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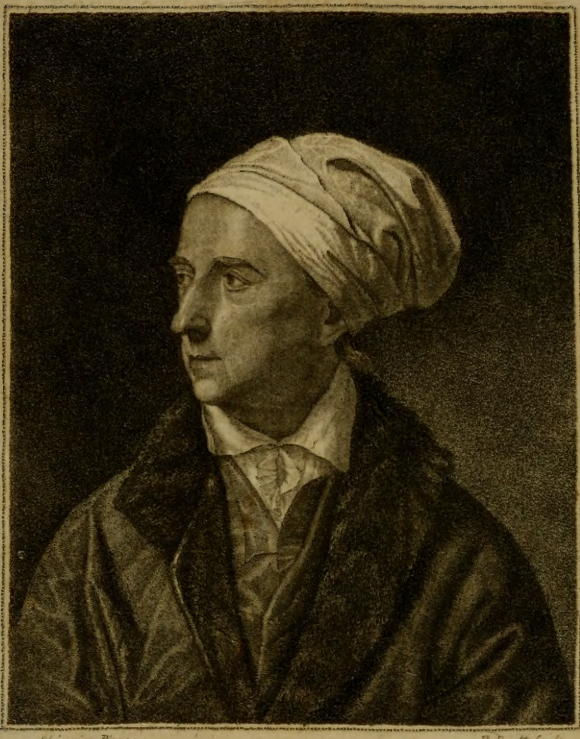

Skirving Pinx: R. Scott sculp:

GAVIN HAMILTON.

Painter.

Published by J. Anderson July 10th 1792

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THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

CONSISTING OF

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

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

BY

JAMES ANDERSON, LL.D.
FRS. FAS. S.
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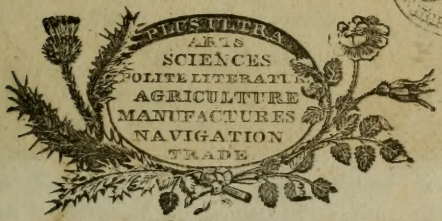
VOLUME SIXTEENTH.

BRITISH MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY

APIS MATINÆ MORE MODOQUE. HORACE.



EDINBURGH:
PRINTED FOR THE EDITOR.
M,DCC,XCIII.—VOL. IV.
COMMON PAPER.

25

MVSEVM
BRITAN
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WEDNESDAY, JULY 10. 1793.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF EMINENT SCOTTISH ARTISTS.

Gavin Hamilton, painter.

With a Portrait.

AN author who is now so little known as almost to be nameleſs, takes notice of "*one* John Milton" a blind man, who was translator of foreign letters to Oliver Cromwell. This "John Milton" is now known by means of his works throughout all Europe, when the other is forgot. In like manner Gavin Hamilton whose name, on account of the great value of his paintings, and the high price even of the excellent engravings from them by Cune-

go, is scarcely known to his countrymen, unleſs among dilettanti and conoiſseurs, will be universally known in time throughout all Europe, long after the memory of the person who now introduces him to their notice in these slight ſketches ſhall be lost in that dark oblivion, which sooner or later awaits all ublunary things.

Mr Hamilton, who is descended of a respectable family*, originally of Fife now in Lanarkſhire, discovered from his infancy a great predilection for historic painting, and at a very early period of life went to Rome, there to perfect himself in that branch of the fine arts. On his return to Britain after several years absence, his friends wiſhed him to apply himself to portrait painting, and he was overpersuaded to do a little in that walk; but feeling his mind impreſsed with higher ideas of his art than could be thus attained, he abandoned that line, and attached himself entirely to ſketches in historic composition, which gave full scope to the developement of those great ideas he had conceived.

Of his portraits few are to be found in Britain. The best of these that have come to my knowledge are two full lengths of the late duke and ducheſs of Hamilton. The portrait of the duke with a gun in his hand, is easy, natural, and poſseſses a degree of excellence not usually attained in things of that nature. The figure of the ducheſs with a greyhound leaping up on her, is well known by the mezzetinto prints done from it that are to be seen every where. To this, as to most of his female fi-

* Hamilton of Murdieston.

gures, Mr Hamilton has given more of dignity than ease; and the observer in vain looks for that winning softness, that attractive mildness, which is the essence of the irresistible power of female charms *.

In his historical compositions, some of which have come to Britain, but which to those who have not made the tour of Europe, must be known chiefly by the prints done from them, Mr Hamilton plainly discovers that he has studied the chaste models of antiquity that are to be found so easily in Italy, with more attention than the living figures around him. This has given to his paintings of ancient histories, a propriety with regard to *costume* which distinguishes them from most modern compositions, and a dignity of manner that is seldom attained by those who make living characters the principal object of their studies: he has at the same time avoided that marble like stiffness which so powerfully characterises the otherwise fine paintings of Nicholas Poussin.

One of his greatest works is his Homer, consisting of a series of pictures representing scenes taken from the Illiad. These have been dispersed into various parts of Europe, and can now only be seen in one continued series in the excellent engravings of them by Cunego, made under the eye of Mr Hamilton himself. Several of these paintings came

* There is another *unfinished* portrait of the same duchess by him, in which the duke thought the likeness so striking that he took it from the painter and never would allow it to be finished, lest the resemblance should have been lost. I do not suppose any print has ever been made from it; nor did I ever see this painting.

to Britain; but I know of only three of them which have reached Scotland. One of these, the parting of Hector and Andromache, is in the possession of the duke of Hamilton; another represents the death of Lucretia, in the collection of the earl of Hopeton, and is deemed by all judges a most capital performance; and the third is in the house of Mrs Scot in the neighbourhood of this city. It represents Achilles dragging the body of Hector round the walls of Troy. This sublime picture, which if not the *chef d'œuvre* of Mr Hamilton, would alone have been sufficient to have transmitted his name to posterity as one of the greatest artists, was painted for the duke of Bedford, and had been in his possession some time before the unfortunate accident which deprived him of his beloved son the marquis of Tavistock, whose disastrous fate having had so near a resemblance to the story of this picture *, none of the family could bear to behold the picture ever after, and it was ordered to be put away. On that occasion Mr Scot purchased it at a very moderate price; and it now forms the most elegant ornament of the elegant villa of Bellevue. The figure of Achilles in this picture is painted with surprising characteristic justness, spirit, and fire; and will perhaps stand the test of the severest criticism as well as any other that was ever painted. It is indeed in the grand and terrible of masculine expression that Mr Hamil-

* The marquis was thrown from his horse, and dragged—his feet having stuck in the stirrup.

ton chiefly excels. In his female characters we discover more of the dignity of Juno, or the coldneſs of Diana, than the melting softneſs, or the inviting playfulneſs of the Cyprian goddeſs.

The most capital collection of Mr Hamilton's paintings that can be seen in any one place, is in a saloon in the Villa Borghese which is wholly painted by him, and represents in different compartments the history of Paris. These are painted on the ceiling, and the alcove of the roof. The death of Paris forms the most capital painting in the middle of the ceiling; and the other scenes form a series of pictures round the alcove on a smaller scale. This work, though its position be not what an artist would choose as the most advantageous for exhibiting his finest pictures, is accounted a performance of very superior excellence. The prince Borghese, as if with a view to do honour to Scottiſh artists, has had the adjoining apartment painted by Jacob More, who excels as much in landscape as Hamilton in historical painting. He had another saloon in the same palace, painted by Mengs, the most celebrated German painter of modern times, who has been dead some years. These three apartments are conceived to exhibit the finest specimens of modern art now in Italy.

Mr Hamilton has been at great pains to have almost all his best pictures engraved under his own eye, by artists of the first abilities, so that Europe at large is enabled to judge of the stile of these excellent pictures with some degree of accuracy.

He has even obliged the world by publiſhing a volume of select engravings by Cunego, from the best pictures extant of the Italian school. All the drawings of these were made by Mr Hamilton himself. This work is entitled *the Italian School*, and forms one of the principal treasures of the cabinets of the curious all over Europe.

Europe has not only been indebted to Mr Hamilton for his excellent paintings and prints; but also for many beautiful remains of the fine arts, which his exact knowledge of the ancient state of Italy enabled him to bring to light. Many years ago, he purchased permiſsion to dig in the neighbourhood of Tivoli, among the ruins there, in quest of statues and other remains of the fine arts; and he has been so fortunate as to discover a greater number of fine statues, than any other person at the same expence has ever done. Thus has he added to the wealth of Europe, and augmented the treasures of the Vatican. Of the fruits of these his labours, the most complete collection is to be seen in the poſseſsion of the p pe, from the villa of Adrian, in the vestibule of the great saloon in the Clementine museum at the Vatican; among which is to be peculiarly distinguiſhed, an Apollo with his lyre in a walking attitude, and in the highest elegance of stile, accompanied with six of the nine muses, all of which are distinguiſhed by the masterly spirit of the whole, rather than by the extraordinary neatneſs or laboured finiſhing of particular parts. The Apollo here differs from all the others yet known by being clothed in a robe of flowing drapery of singular elegance.

Since that time, Mr Hamilton has engaged with equally happy ſucceſs in deterrments at antient Gabii, celebrated by virgil, Enied 6. 773. and Horace epist. 11. b. 1.

> Seis, Lebedus quid sit? Gabiis desertior atque
> Fidenis vicus: tamen illic vivere vellem,
> Oblitusque meorum, obliviscendus et illis
> Neptunum procul è terrâ ſpectare furentem.

Several of these statues are said to be in a fine stile of workmanſhip, particularly a Diana, and a Germanicus, unlike the figures that have hitherto paſsed for his; but how the identity of this statue has been ascertained, I have not yet heard.—A statue of the God Pan, two fine verde antique columns, and two of marmo fiorito have been also brought to light, where much more is expected.

Some paintings in fresco have been also discovered, of which the subjects have not yet been ascertained, but which in beauty and correctneſs, are said to surpaſs any yet discovered in Italy. But of these such imperfect notices have as yet reached Britain, that we must content ourselves with barely announcing them as the probable forerunners of other valuable discoveries in the fine arts.

Thus it appears that few men have ever existed to whom the lovers of the fine arts were so much indebted as to Mr Hamilton. He is still busy in his career; may he long live to pursue it with ſucceſs!

Mr Hamilton has frequently visited Britain during his long residence in Italy, if the phrase will be admitted; for his visits hither have been only as starts from his permanent abode. At one time he

seemed to have intended to remain in this country, and gave orders for a painting room for himself to be built in Lanarkſhire; and I am not certain but it was actually erected. But he has not found the climate and ſituation of the country to ſuit his conſtitution; and there is reaſon now to ſuſpect he will finiſh his life in that coun try in which the beſt part of it has been ſpent.

The reader muſt not confound the object of our preſent memoir, with another young man of great hopes in the ſame line in Britain, of the ſame name; which he will frequently meet with accompanying ſk tches for modern publications in England.

The engraving that accompanies this is done from a very highly finiſhed painting by Mr Skirving, a native of East Lothian in Scotland, now at Rome, for Lord Gardenſtone; and now in his lordſhip's collection. It has been ſhown to many judges, who are well acquainted with Mr Hamilton, who all admit that it is a moſt ſtriking likeneſs. Our young artiſt has, with his uſual accuracy, hit the likeneſs very exactly. This, it is believed, is the only print of that celebrated artiſt that has ever been given to the public.

NEWS FROM CAPTAIN BILLINGS.

COMMUNICATED BY ARCTICUS.

A COURIER lately arrived from our countryman Billings, commander of the naval expedition fitted out at Kamtchatka, for the purpose of discovery, says, that the Japanese merchant and seaman, Code, who will make the subject of another article, is arrived at Ochotſk, to embark for his native country, according to the orders of her imperial majesty, with the son of the inspector Laxman, who was to see him safe home, and probably deliver some meſsage to the emperor from the court of Ruſsia. But by the account of the said meſsenger, both father and son were at Ochotſk, so that if the able naturalist Mr Laxman, (a portait of whom I send you,) formerly profeſsor of chemistry and mineralogy in the imperial academy, ſhould take it in his head to accompany his son in the voyage, we have great reason to expect much more scientific information from that island, that ever has reached Europe as yet.

Laxman is equally strong in botany, and in the other branches of natural history, so that if his almost invincible aversion to publiſhing can be got over, we may see something interesting. The inspector's son is unknown to us, from the distance at which he lives, although we make no doubt but he is well qualified to make useful observations, from the advantage of such an instructor as his father.

It was this young gentleman who discovered the curious mount, (probably of volcanic origin,) on the coast of the sea of Ochotsk, which I believe is taken notice of in one of my former literary budgets, consisting of a whitish matter like volcanic ashes, with one side stuck like a pudding stone with roundish red vitreous pebbles; the other with white of the same kind. The father gave us some of both when last here.

From the information received by captain Billings's courier, we are now enabled to continue the general notices on his expedition begun in last budget, but which must be acknowledged to be very superficial and vague, as none of his dispatches have or will be published, till her imperial majesty shall give orders to communicate a narration of the whole to Europe at large. The only circumstances then known are from his messengers, the Kamtchatka hunters, merchants, *&c.* who occasionally come down here, and to which little credit can be given for accuracy. However was I to give a general opinion on the expedition, I should suppose, that as the same icy barrier which put limits to the great captain Cook's northern course, still opposed itself to captain Billings, we have rather to expect local surveys, than important discoveries in seas navigated by able British navigators, who examined them with attention, before the present commander was ordered to explore them; so that his not furnishing much new matter, if so it should turn out, will rather reflect honour on his predecessors than dishonour on himself.

All we know of his expedition is, that he has surveyed the islands of the Ruſsian Archipelago, with the coasts of America and Ruſsia to a certain distance, where his instructions directed him. He has sent a number of dreſses from the islands, with a variety of birds and quadrupeds; but the cases contain only some new species and varieties, no new genera. Indeed it is much to be doubted if any new genus of animal exists in the habitable parts of the globe.

In this last voyage, after having looked for Sind's Islands, (I presume in the spot laid down by that navigator,) which he found no traces of, he stood away for the continent of America; from whence we hear of nothing remarkable, but his finding a race of people opposite to the Tchutſki coast, very nearly in the state of nature, who spoke the language of the Tchutſki, and applied to him for protection against that savage people, who make yearly descents in America, plunder every thing they meet with, and carry back with them a number of captives as slaves. It appears that the Tchutſki set out in a number of boats, rest themselves, and collect their force at two islands half way over, and from thence stand over in the night, and fall unexpectedly on these poor harmleſs people on the coast of America, by the *natural rights of man*, as they told the interpreter of Billings, his courier now here: at least their answer was exactly to that purpose; for they insisted, *that they had a right to any thing that their courage and force could procure*; claims which will soon not be confined to the Ruſsian Tchutſki, or I am much mistaken.

Captain Billings then stood acroſs to the Tchutſki Noſs, where he landed, and found the complaints of the Americans but too well founded, as that people were in fact served by American slaves, one of which, a woman, he bought of them, and will bring down here. The captain had dispatched an officer of Coſsaks, well versed in the Tchutſki language and customs, to engage them to permit his paſsage by land with a small suite through their country, and that same interpreter he found waiting his arrival at the Tchutſki Noſs, with some of the chiefs of that bold and independent nation, who had agreed to his request under a promise of tobbaco and other trifles in high estimation with them. He therefore set out under their conduct, and after being carried by water, along the south coast of the promontory, croſsed over by land to examine the north; from which he set out in sledges drawn by rein deer, for Yakuts; where he arrived almost dead with fatigue, after a journey of nine months from his landing at the Noſs.

During this long and tiresome journey, where little presented to amuse the travellers, he was several times in danger of being cut off, from the jealousy his astronomical observations excited in the natives, but above all his measuring the road with a line, whilst driving slowly upon deep soft snow. His interpreter now here, (the same sent as meſsenger,) thinks, that nothing but the awe the Tchutſki stood in, of his armed ſhip left at the Noſs, saved the travellers; as he over heard them occasionally talking of the vengeance his crew would take of the

towns and people near them, if their commander did not return in a certain time; for they fortunately thought it was to wait there for him, and were ignorant of the orders given by captain Billings to his liutenant, to winter at the island of Analaſki, and return to Kamtchatka in the summer, as it was autumn when he landed in their country.

Arrived at Yakuts, captain Billings dispatched his meſsenger to the court, and was to set out soon for Irkuts on the lake Baycal, a thousand versts nearer Peterſburgh, for the recovery of his health, much impaired by the scurvy, where he was to wait her majesty's orders of return; his instructions being executed in the space of six years absence, as far as physical obstacles would permit.

His consort captain Hall, which sailed long after him from Kamtchatka, he never saw during the whole of last voyage, although he waited for her at an appointed rendezvous; but the courier says, that the news of her arrival at St Peter and St Paul, was received before he set out. This was either a new ſhip, or the old one repaired, which had drove on ſhore on setting out from Kamtchatka, mentioned in my first intelligence of the expedition vol. ix. p. 61.

The Sotrick or Centurion of Coſsacks he sent down here, and who had been with him in his expedition as interpreter for the Tchutſki language, is a most curious and entertaining subject, from his violent attachment to his native climate, many hundred versts to the north of Ochotſk. Your correspondent had much conversation with him at Dr Pal-

las's, who is charged with the business of the expedition, and was much pleased with his shrewd sensible remarks on every subject started to him. Even his laughable attachment to such a climate is however a virtue strongly implanted in the nature of man, for a wise purpose, and seems always stronger, in proportion to the physical imperfections of the country. Nay none seem so subject to the *maladie du pays* (of which both Swiss, Scots, and Welch, have been known to die,) as mountaineers aud other inhabitants of the less fertile districts.

His winter dress is a long garment reaching down half his legs, of rein deer skin, with the hair inwards; a cap of the same: and both breeches and stockings when travelling or in his own country, are likewise of that fur; though here he wears common boots, and thinner breeches, in our comparatively warm climate.

The colour of the outside is a dark red, tanned * in his own family, soft to the touch like cotton vel-

* The simple process of tanning the hides of the rein deer, as practised by each family is as follows:

They are first covered, and rolled up for twenty four hours, with a coating of the fæcal contents of the animal's bowels: next morning they scrape the hairy side, softened in some degree by the first fæcal soaking, with a sharp semicircular iron blade, fastened into a wooden handle. A second coating of rein deer dung is then laid over it, which after another night's application is again scraped off, and the skin hung up in a stream of smoke till the hair becomes loose, when it is taken down, and macerated a little in water, so as to get the hair finally clean away.

It is then ready for the second preparation, which consists in a thorough greasing with the dried row of fish, previously masticated in the mouths of the whole family, (to hasten the business,) an operation

vet, and in my opinion superior in the preparation to the ſheep ſkin ſhubes worn by the common people here.

He acknowledges they have little more than two months with the ground clear of snow where he lives, on the coast of the sea of Ochotſk; that nothing will

by no means rejected even by the ladies, as the roe of fiſh is a choice dainty amongst the Ichthiophagi.

The fiſh grease is then thoroughly rubbed in, not only on the surface but between the hands, to render the ſkin ſoft and pliant; and the proceſs ultimately finiſhes (when the leather is to remain of its natural colour,) by sewing it up in form of a sack, and replacing it in the stream of smoke, till it is so completely penetrated, as to become of a yellow colour, the mark that it is ready for use. But for most purposes, as wearing apparel for example, it is dyed of a dark red colour, by steeping in an acqueous decoction of alder tree bark. The above preparation is applicable not only to the leather which constitutes their summer dreſs, but likewise to their winter furs, from the same animal; as in tanning of the last, they only apply their dung, grease, and labour to one side, omitting the steeping in water, which was merely intended in the former proceſs to loosen the hair, which is here to be preserved. The fur upon the whole seems very comfortable, soft, and strong, whilst it is without any smell of the fiſh oil used in its preparation; but indeed it has had time to lose it in running through ten thousand miles of air.

A very remarkable part of the above domestic mode of tanning, is the application of the *rein deer's dung*, as a species of caustic to take off the hair; and it attracts my attention the more from its resemblance to what is employed for the same purpose in preparing the smaller hides for the Ruſsian leather, *viz.* dog's dung diluted in boiling water, which is certainly of a dry and probably caustic nature; whilst for the larger, two parts of wood aſhes to one of quick lime diſsolved likewise in boiling water. As to the rest of the proceſs, the Ruſsians tan their leather with the bark of the *salix arenaria*, and soften it afterwards with the oil of birch *per campan*, extracted from the bark, which gives it that strong smell so peculiar to the Ruſsian leather, and which renders it so useful in keeping off many genera of insects. Here the empyreumatic oil drawn from the birch bark (by

grow but a large species of horse radish, turnips, and winter cabbage leaves, for they never stock so as to take a round form; that the natives are strangers to bread, (except those in government employ who are served with flour, as no species of corn will grow; in short that they live intirely on fish, which it is their summer occupation to catch and dry; but that those who have money, or rather merchandize and brandy, may occasionally regale themselves with a haunch of rein deer, purchased from the Koriaks who visit them in winter.

He likewise informed me that no man can go to any distance from home in summer, as their only conveyance is in sledges drawn by dogs, which cannot of course travel then, and acknowledged that few days are sufficiently hot during its short duration, to throw off their fur coat. But after giving us this account of his country, climate, and the ma-

burning it in a hole in the earth on a grate, so as to receive the oil that falls from it in the operation) is substituted to that of the fish roe in the Kamtchatka process; and I presume both new to your British tanners, who have got a century beyond these primitive family arts, although we see for certain purposes they are not to be despised, as they prevent insects from executing the part assigned to them in the beautiful arrangement of the universe.

I shall probably in a future letter give you a more ample account of the preparation of all the species of leather manufactured in Russia, which may be called national, (this curious paper is received and will appear in due time,) as I presume that all of them will be more or less interesting, as differing from the highly improved state of the art in Great Britain. Such comparisons must be curious even if no utility should result from them, which I by no means can take upon me to say will be the case, as such processes must tend to throw light on the philosophy of tanning, or in other words on the antisceptic powers of vegetable substances, in preserving *dead* animal matter.

ny comforts of life which they are deprived of, he still expreſsed the same partiality for it, over all the others he had yet seen, and only gave up this decided preference in favour of one spot, 800 versts farther north, where he was born; and where, if the government would but permit him to live, he would willingly give up his wages, (amounting to 160 rubles per annum,) as fiſh and water fowl were so plenty there, that a man had more food than he would consume, with very little labour, in the summer, whilst they were to be had, and abundance to lay up for winter provision.

The spot so much praised and desired by this primitive character, is the abandoned Ruſsian settlement of Anadyrſk, which was found too expensive from the distance to which all neceſsaries, ammunition, *&c.* were obliged to be transported from Ochotſk, to make head against the continual attacks of the Tchoutktchi, at that time very troublesome.

To be concluded in another number.

Extracts from Snorro's history of Scandinavia.

For the Bee.

The following extracts from Snorro's history were translated and forwarded to the Editor, by a respectable correspondent, who has favoured the public through the channel of this Miscellany from its commencement with many interesting articles.

Touching the introduction of christianity into Norway; and also, a description of the ancient heathen festival of Yole, translated from Snorro and Thurlson's history of Norway, written in the Icelandic, or an-

cient Gothic language, about 550 *years ago. Of this ancient and curious book a splendid edition has lately been printed in Denmark, at the expence of the Prince Royal, in* 3 vols. Folio. *The following is a translation of the* 15th, 16th, *and* 17th *chapters of the history of Hako the Good, page* 138 *vol.* 1.

KING Hako was a good christian before he came to Norway; (he had been baptized in England, during his residence at the court of Athelstane), but as all the inhabitants of Norway, particularly the nobility, were heathens, and much addicted to the worſhip of their false gods; and as Hako stood much in need of the aſsistance of the nobility, as well as of the favour of the people, he thought it most advisable to exercise his own religion in private. He observed the sundays, and fasted on fridays; and was not unmindful of the other holidays of the church. He made a law, for fixing the heathen feaſt of *yole*, on the same day the christians kept christmaſs. *Hogg-night* preceded, and was usually held on the ſhorteſt day in the year.* The feaſt of yole continued for three days thereafter.† He ordered the people to provide ale made of barley, for the celebration of this feaſt, or else to pay its value in money It was his intention to introduce the christian religion, as

* The reader will here observe the genuine derivation of the word *Yole*, and also of the name generally given to the night preceding that festival *Hogg-monay*. The first appears to have been the ancient heathen name of their greatest holiday, and the word *hogg*, to kill or make slaughter.

† The feast of christmaſs or *yule*, is held for *three* days together in Aberdeenshire at this day. *Edit.*

soon as he was fixed on his throne, and had brought all the kingdom under subjection. He admitted into his confidence, those who embraced christianity, and bestowed his favours principally upon them: he permitted many also to adhere to their ancient sacrifices. He resided chiefly in Thrandholm, where most of his great adherents were. Supported by their influence, and that of other powerful men, who had become christians, he sent into England for biſhops, and learned divines. On their arrival, Hako declared his purpose of converting all the kingdom. The inhabitants of the provinces of *Morey*, and Raumsdale, left this matter to be decided by the people of Throndham. Then king Hako built some churches, and appointed priests for them. When he came to Throndham, he held a convention, and desired the inhabitants to turn christians. They answered that they wiſhed the matter to be transferred to the convention of Frostan, where all the inhabitants of Throndham would aſsemble and decide on this proposal.

CHAP. XVI.

Of the Heathen Sacrifices.

Sigurd earl of Lada was the most addicted to the heathen worſhip, as his father Hako had also been. Sigurd presided in the room of the king, over all the feasts and sacrifices in Throndham. The ancient custom was, that every householder attended the great sacrifices in the temple, and brought victuals and ale to serve them during the festival. On this occasion there were killed cattle of all kinds, and likewise horses. The blood of these victims is called

hlaut, and the cups in which the blood is received and kept is hlaut bowl, or hlaut holder. An utensil is prepared like a watering pot, which is used in sprinkling with this blood all the altars, the pedestals of their Gods, the walls of their temples, both outside and in, and also the men. But the more delicate parts of the flesh, are dressed for the use of the people. In the middle of the pavement of the temple, fires are kindled, over which kettles are hung, filled with libations, which are distributed among the people in cups. The prince, at whose expence the feast is provided, consecrates both the meat and drink, and a bumper is then drank in honour of Odin, that he may give victory and prosperity to the kingdom; another to Frey, for a plentiful season and peace; the third cup which is called bragaful, is drank by many to the memory of such of their princes and heroes as have fallen in war: a fourth cup, called minni is consecrated to their departed friends, who had signalized themselves during their lives. Earl Sigurd was very generous and renowned among the people, for his liberality; he made a great sacrifice also at Lodom, of which he defrayed the whole expence.

CHAP. VXII.

The Convention at Frostan.

King Hako came to the convention at Frostan, where a great number of the inhabitants of the kingdom were assembled. When the convention were met, King Hako told them that he had summoned the freeholders and farmers, the rich and the poor; in short the whole of his subjects, young and old, pros-

perous and unfortunate, women and men, that they might all become christians, and believe in one God, Christ the son of Mary, and lay aside their ancient sacrifices and heathen gods: that they ſhould keep holy every seventh day, abstaining from work; and that they ſhould observe a fast day once in the week.

When the people heard this proposal, there was great murmuring among them. The country people said, the king wanted to deprive them at once of their industry and the religion of their forefathers; and that they could not inhabit the land. The bond-men and servants said, they could not work if their food was taken from them; adding, that it was just such a proposal as they ſhould have expected from king Hako, his father, or any of the Hako family; as they were all very sparing of their entertainments, though liberal enough in distributing their money. Aſbiorn of Middlehouse in Gaulardale, stood up, and addreſsed himself thus to the king: "King Hako, when you held your first convention, and when we chose you king, and when we were restored by you to our ancient inheritances, we all thought ourselves supremely happy; but now, things wear a more doubtful appearance: we are uncertain if we be free, or if you are preparing a new sort of slavery for us, since we must lay aside the religion profeſsed by our forefathers, who are now in their graves, and who were far better men than us, and from whose religion we derived much benefit. From our great love to you, we admitted you to a ſhare in the framing our laws, and deciding our law suits. It is our intention, to observe inviolably the laws which you have

proposed to us in the convention of Frostan. We will follow you as our general; we will respect you as our king, as long as any of us who were present at those conventions shall breathe; provided you act with moderation, and grant a request which we think not improper. But, if you are violent, and determined rather to try your strength with us; then, we land owners have resolved to abandon you, and to choose another prince, under whose government we may enjoy the religion which we like, and which we do not wish to change. And now king, it is your business to determine before the assembly breaks up, which of these two propositions you will accept of."

The people who heard this discourse, declared their approbation of it with great noise and applause. The tumult being a little allayed, and silence again restored, earl Sigurd addressed the people, and told them, that Hako consented to what they wished; and, that the friendship that subsisted between them should not be dissolved. The people replied, that they wished the king to sacrifice according to the custom of their fathers, and to supplicate the gods to send them peace and plenty.*

QUERIES RESPECTING BEINGS OF IDEAL EXISTENCE.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IN a communication from Russia, formerly inserted in the Bee, (vol. xiv. p. 122.) there were some allu-

* The Editor will be much obliged to his corrospondent for farther extracts from this very serviceable and interesting performance.

sions to imaginary beings, once no less firmly believed the inhabitants of these northern regions, than magpies, crows, and black cattle. You will readily perceive that Brownies, Fairies, and such like goblins, are the subject of my present inquiry: not that I wish to know whether those beings were the offspring of a gloomy superstition, combined with ignorance and credulity, or what could have given rise to the fabulous legends concerning them; though I should think those subjects, properly handled, not unworthy of the pen of genius; but simply this, as a previous inquiry with regard to the natural history of those creatures of a wild disordered fancy, to ascertain, if that can be done, in what country, and at what era the idea of fairies was first broached. Their airy forms less terrible than those of the other spirits of darkness; their dress, their music and dancing, *immenente luna*, mark them rather as the attendants of Diana, than the inmates of Pluto, or the children of Lodo. Should any of your correspondents through the channel of your valuable Miscellany, favour us with any new light on those antiquated topics, I may perhaps trouble you with a conjecture concerning their real character and true origin, supported by collateral evidence from their history, as handed down by tradition. I mention the latter circumstance to distinguish the real fairies from those that were the creatures of poetic fancy, whether in allegory or novel. I am, Sir, Yours,

ICE *.

* The Editor will thank any of his correspondents for hints on this subject, and will be particularly obliged to the writer of the above, for his promised communication.

THE SIEGE OF A HEART.

BELINDA studied man, and knew his folly,
Smil'd with the gay, gloom'd with the melancholy,
Lovers in crouds begg'd humbly her commands,
And seem'd in heav'n when they might kiſs her hands.
First came *Conceit*, torn from his darling toilet,
Drest in the various hues which deck the violet,
Gigled and ogled, talk'd of mutual bliſs,
Flutter'd like silk fly from the chrysalis.
His dreſs explained his wit could go no farther,
But surley ladies, " *this can do no murder.*
A *city buck* next strove to won the laurel,
And bragg'd his belly was a huge wine barrel.
A *jocky blood* with twenty thousand pound
Appeared, and hop'd with victory to be crown'd.
Bel heard impatient, " Thats your sorts" discourses,
And all the leaps performed by his horses,
Till tir'd to death ſhe bade him change his ground Sir.
And with his grooms go Tallio the hounds Sir;
Next came, terrifick name, *a man of war;*
Bold were his looks, his oaths were bolder far;
This forward blade, Belinda bluſh'd to tell it,
Had got commiſsion'd ere he learnt to spell it.
A *poet* next, with elegies and sonnets,
On lapdogs dead, and fair Belinda's bonnets,
Strove for the honour of the maid's alliance;
But all the muses were kept at defiance.
A *scholar* too, would try; ſhe would not hear him,
For all the talk on one side who could bear him.
A *modest fellow* next began to stammer;
But both his jaws were nail'd by Cupid's hammer,
Cherries and snow are ne'er found at one season;
More seldom love is seen conjoin'd with reason.
A *spouting playhouse lounger* claim'd a hearing
But was discarded on his first appearing.
A *young man* who all morning studied graces,
The sport of fancy and of all new faces,
Eſsay'd to won her, then with joy elate,
Turn'd on his heel, and ſhow'd a male cocquet.
At length appear'd a firm and manly youth,
Whose thoughts were honour, and whose words were truth,
He lov'd the maiden, ſhe approved the plan,
And found that honour is a woman's man.

PHŒNIX HUNTER.

A Winter Piece.

From Loch Lomond, a poem.

In winter oft descends the flaky snow,
And heaps the mountain tops, and fills the glens.
The woods, that fringe the lake around, scarce bear
Th' oppreſsive load. A deeper azure now
The lake itself aſsumes. Intense the frost;
And fast in ice each leſser flood is bound.
Hither, from more inclement ſkies, the swan
On sounding pinions, through the yielding air,
And thousand fowls of various wing, resort.
Oft wheeling round thy hospitable flood,
Which, open still, invites their wandering flight;
At length they light and swim around,
And mix, and dive, and joyful clap their wings,
Or ſkim in troops excursive o'er the deep.
The sportsman, who with steady eye had trac'd
Their airy rounds, and on their near approach
Had felt his breast beat high with barb'rous joy,
They please and vex alternate. While conceal'd
By rock or buſh, he cautious lurks unseen,
And frequent ſhifting, oft he takes his aim—
Yet baffled still; at last, with cold benum'd,
Gall'd he withdraws, full late, and leaves unhurt
The floating tribes, which yet his eye provoke,
Now distant seen far glistering to the moon.

Vanity of Names.

Say, where those names which set the world on fire?
Where does the pride of Greece and Rome retire?
Cæsar's dread name now marks the butcher's dog,
Cato saws wood, and Scipio drives a hog:
Seek you for Pompey! search the tanner's yard,
You'll meet with Nero in your garden's guard.

Literary Intelligence.

It is with pleasure the Editor announces to the public, the institution of a new literary society in Newcastle upon Tyne, on a plan so liberal, as cannot fail to be attended with very beneficial effects to society. Happy it is for those communities in which men, instead of wrangling about politics or controversial divinity, which only tend to sour the mind, and to estrange men from one another, cordially unite together with a view to the advencement of science, and the general diſsemination of useful knowledge. Among young persons in particular, such institutions are in the highest degree beneficial; as they excite a spirit of emulation that gives a laudable bent to the human mind, and calls off the attention in some measure from vain and frivulous, perhaps vicious pursuits. Every person who has the welfare of the community at heart, which is best promoted by the active energy of mind, and the virtuous dispositions of its members, must rejoice at the diffusion of such laudable societies, and lend his best aid to promote their prosperity. Every parent especially endowed with ample fortune who is interested in the welfare of his posterity, must feel a glow of satisfaction at the mention of such an institution within the sphere of his influence, as it must naturally tend to diminiſh that anxiety which every parent must feel, when he sees his children exposed to the seductions of pleasure, or the allurements of ambition, without any powerful call to divert his mind into an ardent pursuit of objects that tend to afford more lasting and satisfactory enjoyments. It is, therefore, in a peculiar manner incumbent on such men

to lend every assistance in their power to promote the establishment and prosperity of such societies.

The objects intended to be attained by this society are so interesting, and they are so clearly explained in the following well digested plan of it, which has been transmitted to the Editor, that he thinks he will do his readers in general a pleasure by submitting it to their perusal, without abridegment or mutilation of any sort.

Plan of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Quemadmodum enim aqua, sive ex cœlesti rore descendens, sive ex fontibus scaturiens, facile disperditur, nisi colligatur in aliqua receptacula, ubi per unionem et congregationem se sustentare et fovere possit, similiter liquor iste scientiæ pretiosissimus mox periret omnis et evanesceret, nisi conservaretur in libris, traditionibus, colloquiis, ac præcipue in locis certis his rebus destinatis.

BACON.

Prefatory observations on the propriety of establishing a Literary Society in Newcastle; and on the objects which will naturally claim the attention of its members.

" Among the various causes of the rapid advancement of science, which has taken place in modern times, the institution of Philosophical Societies is one of the most obvious and important. Men by their united labours accomplish undertakings far superior to the efforts of individual strength; and this is particularly the case with intellectual pursuits. " Knowledge, like fire, is brought forth by collision;" and in the free conversations of associated friends, many lights have been struck out, and served as hints for the most important discoveries, which would not, probably, have occurred to their authors, in the retirements of private meditation. Societies of this nature have, besides, been instrumental to draw forth those talents, which would otherwise have been buried in ob-

security. Many excellent writers have been encouraged through the medium of their transactions, to make their first entry into the world of letters, who would never have ventured, but under some such sanction, to have appeared before the public in a literary character at all.

" It is to the honour of our native country, that these excellent helps to the improvement and diffusion of knowledge were introduced by her sons; and that the Royal Society of London, which was the first in order of time, continues to claim the first rank, among the literary societies of Europe. But it is to be regretted, that, while, in Germany, France, and Italy, there is scarcely a provincial town of consequence which has not some establishment of this kind, in England they have been, in a great measure, confined to the metropolis. Of late, indeed, very respectable societies have been formed in the capitals of our sister kingdoms, the transactions of which have done honour to the abilities of their respective authors. And in England, the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester has not only been eminently serviceable to that flourishing town, by leading the attention of several of its members to pursuits connected with the improvement of its extensive manufactures, but it has greatly contributed to the general instruction and entertainment, by the publication of its memoirs.

" Is it not highly desirable that these *provincial* literary societies might become more general? Might they not serve as nurseries, to train up useful members for the larger and more important associations? to whose labours they would, in the mean time, be the means of exciting a more general attention, by diffusing, more extensively, a taste for philosophical and literary inquiries. Might they not, besides, be made to answer a salutary *moral* purpose, by encouraging in our youth a love of literature,

and an ambition to distinguish themselves among the members of these societies? May they not be expected to encrease the pleasures and advantages of social intercouse, by providing an easy method of spending the evening agreeably and usefully; and may they not thus be a means of checking the first formation of dissipated habits; of banishing from our tables the coarser pleasures of intemperance; and of substituting, for the always contemptible, and frequently destructive, pursuits of the gamester, the rational and manly entertainments of literature and philosophy?

"These observations may serve to evince the propriety of such institutions in every considerable town. But there appear to be many circumstances peculiarly favourable to the attempt, at least, in Newcastle.—Previous, however, to an enumeration of these circumstances, it may not be improper to advert to an institution of great respectability, already subsisting here; which may be thought, perhaps, to supersede the necessity of any furthur literary establishment.

"The gentlemen of the faculty in this town and neighbourhood have shewn a laudable zeal for the advancement of medical science, and of those branches of philosophy which more immediately relate to it, by forming themselves, about five years ago, into a "Philosophical and Medical Society." There cannot be the smallest doubt of the great utility of this institution, or of the advantages with which it must have been attended; and it appears to be formed upon such liberal principles, as to admit into its body any lovers of general literature who might offer themselves as candidates, though not of the faculty. But since it will, naturally, be the principal object of its members to improve the *practial* part of their profession, and since this is an object of the utmost im-

portance to the general welfare, it would certainly be improper in them so far to extend their plan, as to admit the *general* investigation of scientific subjects. On the other hand, since the recitation of *cases*, with their symptoms and treatment, cannot but be, at least uninteresting, to a general audience, a society formed upon the idea of admitting persons of all profeſsions, parties, and persuasions, ſhould prohibit the introduction of *practical* medicine, as well as, for obvious reasons, of *politics* and *religion*.

" Without interfering, therefore, with the Medical Society, it appears that there is still room for a general literary aſsociation; which, however, must probably still look out, from among the members of that most respectable profeſsion, for a considerable ſhare of its credit and support.

" To return from this digreſsion: The circumstances which seem to render Newcastle a favourable seat for a literary society, are such as follow:

" I. The two great natural products of this part of the country, coal and lead.

" 1. The *origin* and *chemical* properties of coal, the position in which it is found in the earth, the thickneſs and inclination of its *strata*, the nature of the strata *above* and *below* it, and the frequent interruption by perpendicular fiſsures called *dykes*, *troubles*, &c. (the knowledge of which is almost entirely a literary desideratum, very little, or nothing, being to be found about it in books *) are curious and interesting subjects of inquiry, concerning which the ingenious persons who are employed as *viewers* are capable of supplying better information than can be obtained any other way. To these gentlemen, on the

* See Williams's Mineral Kingdom, almost the only book in which these interesting objects in mineralogy are explained. *Edit.*

other hand, the speculative philosopher might perhaps have an opportunity of returning the obligation, by communicating useful hints concerning the nature of the several *damps* and vapours which infest the mines, with the means of destroying or removing them.

" Improvements in the *machinery*, both above and below ground, supply a constant field for the invention of the skilful mechanic; and indeed the bare keeping up of that which is at present in use, will secure the constant residence of ingenious men in this line, whose speculations may afford both entertainment and advantage. To this may be added, that there is probably still room for improvement in the method of *working* the coal, both as to *quantity* and *roundness*, in the means of preserving the health, and providing for the safety of the miners, *&c. &c.*

" 2. Similar observations may be made respecting the other great product, lead; particularly with regard to what concerns the *health* of the workmen employed in all the branches of it, from its first discovery in the mine, to the manufactures in which it is even most remotely concerned: to which may be added the great ease with which a complete collection and investigation may be made of the several kinds of *ore*, with the spars, and other heterogeneous substances, which are found along with them in the veins; not to say that there is probably more room for the introduction of mechanical and other improvements, into the method of working lead, than coal mines.

" 3. The introduction of various manufactures, which depend upon the *plenty* and *cheapness* of *fuel;* such as those of wrought and cast iron, and steel, glass, pottery, *&c.* has been attended with great advantage to this neighbourhood. May it not be one object of a society of this na-

ture, to point out, and encourage the establiſhment of such other manufactures, as are, on this account, peculiarly adapted to this country?

" 4. It is obvious that Newcastle enjoys peculiar advantages for chemical investigations, on account of the cheapneſs of fuel, glaſs, fire clay, wrought and cast iron, implements, *&c. &c.*; it may, therefore, be expected that persons who have a turn for inquiry will be induced to apply to these pursuits; especially as they may have an opportunity of seeing many chemical proceſses, upon a large scale, at the works of various ingenious persons residing in this town and neighbourhood.

" II. It will be a worthy object of such a society to inquire, how far the country is still *improveable*. Probably many *mineral* treasures may yet be discovered, which have hitherto eluded the researches of the curious *. Hints for the advancement of *agriculture* might poſsibly come even from such a society; or at least, as, perhaps, indeed, is more likely, it might receive entertainment and instruction from the communications of ingenious men engaged in the various branches of this most important national concern. Schemes for facilitating communication by means of *inland navigation* have, of late, engaged much of the public attention; and something of this kind has even been thought practicable here. A society of this nature will furniſh a proper place for canvaſsing the arguments for and against such undertakings.

" More immediately within its province, under this head, would be the *analysis* of various *mineral waters* which have been found within this district; as the sul-

* Many valuable hints on this subject may perhaps be gathered from Wallis's History of Northumberland.

phur springs of Gill's-land and Butterby, the salt springs of the latter place and Birtley, various chalybeate waters, *&c.* And, in the present advanced state of chemica science, particularly since the great improvements introduced into the chemical investigation of waters by Bergman and others, a more accurate analysis might easily be made of *those which supply this town* than can be found elsewhere; and perhaps further hints might be given for obtaining a better supply.

" III. But it is not merely on account of its mineral treasures, or its capability of further improvement, that the country will claim the attention of this society: The *romantic scenery* which is every where found in it, especially on the banks of the Tyne, and the other rivers, will furnish a variety of subjects for the *pencil*, and for the lover of *picturesque description*. With these the society may hope to be occasionally entertained.

" IV. And the profusion of *antiquities*, both military and ecclesiastical, not only in Newcastle, but along the Roman Wall, which, though they have furnished abundance of employment for so many able pens, are not yet by any means exhausted, will engage the attention of the patient inquirers after these venerable monuments of extinct nations, customs, and religions.

" V. In this respect, however, we may not, perhaps, be able to make any great addition to the voluminous collections of the indefatigable author of the History of Newcastle. But it may, perhaps, be a subject which will not altogether disappoint our inquiries, how far he has left room for supplying his defects with regard to, 1. The exact *enumeration*, and accurate *classification* (as to *sex*, *age*, and other circumstances,) of the inhabitants of the town, which is not merely an object of curiosity, but might answer many useful purposes with respect to medical in-

quiries, questions of polititical œconomy, the computation of annuities &c.; 2 The history and progreſs of *commerce*, particularly of the coal trade; 3. Accounts of the introduction and gradual extension, of the various manufactures:* In ſhort, with regard to almost every thing relating to the *presènt state* of this extensive and populous town and neighbourhood.

" VI. The biography, too, of eminent men, who have been natives of, or residents in, these parts, may furniſh very useful articles for perusal, and subjects for conversation, to such a society.

" VII. To the various circumstances above mentioned it may be added, that Newcastle is peculiarly well situated for procuring *literary intelligence.*

" 1. As being more immediately connected, and enjoying more frequent (indeed constant) opportunities of communicating, with the capitals both of England and Scotland †, than any other town in either kingdom.

" 2. As being peculiarly well situated for making collections of natural, and other curiosities from abroad, by means of the veſsels which trade from this port into various parts of the world: in which we may also hope to be aſsisted by the ingenious natives of this town and neighbourhood who reside in, or occasionally visit, foreign countries. The connections, besides, which some of us may have with learned foreigners, may, in like manner, be improved to obtain accounts of the progreſs of litearture in other countries.

* The regulations for the internal government of the workmen employed by Crawley's company at Swalwell, are said to be very curious, though probably but little known.

† And the residence of an ingenious friend of many of the members in the capital of the *third*, will secure also the communication of Iriſh Literary Intelligence.

" VIII. The mention of our concern in ſhipping naturally leads our thoughts to *navigation*, and its neceſsary auxiliary, the *Mathematics*. And here so wide a field of important objects is opened to our view, as might lead a projector into a boundleſs range of speculation. Suffice it to say, that the improvement of *naval architecture* has given rise to the recent eſtabliſhment of a society under no leſs than royal patronage; that the solution of *various important problems*, still neceſsary to the perfection of navigation, has, for near a century, been considered as a national object, and a Board of Commiſsioners been appointed for this purpose alone; that the *Mathematical Sciences*, in their various branches, are capable of almost universal extent and application; and that in these most sublime of human investigations, the natives of that part of the country which we inhabit, have particulary distinguiſhed themselves; as a variety of important works, which have been publiſhed within the last twenty years, are sufficient to prove.

