting. For some length our way lay in the same direction, therefore we walked together; during which time the gentleman asked me many questions, and earnestly requested me to write to him as soon as I was able. At last the place came where we were to part, and my sincere friend after a great many kind wishes left me, and I went on my short journey to the place where I was lodging.

It is well known that London is a wonderful city: the town being so, it follows that there must be many things in it that partake of this quality; but I sincerely regret that my knowledge of these wonders is extremely limited and defective. Though I was here

about two months, and in the constant habit of going out, yet my visits were almost entirely confined to streets and to the outside of things. I saw only five or six places, and even those very cursorily. I shall here say a few words about one or two things that I came across in the proud Metropolis; and first about the British Museum.

This is a most noble and grand institution, and does great honour to the English nation; I shall make some hasty remarks about it. I was here twice; but what could one see in such a short space of time? To view it with care and observation would require months and months. Besides, to see all the curiosities with advantage, one must be possessed of an extensive range of learning. Here indeed is a wonderful collection of all the curious, rare, and scientific things from all parts of the world; and for the information of my fellow countrymen I shall take notice of some of them.

It opens on certain days of the week, when any one older than ten years of age can be admitted free of charge. When I entered at both times I had no guide with me, and therefore proceeded as it came into my mind at the moment. The first things of any importance that I saw on the first day, and which left a lasting impression on my mind, were the dark, venerable sculptures of Egypt, and also the statues of some of the Roman orators. And what overwhelming masses some of the former were! And how expensive and troublesome must it have been to transfer them to England from their original land. They lead us back in imagination to the remotest periods of antiquity, and it is this circumstance that invests them with an awful veneration. They afford us a very fit object for contemplation:—think of the person into whose mind it came at first to have them made, or of the artist who himself was the original planner of them, and of the hands that have carved them. That man must have eaten and drank, talked and walked, and worked and lived like ourselves; he has died also; and now where are his remains! His workmanship

we see here; but to what part of the world is that dust carried that shaped the clumsy and rough mass into regular form! If scattered over the world to what various uses, or to what forms has it been converted? or, if hid in the Egyptian grave, tell us whereabouts does that form lie, that we may render him our tribute of praise for that workmanship of his, which has continued to exist thousands of years after his being laid in his long home! Some of them were so enormously bulky that I wondered how they could have been safely transferred all over this distance. Of course all were not complete: a few were disfigured. I regret that I did not take down notes of the various particular statues, as thus I might have been enabled at present to write on them with more satisfaction, and the reader also would have perused these pages with greater pleasure.

The statues of the Empress of the world also lead us back to the period when her mighty orators flourished in all their glory, and led their fellow citizens by the ear.

Here also I witnessed the mummies, one of the wonders of their age. There was a large and extensive apartment, in which these things were placed in regular order in the middle. They were many in number, and were kept with the greatest possible care. The embalmed bodies were tightly wrapped up in pieces of cloth, and were put up in wooden cases, the head and face being outside. The latter did not appear to me natural but rather as painted, and I have since found this was really the case. We all know however, that time must have had a great effect upon them; they were quite dry, and appeared apt to raise dust by any motion to which they were subjected, and looked as if they were very light. The boxes (or wooden cases in which they were originally put up, are by their preservers carefully laid away in glass cases. Embalming the body, so as to keep it for thousands of years, was a most wonderful art peculiar to the Egyptians. These also form exceedingly fit objects for contemplation; infinitely better than their statues that we have just noticed. Here we might possibly see

the identical tenement of that soul that was the planner and maker of some of those mighty things that amaze us at the present day. Here might be the body that was instrumental in the production of Pyramids, &c.; it must have been nourished by food and drink; it must have felt hunger and thirst; suffered pain and fatigue; and undergone sickness and suffering in the prosecution of the work that was to last to this day. What times were those in which he lived? (and what times are these in which he now sleepeth in the Museum of a Land, the thought of which could never have come into his mind!) What centuries of human toil and suffering, anarchy and despotism, and revolutions of all sorts have passed in the world since he has been laid in his last home:—

“And thou hast walked about—how strange a story!—

In Thebes's streets three thousands years ago!
 When the Memnonium was in its glory,
 And time had not begun to overthrow
 Those temples, palaces and piles stupendous,
 Of which the very ruins are tremendous!

“Tell us—for doubtless thou canst recollect,—

To whom should we assign the Sphinx's fame?
 Was Cheops, or Ciphrenes architect
 Of either Pyramid that bears his name?
 Is Pompey's Pillar really a misnomer?
 Had Thebes a hundred gates, as sung by Homer?

“Perchance that very hand now pinioned flat,

Hath hob-o-nobbed with Pharoah, glass to glass;
 Or dropped a half penny in Homer's hat;
 Or dropped thine own to let Queen Dido pass:
 Or held, by Solomon's own invitation,
 A torch at the great Temple's dedication.

“I need not ask thee if that hand, when armed,
 Has any Roman soldier maul'd and knuckled?

For thou wert dead, and buried and embalmed,
 Ere Rom'lus and Remus had been suckled:—
 Antiquity appears to have begun
 Long after thy primeval race was run.

“ Since first thy form was in this box extended,
 We have, above ground, seen some strange mutations ;—
 The Roman Empire has begun and ended ;
 Now worlds have risen,—we have lost old nations,
 And countless kings have into dust been humbled
 While not a fragment of thy flesh has crumbled.

“ Didst thou not hear the pother o'er thy head
 When the great Persian conqueror, Cambyses,
 Marched armies o'er thy tomb, with thundering tread,
 O'erthrew Osiris, Orus, Apis, Isis,
 And shook the Pyramids with fear and wonder,
 When the gigantic Memnon fell asunder ?

“ If the tomb's secrets may not be confessed,
 The nature of thy private life unfold :—
 A heart hath throbb'd beneath that leathern breast,
 And tears adown that dusty cheek have rolled.
 Have children climbed those knees, and kissed that face ?
 What was thy name and station, age and race ?”

Here were birds also of every colour, size, and description, and of every region and clime too ; a truly vast and praise-worthy collection, calculated to excite in us the admiration of that Being, whose providence extends even to the minutest creature that exists in the universe. Numbers of these were of the most extraordinary tint and plumage. Also snakes and serpents of all sizes were to be seen, even the most monstrous, which in their life-time must have been a terror to all creatures round about them, whether brute or human ; they were coiled upon shelves. Minerals and animals of all sorts were to be found here ; among other kinds of

the latter I came across a rhinoceros too, on whose body marks of bullets, that most probably proved fatal to him, were still visible. But amongst the greatest curiosities was the skeleton of a very large and mighty beast of the kind of the elephant. Such skeletons as this are believed to be found embedded in ice in some extremely cold regions in the north; this must be one of that species of which mention is made in the book of Job. In short this Museum is the greatest collection of all the curious, rare, scientific and great things that one could wish to witness. To see all of them carefully, minutely, and advantageously would require an attention of several months. Hundreds of volumes might be written on the innumerable things in the institution; but what single person would be found competent to the mighty task? When the Museum is opened it is crowded by people of all sorts; but with the greatest advantage by students in various branches, scattered about in different parts of the building, and engaged in the study of those things in which they feel especially interested.

I saw also the Mansion House, with a few other places. But the greatest wonder of modern civilization that I had the pleasure of witnessing in the Metropolis, was the Thames Tunnel. It is a glory to the British nation, and a great monument of English enterprise and perseverance therein, and of complete success too. This Tunnel is a passage under the bed of the river, after which it is called. Of course it is dug deep, and there are a great many steps that lead to the bottom of the passage. These steps are on both sides of the river. The roof of the Tunnel is a double arch supported by columns in the middle; it is always wet and damp, as it must be, considering the volume of water that rolls above it. The passage is quite dark, and they are consequently obliged to have lights there burning continually. I have heard there were many failures at the commencement of the work, and partial ones too after its completion; but it would appear that now people do not apprehend any danger from it, as they have several shops in the passage. In these shops they sell fruit, toys, and many other trifling things. It is amusing to think of yourself walking in this

passage, while large ships are sailing over your head at the height of only a few feet. The cost in the bringing about of such a stupendous and unheard of thing must have been enormous. But the proprietors of it have doubtless made a great deal of money ; it would seem that a vast number of visitors attend it daily, since the charge for each person is not more than an English penny.

It was in this city for the first time that I saw gas used for the production of light. It is conveyed to houses from the place where it is made in iron pipes under ground. These pipes are made to run up to the very place in the wall where gas is wanted to be burned ; the arrangement about it is so complete that no inconvenience takes place. By the way, I might mention here, that houses in cities are supplied with water in the same way. Both of these plans tend very greatly to the comfort of people.

London, according to an account that I have seen, is eleven miles long, eight miles broad, and thirty miles in circumference. It has between ten and twelve thousand streets, squares, courts, &c. ; about one hundred and fifty six thousand houses and public edifices ; and its population amounts to between one and a half and two millions.

I was exceeding struck at the great cleanliness which the city manifested ; its population must be taken into consideration, and it is this circumstance that makes the cleanliness very wonderful. There are a great many sweepers' carts going about the place and gathering the dirt from every part of the town. And the streets of it are not like those of any city of this country, (where in large places people are apt to be crushed under carriages or horses, or are sure to have a good deal of filth attached to their shoes if they walk), but they are regularly and neatly made up of stone. In the middle, which is intended for carriages and horses, these stones or rather pieces of them are of a rough kind ; but on both sides of the streets there are nice, clean, and excellent paths. These side paths are made up of smooth slabs of stones compactly put together, and united by small pieces of iron attached to them. People walking here are not in danger of being run over by carri-

ages, but go on quietly without having to look behind them to see what sort of a thing is coming upon them.

I was greatly struck at the grandeur which the West manifested, and its extreme cleanliness and neatness was also astonishing; insomuch that this part seemed to have been made rather by magic than human instrumentality. The people living in this great style would appear to be happy; but to be really so, they must be possessed of that "one thing needful," or the salvation of their souls, without which blessings often prove judgments.

Here let me mention that walking is quite common in these parts, and that even with the delicate and fair sex. When they go to visit a friend, or a shop, or some other place, that may not be at a considerable distance, they only take up their umbrellas (which are always carried about on account of the extreme changeableness of weather) and start off. The multitude of passengers in the principal streets is so great that people are often obliged to make their way by, in a measure, pushing against each other. There is a sort of pleasure in walking in a clean path, with clean people, and decent and neat houses on both sides of the street. But at the same time riding in a certain conveyance is very cheap. There are omnibuses running about the principal streets. These conveyances have their names on their sides as regularly as ships have. They leave their destinations at certain times, and run to an appointed distance, and then return, carrying passengers at both times. When they start they generally (that is, when they are not full) go slowly for the sake of procuring passengers; but when they have got a certain number they trot off; and any who are desirous to get in have to call out to a man that stands behind the coach, and this man stops the driver by a string or something that is attached to him; because the noise occasioned by the rattling of wheels on the rough pavement would not allow him to be heard. The fare that passengers have to pay is uniformly a sixpence. Be the distance what it may, whether long or short, sixpence is the settled sum. If you once get in and ride six or seven

miles, or only a few yards, this amount is sure to go out of your pocket; and any one that is able to pay it may obtain a passage, without any distinction of rank or social position.

Considering its immense population the order and peace that reigns throughout the city is also great, the reason of which is the vigilance that is kept up by Government. There are Policemen walking about in almost every corner of all streets; they are always on the alert, and would seize the first person that makes the least disturbance. These Policemen are supported by a collection of taxes from the inhabitants.

It appeared that the people who came under my observation (which, however, in this country was exceedingly limited) were happy. Of course there was no chance of any cruelty in the city, where people are generally their own masters. They work and get wages, and seem contented and happy with their lot. This remark has reference to the lower classes of people; for their superiors are decidedly happy, at least so far as the comforts and conveniences of this life can render them so.

Before I reached England and had seen much of the English people, my idea of the lower classes of this nation was formed (and very naturally too) from the English soldiers and sailors, but more especially the latter. At my first seeing them, I considered them as a set of wild men—that could never be thoroughly tamed. But in this I was most happily disappointed. In England I found them, that is, the lower classes, as tame and as quiet as lambs. They were always kind to me, and at times manifested a desire to help me in any way in their power. On account of my short stay in the country, they never had any great occasion of obliging me: but now and then, when I used to walk about the streets and missed my way, they very kindly gave me all necessary directions to find my lodgings; and once when I had been wandering a long time without success, one of them left his work and came with me to some distance to direct me. Shop-keepers also were always very polite; whenever I entered one of these places, the men often

asked me where I came from, what I wanted, &c. Here I might mention, that persons wishing to have their child taught a certain trade, put him in a shop to apprenticeship for a certain number of years, which time is generally long enough to make him a competent business man in that trade. He gets no wages, but on the contrary is paid for by his parents; his provisions however are supplied by his master.

A description of London and all that it contains, as well as a relation of the manners and customs of the people, requires a much abler person than I can ever pretend to be; and the subject also is sufficiently extensive to fill many volumes. My remarks about it have now come to a close. But before I conclude altogether, let me mention also, that during my residence in Hackney, I had formed an acquaintance with several pious people, who were always extremely kind to me. On week days they were accustomed to be engaged in their respective secular callings; but I used to see some of them every Sunday afternoon; also visited their Sunday school (where the children were always glad to see me and hear something from me.) When here, I used also to attend one of their Chapels, where lay Missionaries preached.

Now we had been here about two months; and the time had arrived that we should depart from London; we therefore made preparations to leave England, and in the latter part of August sailed for America.

CHAPTER III.

I left the English Metropolis on the 29th August. The ship in which we were to sail was called the Hendrik Hudson, and was lying in St. Catherine's docks; which place was at a great distance from the one in which I had been residing. She was the first American ship that I had ever seen; and I was curious to know something of her internal construction as well as her navigation

and management at sea. The real cabins of this ship were on the upper deck, while those in the steerage were only temporary. The make of these cabin, was entirely different from that of those which I had seen in the English vessel: they were much smaller, but double; and here the passengers were provided with beddings, light and other things that are generally necessary; but passengers in English vessels have generally to supply themselves, except in the overland steam ships. The public room was built lengthwise of the ship, and was very roomy, which accounted for the extreme closeness of the cabins. They must be oppressive in summer.

When I reached the ship, I saw there a great crowd which kept constantly increasing. There were a great many cabin passengers, who doubtless had their friends on board to see them, perhaps for the last time on the shores of England. Some others also, who had taken their passage in the steerage, had thought of bettering their condition in the new land. Besides these two classes of passengers, there was a great number of emigrants too; about half of whom were Germans.

What continual and important changes does the Almighty cause to take place in this world! What mortal sight could have foreseen the yet promising results of the pregnant discovery of Columbus! Most of those hills and valleys where the red man built his hut and exercised his wild nature are now occupied by the civilized European, and are the receptacles of all those masses of human beings, many of whom have no habitation and means of subsistence in their native lands. This circumstance shows us again how small and apparently weak may be the commencement of a mighty and grand work in the administration of God with regard to this world:—America is discovered by Columbus, (discouraged by his countrymen,) when found, made use of only for the gratification of their avaricious propensities. After some time religious persecution drives certain people to take refuge in its wilds; others follow their example, and thus a large population is by degrees formed, which in course of time assumes the importance and power

of a nation, and vindicates this character by force of arms. Regarding this country, we may very reasonably expect greater things in future by judging from the past without prejudice.

This was the first occasion upon which I ever met with a German; and so far as cleanliness of body and dress were concerned they did no great honour to their countrymen. (I must except one or two ladies from this remark.) Being on board ship might plead for them to some extent; but does not wholly excuse them; because there were Englishmen too in the same steerage and walk of life, who had a manifestation of cleanliness and neatness about them. Some of the Germans wore long boots, extremely soiled inexpressibles as well as coats, the pockets of which were stuffed with tobacco cases and snuff boxes. Indeed, they seemed unable to live with any degree of comfort without these last mentioned things. Their short pipes almost continually stuck in their mouths, which showed they must have laid up a good supply of the useless weed. I must, however, say they were always kind and polite enough to offer their snuff boxes to their fellow passengers. Among this party, however, was a young lady who was decidedly cleanly, and really beautiful; and were *beauty* always the standard by which to judge and raise the fair sex, she would doubtless have deserved a better position and society.

But what astonished me greatly was the case of a young English lady, who had set out for the new country, without having any friend on board, and what was still more surprising without any in the place where she was to land. They lived, she said, at the distance of hundreds of miles from New York, and she was to travel all this way before she could have their aid and protection. Independence of circumstances might help a lady to a very great extent, as in that case, she generally belongs to the higher walk of life, where she can easily purchase aid and comfort, and where there is no great exposure to extreme insult and chance of successful imposition. But only think of a young woman setting out friendless and without large pecuniary aid to cross the Atlantic

with a promiscuous crowd of probably questionable moral character; and after landing to be thrown without any immediate protector on the wide American theatre, exposed to every difficulty and hardship. Indeed, it is astonishing to think what great calamity can that be which forces them to submit to all these inconveniences and trials. The English law has been very humane in providing for emigrants a comfortable extent of place; but it is sad to mention that the purse of American Captains or their Masters has not made any provision or arrangement for female Emigrants with regard to certain things. There is no privacy for them; they live in a promiscuous crowd, and in their more delicate conditions generally have no one to whom they could look up for aid; should they be disabled by rough weather, or enfeebled by illness, or oppressed by other painful events, some of them have no friends from whom they could derive help or ask aid with any degree of confidence. It might not always be in the power of commanders of vessels to ameliorate their condition; but I am inclined to believe in most cases it is, if they are only disposed to make some exertion in their behalf. The emigrants had put up their own provisions, and paid the Captain only for the passage.

On board this ship there was nothing like that appearance of cleanliness and particularity, which is the glory of even a middle-sized English vessel. Perhaps the greater part of the dirtiness of the deck might have been attributed to the circumstance of having emigrants on board; but I was given to understand this is more or less the case with every American ship.

The Captain was stout and lusty, and seemed very sensible and conscious of the plenitude of his power. He was said to be "scientific;" but as I heard this from one who could not be considered an authority, perhaps it does not deserve much credence. I am however inclined to believe he was a man of a better education than that American Captain, who when near Calcutta is said to have ordered his Steward to "kill a pumpkin" for the respectful entertainment of the Pilot.

As for Officers, properly speaking he had only one ; for the second mate, as far as mere appearance went, looked not much better than the mate of an English Boatswain ; and I have great doubts whether he had a respectable knowledge of navigation.

The truth seems to me that he was trying to live ; and after picking some information regarding the points of the compass, course of winds, and shifting of sails, he was promoted to his present rank ; and I must say to his credit, that in ordinary weather he discharged his duties quite satisfactorily.

The chief Officer, a relation of the Captain, was young, stout and rather brown. I did not know much of his nautical talents ; but I am disposed to believe the knowledge of navigation of most of those American Captains, who run backwards and forwards between the two countries, is rather limited when compared to that of those who trade with distant lands. Of course, there must be clever and scientific sailors among them too, as they trade with every part of the world ; but my remark regards the majority of only those whose run is so confined as just said.

Here were some Africans too ;—but they were in the capacity of cuddy servants. I had often seen this race before, but not in the bondage of slavery ; and the simple fact of seeing them in an American vessel strongly reminded me of that baneful practice, which is still a reproach to certain parts of the new country. These servants were either liberated or were the descendants of such. The man that held the Office of steward was rather handsome ; the butler a true African in his features ; and the cook looked somewhat like a son Anak, with a huge body and tremendous long arms ; which perhaps caused him some difficulty in balancing himself on deck in rough weather ; his mate also was a real child of Ham. All these were faithful and punctual in the discharge of their duties, and were kindly treated by the Captain.

Those that have crossed any ocean must know that time has often hanged heavy upon them at sea. It was so with us. There

may be entertaining books and agreeable company ; still there are seasons when these avail not. Books are not always inviting, and fellow passengers are sometimes disposed to be retiring ; this is especially the case when the weather is rough, wet, and unpleasant, which is generally calculated "to damp the rising spirit of conversation" and drive us into our berths, there to throw us into reflective moods, the results of which are as lasting as the weather that occasioned them.

The Atlantic is generally much more boisterous than either the Pacific or the Indian ; still nothing of importance or worthy of particular remark took place for about three fourths of our passage. Now and then we might speak a vessel, see a fish or a bird hovering round the ship, or have a squall ; yet nothing could destroy that sameness of life, which is the chief complaint of a landsman that has to pass a few days at sea. But at last we were caught in something which was well calculated to rouse and excite us.

I had formerly read of storms at sea ; but had never been able to form any correct idea of them ; and indeed it is impossible for landsmen to do so. However, I had in this passage an opportunity, and a dreadful one too, of forming a clear conception of their awful character. On the morning of the 19th September we encountered a most dreadful tempest. Landsmen are generally likely to exaggerate things of this kind, that they witness at sea ; but I give it this epithet on the testimony of sailors ; of those who have had numberless opportunities of seeing the "wonderful works" of God connected with the mighty deep. Even the oldest seamen said they had not witnessed any thing like it for a number of years. To give my readers some faint idea of its severity I have only to mention the extreme danger into which a large American steamer fell, which used to run between the two countries. The storm continued with her three days, and completely disabled her. She had about three hundred souls on board. When the Commander as well as others saw that there was left no further

hope for the preservation of life, but inevitable death stared them in their faces, they all assembled in the cuddy to prepare themselves for the solemn change that seemed before them; some ministers who were on board administered the holy sacrament of the Lord's supper, and gave exhortations suited to the occasion. The storm however abated after some time, and they managed somehow or other to take the disabled steamer into the harbour of New York. This tempest overtook us opposite the banks of Newfoundland, and continued troubling us for about twenty four hours. It is impossible for those who have not witnessed a scene like it to form a correct idea of it by mere description. A hurricane on land, uprooting trees, unroofing houses, and carrying destruction before it is sufficiently dreadful; still in this case we have something to stand upon; we have a prop on which we can keep ourselves steady. But this is denied us when the mighty winds of the Omnipotent are let loose to play on the awful deep. At such times the scene is grand and terrible beyond description. The storm was all the day raging like thunder; the sea was almost literally rising "mountains high;" the ship was continually lashed by the angry waves, and was rocking like a leaf; the masts (especially the largest) strained and almost bent at the amazing and fearful force of the wind. In fact, these were the mighty works of God, and this seemed to have been the stage whereon it had pleased the Almighty to manifest in some degree the fulness of his infinite power. It is at times like this that we fully feel the force of that exclamation of the devout prophet,—“What is man that Thou art mindful of him? and the son of man that Thou visitest him?” At such times the Deity seems to be holding direct communication with man, and the deliverance that He vouchsafes is almost miraculous; for He commands—“Peace, be still,” and the raging winds immediately retire to their destined places; also the troubled bosom of the ocean is calm:—“Then they cry unto Thee, and Thou deliverest them out of all their troubles.” The storm raged the whole day most dreadfully; on it were the thoughts of all centred; and the troubled and labouring ship was

continually rolling from side to side. The poor emigrants had no opportunity to cook any thing; the steerage passengers were in no better condition; and the cabin passengers were content with what could be had. It was midday I think, and the children either had done their dinner, or were at it, when lo, a most tremendous sea beat in, and gave the vessel such a violent shock, that in an instant put her on her beams. I believe I shall never forget that concussion. I thought we were all going to the bottom; almost all the females uttered a loud shriek. A great part of that sea found its way into the steerage, where it made a sort of basin; all the huge boxes that were not well fastened got adrift and began to move about, and the danger arising from them was so great that any one falling in among them would most probably have been crushed to death. A life boat on the lee side (or the side to which the wind blew) was carried away by the irresistible sea and never seen any more; and this, though it was fastened with strong cordage. Part of the bulwarks also shared the same fate, several persons were knocked down and severely hurt. Oh! what a test that was for the sincerity of atheist! The whole scene was so awfully sublime and exceedingly terrible! There was nothing between death and us but a few planks. How resigned and safe must that person feel at such a time who has made his peace with God! whose heart is not disturbed and disquieted in any way by the elements of destruction that rage about him; for he fully knows and believes that all these mighty powers are always ready to obey the least intimation of the will of Him whom he serves; that not even a single hair of his head falls to the ground without his Heavenly Father's knowledge; and that all things work together for the good of them that love Him.

To what heights has modern civilization risen, that can frame and build ships of such an enormous strength, that can generally resist the fury of the severest storms!

Let me also remark here, that our best thanks and highest praises are due to the poor, laborious, daring and hardy seamen,

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who are always exposed to these hardships and dangers ; and who minister to many of our wants and luxuries often unthought of and unthanked.