" It might, further, be remarked, with what good ground we may hope to look forward to the pleasure of being favoured with various *claſsical* illustrations, inquiries into *antient manners*, *customs*, &c. &c.; what a favourable prospect we may reasonably entertain of being regaled with specimens of *eastern literature;* which is daily becoming more and more important in a commercial view, and which appears to be fraught with various beauties, both of sentiment and diction: We might resume a former *general* argument, and ſhew the advantages which may arise to *our* youth in *particular*, from any institution which may tend to obviate the many *temptations* arising from the *great degree of leisure* which seems, from whatever cause, to attend the trade of this port.

" But enough, it is presumed, has already been said to demonstrate the propriety of attempting such an establiſhment.—It only remains to inform the public, that several gentlemen, residing in Newcastle and its neighbourhood, after maturely considering the above mentioned circumstances, have at length determined to from themselves into a Literary and Philosophical Society. Several preparatory meetings having been held, it was resolved, on Thursday the 7th of February 1793, that the following plan ſhould be laid before the public, and that the friends of literature and philosopy ſhould be respectfully solicited to contribute their aſsistance to carry it into execution.

Farther particulars of the plan will be given in our next.

On Serpents.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

After long waiting, in expectation that some of your readers would give an explanation of the phenomenon I sent you an account of, which you thought proper to insert in volume ninth, page fifth of your Bee, and not having observed any thing of a similar nature taken noties of, I begin to think that none of your correspondents have ever observed any thing of the same kind. Your curious account of the migration of eels somewhat resembled it, but farther explanation is still wanted, otherwise it will still remain unaccounted for. I ſhall just mention to you, a few things which may tend to confirm my former account still more. About two weeks after I wrote to you, the same person that found the one I described, observed two distinct companies, near the same place where first found, moving in the same order, but not so

numerous. He killed them every one for fear of danger, and told me of them when he came home. So that this is now the fourth time they have been seen in this place; once in the adder skin, and three times without any cover, only moving in regular order, in one aggregate body. Their life seemed to depend upon keeping close together, because when separated, the dust on the road stuck to them so that they could not move, and consequently would soon have died; it appears, by your account to be quite unnatural, to suppose them to be young adders; and supposing them maggots produced by some fly stinging the animal, as you gave an account of a species of fly stinging a caterpillar, and the young of the fly after being hatched from eggs within its bowels, living upon it until arrived at a certain size, when they eat themselves out, and entered into another state of existence.

However, if this should be the case, naturalists seem to be unacquainted with the species by whom they are produced.

As I expect, if health permit, to remain for some time near the place where they were found last summer, if I have the good fortune to find any of them, I shall pay a little more attention to them; and if possible send you a part alive for examination; as I wish much to have this phenomneon farther explained. I remain Sir yours sincerely. G. R. H.

Index Indicatorius.

The following lines were sent by *an old subscriber* some time ago; on the *magnum bonum sunday's club*; a club which we are well pleased to think few of our readers have ever heard of.

Fortius et melius Magnas plerumque nectit res
Ridiculum acri.

Ha! ha! cried old Begby, and grinned so broad,
His tone and his phiz seem'd so new and so odd,
All his dons were astonish'd—struck dumb with surprise,
They hung on his lips, and decypher'd his eyes.
Ha! ha! my good fellows, he roars out anew,
Our vicegerents on earth leave us little to do.
These flesh and blood demons have learned so well
The art of our calling, they laugh at our hell.
We believe, and we tremble, but so do not they!
How royally they keep the dominical day!
Their own *bonum magnum* I'll hang round their neck,
So I dub them my kights, *(sic subscribitur)* NICK.

Given in council, at our palace of PANDEMONIUM, and in the year of our infernal reign 5795.

D. IV. narrates a story that has been too often realised, of a girl whose name was Susan, whose parents from affluent circumstances were sunk into poverty by inevitable losses; and whose father after some innefectual efforts to reinstate his affairs, sunk under a load of affliction and died. His destitute family were then reduced to the necessity to go into service. Susan was received into the house of a master, who behaved at first with tenderness to her, which by an assumed sympathy on his part, engendered gratitude on hers; and he, taking advantage of these circumstances seduced and ruined her.

The story has been too often repeated to prove new to any of our readers; and the moral observations though just, and dictated by a benevolent mind, have been so often made before, that it is unnecessary to repeat them. It is be regretted that the general detestation of mankind should not be so strongly excited by such meanness and brutality of conduct, as to make men who have been guilty of it, universally detested and shunned as public disturbers of the peace of society. Till this shall happen, moral reflections on this crime, will produce little effect. It would afford a good object of disquisition for some of our ingenious correspondents to discover the reason why this crime is so little the object of public detestation in civilised nations, as it is found universally to be.

A very respectable correspondent, who signs himself *Humanitas*, has taken the trouble to transcribe a very long extract from Mr Clarkson's book on slavery, giving some shocking instances of cruelty to negro slaves, which could not be inserted at the time it was received from want of room, and other considerations; and on which it would be unnecessary at present to enlarge. It is much to be regret-

ted that such things should ever be; and it is to be hoped that the public notice which has of late been taken of such notorious conduct will have a tendency to check its frequency at least in future. We find, however, from our own experience at home, that it is extremely difficult to prevent some degree of cruelty from being exercised against our fellow creatures, under various pretexts, even by the most rigid injunctions of law. It would be fortunate for mankind, if every individual, in his private capacity would endeavour to correct the irregularities of his own mind, where interest seems to chalk out a different line of conduct from what humanity would seem to require; for it is to be feared unless this be done, the operation of any law that can be contrived for protecting the weak, will prove nugatory. The instances narrated in the paper here quoted are shocking to humanity indeed.

A jolly fellow gives some ironical hints addressed to the Scottish gentlemen on polite behaviour; of which the following is a specimen.

" If a lady requests the honour of your company to dine and spend the evening; never refuse her, if you like to go, and are certain her husband takes a good drink.—Never get up from table until it is time to lay the cloth for supper, and then you may enter the drawing room; but be sure to be quite drunk, lest the ladies should think you a meer milk-sop. If you are so drunk you do not understand a word you say, so much the better; as they cannot be angry at a thing you did not mean." And so on.

This might serve in some measure to ridicule the manners of the times: but it is not quite so pointed, nor is it half so good for this purpose, as the laws enacted by the Empress of all the Russias, for maintaining the etiquitte at assemblies at court, now universally known, by means of translations, all over Europe.

Blackbeard gives an account of the ram's head club.

> Who with chit chat, and sing song gay,
> Pass many a sultry night away.

And a bald account it is. It amounts to this: That the members of this club meet once a fortnight in the house of a jolly widow, not a hundred miles from the Bee Office, where every member pays fourpence; for which he gets value in ham, porter, beer, a pipe of tobacco, and exhilirating glass. The president entertains his guests with a song, and asks all the company in their turn to do the like,

and so the night paſses away. It would fill five hundred Bees to give the names of all the clubs of this sort that subsist in Britain;—but who would read them?

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The elucidations of *J. K.* on the gooseberry caterpillar are received and ſhall have a place with the first conveniency. His observations on the *slug*, and other destructive reptiles will be very acceptable.

The communications by *Rama* came safely to hand; and ſhall be duly attended to. But he will see the propriety of postponing the letter on education, till the former communications on that subject are exhausted: which will not be for some time yet.

To the *Lover of System*, the Editor of the Bee begs leave to observe, that though he wiſhes to appropriate some part of his Miscellany to the advancement of knowledge in natural history, and particularly to the collecting of useful facts relating to it; yet it never was his intention to enter into the system of claſsification, which would present to most of his readers a series of words and phrases that would be totally unintelligible. Those who wiſh to enter deeply into that branch of the science will naturally have recourse to books profeſsedly written for that purpose. Whatever occurs in this Miscellany on that subject being entirely suited to unscientific readers, he in some measure guards against the particular this correspondent calls for. But if the Editor does not pretend to claſs systematically the objects, especially non descript, which he chances to notice; he will endeavour so to describe them, as that a scientific student may be at little loſs to claſs them himself. This is the utmost length he ever wiſhes to go: nor will he deem it enough to exclude an article entirely where the description cannot be in all its parts so circumstancial as he could wiſh for the scientific student; where the matter appears to be interesting; for in regard to drawings especially, it may often happen that the general appearance, and particular parts of an object are so exactly represented as to identify it sufficiently on all future occasions in doubtful cases, though the particular parts that are neceſsary for its exact systematic claſsification may not have been brought into view.

The verses by *F. A.* are received, and under consideration.

As are also the poetical pieces of *Zara*, *A. R. R.* and *Ximenes*.

Thanks to an obliging correspondent for his hints for the obituary of the learned with a specimen, which ſhall be presented the first convenient occasion.

As also to *Socius*, for his obliging communications.

The claſsical lines, *ad murem*, are received, and ſhall have a place, though the writer will easily see reason why things of this nature can only be inserted with a very sparing hand; and that only where they are very ſhort.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17. 1793.

ON THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SHEEP IN A WILD AND DOMESTIC STATE, REARED IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE, AND BY THE PASTORAL NATIONS FROM THE FRONTIERS OF EUROPE TO THOSE OF CHINA.

Composed principally from the Latin notes of the learned and liberal zoologist Dr Pallas, profeſsor of natural history in the imperial acadamy in St. Petersburg, containing the interesting remarks made during his wide extended travels in Ruſsia, Siberia, Tartary, &c.

COMMUNICATED BY ARCTICUS.

For the Bee.

INTRODUCTION.

THANKS to our great countrymen Bacon, Boyle, and Newton, with their worthy succeſsors, theoretic jargon, unsupported by facts, is baniſhed from natural philosophy, and in a great measure from science at large, insomuch that our modern sophists are obliged to direct their hypothetic artillery, to the theory of government, and will probably retard its progreſs, as

long as they did that of *physics*, which has of late years made such wonderful advancement, by following the wise plan suggested by the above mentioned *real* philosopher's, who were, and will ever remain, even in the tomb, the glory of their country.

Surely sir, I need not caution the society for the melioration of British wool, to whom this paper is principally addressed, against permitting theoretic reasoning, on the nature of *sheep*, to influence any of their operations for the advancement of knowledge on that important subject.

They will certainly regard as mere unsupported conjectures, the common place ideas, that the useful animal which makes so deservedly the object of their research, must be small to carry fine wool, large to carry coarse; that it must be fed exactly in this or in that manner; and that it must inhabit precisely a given climate, or which is the same thing, live exactly at such a distance above the level of the sea, to enjoy the advantage of a fine fleece.

We are certainly not as yet arrived at that point of information, to speak positively on the subject, although much has been done by intelligent gentlemen of late years; but must submit to a long and patient course of judicious experiment, to be able to decide on facts asserted with so much boldness.

In the mean time, every one who wishes well to such a laudable undertaking, should contribute their mite by giving the best information their situation and knowledge will permit, relative to the sheep in the country they inhabit, including their description, measurement, weight, fleece, food, and general

mode of life, details which, though fatiguing to some readers, will be highly useful and acceptable to those who are in search of information on the natural history of the animal; and more particularly to the society whose patriotic endeavours are directed to a subject of so much national importance.

I make no doubt, but your plodding men of habit, will sneer at such a research, as they do at every thing they do not comprehend, or which militates against the practice of their fathers; but I will venture to affirm, that it is a much easier task to change the fleece of sheep, than the morals, manners, and even nature of the human species, to fit them for the enjoyment of metaphysical primitive liberty, before the commencement of social compact, which *modern philosophers* are persuading us of the practicability of. But as philosophers are not in general the most opulent members of civil society, there is some danger that they wish to fish in troubled water, when the sovereigns they are setting up, have thrown all into anarchy and confusion.

To return to the more uesful animal which is the subject of this paper, permit me to say that as example is better than precept, I have endeavoured to set one to our countrymen living abroad, by collecting every thing that my situation will permit, confined as I am by duty to the capital of an empire, relative to the sheep of this country; and I make no doubt but you will give me credit for having had recourse to the ample information collected by my learned friend Dr Pallas, in his wide extended travels in this empire, and amongst the pastoral nations of Great Tar-

tary, &c. from the frontiers of China, to those of Europe. These people are all shepherds, as well as the Nomades of Siberia, and several countries of Europe, under the dominion or protection of the Russian empire; and the great riches of them all consist principally in sheep.

There are few of these pastoral nations but the doctor saw, either in full horde, or detached parties, so that the opportunities he had of examining not only the wild, but *domestic* sheep, in several of its varieties, and almost in a state of nature, from their little controled, nay, almost unlimited range, in the wide plains of Tartary, were more numerous than ever fell to the lot of any man who has treated the subject.

But the remarks and observations of our learned academician will be more particularly valuable to the society; as his equal knowledge in zoology, and the other branches of natural history, enabled him to give an account of the sheep in a very superior manner; noting the climate, soil, water, and plants, of every district where he found a different variety of the animal. The doctor remarked with the eye of a real naturalist, the influence of these, joined to exercise, on the stature, vigour, plumpness, and fleece of sheep; and has described the distinguishing marks of the four varieties he met with, as well as the *musimon* or wild sheep, in a masterly manner. In short his remarks furnish an excellent model for those of others, who may pursue the subject; and I must add in terms of much gratitude, that he furnished in the most liberal manner, all

the notes he had made in his travels, on the subject of sheep, the moment your correspondent signified an intention to write this paper; and has since *reviewed* the whole, to see if his meaning had been seized in every part, and the result of his observations faithfully given.

The only part your correspondent can then claim, is that of having given the sense of the original author in English, to the best of his power; and to have taken the liberty of explaining what he took to be his meaning, whenever such illustration was necessary, and the text too laconic for the purpose of the society; as Dr Pallas wrote for the learned alone in the dead language he employed, and the author of this paper for the public in general. However my learned friend having given his sanction to the whole, by reading it over at the particular desire of your correspondent, and making occasionally a remark, has of course adopted the paper, and thereby rendered it much more worthy of the attention of the society.

To be continued.

NEWS FROM CAPTAIN BILLINGS.

Continued from p. 17.

CURIOSITIES *&c. sent by captain Billings from the Atule islands, and the continent of America.*

Happening to be with Dr Pallas, when several cases arrived from captain Billings, containing different things collected in his voyages, we recollect having seen the following articles unpacked,

Amphibeous animals.

Some new species of seals and sea bears.

Birds.

A new species of large eagle, with some new species of auks and puffins.

Dreſses from the island of Kibtak, not visited by captain Cook, who took it to be part of the American continent, so that every thing from it is new to Europe.

1*st*, A man's dreſs made of the ſkin of the mus citellus of Linnæus, or Casan marmot of Pennant, the souslik of the Ruſsians, but a thicker and better fur than the variety which this country furniſhes, although little different from it in other respects. This handsome spotted fur, has no bad effect in form of a long close garment, which must be put over the head to get it upon the wearer, as must indeed all that we saw. A painted wooden head dreſs, exactly in form of an Engliſh sportsman's stiff velvet cap, except that a sort of face was carved on the crown of it: probably this head piece is intended for war.

2*d*, A festival dreſs, of young sea bear ſkins of great beauty, and prettily ornamented with variegated beads.

3*d*, A dreſs of the ſkins of the alca impennis of Linnæus, or great auk of Pennant, of a fine cinereous colour.

4*th*, A species of coverlid, or poſsibly a ſhawl, made of beaver hair, curiously wrought on a worsted ground, so as to resemble a velvet ſhag, extremely soft and warm, of a fine dark cinamon colour, and fringed with thick twisted threads of the

white downy wool of the American musimon or wild ſheep, according to Dr Pallas's opinion.

The musimon or argali carries a fine downy wool; like your ſhetland ſheep, mixed with long coarse hair; and of this the islanders near that continent, seem to make several uses.

5th, A curious sort of gingling tambouret, probably intended as an accompanyment to dancers, consisting of a thin circle of wood, with a croſs piece to keep it firm, ornamented with streamers of the long white hair which hangs from the neck of the rein deer.

In place of bells, a number of auk's bills are hung on it all around, which produce a curious gingling noise when the tambouret is ſhaken.

6th, several curious head dreſses resembling the Gipsy straw hats, worn at present by the ladies in Europe, most artfully and neatly made, and remarkably strong; one in particular had a coloured circle in the middle of it, executed with much taste and good effect, whilst its crown of the tube kind, (the very faſhion at present of this city,) surpaſses in invention those of our Belles, being curiously jointed, so as to make a waving or nodding motion in walking, like a plume of feathers.

7th, And last with regard to apparel, we found some hairy caps, probably either intended for war or farce, which all savages are fond of, mostly decked out with the long rein deer's hair mentioned above.

Armour.

A curious species of light armour, only calculated to keep off arrows; but of so neat and artful a construction, as would probably draw the admiration of even a London whip maker; as it rivals him in the application of cat gut on the neatest whip.

It is composed of a number of small rods of a light tough wood, about a yard long, covered and joined together with fine threads of the sinews of some animal, so as to ply round the body, and form a species of light cuirasse. But the manner these sinews are applied is remarkably neat and artful, whilst they seem to have undergone some previous process of bleaching, to have given them the clear silky appearance, that makes this savage armour look so well.

The other articles in captain Billings's cases which drew my attention, were some dishes of *a wide boat form*, of a hard red wood, unknown to us, close, compact, and without veins. The workmanship was neat for men in so low a state of civil society, whilst their form seemed to point out the maritime ideas so natural to an insular situation: nay even the spoon, which by its bent handle, lay conveniently within the dish, represented a small hoisted into a large boat. These emblematic dishes, with much truth may be supposed to indicate, that they are in general filled from the surrounding element, as the island offers little other food than fish or amphibeous animals. A couple of inferences I think, may fairly be drawn from these dresses, utensils, *&c.* that

both the musimon or wild sheep, and the rein deer, are natives of the American continent.

And that these islanders are in a higher state of civilization, than the Americans on the continent, judging from the state of the arts amongst them; a superiority arising probably from the greater security and repose their insular situation offers, than that of their savage brethren on the main land, exposed to continual attacks of other restless tribes.

Hints for establishing a Seminary of education on a new Plan.

Continued from vol. 15. p. 239.

Of the Academy.

Or schoool for sciences and useful arts.

In a complete seminary of education, men of all descriptions, dispositions, tastes, and employments, who are in that rank, as to be able to afford the expence, should have it in their power to acquire all such branches of knowledge as suited their tastes, dispositions, and views in life, without being obliged to attend to any other branch of learning than those which they themselves or their parents and guardians thought proper.

If such be the intention of the institution, it would be necessary, in many branches of science, to have two distinct and separate courses of lectures. *One* which gave a general view of the leading principles only of that science, for the use of those stu-

dents who did not with to enter deeply into that branch of study, but who were desirous of understanding the outlines of science in general; *the other*, particular and minute, for the use of those who wished to become proficients in that particular branch of science only. The reader will observe that attention has been bestowed to this circumstance in the distribution of the following classes.

But not only the sciences, strictly so called, should be there taught; but also the principles of many arts which are of great utility in life, should be there explained, so as that those who meant to follow these arts as a business in future, might be enabled to attain them. These also he will find adverted to below.

There are besides some practical arts very necessary to be taught to youth, which could not with propriety be included under any of those institutions, either in the gymnasium or academy, which ought to be taught at schools as at present; such as writing, arithmetic, book keeping, walking, dancing, fencing, riding, drawing, music as a practical art, *&c.*

Exclusive of languages, therefore, and these practical arts, the other branches of knowledge that might with propriety be taught in the academy appear to be as follow. Each of these branches of knowledge being taught by a distinct course of lectures, accompanied with such experiments and illustrations as are necessary for rendering them clear and intelligible.

Mathematics

In all its branches. A general course.

Natural philosophy.

A general view of the philosophical sciences. For students who wish to lay in a fund of general knowledge.

Mechanics.

A *particular* course, intended for those who wish to enter deeply into this branch of philosophy. In this course should be not only explained in a very particular manner, the mathematical principles of mechanics, but also a particular *rationale* should be given of the philosophical principles, on which are constructed all the most remarkable and the most useful machines that have been invented for the use of man in all parts of the globe; illustrated by accurate models of each, and accompanied with critical and practical observations, pointing out the peculiar advantages and disadvantages of each for particular purposes, with the defects that experience had discovered to attend each of them, and hints for their improvement.

In a manufacturing nation like Britain, where so much of our success must depend upon the perfection of the machinery employed, a course of lectures on the subject here proposed, appears to be one of the most useful that could be named. It would give our artists who should attend it, a stretch of philosophical acumen, very different from that which most of them now possess; and by bringing under their view at an early period of life, all that variety of machines that had been invented and carried into practice, it would not only give them a facility in selecting that kind of machine which was best fitted for the purpose they had in view, but would also

enable them to form such a comprehensive idea of the manner of combining the different powers,—of correcting their defects, and adapting them for particular purposes, that they would be able to invent with great facility, new machines fitted for every emergency that might occur.

In consequence of the little attention that is at present bestowed on matters of this kind, many excellent mechanical inventions have been adopted in one part of the country, a great many years before they are known or thought of in another. Mills of all sorts for grinding grain, afford a clear example of this; for every district has its own particular model, which is there adhered to most religiously for ages, I had almost said, after others much more perfect have been executed in other parts of the country. On other occasions, machines of very great utility are not so much as heard of in one district, though they be universally employed in another. The winnowing machine affords an example of this sort. It was only very lately introduced into London as an invention almost new; and has not till this hour been ever heard of by many thousands of respectable farmers in England, though in one district in Scotland, it has been known for upwards of fourscore years; and has been there so long generally used, that few persons could there be found who ever saw grain winnowed in any other way.

Astronomy.

A particular course, intended for those who wish to acquire a thorough knowledge of this sublime

branch of science, accompanied with actual observations.

Optics.

Considered not only with regard to its philosophical principles, but also as a practical art, illustrated by philosophical, chemical, and mechanical experiments.

Chemistry.

A general course, for the use of those who only seek to obtain a general scientific knowledge In this course, the principles of chemistry, as applicable to arts in general, ſhould be explained, but only generally.

Chemical arts.

A particular course. Intended for those who wiſh to attain a thorough knowledge of those branches of chemical philosophy that can be applied in perfecting the arts; such as metallurgy,—the art of making glaſs, enamels, *&c*; the art of dying, staining linen, tanning, and many others.

Perhaps Britain is not at present so far behind some other nations in any respect; or at least, is not farther from having reached perfection in any particular department, than in the knowledge of the principles of chemistry, as applied to practical arts. The consequence is, that much waste of labour, time, and money, which might be well saved, is daily incurred by the persons who practise these arts, which in a very unneceſsary manner, enhances the price of their manufactures. And so much uncertainty prevails with respect to the result of their operations, as damages many goods, and thus diminiſhes

their value. Those who have not adverted to this particular can scarcely form an idea of the amount of the loſs that is thus daily incurred; but they may form some idea of it when they are told, that scarcely a single material which is employed in cleansing or in separating chemical bodies from each other, but retains properties after these operations, frequently as valuable as before they were employed; and might, by ſkillful management, be either recovered in their original form, or applied in other manufactures with equal effect as new materials, though these in general are at present suffered to run entirely to waste.

To be continued.

ON PHYSIOGNOMY.

For the Bee.

" What's female beauty, but an air divine,
Thro' which the mind's all gentle graces ſhine?
They, like the sun, irradiate all between;
The body charms because the soul is seen.
Hence men are often captives of a face,
They know not why, of no peculiar grace.
Some forms tho' bright no mortal man can bear,
Some none resist, tho' not exceeding fair.

YOUNG.

THE soul and body are so closely connected together, that whatever highly affects the one, always produces some effect upon the other also. Whatever is hurtful to the body, and tends to diſsolve its frame, excites the sensation of pain in the mind, as whatever promotes the health and vigour of the

body produces pleasure in the soul. In like manner the various affections and paſsions of the mind have all an influence on the body: and when strongly exerted, make very sensible impreſsions on the external form. How vastly different is the air, the figure, and appearance of a man when fired with rage, from what it is when he is transported with joy, or sunk in melancholy? In the countenance, the various affections and paſsions of the soul principally discover themselves: there they make their impreſsions. Each of them has its proper characters by which it is there expreſsed, which will always accompany it where this natural agreement of heart and face is not interrupted by artifice and diſsimulation.

Even in that case, nature is sometimes too powerful to be counteracted, and the inward workings of the heart, will discover themselves in characters too deep to be effaced by all the force or ſkill of diſsimulation. Magnanimity and nobleneſs of spirit is often easily discerned in the face and manner. Where misanthropy prevails in the temper, it cannot be concealed; but the malignity of the heart will betray itself in the sourneſs of the countenance. Peeviſhneſs and bad humour are always accompanied with fretful discontented looks. A mind often disturbed with angry paſsions, will imprint on the external form, a fierce and furious aspect: whereas a calm unruffled temper diffuses a mild serenity on the face, and a gentle softneſs on all the actions. In general, where any paſsion or disposition prevails in the temper, and is often exerted, it will

stamp its signature on the external form, and render natural to the body those features, that air and manner, by which it is expreſsed.

These observations, which are confirmed by daily experience, evidently ſhow the powerful influence which the operations and affections of the mind have upon the body. So sensible are all men of this, that they cannot help determining concerning the temper and disposition from the external appearance, and forming some judgement of the character of every person, the very first time they see them. Nay the impreſsions made upon us on these occasions, are often so strong, that it is a difficult matter afterwards to efface them. If we go into a company where all the persons are equally unknown to us, we cannot be long indifferent, but will soon find a partiality to some of them, a secret charm that allures and draws us to seek the conversation of one preferably to that of another. If they are engaged in play, we cannot help wiſhing ſucceſs to one, or grudging at the good luck of another; and we will be as much interested in the event of the game, as if we ourselves were concerned in its ſucceſs.

A late French writer *, after having made this observation, puts the question, "From what does this prejudice proceed, and upon what is it founded?" And then he replies: I don't think it is a thing which can be defined. Will it be said, that it is the agreement of taste? The persons are strangers to one another. Is it the union of sentiment? Have

* Author of L'Ecole de l'homme.

they had time to discover this? Is it the sympathy of inclinations and humours? They have not had time to shew they had any. What is this charm then which tends and draws whether we will or not? It is sympathy. A definition not very satisfying and of which we know only the consequences.

It will readily be granted to this writer that his definition is not very satisfying, but perhaps he is a little too hasty in the last part of his inference, that it is a thing which cannot be explained, and of which we know only the consequences. The greater part of people indeed know only the consequences, because they attend only to these; they content themselves with observing the effects without taking the trouble to inquire into the causes which produce them: but any one who attends to what paſses within him on these occasions, who carefully considers the progreſs of his mind, and traces its various steps, will find that what chiefly forms the secret, the sudden prejudice in favour of any person at first sight, is the appearance of the social, kind, benevolent affections expreſsed in his looks and behaviour.

Nothing gives the mind greater delight than a strong and lively picture of a worthy and amiable character. Nothing affects us more strongly than the representation of generosity, benevolence, compaſsion, a strong love and earnest zeal for the happineſs of mankind. These dispositions are always beheld with pleasure; and wherever they appear command respect and esteem. Strong indications of these amiable qualities expreſsed in the

face and mein, are the greatest ornaments which nature can bestow upon it, and the best recommendation to the love of others. Wherever the appearance of good and virtuous affections is strongly painted, it produces love and good will; as on the contrary, every mark of a sour, narrow, selfish temper immediately excites aversion and dislike. 'Tis the appearance then of benevolent and amiable dispositions that so suddenly, and often powerfully prejudices us in favour of those with whose real character we are entirely unacquainted. The appearance of modesty and gentleness, an unaffected simplicity of manners, never fail to gain our good will. These qualities, as they contribute greatly to the ease and pleasure of society, are always agreeable, always beloved; but pride and arrogance, a forward assuming air, a contempt of others, as they destroy the happiness of mutual intercourse, so every symptom of them excites our aversion. And wherever the amiable and benevolent affections are strongly expressed in the features and manner, men are pretty unanimous in the judgement they form of the character, and easily discover the cause of it. They readily answer any one who asks upon what their opinion is founded, that they see kindness, affability, benevolence, chearfulness, modesty, painted in the face of such a person.

It is not however the appearance of the social and benevolent dispositions alone which allures us thus powerfully, and secretly gains our good will; but the appearance of that turn of mind, those inclinations and humours, which we find most prevalent in

ourselves, will produce the same effect. In this case however, the social and amiable qualities must not seem to be wanting: nor must there be any symptoms of mean, corrupted, and selfish dispositions; for these always produce aversion. But where we perceive no indications of any blameable or base qualities of heart, *there*, any marks of a correspondency of temper and inclinations, will have a powerful influence over us, and insensibly attract our good will. Men's self love extends to every thing concerning them: they are apt to set a high value on their own accomplishments; their own studies and pursuits they look upon as the noblest and best; and what they fondly pursue, they esteem the only sources of real pleasure. Those studies, inclinations and humours, which are most adapted to their own temper, are beheld with complacency in others; every appearance of them is viewed with approbation, and naturally prepossesses them in favour of those in whom they are observed.

Now, as the tempers, inclinations, and characters of men vary infinitely; so here is a foundation laid for that diversity of judgements which they form, and prejudices they feel from the same external appearance. The thoughtful silent philosopher, will be pleased with the appearance of gravity, sedateness, and a contemplative air; he will immediately be inclined to esteem and wish well to the person in whom they are observed: whilst the same appearances will strike one of a gay and sprightly turn, with disagreeable ideas of solemnity, formality, and sullen reserve. One possessed of a constant flow of high

spirits, will love every appearance of such a disposition in others, and feel no favourable prepoſsesſion, for any one whose look and manner indicate the want of it. These two particulars which have been pointed out, appear to be the sources of those sudden prejudices we form at first sight, before we are really acquainted with thetrue characters of those we see. Where the characters of these dispositions are striking and obvious, peopleeasily account for the consequences of them. But where the indications of them are leſs plain, there is greater diversity the in sudden judgements men form of the character, and it is at the same time more difficult to trace the favourable or unfavourable prejudices they take to their source and origin. This I ſhall endeavour to explain a little more fully.

Every one knows the surprising power of the aſsociation of ideas by which a train of ideas which have no natural relation or affinity with one another, having been presented at the same time to the mind, become so closely connected, that any one of them being afterwards presented to the mind, it recalls the whole succeſsion; and this happens so constantly, so instantaneously, that the combination of these ideas which was only accidental or arbitrary, comes to be considered as natural; and people imagine that ideas that have always accompanied one another in their minds, never were nor can be separated. It is almost needleſs to give instances in a matter so well known. 'Tis for this reason that persons of a narrow confined education, who have

had no opportunities to learn the customs, mannners, opinions, of other ages and countries, are so much surprized to see or hear of any thing different from what they have been accustomed to, and are so apt to imagine that every such difference from their manners and tenets is absurd, ridiculous, and a deviation from nature. In our infancy, when every thing makes a strong impreſsion upon us, when we are governed entirely by sight, when we are incapable of attending to the progreſs of our minds, and of judging what ideas are naturally connected together, and what connections are owing to chance and fancy, we form numberleſs combinations which being then frequently presented to the mind together, any one recurring afterwards immediately recalls the rest with all the train of affections and paſsions with which at first they were accompanied.

And in many cases, the circumstance that recalls any train of ideas and concomitant affections to the mind, is so trifling, has so slight, so vague a connection with it, that we are apt to overlook it, and not to perceive that it was by means of such a circumstance that this train of ideas and affections was presented to the mind: so that we are frequently at a loſs to discover how they were recalled. The progreſs of the mind is often so quick, and one idea succeeds another so instantaneously, that it requires in many cases some pains to separate the ideas, to distinguiſh the order of their succeſsion, and to what their connection is owing. Many of these combinations, particularly, which are formed in our infancy, are so arbritary, owing to such trifling accidents, as

might then make strong impreſsions upon us, but come afterwards to be more and more neglected, till at last we forget them entirely, and cannot tell to what such a combination is owing, or by what accident it was formed.

Monsieur des Cartes, in one of his letters tells that he had frequently observed he had a particular affection and fondneſs for every body that squinted. This he says led him to inquire into what could be the cause of so odd an effect; that after some reflection he discovered it to be owing to this accident, that when he was a child, he had been attended by a young girl who had this defect, of whom he was extremely fond. Being accustomed therefore to see this girl, and the obvious particularity of squinting making a strong impreſsion upon him, which was always accompanied with the affections of love and fondneſs for her, made the connection so strong, that whatever afterwards made the same impreſsion upon his senses, immediately awakened the same affections which it did at first.

This instance may serve to explain a great number of others. If the affections of a child have been won by the fondneſs and carreſses of any person, the child beholds every thing relating to him with pleasure; it marks every look, every action, and naturally connects the ideas of kindneſs, love, good nature, with that set of features, that air and manner, which it has observed in him or her. Whenever the child afterwards sees a similarity of features and gestures, it will immediately conclude that it is accompanied with the same goodneſs and benevolence, and they will ex-

cite in it the same fondneſs and good will as at first. The most distant resemblance of such a person in any particular however minute and trifling, will instantly recall to the mind the whole train of ideas with which such an appearance was first connected; it will excite the same pleasing sensations, and awaken the same feelings and paſsions. On the other hand, if any person by injuring and teasing a child, has become the object of its dislike, whatever resembles him or her in the most accidental circumstance, will give it pain, and excite the same aversion it used to feel for him. In fine, any similarity to one whom we have either loved or hated, will produce in us the same affections of love or aversion, wherever it is observed. Now as these accidental combinations of ideas may be infinitely diversified, and will often be directly contrary in different persons, various judgements will be formed, and quite different prejudices produced from the same external appearance. For the same feature, the same air and manner, which by one person has been connected with the ideas of kindneſs, chearfulneſs, and benevolence, may from other circumstances, and a different combination, excite in another the ideas of a selfiſh, sour, malevolent disposition. But in every case, we will find that what disposes us to think well of a person at first sight, and what as it were instantaneously commands our good will, is either the appearance of benevolent and amiable dispositions, simplicity, modesty, and candour; or provided these do not appear to be wanting, the indications of that humour and temper which is most agreeable to our own, whether these qualities of mind really are, or from some par-

ticular circumstance, or some combination of ideas, appear to us to be expreſsed in the face, the air, and manner of the person.

The expreſsions of these amiable dispositions of mind, give external beauty its chief force, and most powerful charm. Beauty, harmony, and just proportions, are always viewed with pleasure; and no beauty in external objects affects us so strongly as that of the human form. A fine face, a well ſhaped body, an easy air, and graceful deportment, are beheld with a high degree of pleasure by every spectator. Yet still it is the expreſsion of something inward that charms us most. For though the beauty or deformity of the mind, is not neceſsarily connected with that of the body, yet we are naturally inclined to infer the one from the other; and wherever we behold a beautiful and agreeable form, we are apt to conclude, that the soul which animates it, is no leſs amiable. When we observe great beauty and elegance in the one, we will not allow ourselves to think the other is deformed and depraved. But that the qualities of the mind expreſsed in the face and manner, form the great charm of beauty, and have the most powerful influence in gaining the affections will appear, if we consider that where good sense and a good heart are not discovered, we may admire the fine proportions and symmetry of features, but will find nothing that attracts out affection and good will. "Why else," (but for the reason now given,) says the noble author of the characteristics, "is the very air of fooliſhneſs enough to cloy a lover at first sight? Why does an idiot look and manner destroy the effect of all their

outward charms, and rob the fair one of her power, though regularly armed in all the exactneſs of features and complexion? We may imagine what we please of a substantial solid part of beauty, but were the subject to be well criticised, we ſhould find perhaps, that what we most admired, even in the turn of outward features, was only a mysterious expreſsion, and a kind of ſhadow of something inward in the temper: and that when we were struck with a majestic air, a sprightly look, an Amazon bold grace, or a contrary soft and gentle one, it was chiefly the fancy of these characters or qualities which wrought on us: Our imagination being busied in forming beauteous ſhapes and images of this rational kind, which entertained the mind and held it in admiration, whilst other paſsions of a lower species were employed another way.

If the charm of beauty consisted only in the order, regularity, and symmetry of features, then would they who poſseſsed these qualities in the highest degree be most succeſsful in making conquests: but experience ſhews us that this is not always the case. Many faces formed according to the justest proportion, are beheld with indifference, if unexpreſsive of that chearfulneſs and good humour, that benevolence and sweetneſs of disposition, which are admired and loved by all. Whilst other faces formed with leſs minute exactneſs win the affections of every spectator, because they present a strong picture of simplicity and candour, unaffected modesty and benevolence. This is elegantly expreſsed by Dr Young in the lines selected as a motto to this eſsay.

TO THE NARCISSUS.

THEE too, Narcissus white, whose pliant stalk,
Still weak'ning as it grows, scarce dims the force
Of wand'ring zephyrs, thee I fain would sing
In deathless strains with beauties like thine own.
Had that unhappy youth, who pin'd for love
Of his own wat'ry shape reflected fair,
From the pure surface of the glassy stream,
Boasted thy graces, it had been no crime
T' have gaz'd enamour'd, thro' the live long day,
T' have sigh'd in sickness, and then died at last
With hopeless anguish. Tho' 'tis fable all,
Nor e'er did lover grieve his soul away
For unsubstantial shade, yet well he feign'd,
Who feigned this story, when he chose thy form
To tell what matchless charms that youth beguil'd,
Who still desiring what he ne'er could reach,
And, fondly looking on what fondly look'd,
Hung like a marble statue o'er the flood,
Till life had left the form he never left.
Unspotted flow'r, when scarce the red hair'd sun
Had raised his foot above yon eastern hills,
I've quitted oft my downy bed to gaze
O'er all thy beauties, while thy silvery face,
Bath'd in fresh pearly dew-drops of the morn,
Shew'd like a virgin, from whose tear-wet cheek
Heart-peircing grief had rifled all the rose,
And left the widow'd lily, there to mourn
Her partner's loss. If, as I mark'd thy charms,
It chanc'd that some rude wind came rushing by,
And bent thee down, thee and thy flag like leaves,
Down to the ground, with still elastic force,
Recovering still, I've thought thee in my mind,
Some king surrounded with his fawning train,
Who watch his motions, copy all his ways,
Bend as he bends, and, as he rises, rise.

P. H.

Ad Murem *,

Nidis aratro eversis.

For the Bee.

Eheu, parva nitedula, qualis nunc tremor implet
Pectora! Ne subito celeri te propire cursu;
Insectari te nollem rulla truculenta.
Naturæ, imperio humano, fœdus sociale
Ruptum, mi dolet, et justam me dicere cogit
Illam suspicionem, qua fit ut exsilis a me
Terrigena comite, in terram tecum redituro.
Haud equidem dubito quin tu furere aliquando.
Quidni? animal miserum, te certe vivere oportet:
Granum e mergite tota, ecce petitio parva!
Quodque a te demptum, damnum haud dignoscere possem:
Et mihi quod superest illo fruar numine fausto.
Angusta ista domus mœstam dedit parva ruinam
Structuram invalidam spectas dispergere ventos;
Et nec jam stipulas tenues, illam ad renovandam,
Usquam suppeditant arva: interea imminet asper,
Mordaces referens ventos acresque, December.
Agros, en, nudatos, vastatos, hyememque
Vidisti tristem properantem, spemque fovebas,
Obtecta hic ut contra aquilones degere posses:
At scindit nidos, crudeli vomere, aratrum.
Congeries hæc culmorum exigua et foliorum,
Fesso dente fuit, multo et convecta labore:
Nunc operam perdis, et tectis exul ademptis,
Frigus acerbum perferres, pluviasque nivales.
At non indicium, tu parva nitedula, solum es,
Quam vana est mens prudens et præsaga futuri;
Consilia enim, quæ muribus et mortalibus ægris
Summa concipiuntur cura, flectere in obliquum
Assuescunt; et, pro successu lætitiaque,
Nil præterque dolorem tristitiamque relinquunt.
Attamen haud incertum est, præ me te esse beatum;
Hora etenim præsens solum te tangere possit:
Ast retro, inque dies mœstos, mea lumina verto;
Et quamvis non prævideo, auguror atque tremisco.

* It is hoped our mere English readers will not be dissatisfied at our gratifying those of classic taste, with a small corner, once in the course of several volumes.

PLAN OF THE LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

Continued from p. 36.

"AT a meeting held at the Aſsembly-Rooms on Thursday January 24. 1793. for the purpose of taking into conſideration the propriety of eſtabliſhing a Literary and Philoſophical Society of Newcaſtle,

"Reſolved,

"That it appears to this meeting highly expedient, that ſuch a Society be formed.

"Reſolved,

"That William Cramlington, Eſq; Robert Hopper Williamſon, Eſq; the Rev. Edward Moiſes, the Rev. William Turner, Dr Pemberton, Dr Ramſay, Dr Wood, Mr Anderſon, Mr Murray, Mr Newton, Mr David Stephenſon, Mr Thomas Gibſon, Mr Doubleday, Mr Malin Sorſbie, and Mr Nicholas Story, be a committee for drawing up a plan to be ſubmitted to the next general meeting, which ſhall be held at the Dispenſary on Thurſday the 7th of February, at ſix o'clock in the evening.

"Reſolved,

"That in the mean time the committee be requeſted to meet each Wedneſday previous to the general meeting, at the above mentioned hour and place.

"At a general meeting, held at the Dispenſary, on Thurſday, Feb. 7. 1793.

(The Rev. Edward Moiſes in the chair.)

" A plan for the formation and government of a Literary Society having been presented by the committee,

" It was resolved,

" I. That this meeting do form itself into a society, by the name of " The Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle upon Tyne."

" II. That this society shall consist,

" 1. Of Ordinary Members; who shall be liable, from the time of their becoming members, to the annual contribution of one guinea; and to whom shall be confined the sole management of the business of the Society, and the election of officers and members.

" 2. Of Honorary Members; with whose correspondence the society may hope to be favoured; but who shall not be liable to any expence.

" III That all persons resident within five miles of Newcastle, shall be eligible into the class of Ordinary Members only: But that persons residing beyond the distance of five miles, may be elected into either class.

" IV. That every person who shall join the society, in person, or by letter, at its first regular meeting, on the 7th day of March, shall have a power to nominate, on that day, one Ordinary and one Honorary Member; after which, all candidates for admission shall be proposed by at leat three members, during two successive meetings of the society. That every election shall be by ballot, twelve members at least being present; and that the votes of three-fourths of the members present shall be requisite for the admission of the candidate.

" V. That a President, four Vice-Presidents, two Secretaries, a Treasurer, and four other Members, shall be annually elected, by written lists, out of the class of

Ordinary Members, at the general meeting in March, and ſhall form the Committee of the Society; any five being competent to act. To them ſhall be entrusted the expenditure of the funds of the society; (any member, however, having a right to *recommend*, and any general meeting to *direct*, the purchase of such books, *&c.* as they may think proper.) They ſhall also have a power to decide upon the propriety of communicating to the society any papers which may be received, as well as upon their subsequent insertion in the records of the Society.

" VI. That the meetings of the society be held at the Dispensary; for the present, not more frequently than the first Thursday in every month. That the chair be taken at a quarter before seven; but that the members be requested to meet at half past six, to hear such literary intelligence, *&c.* as any person may have to communicate.

" VII. That the reading of papers ſhall always commence at seven o'clock precisely; and if the election of Members, or other private buſineſs, ſhould not be first dispatched, the President may adjourn such buſineſs till after the discuſsion of the subject for the night.

" VIII. That the subjects for conversation ſhall comprehend the Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and History, Chemistry, Polite Literature, Antiquities, Civil History, Biography, Questions of General Law and Policy, Commerce, and the Arts. But that Religion, the practical branches of Law and Physic, *Britiſh* Politics, and indeed *all* Politics *of the day*, ſhall be deemed prohibited subjects of conversation.

" IX. That all the friends of literature and philosophy, whether Members or not, be invited to favour the socie-

ty with papers on any of the above subjects, or with literary intelligence, curious productions of nature or art, *&c.* directed to any Member of the Society. And that all communications, which shall have been approved by the Committee, shall be read, by one of the Secretaries, or by the author, at his option, in the order in which they were received; notice being given, at the close of each meeting, whenever it can conveniently be done, of the subject of the paper or papers to be read at the next.

" X. That the Society will consider itself as particularly indebted to those who shall favour it with notices concerning coal and lead, with the strata, *&c.* accompanying them; or with specimens, draughts, plans, sections, borings, *&c.* illustrative of the natural history of these minerals.

" XI. That it be left to the future deliberations of the Society to determine what, or whether any, measures shall be taken for obtaining the establishment of a general library: But that, in the mean time, Members wanting any particular book, shall be permitted to give notice of it, in the Society's Room, in order that, if any other Member be in possession of, and disposed to lend, it, (or can give information where it may be obtained,) the person who has occasion for it, may be accommodated upon the following terms *viz.* That he give a written receipt for any book furnished by a Member, with an engagement to return it, within a specified time, in as good condition as received.

" XII. That any Member may introduce a stranger; but that an inhabitant of the town can only be introduced with the permission of the President for the night.

" XIII. That, in order to encourage a taste for literature in the younger members of the community, it be allowed to any Member to introduce a young person, between the ages of seventeen and twenty-one; but that this class of visitors be expected to withdraw immediately after the reading of papers is concluded.

" XIV. That it be requested of Honorary and Corresponding Members to suggest such hints as may occur to them for the improvement of the plan of this Society.

" XV. That these regulations, together with the preface recommended by the Committee, be printed, for distribution amongst the friends of those who have already subscribed the form of association.

EDWARD MOISES. Chairman."

Officers for 1793.

President, *John Widdrington Esq.*
V. Presidents, *R. H. Williamson Esq. John Clark M. D &c.*
Stephen Pemberton M. D. William Cramlington Esq.
Secretaries, *Rev. William Turner, Mr R. Doubleday.*
Treasurer, *Mr T. Gibson.*
Committee, *John Ramsay M.D. Mr Walter Hall.*
Mr D. Stephenson, James Wood M D.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE FROM RUSSIA.

COMMUNICATED BY ARCTICUS.

Extraordinary cold produced by the vegetable alkali *.

PROFESSOR LOVITZ, the same mentioned in a former Article to have discovered a mode of restoring putrid fluids,

* Some slight notices of this important discovery were given in the Bee, vol. xv. p. 69. The following more particular account of it will be highly acceptable to our Philosophical readers.

particularly water, to their natural state, by simple admixture of pounded charcoal.