The storm continued violent the whole day, and heavy seas were constantly beating in, so that it was extremely unsafe to go out on deck even for a short time. Even standing at the cuddy door under the poop was sometimes attended with danger ; and I feel strongly inclined to mention here the case of a young man who had a very narrow escape from death in this very place. At the cuddy door was a hatch, (or passage to the steerage) a descent of about ten or twelve feet. This young man and myself were standing near this hole, when a furious sea beat over the bulwarks ; my companion thought it was coming upon him, and for safety stepped back without ever thinking that the hatch was behind him ; when, lo ! the very instant down he went headlong ! I was horror struck and made no doubt of his death ; it was dark underneath, and I could not see whether or not there was any life in him yet ; but a man in the steerage raised him up, and I to my great joy found that he was still alive though dreadfully hurt.

The tempest kept thundering till late in the night, and I could not get any thing like quiet and comfortable sleep, partly on account of the violent motion of the ship, and partly by reason of her dreadful creaking. However, in the morning we to our great comfort and consolation found that the storm was passed. We seemed to have commenced a new life ; the morning was pleasant and calm, though perfect tranquility had not yet been restored to the bosom of the deep ; it still continued heaving which caused the ship to pitch very disagreeably.

When the storm was quite over the ministers on board held one or two prayer meetings with the emigrants in the steerage. After this we had no more trouble, but proceeded quietly on to the end of our passage ; and on the 4th October, Sunday, the Hendrik Hudson dropped anchor in the harbour of New York.

CHAPTER IV.

I was quite delighted at the sight of the new land, new to me in two respects, viz. first by discovery, and secondly by my being a foreigner here from another continent. Here and there were seen on the shore very white houses, which I had not often come across since I left India; for it is a well known fact that the damp weather as well as smoke of London do not allow the houses to remain white.

Of course on the morning of our arrival in the harbour of New York there was a great bustle on board. Many had that day cast their eyes on their new home, on which certainly their thoughts had long been centred. This place of landing was already occupied by a multitude of vessels, so that our ship did not come in contact with or even very near to the shore: and consequently it was no easy matter to set our foot on dry land; and the ladies especially had to contend with this difficulty. In order to get on shore it was necessary to climb over a great many ships; and a lady in very delicate health was so tired by this exercise that she fainted. However, after due preparations we landed, and again on account of my excitement I took no particular notice of my setting my foot on land, though this had been the most desired thing as long as I was on board.

I with my friends got into a conveyance, (a number of which were to be seen at the place), and was for some time driven through a long and narrow street, then into a broad one, and was at last brought to the door of one of the principal American Hotels.

I have not much to say about the Hotel, except that it was extensive and could accommodate a very great number of travellers. The boarders received notice of their meals by the strange noise of an instrument that seemed to have been made of bronze, and looked somewhat like a gong. In the hall there was a great number of bells, which were attached to the various rooms by means

of wires. The person that was in want of attendance had only to pull the wire in his room, which gave the domestics instant notice, and one of them immediately ran up to the room. The servants were always required to be attentive and punctual in ministering to the wants of boarders. The master himself was generally in the hall or near it, and often kept a look after the bells.

My first impression of New York was not favorable, which I think was partly owing to the mixed nature of the population. Africans dressed for work in soiled clothes presented themselves to my view walking in the streets. This circumstance marred in a great measure that pleasure which I should have received from novelty had the case been otherwise. This was a mixture, and one of a peculiar sort; it apparently destroyed the oneness of the American nation. Perhaps the idea of slavery, which is generally connected with the sight and even the name of an African, had some part in producing this unfavorable impression.

In extent and population New York was a large city for a new country; though nothing to be compared with London, and indeed in population not even with Calcutta. However it is a place of extensive traffic; and the buildings and streets as well as public offices do great credit to those who laid its foundation and brought it to its present respectable condition. This shows us again what is in the power of man to accomplish, if he only has a spirit of industry and perseverance to impel him. New York, like every comparatively new city, would certainly go on increasing in extent and population, had it only an opportunity to make its way; but it is an island, and cannot well extend beyond the natural boundaries that have been set to it.

I was here only two or three days, and then with my friends set out for Philadelphia, a distance of about a hundred miles. Our conveyance was to be by the railroad carriages; therefore we resorted to the depot or railroad station in the morning after breakfast. I had once been in the railroad carriages in London; but they were of a very common kind, and I could not take much no-

tice of their particular parts. However, those of London are confessedly the better and the most swift; and the Americans themselves make this admission. I saw at the Depot as is usual a great crowd; most of them were passengers, but some had come only to visit their friends or transact business. I should have mentioned that before reaching the Depot we had to cross a broad river in a huge steamer full of all sorts of people. This doubtless was one of the best of the American trains, as it ran between two large and populous cities, that is, New York and Philadelphia, and generally carried passengers of a respectable class. These carriages (like all others) were built somewhat in the fashion of the upper part of a palanquin carriage; the wheels were much smaller: and the seats inside (most of which were covered with velvet) were placed in short double rows, each of which had room enough for two persons. These seats had a narrow walk in the middle through which passengers and managers could walk backwards and forwards. The engine, as might be expected, was put at the head of the train; and was often supplied with water from a canal that ran along the road.

Railroad trains go with various degrees of rapidity; and to give the reader some idea of the swiftness of the train in which I was going, I shall only mention the distance which it went and the time it took to accomplish it. New York, as I said before, was at the distance of a hundred miles from Philadelphia. About twenty miles of this distance we were to go in a steamer. The train left the Depot at 9. A. M. and arrived at the end of its course about 3. P. M.;—so it passed over the distance of eighty miles in six hours, which after all was not creditable to it. The carriages would however have gone with greater rapidity had it not been attended with danger. Those that wish to engage their passage in the carriages have to buy tickets at the Depot Office, which they do a little before the carriages leave the place. When the train is fairly started and all the passengers have taken their seats, one of the men connected with the establishment goes round to see whether all passengers have got tickets, which are

shewed to him as he passes on. When the course is nearly finished he goes round again and collects them. Passengers may be picked up on the way also.

As I was quite a stranger in the country my attention was chiefly drawn to the scenery through which we were passing. America is well known to be the most extensive of the four quarters of the globe ; a great part of it is not occupied by any human being ; these portions are towards the West. But even in those parts that are called states there are vast tracts which are not inhabited and not even cultivated, which shows the population to be exceedingly thin, compared to the immense extent of land which they own. Most of the country through which we were travelling for the greater part of the day presented a wild aspect. I do not remember seeing much cultivation ; but by this we must not understand that extensive agriculture is not carried on. Here and there we came across a few houses, or a barn, or a cottage, but there was no town or village to be seen. The railroads are quite a different thing from those meant for carts and pedestrians, which was the reason that we did not see many human beings in this route. Perhaps the poorest of the people adopt the mode of pedestrian travelling, for when cost for boarding and lodging which a pedestrian traveller must pay, and the weariness and pain that he must undergo, are taken into consideration, travelling by the railway is perhaps the better ; because what is lost in money is gained in time and comfort.

After a run of about six hours we reached the steamer about 3 P. M. It was a huge one, and could carry an immense number of passengers.

A very kind looking and polite gentleman introduced himself to me, and took me all over the steamer to show me every thing about her. I went into the lower deck and there saw a great number of passengers making havoc among some catables. (This was their dinner.) Several tables were set, and I believe all of them were occupied, and servants were running about to minister to

their wants. The cooking department of this steamer must have been a large establishment, that could prepare food for such a multitude, and that even when the steward was not certain of their number. Every person that went on board was not obliged to take his dinner there, but all those could who were desirous of doing so. Sofas and other furniture were to be seen in this apartment (which was very extensive) and it had a neat and comfortable appearance. A great many passengers were sitting on the deck under the shadow of the poop; they were probably of various denominations, as one of them asked me whether I was an Universalist; he himself was one. (Perhaps I had better inform most of my native readers that the term *Universalist* means one who believes in the salvation of all mankind, of whatever denomination or religion they may be in this world.) Many were on the poop enjoying the refreshing breeze which was blowing over the river.

I went with the forementioned gentleman to have a view of the machinery of the steamer. It was ponderous. I had seen steamboats in London too, but never was on any that was of such an enormous size, and consequently had no opportunity of seeing the strongest and heaviest machinery. What a glory steam carriage is to modern civilization! We may be carried on bearers, horses, elephants, or camels; still these are creatures that live and feel, undergo fatigue and pain, and are sensible of every difficulty and inconvenience that we meet with; and this circumstance destroys to a very great degree that pleasure we might otherwise obtain. But what sense of feeling and pain have iron and copper rods, water and steam, fire and coal, and timber? The same holds true with regard to the sailing of a ship; there are the sails, the water, the timber and the wind, all incapable of suffering, and therefore may be used night and day for years without any anxiety on our part with regard to their comfort. They are indeed the mighty creatures of God that thus serve us!

The time that the steamer took in reaching Philadelphia was not long. This city is said to be the most beautiful one in the Union. It is built in squares, and has streets that run parallel to each

other. They have various sorts of trees planted in them, and each street is called after the particular kind of tree found in it, which in some measure makes it easy for a stranger to find a particular place.

We left Philadelphia on the second day of our arrival for Hartsville, a small place of a few houses, where some friends were to be seen. No steam carriages left for that direction, so we took our passage in a coach. We started from the city of "Brotherly love" about 3 P. M. and continued running till dark. The scenery through which we passed looked extremely fresh, and gave out a most sweet and healthful scent. The greater part of the country seemed to be under cultivation, and as there was no town or even a small village on the way, a perfect quiet and stillness pervaded it. The scenery was the more grateful as it was autumn, at which time Nature in these parts revels in all her various rich productions and enjoyments. We arrived in Hartsville after dark; our baggage followed us shortly, and was brought in by our mutual help; for with the exception of a single African girl there were no servants here. But of this we shall speak in the sequel.

The aspect of the country here was exceedingly solitary and quiet. Out of a house scarcely any human voice was to be heard; and indeed there were but few houses in this place, and of the inmates of even these few dwellings I almost saw nothing. The men were probably engaged in some out of door employment, and the females were busy in their houses; even in the mornings and evenings I did not see much of them. Perhaps a situation like this might answer well for a student, and one whose temper is of a melancholy cast; but not for one who likes company and cannot live without it.

After I had been here two or three days a gentleman from a small place called Abington came over and took me to his house, which was at the distance of about seven miles from Hartsville. We started for his house in the evening and arrived there about

eight o'clock. There were some ladies of the family sitting in the parlour; among them were the wife and daughter of the gentleman. They were all very kind to me and did all in their power to make me feel comfortable and at home. The houses of which Abington consisted were scattered over a great extent of the country. The scenery at this place was much better than that at Hartsville, and here was not the same dull and dry appearance which I had found at the other place. On the eastern part of the village was a forest, which was inviting for reflective walks. Here the country was more undulating, the population more extensive, and the people social and kind; I must say, however, I was here for a fortnight, which gave me more opportunities of becoming acquainted with some of them. The house in which this gentleman lived was two stories high, (besides the cellar which every dwelling has), and here I perceived more signs of comfort and prosperity than I had in the house which I had just left.

Once while living with this gentleman I had an occasion to go with him to Philadelphia, a distance of about fourteen miles. Here by the way, I must mention that the horses of this country, as well as those of England, are much stranger than those of India. The horse that carried us to Philadelphia was perhaps a little larger than a pony, and it carried three of us almost on a continual trot to, and back from, the city of "Brotherly love" the very same day; so he must have gone about fourteen coss, a run which would greatly tire and perhaps injure many of our horses. We left Abington in the morning and arrived at the city (if my memory serves) between ten and twelve o'clock, when we passed through the market, which was built in the middle of the street. After being here we went to a sort of hotel, where any meal could be obtained. There was a great number of small tables to be seen in the room; and the things that were required were brought in small trays, which were set on the table before the persons that ordered them. The breakfast consisted of either tea or coffee (according to taste), two or three slices of bread and a little butter.

This was the only meal that we took here. After this we went to purchase some necessary clothing for the approaching winter for myself, which was one of the reasons of our coming to the city.

After being at Abington for a fortnight, I started for Easton, where La Fayette College was, in company of three friends. The population in the country through which we passed was as usual thin and scattered. This way of living may have its advantages, but I greatly doubt whether it adds to convenience about many things which are to be had, and that readily only in a collected population. I believe, as far as comfort and convenience are concerned, those people are the best situated, who to some degree live near each other, and also are adjacent to some city or large town, where they can easily get those comforts of life, without which they would seem to live in a barbarous or strange country. Notwithstanding this scattered way of living they appeared happy. Quietness and peace seemed to have pervaded their dwelling places. The country presented a new, fresh, and happy appearance; and the scenery as we were approaching Easton was gradually becoming extremely romantic.