It appears by a late London newspaper, that Mr Lovitz, although probably ignorant of the fact, was not the first discoverer of the curious operation of charcoal on water; for in a paragraph of the said newspaper, (its date I have forgot, though probably sometime in December 1792.) I read, that a steward of the navy had discovered last war a mode of preserving *water sweet* for any length of time, by merely burning the inner surface of the casks, so as to produce *a coating of charcoal* a few lines thick. The above, which your correspondent quotes from memory, is exactly the principle of Mr Lovitz, and merits the attention of your victualling office *.

He has lately discovered a mode of chrystalizing the caustic vegetable alkali, *per se*, which dissolves so quickly when mixed with snow, and both become liquid so instantaneouly, as to produce a degree of cold which a man versed in these experiments, could have scarcely supposed possible, and which certainly does never obtain naturally in any part of the habitable globe. The utmost cold Dr Guthrie of this city was able to produce in 1785, by frigorific mixtures of nitrous acid and snow, when aided by a natural cold of twenty degrees below 0 of Reaumeur, was only thirty-six, that is only four degrees more than necessary to congeal mercury, in all its degrees of purity or adulteration, which he found made not the least difference with regard to its freezing point, uniformly at thirty-two of Reaumeur. But Mr Lovitz,

* Charcoal, from many late experiments, appears to be one of the most powerful chemical agents yet known, whose effects have never yet been sufficiently attended to; it is therefore recommended as a very proper object for experimental investigation by young men who are keen in the active pursuit of useful knowledge. *Edit.*

by means of the chrystalized caustic alkali, freezes mercury by the pound, nay in maſses of eight or twelve pounds at a time, in an iron pot in a warm room, heated to twelve degrees above the freezing point of Reaumeur, and produced thirty-six in his frigorific mixture below it. I cite here the particulars of his experiment in the imperial academy. He has never yet been able to freeze highly rectified spirit of wine, although he produced forty degrees of cold, aided by eighteen and a half natural cold, no more than his predeceſsor in these experiments mentioned above; a fact that would have staggered the belief of natural philosophy some years ago, when mercury was universally preferred for ascertaining the cold of the most northern countries, in perfect confidence that it was the most tenacious fluid of the two, with regard to its retention of heat. However, Dr Pallas and the other academicians who attended the experiments already mentioned in 1785, immediately gave up as fallacious, all their observations made in very high latitudes *with mercurial thermometers*, on seeing it freeze at thirty-two, and then cease to be a measurer of cold, as is literally the case. However, fortunately spirit of wine still remains fluid, and perfectly answers that purpose, in the greatest cold yet produced by all the refinement of physicks; indeed its resisting such an inconceiveable degree of cold as forty degrees of Reaumeur below the freezing point, equal to fifty-eight and one third below 0 of Fahrenheit, is rather a discovery of curiosity than use, as probably no animated being could live even in thirty-six; for we know that with a cold of thirty-four, all nature seems to be threatened with destruction, whether animal or vegetable; birds fall down dead; trees are rent with it: nay even the joists and beams of houses, make explosions as if blown up with gun powder, to the terror of the inhabitants, who dare not ſhow their faces to

the atmosphere, during the short reign of such a calamity, which all the furs of Siberia cannot make endurable to the most northern inhabitant.

Dephlogisticated fluor gas *.

Count Steremberg made his curious experiment here, to consume a diamond in a species of air which takes fire on coming in contact with the phlogistic gem.

The fluid which has this singular property, is the fluor air, distilled on manganese, in a tin retort, till it loses the power of corroding glass.

In my opinion the tin retort, in this process, can have no other use, than preventing the escape of the fluid, which would make its way through glass; but what merits attention is, that the fluor acid should be convertible into air after losing it phlogiston, (and certainly the manganese must dephlogisticate this, as it does the other acids,) for I think Dr Priestley found that he could not convert the marine acid into permanent air, after having gone through this very process. However I cite the learned doctor only from memory.

Literary news taken from the seventeenth volume of the labours of the Economical society of St Petersburg, printed in the Russian language, now in the press, and will appear soon.

On the *rhus typhinum* or vinegar plant, the *hirschkolben sumach*, of the Germans, a communication by the Aulic councellor Beber.

This plant, originally a native of North America, has been long cultivated in the north of Germany, and is lately introduced into Russia.

* This also was mentioned in a former number of the Bee vol. xv. p. 69.

It has got the name of the *vinegar plant* from the double reason of the young germen of its fruit, when fermented, producing either new, or adding to the strength of old weak vinegar, whilst its ripe berries afford an agreeable acid, which might supply the place, when necessary, of the *citric acid*.

The powerful astringency of this plant in all its parts, recommends it, according to the learned author of the paper, as useful in several of the arts.

As for example the ripe berries boiled with allum, make a good dye for hats.

The plant in all its parts may be used as a succedaneum for oak bark in tanning, especially the white glove leather. It will likewise answer to prepare a dye for black, green, and yellow colours; and with martial vitriol it makes a good ink.

The milky juice that flows from incisions made in the trunk or branches, makes, when dried, the basis of a varnish little inferior to the Chinese.

Bees are remarkably fond of its flowers; and it affords more honey than any of the flowering shrubs, so that it may prove a useful branch of economy, where rearing these insects is an object Lastly the natives of America use the dried leaves as tobacco Such is the subject of the paper on this curious astringent plant; but I presume we must allow something for the over rated account of its *German* cultivators, although I make no doubt but the learned author, whom I well know to be such, and a native of the country where it is in such esteem, has only faithfully collected them, and submitted the whole to the judgement of the society.

He enumerates five species which probably may suit different climates and soils, viz. the RHUS *typhinum, glabrum, copallinum, coriaria,* and *cotinus* *.

As to the cultivation of the *rhus typhinum*, the subject of this article, and which promises fair to answer with you, as it thrives in the north of Germany, where certainly the winters are ruder; it is first raised by seeds planted in autumn, which come up next spring, and may be afterwards multiplied by cuttings; nay, I must caution you that as the branches bend down, and plant themselves, it is easier got *in*, than out of ground, so that I recommend, in trying experiments with this, with the *asclepias Syriaca* or silk plant, and with the two species of *Siberian polygonum* or wild buckwheat, that you plant them in a spot bounded by a frame of boards, sunk deep enough in the gronnd to confine their subterraneous wanderings, otherways you may naturalize your foreign guests, whether you find them or not worth the privilege of denizens†.

AMERICAN ANECDOTE

DURING the war before last, a company of Indian savages defeated an English detachment. The conquered could not escape so swiftly as the conquerors persued. They

* All these are common in this country, except the *copallinum*, which is more rare. We have besides that the rhus *rhododendron*, which is hardy, and several kinds that require the green house or stove. *Edit.*

† The rhus *typhinum* in this country sends up great plenty of suckers, by which means it has been cultivated in this country sufficiently quickly to supply the demand for it; as it is here only considered as a shrub of no economical use, and not of great beauty. *Edit.*

were taken and treated with such barbarity, as is hardly to be equalled even in these savage countries.

A young Engliſh officer being purſued by two ſavages who approached him with upliſted hatchets, and ſeeing that death was inevitable, determined to ſell his life dearly. At this inſtant, an old ſavage, armed with a bow, was preparing to pierce his heart with an arrow; but ſcarcely had he aſſumed that poſture, when he ſuddenly let fall his bow, and threw himſelf between the young officer and his barbarian combatants, who inſtantly retired with reſpect.

The old Indian took the Engliſhman by the hand, diſpelled all his fears, by his careſſes, and conducted him to his cabin, where he always treated him with that tenderneſs which cannot be affected. He was leſs his maſter than his companion; taught him the Indian language, and made the rude acts of that country familiar to him. They lived contentedly together, and one thing only diſturbed the young Engliſhman's tranquillity; the old man would ſometimes fix his eyes on him, and, while he ſurveyed him attentively, tears fell in torrents from his eyes.

On the return of ſpring, however, they recommenced hoſtilities, and every one appeared in arms. The old man who had yet ſtrength ſufficient to ſupport the toils of war, ſet off with the reſt, accompanied by his priſoner. The Indians having marched above two hundred leagues through forests, at laſt arrived on the borders of a plain, where they diſcovered the Engliſh camp.

The old ſavage, obſerving the young man's countenance, ſhewed him the Engliſh camp. "There are thy brethren, (ſaid he to him,) waiting to fight us. Be attentive. I have ſaved thy life. I have taught thee to make a canoe, a bow, and arrows; to ſurpriſe an enemy in the foreſt, to manage the hatchet, and to carry off a ſcalp.

What wast thou, when I first conducted thee into my cabin? Thy hands were like those of a child; they served neither to support nor defend thee: thy soul was buried in the obscurity of night; you knew nothing; but from me you have learned every thing. Wilt thou be so ungrateful, with a view to reconcile yourself to your brethren, as to lift up the hatchet against us?"

The young Engliſhman protested, that he would rather a thousand times lose his own life, than ſhed the blood of one of his Indian friends.

The old savage covered his face with his hands, and bowed his head. After having been some time in that posture, he looked on the young Engliſhman, and said to him, in a tone mixed with tenderneſs and grief: "Hast thou a father?"—'He was living, (said the young man,) when I quitted my country.' "Oh! how unfortunate is he!" cried the old man; and after a moment's silence, he added, "knowest thou that I have been a father? I am no more such! I saw my son fall in battle; he fought by my side; my son fell covered with wounds, and died like a man! but I revenged his death, yes, I revenged it."

He pronounced these words in great agitation; his whole body trembled, and sighs and groans, which with difficulty found their way, almost suffocated him; his eyes lost their usual serenity, and his sighs could not find a paſsage from his heart. By degrees, he became more serene, and turning towards the east, where the sun was rising, he said to the young man; "Seest thou that gilded heaven, which spreads abroad its resplendent light? Does it afford thee any pleasure to behold it?" 'Yes,' said the Engliſhman, 'the sight adds new vigour to my heart.' "Ah, thou happy man: but to me it affords no pleasure!" replied the savage, ſhedding a flood of tears. A moment afterwards, he ſhewed the young man a ſhrub in bloom;

" Seest thou that beautiful flower? (said he) hast thou pleasure in beholding it?" 'Yes, I have,' replied the young man. " To me it no longer affords any," answered the savage hastily, and then concluded with these words. " Be gone, hasten to thy own country, that thy father may have pleasure in beholding the rising sun, and the flowers of the spring."

Index Indicatorius.

Criticus objects to the corn laws in force, (in 1791) and reprobates bounties as being highly pernicious. Instead of these, says he, " Let the land holders in each of the corn counties, erect themselves into a banking company, with a capital sufficient to purchase double the quantity of corn ever was exported in the most plentiful year, then let them give in so much of this capital as will be sufficient to lay up the corn of one year through that county, and whenever the corn fell so low in that county, as to allow of the bounty by the present regulation, let the occupiers of land deliver their corns into the nearest granary, as low as the bounty price; after this let the export be free, till the corn rise in any county ten per cent above the bounty price, then let it be stopt till it fall as low as before, or the free exportation be allowed again. He then proposes the large towns should each erect granaries, and purchase as much corn as would sustain the whole inhabitants a twelve months." *&c. &c.*

A *Welwisher* as early as March 1791, advises the margin of the Bee to be made larger, [this has since been done by enlarging the paper, without diminishing the size of the page.] " May I presume (says he) to beg of you to give us a head of an eminent Scotsman by way of frontispiece to each volume. It would beautify the work, and prove highly gratifying to many of your readers. This correspondent will observe his hints have not been thrown away. It always affords the Editor much satisfaction when he can comply with the wishes of his readers. And he is now happy in being able to give them prints that will vie with those of any other periodical performance. He has it in contemplation soon to get another head done of Dr Cullen, that he may be enabled to cancel the wretched thing he was compelled, through breach of faith in the operator, to give in the first number.

The Editor having been out of town, acknowledgements to correspondents are deferred.

Russian Sheep. PLATE FIRST.

THE ARGALI.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24. 1793.

ON THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SHEEP IN A WILD AND DOMESTIC STATE, REARED IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE, AND BY THE PASTORAL NATIONS FROM THE FRONTIERS OF EUROPE TO THOSE OF CHINA.

Continued from p. 45.

Siberian Argali or Wild Sheep.

With a plate.

I SHALL begin my paper with a general description of this animal, as it appears to be the parent of all our domestic varieties of ſheep, however changed by ſervitude, climate, food, *&c.* in the hands of man; but it would ſwell this diſſertation to a volume, to enter into its diſſection, and all the other minutiæ of zoology with my learned friend. The ſame obſervation is applicable to the many phyſiological and anatomical inquiries with which his notes are enriched, but which I have taken the liberty only to give an outline of, with the concluſions he draws from them; and even that I preſume is fully as much as will fall into the plan

of the society, or suit the bounds allotted to papers in the Bee; but the curious inquirer may have recourse for that species of information to Dr Pallas's learned work, his Spicilegia Zoologica fasciculus undecimus, printed at Berlin in 1776.

Dr Pallas found the *ovis fera*, or wild ſheep, in all its native vigour, boldneſs, and activity, inhabiting the vast chain of mountains which run through the centre of Asia to the eastern sea, and the branches which it sends off to Great Tartary, China, and the Indies.

This wild animal which our learned naturalist declares to be the *musimon* of Pliny, and the *ophion* of the Greeks, is called *argali* by the Siberians, which means wild ſheep; and by the Ruſsians *kamennoi barann*, or ſheep of the rocks, from its ordinary place of abode.

It delights in the bare rocks of the Asiatic chain just mentioned, where it is constantly found baſking in the sun; but it avoids the woods of the mountains, and every other object that would intercept the direct rays of the glorious luminary.

Its food is the Alpine plants and ſhrubs it finds amongst the rocks. The *argali* prefers a temperate climate, although he does not disdain that of Asiatic Siberia, as he there finds his favourite bare rocks, sun ſhine, and Alpine plants; nay it is even found in the cold eastern extremity of Siberia and Kamtſhatka, which plainly proves that nature has given a most extensive range to the ſheep in a *wild* state, equal even to what ſhe has given to *man*, the lord of the creation; a fact that ought to make

us slow in believing the asertions hinted at in my introduction, which tend to prove the sheep a local animal; or at least confined to certain latitudes, to posses it in all its value*.

The *argali* loves solitude, or possibly perfect liberty, and therefore flees the haunts of all-subduing man; hence it gradually abandons a country in proportion as it becomes peopled, if no unsurmountable obstacle obstructs its flight; insomuch that Dr Pallas thinks that nothing but the surrounding sea can account for the wild sheep being found in an inhabited island; as is sometimes the case.

The ewe of the *argali* brings forth before the melting of the snow. Her lamb resembles much a young kid; except that they have a large flat protuberance in place of horns, and that they are covered with a woolly hair frizzled and of a dark grey. There is no animal so shy as the *argali*, which it is almost impossible to overtake on such ground as it keeps to. When pursued it does not run streight forward, but doubles and turns like a hare, at the same time that it scrambles up, and over the rocks with wonderful agility. In the same proportion that the adult *argali* is wild and untameable, the lamb is easy to

* We learn from Bruce's travels, or rather we have there a confirmation of what was known long ago, that the *horse* is a native of a very hot climate, and is found in his greatest beauty, activity, fire, &c. between the latitude 20° and 36°; yet there is no part of the world where that noble animal is reared in greater perfection than in Great Britain, where by crossing the breed, you have obtained all the qualities of the different races united into one.

tame when taken young, and fed first on milk, and afterwards on fodder, like the domestic ſheep, as has been found on numerous experiments made in the Ruſsian settlements in these parts.

This Animal formerly frequented the regions about the upper *Irtiſh*, and some other parts of Siberia, where it is no longer seen since colonies have been settled in these countries. It is common in the Mongalian, Songarian, and Tartarian mountains, where it enjoys its favourite solitude or liberty. The *argali* is found likewise on the banks of the Lena, up as high as 60 degrees of north latitude; and it propagates its species even in Kamtchatka, as noticed before. The doctor gives us a description of a young *argali* ram of that country, which he took from Steller's zoological manuscript, a naturalist who had been sent in a former reign to explore the wilds of Siberia.

The *argali* is also found in the mountains of *Persia*, of which variety we have a stuffed ſkin in the museum of the imperial academy of sciences, sent here by Gmelin, who travelled about the same time with Pallas; and one of that last mentioned gentleman from *Dauria*, of which he has given a general description whilst alive, to be seen at the end of this article; although he had not then sufficient leisure to be so particular as he has been in the description of a female *argali*, (likewise translated in this article,) although not with all the minuteneſs of the doctor's zoological accuracy; for the reasons given above.

The same wild animal is also said to obtain in the Kuril islands in great size and beauty.

The *argali* purges itself in the spring, (like all the domestic varieties of the ſheep, when left at liberty to follow their inſtinct; as will be more fully ſhown in the sequel,) with acrid plants of the anemonoide kind, till milder plants ſpring up, and ſhrubs begin to ſprout, which with Alpine plants conſtitute its usual food. It likewiſe frequents the ſalt marſhes which abound every where in Siberia; and even licks the ſalt efflorescence that riſes on the ground, a regimen that fattens them up very quickly, and fully reſtores the health, vigour, and fleſh they had loſt during winter, and during the purging courſe, ſo wonderfully dictated to the ſheep species, together with the reſtorative, by the Almighty, whether in a wild or tame ſtate, if left to roam at large where the neceſsary plants are to be found.

I cannot finiſh the subject of the Siberian *argali* or *musimon* of Pallas, without taking notice of a note, by your learned naturaliſt Mr. Pennant, to the article ſheep in his Britiſh Zoology, where he says, that he has had thrice an opportunity within these two years, of examining the *musimon*, and he found that both in the form of the *horns*, and ſhortneſs of the tail, it has the greateſt agreement with the *goat*, in which species he has therefore placed it in his Synopsis, with the trivial name of *Siberian*. Now Mr Pennant does not mention from what country these animals were which he examined, but certainly they muſt have been different from the Siberian *argali*, of which I have sent an exact coloured drawing, furniſhed by the doctor himſelf, and which agrees with the ſheep in every thing else; and as for the tail, its length is so various in the dif-

ferent varieties of sheep, from a couple of inches to two feet and upwards, (as will be seen in this paper) that no *specific* difference can be concluded from that. But Dr. Pallas also found the parent animal of the goat species in a *wild state*, on the mountains of Caucasus and Taurus, which he has named *ægagrus*, and which agrees in all essential characters with the domestic goat, particularly in the *horns*: but this wild goat must not be confounded with the *Ibex*, another animal resembling the goat at first sight, but widely differing from it on nearer inspection, more particularly in the horns, of which I send you a drawing, as well as of those of the *ægagrus*, (*see plate* 4th) to be compared by the curious with one another, and with those of the *Siberian argali*, well delineated in the coloured figure of the animal. The *ibex*, of which Dr. Pallas has learnedly treated, is found on the same mountains of Siberia with the *argali*, but inhabiting a much higher region, amidst clouds and snow, whilst the *wild sheep* keeps to the lower, and delights in the warmth of the sun, reflected from the bare inferior rocks, as much as the *ibex* does in cold. It by no means falls into the plan of this paper, to enter further into the history of these two curious animals, which are both in a manner foreign to my subject, and the pursuits of the society to which it is addressed. I shall only take the liberty to suggest a doubt, (which I hope will not offend so respectable a zoologist as Mr. Pennant.) Whether the three animals he examined were not rather the *ægagrus* than the *argali* of Pallas? from the circumstance of his having ranked them with the *goat* species. If they came

from the East Indies, they were probably of the *ægagrus* kind, as that animal frequents the mountains of India and Persia. Since writing the above, Pallas tells me, that Mr Pennant has publiſhed a later work on the zoology than the one I have, and that he has poſsibly cleared up the subject there, although he does not remember to have read the article, nor did he the note I have commented on, in the midst of his numerous and various labours in natural history, and other literary vocations, recommended to him by her imperial majesty. *

Description of the OVIS FERA, *or wild ſheep, the* ARGALI *of the Siberians.*

It is about the *height* of a small hart, but its make is much more robust and nervous.

Its *form* is leſs elegant than that of the deer, and its legs and neck ſhorter.

The male is larger than the female, and every way stouter.

Its *head* resembles that of a ram, with long straggling hairs about the mouth ; but no beard.

Its *ears* are rather smaller than those of a ram.

The form of its *horns* will be best understood by the inspection of the drawing sent ; they weigh in an adult sometimes sixteen pounds.

* Mr. Pennant in the last edition of his natural history of quadrupeds, makes three several species. 1. wild ſheep, (*argali, ophion, musimon.*) 2. Bearded, which he formerly called Siberian goat. This differs from the *argali* by its beard, and the great length of hair on its breast. 3. Caucasan goat, the ægagrus of Pallas. Thus he restores the ægagrus to the goat, and the other to the ſheep genus. Edit.

Tail is very short.

The summer coat consists of ſhort hair, sleek, and resembling that of a deer.

The winter coat consists of wool like down, mixed with hair, every where an inch and an half long at leaſt, concealing at its roots a fine woolly down, of a white colour, in general.

As to colour and all other particulars, I refer to the drawing, executed and coloured from life by the doctor's draughtsman, under his own eye.

The doctor examined in Dauria, a lamb of the *argali* or wild ſheep, and found its coat even four or five inches long in some parts, and sufficiently soft, with hair much finer than in the deer kind; nor was it undulated like it.

The colour of its coat was in general of a dark greyiſh brown, with white tips to the longer hairs, and consisted of hair mixed with wool, of a dark iron grey.

The doctor likewise saw in 1768, amongst some garments brought from the islands lying between the continent of America and Kamtchatka, strings that were made of a *white wool*, which the doctor was certain had been taken from the *argali*, and he was confirmed in his opinion on observing that it was mixed with hair.

Dr. Pallas on reading this article, made the following addition to it.

By accounts lately received from the Tſhutſki, the *argali* is found of a white colour on the *continent of America*, opposite to their country. It is likewise of a whitiſh colour at Kamtchatka; which was ano-

ther reason for supposing that the above mentioned strings were made from the fleece of that animal.

The doctor procured in the Ruſsian Dauria, between the rivers Onon and Argun, an adult male *argali*, or wild ram, with an adult female, or wild ſheep. Below is given the weight and measurement of them, as likewise of an argali lamb of about three months old.

The male *argali* or wild ram, weighed, whilst entire, three hundred and ten medical pounds. It measured in French feet, inches, and lines.

	f.	*i.*	*l.*
Total length from the upper lip to the anus	5	9	10
Length of the horns following their curve,	3	10	9
Diſtance between them at the baſe, - -			6
Their circumference at the baſe, - -	1	2	11
Diſtance between their tips in front, -	2	7	9
Ditto between their poſterior arches, meaſured over the neck.	1	4	2

The weight of a ſingle argali horn with its *oſseo nucleo* was ſixteen Ruſsian pounds.

(N. B. 40 Ruſsian pounds make 36 Engliſh.)

The above deſcribed male argali, Dr. Pallas had only time to examine ſuperficially, and is the ſame of which the ſkin is to be ſeen, ſtuffed, in the muſeum of the imperial academy of ſcienes at St. Peterſburg, with another of the Perſian variety of the argali, ſent by Gmelin, about the ſame time. But the doctor's deſcription of the following is much more diſtinct.

The female *argali* or wild ſheep weighed when entire 209½ medical pounds.

	f.	*l.*	*i.*
Total length from the upper lip to the anus	5	3	0

Forequarter, its height from the heel to the spine.	3	4	0
Hindquarter, its height from ditto to ditto.	3	5	7
Head, length of it from the upper lip to the middle of the forehead, directly between the horns.	1	0	4
Circumference of the muzzle measured over the *sinus labiorum*.		9	11
Distance between the eyes and ears,		2	0
Ditto between the eyes.		6	0
Ditto between the ears and horns.		1	4
Ditto between the ears, measured over the throat.	1	0	8
Length of the ears,		4	8
Circumference at their base,		4	3
Distance between the horns at their base,		1	2
Ditto between them at their tips.	1	2	8
Length of the horns following their curve,	1	4	
Circumferance at their base,		6	8
Ditto, of the neck at the head,	1	2	
Ditto, of ditto at the shoulders,	1	5	11
Length of the neck,	1	0	7
Trunk, circumference of it at the fore legs,	3	6	5
Ditto ditto in the middle,	3	10	6
Ditto ditto at the hind legs,	3	2	5

An argali lamb about three months old, weighed whilst entire, eighty-four medical pounds.

	f.	*i.*	*l.*
Total length from the upper lip to the anus,	2	11	8
Forequarter, height from the heel to the spine,	2	1	9
Hindquarter, height of ditto from ditto,	2	3	9
Length of the *horns* in following their curve,	2	3	9

	f.	i.	l.
Distance between them at their base, -			10½
Ditto between their tips measured over the muzzle,	1	9	0
Ditto, between their posterior arches, measured over the neck,	1	2	6
Circumference of them at their base. -	1	0	0

To be continued.

FRAGMENTS BY BACON.

Art of life in ordinary expence, with due but splendid economy.

For the Bee.

Continued from vol. 15. p. 327.

* * * * I DOE sweetly remember when I was at Gorhambury with my father, *my ever to be honoured father*, I being then a student at Cambridge, did greatly wonder at the changes he had wrought in my absence, both upon his mansion, and upon his orchyard and garden.

As we were one lovely evening reposing ourselves in the little banqueting house in the orchyard *, which was just then finished and provided

* It will be curious and interesting to many of the readers of these fragments of Bacon, to set down in this place, the list of worthies placed by Sir Nicholas Bacon in his banqueting house in the orchard, as it will serve to shew without any argument, the astonishing progress of science since the year 1578, when this conference took place, a few months before the death of the lord keeper.

with pictures of eminent worthies, and no person being present but my young schoolfellow Rawley, I did turn unto my father, and with cordial affection, mixed with great expresions of admiration, did exceedingly descant upon the beauties of his innovations; yet not without some expresions that indicated the great charges that I thought must needs have accompanied these undertakings.

Grammar.
Donatus. Lilly, Servius, Priscian.
Arithmetick.
Pythagoras, Stifelius, Budæus.
Logick.
Aristotle, Rodolphus, Porphiry, Seton!
Musick.
Arion! Terpander! Orpheus!!!
The list in *Rhetorick* as good as ever.
Cicero, Isocrates, Demosthenes, Quintillian.
Geometry.
Archimedes, Euclid, Apollonius.
Astronomy.
Regiomontanus, Hally! Copernicus, Ptolomy!

Be pleased now my dear readers, to take your pens, and set down a few names as they may occur to you; Ramus, Verulam, Gasendi, Descartes, Leibnitz, Harris, Lowth, &c. Napier, Briggs, &c. Leibnitz, Harris, *encore et encore.*

Palestrina, Carolo, Gosualdo, Arctino, Corelli, Handel, Geminani, &c. &c. Gregory, Wolfie, Simson, Newton, &c. Newton, *encore et encore.* Halley, Cassini, d'Alembert, Bernoulli, de la Lande, Mr de la Grange, &c. *encore et encore;* and then judge for yourselves how much we owe to the great lord Verulam for his sketches, for his opening men's eyes, and teaching them to think for themselves.

It was the glory of lord Bacon, to lay a foundation for banishing the breivary of the cloyster, and introducing the breviary of reason and common sense.

" Wave your toupees ye little paulty criticks, in sign of worship wave."

Whereupon my father with a smile of amiable complacency, and strict intelligence of my thoughts, did thus with great condescension, apply himself to the train of my reflexions.

My son, (said he,) verily it giveth me no small contentment to see that in the midst of admiration, and kind fellowship, in my delectations, you do show forth the rudiments and seeds of the fair blosom of prudence and economy, which I pray God to ripen into the goodly fruit of *well ordered expence*; a virtue which standeth high on the tree of the knowledge of good, and of evil.

Engaged as I have long been in a function of great fatigue and anxiety of mind, it was necessary that I should seek for recreations that should renew the vigour of my mind, and fit me for continuing the performance of mine arduous duties.

In none could I find such sweet and healthful variety as in these you now behold, which I take to be the purest of humane pleasures, as they were indeed the first that were devised and recommended unto man by his heavenly maker.

God Almighty first planted a garden, and he hath planted in the mind of man an extraordinary delight in the operations of agriculture, and in beholding the growth and progress of the vegetable kingdom.

It is the greatest refreshment to the spirits of man, without which, even palaces are but gross handy works, and a man shall ever see, that when ages grow to civility and elegance, they lose the chaste fruition of the simple delights that hide themselves

in the country, and betake themselves to the pomp of buildings, and the glare and noise of cities, to the great deperition and ruin of all the finer affections of the soul, that is not depraved by artificial and unnatural delectations.

Now, if a man reliſh not the turbulent pleasures of a city, during the seasons of receſs from buſineſs, he must betake himself to the recreations of the country.

But if he fall into the rude sports, and crapulous exceſses of esquires, which ever succeed to the violent exertions of hawking and hunting, his last estate will be worse than the former.

For a man ever aſſimilateth himself unto what is close unto him, and continually subjected to his senses; and by following of dogs and of hawks, and by living with horses and horse keepers, he will become brutal in his appetites, and unseemly in his manners, changing the celestial image of his maker, into the likeneſs of the inferior creatures with whom he herdeth.

Certainly therefore, as a man of competent riches must have, or seek to have, pleasing occupations of leisure, that ſhall exhibit some marks of his own ingenuity or ſkill in contrivance, none can be more apposite, innocent, or praise worthy, than those of agriculture, horticulture, and plantation.

Yet in all these, as in every other divertisement to which a man may take for his recreation, regard must be had to the worth of the occasion, and to the extent of his fortune.

When I did obtain this manor from Sir Ralph Rowlet, I found it indeed rich in soil, as having been long manured by wealthy churchmen, and abounding in orchyard, but otherwise, from neglect, fallen into rank and uselefs vegetation.

I did therefore set myself first to prepare a plain but commodious dwelling for myself, and for my servants, and hyndes, and then as now to increase both the fertility and amenity of the fields.

But in all this I have been gradual, and have expended no more than I was used to do upon other divertisements, which were now supplanted by the sweeter and more profitable divertisements of the country. And now, my son, since I am upon the right ordering of expence, and that we have occasion of leisure, I will dilate a little to you, and to your friend Rawley, on this great and important particular of the art of life, without which all other particulars are vain and uselefs, and do end but in trouble and in vexation of spirit.

The first great maxim of economy is, that a man in any degree above the lowest, fhould consider that his ordinary expences, as relating to the mouth, wardrobe, and equipage, do bear but a small proportion unto extraordinaries which cannot so well bear calculation, and are always estimated much below their outgoings; so that at the last many men forbear looking into their real estates and situations, not so much from culpable negligence, as from thinking thereby to bring themselves into melancholy, in respect that they fhall find them broken.

But wounds cannot be cured without searching, and he that cannot look into his own estate at all, had need both choose well those whom he employeth, and change them often; *to pay as he goeth*, and turn all his receipts into certainties, that he may order his economy without the danger of disappointment.

* * * My son! riches have wings, and sometimes they fly away of themselves, sometimes they must be set a-flying to bring in more, but do thou guard adventures with certainties, that may uphold losses.

Now certainly nothing can so guard you against the evils of poverty, as a strict economy in the management of your affairs, and a shunning of those expensive enjoyments which do not only waste the purse, but enfeeble both the soul and the body.

Another grand maxim therefore in the art of life, touching expence, is to consider well what be absolutely necessary unto comfort and well doing, and not to mar contentment, by giving vain desires any strong holds in your imagination. If a man goeth into a brass founder's shop, or into a market of divers wares, he will bethink himself of many wants, whereof most are needless, and spring from the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, and few, very few indeed, of indispensible utility.

So it is also in the general experience of life, throughout all its departments. When you go out into the world, every day will present new objects that will draw forth your concupiscence, and you will not be able to marshall them in their due

estimation but *by abstaining from all those that are not absolutely necessary to your subsistance, and far within the limits of your fortune and estate.*

I recommend unto you the carrying tablets always about with you, whereupon to write and make due entries of the smallest expenditure; and that you do most religiously write out the same, fair and correctly, (however inconsiderable it may be,) before you sleep.

Four times in the year at least, during the great festivals, it will be of high import that you do strictly examine all the entries of your expenditure, and maturely consider how far you have swelled some, and diminished others, beyond a reasonable proportion, so that you may be able thereafter to proportion them more to your comfort.

As if you be plentiful in diet, to be saving in apparel; and so in the rest. The upshot also of these considerations I would that you commit unto writing, that these tablets may be unto you as a manuel for the right ordering of economy in expence. Take care that you be not penny wise, and pound foolish. *Beware of beginning charges which once begun, will continue;* but be frank, especially in the giving of rewards for services that will not often return.

Cast not away your doublet if it will serve for your other apparel; and be chiefly careful in those things, which return daily, and hourly, and are not in the sight and ken of your fellows.

Finally, my son, be substantially great in thyself, and more than thou appearest unto others; and let the world be deceived in thee, as they are in the lights of heaven.

Hang early plummets upon the heels of pride, which engendereth foolish expence; and let any ambition, save that of virtue, have but a narrow circuit in thee. Measure not thyself by thy morning shadow, but by the extent of thy grave. Spread not into the boundless expansions either of designs or desires.

Think not that mankind liveth but for the sport and grandeur of a few; and that the rest are born but to serve those ambitious which in courtly wars make but flies of men, and wildernesses of whole nations, to serve the turn of a few sceptered families.

If thou must needs rule, be one of Zeno's kings, and enjoy the empire of thyself. He who is thus his own auto-crator contentedly sways the scepter of himself, and enjoyeth not the glory of crowned heads, and the dignitaries of the earth!

Thus ended the exhortation of mine excellent father.

Oh, how my heart burneth within me, when I think of these things; and remember when, and from whence they came! * * *

ON HE GOOSEBERRY CATERPILLAR.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IN your Bee of the 12th of June, I read the observations of your correspondent C. on the gooseberry caterpillar with great pleasure; and as he wiſhes every information on that subject, I wiſh to send some of my own observations through the channel of your useful paper. I must own, (being fond of the pleasures of a garden,) I am an inveterate enemy to the gooseberry caterpillar, and the slug snail. I have tried many experiments for some years back, which are as follow, by which I mean to prevent others giving themselves the same unneceſsary trouble.

I first tried waſhing the buſhes with salt water.—That had no effect. I next tried a mixture of kyan pepper, glauber's salt, tobacco dust, and salt, all mixed together, and soaked for some days in urine; I then took a bruſh and strewed it all over the buſh:—this did not destroy them: I only observed them stop feeding for some hours, and then went on as formerly, as soon as the buſh dried. I next tried a small quantity of brimstone, and covered the buſh over with a cloth, and set fire to the brimstone at the bottom of the buſh: this destroyed the caterpillar, but at the same time it also destroyed the whole leaves of the buſh for that season. I next tried a method of driving them off the buſhes as follows. I took a small hand hoe, and with that lif-

ted up a handful or two of earth, and taking of the earth in my hand, threw it with force against the bush: this drives most of them off; and I think, if they were properly collected and destroyed after, this would be a very good method; but it will require often practising. I found another very successful way of destroying them, (but this would be too tedious in large plantations,) it is looking over the bushes, and whenever you see them on the leaves, take them betwixt the thumb and fingers on the leaf, and squeeze them, leaving them on the bush, as this prevents the others coming to the same leaf; at the same time, you should be careful to pick off all the leaves you see full of small holes; for they contain all the young tribe in great numbers. But the most effectual method I have as yet found out, is this: take a brush in form of a common bottle brush, but much larger, with a stronger handle than common; take two small cloths, which will spread rather more than the circumference of your bush; place one on each side under the bush, overlapping each other; then take the brush and rub over all the branches, and at bottom: you will be surprised what vast quantities fall off into the cloths; then put a stone in the center of each cloth, taking them carefully up by each corner, and shake them up and down, which drives the whole of them down to the stone: you may then spread your cloths under another bush, till you have sufficient to take away and burn or otherwise destroy. You will find on brushing thick bushes, a great number of that fly, which your correspondent C. mentions, fall down into the cloths, and attempt to

run, and not fly away: they are only of one kind, but whether the male or female I cannot say. Destroy them likewise.

If your correspondent C. will carefully look at the bottom of the bushes, and under some old branches, he will find the caterpillar all the winter over; or by striking the bush with your foot, after all the leaves are gone, he will see them dropping themselves down the same as a spider, but remarkably small, their substance being quite exhausted: these I imagine, turn into the fly early in the spring, and hatch their eggs at the bottom of the bush; as they generally begin to feed there first. When the bush begins to thicken with leaves, the flies then conceal themselves mostly in the middle of the bushes; one of them is much more active than the other, and does not suffer itself so easily to be taken.

I intend to make a trial, (this winter,) on a few bushes, with pouring boiling water over the bottom of them in frost; this will prevent the hot water from destroying the roots, better than in fresh weather. If you think these remarks can be of any service, I shall be much obliged to you in giving them a place in your useful paper, and am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

June 23. I. K.
1793.

P. S. I forgot to acquaint you, that I have tried quick lime some years ago, but it destroyed the leaf more than the caterpillar.

HINTS ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS OF DOMESTIC ECONOMY, FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN GOTHENBURG.

Brewing from unmalted Barley.

NOT long ago, I met with a small treatise on the subject of brewing and distilling, publiſhed in the year 1771, by a volunteer in the king of Sweden's life gaurds; which I have read with attention, and must say the author diſcovers no inconsiderable knowledge of the arts on which he treats. In Britain it is common to distil spirits partly from unmalted grain; but our author points not only at that, but also at a method of brewing good ale, from barley with a very small addition of malt. For my own part, I must own, I am prepoſseſsed in favour of the old system of brewing from malt only, as it is by means of vegetation, that barley developes its farinaceous, and more especially its saccharine properties: so that I have often thought the old Scotch rhime inexplicable, and ridiculous, which says,

That Wallace Wight,
Upon a night,
Threw in a stack of bear,
And 'fore next morn,
At gray day light;
He'd drink o't to himself,
And draff o't to his *mear*.

However, this riddle may be solved, if we suppose the Scotch in the days of Wallace understood the art of brewing ale from unmalted barley.

Candles made from herring oil.

About same time I mentioned to you, that a Swediſh boor in the island of Oroust, had succeſsfully used a certain proportion of herring oil, along with tallow, to make candles of, and that the smell was not offensive. I have been told that a very little alum was used in the composition; but if the herring oil previously edulcorated, I think it ſhould answer still better. In this proceſs I apprehend charcoal might become a powerful agent; and if you could suggest any proceſs whereby the two following points could be gained, you would do me a favour.

1*st*, To sweeten or edulcorate herring oil, so as to deprive it of its fetid or rancid quality. And,

2*dly*, To reduce, or bring the same oil into the consistence of tallow.

The first of these may be probably attained by charcoal, and some other ingredients, but the second is perhaps a more ridiculous proposition. I have however to state, that herring oil in its original state, aſsimulates honey or soft butter, in so much that it has been taken for the latter by some of our own countrymen. Do you think that a small proportion of bees wax, or rosin, boiled up with the oil would bring it into the consistence of tallow; or are any other ingredients more suitable? I mean this to be done after the oil is edulcorated. And I can aſsure you, if this last point could be gained, you might be supplied with an article for your soap boilers and candlemakers, much cheap-

er from this country, than from Ruſsia. But this can only happen when the herring oil aſsumes a new form; for you know that all foreign train oil is loaded with a duty on importation into Britain, equal to a prohibition.

Swediſh stoves.

Our Swediſh stoves are the most useful, elegant, and economical fire places of that kind in Europe; and I really think, that when you complain so much of the scarcity of fuel in different parts of Scotland, you ſhould have recourse to such an invention. I aſsure you, we keep ourselves warm here in very cold weather, by firing only twice in twenty-four hours; and that the value of 20s. worth of wood, is sufficient fuel for a stove the year round.

The stoves alluded to, are made of a kind of porcelain or delft ware; and a handsome stove for a room of fourteen or fifteen feet square, can be got for 5l. or 6l. sterling. The larger and more elegant cost 10l. and 15l. But such stoves can be built wholly of bricks at a very trifling expence; and I must say, that this last sort, when plastered and painted with water colours, are extremely neat.

It is indeed a little difficult to erect such fire places, owing to the various evolutions of the flues, though I think I could make you master of the buſineſs either by a drawing, or by a wooden model *.

* The Editor will be much obliged to his correspondent for such a drawing and explanation.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

Sir By inserting the little poem that accompanies this into the Bee, you will, I imagine, please many of your readers, and oblige.

AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.

CLITO TO DELIA.

DEAR maid! accept the breathings of an heart
That's rack'd, and tortur'd by each varied smart;
My soul, with thy lov'd, heav'nly form imprest,
No comfort knows—No interval of rest!
My hours, from morn till night, elapse in pain,
Death I invoke—but death invoke in vain!
When our tall ſhip, her spreading sails unfurl'd,
With prosp'rous winds, ſhe plough'd the wat'ry world:
Swift, o'er the flood, ſhe stretch'd for *India's* coast,
Whilst thee, I hourly mourn'd, my Delia, lost!
Sometimes, I climb'd the topmast's lofty height,
And gaz'd—till gazing, dim'd my ling'ring sight:
Fix'd my fond eyes toward *Britannia's* ſhore,
Where center'd *all I lov'd*—my richest store!
Sometimes, incumbent, o'er the stern I'd lean,
And, weeping, swell the billows of the main,
Charg'd ev'ry gentle breeze that ſkim'd the sea,
To bear my sighs, and wiſhes, back to thee!
To books I fled, to cure my ceaseleſs grief,
But' Ah! nor books, nor aught could give relief;
And, when at night, with sorrow quite opprest,
Reclin'd I lay, and, sought in sleep to rest,
Some little respite from despair to know,
Sleep, only added to my piercing woe!
For fancy ſhew'd me thy ecstatic charms,
Careſs'd, and fondled in another's arms;
Gave, to my tortur'd sight, my lovely fair,
The flowing ringlets of thine auburn hair,
Thy heav'nly form, that might a God enslave,
Make old age youthful and the coward brave;
Gave to some raptur'd rival's happy arms,
The full poſſeſsion of thy glowing charms!
Then, then I rav'd! and, raving, wak'd again,
Each hour to prove accumulating pain!
Oh, *Delia!* would some zephyr to thee tell,
What mighty torments in my bosom dwell;
What keen anxieties—inceſsant woe,
For thy loved sake, my fair, I undergo:
Pity, alone, would move thy tender breast,
To make thy *Clito's* faithful paſsion blest.

Yes, *Clito's* love, (though driv'n to *India's* shore
Shall burn for thee untill his life be o'er.
No other fair one, shall my heart arrest,
Nor tear thy image from my constant breast.
Tear thee from me! thou, empress of my soul!
Thou only object where my passions roll;
Tear, from thy *Clito*, thy lov'd—beaming eyes;
Thy matchless beauty—thy eternal joys!
Sooner the *Alps* and *Pyrenees* shall stand
Encompass'd in the hollow of my hand;
Sooner shall heav'n and hell in concord reign,
And raging flames emerge from out the main,
Than e'er one treach'rous thought of thee shall rest
Within the latent confines of my breast!

Oh! wert thou *Delia*, poorest of the poor!
Forc'd keen distress, and hardship to endure:
Wert thou, my fair one, of the meanest train,
Still, would thy virtues, my affections gain;
Still, I'd prefer the lustre of thine eye,
To all the wealth Golconda's mines supply!
Can sordid gold productive be of peace,
Yield solid comfort, or unsated bliss?
Ah! no, my fair! 'Tis mighty love alone,
Can make these joys that rival heav'n, our own!

Often I ramble to some lurid spot,
And, weeping, tell the winds my helpless lot,
Carve thy delightful name on ev'ry tree,
And make responsive echo sing of thee!

Thrice happy those! who, in embow'ring shades,
Sequester'd grottos, and umbrageous glades,
Who, mid the windings of the forest dale,
Or, on the margin of th' enamell'd vale,
Can unreserv'd, the feelings of the heart,
And smiles expressive, mutually impart;
Can safely, all their fervent passion tell,
And ev'ry anxious, latent thought reveal;
How blest their lot! whilst I, in sad despair,
Am exil'd far from "all my soul holds dear."

But, cease my heart, be quell'd my poignant grief;
Indulgent heav'n, will give me yet relief;
Give, in the compass of my circling arms,
My lovely *Delia*, and her blissful charms!
Then, shall no father's hard, unfeeling heart,
Compel us, oh! my *Delia*, more to part:
No pangs of absence, then, shall intervene,
To vex our constant, happy souls again;
But once reclin'd upon each raptur'd breast,
Be ever blessing, and for ever blest!

T.

AN EXAMPLE OF A PARTICULAR ABUSE OF POWER.

SIR. *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I HAVE been a constant reader of your Bee since its commencement, and have found much useful information in it on many subjects. But there are some that I think of great importance, you have never so much as touched on. With your permission I shall state a case of that sort which lately occurred to me. It is a grievance of a very heavy nature; nor do I know how to obtain a remedy for it.

You must know, Mr Printer, that I am a farmer, and have a numerous family, most of them boys; and am not a little difficulted about finding proper businesses for them all. Farms are now so dear in our neighbourhood, and so ill to be had, that I am obliged to look for other businesses for most of them to follow. My third son, having made a visit to Edinburgh made choice of a profession there: and having communicated his wishes to me, I thought it afforded no unreasonable prospect of enabling him to live by it, if prosecuted with attention and economy; and agreed to let him follow it. I accordingly took an opportunity of speaking to a man in that business, who agreed to take him as an apprentice, on his serving four years without receiving any wages, and paying an apprentice fee of —— pounds. After some hesitation on my part, and explanations to prevent mistakes, I agreed to the proposal: my son was bound,—the prenticeship is now expired, and my son returned home.

Now, Sir, though I do not mention what the business is, lest it might lead to a knowledge of the parties, and thus appear to be personal; which I observe you justly

dislike, it is neceſsary you ſhould be informed that it is a buſineſs of such a nature as consists of three departments, two of which are merely mechanical; for performing the offices of which departments, though apprentices are bound for a certain number of years, yet they not only pay no apprentice fee; but even receive wages from their master during the whole currency of the apprenticeſhip. The third department is of a higher nature, and which alone was the department to which my son was bound; as the conditions of the indenture sufficiently ſhow. As an illustration of the case, supposing a man was to be bound an apprentice as an architect, to a master builder, who along with the practice of architecture, carried on the buſineſs of building on a large scale; he, in this case, must have under him both masons and carpenters; and perhaps bricklayers, and plasterers. Now, it so happened that when my son came home from his apprenticeſhip, and I interrogated him as to his buſineſs; to my utter astoniſhment and vexation, I found that he knew nothing at all of that part of the buſineſs for which he had served his time; and that instead of learning *it* he had been employed entirely in the mechanical departments, during his whole time: and thus had become a mere drudge to save his master the money he must have paid for a labourer all the time, without receiving any benefit from him in the way of his profeſsion properly so called. It was as if, in the fore-cited illustration; instead of being taught the buſineſs of an architect, he had been confined entirely to the buſineſs of a mason or a bricklayer.

This appeared to me such a breach of faith as excited a degree of indignation greater than I can well expreſs. I considered the man who had deliberately committed such an injury to me, as worse than a robber; and in a

paroxysm of rage and vexation, went to consult my laird, who is a kind master, and a humane protector of the poor, to see if no legal redrefs could be obtained for such an injury. My good master, who listened patiently to the whole of my tale, having a large family of his own, may God blefs and long preserve them!—Calmly answered, "Indeed, John, the injury you have sustained is such as might ruffle the temper of any man a little, but while we are in this world, we must be perpetually exposed to lofses and disasters; nor can we hope to get full redrefs in many cases. I am afraid you have, yourself, been somewhat to blame. Why did you not look into that matter sooner; and, before it was too late, either insist with your son's master to put him to that part of the businefs for which he was bound, or take him away before the time was elapsed in which he ought to have been learning something else?" 'Blefs your honour, said I, how could I conceive that it would be posible for a gentleman who promised so fair to me at the time of my son's engagement, and who spoke so favourably of my son every time I saw him, praising him for his talents and attention; how could I suppose it posible that such a man was imposing upon me all the time! Besides, I was not so entirely inattentive as you seem to imagine. I frequently asked my son how he liked his master, and how he came on with his businefs; and though there were some little jarrings, yet upon the whole he spoke very highly of his master; and I, in general, recommended attention to him, and submifsion to the orders of his master; for this I thought it my duty to do. When I inquired as to his knowledge of the higher department, he did not explain himself so fully as to make it clear to me he was absolutely precluded from it; and when I heard of his labouring in the other departments, I thought there was no harm is his knowing the

whole, and did not wish to encourage the idea of his assuming the airs of a gentleman too early; on these accounts, and from my son himself assuring me that he would be instructed in all the departments before the close of his apprenticeship, I contented myself with recommending it to him to be attentive to it. In this way things went on; and having been much hurried with the seed time this year, I had no opportunity of being in town towards the close of his apprenticeship: so that the news came upon me all at once slap dash, like a clap of thunder.' "Indeed John, said my kind master, I am very sorry for your situation; but I fear it will now be a more difficult matter for you to get redress than you seem to imagine. It is so common for masters now a days, especially where apprentice fees are given, to be inattentive to the interest of apprentices, that the master of your son would have too many to keep him in countenance; and whatever you or I may think, or whatever the judge himself might think of it, were the case ever to come before him; yet when it becomes necessary to inflict pains and penalties, one is obliged to look forward to the consequences; and it becomes so necessary for judges to preserve the authority of masters over apprentices, and to guard against the abuses that might be made of the chicanery of ill designing men, that I should suspect the circumstances must be very flagrant indeed before a judge could be brought to pronounce such a decision as would in any degree compensate for the injury you have sustained. My advice to you therefore is, rather to sit down with the injury you have already sustained, than make it perhaps worse by seeking for redress at law. I have as bad an opinion of the man who could commit such a base piece of fraud as you can have; and therefore shall take care how I have any dealings with him: but your best way is to leave him

to himself, and the checks of his own conscience; and without distracting your mind with fanciful ideas of legal redress, set yourself attentively and without remission to put your son into some other way of earning his bread. You will take better care in future; and I make no doubt you will profit by the lesson."

I was satisfied with the advice, and resolved to adopt it. But as my example may be of use to others, I send you the above plain narrative, hoping, as I have disguised names so as entirely to avoid personalities, you will give it a place in your useful Miscellany, that thus my private loss may in end prove a public benefit to the community. A FARMER.

East Lothian June, 1. 1793.

ACCOUNT OF AN EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE.

Two Parisian merchants, strongly united in friendship, had each one child of different sexes, who early contracted a strong inclination for each other, which was cherished by the parents, and they were flattered with the expectations of being joined together for life. Unfortunately, at the time they thought themselves on the point of completing this long wished for union, a man, far advanced in years, and possessed of an immense fortune, cast his eyes on the young lady, and made honourable proposals; her parents could not resist the temptation of a son-in-law in such affluent circumstances, and forced her to comply. As soon as the knot was tied, she strictly enjoined her former lover never to see her, and patiently submitted to her fate: but the anxiety of her mind preyed on her body, which threw her into a lingering disorder, that apparently carried her off, and she was consigned to her grave. As soon as this melancholy event reached the lover, his affliction was doubled, being depri-

ved of all hopes of her widowhood. but recollecting that in her youth, ſhe had been for some time in a lethargy, his hopes revived, and hurried him to the place of her burial, where a good bribe procured him the sexton's permiſsion to dig her up, which he performed, and removed her to a place of safety, where, by proper methods, he revived the almost extinguiſhed spark of life. Great was her surprise at finding the state ſhe had been in: and probably as great was her pleasure, at the means by which ſhe had been recalled from the grave. As soon as ſhe was sufficiently recovered, the lover laid his claim; and his reasons, supported by a powerful inclination on her side, were too strong for her to resist; but as France was no longer a place of safety for them, they agreed to remove to England, where they continued ten years, when a strong inclination of revisiting their native country seized them, which they thought they might safely gratify; and accordingly performed their voyage.

The lady was so unfortunate as to be known by her old huſband, whom ſhe met in a public walk, and all her endeavours to disguise herself were ineffectual: he laid his claim to her, before a court of justice, and the lover defended his right, alleging the huſband, by burying her, had forfeited his title, and that he had acquired a just one, by freeing her from the grave, and delivering her from the jaws of death. These reasons, whatever weight they might have in a court where love presided, seemed to have little effect on the grave sages of the law: and the lady, with her lover, not thinking it safe to wait the determination of the court, prudently retired a second time out of the kingdom.

Acknowledgements to several correspondents deferred for want of room.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31. 1793.

HINTS FOR ESTABLISHING A SEMINARY OF EDUCATION ON A NEW PLAN.

Continued from p. 54. and concluded.

OF THE ACADEMY.

Or school for sciences and useful arts.

Natural History.

A GENERAL survey of the natural objects found on this globe, intended not only to assist in the classification and nomenclature of these objects, but also, to give an idea of their properties and uses in nature, and arts. For the use of students in general.

Mineralogy,

Or the doctrine of fossils. For the use of those who wish to make a particular study of this branch of natural history. Illustrated by specimens, and chemical experiments.

Zoology,

Or the doctrine of animals: not a dry system of classification only; but also to give an account of the habitudes and uses of the different animals, in food and in arts; and the method of catching those that are useful, or of destroying such as are hurtful to man.

Botany,

Or the doctrine of vegetables.

Meteorology.

The doctrine of meteors, including the doctrine of electricity, and the different kinds of air, from whose combinations and separations are produced so many of those phenomena which are reducible to this class.

Hydrography,

Or the doctrine of waters. Including the theory of tides, currents, *&c. &c.*

Of these branches of natural history, botany is the only one that has hitherto been separately taught; though the others are at least of equal importance.

The philosophy of history.

Including philosophical geography and chronology, connected with historical events.

From the want of a systematic arrangement in this branch of science, history is in general a confused and uninteresting study to youth, in comparison of what it naturally ought to be. Here should be given a general comprehensive view of leading events, in which their connection with regard to time and place should be so marked as to make an indelible

impreſsion on the youthful mind, and their mutual influence and relation to each other, so distinctly pointed out, as to make the connection of every *particular* historical event that ſhould afterwards occur, with the general train of other events, be readily recognised, so as to prevent that confusion of ideas, which alone renders history an uninteresting study to youth. In such a general course, the progreſs of the human mind, rather than the history of potentates and kings, ſhould be traced with fidelity and care.

Political Economy,

Or the philosophy of legislation. In this course ſhould be explained the principles of legislation as having reference to industry, arts, manufactures, agriculture, population, happineſs, and national wealth, as applicable to societies in their progreſs from rudeneſs to refinement, and in different situations, as to habits, manners, and circumstances.

In Britain, where every man may become an actual legislator, and where every one in his individual capacity is allowed to judge of the affairs of government, too much care cannot be taken, to render the sound principles of legislation generally known among all ranks of people in this island.

Antiquities.

Comprehending a review of the laws, manners, and customs; languages, arts, and sciences, of the different European nations in former times: as also the doctrine of coins, medals, inscriptions, and other

particulars, that tend to bring to light the knowledge of past events.

Asiatic literature.

Comprehending the languages, arts, and sciences of the different Asiatic nations.

Considering the intimate connection that Britain has at present with those nations, the utility of this course will be at first sight apparent.

Ethics,

Or the doctrine of mind. Metaphysics, moral philosophy.

Grammar,

Considered in its general principles, particularly as applied to the Engliſh language. This is a branch of science which has been so little adverted to by the moderns, and so much deference has been paid to the partial rules of ancient languages, as has involved the subject in perplexity and confuſion, which it is high time ſhould now be rectified

Logic.

On the improved plan, as by many it is taught at preſent; divested of those ſophyſtical ſubtleties which made the pride of the ſchools in the middle ages.

Rhetoric and the belles letters.

The law of nature and nations.

Civil law.

Including Engliſh law.

Divinity.

Church hiſtory.

Agriculture.

It appears surprising that an art so neceſsary for the well being of mankind in all ages, ſhould have been till of late, so totally overlooked in almost every system of education. Its advances have been slow in proportion to the neglect into which it has fallen, as an object of scientific inquiry. Since experiments have been made the test of truth, few facts have been thoroughly ascertained with regard to agriculture, because so much time is required for making one experiment, and so much care and nicety in the conducting them, that as these experiments usually come to be made by men who are not accustomed to the niceties of philosophic investigation, wrong conclusions are hastily drawn from ill ascertained facts. To point out the attentions that are neceſsary in making experiments; to select with care the few facts that have been thoroughly ascertained, from those which are only grounded on conjecture; to specify such decisive experiments as are neceſsary for elucidating doubtful points: and to inspire into the minds of those who meant to enter on such investigations, that cautious diffidence which the person who is in quest of important facts ſhould ever bear in mind, would form the principal buſineſs of this course.

Architecture.

Considered as an useful art, depending on mathematical and chemical principles, rather than as a *fine* art.

In modern times, so much attention has been bestowed upon architecture, as an ornamental art, that the mathematical principles upon which it is founded,

have been in a great measure disregarded, and the contrivances that have been adopted in former times to give strength and stability to the fabric, along with certain internal conveniences, have been ridiculed as the monstrous innovations of barbarism and ignorance. Many structures which have been dignified with the stile of *Gothic*, as in scorn, while their stupendous magnificence extorts the reverential awe of the ignorant critic, who laughs at the absurdity of those parts of the structure which he deems monstrous and uselefs ornaments, owe their stability, together with that inexplicable magnificence of effect, to those very parts which instead of being uselefs ornaments, as the uninformed critic vainly supposes, are parts of the most indispensible utility. He knows not on what principles superadded weight can be made to contribute to apparent lightnefs, as well as real strength. and therefore presumptuously blames what he cannot comprehend. The very principles which constitute the strength of an arch, in different circumstances, have been so otally disregarded in architecture, as never yet to have been explained; so that the most glaring imperfections in this respect have been often earnestly recommended as efsential improvements, and sometimes carried into actual practice in the construction of bridges. We cannot therefore too soon correct these hurtful absurdities, and therefore cannot make too much haste to institute the course of lectures here proposed.

Anatomy.

Theory of physic.

Practice of medicine.

Materia medica.

These branches of medical knowledge have been so long taught with good effect in Europe, that no farther explanation of them is necefsary.

Pharmaceutic chemistry,

Or the doctrine of compounding medicines. This has hitherto been only incidentally taught as a particular part of the general course of chemistry. For obvious reasons it ſhould be separated into a distinct branch; many students have occasion for the one of these courses, who do not desire the other.

Surgery.

The veterenarian art,

Or the treatment of the diseases of domestic animals This never has entered into the system of Britiſh education; though it is without dispute an object of great importance. Farriery is the only branch of it which is in any respect followed as a particular busineſs in Britain. France had made great advances in establiſhing a veterenarian school before the late troubles arose, which for a time, have suspended the progreſs of this and many other useful institutions. It is to be hoped, these will be again revived when peace ſhall be restored to that distracted country! Some feeble attempts have of late also been made to establiſh a veterenary school in Britain, which we may hope will gradually attain a more perfect degree of stability.

These seem to be the principal branches of science, which in the present state of knowledge in Europe, appear to be necessary to be taught in a seminary of education, where it is intended to give full scope to the human mind in all its various deflections; as we advance in knowledge, other subjects of investigation will naturally arise, which may require additional means of elucidation, which will no doubt be adopted when the want is felt.

Mode of studying, and internal government.

As nature has, for wise purposes, given to the individuals among mankind, different powers, faculties, and tastes, in consequence of which one person attaches himself to one branch of science, exclusively in some measure to all others, who by studying that branch with ardour, pushes his researches in it to the utmost stretch his faculties can carry him; while another, neglecting that branch, is equally ardent in prosecuting another: it follows, that in order to derive the full benefit from these exertions, no artificial restraints ought to be thrown in the way, to check this natural progress. Hence then we see the impropriety of prescribing any determined mode of study, to which, as of old, all the pupils must invariably adhere. Instead of this, every one ought to be left at perfect freedom to attend such of the professors as shall be judged most proper for forwarding him in those studies that promise to lead most directly to the end in view. And as young men who are so far advanced in life as to be capable of engaging properly in scientific pursuits, must be supposed to be capable of exercising their

reasoning powers, no other compulsitor to study ought to be employed, but those of the evident *interest*, or inclination of the student. And as it is found by experience, that those things which are attained with much facility are disregarded, while what is purchased at a high price, is much prised, there ſhould be no such thing as gratuitous lectures to be given in this seminary, unleſs in such cases only, as where, from the peculiarities of the case, the teacher may think proper to make a present of a ticket to such as he ſhall deem deserving of it. Neither ought the fees for admiſsion to the lectures to be small, but proportioned to the general opulence of the country at the time. Nor ſhould these be arbitrary; both the *minimum* and the *maximum* ought to be fixed by the rules of the institution, and publicly known; which would be attended with many obvious consequences tending to preserve the dignity of the preceptors, and independence of the students. And if the fixed salaries of the preceptors were low, as in the university of Edinburgh, the office of a prefeſsor could never be desirable, unleſs to such men only as were proficients in the particular departments they were to teach, and who had a reasonable prospect of obtaining such a number of effective students as ſhould indemnify them for the trouble of giving lectures.

To insure against abuses in this department, however, perhaps some farther precautions might be neceſsary. Each profeſsor ſhould be required to deliver public lectures, five times a week, during each seſsion, which ſhould not be leſs than four or five

months; and these lectures to take up about an hour each in delivering; or if he neglected to do this his chair ſhould be declared vacant, and the place given to another.

To enforce these regulations, perhaps no better method needs be ſought for, than to appoint a PRINCIPAL, whoſe buſineſs it ſhould be to act as a cenſor over the conduct of the profeſſors; and who, by the aid of a *ſenatus concilium*, conſiſting of all the profeſſors without exception, might be authoriſed to admoniſh, ſuſpend, or depoſe any of the members of that body, who ſhould, by a majority of that council, be deemed worthy of ſuch puniſhments. The election to vacant places might be by the votes of a majority of the *ſenatus concilium*, with ſuch checks as ſhould be judged proper. One indiſpenſible requiſite for the office of the PRINCIPAL ſhould be, that he ought to reſide in the ſeminary always during the time of the ſeſſion. Perhaps a permiſſion of abſence for a ſhort time, might be granted on urgent occaſions; but the occaſion ought to be very urgent indeed, and ſhould perhaps never be granted for more than weeks at a time; nor even that, without an *unanimous* vote of the members of the *ſenatus concilium*. The ruin of every literary, or religious inſtitution I have ſeen, commences with a negligence in the diſcharge of duties, in conſequence of the abſence of thoſe who ought to officiate: it cannot be therefore too much guarded againſt. Neither ought any one to be be permitted to teach by a deputy, unleſs in very particular caſes, and in

consequence of the permiſsion *unanimously* granted of the *senatus concilium.*

With regard to the place where such a seminary ought to be establiſhed; it ought doubtleſs to be in the neighbourhood of the largest city in the state to which such an institution belongs; for thus it would be rendered acceſsible to the greatest number of people, without deranging their affairs. In England, therefore, London is clearly the best place. And Edinburgh for Scotland.

Good substantial houses, (but not palaces,) with a garden to each, if poſsible, ſhould be provided for each profeſsor, and be perhaps the principal part, if not the whole of the fixed living. Adjoining to these ſhould be provided a suite of convenient lecturing rooms, and a museum and library; without which every seminary of education must be extremely incomplete. The museum ſhould be divided into departments suited to the claſses of lectures; each lecturer to be intrusted with the charge of the articles belonging to his own department. All the articles contained in each ſhould be inserted in a catalogue, and the whole ſhould be visited once a year by committee of the *senatus concilium,* aſsisted by certain other persons to be named for that purpose, who ſhould compare the articles with the catalogue, and see that nothing is destroyed or deranged. This visitation ought to be a great public act accompanied with particular ceremonies; and every student who had attended the seminary more than years, ſhould have a right to atttend at that visitation if he chose it.

For the support of the library and museum, a specified sum ſhould be paid by each student annually on his matriculation; in conſequence of which he ſhould have a right to conſult any book in the library, when it was open, under proper regulations, and to carry home ſuch books as it might be judged ſafe to entruſt out of the library, on depoſiting the price of the book with the librarian, to be got up when the book was returned. This regulation has been found to be a very proper one in the univerſity of Edinburgh, where it has been adhered to for many years paſt. The profeſſors, too, ſhould have the uſe of books, but under certain regulations to prevent them from being too long detained in the poſſeſſion of any one perſon. For purchaſing books, a committee of three of the profeſſors ſhould exerciſe that office for one year, to follow in rotation regularly, ſo as include the whole.

These hints have already extended to too great a length for this Miſcellany, and will by ſome be deemed of a nature too nearly approaching to Utopian, to be capable of being carried into practice. It would be eaſy however to ſhow that there is nothing either phyſically or morally impracticable in the plan, in a place of great extent; ſuch as London, Paris, or any other great city, where, if able teachers were appointed, a ſufficient number of ſtudents could eaſily be found to afford a reaſonable compenſation to literary men in all departments for their labour; and that by acting thus in concert, knowledge might be advanced to a much higher degree than it has yet attained, and the ac-

quisition of it be rendered much more easy, and less expensive than ever yet has been practicable. But on these heads I shall not enlarge, leaving every one at liberty to judge for himself.

Should ever such an institution however be attempted in England, care should be taken to secure to the present universities, their present exclusive privilege of conferring academical degrees; otherwise such an opposition would arise from that quarter, as must at once quash such a project. Indeed, at any rate, it may supposed, that the members of these antient institutions, who have long battened on the provision appropriated to idleness, by their ill judging forefathers, will behold with en evil eye, any proposal for establishing a literary seminary on principles so different from those which have been there adopted; and which, if encouraged, might tend to throw their venerable institutions into a comparative point of view, that would not tend to exalt them. It is thus that private considerations too often prevent the establishment of institutions of great utility; and the public may be said to be kept, with regard to literary attainments, in a perpetual state of pupilary nonage. Thus it has been since the beginning of time, and thus it will continue while this world lasts,—though now and then small advances may be made in spite of these checks which must operate continually though slowly in promoting improvements.

ON THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SHEEP IN A WILD AND DOMESTIC STATE, REARED IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE, AND BY THE PASTORAL NATIONS FROM THE FRONTIERS OF EUROPE TO THOSE OF CHINA.

Continued from p. 91.

Domestic sheep.

HAVING given an account of the argali or wild sheep, I shall now enter upon Dr Pallas's remarks, made during his wide extended travels in the Russian empire, more particularly in Seberia, and amongst the pastoral nations of great Tartary, relative to the domestic sheep.

The doctor found what he regards as only one species of sheep in the whole range of his journey, subdivided into *four* varieties, and distinguished by their tails, the form of their heads, their ears, and fleece. These four varieties are the long tailed, the short tailed, the fat tailed, and a mixed breed of sheep with longish tails, fat at the base, with a species of lean bony apendage tapering to a point. So that this able zoologist condemns as unfounded and fanciful, the erroneous idea of making *specific* differences of the accidental varieties which education or mode of life, climate, food, and crossing the breed, have produced in *sheep*, as in pigeons, dogs, and other domestic animals; and in conformity to this opinion he considers the *ovis laticaudata*, *longicauda*, *pilosa*, *Africana*, *Guineensis*, *strepsiceros*, *Hungaria-*

nos, &c. of authors, as only accidental *varieties* of the same species of sheep; as he does the *capra Syriaca seu mambrina*, and all the other fanciful subdivisions of authors of the goat species, as only *varieties* of that animal.

However, it must be acknowledged, that Dr Pallas had opportunities in his extensive travels, of clearing up the doubts which prevented other naturalists before him, from deciding on that curious subject. It is well known, that if all the different kinds of sheep, or of any other animal, when the breeds are crossed in every possible direction, always generate a *prolific* stock, or in other words, produce young which are capable of propagating their species through *many* generations; in that case, there is no *specific* difference between them, and all the different kinds, however various they may be in form, &c. are only varieties of the sheep.

Whereas *different species* of any animal, although they may generate together, only produce a *barren* progeny which naturalists agree in naming mules, which cannot propagate their species through *many* generations; if we are even to give credit to those who pretend they have through two or three, in some singular cases, or rare instances.

Now Dr Pallas had an opportunity of convincing himself, that the long tailed, short tailed, fat tailed, and mixed Boucharian breed of sheep, the four varieties he treats of, all produce a prolific race, when crossed in every direction, and are *therefore* not different species.

The four varieties of domestic ſheep, which Dr Pallas examined on his travels, were,

1st. variety,

Is named both by the Tartars and Ruſsians, *Tscherkeſsian* ſheep, and by Pallas *dolichura*, or long tailed; it is the *ovis longicauda* of authors.

2d. Variety,

Is called the Ruſsian ſheep, by the natives, and by Pallas *brachiura* or ſhort tailed; it seems to be the *ovis Islandicus* of authors, with smaller horns.

3d. Variety,

Has no fixed trivial name, as its appellations are as various as the provinces where it is reared; Pallas has called it *steatopyga* or fat tailed; it is the *Ovis laticaudata* of authors.

4th. Variety,

Has likewise no fixed trivial name, but Pallas has called it *Bucharian*, from finding it reared by the Bucharian Tartars in immense flocks.

The first variety.

The TSCHERKESSIAN *ſheep of the Ruſsians and Tartars, the* OVIS DOLICHURA *of Pallas, and* OVIS LONGICAUDA *of authors.*

This variety is handsome with a noble air in its native country and the south of Ruſsia, resembling in its habits, horns, fleece, and length of tail, the Spaniſh, but more particularly the Engliſh ſheep. Its *head* is well proportioned, and of an elegant form; *ears* streight; *horns* large, even, rounded in the angles, tapering to a point, and bending inwardly towards

the back. The rams are seldom without horns, and the ewes have them often bent in a lunar form.

The *wool* though coarse is without admixture of hair*, and promises to be much meliorated by croſsing the breed, and rearing the animal with more care and ſkill.

It is even known to become much finer without the aſsistance of art, merely from the influence of a temperate climate, as on mount Caucasus.

The *tail* of the ram is covered with fine long wool, like the Indian ſheep described by Buffon, which trails on the ground, so as to efface the prints made by the animal's feet on sand; and it contains often twenty joints or vertebræ.

This variety of ſheep seems to have quitted with its coarse fleece and all its native ferocity, in paſsing from the state of nature to that of servitude; as it is the mildest gentle animal poſsible, although leſs degenerated in *form* from the *argali* or *musimon*, the parent animal of the species, than the steatopyga or fat tailed, which has at the same time preserved much more of its wildneſs than the gentle Tscherkeſ-

* It appears to me, that the having no hair among the wool is not a specific, but merely an accidental distinction. We know well that among the varieties of ſheep common in England, and every other European country, there are found many which have hairs among their fleece, while it is only the selected *breeds* that have none. This variation, which has probably been at first accidental, like many other varieties among domestic animals, becomes in some measure permanent, by carefully excluding other varieties from intermixing with the selected breed, as will be more fully proved in the sequel of this eſsay. *Edit.*

ſian, probably from its ranging with very little reſtraint the wide plains of great Tartary.

The Tscherkeſsian or long tailed ſheep, (which is always the subject of this article,) is reared in all the European regions of the Ruſsian empire, situated on this side the river Occa,—in the nearer Poland, and by the pastoral people of mount Caucasus; and they are commonly of a white colour.

The ſame variety, we are told by Ruſsell, in his natural history of Aleppo, is reared under the name of *Beduin ſheep*, by the Arabs, and in the western parts of Mauritania; with a trifling difference in the length and thickneſs of the *tail*. There are likewiſe ſheep in Morocco which belong to this variety, on account of the diſtinguiſhing character of it, *a long tail*, although otherways different in having an ugly look,—*head* covered intirely with hair, little hanging *ears*, and remarkably long wool.

The doctor has himſelf ſeen ſheep anſwering to the laſt deſcription, in Germany; probably from a mixture of thoſe of Flanders, with ſome foreign variety.

The Indian and Guinea ſheep, ſo well deſcribed by Buffon, reſemble the Tscherkeſsian only in the length of their *tail*, whilſt in other reſpects, they come nearer the ſteatopyga or fat rumped ſheep of Pallas, in ſize, form, and fleece mixed with *hair*.

Arid burning deſerts ſeem to produce this change on the *wool*; as it is obſerved principally in the Atlantic deſerts near the meridian, from which the ſheep being tranſported to ſtill warmer ſituations in America, have multiplied conſiderably, but moſtly

without horns, and have now a covering of *hair* instead of wool. As a further confirmation of torrid deserts turning wool into hair, the doctor cites Shaw's travels, where that author tells us, that the sheep in the Shara desert of Africa, are commonly of the height of a doe, and covered with *hair* like that of a dog; and another traveller, the abbé Demanent, asserts in his new history of Africa, published at Paris in 1767, that two varieties of sheep are reared in Guinea, one of which is covered with *wool*, with a long fat tail (the fat probably accidental) whilst the other is larger, stronger, and covered with shaggy hair, like a goat. It is very good eating, although the most common, and least valued. Dr Pallas draws a double inference from this quotation from the abbé, *viz.* that the first of the two varieties, which is evidently the Tscherkesian, from the *long tail*, shows that it is widely dispersed over the earth, more or less affected by climate, soil, and sometimes by admixture of other breeds; whilst the second of the abbé's varieties, covered with shaggy hair, is another confirmation of what the doctor advanced above, that burning deserts turn *wool to hair;* and here he ends his proofs of that fact, which does not seem to require further confirmation*. Dr Pallas finished the description of

* There seems to be something unsatisfactory in the reasoning here. Were heat of climate the only cause of wool being converted into hair, it ought to operate equally on the two kinds of sheep here mentioned: and they ought to be both alike covered with hair or with wool. Perhaps in the course of this essay, some hints may occur tending to clear up this and other difficulties *Edit.*

this variety, with the following curious piece of information.

Tscherkesian lamb skins.

There is a valuable traffic carried on in the north, with the *skins* of the Tscherkesian lambs; the beauty of which they heighten in the following manner:

The inhabitants of the Ukrain and Podoli, as soon as a lamb is dropped, (which comes into the world with a pretty wavy skin, even without the assistance of art,) to augment its beauty, and make it bring a higher price, sew it up in a sort of coarse linen shirt, so as to keep up a constant gentle pressure on the wool, pouring warm water over it every day, to make it soft and sleek; only letting out the bandage a little, from time to time, as the animal increases in size, but still keeping it tight enough to effect their purpose, which is, to lay the *wool* in beautiful glossy ringlets, and thereby produce a delicate species of fur, in great request for lining clothes, and morning gowns. By this treatment the fine soft wool which rises in the infancy of the lamb, takes a handsome arrangement; and the animal is killed younger or older according to the species of fur intended to be produced, from a short glossy nap like sattin, only fit, from its thinness, for the purposes mentioned above, to a warm thick fur for a winter great coat. The first of these furs in estimation and price, is a fine black that looks like silk damask; an inferior black fur comes next, much thicker, for *pelices* or *shubes*, as we call the upper winter

garb worn out of doors; and the least in estimation is the whitish, except it be of a very pure colour and silky appearance, when it is a rival to the first; especially for night gowns, a very common dress, both morning and evening, amongst the Russians, particularly in the interior parts of the empire*.

To be continued.

* It appears from books of ancient travels, that this curious kind of lamb's fur has been long an article of traffic, and in great request in those countries; and we learn from this instance, that the people are neither inattentive to the elegancies of life, nor incapable of availing themselves, by their ingenuity and application, of those blessings that Heaven has thrown in their way.

It appears from these notices, that either there is a diversity of colours among this breed of sheep, or that the wool is stained, so as to assume the colours above mentioned. The first seems the most probable; for if it were done by art, they could obtain the black furs in any quantities, as well as those of every other colour, if the original wool be of a pure white. It would seem that this fine white is rather uncommon, and that when it does occur it is very much prised.

The silky gloss here mentioned, has a nearer resemblance to hair than to wool in its usual state. Among the great diversity of breeds of sheep in this country, there are some which carry crisped wool frizzled up, as it would seem nearly in the same manner as African negroe's hair. Other breeds carry lank wool, hanging streight down in locks, nearly as goats hair: while in other cases, though the filaments be parallel to each other, and by no means frizzled in their natural state, yet these locks are gently waved, as if they had been done up by pincers. This is the case with most of the Shetland breed of sheep. It is probable the wool of the lambs here mentioned may resemble these. It would tend much to the increase of knowledge, could some genuine specimens of these furs, and other skins of sheep of the most valuable breeds in different parts of the world, so dressed as to preserve the fleece entire, when at its full growth, be procured, and deposited in the museums of natural history all over Europe; and the Editor of this Miscellany will be much obliged to such of his correspondents abroad, into whose hands this

STRICTURES ON MANNERS.

Continued from vol. iii. p. 239.

Part II.

Manners of the Engliſh after the Norman conquest.

The most striking instance of barbarity we find upon record, in the manners of our ancestors, was the common, though horrid practice, of selling themselves, their children, or kindred, into slavery; a practice common to all the German nations, and long continued by the natives of this island.

may fall, for such specimens as may come in their way, accompanied with a description of the place where found, the time when obtained, and every other particular that appears to them to be of importance. Nor does he wiſh that this ſhould be confined to ſheep only, but to that of goats alſo; especially those like the Angora goat, which carry a fleece of great value; as also of the camel tribe, or other domestic fur-bearing animals. He has ſeen a specimen of a kind of hair, or wool, said to have come from Peru, that is evidently the fleece of an animal of considerable size. The filament has none of that crispineſs, that is a general characteristic of wool; but it is long, sleek, and gloſsy, like hair, though it has the softneſs of wool, or rather of silk. The longest, and coarsest of that wool measures more than a foot in length, and is of a fawn coloured tinge, resembling that of Vigonia wool, but lighter. The finer parts of the wool are white, and though long, is still ſhorter than the other; and remarkably soft and silky; even more so than Shetland wool. Any notices concerning the animal that carries this fleece would prove highly acceptable. *Edit.*

Men, in that uncivilized age, not daring to rely on the protection of the laws, were obliged to devote themselves to the service of some chieftain, whose orders they followed even to the disturbance of the government, or the injury of their fellow citizens, and who afforded them in return protection from any insult or injury from strangers.

Hence we find, that almost all the inhabitants, even of burroughs, had placed themselves under the protection of some particular nobleman, whose patronage they purchased by annual payments, and whom they considered as their sovereign more than the king himself; and so much was one of these supposed to belong to his patron, that his murderer was obliged by law to pay a fine to the latter, as a compensation for his loss.—The inhabitants of some towns were even in a more servile state; being altogether under the absolute power of the king, or some temporal lord or abbot:—And in this case, they were at the disposal of their lords, (whether king or subject,) without whose consent they could not devise their estates even to their own children. "The kings of England, (says Mr Madox, writing of these times.) were generally merciful and gracious lords to the inhabitants of their towns. For it was entirely in their choice to let them to a provost or custos, with power sufficient to oppress the inhabitants; or they might let out their towns at a rack-rent, or otherwise, to any one they pleased to gratify."

The cities appear to have been, at the conquest, little better than villages.—York itself, though it

was always the second, at least the third city in England, contained then but 1418 families.—There was no spirit for buildings of conveniency, far less for magnificence*. For Malmesbury tells us, that the great distinction between the Anglo-saxon nobility, and the French or Norman, was, that the latter built magnificent and stately castles; whereas the former consumed their immense fortunes in riot and hospitality in mean houses.

There was in those days no middle rank of men, who, as we see now, gradually mix with their superiors, and procure insensibly honour and distinction. If by any extraordinary accident a person of mean birth acquired riches, a circumstance so singular made him an object of universal jealousy and disgust to all the nobles, and he soon found it impossible to screen himself from oppression, except by courting the protection of some great chieftain, and paying a large price for his safety.

Theft and robbery were very frequent at this time.—To impose some checks upon these crimes, it was ordered that no man should sell or buy any thing above twenty-pence value, *except in open market;* and every bargain was to be executed *before witnesses*. Gangs of robbers much disturbed the peace of the country; and the law determined that a tribe of banditti consisting of between seven and

* If, as historians relate, St Paul's cathedral, which was burnt down in the year 961, was re-built the same year, nothing can be a clearer proof of the meanness of the chief buildings at that time, since, as Mr Maitland rightly conjectures, it must most probably have been a small timber building.

and thirty-five persons was to be called a troop; any greater company was to be denominated an army, and punished accordingly.

Notwithstanding the seeming liberty, or rather licentiousness of our remote ancestors, the great body of the people in those ages enjoyed much less true liberty, than where the execution of the laws is the most severe, and where subjects are reduced to the strictest subordination, and dependence on the civil magistrate. The reason is derived from the excess of that liberty itself. Men must guard themselves at any price against insults and injuries; and where they receive not protection from the laws, they will seek it by submission to superiors, and by herding in some inferior confederacy, which acts under the direction of a powerful chieftain; and thus all anarchy is the immediate cause of tyranny, if not over the state, at least over many of the individuals.

Whatever we may imagine concerning the usual truth and sincerity of men, who live in a rude and barbarous state, there is much more falsehood, and even perjury amongst them than in civilized nations; and virtue, which is nothing but a more cultivated reason, never flourishes to any degree, nor is founded on steady principles of honour, except where a good education becomes general; and men are taught the pernicious consequences of vice, treachery, and immorality. Even superstition, though more prevalent among ignorant nations, is but a poor supply for the defects of knowledge and education; and our European ancestors, who employed every mo-

ment the expedient of swearing on *extraordinary croſses and reliques*, were leſs honourable in all engagements than their posterity, who from experience have omitted those ineffectual securities. This general pronenes to perjury, was much increased by the usual want of discernment in judges, who could not discuſs an intricate evidence, and were obliged to number, not weigh, the testimony of witneſses. Hence the practice of single combat was employed by most nations on the continent, as a remedy against false evidence; and though it was frequently dropped, from the opposition of the clergy, it was continually revived from the experience of the falsehood attending the testimony of witneſses.

The price of all kinds of wounds and injuries was fixed by the Saxon laws:—a wound of an inch long, under the hair, was paid with one ſhilling: one of a like size on the face, two ſhillings: thirty ſhillings for the loſs of an ear, *&c. &c. &c.* There seems not to have been any difference made according to the dignity of the person. Any one who committed adultery with his neighbour's wife, was obliged to pay him a fine, and *buy* him another wife. Murder itself was only liable to a fine or compensation to the kindred of the deceased; and to satisfy the church by their penance. When a person was unable to pay the fine, he was put out of the protection of the law; and the kinddred of the deceased had liberty to puniſh him as they thought proper.

As to the value of money in those times, compared to the neceſsaries of life, we find that a ſheep was

estimated at a ſhilling; the fleece was two fifths of the value of the whole ſheep: an ox was computed at six times the value of a ſheep; a cow at four: a horse was valued at about thirty ſhillings of our money; a mare a third leſs; whereby it appears a horse was then five or six times the value of an ox. A man was valued at three pounds; the board wages of a child, the first year, was eight ſhillings. William of Malmeſbury mentions it as a remarkably high price, that William Rufus gave fifteen marks for a horse, or about 30l of our present money Land was sold for little more than a ſhilling an acre; a hen cost about three-halfpence.

It is to be remarked, that in all ancient times, coin, by reason of the low state of huſbandry, bore always a higher price, compared to cattle, than it does in our times. The saxon chronicle tells us, that in the reign of Edward *the Confeſſor*, there was the most terrible famine ever known, insomuch that a quarter of wheat rose to at least 15s. of our present money, which appears by comparison to have been a most enormous famine. I am, *&c.*

Edinburgh,
March 29. 1793. PROMETHEUS.

DELIA TO CLITO.

In answer to the espistle in our last.

IF, to a *starving son of want*, a feast
Can comfort yield, and constitute him blest:
If, to a *wretch condemn'd*, a kind reprieve
Can joy bestow, and his sad soul relieve:
Not less delight, did thy dear lines impart,
My *Clito*, to my longing anxious heart!

Oh! had I been some rustic of the plain,
And, *Clito* thou, some humble village swain,
Then, would no angry father's harsh decree,
Have forc'd thee from thy country—friends and me!
Pleas'd, our fond tales of love we would have told,
As we, together, sped our flocks to fold,
Near some transparent stream, whose windings lead
In sweet meanders o'er the fragrant mead,
We would have sat, and, mutually exprest
The soft sensations of each honest breast.

Frequent, I tread the solitary gloom,
Where, oft together, we were wont to roam:
Sometimes, I hie me to the jess'mine grove,
Dear, happy spot, where *Clito* told his love!
Where, first, he all his fervent flame disclos'd,
And, every secret of his soul expos'd:
Where, bath'd in melting tears that copious flow'd,
Eternal truth, and constancy he vow'd!
Whilst, to my mem'ry, fond reflection brings
Past tender moments, and pathetic things!
But ah! those joys are fled!—those scenes are o'er,
Nor I, perchance, shall realize them more!

Ah! what are all the charms of pomp and show?
To me they're joyless, and insipid too.
The world, can boast no solid bliss for me;
I'd give its fleeting pleasures, *all for thee!*
For thee, I'd bear the cold—bleak, northern blast,
Or raging sun, that browns the eastern waste:
T' enjoy thy love, I'd scale whole hills of snow,
Tho' death and dangers threaten as I go!
Brave desert wilds, encounter rapid floods,
Explore unheard of climes, and savage woods!
Spurn, at the glories of a monarch's throne,
To make my faithful *Clito* all my own!

Reject th' exhaustless riches of *Peru*,
Its boundless wealth, my *Clito*, all for you!
One lonely hour, when silence reign'd around,
And every eye was clos'd in sleep profound:
When solemn midnight, held her sable reign,
Morpheus, the God of dreams, posses'd my brain.
Methought I saw thee on a rugged coast,
With grief transported for thy *Delia*, lost,
Adown thy cheeks the briny torrents flow,
And heard thy groans expressive of thy woe:
Methought, a savage Indian aim'd his dart
At thy defenceless—agonising heart!
Then, quick inventive fancy chang'd the scene,
And plac'd thee amid fields of blooming green;
Plac'd thee my *Clito*, near an woodbine grove,
With a fair female, whom thou call'dst thy love!
There, I beheld thee all absorb'd in bliss,
Vow lasting faith and pledge the mutual kiss,
Whilst my sad soul, which nothing could assuage,
Of *perjur'd love*, exclaim'd with frantic roge;
Till with distress I woke at morning light,
And found 'twas all a vision of the night.
Oh, *Clito*, hard's my wretched lot to prove,
Each varied pain that absence yields to love!
But thee, I'll ne'er distrust, thou matchless youth,
Whose soul is goodness, and whose words are truth!
Tho' cruel fate hath fix'd thy hapless doom,
Far from thy love, on foreign shores to roam;
Tho', from my arms, my *Clito*, thou art hurl'd,
A mourning exile, to a distant world!
What, tho' soft pleasure spreads her silken chains,
And wealth and grandeur thrive on eastern plains?
What, tho' ten thousand nymphs around thee dwell,
Whose blooming charms, all others do excell?
Yet, to thy *Delia*, thou wilt true remain,
And wealth, and beauty tempt thy faith in vain!
Yes, dearest Clito, let us not despair,
But, constant, Heav'n invoke with earnest pray'r.
Then, may the powers, in pity to our smart,
Intenerate thy angry father's heart.
Propitious Heav'n, may yet appoint a day,
When all our doubts, and cares, shall flee away,
When, thou shalt in a father's smiles be blest,
And clasp't again with ardor to his breast;
When, (oh, blest thought!) on *Britain's* happy shore,
We, once again shall meet—to PART NO MORE!

EDDA RESENII. Hafniæ, 1665. 4to.

Compared with Mallet and Goranson, their Editions.

The Editor has been favoured with the following brief analysis of the Edda,—a collection of the most ancient northern historical tracts that have been brought down to our times, by an ingenious correspondent, whose writings have thrown great light on many departments in the republic of letters. These are the earliest attempts at historical records, and afford only obscure hints of certain transactions now so totally forgotten as to put it out of our power to separate the truth from fiction. But Denmark is rich in historical records of a later date, and less doubtful authority, which the prince of that country, with a judgement and munificence that give him a distinguished pre-eminence among the princes of Europe, has been gradually publishing to the world for many years past, in such a manner as to render them accessible to all neighbouring nations, on whose ancient history these volumes will tend to throw considerable light. Among these the writings of Snorro hold a conspicuous rank, from whose history some extracts were lately given which have been furnished to the Editor by a correspondent to whom the readers of the Bee are indebted for many other valuable communications.

This book contains, *first*, A Dedication to Frederic III. of no less than fifty-eight pages, and which presents a complete catalogue of all the books published on ethics or moral philosophy, either by ancients or moderns. This dedication Mallet calls the *preface*, by an odd mistake. Resenius tells us in the end that he was professor of ethics, and so, as seems, thought himself obliged to give the king a catalogue of books on them! Never was pedantic folly carried so far!

2*d*, The preface of fifty-two pages, containing a tolerable account of the Eddas, elder and latter; of Snorro, *&c.*

3*d*. The Edda and Skalda, printed as one work. The former contains about 220, the latter about forty pages. Every chapter first appears in Icelandic, but printed in Daniſh characters; then a Daniſh translation, then a Latin. The Daniſh is by Stephanius, the Latin by Magnus Olai. Various readings are annotated from the manuscript and Latin translation of Stephanius. The version of Magnus has not the dialogue, nor the Icelandic here publiſhed, so that cutting off the two first chapters, the work would run in plain narration. The absurdity of Har and Jafuhar (Odin himself, as appears from the Skalda,) giving an account of Odin, infers that the dialogue is an interpolation.

The book has neither pages nor folios marked throughout.

The Edda has LXXVIII mythologies or fables; Mallet has 33, Goranson 26. But the division is arbitrary; Mallet and Goranson containing the same matter. Of the LXXVIII fables both omit from fable L to fable LXXVIII inclusive, that is twenty-eight fables.

This Edda differs widely from Goranson's in its introductory part, which consists of three chapters, I. *Quid sit Edda*; II. *De partibus Eddæ*. These two little chapters, and an epilogue at the end, are not found in ancient manuscripts; and Resenius thinks they were written by Magnus Olai, the Latin translator.

But the grand difference consists in chapter III. of this introductory part, which is very long, and is not found in Goranson's edition. It contains, 1st, An account of the creation. 2d, The flood, and how eight men and women (*homines*,) were saved. 3d, Of Zoroaster, architect of the tower of Babel, and the origin of idolatry. 4th, Of Troy or Asgard, and Odin or Priam. 5th, Of Saturn and Ju-

piter, and how Saturn fled to Italy, and was called *Niord.* 6th, Of Priam seventh from Jupiter, and of Hector, and how Odin fled from Pompey. [*N. B.* This last paſsage is the sole foundation for the fooliſh idea of Mallet, concerning Odin and Pompey.] This chapter proceeds, 7th, To tell how Odin, with many followers, went from Asia to Saxony, where he gave Westphalia to one of his sons, France to another; and thence to Reid Gotland, which the author says expreſsly is now called *Jutland*, which he gave to Skiold, whence the Daniſh kings called *Skioldunsgar.* 8th, Odin goes to Sweden, where Gylf reigned, who offers him and his followers what territory they pleased: Odin chooses Sigtun, and aſsumes the name of Niord. He inſtitutes twelve princes on the plan of Troy, who were to give judgement in the Turkiſh faſhion, *secundum consuetudines Turcicas!* 9th, Odin goes to Norway, and gives it to Seming, his son, from whom the kings and chiefs of Norway descend. Then the tongue of the Asæ spread all over Saxony and the North.

It is almost needleſs to remark, that this strange chapter differs altogether from Snorro's history, and from the Edda itself; so that it must have been an interpolation by some ignorant modern hand.

EDDA.

The Edda itself consists of Mythologies and Histories: They are arranged as under.

Mythologies.

Fable I. Is not in Goranson nor Mallet. It tells how Gylf gave Geſiona as much land as four oxen could plough; and who made with her plough the island of Seland. Brag, the poet is quoted. It is from Snorro's history, *c.* 5.