How dark and mysterious are the counsels of Providence that reserved this portion of the globe in almost all its original beauty, grandeur, and glory! I confess it is beyond my power to describe the beauties of Nature in these parts. With the exception of the height of the hills (for this region was extremely hilly) it seemed to have been almost in every respect like that of the Himalaya mountains, which I have had the pleasure of seeing.

The cupola of the College was visible for some time before we reached Easton, where we arrived at dark, and alighted from the coach at the door of a gentleman of the town.

Easton is a place of about seven thousand inhabitants. It belongs to the state of Pennsylvania, and is one of the best small places that I have ever seen. It is not so large and populous as to present the noise, bustle, and tumult of a city; but at the same

time has people enough to make it look like a social place; and though I had not formed an extensive acquaintance here, yet I believe the people to have been polite and kind. The houses were neat, large, and comfortable. Here were also a great many shops of all the articles and things that added to their comfort. In the middle of the town was the Court House, which gave it a degree of beauty. The place is very advantageously situated by nature; because, besides the extremely beautiful scenery that environs it, Easton is surrounded by three runs of water, which are called the Delaware, the Lehi, and the Bushkill. The two former are rivers and the latter a brook.

As there were not rooms enough in the house of the forementioned gentleman for the accommodation of all, I was after supper taken to the College building. I had to run up a flight of about two hundred wooden steps, (for the College was built on a high hill), and then was introduced to the Vice President of the Institution, who lived in a part of the main building, to insure a better behaviour from the students. This gentleman had a large family, all of whom were living with him; his oldest son, who had graduated in this College, was a tutor here. The study of the Vice President was between my apartment and that part of the College to which the students had general access. This circumstance or arrangement saved me great disturbance, which I would have otherwise received from students, as curiosity might have led them to constantly call upon me and hold long conversations on India and other subjects. But those with whom I had acquired a more intimate acquaintance were accustomed to see me here. I am highly thankful to say that the Vice President with his family was exceedingly kind to me, and had I been his own son he could not have treated me better.

The College building, including that part which was under the floor, was, (if I remember right) five stories high; and had rooms sufficient in number for the majority of students; some of the rest lived in town, as they had parents or friends there, and the

others through economy boarded in farm houses. There was in connection with this College an Academical Department too, which was at a few yards from the main building; and the refectory also was built at some distance from it. The Academy was intended to prepare students for the College, and gave instructions in the principles of Greek, Latin, and Mathematics and the elements of English literature, and numbered about thirty scholars. This college had been lately built, and its establishment was not so large as that of some others. However there were materials enough for those who were in any way inclined to cultivate their minds; for, as my readers know well, it is not the fact of graduating in a celebrated college that improves the mind; but industry, which in every age and clime has crowned the head of the laborious with the laurels of fame; and students of such a college might by industry and perseverance rise to the highest summit of celebrity and be equal (and in some cases even superior) to the sons of more famous Institutions. The number of Professors in this college was not large, and did not even meet the wants of the Institution; the evident cause of which was the lack of adequate funds.

On account of my ignorance of the ancient languages I was not prepared to enter College Proper, as it was called. I studied therefore in the Academical Department, which was under the care of a Principal. The instructions given here were pretty much confined, I saw, to the will of students or to that of their parents, whenever they happened to be in town. There was a large class of Latin Grammar; another of Latin Reader; a third of Cæsar's Commentaries; some were studying Virgil; a large class also studied Algebra, and a few students Geometry; and the attention of some was entirely devoted to the acquirement of the English language and some elementary studies.

The study of languages is delightful, if the taste lie in that direction. For the study of Greek and Latin (besides English) one must be possessed of ample time and means; but to us Natives

a good knowledge of the tongue of our Governors is of the utmost importance ; since through it we can obtain almost all the knowledge in the world, both useful and curious. After a respectable acquaintance with English is had, Latin I believe may be studied with great advantage, as it will tend to perfect the knowledge of the former. Next to the language of the Romans, in point of importance, may lie the Greek tongue. But we have seen some native students thrust into the study of Greek and Hebrew before they could write a correct letter in English. These tongues may *possibly* be of use in *certain cases* ; but only when accompanied with a *good* knowledge of English. But studying them without this looks like a pitiable waste of time and labour ; cripples in a great measure the future *active* usefulness of students thus trained ; and makes them necessarily dependant upon certain bodies.

The hours of study, recitation, recreation, &c., in the college at Easton, which was called after La Fayette, were as follows. The gong struck at five, A. M. to give notice to students to be ready for breakfast, to which they were called at seven o'clock, by the striking of a gong, by which every thing was conducted. At eight all assembled in the chapel for morning worship, the President or in his absence the Vice President leading in it. After worship the exstudents went to their recitation ; but the students of the "College Proper" were called to recite at nine, and continued doing so till ten, studied from ten to eleven, and recited again from eleven to twelve. At noon the gong called us to dinner, which took about three quarters of an hour. The hours of recreation extended from this time to two, P. M. when all had to retire to their rooms for study, at which they continued till four, P. M. After this recitation came on and continued till five o'clock. Then the gong struck again for worship, at which time, both morning and evening, all the Professors were expected to be present. Worship being over we had supper, and after supper recreation to seven, P. M., when the gong again called us to our studies ; and we kept to our books, or rather were ordered and sup-

posed to do so till nine, after which those who chose were allowed to retire.

The refectory consisted of a long room with three long tables, at which the students sat according to the seniority of the classes. A Tutor daily, and one of the Professors occasionally, ate here to keep a watch over the behaviour and conversation of students. The morning meal consisted of coffee, tea, potatoes, sometimes meat cooked with this vegetable and bread and butter; the dinner, of meat, potatoes, one or two other vegetables, bread and butter, and for desert a pudding, pie, or a tart, and sometimes apples; and for supper we had tea, bread and butter. I cannot call to mind whether we had any thing else. But by this account we must not judge of the fare of private families, who certainly live better. The reason of the poor fare of students was the want of sufficient funds which I have mentioned before. However no limit was set to the quantity with which we were supplied. But poor as the fare of La Fayette college was, I thought it was much better than what I saw served in the celebrated Princeton Theological seminary. Our victuals were mostly dressed by females, who also washed our clothes; and there were one or two men that waited at table.

The recreation of students consisted in different sorts of sports, and in taking walks in the beautiful scenery that encircles Easton. Their greatest amusement and exercise was in ball playing, which was certainly calculated to make them strong and healthy; and in winter in throwing snow balls against each other. Hitting with these balls was sometimes mutual, and at others not; but I never accompanied them in this exercise, and they were always polite enough, even the wildest of them, never to strike me intentionally with any snow.

Before arriving here and becoming acquainted with the state of things, I had somewhat a dread of college. Some how or other I had imbibed an impression that in a college every thing was carried on with the strictness, severity, and dulness of the convent of Mount Sinai. I had thought a college was something like a

prison, and the Professors strict and severe jailors. But after a few days I became entirely accustomed to a college life, and I thought I could comfortably live all my days in that state with the usual intervals, which intervals are indeed quite necessary; for I must say that a college life is a very retired one, and a seminary of learning is no good place to study human nature, however advantageous it may be in other respects. I was, therefore, quite delighted at the expiration of the winter session to lay aside my books for a time, and see large and populous cities, the promiscuous crowds of which have a multiplicity of business to mind about which has no connection with books; and I was also pleased to mix in company, where I could refresh my mind with a hearing and seeing of other things than those to which I had for some months been continually devoting my time and attention.

Neither was a college life so laborious as I had thought, because during two days in the week (including Sunday) we did not study. Saturday was the time for general recess, except that in the morning some of the students used to deliver orations in the chapel before all the students and some of the Professors; and the rest of the day was spent in walks on the hills, or in the town, or in other amusements.

The course of instruction in vogue in this college was as follows:—

Freshmen Class.

First Term.

Livy and Latin exercises.
 Græca Minora, completed.
 Græca Majora, commenced.
 Classical Literature, (Eschenburg's Manual.)
 Algebra.
 Plane Geometry, (Davies, Legendre.)

Second Term.

Odes of Horace.
 Græca Majora and Greek exercises.
 Classical Literature.
 Algebra completed.
 Solid and spherical Geometry.

*Sophomore Class.**First Term.*

Horace Satires and Epistles.
 Æschines de Corona.
 Classical Literature.
 Plane Trigonometry.
 Geometrical Constructions.
 Spherical Trigonometry.
 Analytical Geometry.

Second Term.

Cicero de Officiis.
 Demosthenes de Corona.
 Classical Literature.
 Blair's Rhetoric.
 Analytical Geometry.
 Surveying.

*Junior Class.**First Term.*

Tacitus.
 Œdipus Tyrannus (Sophocles.)
 Differential and Integral calculi,
 (McArtney's.)
 Navigation and Nautical Astro-
 nomy.
 Chemistry.
 Mental Philosophy.

Second Term.

Cicero de Oratore.
 Euripides Medea.
 Optics, (Brewster's.)
 Mechanics.
 Descriptive Geometry.
 Parker's Logic.
 Philosophy of Taste.
 Elocution.

*Senior Class.**First Term.*

Juvenal.
 Longinus.
 Astronomy.
 Natural Philosophy.
 Chemistry.
 Moral Philosophy.
 Evidences of Christianity,
 (Alexander.)

Second Term.

Linear Perspective.
 Civil Engineering.
 Latin and Greek Revision.
 Political Economy, (Wayland.)
 Constitution of the United
 States.
 Review of studies.

There were in connection with this college two literary societies, one named after Washington their great General, and the other after Franklin their celebrated Philosopher. It was optional with the students to become a member of either society. At the time of their being taken in they were sworn before the President of the society to be faithful in studying the welfare of the body of which they were members. The exercises and the internal management of the two societies were a secret to each other, and however friendly the students of the two bodies were, they by no means divulged their secrets.

Both of them used to meet on Friday after dinner, and sat till evening, and consequently on this day the afternoon recitations and other daily exercises were omitted.

A short time after the ringing of the bell the meeting was opened with prayer, and the roll called. Those who had been absent the preceding week had to give their excuses or reasons; if the President thought them satisfactory, they were accepted; but if otherwise the absentees were fined; after which those who desired leave asked for it; and if the business was considered sufficiently urgent their request was granted. The exercises that were performed in these meetings were the delivery of speeches, debate, and reading of compositions. The President appointed a certain number of students for these exercises the preceding week; this number might have been about eighteen. The apartment in which they met was large and pretty roomy; its floor was covered with cloth; and it had seats on two sides. One of the other two sides was occupied by the President, the Vice President, and the Secretary; they sat on a kind of platform in chairs. The opposite side of this place had that stage on which the speaking and reading exercises were performed.

The exercises of the meeting commenced with the delivery of speeches. The President called out the first person on the list, who proceeded to the stage and with a bow to the chief officer before him began to deliver his oration. After one had done, ano-

ther was called out till all the speakers were heard. Those of the students who wished to make any remarks were allowed to do so. These remarks were generally on action, tone of voice, pronunciation of particular words, presence of mind, &c. These remarks being over, optional speaking came on, and similar criticisms were made on these orations too. New speakers wanted a great presence of mind to keep themselves up and look respectable; some of them were at times almost frightened to death, as the saying is; and some of the older students too, or those who had been accustomed to the delivery of orations, now and then looked embarrassed, for which they almost always got a smile or laugh from every side of the Hall.

Reading of compositions followed the delivery of orations. The readers were called out as on the list; they proceeded to the stage, where after a bow (as in the preceding instance) they began to read their compositions. After all had done reading, remarks were made on the subject, the composition of the pieces, and on the mode of reading them, &c. When all these pieces had been read, anonymous compositions came on, which were put some time during the week in a box intended for that purpose; the writer being unobserved at the time of putting it in. A person was appointed by the chief officer to read these compositions, which were mostly of a burlesque kind, and most of them excited roars of laughter throughout the room. All of these pieces were handed to the President, and afterwards corrected by a set Committee of students.

Debate followed the reading of compositions. One half of the number was to speak on the affirmative of the question, and the other half on the negative, as they were appointed by the President. In this case, the speakers did not go to the stage, but debated standing in their respective places. The chief officer of the meeting called out the first speaker on the affirmative side, then one on the negative to refute him. The time that each was allowed to speak was a few minutes, and whenever he exceeded the limit he was ordered by the President to take his seat. This was

the most interesting and rousing exercise, and the curiosity and attention of all was turned to the various abilities of speakers on both sides of the question. When the appointed persons of the debate had done speaking for a certain time, optional debate came on, in which the time allowed to each speaker was much longer than in the other case, and all the speakers were of some ability. As soon as one speaker had done his part, or was ordered to take his seat, three or four sometimes at once rose up, and cried out "Mr. President, I am on the floor; Mr. President, I am on the floor;" but the President soon silenced them. It was the chief officer's duty also to check the speakers whenever they wandered from their subject or did not speak "to the point." After the disputants had exhausted their oration funds, or the time was almost over, the merit of the question was decided by a vote of majority.