According to Mallet.		According to Mallet.
Fab. II - - Prologue.	Fab. XXVII }	
III - - - - - 1	XXVIII } - - 16	
IV - - - - - 2	XXIX - - 17	
V - - - - - 3	XXX }	
VI - - - - - 4	XXXI } - - - 18	
VII - - - - 5	XXXII - - 19	
VIII }	XXXIII }	
IX } - - - - 6	XXXIV } - - - 20	
X }	XXXV }	
XI }	XXXVI - - - 21	
XII } - - - - 7	XXXVII † - - 22	
XIII }	XXXVI }	
XIV - - - - 8	XXXIX } - - 23	
XV - - - - 9	XL - - - - 24	
XVI *	XLI - - - { 25	
XVII †	{ 26	
- - - - 10	XLII - - - - 27	
XVIII - - - 11	XLIII - - - - 28	
XIX }	XLIV }	
XX } - - - 12	XLV } - - - 29	
XXII - - - 13	XLVI - - - - 30	
XXIII }	XLVII - - - 31	
XXIV } - - - 14	XLVIII - - - 32	
XXV }	XLIX - - - - 33	
XXVI } - - - 15		

End of Part First according to Mallet.

The following fables are not given by Mallet or Goranson, and it seems doubtful if they belong to the Edda. The Italic numerals denote the fables omitted.

1. (*L*) Æger, a magician, goes to see the Asæ, and is nobly entertained, the hall being illuminated with the light of swords only. Brag sits next him, and tells him tales of the Asæ.

* The giant Hrosvelgur causes north wind.

† Suasudur the south. Not in Mallet nor Goranson.

‡ Real end of the mythology.

Fab. *I.* 2. (LI) Of Odin, Lok, and Hæner. On a journey they try in vain to boil a bull which they have killed. An eagle sitting on a tree, eats it, and forces Lok to swear that he will decoy Iduna and her apples. It is Thiaſse the giant metamorphosed.

—— 3. (LII) Thiaſse carries off Iduna. Lok redeems her. Thiaſse slain by the Asæ.

—— 4. (LIII) Skada, daughter of Thiaſse, marries Niord.

Fab. *II.* 5. (LIV) Olvald, father of Thiaſse, divided his gold among his children by mouthfuls, whence gold called *The giants mouthful*, &c.

Fab. *III.* 6. (LV) The duel of Thor and Hrugner the giant, whose weapon was a whetstone, and all whetstones are parts of it. Hrugner slain.

—— 7. (LVI) Groa, a witch, tries in vain to take out a part of the whetstone which stuck in Thor's head.

Fab. *IV.* 8. (LVII) Thor's journey to Geirod's town, Geirod and his daughters slain.

End of Brag's tales.

Fab. *V.* 9. (LVIII) The Asæ go to feast with Æger. Lok kills the servant of Æger.

Fab. *VI.* 10. (LIX) Lok cuts off Sif's hair, and gets from the dwarfs golden hair. The ſhip Skydbladuer, Thor's hammer, *&c.*

Fab. *VII.* 11. (LX) Origin of poetry. The gods and Vans make a man. He is slain by two dwarfs, Fialar and Galar, and his blood mixed with honey is poetry. These dwarfs also kill Gilling, a giant, and his wife.

—— 12. (LXI) Suttung, son of Gilling, imprisons the dwarfs, and gives the poetic draught to his daughter Gunlauda, to keep.

—— 13. (LXII) The Asæ acquire poesy. Odin hires himself as a servant to Baug, brother of Suttung. He cau-

ses Baug bore a hole through a stone in the wall of Gunlauda's chamber, turns himself into a worm, lies with her three nights. She lets him drink all the potion. He turns himself into an eagle, *&c.* as in Mallet.

Historical.

Hist. *I.* 1. (LXIII) Of Hrolf Krak, king of Denmark. Origin of the proverb, *Parvo Voggus gaudet.*

—— 2. (LXIV) Adventures of the same, and Adis king of Upsal. Why gold called *The seed of Fyrefield*, &c.

Hist. *II.* 3. (LXV) Holg, king of Halogaland, buried in a tomb roofed with gold and silver. Hence gold called *The roof of Holg's tomb.*

Hist. *III.* 4. (LXVI) Frode Fridleif, and the mill of Fenja and Menja. Salt called *The meal of Fenja*, &c.

Hist. *IV.* 5. (LXVII) Of Hilda, daughter of king Hogna. Why battle called *Hildur*, &c.

Mythological (out of place.)*

Fab. *VIII.* 14. (LXVIII) Odin, Lok, and Hœner kill an otter.

—— 15. (LXIX) Hreidmar calls his sons *Fafner* and *Regin*, and tells that the Asæ had killed Ottar, their brother, who used to hunt, changed into an otter. The Asæ promise as much gold as will cover the otter's skin.

—— 16. (LXX) Lok goes to Andvar, the dwarf, to get gold. The gods cover the skin. Hence gold called *The otter's price.*

Historical.

Hist. *V.* 6. (LXXI) Fafner and Regin kill their father for his gold. Fafner takes all; turns himself into a serpent, and guards it.

* But it may be said that all to the end forms the history of Sigurd, Gudruna, and their children.

—— 7. (LXXII) Regin becomes smith to king Hialfrek, who educated Sigurd [Torf. Ser. 333.] son of Sigmund Volsung, and of Hiardisa, afterwards a great king. Regin makes a sword wherewith Sigurd kills Fafner. He broils his heart, and learns the speech of birds. Warned by two swallows, he kills Regin. Gold called *The bed of Fafner.*

Hist. *VI.* 8. (LXXIII) Sigurd marries Gudruna, daughter of Giuki, and has two children, Sigmund and Suanhilda.

—— 9. (LXXIV) Of Brinhilda and the death of Sigurd.

Hist. *VII.* 10. (LXXV) King Atle kills the Giukungi, sons of Sigurd. Gold called *The strife of the Niflungi or Giukungi.*

Hist. *VIII.* 11. (LXXVI) Gudruna kills Atle, and marries king Jonaker, by whom she has three sons, Saurl, Hamder, and Erp. Suanhilda, daughter of Sigurd, educated.

—— 12. (LXXVII.) King Jormunrek marries Suanhilda. Randver, his son, wishing to have her, is put to death.

—— 13. (LXXVIII) Jormunrek kills Suanhilda. Gudruna excites her sons Saurl, Hamder, and Erp, to slay Jormunrek, but they are seized and stoned to death. Hence stones are called *The bane of the brothers.*

End of the Edda.

An epilogue is added by Olai of no moment.

Observations on the Above.

It is a very singular fact that the original histories of all nations are marvellous fables and tales, which are utterly incomprehensible by the human understanding. The

fables and extravagant stories hinted at in the foregoing abridgement of the Edda, bear such a similarity to the mythological fables of the Hindus, and other Asiatic nations, many of which have been lately brought to light by the researches of the Europeans in Asia; and these are so like to the fables of the Egyptians, Phœnicians, and Greeks, as to give a strong indication that they must all have had one common origin. To discover the origin of this universal coincidence in such a seemingly unnatural aberration of the human mind, would afford matter for a very curious investigation. By the foregoing very brief analysis of the Edda, when compared with other early tales of nations, the fact is incontestibly proved; and it appears to be one of the most singular facts respecting man that has yet been brought to light.

Let us not, however, plume ourselves with the notion that the natural faculties of man, at a distant period, were weaker than those we now enjoy, although many of the writings that have been preserved to us appear absurd. We all know that certain moral causes have a power of influencing the mind to an astonishing degree, and of over ruling its natural powers at certain times, so as to induce peculiar modes of thinking and of reasoning, even among the wisest men, that at another period appear to have been the most childish and absurd imaginable. Perhaps few of the human race was ever endowed with natural faculties of superior energy to those of *Duns Scotus*; yet his finest reasoning we now deem but quibbles: and what can appear to be more absurd than the reveries of Swedenburgh, who was allowed to be a man of talents far exceeding those of the common race of men. These are proofs that the human mind is at the present day equally liable to err as in former times; and the Proverbs of Solomon afford a clear incontestible evidence that

the understanding of man was in former times equally vigorous as at present.

Let us not, then, despise those who have written what we cannot understand; or think, that because their fables appear to us extravagantly absurd, that the persons who believed in these things were by nature inferior to ourselves. Let us rather, when we feel in ourselves a disposition to assume a dictatorial authority above others, be convinced, that we also, may in our turn, be found to have been under the influence of some fascinating power that has led our understandings astray; and let us at all times with becoming humility of mind, instead of arrogantly assuming to ourselves a superiority above all others, rather lay our hands on our mouths, and our mouths in the dust, humbly beseeching the Supreme Being to banish from our hearts all vanity and pride, that we may be thus enabled to act our part in this life with kindness to others, and mutual forbearance; as knowing that a time will soon arrive, when all these boasted attainments, on which we are apt to plume ourselves so much, shall appear at best to be but weak and foolish reveries like the fables of ancient times.

The deformed and handsome Leg.

By Dr Franklin.

There are two sorts of people in the world, who, with equal degrees of health and wealth, and the other comforts of life, become, the one happy, and the other miserable. This arises very much from the different views in which they consider things, persons and events—and the effect of those different views upon their own minds.

In whatever situation men can be placed, they may find conveniencies and inconveniencies: in whatever com-

pany, they may find persons and conversations more or leſs pleasing: at whatsoever table, they may meet with meats and drinks of better and worse taste, diſhes better and worse dreſsed. In whatever climate, they will find good and bad weather: under whatever government, they may find good and bad laws, and good and bad administration of those laws. In every poem, (or work of genius) they may see faults and beauties. In almost every face, and every person, they may discover fine features and defects, good and bad qualities.

Under these circumstances, the two sorts of people above mentioned fix their attention, those who are disposed to be happy, on the conveniencies of things, the pleasant parts of conversation, the well dreſsed diſhes, the goodneſs of the wines, the fine weather, *&c. &c.* and enjoy all with chearfulneſs. Those who are to be unhappy, think and speak only of the contraries. Hence they are continually discontented themselves; and, by their remarks, sour the pleasures of society, offend personally many people, and make themselves every where disagreeable. If this turn of mind was founded in nature, such unhappy persons would be the more to be pitied. But as the disposition to criticise and be disgusted, is, perhaps, taken up originally by imitation, and is unawares grown into a habit, which, though at present strong, may nevertheleſs be cured, when those who have it, are convinced of its bad effects on their felicity, I hope this little admonition may be of service to them—and put them on changing a habit, which, though in the exercise it is chiefly an act of imagination, yet has serious consequences in life, as it brings on real griefs and misfortunes. For, as many are offended by, and nobody loves, this sort of people, no one ſhows them more than the most common civility and respect, and scarcely that; and this frequently puts them out of humour, and draws them into disputes and

contentions. If they aim at obtaining some advantage in rank or fortune, nobody wiſhes them succeſs, or will stir a step or speak a word to favour their pretensions. If they incur public censure or disgrace, no one will defend or excuse, and many join to aggravate their misconduct, and render them completely odious. If these people will not change this bad habit, and condescend to be pleased with what is pleasing, without fretting themselves and others about the contraries, it is good for others to avoid an acquaintance with them, which is always disagreeable, and sometimes very inconvenient, especially when one finds himself entangled in their quarrels.

An old philosophical friend of mine was grown, from experience, very cautious in this particular, and carefully avoided any intimacy with such people. He had, like other philosophers, a thermometer to ſhow him the heat of the weather, and a barometer, to mark when it was likely to prove good or bad; but there being no instrument invented to discover, at first sight, this unpleasing disposition, in a person, he for that purpose made use of his legs, one of which was remarkably handsome, the other, by some accident, crooked and deformed. If a stranger, at the first interview, regarded his ugly leg more than his handsome one, he doubted him. If he spoke of it, and took no notice of the handsome leg, that was sufficient to determine my philosopher to have no further acquaintance with him. Every body has not this two legged instrument—but every one, with a little attention, may observe signs of that carping, fault-finding disposition, and take the same resolution of avoiding the acquaintance of those infected with it. I therefore advise those critical, querulous, discontented, unhappy people, that if they wiſh to be respected and beloved by others, and happy in themselves, they ſhould *leave off looking at the ugly leg.*

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7. 1793.

ON THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SHEEP IN A WILD AND DOMESTIC STATE, REARED IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE, AND BY THE PASTORAL NATIONS FROM THE FRONTIERS OF EUROPE TO THOSE OF CHINA.

Continued from p. 133.

The second variety.

Short tailed sheep.

THIS variety of domestic sheep is called the *Russian*, and Pallas has named it *ovis brachiura*, or short tailed. It is reared through out all the north of Rusia, and resembles that of Iceland, in size, tail, and coarseness of fleece.

Thus we see that although the northern regions of Rusia are little favourable to *wool bearing* animals, yet they boast of a variety of the short tailed sheep, peculiar to the country, which although resembling the Icelandic in many respects, yet differs from it in a very essential character, that of the *horns*, which are much smaller, and have nothing

of that exuberance which Buffon and others attribute to the sheep of that island.

It resembles the Tscherkesian sheep described in last article, in the form of its *head*, straight upright *ears*, and in thickness of *fleece;* but the quality of the two fleeces are widely different; as this variety has *wool* almost as coarse as dog's hair: but the great distinguishing character between them is the *tail*, which is almost a quarter yard shorter than that of the Tscherkesian.

The *brachiura* or short tailed sheep, is reared not only by the northern Russians, but likewise by the Fins and other neighbouring nations. Some of this variety have been transported by the Russians into Siberia, where they have supported themselves on some pastures, though in poor condition; but through all the southern countries, they are in less estimation than the long tailed, and fat tailed, varieties, which are much superior to them for size, fat, and good eating. The ewe of this short tailed variety, couples readily with the ram of the *steatopyga* or fat tailed breed, and produces an animal nobler and larger than its mother, with a *tail* swelled at the base with fat, but meagre towards the end, like that of the mixed breed, which makes Dr Pallas's fourth and last variety of domestic sheep.

The ewe of the *brachiura* (always the subject of this article,) couples likewise clandestinely with the domestic he goat, and produces an animal much

resembling the mother, but with a fleece of *wool and hair* *.

The *brachiura* or Rusian sheep, supports very well the severity of a northern climate, and Dr Pallas doubts not but it might pass the *winter* in the plains of mountainous northern countries, where there is not much snow; nay he even thinks it might augment their hardyness and strength, if we are to judge from their habits and treatment of the Iceland flocks, so well described by Anderson in his account of that island.

Dr Pallas remarked that on mountainous pastures, exposed to the sun, such as on the acclivity of the Ouralic chain, the Rusian or short tailed sheep, were larger, fatter, and had a finer *fleece*.

Crossing the breed with the Tscherkessian or long tailed sheep, likewise mends both the stature and fleece of the *brachiura;* whereas in its own natural state, without admixture of other varieties of sheep, it is but small, lean, and produces, in the northern parts of Russia, a wool so extremely coarse, as on-

* Has this fact been sufficiently ascertained? I very much doubt it. In many parts of Scotland the sheep and goats go together promiscuously at all seasons; and notwithstanding what has been said by Buffon, and other naturalists on that subject, it is a certain fact that no person in these countries, ever saw a breed produced between the goat and the sheep. This opinion seems to have been adopted merely from the shaggy appearance of the fleece of some breeds of sheep, which much resembles the hair of a goat; but these are found equally in countries where no goats exist, as in those where goats aboound.
Edit.

ly to be fit for the cloth of peasants, in a state of vassalage *.

The third variety:

The STEATOPYGA, *or fat rump of Pallas; the* OVIS LATICAUDATA *of authors.*

This variety, which has no fixed trivial name, but is differently denominated in every country where it is reared, is both the most abundant and largest breed of sheep in the world.

It is reared throughout all the temperate regions of Asia, from the frontiers of Europe to those of China, in the vast plains of Tartary. All the Nomade hordes of Asia, the Turcomans, Kirguise, Calmouks, and Mongal Tartars, rear it; and indeed

* The coarseness of the fleece seems to be by no means a characteristical peculiarity of this breed of sheep. The Shetland breed of sheep is obviously referable to this class, and it produces the finest wool of any that is yet known. I myself have seen an indefinite number of varieties of this breed of sheep, each of them possessing certain hereditary and distinguishable peculiarities. Some of these carried wool of the finest pile I have ever seen, and softest quality; while others carried wool extremely coarse, and of very little value. It would seem that this last breed of this variety of sheep had chanced to be very generally disseminated over the Russian empire. Smallness of size seems to be a very general distinguishing peculiarity of this breed of sheep. The having or wanting horns is by no means characteristic of this breed. Neither is the tendency to leanness a permanent peculiarity. The fattest sheep I ever killed was of this breed: it was of a very small size,—had run abroad all winter among a considerable flock, which was not fed for the butcher. It was killed in the month of May. The hind quarter weighed only five pounds and a half, sixteen ounces to the pound, and it gave six pounds of tallow, twenty-six ounces to the pound—from which some idea may be had of the nature of the mutton. It was a ewe that had missed lamb.

Edit.

it constitutes their chief riches, the number they possess being enormous. The Persians also rear it in abundance; as likewise the Hottentots, as we are informed by Kolbe in his travels to the Cape of Good Hope; whilst Osbeck in his journey to China, asserts that the *fat tailed* sheep are reared through that whole empire.

We know from other authorities, *viz.* Shaw, and the abbé Demanent, two writers quoted in a former article, that the same breed obtains in Syria, Mauritania, and the other regions of Africa, under some modifications of *form*, from different causes, so that the doctor thinks he has brought sufficient evidence of what he advanced in the beginning of this article, *viz* that the steatopyga or fat rumped sheep is the most universally reared and multiplied of any breed in the world.

Here however the pure *unmixed* race is only treated of, as they exist in the vast deserts of Great Tartary, influenced in their form only by pasturage, soil, air, and water; no other variety being near to contaminate their blood.

The flocks therefore of all the Tartar hordes resemble one another by a large yellowish muzzle, the upper *jaw* often projecting beyond the lower; by long hanging *ears;* by the horns of the adult ram being large, spiral, wrinkled, angular, and bent in a lunar form.

The body of the ram, and sometimes of the ewe, swells gradually with fat, towards the posteriors; where a solid mass of fat is formed on the rump, and falls over the anus in place of a tail, divided into

two hemispheres, which take the form of the hips, with a little button of a tail in the middle, to be felt with the finger *.

This variety, besides the characters mentioned above, have slender legs in proportion to their bodies, a high chest, large hanging testicles, a large prepuce, and tolerably fine *wool* mixed with *hair*.

Such are the great characteristic marks by which the flocks of all the Tartar hordes resemble one another; but climate, soil, *&c.* produce some small difference on this variety, whether reared by the Tartars, or the Russians, in the western deserts of Great Tartary, from the river Volga to the Irtish, and the Altaic chain of mountains. In all that tract of country, the pasturage is mostly arid, and it abounds in acrid and liliaceous plants, in spring, whilst in summer it produces, at least in the open spots where sheep delight to feed, besides gramen, bitter and aromatic plants artemisia, camphorosma, and many species of salsola, abounding in juices and salts.

There is likewise found every where an efflorescence of natron, with sea, or glauber's salt; nay even the waters of the desert contain in general the same salts.

Now it is almost unnecessary to inform European shepherds, that such pasturage has the effect of augmenting the *size of sheep*, if it produces no other change upon them, so that we see in this instance, how some kind of difference may arise amongst sheep of the same breed, merely from accidental cau-

* See plate second, letter A. This plate will be given with a future number. *Edit.*

ses, without the least admixture of heterogeneous blood.

Kirguise Tartar flocks wandering in Great Tartary.

The mode of life of the southern Tartar flocks, may certainly have an influence upon them, as well as on the western just mentioned. It is as follows:

They enjoy a moderate winter with regard to cold, from the protection of mountains, although they pass it in the open air, with their Nomade masters; living mostly on dry stalks, especially those of the half dry worm-wood, which is abundant in the more elevated situations, that the wind keeps clear of snow.

In the spring, their masters conduct them to pastures rich in rising plants and flowers *; and now being come into a most palatable and favourite pasturage, sprinkled with the above mentioned salt efflorescence scattered by the wind, and further impregnated with saline dews, which fall often there in the night, they augment their bulk very considerably during summer, and still add to it in autumn, by the pasturage mentioned above, abounding in salsola and artemisia.

In these long journies, they are often deprived of water for a considerable time, till they come to

* Virgils excellent description of the Lybian Nomade shepherd in his 3d book of the Georgics v. 342, answers well to the Tartar Nomades

Diem noctemque et totum exordine mensem
Poscitur—itque pecus longa in deserta sine ullis
Hospitis; tantum campe jacet omnia secum
Armentorius aseragit, tectumque laremque
Armaque amyclarumque canem cressamque pharetram, &c.

some brackiſh well, of which they drink most greedily. In ſhort the flocks partake both the pleasures and ſufferings of their wandering masters, and enjoy almost as much liberty.

However in one respect, they enjoy but a limited portion, that is in illicit and promiscuous amours, to prevent which the Tartars tie about the belly of the rams, some old rags, after* they have covered the ewes at a stated time, so that they may bring forth their young, when every natural advantage awaits them. Forty or fifty rams are sufficient for a thousand ewes, and still they are so proliſic, that they generally bring two, and often three lambs, at a time; especially when the bandage of cha tity has been employed.

Thus the ſheep are fattened from their infancy, and their size augmented: first by great abundance of mother's milk, and then by saline bitter pastures, insomuch that they often weigh in those regions 200 pounds; of which weight, the soft oily fat alone that forms on the rump, independent of suet, amounts to from twenty to forty pounds. The *uropygium* or fat rump, which is made up of this oily species of fat, is so very large as to incommode the animal in walking; but when the same ſheep are carried into the interior parts of Ruſsia, the tail loses half its size and weight, nay sometimes more, from a change in their food and mode of life.

Johnston in his work on quadrupeds, confirms the fattening and prolific effects of saline pastures by say

* Query, Ought not this to be *before*. *Edit.*

ing, "that sheep become fatter in the maritime salt marshes of Italy, than on any other kind of pasture."

Some of the hordes of Kirguise on the river Irtish, and the Stauropol Calmouks, who wander on the banks of the Volga below Samara, in the government of Casan, rear a breed of the same sheep, but much diminished in size, in the mountainous country they inhabit, by the want of saline pastures, and by the depth of snow which falls there, that naturally produces a scarcity of winter food, amongst careless wandering hordes who do not provide hay.

In those flocks, both sexes are often without horns*.

The same variety, *viz.* the steatopyga or fat rumped sheep are still smaller with the pastoral Tartars on the Jenisey; and have still less fat on the tail, than the flocks alluded to above. Those of the Bouretes come likewise under the last description of diminished sheep, from the coldness of their mountainous regions, where the plants are crude, without saline impregnation; at the same time that the country is devoid of saline efflorescence, and where even water is very scarce. All these wants joined to cold, render the country of the Bouretes very unfit for rearing large sized fat mutton. The Mongal Tartars who dwell near Selenga have sheep rather larger than those of the three hordes just mentioned; but never of the size of the Kirguise flocks, treated of in page 159. Whereas the transalpine Daurie re-

* See plate third letter A.

gions although likewise cold, but exposed to the south, and the genial influence of the sun, produce the largest domestic rams Dr Pallas saw in his whole travels, larger than those of the Kirguise, and not even yielding in size to the European musimon; yet the mass of fat on the rump or tail is very small, not exceeding much the size of two fists, and seldom weighing ten pounds.

The reason of this remarkable change in the size of the fat tail or uropygium, seems to be, that there is very little wormwood in that district; and although there are some salt lakes, which produce an efflorescence, yet the pasture is little or nothing impregnated with it, which has so great a share, in Dr Pallas's opinion, in producing that particular species of fat which forms on the *tail*. The plants that obtain there are chiefly leguminous Alpine plants, amongst which the most nutritious are the *astragali*, and a small shrub much resembling the *robinia caragana*, which sheep devour with much avidity, and which has a considerable share in increasing their size. It is likewise necessary to add, that very little snow lies on these mountains, and of course the flocks have open pasture all winter; so that it is not so surprising if sheep which have the same nourishment, and pretty much the same range and habits as the musimon or wild variety, should approach them in size, whilst the absence of that load of fat on the tail, so remarkable in the Kirguise flocks in the southern deserts of Great Tartary, is evidently accounted for, according to the doctor's hypothesis,

by the absence of its cause, *viz. bitter saline pastures*, which do not obtain in that country.

But it seems, that such pasture alone when unassisted by other circumstances, cannot support the extraordinary size of the uropygium; for when the southern Kirguise sheep are transported, and breed in the Russian colonies, even in the south of Siberia, where the pasture is pretty much the same as in their own country, they become weak and lean, whilst the uropygium dwindles away to the size represented in table 3d letter A.

This Dr Pallas attributes to the great change in their mode of life and treatment by the Russians, who first of all keep them warm within doors all winter, next they give them water to drink, instead of letting them eat snow as at home; and lastly, they deprive them of salt: now the effects of this change of regimen is still more visible in the descendents of the Kirguise sheep reared in the Russian villages, where the uropygium is diminished to the size of a man's fist, although the little button or tail remains still of its old dimensions, and never increases them, if the breed is not crossed with some of the other varietes, which alone merit the name of *tailed* sheep; as that of the steatopyga or fat rump, scarcely deserves the appellation.

To be continued.

FRAGMENTS BY LORD BACON.

Art of life, in habits of attention and observation.

For the Bee.

Continued from p. 98.

* * * * WHEN reason, industry, and experience, build upon nature, we may expect Pyramids; but where the foundation is artificial, nothing that is great or durable.

Nature is often hidden, sometimes overcome, seldom extinguished.

Force makes nature more violent in the rebound from constraint; long custom only doth alter and subdue it to the reasonable and social purposes of life, which is mainly visible in getting, keeping, and quickening the habitudes of observation and attention, which rise more sure and orderly from the nature of man and from time, than from pedantick institution.

Touching our early years, we do not rightly appretiate the wisdom of God in giving unto children the insatiable love of variety, and of handling and examining every thing that is subjected unto their view.

It is then that the human microcosm is rising out of chaos, and that the spirit of curiosity sits brooding upon the face of the deep, to bring forth the infinite variety of the human nature; and this grand operation, though it may be somewhat directed by

education, or the drawing forth of the human powers, ought not to be in any wise obstructed or precoceously directed to artificial considerations.

This exercise of natural curiosity produceth in children what may be called foreign travel, and knowledge of the world, on which the whole of the future excellence of the man is to be formed and established; and during this exercise, *if it is not preposterously and foolishly disturbed by parents, guardians, or pedagogues*, the habitudes of attention and observation are acquired and confirmed.

This is the first grand principle of a *novum arganum educationis*, which after ages, loosed from the trammels of prejudice, will evince and establish.

It hath been a complaint universal among all who charge themselves with education, *that the difficulty of obtaining and fixing the continued attention of children to learning, baffleth all their endeavours, and that while the book is in their hand, their thoughts are engaged in plays that are past, or plays that are looked for, when the irksome task of the hour or of the day is accomplished.*

Now the question herein plainly occureth which may be quickly answered:

Whether is the creator of the child, the great God of the universe, or the silly parent and pedagogue, the proper judge of what inclination the child ought to have in common with all other children for the fitting of the whole future man for fulfilling the intention of his creation.

Certainly what we foolishly call a disposition in the child to trifle, and disregard our discourses and

instructions is no other than the far superior, more interesting, more useful, important, and delectable instruction which the child is hourly, daily, and perpetually receiving from the book of nature, and from the author of nature, in the visible, audible, and tangible, objects of creaton, which by infinite mutiplications, combinations, divisions, and re-unions of impreſsed notions, are verifying by experience the right knowledge of external objects, and forming that complex rational being, which, when duly improved in after times, is to be truly entitled to the appellation of man.

Now what sort of attention would you expect from Galileo Galilei, or from Keplerus, to an impertinent schoolman who ſhould pester them with pneumatological discuſsions, whilst they were examining and exploring the stars of the Medicis, or the laws of the heavenly orbits?

Do you think they would sit contentedly to listen to the jargon of the schools, while every moment was offering or presenting to their wondering perception some new appearance of delectable novelty?

Can we then marvel at the inattention of children, occupied as they are by the irrisistible power of young desire, and charmed as they are, with the enjoyment of new and delightful acquaintance with surrounding nature, for which the author of that nature has endowed them with the inexterminable instinct of curiosity! the Palladium of human reason, and that which in its greatneſs setteth man so peculiarly at the head of animated nature.

We shall generally find that what is called genius, or an uncommon reach of novelty in thought and invention among men, is no other than the fruit of the unshackled powers of the understanding, working by attention, observation, and comparison, the habitude of which, hath been obtained by following that which peculiarly tickleth and delighteth the imagination or the understanding.

It is this which leadeth some men into enterprises, that are never so much as thought of by such as be guided in the trammels of pedantic institution, and from whence we see that most of our notable discoveries have been due unto men that have sprung from the earth, like the teeth of Cadmus, and have not been reared in the hot beds of pedantic seminaries.

Unto a common and careless observer, a rich meadow seemeth to consist of nought but grass, daisies, butter-flowers, and some well-known weeds that do infest the pastures; but unto him who hath once been drawn to examine the diversity of plants which grow therein, a short time will exhibit to his delighted and wondering eye, a variety increasing with the curiosity and intensity of observation.

Now to foster this disposition, is a grand object both in the art of education and in the art of life, both with respect to the natural and the moral world.

The habitude of attention and observation, when it hath for its scope, the almost infinite variety of humane character and conduct, will render more and more perfect, that notable wisdom which enableth a man to discern the real dispositions of his

fellows, their secret intentions, their weak and their strong sides, their qualities and prejudices, and to know how to apply himself to please others, and yet to avoid the dangers arising from selfishness and treachery, a wisdom truly that is nowise crooked, and may be honestly conjoined unto moral virtue.

The eye and the ear, when duly accustomed to observe all the movements of the countenance, and the gesticulations of the body, together with the various modulation of the voice and accent, will be able to discern the slightest approaches to envy, malevolence, circumvention, and treachery; and if the guard of the eye lids are judiciously used as a parapit behind which to observe the movements of the enemy, and to ward off his missile weapons, much evil may be eschewed, and much advantage gained by the knowledge of the distant intentions of those with whom we are engaged in the common intercourse of life, and still more in the commerce of difficult and dangerous affairs.

In the exercise of this art, it highly comporteth to mark also the unaffected expressions of benevolence, in those with whom we converse, and from such, gradually to choose our principal messmates and companions. From these again, after due probation, to select such as may deserve some share of our esteem and confidence; and last of all, out of this small groupe, to obtain that most rare and admirable gift of heaven, a real and true friend, or in other words a second self. I say a second self, for certain it is, that true friendship is that which not on-

ly hath not a plural, but not even a dual in its true construction and authentic prosody.

That phisiognomonical science hath been set down as of doubtful interpretation, or even existence, by deep thinkers, and prudent observers of human nature, may be owing unto this circumstance, that most men who have dealt in it, have drawn their rules more from anatomical and picturesque considerations, than from long and actual observation and experience; and have not considered that it is only deserving of credit, when taken along with the tone of the voice, the convulsionary movements, or gesticulations of the body, the air of the whole person, and a thousand concomitant circumstances, that can only be the fruit of the confirmed habitudes of attention and observation, which therefore in the art of life, are to be justly held as of high commendation and importance * *.

The rest of this section is wanting, or could not be made out from the M S.

INSTANCE OF BODILY STRENGTH.

The prodigious strength of *Bufsiqua*, made *Milon* cry out, "Jupiter have you then made another Hercules." This Bufsiqua lifted a stone which Milon could scarcely move: he carried it to a considerable distance, and threw it from him with the greatest ease. This same Bufsiqua laid hold of a bull with one hand, in the middle of his course, and held him fast, in spite of his greatest efforts to disingage himself; nay, he even seized another bull who was passing by accident at that time, and held them both at the same time.

ON MAKING ICE IN INDIA.

SIR, *Edinburgh*, 1793.

THE following process of making ice in the East Indies, was communicated by Sir Robert Barker F. R. S. in a letter to Dr Brocklesby, which was published in the Philosophical Transactions. If it meets with your approbation, your inserting it in your Miscellany will oblige, Sir, your humble servant AMICUS.

The process of making ice in the East Indies having become a subject of speculation, I beg permission to present you with the method by which it was performed at Allabahad, Mootegil, and Calcutta, in the East Indies; lying between 25° 30, and 23° 30, of north latitude. At the latter place, I have never heard of any person having discovered natural ice in the pools or cisterns, or in any waters collected on the roads; nor has the thermometer been remarked to descend to the freezing point; and at the former, very few only have discovered ice, and that but seldom: but, in the process of making ice at these places, it was usual to collect a quantity every morning, before sun rise, (except in some particular kinds of weather, which I shall specify in the sequel,) for near three months in the year viz. from December till February.

The ice maker belonging to me at Allahabad, (at which place I principally attended to this inquiry,) made a sufficient quantity in the winter for the supply of the table during the summer season. The methods he pursued were as follow: on a large open plain, three or four excavations were made, each about thirty feet square, and two deep, the bottoms of which were strewed about eight inches or a foot thick with sugar canes, or the stems of the large Indian corn dried. Upon this bed were placed in rows, near to each other, a number of small shallow earthen pans, for containing the water intended to be frozen. These are unglazed, scarce a quarter of an inch thick, about an inch and a quarter in depth, and made of an earth so porous, that it was visible from the exterior part of the pans, that water had penetrated the whole substance. Towards the dusk of the evening, they were filled with soft water, which had been boiled, and then left in the afore-related situation. The ice makers attended the pits usually before the sun was above the horizon, and collected in baskets what was frozen by pouring the whole contents of the pans into them, and thereby retaining the ice, which was daily conveyed to the grand receptacle, or place of preservation, prepared generally in some high dry situation, by sinking a pit fourteen or fifteen feet deep, lined first with straw, and then with a coarse kind of blanketing, where it is beat down with rammers, till its own accumulated cold again freezes, and forms one solid mass. The mouth of the pit is well secured from the exterior air with straw and blankets, in the manner

of the lining, and a thatched roof is thrown over the whole. It is here neceſsary to remark, that the quantity of ice depends materially on the weather; and consequently it has sometimes happened, that no congelation took place: at others, perhaps, half the quantity will be frozen; and I have often seen the whole contents formed into a perfect cake of ice. The lighter the atmosphere, and the more clear and serene the weather, the more favourable for congelation; as a frequent change of winds, and clouds are certain preventatives. For I have frequently remarked, that after a very ſharp cold night, to the feel of the human body, scarce any ice has been formed; when, at other times, the night has been calm and serene, and sensibly warmer, the contents of the pans will be frozen through. The strongest proof of the influence of the weather appears by the water in one pit being more congealed than the same preparation for freezing will be in other situations, a mile or more distant.

To reason physically upon this proceſs of making ice, it may be said, that, had the thermometer been suspended in the air, free from every other body capable of communicating heat, in some parts of the night during the cold months of December, January, February, the quicksilver might have descended to the freezing point, and that water, being artfully placed in a similar situation, contained in thin porous pans, and supported by a substance little capable of communicating heat from the earth, might also freeze, and continue in a state of congelation till the heat of the morning came on. I say this may be

posſible; but at the same time, I must beg leave to observe, that, during my residence in that quarter of the globe, I never saw any natural ice. I cannot declare, that the thermometer has not descended to the freezing point during the night, because I never made the neceſsary observations; but the water in every other situation, excepting in the pans, has not appeared to be in a freezing state. The climate may probably contribute in some measure to facilitate the congelation of water, when placed in a situation free from the heat of the earth, since those nights in which the greatest quantity of ice has been produced, were, I before observed, perfectly serene, the atmosphere ſharp and thin, with very little dew after midnight. Many gentlemen now in England, have made the same remarks, in their frequent visits with me to the ice pits. The spungy nature of the sugar canes, or the stems of the Indian corn, appears well calculated to give a paſsage under the pans to the cold air; which, acting on the exterior parts of the veſsels, may carry off by evaporation a proportion of the heat. The porous substance of the veſsels seems equally well qualified for the admiſsion of the cold air internally; and their situation, being full a foot beneath the plane of the ground, prevents the surface of the water from being ruffled by any small current of air, and thereby preserves the congealed particles from disunion. Boiling the water is esteemed a neceſsary preparative to this method of congelation; but how far this may be consonant with philosophical reasoning, I will not presume to determine.

From these circumstances it appears, that water, by being placed in a situation free from receiving heat from other bodies, and exposed in large surfaces to the air, may be brought to freeze, when the temperature of the atmosphere is some degrees above the freezing point, on the scale of Fahrenheit's thermometer; and, by being collected and amassed into a large body, is thus preserved, and rendered fit for freezing other fluids, during the severe heats of the summer season. In effecting which there is also an established mode of proceeding; the sherbets, creams, or whatever other fluids are intended to be frozen, are confined in thin silver cups of a conical form, containing about a pint, with their covers well luted on with paste, and placed in a large vessel filled with ice, salt petre, and common salt, of the two last, an equal quantity, and a little water to dissolve the ice, and combine the whole. This composition presently freezes the contents of the cups to the same consistency of our ice creams, *&c.* in Europe; but plain water will become so hard, as to require a mallet and knife to break it. Upon applying the bulb of a thermometer to one of these pieces of ice thus frozen, the quicksilver has been known to sink two or three degrees below the freezing point. So that from an atmosphere apparently not cold enough to produce natural ice, ice shall be formed, collected, and a cold accumulated, that shall cause the quicksilver to fall even below the freezing point. The promising advantages of such a discovery could alone induce the Asiatic, (whose principal study is the luxuries of life, and this may well be called such, when I have often re-

galed with ices when the thermometer has stood at 112°,) to make an attempt of profiting by so very short a duration of cold during the nights, in these months, and by a well timed and critical contrivance of securing this momentary degree of cold, they have procured to themselves a comfortable refreshment as a recompence, to alleviate, in some degree, the intense heats of the summer season, which, in some parts of India, would be scarce supportable, but by the assistance of this and many other inventions. I am, Sir, with regard, your most obedient humble servant,

R. B.

ON THE LIFE OF A FLEA.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

BY inserting the following instance of the duration of the life of a flea, in your excellent Miscellany, you will much oblige, Sir, your humble servant, and admirer

Caithness
July 1793. LYCURGUS.

On the duration of the life of a flea, by Borrichius.
From the acts of Copenhagen.

PLINY represents to us a Greek philosopher, whose occupation, for several years together, was to measure the space skipped over by fleas. Without giving into such rediculous researches, I can relate an anecdote which chance discovered to me in regard to that insect. Being sent for to attend a foreign lady, who

was greatly afflicted with pains of the gout, and having staid by desire to dine with her, she bad me take notice, after dinner, of a flea on her hand. Surprised at such discourse, I looked at the hand, and saw indeed a plump and pampered flea, sucking greedily, and kept fast to it by a little gold chain. The lady assured me, she had nursed and kept the little animal at that time, full six years, with exceeding great care, having fed it twice every day with her blood, and when it had satisfied its appetite, she put it up in a little box lined with silk. In a month's time, being recovered from her illness, she set out from Copenhagen with her flea; but, having returned in about a year after, I took an opportunity of waiting upon her, and among other things, asked after her little insect. She answered me with great concern, that it died through the neglect of her waiting woman. What I found remarkable in this story was, that the lady being attacked by chronical pains in the limbs, had recourse in France to a mercurial salivation during six weeks; and all this time the flea had not ceased to feed upon her blood imbued with the vapours of mercury, and yet was not the worse for it, which shows how much its constitution is different from that of the louse, to which mercury is a mortal poison.

ADDRESS TO THE ROSE.

For the Bee

Go lovely rose, to Mary's bosom go,
That bosom fair as is the opening morn,
When it doth nature with her sweets adorn,
And spreads her beauties upon all below.

Still art you sprinkled with the morning dew,
Seeming in tears to mourn the absent sun,
Who yesterday his course so glorious run,
And gave your opening beauties to our view.

But he will kiss those pearly drops away,
And with her breath thy sweets shall sweeter seem
Than shepherd lads and shepherd's lasses deem
The fresh sprung violets of the month of May.

Those sweets will pleasing be, tho' you decay.
So time to Mary's mind perfection brings,
That should frail beauty roam on airy wings,
She still may charm us as at break of day.

B. B.

TO LOVE.

Or hou, or fiend, or angel, by what name
Shall I address thee? how express thy powers?
Strange compound of extremes, of heat and cold,
Of hope and fear, of pleasure and of pain!
Most credulous infidel! now trusting nought,
Now anchoring on a feather; craving all;
With nothing satisfied; perplex'd with doubts,
Yet dreading to be sure; surcharg'd with thought,
Of speech incapable; in absence curst,
Yet eager still to rush on certain pain!
Tho' blind they call thee, yet I've known thee, Love,
More keen and watchful than the sleepless eye
Of that dread serpent whose terrific glare
Hung like a comet o'er th' Hesperian boughs.
Nor ken of griping miser, nor of lynx;
Nor his whom poets feign'd with hundered eyes,
Argus, nor that majestic bird's which looks
Undazzled on the sun, looks half so sharp,
So vigilant as thine. All seeing Love,
No look, no motion, gesture, deed, or word,

No nor the secret councils of the heart,
Can 'scape thy scrutiny. How wretched thou,
If aught thou spiest which thwarts thine ardent wish!
And, oh! how ravish'd, if thou mark'st one line
Which tells the latent longings of the soul!
In that high fever, the delirious brain
Coins gaudy phantoms of celestial bliss,
Of bliss that never comes—for now, ev'n now,
Now, while love seeks and eyes the rainbow hues
With child-like rapture, and full fondly thinks
They ne'er shall fade, even now comes jealous fear,
With tottering fist, and thunders at the door.
At this rude noise alarm'd the dreamer starts;
Looks trembling round, and finds the vision fled.
Where now's th' angelic hue, the dimpl'd cheek,
The moistened eye ball, and the hidden blush
Or Love's delicious smiles? From dreams like these,
From airy joy's, he wakes, to real pain.
Quick to his sight up springs, in long array,
A tribe of devilish ills—the cold reply,
Th' unanswer'd question, the assenting nod
Of dull civility, the careless look
Of blank indifference, the chilling frown,
That freezes at the heart, the stony eye
Of fixt disdain; or more tormenting gaze
Bent on another. These, with all the train
Of fears and jealousies that wait on Love,
Are no imagin'd grief; no fancied ills
These; or, if fancied, worse than solid woes.
Such art thou, Love; then who that once has known
Thy countless sands, and rocks that lurk beneath,
Would ever tempt thy smiling surface more?
Long toss'd on stormy seas of hopes and fears,
How willingly at last my wearied soul
Would seek a shelter in forgetfulness!
O bland forgetfulness, Love's sweetest balm,
Come, rouse thee from thy bed, if still thou sleep'st
On Lethe's shore, come take this willing breast,
And fold it in thine arms; thro' all my veins
Thy dead'ning pow'rs infuse, close up each gate
And avenue to Love, purge off the slime
That clogs this spirit, which fain would wing its flight
To sense, to reason, liberty, and law.

P. H

Hints respecting various plants that may be useful in domestic economy, by Arcticus

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee*

I propose dedicating this letter, to the queries in your last letter with some miscellaneous hints on plants that may be cultivated with advantage in Great Britain, or which at least merit a fair trial.

Polygonum *Tataricum.*

First, The species of wild Siberian buck wheat, which you inquire after with so much anxiety, from having been told of its being perennial, and a promising fodder for cattle, is the *polygonum Tataricum* of Linnæus, called by the Ruſsians *kirlik*, and the Tartars *dikuschka.*

It grows wild in several parts of Siberia; and in some is cultivated, as it remains several years in the ground without labour or expence. So far is certainly true; but still I cannot take upon me to say that it is a perennial plant, but on the contrary suspect its being an annual.

This apparent paradox may be explained in the following manner, and I suppose will be found to be the real fact; that as the seeds of this polygonum ripen very unequally, those first come to maturity, are ſhaken out with the wind, before what may be called *the latter crop*, is reaped, so as to reproduce the grain for several years without freſh sowing, although it gradually thins, till it totally disappears, if cut down yearly.

The Siberians gather in the grain as an article of food, prepared in the following manner. They roast it a little in an iron pan, after swelling it by steeping in cold water; a double operation which makes the huſks separate readily during the grinding in their wooden mortars, which are more common than mills. The grain thus

treated is semitransparent, of a yellowish colour, and has a very agreeable taste when boiled up in milk, in form of porridge, their usual way of eating it, as I have been informed by a friend residing in Siberia.

The Polygonum *convolvolus.*

But there is another species of polygonum, *viz.* the *P. convolvolus* of Linnæus, which I think merits a fair trial with you, and promises to be useful in some parts of Scotland, from its possessing the following qualities.

First, it is a hardy Siberian plant like the former, which is not hurt by even a much severer cold than any it can meet with in your island.

Second, it will grow on the poorest grounds.

Third, because the grain *ripens altogether*, which facilitates much the getting of it in, in northern situations.

Fourth, because it carries more grain than the polygonum Tataricum, the wild Siberian buck wheat you inquired after.

It likewise grows wild like the other, in several parts of Siberia, particularly about Murom on the Okka, and might probably be an acquisition to some of the more northern sterile lands of Scotland.

I send you the seeds of the polygonum Tataricum, and shall write to Siberia for the other. *

* Some of the seeds of the polygonum Tataricum, which accompanied this letter, were sown as soon as possible after they arrived. They came up very readily, and are now growing vigorously. In corroboration of this correspondent's opinion, the plant has the habit, and much the appearance of an annual.

I am much obliged to this valuable correspondent for his attention in this and every other respect; and shall exert myself to make the best use in my power of his communications. The *polygonum convolvolus*, is found in some places of this country, and seeds of it may probably be got here. It never attracted my notice as a plant promising to be of much utility; but I shall now examine it with more attention. *Edit.*

I shall now finish my letter with a few miscellaneous hints on northern plants, which will probably for that reason suit your climate, and which I think merit trial from useful purposes they may be applied to.

Trifolium *hybridum.*

Do you cultivate in Scotland the best of all our northern grasses, and the most hardy, the trifolium hybridum, a most excellent white clover? *.

Robinia *ferox, and* Ferula *asafœtida.*

Has the robinia ferox succeeded for impenetrable hedges, the seeds of which I sent over, with many other Siberians, to my old correspondent, the late worthy professor of botany †? I should likewise be happy to know if my ferula asafœtida is still alive, and has produced good seeds, of which he was so proud twelve years ago, when that plant presented the new and curious phenomenon of flowering in Europe, to which it had till then been a stranger. The true asafœtida was a valuable acquisition to Great Britain, if it has been cultivated with success; for the good doctor had it growing in the open air, and mentions in the Philosophical Transactions of London (where he has given a fine plate of the plant in flower)

* Answer: I do not know that it is ever cultivated here. Some of the seeds of it will prove acceptable. *Edit.*

† I was so sensible of the value of this plant for the purpose here hinted at, when I read the account of it in the *Flora Rossica*, lately presented by the Empress of Russia to the Royal Society of Edinburgh, that I wrote by post to Arcticus, requesting the favour of him to procure me some seeds of it. Since receiving the above I have made inquiry for it in the Botanic garden; but do not find it there. *Edit.*

the fetid juice which forms the famous drug, having appeared in considerable quantity *:

The plants we reserved for this country, have all periſhed, so that if Britain poſſeſs it still it is unique in Europe.