The principal points of the laws of the Franklin society (of which I was a member) were, not to go in the hall with boots on, as these things tended to injure the floor cloth, but slippers were to be used instead; not to spit on the floor for the same reason; not to interrupt the speaker or go before him; not to cross the room but to go round; not to whisper or talk; always to speak to, and of each other as became gentlemen; and a few others of like import. An abuse of these laws was punished by fines, the sums of which were moderate. The attending such meetings may be called a recreation; in fact it was so; there might be a short embarrassment to some speakers or readers, but in the end even these speakers joined in the fun whenever there was any. All the students, as usual, were young, and there was a great deal of merriment going on. Though we had these laws, yet they did not prevent us from being happy; and sometimes mischiefs on a smaller scale were carried on by some of the wilder students.

Such societies, I deem, are of great advantage, and help in a very great measure to expand the youthful mind, and fit it for the active stage of life. They are of especial use in such countries as

England and America, where the form of Government allows people to take an active part in the legislative department.

The officers of the society of which I was a member were as follows:—viz. A President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Librarian. They were chosen at certain periods from among the students of ballot. The President in the meeting was always required to be treated with great respect, and his sentence and orders were irresistible at the time, though an appeal lay afterwards to the society.

There was also a large Library attached to each of the societies, the works of which they consisted were of all descriptions, and most of them valuable. I cannot speak of the Washington society with any degree of certainty; but I believe in all its principal operations it resembled the Franklin body. The Library of the latter was open on every Saturday, when each student was allowed to take two books. His name and the number of the books were put down; and he could keep them with him more than a week if he wished.

The advantages for improvement in a College of the West are great beyond measure; in fact, the student constantly lives in a literary and scientific atmosphere, and what knowledge one would obtain in four years elsewhere he would acquire in a twelve month in a College, if he have only inclination to help him.

America being a new country, and the acts performed on her stage comparatively recent, the people are always talking of what their great men have done. Thus after entering on my studies at La Fayette College my ears were continually assailed with the sounds of *America, Republicanism, Liberty, Washington*. I heard the last being called the "greatest man in the universe." I asked a student what meaning they attached to the word *universe*; he replied, they meant *only this world*.

V. CHAPTER.

I was at Easton till the close of the winter session,—that is till the end of March. An examination of all classes takes place at the end of every session; this trial occupies about a week. At the examination all the Professors and the Board of Trustees are present; and other literary gentlemen who wish to be there are admitted. Some students who dread to be examined leave College a little before the proper time; but by doing so, they cannot wholly evade their dreaded object; for they have to undergo a trial at the commencement of the next session, and if they be not able to sustain it they are not allowed to pass to a higher class, or are not permitted to pursue their studies with their more diligent classmates.

At the end of this winter term two literary exhibitions took place; one was the senior class exhibition; the other that of the Franklin Literary Society. The senior class consisted of about sixteen students; they delivered original orations on two successive nights in one of the churches of the town; the President of the College presided on the occasion, and the audience was large and attentive. The speeches also of the orators were satisfactory.

The exhibition of the Franklin Literary Society also took place in one of the churches. There were four speakers, and two readers of Essays; these speeches and compositions were original; and there was one select speaker, that is, his speech was not original, but selected out of one of the books containing orations. On this occasion too the exercises were interesting; and the church was full.

When the examination was over, and the President had duly dismissed the College, I left Easton for Princeton (a small place near Philadelphia) in company with two students; one a Senior, and the other a Junior. The home of the latter lay between Easton and Princeton; so he was to leave us on the way. The senior student had kindly invited me to go over with him to his friends,

and spend a few days with them. I accepted the invitation at the time, but afterwards had reason to change my mind and route, so that I did not succeed in availing myself of his kindness.

There was no railroad from Easton, but a boat was about to leave the place for part of the way; and we once thought of engaging our passage in it; but it was not quite ready to sail just at the time when wanted. A stage coach left at midnight, and to journey in it was somewhat inconvenient, so we thought of walking, but at the same time intended to take it leisurely so as not to fatigue ourselves.

We left the place on the morning of the 17th March. It had snowed a little during the night, but the morning was as pleasant and delightful as we could have wished for; the air also was quite refreshing; and the prospect through which we had to travel extremely grateful. For sometime we had a river on our left, flowing gently by the side or at the foot of a high hill, which had begun to be covered with verdure, as spring was setting in. The scenery was exceedingly beautiful; we were walking for most part of the day in a very romantic valley. Here and there you might see a solitary house or barn, but like a large and propulous place there was none.

It is highly pleasing to look on Nature in its wild and uncultivated state, in its virgin condition, free from all those pollutions which necessarily attend cities of great population. Here you would see high hills and low valleys, and there a small brook or stream gently making its way among the rugged rocks and the pleasing foliage; all of which make a sight always grateful to the eyes. With a few necessaries of life one not ambitious of worldly honor, riches, and pleasure, might well spend his life in this extremely romantic abode. There was here many a hill,

“whose hoary sides

With thicket overgrown, grotesque and wild,
Access deny'd; and overhead upgrew,
Insuperable height of loftiest shade,

Cedar, and pine, and fir, and branching palm ;
 A sylvan scene ; and as the ranks ascend
 Shade above shade, a woody theatre
 Of stateiiest view."

And the following lines may *almost* be descriptive of many a view that I have seen in this land.

"Thus was this place

A happy rural seat of various view ;
 Groves, whose rich trees wept od'rous gums and balm ;
 Others, whose fruit burnished with golden rind
 Hung amiable, Hesperian fables true,
 If true, here only, and of delicious taste :
 Betwixt them lawns, or level downs, and flocks
 Grazing the tender herb, were interposed,
 Or palmy hillock ; or the flow'ry lap
 Of some irriguous valley spread her store,
 Flow'rs of all hue, and without thorn the rose :
 Another side, umbrageous grots and caves
 Of cool recess, o'er which the mantling vine
 Lays forth her purple grape, and gently creeps
 Luxuriant : meanwhile murm'ring waters fall
 Down the slope hills, dispersed ; or in a lake,
 That to the fringed bank with myrtle crown'd
 Her crystal mirror holds, unite their streams.
 The birds their choir apply ; airs, vernal airs,
 Breathing the smell of field and grove, attune
 The trembling leaves."

The road that we took was not much frequented ; so to meet now and then with somebody was quite pleasing. We had to pass through several dense forests, which had roads cut through them. Now and then we would stop on the summit of a high hill and turn our faces towards Easton, to have a look at the cupola of the College ; but this was only for a few hours. In the forenoon we met with one or two schools, and a few villages.

It was about the middle of the day, when we stopt at a country inn for refreshment. These inns are scattered all over the country, and are very convenient to travellers, as they can take any meal in them, and stop for the night also if necessary. Our dinner was on the table half an hour after the landlord had received notice; his wife and daughter had done their best to get it ready as soon as possible. The table was set in the public room, which had a stove also, the weather being somewhat cloudy and damp. The dinner served on the table consisted of a plateful of what they call buckwheat cakes (which are common in America, and are delicious when eaten warm just from the pan with butter spread on them; warm ones were constantly brought in,) one or two kinds of meat, pickles and some other things which I cannot call to mind now; and for a second course we had a tart. We ate our dinner heartily after the walking exercise that we had in the forenoon.

Just as we had finished our meal, it began to rain, which dampened our prospects with regard to our further journey. Happily, however, it stopt hard raining after some time; and we left the country inn to go on our way.

About 5, P. M. we came to another tavern where we put up for the night. This house of accommodation was two stories high, and had about four rooms on each floor. At first we sat in the outer room, where a worshipper of Bacchus was our companion. Fire was soon made, however, in an adjoining apartment, which might be called a dining room; so we gladly parted with our disagreeable companion and removed to it.

Supper was ready after some time, of which we partook quite heartily after our day's journey. I do not remember the exact amount that was paid for our fare; but it was moderate.

This tavern like many others was in a quite isolated situation; there was nothing like a town or village to be seen near it, which shows what great security the people here enjoy, high way robbe-

ry being very uncommon in this part of the world. But this is very different from our country, where even in cities people walking about at night with something valuable in their pockets are not quite safe in certain parts ; while security is quite precarious while travelling abroad. These remarks, however, with regard to both countries must be understood with certain limitations. In populous cities, as well as at stations where people take or change carriages, there is no want of the "light fingered gentry," and passengers are obliged to be extremely careful of their watches and other contents of their pockets ; but notwithstanding the carefulness of passengers, the pickpockets often succeed in their kindness to disburden them of their watches and other light things that they may happen to have with them. Once, while I was there, a gentleman, at a station, in a large crowd, lost paper money to the amount of about three hundred rupees ; this took place in spite of the conductor of the carriages' calling out several times to warn his passengers of the presence of pickpockets in the crowd. I myself once when travelling, saw one of these men, who just at that time had deprived somebody of something ; he tried to escape in the carriages, but was noticed and taken up by the proper officers. Thus there is picking of pockets and cheating to a certain extent ; but as far as my knowledge reaches I do not believe there is any high way robbery or burglary ; and if there be any, it is only in certain parts of the country. But even this would be nothing, compared with what there is in India. This peaceful and secure state of America may be attributed to the immense extent of land, and the smallness of the population. Labour is high, but provisions are cheap ; and the man who has any inclination to exert himself a little can earn enough to support himself and his family very comfortably. But to return to our tavern.

Beds were provided for us in a room on the upper story, in which though there was no fire yet we passed a comfortable night. In the morning we took our breakfast here, and after settling our accounts with our host left the place for the further prosecution

of our journey. It had been very cold during the night; the ground was therefore frozen quite hard, which made it somewhat painful to walk. After some time when the sun was high enough it thawed; so the badness of the road went to the other extreme; that is, from being too hard, it became too soft, and we were troubled with this softness the whole day; our feet stuck fast with the mud, and we had to carry some pounds of it upon our boots almost to the end of our journey. To avoid this trouble we were very often obliged to climb over fences and walk in the grassy fields.

Notwithstanding all our unpleasantness in this respect, we were very frequently greatly cheered by seeing nature in all her virgin beauty and loveliness, and original grandeur; and I almost envied the people, who free from all the noise and bustle of the world, quietly spent their days in these American paradises. I have often thought, if those who live in these delightful sceneries had secured the salvation of their immortal souls they were almost in that place of everlasting bliss which is the aim and highly desired object of all mankind.

The Junior parted with us today about noon, as his home lay on this side of Princeton; and the Senior and myself after dinner went on our way.

This afternoon, to save a great round, we crossed several fields and hills, and arrived at Princeton about 5, P. M. This is a small place, and forms the seat of an old college and a Theological seminary; and the students of these two Institutions very probably make more than half the population of the town.

After taking some refreshment and talking with some of the students for a while, I retired and slept soundly, as I was greatly tired by the inconvenient walk of the day. The next morning I was introduced to some other students who shewed me great kindness. One of them took me to his Lecture room, where I saw one of the old Professors sitting and delivering a lecture on Pastoral Theology. After a short time two or three of the stu-

dents read something either out of a book or a manuscript which bore on the same subject. While the Professor was delivering his lecture, I saw most of the students occupied in taking notes of his theme. Of these notes they make a great use afterwards, as they consult them whenever necessary, and by going over them make a review of their seminary studies. After returning from this lecture I was introduced to the family of a highly talented and worthily famous Theological Writer. He himself was not at home, but I saw his lady and children, who were extremely obliging to me.

The next day being Sunday, I attended service in the seminary chapel, where one of the old Professors preached. Here I saw an African, who was a candidate for the ministry and studied in the seminary. This circumstance may look strange. Those Africans, however, who are students in Divinity in a Theological seminary, do not meet with that treatment which they would receive in other places; they may be treated with coldness and reserve, but not with any outbreacking unkindness; because in this case piety tames the wildness of the passions; or at least all the students are supposed to be pious, and are therefore obliged to be very cautious with regard to their conduct; else they would fall under condemnation of the seminary laws. But in a college African students (at least those born in America) would be almost continually treated with extreme insult and roughness, since in this case the majority of students are not professors of religion, and are therefore utterly regardless of consequences in this respect.

There was in this town (as I suppose there is in almost every town) a separate place of worship for the black population; and this African minister asked me whether I would attend their church that day. I gave my consent, and at the appointed time went over with him. The Preacher was a white man, (a seminary student I believed him to have been.) The congregation was not large; the circumstance of the day's being wet and uncomfortable may have prevented some from attending. When I entered the house they were constantly coming in, and in their gait and ad-

dress both men and women shewed an importance which certainly belonged to another station in life; which greatly amused me. This was very excusable however, as at this time they were out of the sight of their masters (falsely so called), and were for a short time within this small place their own lords; and might very naturally give vent to those airs and appearances which are always repressed while in the presence of their unlawful owners.

Princeton has the oldest college in the country, upon which marks of cannon balls, that were fired in the revolutionary war are still to be seen; and some hundreds of yards from the town one of their greatest battles is said to have been fought. A student shewed me the plain, where this battle took place, as well as an old farm house, which was struck by a ball, also another house on the plain to which one of their wounded Generals was removed at the time. Another circumstance that renders this small place one of interest to the American is, that it has the largest Theological seminary in the country.

It was now a hundred years since the establishment of the Princeton college, and they were in consequence about to have a centennial celebration, at which all those who had ever graduated in the college and were living and could possibly attend were to be present; there was therefore a great influx of people to the town. All the graduates were also to have a dinner on the occasion. There were about four or five hundred present, and they were to sit at the table according to their seniority. This dinner however was a mere nominal thing, for some of them could not get hold of any thing better than a piece of bread; some of them could get no knives, and others no forks; but the old men who were sitting at the head of the table fared better, as they had by right of their seniority every thing provided for them. However, it was a social assembly, and the circumstance of meeting old fellows graduates after a long lapse of years must have gladdened their hearts and encouraged them in their exertions to do good to their country by every means in their power.

On the day appointed for the grand meeting or the celebration,

the principal exercises commenced at 9, A. M. and continued to 3, P. M. The meeting was held in the Presbyterian church, and consisted of a vast number of people; indeed, of as many as the place could hold. The lower floor of the church was in an especial manner reserved for the graduates, of whom there was a number sufficient to occupy the whole space. There was a great assemblage of black coats, clergymen, lawyers, and physicians, and professors of different "ologies." The seats in the gallery were occupied by the fair sex, so that the vast majority of men who had come as spectators had to stand all the while either in the gallery or in the hall.

At the commencement of the exercises they sung a hymn composed for the occasion, after which a prayer was offered and the business of the day commenced. At first the graduates of the present year received their diplomas; then a few addresses were delivered by some of the older graduates. One of these addresses was in Latin; I do not remember whether there was one in Greek. All these addresses were respectable and satisfactory to the assembly. An account or history of Princeton college was also compiled and read by one of the Doctors of Divinity. A band was hired which played at intervals. The meeting broke up at three o'clock, when all retired to take their afternoon meal. They were to meet again in the evening, and I heard some people had entered the church some hours before the exact time with the view of securing convenient seats. As the exercises of the morning were not *particularly* interesting to me, and as I was quite tired by the long services of the day, I did not attend in the evening; besides the weather was rainy and uncomfortable. This bustle and hurry continued for two or three days, after which most of them left the town for their homes.

I was at this place twice, and in my second visit spent here about six weeks. In my whole stay in America I never met with any other place the people of which were so remarkably reserved as those of Princeton. Every family seemed to live for itself; at least as far as my knowledge extends. One of the principal reasons

for this extreme reserve seems to be that the town was the seat of two Seminaries of learning, both of which contained a great number of students, and had the Princetonians been in any way inclined to receive visitors or guests they would have had too many, and would perhaps have been continually pestered by them. There were two or three families however with whom I became acquainted, and these I was accustomed to visit now and then, and was always received by them with the greatest kindness.

The scenery round about Princeton was somewhat beautiful, and in the afternoons I often used to have long walks about the place; sometimes alone, and at others with some one or other of the students. There was a brook as well as a canal about the place, which formed the evening resort of many a young man and lad of Princeton, and I too have paid them many a visit.

On Monday my friend and myself were to leave the place. This day too was wet and unpleasant. We were to take the carriages for Philadelphia, which were at the distance of about a mile and a half from the town. As it was wet to walk we took coaches; my friend went a little before, and I followed him in a few minutes. In the coach that carried me were three or four other passengers. One of them was a clergyman, to whom I was introduced at the time of my stepping into the coach. He had his wife with him, a very amiable and beautiful young lady. One of the other gentlemen in the coach began to converse with me without the least reserve; he asked me about myself, India, &c.; and at his request I repeated something in Hindoostanee, the sound of which was quite amusing to the whole company. We soon took carriages at the station and arrived at Philadelphia about 12 o'clock.

While in this city I had some occasion to call on two or three ladies, living in one family, and having a Female Boarding School. They were very kind to me, and one of them took me over the whole school, and shewed me some of their exercises in composition, algebra, &c. &c. which I thought were creditable to them.

After a while all of them were called into one room, where one of the mistresses very kindly made them sing one or two short hymns for me, with which I was quite pleased, and to make some return I repeated something in Ordo, which must have amused them.

It is highly pleasing to see a female of an enlightened and christian country take an active part in any conversation; she is not tied down by custom and ignorance; she has no occasion to be bashful in, and retire from, the society of the opposite sex. Her mind and body are free from the chains of ignorance and slavery; she is on an equality with man, and feels at home in the place, conversation, and company in which she may happen to fall. But these are advantages to which Hindoo women are strangers; not being educated the minds of many of them differ little from that of a child; shut out from the company and conversation of men, where perhaps they could pick up a vague and general knowledge of things, they are left to the talks and cares of their own persons and domestic concerns.

We are aware, that some steps have been taken by some in Calcutta to better their condition; but we may still say that here is an untrodden field for the philanthropist. Of course, the difficulties in the way are most formidable and apparently insurmountable; they are rooted in the prejudices of the nation, which prejudices have been gaining strength from the period at which comparative civilization darted its first ray on mankind. However, the education of Hindoo females is within the bounds of possibility. And was there ever any thing of this character that could for any remarkable time resist the efforts of human industry and perseverance? We trust the sincere and hearty endeavours of Government in behalf of the male population will exert a salutary influence on the females; and we may yet hope to see the time when Hindoo women, instead of being slaves to their husbands, will be their helpmeets.

It was here that I was obliged to change my former course of

journeying. I parted with my college friend and made preparations to proceed to Winchester, which was situated in the state of Virginia. I left the city of Brotherly Love with a friend to whom I had been introduced. The carriages were for a good distance drawn by horses; this distance was mostly through the city and places where there was much of walking about, and of course, this being drawn by horses was intended to prevent accidents. At length we reached the place where horses were to be exchanged for steam, and then went on in good earnest. It was still rainy and the travelling of this night any thing but agreeable. This train was to carry us to Baltimore, which is a large place, and it was very late before we arrived at it.

Before reaching this place we had to cross a very broad river, in a huge steamer; but on account of a high and contrary wind and other circumstances this crossing took a long time. In this steamer there were large tables covered with all sorts of refreshments for sale.

After we had crossed the river we again got into the carriages, which also had a great impediment from ice; since this thing had covered the rails the wheels could not move on easily. At last we reached Baltimore very late in the night and walked to a Hotel, where after warming myself at a large blazing fire and taking some refreshment I retired to rest.

I left Baltimore the next morning after breakfast in company with another friend. We went on travelling till about one o'clock, when we came to a place called Harper's Ferry, where we took a hasty dinner. The aspect of the country during the former part of the day had been very beautiful, but now it was exceedingly so. This Harper's Ferry is one of the most enchanting places that could be seen any where. Here were ridges of lofty hills covered with verdure, with a brook of crystal water running amongst them. We had this brook with us a considerable way. In the state of Virginia too I did not see much of population, though it is said to be one of those states that were peopled before the others. In this

day's travelling I passed through another state, also called Maryland; in fact Baltimore is in Maryland. This, I believe, is one of the free states, that is, people living in this part of the Union have no slaves.

Virginia is a slave state, and it is common to see two or three or even more slaves in most families. Some of the farmers have as many as four or five hundred to work on their farms.

After an almost whole day's run we arrived at Winchester about 5, P. M. My kind friends here were expecting me, and one of them very obligingly came to the station to take me to his residence, where I got a few minutes after my arrival in the town.

The kindness that I experienced here was the greatest with which I had ever met. With a single exception all the members of this family were ladies, and with one of them I had been corresponding for years; and the friendship the foundation of which was thus laid was strengthened and matured by our seeing each other face to face. The state of my health at the time of my arrival in Winchester was any thing but good; however, under the fostering care of this family I had soon the happiness of becoming healthy and strong. Their kindness was of such a degree that I can never be sufficiently thankful for it. My mind which had for some time been in a very dormant and stupid state was now roused, and in a very great measure partook of the happiness, sociality and excitement which pervaded this family. This excitement was caused by a recent arrival of relations from this country.

Before leaving India I had often read of the "pleasant fireside" and the long "winter evenings," but as might be expected had never been able to form any correct idea of what they were. I had seen firesides in Easton at college, but did not find in them any other particular pleasure, but what was derived from the consciousness of sitting in a warm and comfortable room, secure from all the wintry blasts and storms that roared and raged out of doors. But here I discovered the real import that was attached to this phrase. Though I arrived in Winchester in the latter part

of March, yet it was extremely cold, and here were therefore in a measure "long winter evenings" and a "pleasant fireside" too, where I have sat and spent some of the sweetest hours of my life. Here the ladies and I were accustomed to sit, often to a late hour in the night, conversing upon a multiplicity of subjects, among which that of love (a theme so common in the west) was by no means omitted.

Winchester, one of their oldest places, is in the state of Virginia, which by the Virginians is generally said to have been peopled by the nobility, or at least the gentry and other respectable classes that originally emigrated from England. Washington is said to have once passed through the principal street of this town with his army, which I believe is considered a circumstance worthy of particular remembrance. Though the country round about Winchester is not hilly, yet it is sufficiently undulating to make the scenery appear beautiful, and in some places even small hills covered with verdure rise to view. The dreariness and desolateness of winter were fast disappearing when I left college, but now that spring had really set in, and was soon to be succeeded by summer, nature had begun to attire herself in her best clothing, and being here pretty long and having ample time at hand (for I had not gone back to college, though the summer session had already commenced in the latter part of April) I was daily in the habit of taking long walks in the scenery that surrounds the town, and enjoying the sweet smell of the precious crops, and the sight of the flowery clover, which latter is a species of fodder sowed on purpose for horses and cows. My principal seat of retirement was a place called *Dovedale*. This situation was beautiful and somewhat romantic; the aspect of it was undulating, and here and there eminences like small hills raised their heads; the greater part of the place was covered with small cedar trees, and wild flowers of various hues and sizes improved the lap of nature. Here doves were to be seen too; and to render the place as attracting and pleasing as possible, herds of innocent sheep fearless of wolves might be seen grazing the soft, sweet and fresh grass.

Dovedale was a very appropriate name for it ; here there seemed to be a great number of these birds ; and their moaning, which I sometimes heard, was of a melancholy and affecting nature. The place was quiet and retired, and the foot of man seldom crossed that way. Every circumstance about the situation was calculated to help to serious thought and meditation, and did not this objection, that is, "a propensity to compose is not always most readily found where the poets have fixed its residence, amidst groves and plains and the scenes of pastoral retirement. The mind may be there unbent from the cares of the world, but it will frequently at the same time be unnerved from any great exertion : it will feel the languor of indolence ; and wander without effort over the regions of reflection," contained in *The man of feeling* hold true, authors would find it a capital place for undisturbed thought.

Natives of Winchester had heard of the arrival of a foreigner from a distant country ; and the curiosity of some, especially of the fair sex, was somewhat excited. Those that had any acquaintance with the family with whom I lived called to gratify this propensity ; and most of them were surprised that I could speak English, or that I did not manifest any signs of savageness about me. For the majority, or I may say all, the Americans have a very poor and ridiculous idea of India. They consider it in a manner out of the world, and therefore put me questions which might have better suited a Traveller from the *Moon*. Indeed, this ignorance which reaches even the educated and the learned is most strange. Perhaps a great reason of it is that they have no time to spare to study about a country that lies at such a distance from them, and with which they have no other connection than that of traffic. However, even this circumstance ought to be quite a sufficient inducement to know more about a land which is by no means one of the smallest and the least important in the world. Their evident indifference with regard to this knowledge may easily be seen by glancing over a Geography of their own compilation, where you will almost invariably find that nearly three

fourths of the book is taken up with a description of their own country, while the remaining one fourth is made to answer for the three most ancient and remarkable portions of the globe. In a Geography of theirs which I have at hand, and which is doubtless among their best, the description of America occupies 133 pages, while only 41 pages are devoted to Europe, 26 to Asia, and 22 to Africa ; and it is no wonder that the fund of information relating to foreign countries, of which American youth are possessed, is so exceedingly limited. It must be admitted that it is the duty of a man to know first and fully about his own country, because ignorance in this respect would be unpardonable ; and it is very proper for American Geographers to be so minute and particular in the description of their native land ; still, they might devote a few pages more to the foreign countries of the other portions of the globe, which might give their rising generation a more respectable knowledge of the old continent. The above mentioned Geography condescends to take notice of Hindoostan in the following terms : (I transcribe the larger type, which is considered the most important ; besides this there are eight or nine observations in small type.)