ROBINIA *pygmea.*

I forgot to mention above, when inquiring after the robinia ferox, another species of it, viz, the pygmea, which might poſsibly be employed for some useful purpose by your industrious people, since the lazy wandering Tartars about Krasnojarſk in Siberia, obtain a species of coarse thread from it †.

You will observe, Mr Editor, as I am very little a sanguine projector, and very little fired with modern enthusiasm of any kind, poſsibly from living so long amongst ice and snow, that I only propose for trial such of our hardy Siberian plants as are likely to succeed in your northern sterile, and waste lands; hoping that the more southern and fertile, are too well employed to be the theatre of experiment, I ſhall only depart from that maxim in mentioning a Jamaica plant, which however has been tried in Sweden by Linnæus's advice, although I have not heard of its succeſs there as yet, being long im-

* I am happy to be able to inform this correspondent that the Ferula asafœtida is still alive in the Botanic garden here. It has several times produced ripe seeds, by which means the plant has been multiplied, so that there are now a good many plants of it here in a very thriving condition. It bears our hardest winters quite well.
Edit.

† I do not know that this plant has been introduced into Britain. Will be obliged to any correspondent for information concerning it, if it has. *Edit.*

ported after the death of that great man, who certainly would not have recommended any thing to his country, which had not a probability of succeeding.

Zizania *aquatica.*

I allude to the *zizania aquatica* of Jamaica, a plant which bears a grain like rice, equally eatable, and which grows in wet places where nothing is produced but reeds. Such sort of experiments which cost little or nothing, and that do not require a productive soil, are certainly the most valuable, in a country abounding already with most of the useful plants of the known world.

I am much of your *solid opinion* on all these subjects, that we ſhould endeavour to do all the good we can in morals and in physics, *but hazard nothing from wild theory in either the one or the other.* By persisting in that wise plan, though it is scarcely poſsible you can stem the torrent of folly in many cases, in an island too much abounding with good things, and bleſsings of all kinds, to be sober; yet you may have the good fortune to moderate its course, which is doing a great deal; for my own opinion, I really think from my knowledge of the continent as well as our island, that if ever the beautiful simple allegory of holy writ, was applicable to a country, it is to Great Britain at present, '*and they waxed fat and kicked.*'

Vegetable soap.

A vegetable soap would certainly be as great a curioſity with you, as the vegetable silk you inquire after, and such a one actually exists in the northern parts of Siberia, known to the Ruſsians by the name of *Tatarſkoi muilo* or Tartar's soap, from its being used as such by the Tartars about Krasnojarſk near Irkutzk.

The plant is the *lichnis chalcedonica* of Linnæus, and it is the crown of the flower which is employed as soap *.

To preserve fruit trees from caterpillars.

Have you tried in Scotland a mode of guarding fruit trees against the caterpillar, so much recommended; which is to wrap in spring a rag dipped in train oil round the top of the trunk? the leſs valuable the oil for other

* We have the lychnis chalcedonica, the scarlet lychnis vulgo, in abundance in our gardens. It is now coming into flower. I have tried it in every way that seemed likely to answer with me, but have not been able to discover any symptoms of its being useful as a detergent. If any of my readers ſhall prove more succeſsful in their trials with it, I will be glad to hear of these. It is probable the inhabitants of Siberia may content themselves with some poorer substitutes for soap than the more wealthy, and I presume more cleanly inhabitants of Britain.

Various other detergents.

In former times even we of Britain employed various substances, both vegetable and animal, as detergents, which now have fallen into disuse; and soap has come into more general use.

Urine was long employed for that purpose, insomuch that the general name for it among the vulgar, WASH, which now, as falling into disuse, deserves to be preserved, was derived from this property. Whence the same substance derived its other vulgar name, MASTER, is not so easy to conceive.

Blood is likewise, in certain circumstances, a powerful detergent, as also *milk*, especially when sour, though in a leſser degree.

Cow dung has been also often used as a sort of detergent in the operation called *bucking*, in the proceſs of bleaching, among the country people.

Among vegetable substances, all the farinaceous grains, or seeds, when grinded into meal, are well known to be among the best and mildest detergents for the human ſkin. Hence the use of *almond powder*, and various others as cosmetics.

Raw potatoes operate strongly in the same manner; and no doubt many other substances. But all of these, unleſs upon the human ſkin, are much inferior in power to soap. *Edit.*

purposes from rancidity, the better it will answer for the proposed experiment *.

Such are a few of the well intended hints thrown out by the zealous citizen of Great Britain who signs himself your correspondent, ARCTICUS.

HINTS ON DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

As I see (in the third number of the Bee) you have made choice of an excellent piece for the improvement of morality, from the Pennsylvanian almanack, I have herewith sent you a few observations, from an old tradesman to a young one, which I have collected from newspapers, from the year 84, till 87, which if they were duly attended to, by tradesmen of every denomination, would deprive the lawyers and doctors of much money, needlefsly thrown away, and might teach the trading part of your readers, of the meanest capacity, and even the most learned, to become rich, and useful members of society. I am your humble servant MERCATOR

To young tradesmen.

Every one of you gentlemen, ought to consider himself as having the affairs of a little republic to manage. You have a treasury to provide for; you have ways and means to seek; you have constituents whose good graces you must cultivate; you must take such care that your bills shall always pafs, and above all, you must be ready to answer all demands of your opponents, and keep your civil list free from arrears. Never trust to the second quarter for the payment of the first; and as in kingdoms and states, it is absolutely necefsary to have such an ad-

* Has this been tried by any of the readers of the Bee, and with what succefs? *Edit.*

ministration, as ſhall maintain the dignity and the conſequence of the nation in the eyes of ſurrounding powers, ſo it becomes you to make yourſelves dreaded, and yet reſpected by your fellow tradeſmen, not to raiſe their envy nor their contempt by flaſhy extravagance, but to diſtinguiſh yourſelves by induſtry, probity and punctuality.

Of punctuality it is impoſsible to ſay too much. You muſt be ſenſible, that what you like in others, others wil look for in you.

Honeſtus is a tradeſman diſtinguiſhed for this happy quality. No man calls twice upon him to ſettle any buſineſs which can poſsibly be done at once; and he is always more ready to pay than others are to receive. His word is never given, but where he not only ſeriouſly means to keep it, but alſo knows that, humanly ſpeaking, he has it in his power to keep it. Hence there are few men who would not as confidently take his word as his bond; and if his character were as well known in courts of juſtice as it is in trade, I believe his ſimple affirmation would be as valid as an oath, if the cuſtoms of the place did not forbid it.

Now mark the different character of Tom Tedious. He never keeps his time, yet he always is allowed to appoint what time he pleaſes; time and place are always left to him, but the place he forgets, and the time he purpoſely out ſtays. If he had 100 guineas in his pocket, which he had no occaſion for, and you wanted a bill of thirty ſhillings paid, your ſervant muſt call again, aye, again and again, before it is done. By this mode of proceeding he has ſo completely diſguſted all his brethren, that no one wiſhes to deal with him, and for his word, no man will take the word of him who never keeps a promiſe.

The main drift of all my advices, is to prevent those distreſses which are now so frequent among tradesmen. Our papers are crowded with bankrupts, and the greatest part of them young ones, a circumstance which to me appears alarming in the following point of view. As the old must soon die, whom ſhall we find to succeed them, and keep up the spirit of trade in this country? If extravagance, folly, and levity, are the characteristics of you tradesmen, where ſhall we find proper succeſsors to those eminent characters, who from small beginnings, much smaller, gentlemen, than some of you have begun with, have risen to be heads of their several profeſsions, and who have been dignified with those great offices and honours that are conferred on distinguiſhed probity and worth? On your conduct now, therefore, much depends on a national view of the matter. It is not the man who makes a long speech to the populace, and catches the applause of the vulgar by an affected contempt of courts, and places which in fact he wiſhes to have, that is to be accounted a patriot: for repeated experience has convinced us, that such men are no better than impostors. No, you, gentlemen, are the patriots of this nation. It is you who are expected to support her glory, by preserving the spirit of generous commerce; it is you who, while you enrich yourselves, pour wealth into your country, provide for the industrious poor, and make your nation courted by all others as a commercial nation.

A tradesman who has raised a petty ſhop, by slow industry and probity, to a capital warehouse, and whose character adds consequence to the name of a Britiſh merchant, he is the true patriot. Those will be happy that are under him; and from superior ranks eyed with pleasure. Look round and mark the potency of a great name, a name raised by probity, industry, and honour, to rank and munificence. See what power that man has—what confidence the world puts in such men; and

how the voice of slander, ever so loud, cannot so much as be heard. Think on such men; follow their steps, and be happy!

to be continued.

Observations on the instinct of animals.

From Reid's essays.

We come into the world ignorant of every thing, yet we must do many things in order to our subsistence and well being. A new-born child may be carried in arms, and kept warm by his nurse; but he must suck and swallow his food for himself. And this must be done before he has any conception of sucking and swallowing, or of the manner in which they are to be performed. He is led by nature to do these actions, without knowing for what end, or what he is about. This we call instinct. . . . .

In the animals we are best acquainted with, and which we look upon as the more perfect of the brute creation, we see much the same instincts, or mechanical principles of action, as in the human kind, or very similar ones, suited to the particular state and manner of life of the animal.

Besides these, there are, in brute animals, instincts peculiar to each tribe, by which they are fitted for defence, for offence, or for providing for themselves and for their offspring.

It is not more certain, that nature hath furnished various animals with various weapons of offence and defence, than that the same nature hath taught them how to use them; the bull and the ram to butt, the horse to kick, the dog to bite, the lion to use his paws, the boar his tusks, the serpent his fangs, and the bee and the wasp their sting.

The manufactures of animals, if we may call them by that name, present us with a wonderful variety of instincts belonging to particular species, whether of the social or the solitary kind—the nests of birds, so similar in their situation and architecture in the same kind, so various in different kinds—the webs of spiders and of other spinning animals—the ball of the silk worm—the nests of ants and other mining animals—the combs of wasps, hornets, and bees,—the dams and houses of beavers.

The instinct of animals is one of the most delightful and instructive parts of a most pleasant study, that of natural history; and deserves to be more cultivated than it has yet been.

Every manufacturing art among men was invented by some man, improved by others, and brought to perfection by time and experience. Men learn to work in it by long practice, which produces a habit. The arts of men vary in every age, and in every nation, and are found only in those who have been taught them.

The manufactures of animals differ from those of men, in many striking particulars.

No animal of the species can claim the invention. No animal ever introduced any new improvement, or any variation from the former practice. Every one of the species has equal skill from the beginning, without teaching, without experience or habit. Every one has its art by a kind of inspiration. I do not mean that it is inspired with the principles or rules of the art, but with the ability and inclination of working in it to perfection, without any knowledge of its principles, rules, or end.

The more sagacious animals may be taught to do many things which they do not by instinct. What they are taught to do, they do with more or less skill, according to their sagacity and their training. But, in their

own arts, they need no teaching nor training, nor is the art ever improved or lost. Bees gather their honey and their wax, they fabricate their combs, and rear their young at this day, neither better nor worse than they did when Virgil so sweetly sung their works.

The work of every animal is, indeed, like the works of nature, perfect in its kind, and can bear the most critical examination of the mechanic or the mathematician. One example from the animal last mentioned may serve to illustrate this.

Bees, it is well known, construct their combs with small cells on both sides, fit both for holding their store of honey, and for rearing their young. There are only three possible figures of the cells, which can make them all equal and similar, without any useless interstices. These are the equilateral triangle, the square, and the regular hexagon.

It is well known to mathematicians, that there is not a fourth way possible, in which a plane may be cut into little spaces that shall be equal, similar, and regular, without leaving any interstices. Of the three, the hexagon is the most proper, both for conveniency and strength. Bees, as if they knew this, make their cells regular hexagons.

As the combs have cells on both sides, the cells may either be exactly opposite, having partition against partition, or the bottom of a cell may rest upon the partitions between the cells on the other side, which will serve as a buttress to strengthen it. The last way is best for strength; accordingly, the bottom of each cell rests against the point where three partitions meet on the other side, which gives it all the strength possible.

The bottom of a cell may either be one plane, perpendicular to the side partitions, or it may be composed

of several planes, meeting in a solid angle in the middle point. It is only in one of these two ways that all the cells can be similar without losing room. And, for the same intention, the planes of which the bottom is composed, if there be more than one, must be three in number, and neither more nor fewer.

It has been demonstrated, that, by making the bottoms of the cells to consist of three planes meeting in a point, there is a saving of material and labour no way inconsiderable. The bees, as if acquainted with these principles of solid geometry, follow them most accurately; the bottom of each cell being composed of three planes which make obtuse angles with the side partitions, and with one another, and meet in a point in the middle of the bottom; the three angles of this bottom being supported by three partitions on the other side of the comb, and the point of it by the common intersection of those three partitions.

One instance more of the mathematical ſkill displayed in the structure of a honey-comb, deserves to be mentioned.

It is a curious mathematical problem, at what precise angle the three planes, which compose the bottom of a cell, ought to meet, in order to make the greatest poſsible saving, or the least expence of material and labour.

This is one of those problems, belonging to the higher parts of mathematics, which are called problems of maxima and minima. It has been resolved by some mathematicians, particularly by the ingenious Mr Maclaurin, by a fluxionary calculation, which is to be found in the transactions of the royal society of London. He has determined precisely the angle required; and he found by the most exact mensuration the subject could admit, that it is the ve-

ry angle in which the three planes in the bottom of the cell of a honey-comb do actually meet.

Shall we aſk here, who taught the bee the properties of solids, and to resolve problems of maxima and minima? If a honey-comb were a work of human art, every man of common sense would conclude, without hesitation, that he who invented the construction, must have understood the principles on which it is constructed.

We need not say, that bees know none of these things. They work most geomatrically, without any knowledge of geometry; somewhat like a child, who, by turning the handle of an organ, makes good music, without any knowledge of music.

The art is not in the child, but in him who made the organ. In like manner, when a bee makes his combs so geomatrically, the geometry is not in the bee, but in that Great Geometrician, who made the bee, and made all things in number, weight, and measure!

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The laboured apology of *Speculator* is received. And though the Editor is resolved to keep clear from disputes on matters of that sort, yet for the sake of impartiality, he will insert, either in whole or in substance in an abridged form, the principal arguments here offered; and there the matter must rest: for this miscellany ſhall never be made the vehicle of controversial altercation, which on the plan here begun, might be spun out for ages, without coming to any conclusion that could benefit mankind.

The letter of *Cynic* is received. The Editor is sorry he ſhould have had any cause of disgust. Had he been as expli it on former occasions as in his last letter, this would have been entirely prevented. He may rest aſsured that neither he nor any other person who is equally explicit, and gives the same alternative he allows, ſhall ever have reason to complain of their wiſhes not being complied with.

The favours of *Contemplator* are received, and ſhall be inserted with the first opportunity.

*** *Acknowledgements to correspondents still neceſsarily deferred other.*

Russian Sheep, PLATE II.nd THE STEATOPYGA.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14. 1793.

ON THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SHEEP IN A WILD AND DOMESTIC STATE, REARED IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE, AND BY THE PASTORAL NATIONS FROM THE FRONTIERS OF EUROPE TO THOSE OF CHINA.

The fat rumped sheep.

The third variety.

Continued from p. 156.

HERE should follow, if I kept strict to his notes, a learned inquiry of Dr Pallas into the *origin of* the *uropygium;* but as, although it would be highly interesting to the physiologist, it does not fall into the plan of this paper, which is meant more especially to convey practical information, I shall only mention the conclusion of my learned friend.

He regards the *uropygium* as a fatty excrescence produced originally by the bitter saline pastures of Tartary, which has gradually augmented in size through a number of generations, like some diseases, insomuch that the *tail* has gradually decayed

and dwindled away to the little button we find remaining, suffocated in a manner by fat, as parts of the human body have been found decayed and diminished in certain cases of unnatural accumulation of fat*. The doctor likewise says, that the fat which

* The Editor cannot help regretting that his ingenious correspondent should not have thought it necessary to give Dr Pallas's opinion at large on this very interesting subject in economics, that has scarcely hitherto entered into the views of the British farmer; and the observations of so well informed a naturalist must have a useful tendency to direct the attention of the farmer to the proper objects of investigation. There can be no doubt but certain kinds of food and modes of treatment have a tendency to augment the size of some parts of the body of animals more than others. A striking example of this was given in the mode of feeding geese and ducks given in the Dee, (vol. 12th, p. 68,) where we see that, by a particular mode of management, the liver can be increased at pleasure to an enormous size, in proportion to the other parts of the body and this; quite independent of the breed. Now, as some parts of the body are of more value than others, could the farmer, by a due attention to the effects of different kinds of food, and modes of treatment, be able to augment at pleasure the proportional size of the most valuable parts, it would be a discovery of much importance to him. The example above given, is a clear *proof* that this is possible in certain cases, and ought to stimulate the attention of the philosopher and the farmer, to discover in how many other cases the same thing may be done. To help forward this inquiry, which has yet scarcely had a beginning, the detailed observations of Dr Pallas will be highly acceptable at any future period to the Editor of this Miscellany.

The attentive reader will here observe, that this inquiry is different from that which the very ingenious Mr Bakewell has so happily commenced for attaining the same end. *His* system consists in effecting the same purpose by means of the *breed;* as by his hypothesis, certain breeds of animals have a tendency to lay more meat on the valuable, than on the coarser parts of the body. An attention to the peculiarities of *breed*, and of *food*, at the same time, promises to produce the happiest effect.'

gathers upon the rump of this variety of sheep, is of a soft *oily* nature, very different from *suet;* which refutes the opinion of those who assert, that ruminating animals never generate any other species of fat but suet*.

Immediately after the last inquiry, the doctor enters upon a second learned disquisition on the *tail* of the Bucharian sheep, which make his fourth and last variety: but for the reasons urged before, I shall content myself with merely giving the substance, when I enter on the next article, to which it properly belongs; at the same time that I am convinced the anatomist and zoologist will be much pleased with the whole.

The doctor next proceeds to show that a defect or disease in sheep, may be transmitted through many generations; gives a figure of one, where a defect in the nose of a ram, possibly at first accidental, is transmitted to a whole breed; as is a hump on the back of another race of sheep, reared with much care in Persia. Dr Pallas pursues the same subject of hereditary defects in other animals; and mentions a

This inquiry is likewise different from that which tends to discover the best mode of treating animals so as to promote the general fattening of the whole body in a short space of time, an example of which was also given in the Bee, (vol. 15th p. 73.) in regard to the management of poultry; where an economical practice of very great importance is developed with much perspicuity. *Edit.*

* Those who are well acquainted with full fed old Scotch mutton, and Highland beef, know very well, that there is abundance of fat interspersed among the flesh of both these sorts of meat, extremely different from suet. *Edit.*

race of dogs in Persia and India, without either hair or tail; next he points out defective breeds of fowls; and lastly, a race of *cats* at Amboyna, with short stumpy tails, as if docked by art, like coach horses in Britain some years ago*.

* Here we must again regret that Dr Pallas's observations on this very curious subject should not have been pursued at full length, as this is a disquisition of the utmost importance in domestic economics; for if valuable peculiarities among animals, which come at first from accidental circumstances that cannot be accounted for, are capable of being perpetuated through the breed by procreation, it gives a range to amendment, and a stimulus to attention in domestic economy, that may be in time productive of wonderful improvements. Though such disquisitions therefore appear at first sight matters of mere curiosity, this ought not to discourage the inquirer; for these inquiries may lead to very useful consequences. From these considerations a few facts on this subject that have come to my own knowledge shall here be stated.

That certain peculiarities both of mind and body, are in a certain degree hereditary even in the human species there can be no doubt, not to mention some diseases universally allowed to be so, and the acknowledged similarity which usually prevails among the individuals of the same family, called a family likeness. It is equally well known, that certain families have been distinguished for a peculiar cast of mind, or bent of genius, for ages in succession. The permanency of the breeds of dogs, cats, cows, and horses, fowls, and other domestic animals, when not adulterated by intermixture with others, is also notorious.

This seems to be indeed so universally the case, that we account it perfectly natural. But instances like those that Dr Pallas mentions, of peculiarities which were known to be at first accidental only to the individual, being propagated through the progeny, have been seldomer observed, and have not much attracted the attention of mankind; yet, by a careful attention it will probably be found that this happens oftener than is usually imagined.

A cat, now in the possession of one of the professors in the university of Edinburgh, was, when young, perfectly complete in all its parts, but by accident lost its tail by some violent stroke; this animal has

Deformity, and even a preternatural number of horns in sheep, and other animals, the doctor evidently shows, by numerous examples, highly curious, may be likewise transmitted by propagation; but they are much too voluminous for this paper. However his important conclusions from the whole of

had several litters of kittens, and it has invariably happened that some individuals of every litter have been without tails; sometimes nearly one half, while the others have had tails. It remains to be tried, if a male and female of those tailless cats, would invariably produce tailless cats, as a hornless cow and bull produce hornless calves. This cat is still in life.

A more singular instance of an accidental blemish becoming in some degree hereditary, occurred with regard to a bitch belonging to a merchant in Leith now alive. The bitch had one eye knocked out; a considerable time after which, she had a litter of puppies, one of which had the eye on that side of the head which was blind in the mother, blind also, in every respect resembling that of the mother.

Another gentleman of my acquaintance has a breed of rabbits, having only one ear; which must probably have been at first only an accidental deficiency. I have also seen a breed of fowls without a tail, that has probably had a similar origin.

Let me add to these instances among brute animals, another somewhat of a similar nature in the human species. The writer of this article was, when young, endowed with a very acute sight; and in particular could see objects at a greater distance than most persons he met with; but when he was between twenty and thirty years of age, in consequence of some internal disorder, of which neither he nor his physicians could give any account, his eyes became tender, and he lost his eye sight in part by degrees, so that he thought he was in danger of going entirely blind. He never suspected that he was become short sighted, till an accidental circumstance discovered it. This was, to him, a great discovery indeed: for having fitted himself with concave glasses, he now sees at a *distance* as well as ever, and perceives without them, the usual perfection of vision as to near objects. Now, though no one of his predecessors, or those of his children on the mother's side, were known to be short sighted, it chances that several of his children have the same defect of vision, and are obliged to use concave glasses to view distant objects. *Edit.*

the curious facts he has brought together, are: That much depends on the skill and care of the shepherd, to *meliorate the wool* of his flock, and correct the form of his sheep when defective: nay, he asserts that it depends on his choice of breeding sheep, to effect not only the change already mentioned, but likewise, either to correct or propagate *defects*, and even multiplicity of *horns*, particularly by his choice of rams.

Dr Pallas thinks it very probable, that the strepsiceros variety of sheep, were produced in this manner, by propagating a particular configuration of horns; he alludes here to the animal which Bellonius first discovered on mount Ida in Crete, and which he supposes the strepsiceros of the ancients*.

On the subject of multiplicity of horns, Dr Pallas remarks, that there are no where so many sheep with four, and occasionally five horns, as amongst the flocks of the Tartars living on the banks of the Jenisy. They are likewise generally arranged with symmetry, rising from the head in radii, gently bent inwards, and scarce a foot long, as represented in plate second letter *c.* and plate third letter *b.* The first is a drawing of a large Kirguise ram with five

* Our learned naturalist acknowledges in a note, an error he had fallen into, in supposing the strepsiceros of Bellonius the Scythian antelope or *saiga*, whilst we now know that animal never approaches Europe, nearer than the deserts of Arabia. "I have since, says the doctor, learned from the inspection of its horns that there exists a variety of sheep in Pannonia with horns often a yard and a quarter long, in both sexes, exactly like those so well described by Bruickman in his account of the Hungarian sheep."

Epistol. Itiner. Cent. 1.

horns, the second is a ram from the banks of the Jenisy, with four, symmetrically arranged. On the authority of Mr Leigh in his history of Lancashire, Dr Pallas mentions a breed of large sheep in England, with *hair* instead of wool, and four horns, the upper pair like those of a he goat, the lower spiral like those of a ram; probably the breed came originally from Iceland, where we are told such sheep obtain; and he finishes the article by bringing evidence of multiplicity of horns, in the extremes of both heat and cold, although he thinks a severe cold climate, less favourable to luxuriancy of this kind, than an excessive hot one, judging from the number of cows he met with in the *north, either intirely without horns, or with remarkably small ones.*

He pursues the subject of *horns*, by informing us that the Mongal Tartars rear in general goats without them, to prevent them wounding one another in their battles, which they effect by never admitting into their flocks a he goat with horns.

As to sheep, if the ewes have them, although the rams are without horns, the lambs will have them; but if both parents are without these weapons of offence, their progeny will generally be so too.

Dr Pallas next treats of the *ears* of this variety of sheep, and of other animals.

The form of the *ears*, like that of the head, is constantly pendulous in the steatopyga, or fat tailed variety, and are either bent forward, so as to meet on the forehead, as in plate third letter *a*, or they hang down towards the ground; and are always larger and looser in this variety of sheep than in any other (see plate second letters A, C.) The

firſt of these positions is applicable likewise to the ears of the Nomade goats; and he remarks that *pendant ears*, are common to domestic animals in general. Here he finiſhes the subject, except mentioning in a note a breed of favourite ladie's cats at Pekin in China, with *pendant ears*, and long loose white hair, which are very bad hunters of mice in general*.

The learned academician then treats of a species of *ſkinny apendage*, hanging from the necks of certain varieties of ſheep.

There are amongst the Calmouk, but more commonly amongst the Kirguise ſheep, some that have two pieces of ſkin, hanging from the under part of the neck, like the Guinea ſheep, (see plate second *b*, third *a*,) which the Latins of the middle age called NONEOLA, and which the Ruſsians call SERGY or earrings. They resemble small cows udders or rather dugs, ſoft, about an inch and an half long, and the breadth of a finger. Sometimes they are covered with hair, and sometimes almost bare. Both sexes have them; and they are equally common to the Kirguise he goats as to the ſheep. Dr Pallas quotes in a note an aſsertion of Varon, and Columella; that two of these warts are a mark of a good he goat; and concludes his observations on this variety, by observing, that although the steatopyga breed of ſheep, surpaſses all the others in size of carcase

* Some cattle are found in the north of Scotland, having loose pendulous horns, that adhere to the head by a cartilaginous apendage. These horns are always of a small size. Cattle having by this peculiarity are distinguiſhed in Aberdeenſhire by the local appellative *scurr'd*, as a scurr'd, ox or cow. *Edit.*

and fat, yet it ranks amongst the lowest of the species in regard to *wool*, as it bears a very coarse sort mixed with *hair*, throughout all Asia, whilst the famous Kirguise breed, are covered with more hair than wool, at the same time that it is matted together in clots.

Some flocks of this variety, particularly those belonging to the western Nomades, have long hair, which rises above and covers the wool, and is undulated like that of a deer.

On the whole, Dr Pallas thinks that the melioration of *wool* in the *steatopyga* or fat rumped breed, is incompatible with such a regimen as is calculated to support or maintain them of the large size they acquire in the southern Tartary, with the extraordinary load of fat on the rump or tail, as we see that any change in their mode of life diminishes both.

To be continued.

STRICTURES ON MANNERS.

Continued from p. 139.

Part III.

Manners of the Englifh, after the Norman conquest.

With regard to the manners of the Anglo-Saxons, at the conquest, we can say little, but that they were in general a rude, uncultivated people, ignorant of letters, unskilful in the mechanical arts, un-

tamed to submission under law and government, addicted to intemperance, riot, and disorder. Their best quality was their military courage, which was not yet supported by discipline or conduct. Their want of fidelity to the prince, or to any trust reposed in them, appears strongly in many parts of their history, and their want of humanity in all. Even the Norman historians, notwithstanding the low state of the arts in their own country, speak of them as barbarians, when they mention the invasion of the duke of Normandy. The conquest put the people in a situation of receiving slowly from abroad the rudiments of science and cultivation, and of correcting their rough and licentious manners.

But certainly this state of slavery and barbarism was not peculiar to England, but reigned alike in every country of Europe. Mezeray gives this account of the state of France: (anno 1108) "Violence universally prevailed, and justice was trampled under foot. The clergy, merchants, widows, and orphans, as well as all the rest of the people, were exposed to rapine and plunder, from the lords and gentry, who had all of them castles, from whence they were used to sally out to rob on the highways, and on rivers, in the defenceless countries. The cities of France, to defend themselves, had formed communities and created popular magistrates, with power to assemble and arm the people against these dreaded attacks."

"These poor and rapacious nations," says Voltaire, talking of the nations on the continent, a-

bout this period, " valued the most heinous crimes as murder, mutilation, rapes, incest, and poisoning, at a fixed price. Whoever had four hundred sous, *i. e.* four hundred crowns, to give away, might kill a bishop with impunity. It would cost two hundred sous for the life of a priest, as many for a rape, and as many for poisoning with herbs. A witch that had *eaten of human flesh!* could escape for two hundred sous: and this shews that witches were not only to be found among the dregs of the people, *as in these latter ages*, but that those horrid extravagancies were practised also by persons of fortune."

So little communication was there between neighbouring nations, that we find a merchant of Sens, whose name was Samon, went to trade in Germany. Thence he went as far Sclavonia. The savages of that country were so amazed to see a man that had travelled so far to bring them things which they wantod, that they made him their king.

We are informed by Eginhardies, secretary to Charlemagne, or Charles *the Great of France*, that *this conqueror did not know how to sign his name;* and yet by mere strength of genius he was convinced of the utility of polite learning. He sent to Rome and *Scotland* for teachers of grammar and rhetoric.

There were no clocks in the cities throughout all Europe, nor were they introduced till towards the thirteenth century. Thence comes the ancient custom, which is still kept up in Germany, Flan-

ders, Britain, *&c. &c. &c.* of hiring persons to cry the hours of the night.

The dress which at that time prevailed was short clothes, except on days of ceremony; when, over their coat, they wore a mantle frequently lined with furs; these they imported from the north, especially from Russia, as we do now. The Roman manner of covering the legs and feet was still preserved. It is mentioned that Charlemagne used to cover his legs with fillets twisted in the form of buskins, after the manner of the Scottish highlanders, the only people who have preserved the military dress of the ancient Romans.

In the reign of Edward III. no man under a hundred a year was allowed to wear gold, silver, or silk in his clothes; servants also were prohibited from eating flesh or fish above once a-day. It was easy to foresee that such ridiculous laws must prove ineffectual, and could never be executed.

The use of the French language in public deeds was not abolished in Britain till towards the end of the fourteenth century. It may appear strange that the nation so long should have worn *this badge of conquest;* but the king and the nobility seem never to have become thoroughly English till the wars of Edward III. with France gave them an antipathy to that nation. Yet, still it was long before the use of the English tongue came into general fashion.

No kind of misery or distress was more frequently or more fatally experienced in these barbarous times, than grievous and severe famines, arising from the low state of husbandry and the arts. A-

bout the year 1314, perpetual rains and cold weather, not only destroyed the harvest, but bred a mortality among the cattle, and raised every kind of food to an enormous price. The parliament endeavoured to fix more moderate rates on all sorts of commodities; not sensible that such an attempt was impracticable, and that, were it possible to reduce the price of food by any other expedient than introducing plenty, nothing could be more pernicious and destructive to the public. Where the produce of a year, for instance, falls so far short as to afford full subsistence only for nine months, the only expedient for making it last all the twelve, is to raise the price, to put the people by that means on short allowance, and oblige them to spare their food till a more plentiful year. But in reality, the increase of prices is a necessary consequence of scarcity; and laws, instead of preventing it, only increase the evil by cramping and restraining commerce.

The prices affixed by that parliament are somewhat remarkable: 2l. 8s. of our present money for the best ox, not fed with corn; if fed with corn 3 l. 12s: a fat hog of two years old, 10s: a fat wedder unshorn, 5s. if shorn, 3s. 6d; a fat goose, 7d.½: a fat capon 6d. a fat hen, 3d. two chickens, 3d. four pigeons, 3d. two dozen of eggs, 3d. If we consider these prices, we shall find that butchers meat, in this time of great scarcity, must still have been sold, by the parliamentary ordinance, three times cheaper than our middling prices at present, poultry somewhat lower; because being now considered as a delicacy, it has risen beyond its proportion. But

the inference to be drawn from the comparison of prices, is still more considerable. I suppose that the rates affixed by parliament were inferior to the usual market prices in those years of famine and mortality of cattle; and that those commodities, instead of a third, had really risen to a half of the present value. But the famine of that time was so consuming, that wheat was sometimes sold for 4 l. 10s. a quarter, usually for 3 l. that is considerably above twice our middling prices. A certain proof of the wretched state of tillage in those ages.

It appears that the middling price of corn in these times was, in good years, half of the present value, while the middling price of cattle was only an eighth part. We here find the same immense disproportion in years of scarcity. It may thence be inferred with certainty, that the raising of corn was a species of manufactory, which few of that age could practice with advantage.

The same parliament also attemped the impracticable scheme of reducing the price of labour after the pestilence. A reaper in the first week of August was not allowed to take above two-pence a-day, or near six-pence of our present money; in the second week a third more; a master carpenter was limited through the whole year to three-pence a-day; a common carpenter to two-pence, money of that age. It is remarkable, that, in the same age, the pay of a private soldier, an archer was six-pence a-day, which by the change both in denomination and value, would be equivalent to four or five shillings of our present money. Soldiers were then inlisted

only for a short time, they lived idle all the rest of the year, and commonly all the rest of their lives, one successful campaign, by pay and plunder, and the ransom of prisoners, was sufficient to raise a man a small fortune, which no doubt was a great inducement to enter into the service.

The increase of commerce within the last three centuries, has introduced a very great increase of elegance in buildings, furniture, equipages, tables, and dress, throughout all Europe Until the reign of Henry VII. the bulk of the houses of England was generally very mean in comparison of the present times. They had very few stone buildings, or even brick ones, excepting some large churches, some of the great men's houses, and the larger monasteries, the generality of houses not only in London and other cities, but many capital court seats, were of timber, with clay or plaister intermixed; and those of most farmers, and in villages, were of mud and clay.

In these days, they had scarce any other than thatched houses in the most polished countries of Europe.

And, although those countries were overrun with woods, they had not even learnt to guard against the cold by means of chimnies, (the kitchen excepted,) an invention so useful and ornamental to our modern apartments. The custom then was for the whole family to sit in the middle of a smoaky hall round a large stove, the funnel of which passed through the ceiling.

Lafflamma, who wrote in the fourteenth century, complains that frugality and simplicity had given way to extravagance and luxury, and regrets the times of the emperor Frederic Barbarosa, of the twelth century, and of the emperor Frederic II. of the thirteenth century, when in Milan, the capital of Lombardy, they ate flesh meat but three times a-week. Wine was very scarce. They had no idea of wax candles, and even those of tallow were deemed luxury, insomuch that all the better sort of people used splinters of wood instead of candles. They wore woollen shirts, the most considerable citizens gave not above 100 livres for their daughter's portions. "But now, (says Lafflamma,) we wear linen, the women dress in silk gowns, and have their ears adorned with gold pendants, with other luxuries unknown to our ancestors." At this time, the use of shirts and table linen was very rare in England. Wine was sold only by apothicaries, and that as a cordial alone. Private gentlemen's houses were all of wood, both in London and Paris. It was reckoned a kind of luxury to ride in a two wheeled cart in the ill paved and dirty streets of Paris, and was forbidden the wives of citizens by an express law. "Let no one presume, (says an edict of Carles v of France,) to treat his guests with more than soup and two dishes." The use of silver knives and forks, spoons, and cups, was esteemed in those days, an extreme degree of luxury. Glass windows had been in use long before this, but being always esteemed marks of great extravagance, had not come into general use, and were very rare in private

houses. Italy had them first, next France, from whence they made their way into England.

We read in Madox's history of the exchequer, that king Henry III. in the 26th year of his reign, directs the sheriff of Gloucestershire, to buy for him twenty salmons, to be baked in pies, and to be sent him up to London by Christmas following. He also directs the sheriff of Sussex, to send to him ten brawns, with the heads, ten peacocks, fifty rabits, 100 partridges, and 500 hens. I am, *&c*

Edinburgh, April 1793. PROMETHEUS.

QUERIES RESPECTING THE CONDEMNATION OF VESSELS IN NEUTRAL PORTS, *&c.*

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IF you will admit the following queries into your paper as early as possible, you will much oblige your constant reader

Leith, July 25, 793. MERCATOR.

Many vessels have been of late seized by French privateers in the northern seas, and carried into Norway and other neutral ports, concerning the condemnation or detention of which I find opinions are not unanimous. I will therefore be obliged to you or any of your intelligent correspondents for answers to the following queries.

Has it been the practice heretofore to allow vessels to be *condemned* and sold in neutral ports;—and

if so, what are the forms of proceeding in this case? I do not myself at present recollect any case exactly in point, and therefore I can only reason from what would seem to be the dictates of common sense. In that point of view it would seem at first sight, that neutral powers could not naturally aſsume a right of jurisdiction over either of the parties; and that therefore the persons who brought veſsels into their ports, might, without examination into the manner in which they had acquired the property, be at liberty to dispose of them in any way the eſtabliſhed laws of the state permitted; so that the property of captured veſsels might be disposed of as readily as of others imported by the original owners.

This, however, is on the supposition that no legal alleged claim is made against the person who offers it for sale. For if a representation ſhould be made setting forth that the owners of the veſsel had obtained poſseſsion of it by an act of piracy, there can be no doubt but all sales would be stopped till this question was tried and decided.

In like manner, it would seem that in case a plea were lodged, that a captured veſsel had not been legally captured, a stop to all sales must in this case be made till the question be examined and a decision given. Accordingly we find, that in no case is a prise delivered up for sale, even in a friendly port, without a legal trial and condemnation; but such a trial and condemnation would be aſsuming a jurisdiction that no neutral power seems to have a right to exercise, so that it would seem no condemnation

can there be made, and consequently no sale of captured veſsels be permitted.

Supposing no sales of captured veſsels can be permitted in neutral ports, May they be there laid up, and detained for an *indefinite* time, or are there any limitations in this respect admitted by common consent?

It is well known that there are regulations universally admitted respecting the sailing of veſsels from neutral ports, so that if a veſsel belonging to one of the belligerent powers sails at any time, another of superior force belonging to the other, is not allowed to sail, till after the lapse of a limited time from the sailing of the former; but I have heard of no rule that has been generally admitted respecting the time that alleged prises may be allowed to remain in a neutral port, though I can see many reasons that would seem to indicate that such a rule ought to be adopted.

Veſsels coming into any port, if not for the purpose of trade, are supposed to come there for the purposes of obtaining a temporary ſhelter from danger either from storms or inimical attempts, or for obtaining refreſhments to the hands, or for repairing such damages as the veſsel may be in want of; and after a reasonable time has been allowed for these purposes, all the claims from neutral hospitality seem to be accompliſhed, and the neutral power has certainly then a right to order such veſsels to depart; and if they decline to exercise that right it must have so much the appearance

of favouring one of the parties as to be an apparent infringement of the rights of neutrality.

What appears to me just and reasonable in this case would be, that in all cases, prises brought into a neutral port, or veſsels taking ſhelter there in time of war, ſhould be allowed to remain there for their convenience, not exceeding a certain limited time,—say three months; at the expiry of which time they ought to be ordered to depart, wind and weather serving, unleſs they could make it appear that the port was blocked up at the time by the enemy's cruizers, within sight of land; in which case alone the ſheltering power ſhould be allowed to exercise a discretionary suspending power, without breach of the laws of neutrality, I do not know, however, that this rule does any where obtain; but if it does not, it is evident that the neutral power may be allowed greatly to favour one of the belligerent powers more than the other. In the case which gave occasion for these queries, for example, French cruisers finding that the riſk of carrying prises from Norway to France is too great to be ventured upon by them, might allow the veſsels they have carried into Bergen to lie there till they rotted; so that although they got no good of them themselves, they ſhould thus deprive the Britiſh owners of the whole of their prises. But for a ſheltering power to lend its concurrence to such a plan, would seem to be departing very far from the idea of strict neutrality. I cannot help therefore thinking that if such a rule as is hinted at above, does not already prevail, it ought to be universally eſtabliſhed without delay. It seems for

the interests of mankind in general, that as many reſtraints as poſsible, ſhould be laid upon that kind of piratical warfare, which we call *privateering;* ſo that inſtead of extending neutral protection beyond due bounds in its favour, it ought to be curtailed as far as is poſsible, conſistent with the ideas that prevail at preſent on that head. Indeed the whole of that ſyſtem ſeems to be but a remains of that barbarous kind of warfare which generally prevailed in former times, but which now, except in this inſtance, is univerſally laid aſide in all civilized nations; for can any good reaſon be given why the property of individuals ſhould be reſpected *on land* by belligerent powers, and not equally reſpected *at ſea;* yet that nation would be juſtly deemed barbarous, which ſhould inveſt certain individuals, or bodies of men, with full powers to go out at pleaſure in armed bands, to pillage and to plunder the enemy's country; though we and every maritime power in Europe, do not deem ourſelves barbarous, when we give ſuch a commiſsion to private adventurers, called *letters of marque,* to iſſue forth with armed force, and ſieze whatever property belonging to private individuals among our enemies, can be met with *upon the ſea.* Surely there can be no difference between an unarmed merchant veſſel carrying goods for the behoof of private individuals, and a waggon loaded, or a ſtorehouſe filled with ſimilar goods on ſhore; yet habit makes us look upon the one as a juſt and honourable acquiſition, and the other as a wicked and diſhonourable plunder. Were armed cruiſers at ſea to make war only upon other *armed* inimical veſſels, as armed troops on land make war upon others they meet

with opposing them in arms; or were these to seize at sea, as they would do on land, all provisions and warlike stores going directly to add to the strength of the enemy, there would be nothing contradictory in our practice; but surely it is in the highest degree absurd, in the one case to make prisoners of private individuals unarmed, or to seize property that does not come under the above description, and to protect them in the other.

So long however as the general opinion gives sanction to such practices, the utmost that an individual can with propriety do, is to attempt, not to stem the torrent directly, but only to moderate its course, that it may be by degrees stopped entirely; and blessed would be the effects of such a stoppage, as it would remove *one* of the many inducements to war,—the hope of private plunder. With that view, I shall beg leave to propose one other question, with which I shall close this disquisition.

If capturing vessels are not permitted to allow prises to rot in the harbours of neutral powers, with a view merely to injure their enemies, without benefitting themselves, are they at liberty to sink these prises at sea, in order to prevent them from being recaptured by the enemy?

I never have heard this question discussed; yet methinks it is necessary that it should not be left doubtful; for although it does not often happen that it can be done, yet we can easily conceive that it might, in some cases, be possible to effect it without the loss of men.

There is no doubt that, by the universal practice which prevails at present, one veſsel may ſink another, when actually engaged; but after a veſsel has ſtruck, and thus comes under the power of another, it does not ſeem to be *fully* his property, until it has been legally condemned, and adjudged to him; ſo that it would not ſeem that he had a right *voluntarily* to deſtroy it. Were this reſtraint removed, wicked men might on ſome occaſions wantonly deſtroy much valuable property; ſo that if no rule be already eſtabliſhed on this head, it certainly ought to be ſo decreed by univerſal conſent among all civiliſed nations.

ANECDOTE.

According to the abbè de Choiſi, Moliere took the idea of his famous comedy, Tartuffe, from the following anecdote. One evening the prince de Conti had dreſsed himſelf for a maſquerade, in ſpite of the remonſtrances of the abbé de Conac; who had repreſented to him, that his health would be injured by late hours. Seeing this advice diſregarded, he flatly told him, that made as he was, his ſhape would immediately diſcover him under any diſguiſe *. The prince, being dreſsed for the maſquerade, the abbé de Roquette, entered the apartment as he was leaving it: and addreſsing the prince of

* The prince was miſſhapen, and of a weakly conſtitution

Conti, as if he was speaking to M. de Vardes, "Sir, (said he,) ſhew me, I beg of you, his highneſs;" and then turning to the abbé de Conac, "Pray which of these two maſks is his royal highneſs?" In ſhort this courtier made so many grimaces, and paid so many fulsome compliments in order to convince the prince of Conti that he was well disguised, that the abbé de Conac quite in a rage, cried out loud enough to be heard by the prince, "Fie, Mr de Roquette, you ought to be aſhamed of yourself; for when his highneſs dreſses himself in masquerade, for his amusement, he knows very well that his ſhape, and that of M. de Vardes, are quite different." This speech of the abbé de Conac, was noted down by his friend Guilleragues, who communicated it to Moliere.

Anecdote of the cardinal de Retz.

THE cardinal de Retz, told a friend of his that he had caused the war of the Fronde, solely with a view to marry madame de la Meilleraye with whom he was in love; the old mar chal de la Meilleraye was still living, though very infirm. It was true that he was coadjutor of Paris, biſhop of Corinth, and a prieſt: but he thought that by overturning the state, to render himself so considerable, that the pope would not dare to refuse him every dispensation.

ON BEAUTY, ADDRESSED TO THE FAIR.

BEAUTY ye fair, I compare to a rose,
Which you know is at best but a flow'r;
And a flower has nothing at all to dispose,
As it blossoms and fades in an hour.
Thus as beauty you see, is possess'd of no fame,
So I hope you'll agree,
In one voice with me,
That, to boast of one's beauty is vain.

A——. F——k

THE ORLOP *.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

INSERTING the following lines in your highly useful publication will much oblige your constant reader. NAUTICUS.

AID me kind muse, so whimsical a theme,
No poet ever yet pursu'd, for fame.
Boldly I venture on the novel scene,
Nor fear the critic's frown, the pedant's spleen.
Sons of the ocean, we their rules disdain,
Our bosom honest, and our language plain.
Let Homer's battles and his gods delight;
Let Milton with infernal legions fight:
His favourite hero, polish'd Virgil show;
With love and wine, luxurious Horace glow:
Be such their subjects, I another chuse,
As yet neglected by the laughing muse.
Deep in the fabric where Britannia boasts
O'er seas to waft her thunder and her hosts,
A cavern lies, ne'er pierced by solar ray,
Where glimmering tapers only lend the day,
Where wild disorder holds her wanton reign,
And careless mortals wanton in her train,
Hail happy Orlop, midst thy glooms I stray,
To sing thy wonders in descriptive lay.
Stooping beneath a hammock's friendly shade,
See Esculapius, † with his arms pourtrayed,

* Lowest deck in a ship of war.