“Hindoostan is the most beautiful country in Asia, and has been famous in all ages for its civilization, valuable productions, and for its wealth and extensive manufactures.

“Hindoostan is mostly a level country, and is distinguished for its numerous rivers and the general fertility of its soil, which produces two crops in a year.

“The climate in the northern parts is mild and healthy ; in the south it is warm, and the heat is often oppressive.

“Almost every variety of production is found here ; the most important are rice, cotton, wheat, sugar, indigo, opium, tobacco, millet, and various kinds of fruit.”

This is some of the most important information that American youth in Academies receive relative to this country ; and it was no wonder sometimes very silly questions were put to me by per-

sons who would feel greatly insulted if they were to be considered as possessed only of a slender education. For instance, I was asked whether we had cows, sheep, vegetables, &c., &c. A gentleman, (a Doctor of Divinity) once happened to see some coarse and common stuff that the poorer classes of this country use for clothing and made the remark that the natives *had made considerable progress in the arts*. He very probably thought that Missionaries had taught us to manufacture the stuff. It seems that their ignorance about this country is in some measure voluntary, since this Geography (with others I believe) speaks in express terms in favour of the *long continued* civilization and extensive manufactures of India, and in a note says in set terms, "They (Hindoos) are the most ingenious manufacturers of muslins, silks, shawls, &c." Their ideas of the Hindoos are most certainly derived from their own Indians; and when they speak of savage and uncultivated life they almost always allude to the "red man of the West" and whenever they think of India they very probably picture to their minds a country covered with jungle or lying waste and barren, miserable and moveable huts, natives dressed in bear and lion skins, and adorned with ornaments of bone, and beset with large herds of wild horses and ferocious animals. Once while I was travelling in the carriage, some Americans that were sitting near me were curious to know what country I belonged to; on being told by one, who had been conversing with me for a short time, that I was from Hindoostan, one of them observed that I "did not manifest any signs of savageness about me" which I overheard, and thus came to know his idea of the natives of this country. What is more strange, is, that some of those of their countrymen who have visited this land do not seem inclined to remove this ignorance. For instance, one who had paid a visit to India was asked by a countryman of his what kind of house he lived in here: the reply was in a house "of mud." Now this was very far from being a proper reply; it must have given the enquirer an impression that we had nothing but vile and miserable huts. In a sense, our very bodies are made of

mud, and so are all the royal palaces in the world; still we know the difference that people make when speaking of a hut and a respectable house. In my opinion, the houses used in this country by Europeans and Americans are more decent, comfortable, durable, and costly than the one in which this question was put and the reply given. Sweeping remarks also were made regarding natives, &c.

In course of time I became (through the introduction of the family) acquainted with many of the citizens, some of whom often invited me to their houses and always shewed me great kindness.

CHAPTER VI.

I shall now say something about the domestic manners of the Americans. The houses in America (as well as in England) are almost always built in rows, and not irregularly and confusedly as they are generally in this country. Those that are in cities are almost always of the same number of stories, and there is nothing in their outward appearance which would enable you to distinguish one from another. If you are a stranger in the place and wish to find any particular house, you have only to look at the brass plate (one of which is attached to every door) and see the number or name which it may have engraved upon it. The number of rooms that a house generally contains is about eight, large and small including those of the upper story too; in them every thing might be seen that tends to comfort or convenience. Whenever you go on a visit to any one, you give one or two raps at the door; a maid servant almost always makes her appearance, and with a salutation (seldom neglected) politely leads you to the parlour, offers you a seat, and then hastily runs up stairs to give word to her master or mistress, (but the former is generally out on business.) In the meanwhile you have time to have a perfect survey of the parlour, which you see adorned with chairs, tables, sofas, stands, large looking glasses, perhaps a few curiosities on

the mantlepice, and almost every thing that comfort, convenience or fashion suggests. After a few minutes you hear the sound of footsteps, which are generally those of the maid servant who is come to tell you that her mistress will be with you in a short time. At length the lady herself makes her appearance, but you receive some previous notice of this by the rustling noise which her dress makes as she gently and slowly walks down the stairs and reaches the parlour door. If you are acquainted with each other you shake hands, (this custom, however, is not so very common in some parts of America) but if utter strangers you only bow; and after being seated talk of the great coldness or heat of the season as the case might be, and other subjects follow in succession. If you happen to put up with the family (you are at present supposed to be a foreigner) you have better opportunities of becoming acquainted with its state and internal management; which to their credit it must be said is always respectful and honorable. If the family be pious, they have worship in the morning before breakfast. The fact of a whole domestic circle having the fear of God is extremely pleasing; this piety shines with the most brilliant lustre in females; and I have often thought with others that the quiet and innocent walk of life of a pious wife, sister, daughter, or mother is the strongest and most convincing proof of the truth of the christian religion. It is the internal proof and moral evidence of the Bible, and its effect on the hearts of its believers, that has pierced through the obdurate hearts of many unbelievers; and religion in all its loveliness and beauty must be seen in a pious female, who is generally free from all those blots and stains which disfigure it more or less in the opposite sex.

When the family worship is over they walk to the breakfast table, which is either on the first or second floor. The mistress of the family always sits at the head of the table, and the master opposite to her, as that is the lowest place; in the absence of the wife, the oldest daughter (if she be of age) takes her place. The things that they mostly have at this meal are tea, coffee, fish,

(but not always) meat of some kind or other, bread, butter, buck-wheat cakes, cakes of the Indian meal, eggs and sometimes fried potatoes, &c. Almost all the tea that I tasted in America was most miserable, and had not the least flavour, and if it were not for the mere name's sake, you might as well have a tea of mango leaves; but it seemed that the Americans in general were not aware of its extremely inferior qualities, or else that they were not able to get any better.

In America Indian corn is very plentiful; the grain is larger and has more nourishment than what we have in this country. I was at first surprised to see people in affluent circumstances eat of the cakes made of its flour, for here none but the economical agriculturing classes and the poorest part of the population use it. In America horses also are fed on it; and I am inclined to believe more of this grain is raised than of any other.

For dinner they generally have meat of some kind or other, sometimes boiled but oftener fried potatoes and other vegetables, rice now and then, bread, butter, pickles, &c. for a second course pudding of some kind, and in the summer have berries eaten with cream and sugar; have ice creams also now and then. For supper they mostly have tea, meat, preserves eaten with milk, cakes, &c.

This account of their meals is of course not to be understood without exceptions, and perhaps very numerous; for in America also there are the rich, the gay, the voluptuous, and the great, and the provisions of their tables do certainly at least in some respect differ from that of those whose income is limited, or who have large families to support, or those whom religion has taught to lay a curb upon their appetites. However, what I have said might I believe answer for the main body of the American gentry, or if they object to this term (as certainly on their republican principles they ought to) of those who are possessed of adequate means to live comfortably and respectably in a higher than ordinary sense.

The provisions in America are much cheaper than in England, though dear when compared with those of our own country; in fact, we have reason to believe, no country in the world is so highly favored with temporal blessings as India is; and were the inhabitants only better all would live much more comfortably. Wealth in America seems more equally divided than in any other portion of the globe; generally speaking you do not see here extremes of poverty or wealth as in most ancient countries, and it is likely that this state of comparative equality will continue so long as the land is not overcharged with population. At present the inhabitants are very few in number when compared with the vast extent of land which America contains. The country is fresh, and the climate of the greater part of it very healthy; the people (excepting those in the West, which is being newly populated) can get all the necessaries, comforts, and luxuries of life; there is safety and security in the greater part of it, so that when every thing is taken into consideration, a sense of great comfort and happiness pervades the whole land; which the Americans will most likely enjoy so long as their numbers do not exceed convenient limits.

But what is extremely attracting is an American country life at a convenient distance from some large city. Here scenery is generally most beautiful, and highly improves the site of the dwelling; and the situation is so tranquil with the accompaniment of every thing that renders life comfortable, that we would not exchange it with all the wealth, grandeur and honor of any land. These are also excellent retreats for lovers and new married couples, where without any disturbance and anxiety (which might for a season be suspended) they can enjoy their fill of love.

As I have by degrees come to this important subject which is quite common in the West, I may be allowed here to say a few words about American ladies and similar subjects.

Though in extremely cold countries summer is a very desirable and agreeable season, yet Winter is by no means without its ad-

vantages, one of the greatest of which is, the opportunity of addressing young ladies. This seems to be one of the principal times for the younger portion of the community to fall in love, or to confirm it if already formed. The state of society allows people of both sexes to mix indiscriminately, and thus gives young bachelors and maidens an excellent opportunity of choosing their own partners for life by a long acquaintance with, and knowledge of, their disposition, accomplishments, standing in society, and perhaps of the purse too. They go out in driving parties on snow in a sort of vehicle that has no wheels, and is drawn by horses; it moves on smoothly and makes no noise, little bells are therefore attached to horses to give people notice of their approach; and it is at this time generally that the young men pay their addresses to their sweethearts, and by assiduous attention and courting win the affections of these "Angels from the skies." Females are highly respected, and the attention paid to young ladies seemed to me extraordinary; and the familiarity with which unmarried people of the opposite sexes often treat each other is strange, at least it seemed so to me, who was a foreigner from a country where people have gone to the other extreme regarding females. But I must say that this familiarity is confined only to conversation. Beauty is much talked of, and every young lady believes herself to be favored with this grace. This however is by no means peculiar to ladies of any particular country; generally speaking females of every clime are more or less prone to this disposition.

It would be an unpardonable crime, however, to deny that there is *Beauty* and *Grace* in America; and we do not see any good reason why there should not be, since the greater part of the race is one with that of England. In the land of "Liberty" also there are innumerable beings, who, as a famous English writer says, are like the porcupine and "shoot an arrow" at us "from every part of their body;" beings who if they had only wings would almost be converted into angels, and the greatest philosophers might be imposed upon by them. There is grace of body, of manners, and

of mind, and every thing that can help to make them as enchanting and fascinating as possible. But there is a natural disadvantage to them (though even this does not materially affect them) that is, the colour of the majority of them is inclined to be pale and sallow; it seems that they have not enough of blood, and want that beautiful rosiness and ruddiness of cheeks, which is the inheritance of English ladies. The climate doubtless has its part in producing this; however, as I have just said, this circumstance does in no remarkable degree injure them. They are beautiful, notwithstanding, and their "arrows" shot at the opposite sex go with as great a force and effect as those of the handsomest women of any other country.

While in America, I attended two marriage ceremonies; one at Easton and the other at Winchester. Invitations are sent beforehand, and the ceremony generally takes place in the house of the parents of either the bride or bridgroom. People begin to assemble a little before the ceremony is performed; and all the ladies appear in white dresses. When all have assembled and the proper time has arrived the new pair emerge from an adjoining room, the bridgroom leading his modest and blushing bride. As they come into the room they do not sit down, but all the people standing up the minister begins to perform the rite. He first of all asks the assembled people the usual question, whether any one has any objections to the joining of the new couple. No body as usual makes any objection; then the minister puts the couple the customary questions, to which each of them assent by a nod of his and her head. The questions asked and answered the ring is put on by the bride's maids who are unmarried young ladies, and are meant to attend the bride. When the ceremony is over the new pair are congratulated upon their new connection, and a happy life is wished them. The ladies of the assembly move first towards the bride, shake hands with her and kiss her; after which the gentlemen move forwards and shake hands with her, and the nearest relations of the bride and those gentlemen that are old and particular friends of the young lady have the privilege of

kissing her ; and if the minister who performs the ceremony be aged he is the first one to press his lips upon those of the bride. I never witnessed a marriage of this sort in India, and was not acquainted with the custom of congratulating by shaking hands with the new pair ; I made therefore an unintentional mistake in not going forward to meet the bride and the bridegroom. After marriage they sometimes have dinner, at others only sweetmeats, cakes, &c. The ceremony is performed in a very short time, which does not give it so much importance as it ought to have. The minister in both instances of marriage that I witnessed spoke only a few words, asked a few questions, pronounced the binding words, and thus completed the ceremony. Since this rite is so important as to affect us through life it should always be performed with due gravity and solemnity. Sometimes people get Magistrates to join them ; while I was at Abington, a young man and woman came to the minister, with whom I was living, for marriage ; but he was out and continued so till late in the night ; the young people waited for him long, but at length their patience gave way, and they went away very probably to the Magistrate, for I do not remember seeing them at the house again.

Young ladies here do not tell their age ; I am not fully aware from what this objection originates ; perhaps from a wish not to make their age known should it verge on womanhood ; as to be called a young lady is highly pleasing to them : a discovery of their comparatively great age might prevent people from calling them so. Being once in company with two ladies that were sisters, and unacquainted with this custom, I asked the young lady how old she was, at which she smiled and said "ladies here do not tell their age ;" the elder lady rejoined that she might make it known to me as I was a foreigner, and might consequently form an exception ; but she would not tell me by any means.

Another thing that struck me, and which I think is rather carried to excess, is the custom of *kissing*. This act may give expression to the strongest affection, and often may be of use, but

when there is a great deal of it, it becomes meaningless, as then it makes "too much of a good thing." Old clergymen, when a young lady is unmarried and related to them, or even introduced, have always the privilege of kissing her; but it is a question whether the young ladies are any way flattered by this, or whether they like it. From what I have heard I am inclined to believe they would rather not have old and rough lips come in contact with their young and soft ones.

Before leaving India I had heard that there were in America more females than males, and were not the stubborn truth that, young ladies meet with no *great* difficulty in obtaining husbands, in our face, I would be led to believe the saying to its fullest extent; for in almost every family that I saw or lived with there were many more daughters than sons. I must however say that I was at times inclined to believe the chances of marriage for some young ladies were very small, which was perhaps owing to their retired way of living or having few acquaintances to push them out into public notice.

The marriage of females in England and America (as in all cold climates I suppose) does not take place at such an early age as it does in most eastern countries; and it is nothing unusual to see a female of twenty eight or thirty still called a young lady or a Miss. Their bodies do not lose their vigour and freshness of appearance for a great number of years; but in this as well as in every other eastern country women a few years after marriage reckon themselves among those that *were* once young.

Old maids are beings that are unknown in this quarter of the world; they are however by no means uncommon in England and America. We do not fully know the reason why some women subject themselves to this strange, unsocial like, dry and perhaps uncomfortable way of leading life. In some cases it may arise from ugliness, with no recommendation to any man; sometimes it may originate from independence of circumstances, accompanied perhaps with a selfish desire to enjoy alone the afflu-

ence which may have fallen to one's lot. As there are old maids, there must consequently be old bachelors too; but it is a question whether the majority of them are happy beings.

I was utterly surprised to find at times that some females of the West too were not altogether free from the chains of superstition; I could mention instances, but it is not necessary. It seems the lot of the majority of women of every climate to be subject (notwithstanding the highly superior privileges of some) to certain most unnecessary fears. It may be a curious field to study the mental constitution of the two sexes;—their different capabilities of acquiring knowledge and susceptibility of being subject to certain infirmities: whether the mind of the female is constitutionally inferior in power to that of the male is a question that is perhaps not yet fully decided. When we consider the mutual effect which the mind and body have on each other, we cannot but come to the conclusion that the body of the female materially affects the mind and bears it down by many of those infirmities from which the opposite sex is created free. If the incapability of the female mind were not to be attributed to the weakness of constitution, then we must infer that in the spiritual world too these minds that are tabernacled here in female tenements would be inferior in power to those that were embodied in male forms, which opinion (supposing the female to have time and opportunity for cultivation) seems altogether untenable.

We shall now say a few words about servants or "help" as Americans call them. In the northern states where slavery is abolished white servants are generally employed; but they are rather scarce. Here and in England as is well known no system of caste operates, and the same servant will attend to every duty. You meet with a male servant now and then for some out of door work, as gardening and driving; but for inside work, as cooking, sweeping, washing clothes, taking care of things, &c., females are employed. They are industrious, and one of these servants answers well for a family whose number is not great. They always

live in the family, that is, are provided with a room either in the cellar or garret, are supplied with victuals also and their salary is generally about £ 10 or one hundred rupees a year, which is paid to them either quarterly or half yearly. But those who are possessed of a sufficient command of means have more servants than one; this is the case with the English nobility, perhaps some of the gentry, and the inhabitants of the southern states of the Union where slavery is not yet abolished.

In numberless families however, where the household duties are numerous, and means do not allow the keeping of more servants than one, the young ladies of the family (if any belong to it) attend to some of them, and to their praise be it said, they do this most cheerfully. These young, delicate, and beautiful creatures submit themselves to the drudgery of the family, and to the service of many a perhaps worthless man, who possibly has no better recommendation than a very distant connexion or a slight acquaintance with the family. In the morning after the people have been up and done breakfast many an accomplished young lady goes round to the different apartments of the house, making beds, sweeping rooms, and attending to other necessary duties. They often take charge of the duties of the kitchen also, which as every one knows must be any thing but desirable in summer. The hot season may not be so oppressive as it is in this country, but sometimes it is hot enough, especially in some of the southern states. This is generally the case however in the north, where slavery is prohibited. On account of the cheapness of land, by which the poor part of the white population can easily support themselves servants are scarce, and those that are to be found are believed to be saucy and ask high wages. These remarks I believe are not applicable to England.

But in the south, where slavery is not yet abolished, and which are therefore called slave states, they experience no difficulty with regard to "help." Here there are about the house generally a number of these domestics, who sometimes belong to the master

or mistress of the family, and at others are hired for a certain number of years. Their wages of course go to fill the pockets of their original masters, and I believe he provides them with clothing; but their food they receive from him whom they serve. The Americans call them by the queer appellation of "Uncle" and "Aunt," which is perhaps used for politeness' sake. I have the impression that they are faithful and willing servants, and in those slave families that I visited appeared to be treated with kindness. They would however rather be free, as an old woman said, whom I asked, whether she felt her position comfortable, and whether or not she would prefer freedom. My observation of them however was very limited, and I regret that I had no opportunity of going further into the interior of the southern states for the sake of more carefully inspecting their condition.

Though Virginia is a slave state, yet some Africans live here who have been liberated. One of them who lived in Winchester and called himself a Methodist preacher once came to ask me to attend their next religious meeting. The poor man was conscious of the great contempt with which his race was treated by the white people, and did not therefore come into the parlour or where the ladies of the family were sitting, but humbly went into the kitchen and there waited to see me. Having newly arrived in that part and being rather unaware of the custom of not receiving Africans inside the house, I called him in the room where we generally sat and offered him a chair. But the two or three ladies of the family who were sitting there seemed thunderstruck at this; one of them I believe immediately left the room, another did so after a few seconds: the third however continued there a little longer and condescended to speak one or two words to him; but this was very probably for my sake, as she also went out after a little; and I was afterwards asked not to receive an African in the house.

The boarding system is very common in the West. This practice may not appear strange for bachelors and unmarried ladies

living at a distance from their homes ; but married people also find it expedient and frugal to adopt the same course. One would suppose that a married couple would find it necessary to have a whole house to themselves and a servant of their own ; but many families live comfortably as well as economically the other way. They take two or three rooms in a house, pay a certain sum to the family for their victuals, and thus disburden themselves of many cares that are incidental to house keeping. However, a family appears more important by having a house and other things of its own. Taking boarders seems to be a profitable thing as many families do this, and especially those old or widowed females who have no certain resource of livelihood.

The form of government in vogue in America is well known to my readers. A few days after my landing in America I had an opportunity to witness one of their elections, which very likely was that of the President. There were a great many of the country people assembled in a place called the Post office. At these elections sometimes some of their ordinary and low orators deliver speeches in favour of that candidate for the presidentship whom they prefer ; at these times there is generally a great concourse of all sorts of people, especially of the vulgar, and I am given to understand that outbreaks at times occur in these mobs on account of their difference of opinion. Such meetings take place throughout the country, and the election is made by ballot. Sometimes there may be at first more candidates for the office than one, but by degrees they are brought down to two, and the contest between the election of these two is generally sharp. Here the party spirit rages to a great height and people are always fighting and writing against each other, insomuch that those who are engaged in the conflict seem incapable of enjoying any peace of mind.

The President, their chief officer, gets a yearly salary of about fifty thousand rupees, the greater part of which he is very probably obliged to spend in keeping a respectable appearance before his friends, and foreigners of distinction that may be about him.

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The salaries of inferior governors and officers are proportionably lower.

Education is held in high estimation in America, and the lower classes of this country are in general believed to be better informed than the same class in European countries. There are small schools all over the land in which children receive instruction in those branches that are likely to be of use to them in after life. But it is strange to say that many of those who have better opportunities, that is, those who study in colleges do not properly improve their privileges. It would be nothing uncommon to find persons, graduates of colleges, who have not much improved by being in a higher seminary of learning; the reason of which appears to be that the rules for admission though regularly formed are not strictly adhered to, and the examination through which they have to pass is not sufficiently scrutinizing; more especially when there is a great number of students to be examined and the examiners are in a hurry to get over their task. They pass through college quietly, and when by happy accidents get up to the Senior class and have finished their terms, they are called *Masters of Arts* and obtain long and flourishing diplomas in attestation thereof. However, this title has nearly ceased in America to have its real import; and such ought to be the case when some of these Masters of Arts are unable to demonstrate a problem in Euclid or do a sum in Algebra or even in Arithmetic, and cannot write a correct letter in English which is their mother tongue. Making these remarks myself would of course be extreme presumption, which would be aggravated by my utter ignorance: but I have heard this from men who are well able to give an opinion on the subject. The fact of a multiplicity of colleges and the cheap rates at which good education by industry is attainable may possibly make American youth slight the privileges they can enjoy. These remarks of course regard only that class of students that neglect their studies.

There appears to be something like a want of strictness in some of what are called the learned professions also. It is well known,

it is no easy matter in England for clergymen to be dubbed D. D. But quite different is the case in America : the land is almost full of Doctors of Divinity. Perhaps one of the easiest ways to have this title is to write a tolerably sized pamphlet or book on a religious subject, or as an English Writer says, to "make a fuss on the Greek particle." There are many colleges in the land, all of which have the power of conferring this title ; many clergymen have very probably friends in these Institutions, who exert their interest to procure for their friends the epithet of D. D. : while I was at Easton I heard that a clergyman had written to a student to endeavour to get him dubbed D. D. With many however, as may be expected, the title has ceased to have any value ; and on this plea one of them at the period of my being in the country went so far as to reject it when it was desired to be conferred on him unasked.

In the Medical department also students obtain a diploma for practice, and title of M. D., after a study of two years, and my impression is that some of them are scarcely possessed of any knowledge of Greek and Latin ; whereas in England all Medical students that lay claim to any respectability are required to be scholars in these languages, and are not honored with the title of M. D. till after a practice of many years. However, there are learned men among them too in every department who support the character of their nation.

Books in America are extremely cheap ; almost innumerable presses are at work, and a great deal of information is diffused among the people by means of newspapers.

The population of the country is fast increasing, as there is every year a great influx of emigrants from the various countries of Europe. Some of these emigrants, I hear, are from among the most valuable and hardworking classes of England ; but the vast majority of them are perhaps the refuse of the older countries. My impression is that such are especially the Irish and German emigrants ; however, I may be mistaken. This great influx of

masses from the European continent is likely to give the Americans some work and perhaps anxiety, as they have to take care that all those who cross the Atlantic to form a part of their population entertain uniform opinions with regard to the form of government.

My remarks about America have now drawn to a close; and in the end I most cheerfully say that the Americans are an enterprising, energetic, and industrious nation, and should they continue to have for some ages more that spirit which has thus far impelled them, America will in course of time be a most glorious country.

I had left India with an intention to improve in my studies, but after my being in America for a few months, weakness of eyes compelled me to lay aside my books, and in consequence I made preparations to return to my native land much sooner than I had expected to do.

About this time also two American gentlemen and a lady were to embark for India. Having long waited for an opportunity we at last met with a vessel bound for Calcutta. This was the *Coromandel*, an English ship, commanded by Captain Penber. She already had her cargo on board from England, but had come to America with emigrants, and was now proceeding to India. I in company with the two American gentlemen and the lady got on board on 11th August, and after a long and tedious passage of more than five months had, on the 21st January, 1848, the great pleasure of setting my feet on terra firma in the City of Palaces.

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