† In this deck is always placed the cockpit or surgeon's operating room as in a place of safety under water.

The pointed steel one hand impending holds,
The other round the trembling victim folds;
His gaping Myrmidon, the deed attends,
Whilst in his cup the crimson stream descends;
Pox, scurvy, itch, and hot distempers, boil,
Death's grim militia standing rank and file;
Unaw'd young Galen stands the hostile brunt,
Pills in his rear and Cullen in his front.

From neighbouring mansions lo what clouds arise,
That half conceal the owner from our eyes;
One penny light, with feeble lustre shines,
To shew the midshipman, who in Olympus dines.
Let us approach the preparative view;
A cockpit beau, is surely something new.
To him Japan her varnished joys denies,
Nor blooms for him the sweets of eastern skies;
His graceful form no lofty mirror shews,
Nor tender couch invites to sweet repose;
A pigmy glass, upon his toilet stands,
Crack'd o'er and o'er by sacrilegious hands;
Chesterfield's page polite, the seaman's guide,
A half eat biscuit, Congreve's mourning bride,
Bestrew'd with powder in confusion ly.
Frizeurs croud in and tarry salve apply.
At length this meteor of an hour is drest,
And an Adonis rises from his chest;
Cautious he treads lest some unlucky slip,
Defiles his cloaths with base bargoo or flip.
Those rocks escap'd, arrives in statu quo,
Bows, dines, and bows, then sinks again below.

Not far from him a joyous group are set,
For social converse, mirth, and pastime met,
Inspiring grog with rapid course goes round,
And not a care is in the circle found.

Remov'd from these, profoundly deep in thought,
His busy mind with lines and tangents fraught,
Sits a poor midshipman in calculation lost,
His efforts still by some intruder crost.
Opposed to him his sprightly messmate rolls,
Exclaims with Garric or with Shuter drolls:
His bosom now great Cato's virtue warms,
And now his talk the gay Lothario charms,
No more for pleasures, joys, or courts repines,
But pease soup entering points out where he dines.

Such is the mottled face the orlop wears,
Where nature in her plainest garb appears;
Yet think not meanly of this humble seat,
Whence spring the guardians of the British fleet,
Sacred behold the state, however low,
That form'd to martial deeds a Hawke a Howe.

Dunfermline, July, 1793.

On the peculiarities and uses of the nettle in arts.

In addition to the useful observations of our very ingenious correspondent Arcticus, upon the utility that may be derived from observing with attention the natural qualities of plants,—a study which has been of late but too much neglected, I shall add a few remarks upon the economical uses that may be made of the common nettle, suggested by the hints of a gentleman who is an attentive observer of all facts that fall under his cognisance.

It has been long known that a filament may be obtained from the common stinging nettle, *urtica urens*, much of the nature of hemp or flax, though possessing some peculiar qualities that render it less desirable than them for the common manufactures in which these have been usually employed; but few experiments have been made to ascertain precisely the difference between the qualities of these three substances.

Cloth made of nettle filament is known to be harder to the feel than that of either hemp or flax; but it is not in general known that it is less corruptible, and lasts much longer in water than either of these substances. An accidental circumstance induced my informant to discover this fact. The fishermen at Newhaven have frequently occasion to send oysters to Greenock, and along the west coast; and as wooden packages are expensive to send off goods of so small value, and troublesome to return, they were constrained to send them in some kinds of bags; and cheapness to them is the greatest recommendation. At first they sent bags of coarse sacking made of hemp tow; ut these, being kept constantly wet, were very soon rotted and useless. Some of the poorer and more indus-

trious among these people having tried to make a coarse cloth from the nettles they gathered in waste corners, spun it into a coarse kind of yarn, upon the rock, and got it woven into a slack kind of cloth, somewhat like biscuit bags, which they employed for transporting their oysters. It was soon discovered that these bags lasted much longer than others of the same kind made of hemp. This induced others to try the same experiment. It succeeded equally well; and it is found to be such a saving plan, that a manufacture of this sort has been for some time carried on among these industrious people, for their own use only, to their great emolument.

The fact being thus ascertained, my informant thinks that if the nettle were cultivated in considerable quantities, and watered and dreſsed upon a large scale, it might be employed with great advantage for many useful national purposes; such as for fiſhing nets, fiſhing lines, and sail cloth; all of which are articles of great importance to this nation; and being neceſsarily exposed to wet, when made of hemp or flax, are found to be of a very periſhable nature. In the east Indies and south seas, they have fiſhing lines, made of a graſs that grows in those climates, which are not only stronger of the same thickneſs than any that we can make, but infinitely more durable. Have any attempts been made to see if this graſs could be reared either in Europe or the west Indies? I have heard of none. Till we obtain it, the nettle, which we know prospers abundantly here, promises to be a very useful substitute for hemp in these manufactures.

But another important use to which even the coarsest parts of this manufacture might be applied, is the caulking of ſhips. It is well known, as he aſsures me, that either hemp or flax, when employed as the core thread in first caulking of veſsels, so quickly rots, as to become the

source of great inconvenience and expence to ſhip owners. This has been ſo severely felt that many attempts have been made to get a more durable substitute for it; even lead,—the thin ſheets of it that come with tea packages, have been tried for that purpose; but besides the enormous expence of that article, it is neither so pliable as could be wiſhed, nor remains without corrosion; which is destructive in several respects. Nettle yarn, he therefore thinks, could be applied for this purpose with much benefit to the public. It might also be employed for making hawsers and cables, that would be much stronger, and more lasting than those made of hemp.

These are important purposes that would certainly be effected with ease, if it ſhall be found upon trial, by a series of decisive experiments, that the filament of this plant is poſseſsed of the incorruptible quality he thinks the experience of the fiſhermen authorises him to say it has. I therefore recommend this as an object deserving the attention of the public; and as this paper will be publiſhed a little before the time that the nettle will be fit to be gathered, it will put it in the power of such as incline to do it, to make experiments on this very substance during the present season.

Would not this be a proper object for a set of premiums by the trustees for encouraging manufactures, to stimulate men to make decisive experiments upon this subject?

In France, where for some years past, people in the higher departments of life have been more than usually attentive to agriculture; and where of course many theoretic hints for improvements would be thrown out, some persons have thought that the nettle might be cultivated with profit as a food for cows. It is well known in this country that cows eat it very readily if cut before the bark

becomes fibrous, and the stems woody. But it is also known that unleſs the nettle grows on very good ground, it does not produce ſhoots of such luxuriance as to promise to be of much value to the farmer, if sown upon barren wastes; so that I fear little good can be expected from it in this point of view.

The roots of the nettle are also esteemed useful in some cases in medicine; and in the Highlands of Scotland they are sometimes employed to produce a yellow dye. The leaves also are gathered, when they first come up in the spring, by the country people, and boiled in broth, which is esteemed wholesome; and as it affords a peculiar grumous sensation on the palate, they are reckoned a delicacy by most young people who taste them. But these are objects of little consequence.

It may not be improper to take notice of one other very singular property of the nettle, viz. that if a new made cheese of a small size be laid among growing nettles, or those that have been newly cut, so as to be supported by a close bed of them, and covered over with the same, this, if frequently ſhifted, renders the curd in a ſhort time of a soft and butyraceous consistence, so as to have very much the taste and appearance of cream cheese.

A QUERY.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee*

I have one of the best gardens in this country, which furniſhes me with abundance of fruit and roots for the use of my family, but there is something peculiar in the ground by which the onions, which grow to an enormous size, rot immediately after they are pulled, and as I have been thereby neceſsitated to purchase what of this useful root I need, I will esteem it a great favour done me, if you, or

some one of your numerous correspondents will, by the medium of your Bee, give a remedy for this evil, and by so doing you will very much oblige your constant reader, admirer, and humble servant, LYCURGUS.

Caithness, July 1793.

INDEX INDICATORIUS.

A *Wilberforcite* sends the following extract from an old book.

" If a man be found stealing any of his brethren, and maketh merchandise of him, or selleth him; then that thief shall die, and thou shalt put evil away from among you."

Renovatus requests that the following verses may be inserted in the Bee.

When youth first fill'd my breast with fire,
No bounds were fix'd to my desire,
All woman kind I lov'd;
The black, the fair, the wit, the prude,
The awkward, smart, the mild, the rude,
Alike my passion mov'd.

One time with Kate, I was perplex'd;
Sall, Moll, and Sue engag'd me next
My love for each was equal;
But one sweet fair at length has caught
My life, my soul, my heart, my thought,
As you'll see in the sequel.

My lovely Ann, sweet Anna fair,
My charming Ann, dear Anna rare
Has caught me on the wing;
It is for Ann, I now do smart,
'Tis darling Ann has won my heart,
Of Ann I mean to sing. - - - - - -

But our room will not admit of a longer extract.

K. among other remarks on the English language, observes that " One of the greatest perfections in any language is to have words and expressions ascertaining precisely and universally the exact definition of the ideas accompanying them. Another is to be so pure and distinct in itself as not to stand in need of words peculiar and belonging to a foreign language." He thinks " there is no language capable of the highest degree of improvement and none which stands

lets in need of the aid of foreign ornament than the Englith." He therefore reprobates the practice of borrowing words and phrases from languages, as pedantic and unnecefsary. Would authors, he says, abandon this silly oftentation, and rather strive to purify and perfect their mother tongue, than thus to corrupt it, they would attain more universal reputation to themselves, and render their writings more generally useful.

He likewise justlyreprehends the practice of mixing foreign words in conversation as puerile and affected; and is itself often the source of barbarism and vulgarity, by a misapplication of foreign words that are not sufficiently known.

Apis Amicus displays his wit and irony in the following strains.

Frugal, faithful, neat industrious,
Sober, honest, generous Bee!
For thy labours *so illustrious*
Much I love and honour thee:
For thy *instinct* far surpafses
Th' *artificial* modes of *men*,
Who compared to thee are *afses*,
Toiling, moiling, all for *gain*.

Fame and fortune, which they strain at,
With themselves must soon decay
But the *end* which thou dost aim at
Is thy *bounty* to display:
Thou from pole to pole extendest
Universally thy *sweets*;
All thy life and labour spendest
on our *most delicious treats* - - - - -

The above specimen it is hoped will afford a *most delicious treat* to at least ONE person; but as we have many others to TREAT *in the same manner*, we are constrained not to give too much to any one of them, so that the remainder of these fine lines must be omitted. The very ingenious writer will perceive his underlinings have been exactly attended to.

Milifia it seems differs in opinion from Apis Amicus for thus she writes.

A book that I did lately see,
And what I hear is call'd the Bee,
Tho' it did not gather honey,
It gather'd what was very good,
And what will buy the author food;
It gather'd its master money.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21. 1793.

ARCTIC LUCUBRATIONS ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

Though the Editor has for some time past declined inserting any thing in this miscellany on the subject of the present eſſay, thinking that the ſpirit of the times did not any longer require it. Yet the reſpect he owes this very liberal correſpondent, who at the time of writing it, could not know how much the public opinion had here changed of late, as well as the ingenious nature of the arguments here adduced, will render any apology, he ſuppoſes, unneceſſary to his readers for departing a little in this inſtance from the general rule he had adopted.

SIR. *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IF a countryman who has been ſo long abroad as your Arctic correſpondent, may be permitted to make remarks on the ſubject of reform, which the news papers announce to be again on the carpet, I ſhould be glad to hazard a few on that great queſtion; not that I think they are worth ſending ſo far, but merely to keep up my birth right of inſtructing our rulers in the government of the nation.

However, that no man may go a step farther with me than he chooses, I ſhall reverse the ordinary mode of proceeding in these cases, and distinctly give a decided opinion in the beginning, instead of the end of my discourse, by an aſsertion equally bold and true, that as all writers, whether natives or foreigners, who have treated of the Britiſh constitution, unanimously agree, *that it is the best ever yet devised by human wisdom*, a fact which even modern innovators acknowledge at the very time they modestly propose to better it on theoretic principles: I say admit only the above data, which I believe have never yet been disputed, and I will venture to aſsert, that an attempt to correct what is allowed to be the most perfect work of frail and fallible man, will probably be the greatest example of human vanity ever yet given to the astoniſhed world; and I ſhould be sorry to add of human folly, which laying violent hands on the venerable structure *without proof of real not supposed delinquency*, will poſsibly make but too applicable. You will observe, Sir, that I combat the question of *expediency*, not of *right*; and flatter myself, that I have a decided majority of at least seven or eight millions of Britiſh subjects on my side, and can aſsure you, Mr Editor, that foreigners are in utter astoniſhment to hear, that in a country where the meanest subject cannot be condemned without *legal proof of guilt*, the object most dear to Britons, their far famed constitution, to which all nations do homage, ſhould be threatened with rude theoretic correction, *without any species of legal proof being given of its*

faulty or defective operation and influence on the happineſs of the people, and without a single individual being to be found in the whole realm, to prove at the bar of the house, *a real injury received from it*, except in his brain, heated by the declamations of artful men. I can aſsure you of another fact, that the proposal of new modelling your constitution to the new theory of government, is affording a great triumph to those who wiſh to justify what has been done in France; and they find the declamations of the opposition, excellent weapons to combat their antagonists, who hold up Great Britain, as the most solid and wise nation of the modern world, whilst they maliciously agree with them, that the insulted constitution, has already united what all nations and all ages have been in search of, *viz.* personal liberty, security of property, with unlimited trade, and the natural result of these three bleſsings, national prosperity*.

This being confeſsed both at home and abroad, you can easily conceive the astoniſhment of men who sigh for, and languiſh after, what the Almighty has so liberally granted you, on hearing of a proposal to put these greatest of earthly bleſsings to the riſk,

* They aſsert, that even the late bankruptcies is the greatest proof of it, that could be given in the nature of things, as the cause of them was a degree of credit unparalleled in the history of commerce. In what nation, do they aſk, were there ever heard of hundreds of individuals, paſsing their private notes to the amount of many times their fortune, *on a par* with gold and silver, whilst most of the national paper on the continent, and that of so many crowned heads, is so much *below par*?

by new arrangements, which carry on their very face the seeds of much disorder and division of opinion, the bane of civil society. They even think that the so much desired augmentation of number, if obtained, would make the house of commons a mob, which all too large societies are, if even composed of philosophers; whilst it might destroy that nice and delicate balance of the legislature, which is universally regarded abroad, whatever it may be at home, as the real secret discovered by your wise ancestors, for preserving that liberty which is the admiration and envy of the world; and which permits you to revile either the executive government, or the representatives of the commons, without fearing, (if you keep within the law,) either the resentment of power on the one hand, or the summary punishment of offended democracy on the other; and they challenge your instigating sophists to name any country, either ancient or modern, which could or can boast of such a latitude. I shall now finish the remarks of others, with a few of my own, drawn from observation in a course of years.

1*st*, As long as I can recollect any thing, I remember *reform* to have been the weapon wielded with more or less dexterity by every opposition in turn, to puzzle and cicane the ministers of the day; well knowing that if they could, by clamour and importunity, engage him to lay violent hands on what is the deserved idol of the people, he would be instantly hurled from his station, and *set*, never to rise again as a statesman in Great Britain. For the real fact is, whatever arts may be used to

disguise the sentiments, and good sense of the nation; that nine millions of the ten, adore, and wisely judge of their constitution as of their watch, by its going, rather than its construction, which they have not the mania be pretend to be competent judges of; and indeed I think that if even your political philosophers did the same, it would be no great slur on their wisdom, whilst they might flatter the people whom they court, by repeating to them one of their favourite proverbs, *that the proof of the pudding is the eating of it;* and surely it never was more applicable, as it certainly is the operation and influence of a constitution, on the libert , property, and happinefs of a people, that real wise men fhould look at, not its construction; and in my opinion, fhould cherifh and support a good one, to whatever number of springs, checks, *&c.* such a moral machine owes its divine qualities; especially as we have a recent example of the extreme difficulty of composing one, even by the united efforts of all the philosophers of a nation looked upon as the most enlightened and civilized of modern times; and although they even had to work upon what *they themselves thought* the most clear and simple principles ever a legislature poffefsed.

I recollect a remark made by a very able mechanic, which I thought at the time a most luminous explanation of what may be the cause of our constitution answering so well, with all the theoretic faults imputed to it. Having demanded a reason, why we sometimes find a low priced watch on the

old principle, go as well as one on the newest and best, he replied, " that, Sir, is owing to one error counteracting and correcting another, which sometimes happens from a certain accidental combination." Now Mr Editor, I do not give a farthing, if either my watch, *which serves me well*, or the constitution under which I enjoy protection, liberty, and happineſs, can be demonstrated by your *soi disant* philosophers to be the composition of light or darkneſs; and if I had my will they ſhould not put a finger into either of them.

I could still wiſh, if I do not take up too much of your volume, to hazard a couple more simple remarks, of a man who has no pretensions to political philosophy, or to tinker the constitution of Great Britain. These I mean to make on the only plausible reasons for reform that I have met with in the speeches of the present opposition; for I have forgot the ingenuity of the former, *viz.* certain old decayed boroughs which still *poſſeſs*, and certain new manufacturing towns, who still are *without*, the privilege of choosing members of parliament.

1*st*, I humbly offer an opinion which I am affraid will be looked upon as high treason against modern doctrines, that it is by a play on the word *representation*, and giving it a local application, very different from the intention of our ancestors when they framed our constitution, that the paſsions and interests of men have been stirred up in this controversy; for ſhall I acknowledge that I think from all my reading, that they first calculated the number

they thought would be the properest to represent *all the commons of England*, and then obliged such places to send them up and *maintain them*, as appeared *at the time* most able so to do; a hardſhip much repined at by the ancient inhabitants of the appointed spot, who thought it highly unjust to be forced to choose and pay members to represent *the whole commons*, without receiving any particular and local advantages in return; as they had not yet discovered the value of a vote, now so well known; which may be one little collateral reason for *some people* wiſhing to get a few more of them. Nay, I am disposed to think that the five hundred and fifty-eight members when in parliament aſsembled, still represent *the whole island*, and the place that chooses them not a jot more than any other*. If this was not the case in a trading country, where the interest and commercial views of the towns, are as various as their situations, we ſhould see the champion of Bristol pitted in parliament against the champion of Liverpool, and the agents of one set of manufacturers, waging a war of words with the agents of another.

However, leaving the subject of reprensetation in the able hands who make so capital a use of it, to stir up a change in our happy constitution, I ſhall ſi-

* In confirmation of this opinion we have heard of the most popular and patriotic members, both in Britain and Ireland, telling their constituents on the hustings, that they could not engage to follow their instructions, but to act to the best of their judgement for the public good, as was their real duty.

nish with a few words on the subject of the decayed boroughs.

Dare I avow it, Mr Editor, that I see nothing more natural than that in a free commercial country, men should of their own accord, make a virtual and voluntary surrender of their privileges *in one place*, for something they prefer in *another*; or in other words, that they should relinquish their votes in Old Sarum, to gain money in new Manchester. But I cannot think equally natural the clamour raised against the legislature, for not hurrying their privileges after the emigrants; for two very simple reasons. The first is, that it would be an act of great injustice, to deprive of their privileges those who choose to stay where they were, preferring birth right to gain, to confer them on those who, being of a different opinion, had voluntarily relinquished them, and already got the equivalent they desired.

The second reason is, that such a transfer would be a short sighted act, of little wisdom, *was it even just*. For considering the changes your island is subject to*, from the action of the sea, from the collecting of sand at the mouths of harbours, the course and obstruction of rivers, the discovery of mines, the erection of new manfacturies, &c. it is more than probable, that if the election of senators was to follow the varying sites of trade and manufactures, the legislature might in time franchise and

* See Dr Campbell's Political Survey of Great Britain for the changes alluded to.

disfranchise every spot in the island; nay such is the uncertainty on which this new philosophical principle hinges, that a decayed and despoiled borough, has only to discover a coal mine in its neighbourhood, (the gold ore of Britain,) and new manufactures will spring up, to repopulate the half deserted borough, when a future opposition may possibly demand of the minister of the day, new privileges for a hard used oppreſsed town, which one of his predeceſsors in office had disfranchised to serve *some vile ministerial purpose;* probably to court the support of some powerful proprietors of the upstart boroughs *.

Such, Mr Editor, are the sentiments of a man who left Britain with a sincere attachment to its happy constitution, who has neither heard of nor seen any thing like it since, and who never expects to live under its equal in any other part of the world; whilst he has as yet met with nothing in all the florid display *of new lights*, to leſsen his respect for what was once universally acknowledged to be the glory of a Briton, and which still remains so of

* This argument deserves to be particularly attended to, as it has not, I think, been adverted to by either of the parties who have come forward in this case. Let any one recollect what endleſs cause this would give for cavils and sophistical arguments, and political cabals, and he will easily perceive, that the legislative council would have little time for any discuſsion, except to correct the perpetual injustice, real or imagined, that would arise from this source. Admit as a principle that any one circumstance, be it what it will, is to give an invariable right of representation, and there can be no end of squabbles and disputation about it. This is the reason why the land tax has remained so long unaltered; and a good reason too. *Edit.*

an old Caledonian who is more of a natural than a political philosopher.

Will you still allow him to whisper you on parting, but pray dont expose him to the ridicule of the wits, that he sees nothing in all the new boasted discoveries on the theory of government, but a few old hints of some of our speculative British writers, served up anew *with a French sauce*, for which that nation was more famed at the time he emigrated, than for giving lessons on liberty, to a nation grown old in the study and possession of that greatest of blessings; but it is really amusing to observe the changes that take place in a few years; for he left that once amiable and volatile people learning you to dance and dress your locks, and he seems to be in a fair way on coming home, (*if the friends of the people* get their will in bringing about a change,) to find them learning you to be free, *à la mode de Paris*.

However, I think there is little danger of such a victory, if what was positively declared in the house on a late occasion be literally true, *that not one borough or city in the whole kingdom had petitioned parliament for a reform in its corporate capacity;* for as to the signature of individuals, I who am a stranger almost, will engage to procure with the assistance of only one member of the opposition, an old Russian acquaintance, Mr Whitbread, twenty or thirty thousand signatures to a petition ten fathoms long, either for a reform of parliament, or of the opposition themselves, if that should be found more necessary. I only wish such a sum was depen-

ding on my succeſs as would make it worth while to pay you a visit, and you would then see for the first time your correspondent,

Imperial corps of noble Land Cadets in St Peterſburgh, May 29. 1793.

ARCTICUS.

P. S. I have here given you an opportunity, Mr Editor, of ſhewing your perfect impartiality, by inserting the opinions of one who admires the constitution and the Britiſh government, as much as Thunderproof found fault with both; and if it ſhould be neceſsary to offer any excuse for my enthusiasm, as it may be called by the discontented, I plead that my admiration arises from modestly comparing them with the fallible works of the other varieties of the human species, not with those of angels; for it is the man who looks for a perfect constitution, a perfect senate, or a perfect any thing else, that is the enthusiast, not he who judges of every thing by the standard of human frailty, and by comparison with what men have been able to effect in other parts of the world.

HINTS RELATING TO CHIVALRY.

For the Bee.

Institution of chivalry.

THE people who overturned the Roman empire, and settled in its various provinces, were free men, who conquered for themselves, not for their leaders.

They followed the chieftain who led them forth in quest of new settlements, not by constraint, but from choice; not as soldiers whom he could order to march, but as voluntiers who offered to accompany him. They considered their conquests as common property, in which all had a title to ſhare, as all had contributed to acquire them. Every free man, upon receiving a portion of the lands which were divided, bound himself to appear in arms against the enemies of the community. This military service was the condition on which they received their lands; and this tenure, among a warlike people, was deemed both easy and honourable. The king or general, who led them to conquest, continuing still to be the head of the colony, had, of course, the largest portion allotted to him. Having thus acquired the means of rewarding past services, as well as of gaining new adherents, he parcelled out his lands with this view, binding those on whom they were bestowed, to follow his standard with a number of men in proportion to the extent of territory which they received; and to bear arms in his defence. His chief officers imitated the example of their sovereign; and, in distributing portions of their lands among their dependents, annexed the same conditions to the grant. This new division of property, together with the maxims and manners to which it gave rise, gradually introduced a species of government formerly unknown. This singular institution is now distinguiſhed by the name of the *feudal ſyſtem.*

But the bond of political union was extremely feeble. The sources of anarchy were innumerable. The powerful vassals of the crown, soon extorted a confirmation for life of those grants of lands, which were at first purely gratuitous. Not satisfied with this, they prevailed to have them converted into hereditary possessions. One step more completed their usurpations, and rendered them unalienable. Having thus secured the possession of their lands and dignities, they obtained the power of supreme jurisdiction within their own territories, together with the right of carrying on war against their private enemies, in their own names, and by their own authority. The king, stripped of almost every prerogative, could neither protect the innocent, nor punish the guilty *.

The *feudal system* then was a state of almost perpetual war, rapine, and anarchy; during which the weak and unarmed were exposed to insults and injuries. The administration of justice was too feeble to redress their wrongs. The most effectual protection against violence and oppression, was often found to be that which the valour and generosity of private persons afforded. To check the insolence of overgrown oppression, to rescue the helpless from captivity, to protect or to avenge women, orphans, and ecclesiastics, who could not bear arms in their own defence; to redress wrongs, and remove grievances, were deemed acts of the highest prowess and virtue. Such was the origin of chivalry,

* Robertson's Charles v. vol. 1. p. 15. and seq.

which arose naturally from the state of society at that period *.

Characteristics of chivalry.

The rise of chivalry from the circumstances of the *feudal* government, having been ſhewn, it will be easy to account for the several characteristics of this singular profeſsion.

1*st*, The paſsion for arms, the spirit of enterprise the honour of knighthood, the rewards of valour, the splendour of equipages; in ſhort, every thing that raises our ideas of the proweſs, gallantry, and magnificence of the sons of Mars is easily explained in this supposition. Ambition, interest, glory, all concurred, under such circumstances, to produce these effects. The feudal principles could terminate in nothing else And when by the neceſsary operation of that policy, this turn was given to the thoughts and paſsions of men, use and faſhion would do the rest, and carry them to all the exceſses of military fanatism.

2*d*. Their romantic ideas of justice, their paſsion for adventures, their eagerneſs to run to the succour of the distreſsed, and the pride they took in redreſsing wrongs, and removing grievances, all these distinguiſhing characters of genui e chivalry are explained on the same principle. For the feudal state being a state of perpetual war, or rather of continual violence, it was unavoidable that in their conſtant ſkirmiſhes and surprises, numbers of the fol-

* Ibid page 83.

lowers of one baron could not be seized upon, and carried away by those of another: and the interest each had to protect his own, would introduce the point of honour in attempting by all means not only to retaliate on the enemy, but to rescue the captive sufferers out of the hands of their oppressors, it would be meritorious in the highest degree, to fly to their assistance, when they knew where they were to be found, or to seek them out with diligence, when they did not. This last service they called *going in quest of adventures;* which no doubt, was confined at first to those of their own party; but in process of time, we find the knights errant, wandering the world over in search of occasions on which to exercise their generous and disinterested valour.

3*d*. The courtesy, affability, and gallantry, for which these adventurers are so famous, are but the natural consequences of their situation. For the castles of the barons were the courts of these little sovereigns, as well as their fortresses; and the resort of their vassals thither, in honour of their chiefs, and for their own security, would make that civility and politeness, which is seen in courts, and insensibly prevails there, a predominant part in the characters of these assemblies. Further, the ladies joined in these circles of the great, which would operate so far on the sturdiest knights as to give birth to the attentions of gallantry. But this gallantry would take a refined turn, not only from the necessity there was of maintaning the strict form of decorum, under the eye of the prince; but also the inflamed sense they must have of the frequent outrage committed by

their neighbouring clans, on the honour of the sex, when by chance of war they fell into their hands. Violation of chastity, being the most attrocious crime they had to charge on their enemies, they would pride themselves in the glory of being its protectors.

4th. It only remains to account for that character of religion, which was so deeply impreſsed on the minds of all knights, and was eſsential to their inſtitution. Two reasons may be aſsigned for this. *1st*, The superſtition of the times in which chivalry arose; which was so great, that no inſtitution could have found credit in the world, that was not interwoven with religion. *2d*, the condition of the christian world, which had been harraſsed by long wars, and had just received a breathing time from the ravages of the Saracens. The remembrance of what they had suffered from these grand enemies of the faith, made it natural and even neceſsary to engage a new military order on the side of religion. And indeed this principle, *a zeal for the faith*, acted warmly upon the profeſsors of chivalry, and entered deeply into their idea of the military character.

Thus we seem to have a fair account of that prowesſs, generosity, gallantry, and religion, which were the peculiar and vaunted characteriſtics of the purer ages of chivalry *.

To be continued.

* Dr Hurd's letters on chivalry and romance.

ON THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SHEEP IN A WILD AND DOMESTIC STATE, REARED IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE, AND BY THE PASTORAL NATIONS FROM THE FRONTIERS OF EUROPE TO THOSE OF CHINA.

The third variety.

The fat rumped sheep.

Continued from p. 201.

DR PALLAS on the subject of wool combats an opinion of Aristotle, that its fineness depends on the tenderness of the skin from which it rises; and offers the fleece of this very variety of sheep, as a refutation of the doctrine; for the uropygium, throat, and belly, where the skin is thinnest, are covered with coarse hair instead of wool. He then offers his own opinion on the subject, which is, that the quality of wool depends on the state of the flesh, and cellular substance, rather than the skin; as we see in *wild beasts*, that the leaner animals have the finest glossy hair, whilst those with an oily skin, such as the hog, the phocus, and the bear, have the coarsest of all species of hair, under the name of bristles*. The temperature of climate the doctor thinks,

* I should suspect, that here also no general rule could be established. The martin and all that class of animals which are known to carry fine furs, are not remarkable for leanness; and the beaver in particular, whose wool is the softest, as well as the closest of the fur

and even can assert from his own observation, has considerable influence on the quality of wool; nay the *extremes* of heat and cold, have so powerful an influence as to turn wool to hair*.

Our author, after closing the subject of the steatopyga variety of sheep, enters into a learned inquiry into the cause of colour in animals, and the changes wrought on their different hues, by climate, pasture, water, and certain artificial methods, such as

red tribe, is remarkably fat; We know also, that among the various breeds of sheep in this island, there is no sort of connection observable between the tendency to leanness or fatness, and the fineness or coarseness of the wool. It is necessary we should guard cautiously against general conclusions from particular facts, as that might lead to very material errors in practice. *Edit.*

* I should demur to this conclusion also. It is proved by experiments that have been carefully made, that the thickness of any filament of wool is affected by the heat the animal has suffered at the particular period that filament was produced; the part of it produced during hot weather being always coarser than that which grew during the prevalence of cold weather. From partial facts, picked up in general reading, it would seem, that in general, warmth of climate had a tendency to render the fleece thinner than it would be in a cold region, or to incourage the growth of hairs, that are to be found among the wool of many sheep, in preference to that of wool; but even these facts are not yet fully proven. I have never met with any fact that indicates any other change upon the fleece of sheep by climate; as to the circumstance of coarse wool being found on the sheep in some northern regions, it may be merely accidental; the original breed of sheep found there perhaps having produced wool of that quality, and thus have been propagated there *by kind*. The coarsest wool in Britain is found in Cornwall, the southermost part of the island, the native sheep of which are said to produce a fleece liker hair than wool; and the finest is found in Shetland, the northermost part of the British dominions. *Edit.*

giving powder of antimony, or the catkins, (amentum,) of nuts, with their food, as is practiced in Rusia, to change a plain colour to a dapple.

Amongst the *natural* causes of the change of colour in animals, he calls in the authority of several ancient writers to prove, that particular waters have that effect; and thinks that certain pastures must have no less, if we are to believe a fact asserted in Rajus's philosophical letters, p. 245. "That there is a hill named *Haselhedge**, in the peak of Derbyshire, which changes the colour of a cow from white to grey in three years†."

* I cannot pass over the curious quotation of my learned friend Dr Pallas as given above, without taking notice of the singular coincidence between the name of the Derbyshire hill, and the mode of changing the colour of horses in Rusia and Poland, with *the catkins of nuts*. It would be curious to inquire if the said hill abounds in *hazel*, as its name seems to have once indicated. *Arcticus.*

† We must again regret that the disquisitions of this celebrated naturalist on this very curious subject, have been curtailed. Though I fear, that till experiments shall have been made with the accuracyof modern philosophers, we must pay little respect, to the ill ascertained facts that have been accidentally preserved by natural historians; many of which have been taken from hearsay alone, and we know that in *this way*, wonderful changes have been effected. Has it ever been proved, by well ascertained *experiments*, that the colour of the *hair* of animals can be changed at pleasure by the nature of the food? I have never fallen in with these experiments. At the same time there is good reason to believe, that this may be possible; for it is well known, that we can artificially change at pleasure the colour of the bones, and in some instances particular parts of the flesh of animals, by a particular kind of food. By analogy therefore we may believe that the *hair* may also be thus affected; but I have not heard of any fact that proves this. It is known that one kind of hares, and many other animals, change their colour in winter in cold regions. This has hi-

Dr Pallas treats likewise at the end of his third variety, of the curious phenomena of *hair balls*, found in the stomach of sheep and other animals. He be-

therto been intirely ascribed to the rigour of the season. It is not however impossible, but the nature of the food they must then feed on may contribute somewhat in effecting this change.

There are some particulars respecting the fur of animals that have not attracted the learned doctor's observation in this dissertation, nor that of any naturalist I have as yet met with, which I shall here beg leave to bring under the notice of the reader.

From whatever circumstance the diversity of colour among domestic animals arises, there seems to be certain peculiarities invariably connected with some colours, that do not attend others: For example the hairs of a *white* horse adhere to the skin much more loosely than those of a bay, or chesnut, or other dark colours. Hence the clothes of the rider are much more copiously filled with the hairs of a white horse than that of any other colour.

In general white cattle have a much thinner coat of hair than cattle of a black or dark brown colour.

But the most singular and invariable peculiarity of this kind I have ever observed, is that of a kind of *lead* coloured cattle I have seen in the Highlands. These do not so much abound as those of darker colours; but they have *invariably* a smooth sleeked glossy hair, very much resembling the gloss of silk. I never saw one of those that were not thus distinguishable, even while going in the same herd with cattle of black and other colours whose hair were of an opaque dry like appearance.

I do not recollect ever to have seen a glossy black wool, where the fleece consisted entirely of black filaments, nor have I ever observed either very fine or very soft wool of that colour, though I have often remarked that in certain breeds of sheep I have seen in the Highlands of Scotland, that carry what we call gray, or sometimes blue wool, consisting of a mixure of white and black filaments. In that case the black filaments intermixed with the white have a clear bugle like lustre, and great softness, so as to make the fleece when nearly examined appear of a clear silver grey colour.

These remarks might be much extended; but the above may serve at present to direct the attention of the careful inquirer to this subject. *Edit.*

gins by informing us that the flocks of none of the Tartar hordes are so much subject to them, as those of the Kirguise and Kalmouks. They are seldom made up of their own wool, but of grey coloured *camels hair;* and seem to have the following origin.

The camel, besides feeding on ſhrubs, or spinose and asper plants, are particularly fond of saline vegetables; and sustain themselves in some parts of the Tartarian deserts, intirely upon salsolis, halimo, and such like plants,

They likewise lick up the saline efflorescence, so frequently found on the earth in these countries; and by these means, their fluids become so fully saturated with *salt*, that after perspiration, their hair is as if it was powdered with salt.

The ſheep, which are equally fond of that mineral, lick it off the ſkin of the camel with much avidity, and with it swallow the loose hair of their coat, which forms one or more balls in the stomach; as the operation has been repeated in different seasons. These camels hair balls are from the size of a walnut to that of an egg, commonly either round, or a little concave from being preſsed in lying.

This species of ball is seldom incrusted with tartar although another kind to be described below, commonly are covered with that matter.

The doctor finiſhes the subject of *hair* balls, by mentioning in a note, his having seen, when in London about the year 1762, at the house of the celebrated naturalist Mr Henry Baker, a roundiſh ball of soft white wool, the size of an orange; one of six found in the stomach of an Engliſh ſheep.

Cows likewise form hair balls in the stomach in all countries, and the doctor is in possession of one taken out of the stomach of a *turky*, consisting intirely of *horse hair*.

The other kind of ball alluded to above, often found in the stomach of the Tartarian sheep, is composed of dry mashed twigs, sometimes of the size of a man's fist, though generally smaller and of an oblong form.

This species of ball is often found covered with a thin coat of tartar, of a blackish colour; and occasionally with a stony incrustation.

Their smell, which does not quit them for a length of time, much resembles that of bezoar; and Dr Pallas thinks they take origin from the dry twigs of wormwood on which they feed in winter, incrusted with tartar, formed from a mixture of vegetable juices, with the gastric liquor and saliva.

The grinders of this variety of sheep are likewise covered with a coat of yellow coloured tartar, generated probably in the same manner.

Description of a KIRGUISE *RAM of the* STEATOPYGA, *or fat rumped variety.*

This ram was not of the largest size.

Head, was rather less than many others of the same variety; and all black, even to the horns.

Ears, pendent and black, except the outer rim, which was spotted with white, as were the legs.

Throat, covered with greyish hair, the rest of the animal white.

Horns, spiral.

Uropygium, very large, and divided into two hemispheres.

Anus, filled with fat, or rather stuffed with it in all parts.

Scrotum, covered with hair.

Prepuce, large.

Wool, coarse, and some inches long, on the back, sides and extremities, whilst it is mixed every where with hair.

Weight.

	Medical Pounds.
Total weight of the ram before cut up or skinned,	193
The carcase without skin, head, and bowels,	79
The fat of the uropygium and anus,	38

Measurement, in French feet, inches, and lines.

	f.	*i.*	*l.*
Total length from the upper lip to the fissure of the uropygium or fat rump,	5	2	0
Head, length from the upper lip to the horns,	10	0	
Ditto from ditto, to the nap of the neck,	1	2	0
Circumference of the muzzle measured over the nostril,		8	6
Ditto of the face between the eyes and ears,	1	1	1
Ditto of the head, just below the horns,	1	7	0
Distance between the angles of the eyes,		5	4
Ditto between the eyes, and ears,		2	3
Distance between the horns and eyes,		1	0
Ditto between the nostrils			8
Distance between the eye and lip,		7	1
Ears, length of,	6	11	

	f.	*i.*	*l.*
Ears, greatest breadth,		4	4
Ditto circumference at their base,		4	1
Horns, their length following their curve,	1	7	7
Circumference at their base,		6	10
Distance between them in front,			8
Neck, circumference at the ſhoulders,	1	8	10
Ditto at the the head,	1	4	2
Trunk, circumference at the fore legs,	2	11	6
Ditto at the largest part of the middle,	3	3	0
Ditto at the hind legs,	3	0	0

To be continued.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

WOE to the marble hearted philosophers, who insult real sorrow by their pretended consolation, which the bosom of the afflicted is just as able to receive, as the lips of the dead are to open for a cordial! The only way I believe to triumph over true grief of heart, is to indulge it in all the vehemence of its fond desires or sorrows. Grief is a noble imperious paſsion that ought not to be thwarted; but to be flattered and indulged.

That "this is a strange world," mortals often exclaim, there is truth in the observation. Yet what is it but our strange humours, which makes it so?

THE CONSTANT LOVER.

For the Bee.

THOUGH thou my love, no more appear,
No more thy voice salutes my ear;
And tho' no more with thee I stray,
From early morn till setting day,
Yet in myself no change I find,
Still art thou present to my mind.

Sometimes exulting thus I say,
My thoughts no more on Lucy stray;
Her absence now has broke my chains.
Alas! 'tis only she doth change;
For in myself I none can find,
Thou art so graven on my mind.

You from the first with so much art,
At once despised yet gain'd my heart:
I had not reason left to see,
Tho' Lucy smil'd 'twas not on me;
But, now, alas! too late I find
My heart was captive to your mind.

Vain are my efforts to be free,
While every thought is fix'd on thee;
While I from absence only prove,
Absence doth wound, not cure my love;
While I from absence only find,
Thou still art present to my mind

B. B.

CONVERSATION.

HAIL! conversation, heav'nly fair,
Thou bless of life, and balm of care,
Call'st forth the long forgotten knowledge
Of school, of travel, and of college!
For thee, best solace of his toil
The sage consumes his midnight oil:
And keeps late vigils, to produce
Materials for thy future use.
If none behold, ah, wherefore fair?
Ah! wherefore wise, if none must hear?
Our intellectual ore must shine,
Not slumber, idly, in the mine.
Let education's moral mint
The noblest images imprint;
Let taste her curious touchstone hold,
To try if slander'd be the gold;
But 'tis thy commerce, conversation,
Must give it use by circulation;
That noblest commerce of mankind,
Whose precious merchandise is MIND.

What stoic traveller would try
A sterile soil, and parching sky,
Or dare th' intemperate northern zone,
If what he saw must ne'er be known?
For this he bids his home farewell—
The joy of seeing is to tell.
Trust me he never would have stir'd,
Were he forbid to speak a word;
And curiosity would sleep,
If her own secrets she must keep:
The bless of telling what is past,
Becomes her rich reward at last.—
Yet not from low desire to shine,
Does genius toil in learning's mine;
Not to indulge in idle vision,
But strike new light by strong collision.
O'er books the mind inactive lies,
Books, the mind's food, not exercise!
Her vigorous wing she scarcely feels,
Till use the latent strength reveals:
Her slumbering energies, call'd forth,
She rises conscious of her worth;
And, at her new found pow'rs elated,
Thinks them not rous'd, but new created.
Enlighten'd spirits! you who know
What charms from polish'd converse flow,
Speak, for you can, the pure delight,
When kindred sympathies unite;
When correspondent tastes impart
Communion sweet from heart to heart;
You ne'er the cold gradations need,
Which vulgar souls to union lead;
No dry discussion to unfold
The meaning, caught as soon as told:
But sparks electric only strike
On souls electrical alike;
The flash of intellect expires,
Unless it meet congenial fires.
The language of th' elect alone,
Is, like the mason's mystery, known;
In vain th' unerring sign is made
To him who is not of the *trade*.
What lively pleasure to divine
The thought implied, the hinted line,
To feel allusion's artful force,
And trace the image to its source!
Quick memory blends her scatter'd rays,
Till Fancy kindles at the blaze;
The works of ages start to view,
And antient wit engenders new.

Obituary of the learned.

Sir, *Introductory letter to the Editor of the Bee.*

Notwithstanding the anathema of my excellent præceptor Adam Smith against magazines, reviews, and other periodical publications, recorded in your miscellany, vol. iii. p. 6, I will venture to assert that in the present situation of Europe, no books (if they are properly conducted) can be equally useful in promoting the improvement of society by the rapid collision of sentiment, and the pervasive information of all ranks of men with respect to those things that are of general utility, and which escape notice in books which are expensive and not easily obtained.

Quoting your own respectable prospectus I would say that "It is not on account of the dissemination of know-"ledge alone that you call the attention of the public to "your work, but because it is equally adapted to the ex-"tirpation of error. Facts, especially when they respect "matters of difficult expiscation, are often imperfectly "known, or much misrepresented by those who commu-"nicate them to the public. When this happens in the "ordinary modes of publication, such misrepresentations "cannot be easily discovered. It may be long before "such publications fall in the way of those who know "the facts with precision *&c. &c.* But this could not "happen should this miscellany meet with as general a "circulation as it is naturally susceptible of. In that case "the publication would soon fall into the hands of some "one who would know with precision the facts that oc-"curred in it, even with respect to very unobvious ob-"jects: and as errors of this sort may be rectified in ma-

" ny cases by a few lines, which would cost little trouble " to write &c. might prompt such persons chearfully to " point out errors wherever they occurred, and so speedi- " ly check their progrefs almost as soon as they did ori- " ginate."

These considerations, Sir, have induced me to propose for your miscellany, an *Obituary of the Learned*, in which, beginning with the present century, or earlier if agreeable to your correspondents, the obit of every man of Learning fhould be set down, with such particulars of his literary life as may be thought most interesting and useful to the republic of learning.

It seems at present as if there were no bounds between a mere entry in a bill of mortality, and an extreme panegyric or an eulogy pronounced in a literary society in honour of a deceased afsociate, neither of which come at all within the scope of my proposal; which fhould embrace only the great outlines of the life and character, and the titles and purport of the writings, with notices of such works as may remain in M. S. and unpublifhed.

Besides in such an obituary as I have done myself the honour to propose, correct particulars might be given of great importance to the general history of literature, unmixed with that ridiculous anecdote which disgraces our modern biography, and makes every one afraid to see one's friend become the subject of literary record. As a specimen of the proposed obituary, permit me to set down as on the spur of the occasion, an entry on the death of George Stuart, Doctor of Laws, late profefsor of humanity in the university of Edinburgh.

Dr George Stuart.

Goerge Stuart &c. of an honourable descent, was born in the year 1715. He was particularly attached to the family of the earl of Dalhousie, and having given instruc-

tion in the Latin language to the late earl, on his premature death at Abbeville, on the *4th* of November 1787, he bewailed the event in the following classical strain to a noble lord on the *7th* of December following.

" De obitu Dalhostii Comitis ad Abavillam in Gallia
" nuper mœstissime audivi. Fuit inter nobiles doctus, inter
' doctos nobilis ; vir veteris prosapiæ, necnon multarum i-
" maginum. Si variæ virtutes et amabiles mortis immaturæ
" gradum sistere potuissent, dies fatalis advenisset serius,
" nec tam cito orbasset rempublicam consilio numerosam
" progeniem exemplo, viduam mœrentem marito."

On the death of Dr Samuel Johnson he transmitted to the same noble lord, the following characteristic and classical epitaph, which has been much admired while its real author was unknown.

M. S.

Samuelis Johnsoni L L D.
Viri subacti et firmi ingenii,
In literis Angliæ ornamenti ;
Cui non vita erepta, sed mors
Donata esse videtur ;
(Etsi sit et erit luctuosa amicis,
Matura forsan sibi,
Sed acerba patriæ,
Gravis bonis omnibus ;)
Ne diutius videret Britanniam
Vegtigalibus petulanter oppressam,
Ardentem invidia Senatum,
Sceleris nefarii principes reos,
Civitatem eam denique
In omni genere deformatam,
In qua ipse florentissima
Multum omnibus gloria præsitit.
Obiit anno ætatis septuagesimo sexto, &c.

If this (said the professor) is not approved of, it is at least a pleasure to me to pay this last tribute to a classical man in classical language, such as he himself would have approved of ; and from Scotland too ! where flattery is out of the question.

Fisherow, 22 December 1784.

In the year 1741 Dr Stuart was admitted profeſsor, and taught the Roman claſsics and antiquities with great reputation and succeſs for more than four and thirty years, resigning his chair as soon as he found himself unequal to his wiſh, to Dr John Hill the present profeſsor, who has taught the claſs with much approbation since the year 1775.

It is not easy in the present flippant and insubordinate times to support that dignity and authority which was aſsumed and obtained by George Stuart, in the zenith of his profeſsional career, a circumstance which cannot be too much averted or deplored. *Quid leges sine moribus? Vanæ proficiunt.*

Profeſsor Stuart died at Fiſherow on Tuesday the 18 of June 1793.

He has left in great forwardneſs for the preſs an improved *Thesaurus Linguæ Latinæ*. I am Sir your humble Servant, A. T.

REVIEW.

The History of Rutherglen and East Kilbride by David Ure. A. M.

Hitherto provincial histories have been chiefly confined to antiquarian researches only, or those of natural history. The present work embraces a wider field; it comprehends, besides the natural and civil history, commercial, political and agricultural arrangements; and traces in some meaſure the progreſs of the human mind, and the advancement of arts and manufactures in those parts, from a pretty remote period till the present time. The writer appears not to have made a peculiar study of any one depart ment exclusively of all others, so that though to the critical

connoisseur in *special departments* it may not be deemed particularly excellent; yet he writes in general, like a person who has made diligent researches, and is well informed on every subject he investigates. The stile is clear, concise, and unaffected. On the whole this performance will afford much satisfaction to the candid inquirer after knowledge; and gives a very favourable specimen of the literary acquirements of the clergy of this country in general; for the author appears not ever to have been in a situation or circumstances peculiarly favourable for the attainment of knowledge; yet the progress he has made will give a considerable degree of respectability to his work among the candid.

The following extract is given as a specimen of the work. Some others will perhaps be given in this journal on future occasions.

An account of the origin of Manufactures in Glasgow.

The name of *Flakefield*, took its rise from a place called Flakefield, in the upper part of the parish. About the middle of the last century two young men of the name of Wilson, the one from Flakefield and the other from the neighbourhood, went to Glasgow and commenced merchants. The sameness of the name had occasioned frequent mistakes in the way of their business. To prevent this, the one was, for the sake of distinction, in a short time, known from the other by the *cognomen* Flakefield, the place of his birth. His real surname soon become obsolete, and he was afterwards called by the name of Flakefield, which, in place of Wilson, has descended to his posterity.

To this man's son the city of Glasgow, is, in a great measure, indebted for her present opulence and trade.

I hope it will be thought not altogether foreign to our design, to mention the circumstance by which this was brought about. Wilson, *alias* Flakefield, put one of his sons to the weaving trade. The lad, after having learned his business, enlisted, about the year 1670, in the regiment of the Cameronians, but was afterwards draughted into the Scottish Guards. He was, during the course of the wars, sent to the continent, where he procured a blue and white checked handkerchief, that had been woven in Germany. A thought struck Flakefield, that, were it his good fortune to return to Glasgow, he would attempt to manufacture cloth of the same kind. Accordingly he preserved, with great care, a fragment sufficient for his purpose. Being disbanded, in the year 1700, he returned to his native city, with a fixed resolution to accomplish his laudable design. Happy would it be for mankind, were travellers into foreign countries to pick up what might be useful in their own; and, like this praise worthy soldier, return home possessed of some valuable acquisition! A few *spindles* of yarn, fit for his purpose, was all, at that time, William Flakefield could collect: the white was but ill bleached, and the blue not very dark; they were, however, the best that could be found in Glasgow. About two dozen of handkerchiefs composed the first web. When the half was woven he cut out the cloth and took it to the merchants, who, at that time, traded in Salmon, Scottish plaiding, Hollands and other thick linens: They were pleased with the novelty of the blue and white stripes, and especially with the delicate texture of the cloth, which was *thin set* in comparison of the Hollands. The new adventurer asked no more for his web than the neat price of the materials, and the ordinary wages for his work. All he asked was readily paid him, and he went home rejoicing that his attempts were not unsuccessful.

This dozen of handkerchiefs, the first of the kind ever made in Britain, were disposed of in few hours. Fresh demands were daily made on the exulting artist for more of his cloth; and the remaining half of his little web was bespoken before it was woven. More yarn was procured with all speed, and several looms were immediately filled with handkerchiefs of the same pattern. The demands encreased in proportion to the quantity of cloth that was manufactured. Some English merchants, who resorted to Glasgow for thick linens, were highly pleased with the new manufacture, and carried, for a trial, a few of the handkerchiefs to England. The goods met with universal approbation. The number of looms daily encreased, so that, in a few years, Glasgow became famous for that branch of the linen trade. A variety of patterns and colours was soon introduced. The weavers in Paisley and the neighbouring towns, engaged in the business; and the trade was at length carried on to a great extent. Thus, from a small beginning, a very lucrative and useful branch of business took its rise; and which has been the means of introducing others still more extensive. The checks were followed by the blunks, or linen cloth for printing; and to these is now added the muslin trade, which, at present extends, to the amazing sum of nearly two millions sterl. *per ann.* and Glasgow is universally acknowledged to be the first city in Scotland for manufactures. But neither William Flakefield, nor any of his descendents, ever received any reward or mark of approbation, for the good services done, not only to Glasgow, but to the nation at large. Flakefield, however, having, during his service in the army, learned to beat the drum, was, in his *old age*, promoted to the office of town drummer; in which office he continued till his death.

Agricultural Surveys.

Our readers have no doubt heard of the board of agriculture instituted by act of parliament, on the motion of Sir John Sinclair Bart. The object of that institution at the time when it was discuſsed in the House of Commons was declared to be chiefly to collect authentic information respecting the present state of agricultural knowledge in the different provinces of Britain, and in foreign parts; to deſseminate the knowledge of the best practices that any where prevailed, as universally as poſsible; to discover the most valuable breeds of domestic animals wherever they ſhall be found, and to facilitate the introduction of them in this country. In a word to accompliſh, by means of the funds put under the management of the Commiſsioners, such useful undertakings respecting agriculture and rural arts as seemed to exceed the powers of individuals to accompliſh. It now appears the commiſsioners have entered on their buſineſs with alacrity. The following is the first publication that has reached this country from that board; and we have no doubt but the public will be disposed to forward their useful exertions with alacrity.

The board of agriculture, will have occasion to employ, some very intelligent surveyors, or persons ſkilled in huſbandry, in examining into the agricultural state of all the different counties of England and Scotland, and, in pointing out, in what respects, there is room for improvements.

The inquiries principally to be made, will relate to the following points:

1. The nature of the soil and climate of the district to be examined?

2. The manner in which the land is poſseſsed, whether by great or by small proprietors?

3. The manner in which the land is occupied, whether by great or by small farmers?

4. The manner in which the land is employed, whether in pasture, in husbandry, or a mixture of both?

5. If in pasture, what grasses are cultivated? what species of stock is kept? whether the breeds can be improved, or whether new breeds ought to be tried?

6. Whether any of the land is watered, and whether any considerable extent of ground is capable of that improvement?

7. If the land is employed in husbandry, what are the grains principally cultivated?

8. What is the rotation of crops? and in particular whether green crops, as turnip, clover, &c. are cultivated, and how they are found to answer?

9. Whether fallowing is practised or otherwise?

10. What manures are made use of?

11. What are the usual sorts of ploughs, carts, an other implements of husbandry?

12. Whether oxen or horses are made use of?

13. What is the usual seed time and harvest?

14. Whether the land is enclosed or in open fields?

15. What advantages have been found to result from inclosing land, in regard to the increase of rent,——quantity, or quality of produce,——improvement of stock, *&c.*

16. What is the size and nature of the inclosures?

17. Whether inclosures have encreased or decreased population?

18. Whether there are any common fields, and whether any division of them is proposed?

19. What is the difference of rent, or produce, between common fields and inclosed lands?

20. What is the extent of waste lands, and the improvement of which they are most capable, whether by

being planted, converted into arable, or into pasture land?

21. What is the rate of wages, and price of labour, and what are the hours at which labour commences and ceases, at the different seasons?

22. Whether proper attention is paid to the draining of land, particularly the fenny part of it, and what sorts of drains are commonly made use of?

23. Whether paring and burning is practised, and how is it managed and found to answer?

24. Whether the country is well wooded, and whether the woodlands are kept under a proper system.

25. What is the price of provisions, and whether the price is likely to be steady, to rise, or to fall?

26. What is the state of the roads both public and parochial, whether they are in good order or capable of improvement?

27. What is the state of farm houses and offices, whether in general they are well situated and properly constructed?

28. What is the nature of the leases commonly granted, and the covenants usual between landlord and tenant?

29. To what extent have commerce or manufactures been carried on in the district, and have they had either good or bad effects on its agriculture?

30. Are there any practices in the district, that could be of service in other places?

31. Are there any societies instituted in the district for the improvement of agriculture?

32. Whether the people seem to have a turn for improvements, or how such a spirit could best be excited?

33. What improvements can be suggested either in regard to the ſtock or the huſbandry of the diſtrict?

34. What are the names, deſcriptions, and directions of thoſe proprietors, or farmers, who are the moſt active, or the moſt ſkilful improvers in the diſtrict, and who are the moſt likely to be uſeful correſpondents to the board of agriculture?

It is propoſed, for the ſake of making ſuch ſurveys as eaſy as poſſible, that each perſon, who may undertake them, ſhall have a diſtrict that may be gone over in five or ſix weeks: ſo that it may be undertaken by thoſe who have a good deal of buſineſs of their own, without much inconvenience. Thus alſo the board will have a greater variety of information, and a greater maſs of inſtructive obſervations, from a greater number of intelligent men, for their conſideration and guidance.

It is farther propoſed, that the reports received by the board, ſhall firſt be circulated as much as poſſible, in the counties to which they relate, for the benefit of receiving the obſervations, and additional remarks of every farmer and gentleman in the diſtrict. From the information thus accumulated, a complete ſtate of its agriculture will be drawn up and publiſhed; copies of which will be preſented by the board, to every individual, who may have favoured them with his aſſiſtance.

The board can only make an allowance, at the rate of 5l. per week, for the expence of ſuch a tour. Indeed ſome gentlemen, with great public zeal, and much to their credit, have undertaken to ſurvey ſeveral diſtricts gratuitouſly. But that is not always to be expected, particularly from profeſſional men. The payment of their expences, they are well intitled to expect, if they give their time and trouble for nothing. Profit, however, muſt

not be the object of those who undertake such an employment; nor could such a Board wish to be concerned with any one, who would not willingly make some sacrifices for the public good, and indeed who would not take a pride in having any share in promoting so useful an undertaking.

P. S. If the district is remarkable for its orchards, for its cyder, for its dairy, for its cheese, for its butter, for its breed of sheep, cattle, horses, hogs, &c. or the culture of woad, liquorice, &c. particular attention is requested to those articles, or to any other in which it may excel. Drawings also, and exact descriptions, of the different breeds of sheep, cattle, and horses, in each district, would be particularly desirable. The quantity raised of each sort of crop, in the different parts of the district, cannot be too accurately ascertained and noted

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Index indicatorius.

Continued from p. 224.

A *constant reader* requests that the Editor would in *his next number* insert a sketch of the character of general *Wolfe*, and also of captain *Cook*. He will please be informed that original sketches of characters cannot be made without considerable research after authentic materials, which the Editor in the present case had no opportunities of obtaining.

The following short note is given entire to the clergy and kirk sessions in Scotland.

"Gentlemen, it sufficiently appears from the various statistical reports made by you and by others, to the truly respectable Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster, that the poor are best supported by Christian charity, and not by odious and insufficient assessments, which have a tendency to generate idleness and poverty.

"Permit me to recommend to all of you in your departments, the old and excellent method of raising funds for the poor in Scotland, and to exclude all from the benefit of the poor's funds who use tea or grocery goods of any kind, *or ardent spirits;* by so doing you will secure inestimable blefsings to your country, and obtain the the high approbation of, gentlemen your sincere welwifher, ALBANICUS."

Is not the injunction above, rather too severe? the Editor would not become the apologist for difsipation or vice. A distinction ought certainly to be made between the sober and the difsipated, but *absolute* exclusion from charitable aid to a person in utter want cannot be done.

Different kinds of humour please different persons. PERIODITA sends the following specimen of the kind that pleases him. "Dear Bee, I want to be a *spectator* of the proceedings of the parliament house, will you be my *guardian* there. We fhall find *adventures* [*Qu. adventurers?*] there I am told,—and *ramblers*,—and *connoifseurs*, we must suppose; also *idlers*, in abundance, *loungers* innumerable: few *mirrors* fit to reflect what is proper; fictitious *freeholders*, producing *settlers* without end. In fhort the whole world goes there. So I beg you will escort for once yours &c.——" He might have added *Smatterers, Speculators, Egotists, Sophists*, &c. &c. &c.

The following fragment is offered by *M. P.* in imitation of Ofsian's ftile.

I.

The storm begins to lour—the ball of day
Sinks in the darkened wave. The troubled fky
Rolls big with tempest, and no friendly ray
Shines on the path. The leaves and thistles fly.

II.

Loud roars the mountain stream. The aged oak
Groans to the blaft. The hunter on the hill
Reels With benighted steps. The hollow rock
Sounds from afar. Black runs the mofsy rill.

III.

The trembling sailor hears the ocean roar
Around the rocking bark. The rattling wind
Howls on the rigging, and the broken oars
Float on the surge,—confusion fills his mind.

Banks of Yarrow, 1790.

To Correspondents.

The ingenious disquisition of *A. M. M.* is come to hand, and shall be duly attended to.

The sensible reflections of *Philadelphus*, though on a subject that has been very often treated, still deserve to be attended to.

The letter of *Amicus*, which has been received, he will see had been answered before it was written.

The *essay on friendship*, is rather long for our Miscellany; but room shall be made for it if possible.

Thanks to an ingenious correspondent for his curious excerpts from Burrel's M. S journal written in the year 1758 &c.

The favour of *Civis*, is thankfully acknowledged.

Non Medicus shall have his query inserted soon.

Timothy Hairbrain's queries are received.

TO THE READERS OF THE BEE.

Some of the early numbers of the Bee fine *paper, being now again out of print for the third time. Whoever has copies of these that they are willing to part with, will please send them to the Bee office.*

The Editor having now obtained an engraver capable of doing justice to the drawings put into his hands, has it in contemplation to make a new engraving of a head of Dr Cullen, that he may have it in his power to cancel that wretched head which he was forced to give along with the first number, that he might fulfil his engagements to the public, having had no time then to get it done anew. On this occasion, he wishes, if possible, to have a good likeness of that great man; and as he has never yet seen a picture of Dr Cullen that pleases him in every respect; he will be much obliged to any person into whose hands this may fall, who shall chance to have a private drawing of the Dr, for a sight of it, if convenient. The Editor has seen the following original portraits of Dr Cullen; viz. one done by Mr of Glasgow; from which the mezzetinto head was done; one by Mr Martin, from which the portrait engraved by Beugo was taken; one in the possession of the late Mr William Cooper of Edinburgh; the small sketch in black lead by Brown, from which was done the print given in the Bee; a paste head by Tassie; a shade taken by Miers; and he once saw a small portrait of the Dr in the lid of a snuff box, he believes in the possession of the late Dr Brown. If there are any others remaining they have not come to his knowledge.

When this portrait is properly engraven, intimation will be made, and copies of it will be given to all those who shall return the first head given with the Bee, that it may be entirely destroyed. Care will be taken that copies shall be sent to subscribers in foreign countries.

RUSSIAN SHEEP, Plate III.rd

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGNCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21. 1793.

CRITICAL REMARKS ON SOME CELEBRATED AUTHORS.

FROM A GENTLEMAN OF LITERARY EMINENCE LATELY DECEASED, TO A YOUNG GENTLEMAN WHO HAD REQUESTED HIS ADVICE IN REGARD TO THE PROPER MODE OF CONDUCTING HIS STUDIES.

LETTER VII.

Continued from vol. 15. p. 273.

Distinction between poetry and prose,— Wilkie's Epigoniad;—blank verse,—Sheakespeare as a dramatical writer, — a rhymer ;—Milton's paradise lost,—Allegro,—Penseroso,—Lycidas,—Comus.

WHEN you desire me to tell you what is poetry, and who are the best poets in the Engliſh language, you impose a taſk that would require talents far ſuperior to mine to execute in a proper and ſatisfactory manner. I ſhall not therefore attempt to answer your queries particularly, but ſhall merely offer a few

hints that may tend to lead you into what I should deem a just train of thought, when you yourself shall think proper, at a future period of your life, to prosecute the subject more fully than I can pretend, or have ever attempted to do.

Every person, when he hears of poetry and prose contrasted to each other, at first sight would believe that there could be no difficulty in distinguishing the one from the other on all occasions; yet here, as in many other cases, when he comes to investigate the subject nearly, he finds it a matter of no small difficulty to mark exactly the limits that distinguish the one from the other.

Mankind are pretty generally agreed in admitting that the most essential characteristics of poetry are, that the ideas should be striking or sublime, the language bold and figurative; and its disposition such as to admit of being uttered with ease, in a flowing melodious manner, and with some sort of rhythmical or measured cadence. The last circumstance here mentioned, the rhythmical cadence, is the most obvious peculiarity, and therefore it has been by many persons considered as the peculiar distinguishing characteristic of poetry, and numerous devices that have been extremely dissimilar, have been adopted at different times and in different nations, for giving this rhythmus. This diversity of practice shows that every system of rhythmical construction that has been adopted is merely artificial, being the creature of fancy and imitation alone; and that of course no one system of rhythmical arrangement

that ever has been adopted can be supposed to constitute the essential characteristic of poetry.

Among the Greeks and Romans, who were the only civilized nations in early times, with whose writings we are well acquainted, the rhythmical cadence of poetry was produced in a manner extremely different from that which is adopted in modern times; and in the ages that have passed away since the overthrow of the Roman empire, various systems of poetical rhythmus have started up,—prevailed for a time, and been abandoned,—till at last, what we now call rhime, or the coincidence of similar sounds, recurring at the end of a certain number of syllables, has acquired the predominance above all others, and is now by many thought to constitute the discriminative characteristic of poetry.

The rhythmical cadence of the Greeks and Romans, was so accurately settled, that it could be distinguished in whatever way it was written; but as by this rhythmus the whole composition was divided into regular parts, by peculiar cadences recurring pretty regularly, these divisions, consisting each of a certain number of lesser metrical divisions, which have been technically named *feet*, have been called *lines*, and are now regularly written or printed, each in a stretch without a break, one below the other. In imitation of this particular, modern poetry is in general arranged into lines likewise, each line consisting of a certain number of *syllables*, which must be so arranged as to follow each other in a kind of cadenced flow. Generally two of these lines terminate

with a syllable having a similar sound, and this is called *rhime.*

All these things you yourself sufficiently know; nor will it probably have escaped your observation, that many writers, if they can tag together a certain number of lines, with the neceſsary apurtenance of rhiming syllables at their end, conceive that they are writing poetry; and immediately dub themselves *poets.* But here, you will perceive, that by mistakging a part for the whole, and that part too the meanest of all the constituent parts of poetry, they are guilty of a sad misnomer, and confound the *making of verses*, with the *writing of poetry.* These are two things extremely different; for poetry may exist even without verse, and far more without rhime; and rhime may be very perfect without the smallest spark of poetry.

Let me therefore caution you to endeavour to discriminate between these in the compositions of others; but above all things to guard against the too common error of believing that you yourself are a poet, in case you ſhould at any time accidentally discover that you have a knack at writing with tolerable facility a number of rhyming lines,—usually called verses. I believe there is no person existing, who has an ordinary fund of ideas, who cannot write verses. It is indeed a mere mechanical operation; and if a man has a natural ear for rhythmical arrangements, he will be able to make the syllables follow each other very smoothly. But if he has not a talent for great and bold conceptions; or for placing objects in such positions, as to excite new and vivid ideas, that

produce pleasing images in the mind of the reader, the essence of poetry is wanting, and it is merely a dead and lifeless form. But if these great requisites are present, though the form of verse itself, and rhimes, be totally wanting, it will be accounted poetry in the strict and proper meaning of the word. The book of Job, for example, because it possesses these requisites in a high degree, is by all mankind admitted to be a poetical composition, though in our version at least, it possesses none of the characteristics of verse. So far is verse indeed from being necessary to poetry, that we can produce many instances of poetical compositions being greatly injured by having been converted into verse. Of this the psalms of David are a noted example: and there have been some poetical paraphrases, as they have been called, of several sublime passages in the Bible, lately made by well meaning men, which are still more liable to objection, as degrading the Scriptures, than the version of David's psalms, by Sternhold and Hopkins itself. These are striking examples that *verse* may not only exist independent of *poetry*, but that it may even be employed as the means of murdering poetry where it already existed.

An old acquaintance of mine whom I much esteemed, who possessed a strong and vigorous understanding, and great talents in many respects, but upon whom heaven had not conferred the smallest share of the *vis poetica*, having discovered that he could number syllables, and class together similar sounds; in short that he could make verses, believed that little more was necessary to emulate Homer; and that he could

write a *poem* which would be equally immortal as the Illiad itself. He therefore set himself to contrive the plan of an epic poem, on the model of Homer; and by dint of immense labour and perseverance, at length produced a work, consisting of a great many thousand verses, divided into a certain number of *books*, which he called an epic poem. This performance was constructed according to the rules of Aristotle. It had a regular beginning, a middle, and an end. In imitation of Homer, too, it began with an invocation; — many battles were fought between valiant Heroes,—much blood was spilt, and various wounds were inflicted and described with, I suppose, great anatomical precision:--episodes too were introduced, — orations were pronounced, — funeral games were celebrated, — similes, and all the figures of speech that have been enumerated by rhetoricians as neceſsary to add dignity to composition, were occasionally introduced to embelliſh it. It was, in ſhort, as exact an imitation as the writer could make of Homer's Illiad,—but without one spark of poetical fire from the beginning to the end. It might be said to bear such a resemblance to the Illiad, as the corpse of Hector when chained to the chariot of Achilles bore to the living Hector, triumphant as he drove the trembling Grecians to their ſhips. It was a resemblance that brought nothing but the melancholy recollection of the loſs that had been sustained by the absence of the original. I need scarcely add, that the work to which I here allude, is the *Epigoniad* of Wilkie. Wilkie was a man whom I knew well, and whom I esteemed both for his te-

lents and dispositions, almost above all others. And though it was impossible for him to discover defects which nature had deprived him of the faculties of discriminating, so that he deemed it a valuable production till his dying day: yet he told me himself, that the labour of this composition had been such, as so much to impair his constitution that it never was afterwards re-established; and the emoluments he derived from it were so inconsiderable, that he would have earned more money had he been employed all the time in hoing potatoes, at the rate of eight-pence a day; the common wages of a labourer in his neighbourhood at the time he wrote it. At an after period he published some fables in verse with much happier success; in that species of composition, judgement is chiefly concerned, and a due selection of proper words, so as to constitute easy verse; in both which respects he was far from being deficient. Indeed in respect to mathematical learning, philosophy, historical and political knowledge, and strong sense in regard to the common occurrences of life, Mr Wilkie had few equals in any part of the world; and I have often regretted that in place of wasting his time in a vain attempt at poetical excellence, he had not turned his attention to historical disquisition; in which, I am satisfied, he would have made a greater figure than perhaps any British author that has appeared within the present age.

Pardon this involuntary digression in favour of a man whom I respected much in life, and whose memory I shall ever highly revere!

The foregoing disquisition will not I hope be entirely useleſs to you; for if it ſhall impreſs your mind with the full conviction that verse and poetry are distinct things, it may save you a great deal of unneceſsary reading; and perhaps writing too, in your progreſs through life. How many men who waste their time in idly writing verses, that they call, and believe to be poems, might be diverted from this unsatisfactory pursuit to others of a more useful tendency, could they be satisfied, with an ancient bard, whose verses I cannot quote, because the book is not to be found here at present, that "*Poetry wants more than verse*," to entitle it to that name; and were persuaded that nothing is such useleſs lumber in the literary world as voluminous productions in verse, destitute of the spirit of genuine poesy.

Milton introduced a new species of verse into the Engliſh language which he called blank verse. Indeed Shakespeare before him had employed the same in his dramatic compositions; but Milton, I think, was the first that brought it into use in poems of another sort. In this verse an equal attention to rhythmus is required as in rhime; and as the sense is leſs marred by the artificial recurrence of certain syllables, it gives a fuller and bolder flow to the melody of sounds, and variation of cadences; so as to admit of expreſsing the paſsions and affections of the mind with greater energy. Some critics indeed affect to deny that this can be called verse at all; while I, on the contrary, consider this as the only species of verse which in our language is suited to

works of considerable length. In small performances, the recurrence of rhimes, will often have a good effect; and in ludicrous compositions, the very awkwardness of these gingling arrangements frequently tends to heighten the effect of the picture; as when,

> The pulpit drum ecclesiastick
> Is beat with fist instead of a stick.

But in serious or sublime compositions it can seldom I think have a good effect.

SHAKESPEARE, as a dramatic writer, deserves, without dispute, the first rank, if the most perfect delineation of human characters, easy natural dialogue, and energy and propriety of language, are allowed to be the principal characteristics of dramatic excellence. In these respects there never yet has appeared a writer in any European language who could be put in competition with Shakespeare. His powers, indeed, were so much superior to all other men in these respects, that he can only be looked upon as one of those prodigies that heaven vouchsafes some times to produce to give an idea of the *possible* powers of the human mind, and to moderate the vanity of those who are disposed to assume to themselves a superiority above others. The dramatic performances of Shakespeare seem to have been produced without any effort from him; and he appears to have viewed them with great indifference himself; for he took no care to guard against their being injured by the interpolations of others. They were put into the hands of men, who willing to obtain the applause of an ill informed public,

made liberal interpolations of scenes of ribaldry, and low humour, to make the vulgar laugh. Shakespeare himself, indeed, with that infinite versatility of powers so peculiar to him, has drawn low characters, and ludicrous scenes with the same unrivalled propriety as the sublime and the pathetic. But it is easy to perceive that many passages which are now incorporated with his works, never had been written by him; though the tares have been so long allowed to grow up promiscuously among the wheat, that it would now be a difficult task to separate them.

Yet though few writers have ever equalled Shakespeare in regard to the rhythmical flow of poetic cadence, where the nature of the subject required it, yet wherever he attempted *rhyme*, he sunk greatly below the meanest poetaster of the present day. His rhymes are indeed so very bad, that were it not for their uniformity in badness, I should be inclined to rank them among the interpolations that have been foisted so freely into the writings of that extraordinary man. I dare not venture to form even a decided opinion on this head.

Milton may be allowed to hold the second rank in point of dignity among the English poets. His Paradise Lost, is a sublime monument of the power of human genius. Its sublimity indeed is its principal characteristic; and Milton has discovered, in the construction of his verse in this work, a perfect knowledge of the power of poetical rhythmus, in contributing to the force of the picture he intended to produce. In some of his lesser poems, Milton has,

in this respect, been leſs attentive; and though the fame he has so justly acquired, for his Paradise Lost, has given a degree of respectability to all his other writings; yet in all of these we discover more of labour than is suitable to the ease of light compositions. In the *Allegro* indeed, the measure he has adopted is not unsuitable to the subject,—and all the objects brought under view are of the pleasing kind. But whoever will compare these with the light pieces of Anacreon, or the odes of Hafez, will easily perceive that the Allegro has been written by a grave man who made every effort to be chearful; while the others indicate an internal fund of gaity of disposition. But Milton has forgotten himself still more in his *Penseroso*; for there, adopting the same measure he had contrived for the Allegro, which is perfectly unsuitable to the subject, he has gone directly contrary to those rules which his own practice in most cases ſhowed he thought were eſsential. The *Lycidas*, too, in spite of some just thoughts, and happy expreſsions, is, upon the whole, a stiff unnatural performance; and as utterly destitute of feeling as the monody of lord Littleton; which is but a laboured imitation of it. I would not give one single stroke of the true pathos of nature, for five thousand pages of such frigid lamentations.

Milton perhaps never wrote a poem in which his genuine feelings were brought so fully forth, as the *Comus*. In his other works he speaks for the most part to the understanding; in this to the heart,—to the heart I mean of such men as had ideas of a si-

miliar stamp to those of Milton; for these were always great: nor could the smallest spark of levity ever find access to his mind. His ear for the charms of musical sounds seems to have been exquisitely delicate; and to a person who has felt the overpowering ecstacy which can be derived from this source, the language of Milton in his Comus speaks "unutterable things." I will not hesitate to declare, that were I ever to become ambitious of the character of a poet, I should be more proud to have been capable of writing the Comus of Milton than all his other works, the Paradise Lost itself not excepted.

You see, my dear boy, that though age has damped somewhat of that enthusiasm, which was apt to hurry me sometimes in the early parts of life, beyond the bounds that men with other propensities thought strictly reasonable, I still cherish these feelings with ineffable delight. In matters of taste, it is to the perceptive powers, and not to the reasoning faculty that application should be made. A poet who proceeds only by line and rule, is a perfect solicism in nature.

My paper puts me in mind that it is time to close this epistle. It is not impossible but I may resume the subject at another time, though I do not say for certain, I shall do so; that will be *as the spirit moveth.* Adieu!

To be continued.

ON THE DELAYS INCIDENT TO THE COURT OF SESSION.

To the Lord President of the Court of Session.

MY LORD,

YOUR uniform endeavour to obviate *the law's delay*, and to promote a speedy decision, induce me to address to your lordship, the following observations upon the forms of procedure.

The restraint of forms is equally intended to protect the one party against the arts and encroachments of the other, and to guide and direct the judge in giving a considerate and impartial decision.

The forms prescribed for calling a party into court, are such as to inform him of due notice on the one hand, and to certify the judge on the other, that due notice has been given to him; and after he has appeared, the forms preclude the judge from pronouncing against him, be the evidence ever so strong until he has an opportunity of being fully heard.

An alteration therefore of the forms of procedure, may prove a change of the law itself; and to abolish forms would be to reduce the law under the will and power of the judge. It would even be dangerous to make great alterations, as all the consequences could not well be foreseen; and therefore it is with much hesitation, that I submit to your lordship some of those to be here proposed, but others appear to arise so naturally out of things

in their present state, that they must generally be allowed to be safe changes, and for the better, though unfortunately opposed by the interests of some of the members of court. In the *outer-house* proceedings, the representing days, are as strictly in observance as the reclaiming days are in the *inner-house*. But a salutary regulation takes effect in the *inner-house*, that has no place in the *outer*. Only one reclaiming bill or petition can be received against an interlocutor of the court. This is established *in ten lines*, by the act of sederunt, November 26th 1718; and a similar act prohibiting more than one representation would have the happiest effect *.

Such a regulation would, it is true, affect the interests of many respectable members of court. To the clerks of court, it would shorten the *length of extract*; to the clerk's assistants, it would much les-

* For the information of readers in foreign parts it may be proper here to observe, that the *court of sefsion* is the supreme court for determining all *civil* causes, those respecting revenue matters alone excepted, in Scotland. It consists of a president, and fourteen ordinary members, commonly called *lords of sefsion*. For dispatch, the business that comes before this court is separated into two departments; in one of which each judge acts separately, and decides as an individual. In the other, the court acts in its corporate capacity, as a court of review of their sentences individually given.

When the judges act as individuals, they officiate in a large open hall, which is called the *outer house*, in which, as there are erected three tribunals, three judges officiate at once;—the whole court except the president taking this business in rotation. A judge officiating in this capacity is called the *lord ordinary*. From his decision an appeal lies to the court in its corporate capacity; which from its sitting in an inner chamber is called the *inner-house*. From the decisions of this last court, lies an appeal to the house of peers. *Edit.*

sen the number of *borrowings;* and above all, it would diminiſh the fees of the lord's clerks. But a suitable compensation might be made to these useful descriptions of men, by raising their other emoluments in proportion to the loſs; and thus one great source of undue delay and expence would be ſhut up.

Another prevailing grievance arises from the brocard or maxim, *quod statim liquidari potest pro jam liquido habetur.* An illiquid or unvouched counter-claim is an unfailing source of almost endleſs delays. But such a claim is so rooted in the forms and substance of our proceedings, that it might be dangerous at once to tear it up. In place of entirely rejecting such counter-claims, and decerning a defender to pay, without regard to them, (leaving him to seek relief afterwards by a counter action,) it might perhaps be more expedient, to allow him to insist upon his counter-claim in the usual way, unleſs the pursuer ſhould offer to find sufficient caution, enacted in the books of court, for payment of any sum that ſhall be decerned for in the course of any counter-action that may be brought by the defender within a limited time, for example four months. Where a pursuer is unable to find good caution, he must submit to the hardſhip of having his cause delayed. But in case he offers caution, and if the supreme court has no power to accept or enforce the offer, the object is of such importance, that an act of parliament ought to be obtained.

The delays in the bill chamber, are to be ascribed partly to claims of the above nature, and partly to other causes: but these and other causes of delay shall be the subject of future letters. I have the honour to be, *&c.* LENTULUS.

To a Young Lady on the Study of Natural History.

For the Bee.

My Dear Alathea,

I do not wonder at your being delighted with the examination, (for I will not insult you with saying the sight,) of Mr Weir's musæum, and the collection of the generous hermit of Morning-side; and I am pleased with your wishing to be directed in a course of reading and observation with respect to the charming study of nature.

With a view to fan the flame of science that has been kindled in your mind, you may begin with reading the little collection of extracts on natural history by Robert Heron, lately published. From that you may go to the passages in lord Kaims's Sketches that more particularly relate to your purpose; and you may read his art of thinking, which was written for the use of his own family.

From thence you may take in hand Mr Smellie's excellent Philosophy of Natural History; and by way of touching your subject, and practicing your French at the same time, you may read the *specta-*

cle de la nature, and such of the prefaces of Buffon, as your parents may think proper for your perusal.

As some of the *contemplations de la nature*, of Mr Bonnet, have in them nothing that is very deep or fanciful, but much that warms the mind to piety and virtue in the view of the works of the Creator of the universe, these you may read with great satisfaction and with a beneficial effect.

Having thus obtained an apprehension of the noble scope of natural history, with regard to religion and morals, you may then enter gradually into the detail of whatever branch of that immense study you shall happen decidedly to prefer. If birds attract your choice, you have Smellie's translation of Buffon's Ornithology; or you may read it with great advantage to your French excercises in the original, as the count de Buffon is not less eminent for his eloquence than his learning. The quotations or refeferences in the margin will lead you always easily to the further and more minute examination of any particular subject: as for example if you wish to enter into the detail of singing birds, or birds supposed to be of passage from one country to another, you can read Mr Barrington on these subjects, in the Philosophical Transactions of London, and Mr Pennant in his British Zoology, a book likewise which in its whole tissue will deserve your complete perusal when you have once, by means of Mr Kerr's translation of the Linnean system, made yourself fully acquaintad with the method of distinguish-

ing and recognising the different classes, kinds, and species of animals and vegetables.

If the strange habits and peculiarities of the cuckow should excite your curiosity of further knowledge, you can follow out this interesting research in a paper published in the Philosophical Transactions of London, by Mr John Hunter, and so on in every particular that may seize on your laudable curiosity in any of the numerous departments of natural history.

But in vain have learned and ingenious authors written, and uselessly does nature display her various wonders, if we ourselves learn not to explore the particulars with our own eyes, and by the help of our own acquired ingenuity and natural sagacity. Without these, we shall learn the wonders, beauties, and curious circumstances of nature, merely as school boys learn their lessons by rote, or as we acquire the rules of arithmetic without its scientific principles.

You must learn therefore, my dear Alathea, by degrees to grope a way for yourself in the delightful wilderness of nature, to lay things together properly in your mind, and to draw the results that will not only establish in your memory the principles of science, but will teach you at the same time to collect the elements of further attainment.

It is for this reason that I wish and exhort you to search and think for yourself in the contemplation of nature, *after you have got hold of the proper clues to lead you through her labyrinths*, rather than to go or be led continually in the trammels of

systems, let the intention or explanation of such systems be ever so good or correct.

No pursuit can be truly endeared to us in which we do not employ the energy of our understanding, and satisfy our curiosity by our own particular investigation and minute examination; to the want of which I impute all that listlesness and careleſsneſs in the prosecution of rational curiosity which is so notorious and so cruelly prevalent in common society; and which can only be removed by choosing some one particular branch of knowledge in which we wiſh to excel, and setting ourselves seriously and vigurously to examine every thing relating to it, that either comes in our way accidentally, or that we can by any means judiciously and properly obtain.

An attentive and inquisitive mind often derives very important instruction from appearances and events which the generality of mankind regard as trivial and insignificant.

Even the great Sir Isaac Newton, of whom the marquis *de l'Hopital*, one of the greatest mathematicians of the age in which he lived, said, *does Mr Newton eat, or drink, or sleep, like other men? I represent him to myself as a celestial genius entirely disengaged from matter;* even this wonderful man, my dear Alathea, confeſsed to his most intimate friends, what I believe to have been as authentic as it is supereminently modest and unaſsuming: "That for his own part he was sensible that whatever he had done worth notice, was owing to a patience of thought, rather than any extraordinary sa-

gacity with which he was endowed above other men. I keep, (said he,) my subject constantly before me, and wait patiently till the first dawnings open slowly by little and little into a full and clear light."

What an encouragement is here to the attentive and inquisitive mind, and how much ought we to rub up our faculties in youth that they grow not rusty.

Lord Bacon, "*that prophet of science which Newton was born to reveal,*" reprehended those who upon a weak conceit of sobriety, or ill applied moderation, thought or maintained that one can search too far or be too well studied in the book of God's word, or in the book of God's works. Rather (said he,) let men awake themselves and chearfully endeavour and pursue an endless progress and proficiency in both; only *let them beware lest they apply knowledge to pride, not to charity; to ostentation, not to use.* "That a superficial taste of learning and philosophy may perchance incline the mind to Atheism or irreligion; but a full draught thereof bringeth the soul back again to religion: "That in the entrance of philosophy in the history of nature, when the second causes most obvious to the senses offer themselves to the mind, we are apt to cleave unto them, and dwell too much upon them, so as to forget what is superior and *intelligent in nature.* But when we pass farther, and behold the dependency, continuation, and confederacy of causes, and the works of providence, then, according to the allegory of the poets, we easily believe that the highest link of nature's chain must needs be tied to the

foot of Jupiter's chair or perceive. *That philosophy, like Jacob's vision, discovers to us a ladder whose top reaches to the footstool of the throne of God.*"

Now by confining yourself, my dear Alathea, to some one favourite pursuit, as that of some branch of natural history, as you now seem disposed, you may avoid *that flimsy state of knowledge*, which is so dangerous a thing, and has been so emphatically as well as morally sung by our famous Engliſh poet of Twickenham.

As examples of the benefit to be derived from an attentive observation of appearances in nature, that at first sight might be regarded as trivial and insignificant, I ſhall mention a few for your amusement and instruction.

But before I open this little budget, I must observe that in the whole history of human science, you will find scarce any valuable discovery owing to theory or analogy, and almost every useful art or science owing to patient observation, repeated experiment, and comparison.

As a signal proof of this, reflect for a moment that Greece and Italy in their utmost glory of refinement were ignorant that water in pipes rose to its level; and from the want of this knowledge were forced to supply their cities with water by means of immense aqueducts, carried in many cases acroſs rivers and mountains at an incredible expence *.

* There are reasons to believe that they were not so totally unacquainted with the art of making water run in pipes as the ingenious

That though they were acquainted with the attractive power and polarity of iron, and the magnet or loadstone, yet they knew not of its application to the purposes of geography or navigation.

That though they were almost perfect in sculpture and engraving, they never thought of printing by types or coper plates; and though posseſsed of magnifying gems and christals for their theatres, they never thought of combining these convex gems, and christals, to form a common opera glaſs; all which must evidently be imputed to the want of that *turn for observation and experiment*, for which Europe is chiefly indebted to the two great Bacons of England, who stand among the philosophers of the world like the two great giants at Guildhall among the common council men of London!

As water descending through an inclined tube, or a tube bent in any manner, will spout up through a perpendicular apperture, nearly to the same height with the level of the water in the veſsel or reservoir from whence the tube comes, so the ancient Romans applied this principle to *jet d'eaus* in their gardens, but not to the more useful purpose of bringing water in pipes from the fountain head.

This was accompliſhed afterwards by mere plodding mechanics, and not by the students of Plato, Aristotle, or Archimedes.

To be continued.

diſsertator here insinuates. But he has probably not thought it worth while to stop to mark the exceptions. *Edit.*

HINTS RELATING TO CHIVALRY.

For the Bee.

Continued from p. 240.

The education of a knight.

HAVING said thus much on the origin and characteristics of chivalry, it may be proper now to take a view of the education which fitted the competitors for chivalry, and to mark the gradual steps by which they arrvied at that high dignity.

As soon as the person destined for knighthood was seven years of age, he was taken from the care of women, and put under the tuition of men. A masculine and robust education prepared him early for the toils of war, a profefsion the same as that of chivalry. The courts of princes, and the castles of the Barons, were always open schools, where the young nobility learned the first rudiments of that profefsion which they meant to follow.

The first place which these young people enjoyed was that of *page;* not in the sense this word has now adays, for these were of a very inferior rank. The office of the page was the ordinary service of domestics near the person of their master and mistrefs; they accompanied them to the chase, and likewise on their journies, in their visits and walks, went their mefsages, and even served them at table, and filled their cups for them to drink. The first lefson they were taught regarded chiefly *the love of God, and of the ladies;* that is to say, of religion and

gallantry. The precepts of religion left in the bottom of their breasts, a veneration for sacred things which sooner or later, totally pervaded them; the precepts of love spread, in their intercourse with the ladies, that respectful regard which so remarkably characterised them. The instructions which these young people received with regard to decency to their morals and virtue, were continually taught by the example of the ladies and knights. The generous care which these noblemen took to educate such a number of young men born in indigence, turned out to their advantage, in procuring for them faithful vaſsals. Besides this, they employed the young nobility with advantage about their own persons. The tyes which a long and continued habit of living together could not fail of forming between them, being doubly bound by gratitude and kindneſs become indiſsoluble. The children were always ready to add new favours to those of their father, while the others always ready to requit them, by the most important services, seconded all the interprises of their benefactor. They were likewise taught to respect the institution of chivalry, and to revere in the knights those virtues which had raised them to that high dignity. By this means the service they performed was ennobled in their eyes: to serve them, was to serve the whole members of chivalry. The games also, which made a part of their amusement, contributed to their instruction. The natural desire of their age of imitating every thing they saw persons of a more advanced age do, induced them to throw the quoit

and the javelin, and perform the other exercises. Thus they received a foretaste of the different kinds of tournaments, and began to form themselves to the noble exercises of equerries and knights. In short this emulation, so necessary in all ages and states, increased more and more every day, whether through an ambition of going into the service of some other knight of a higher dignity, or of a greater reputation, or through the desire of rising to the rank of equerry in the house of the lady or lord whom they served; for this was usually the last step which conducted to knighthood.

But before passing from the state of page to that of equerry, religion had introduced a ceremony, the end of which was to instruct the young men in the use they ought to make of the sword, which was then for the first time put into their hands. The young gentleman was presented at the altar by his father and mother, who each held a wax taper in their hands. The officiating priest then took from the top of the altar a sword, over which having said several blessings, he bound it to the young person's side, who from that time continued to wear it.

These courts and castles were excellent schools of courtesy, politeness, and other virtues, not only for the pages and equerries, but also for young ladies. There they were early instructed in the most essential duties they would have to perform. There they cultivated and brought to perfection, those graces and tender sentiments with which nature seems to have formed them. They, by their attention, gained the esteem of the different knights who arrived in the castle; they took off their armour at their return from tournaments, and warlike expeditions. The la-

dies destined to have for their husbands the knights who lived in the same house where they were educated, would not fail to make themselves agreeable by the care and services, and attention they paid them.

They learned to pay one day or other to their husband those services which a warrior, distinguished by valour, could expect from a tender and generous wife, and prepared the most agreeable recompence and rest from their toils. Affection inspired them with the desire of being the first to wipe away the dust and blood with which they were covered for the glory of the ladies.

In the new office of equerry, the young men, approaching by degrees nearer and nearer the person of their lord or lady, being admitted with more confidence and familiarity to their intertainments and assemblings, could still better profit by the models on which they were to form themselves. They paid more attention to gaining the favour of their masters, in seeking opportunities of pleasing strangers, and other persons of which the court was formed, and in paying to the knights and equerries of other countries their proper honours. In short, they redoubled their efforts to make themselves appear to the best advantage.

The equerries were divided into several classes, according to their employments, e. q. the equerry who attended the person of his master or mistress, which was the most honourable; the chamberlain, and several others.

Other equerries had the care of preparing the table; they carried the meat of each course, and paid an unremitting attention so that every thing might be right; they then gave the guests water to wash

themselves after the repast, and afterwards disposed every thing properly for the ball that was to follow, at which they danced with the ladies of high rank; they then served the spices, confections, wine and other things, which always concluded these intertainments.

From this service, which was only the prelude to another which required more strength, agility, and ſkill, they went to that of the stable; this consisted of the care of the horses, which could not but be a noble employment in the hands of a warlike nobility, who always fought on horseback. Able equerries broke the horses for war, and had under them younger ones whom they caused to exercise them. Other equerries kept the arms of their masters always *fit for use and burniſhed*. Whenever the master mounted, equerries hastened to aſsist him, holding his stirrup; others brought the different pieces of his armour, offensive and defensive; and all had their part of the body to arm. It was an art which demanded great attention, as the life of their master depended upon his armour being properly put on. It required a great deal of addreſs and agility to match and fit the joints of a cuiraſse, and the other pieces of armour properly; and to place and brace the helmet on the head, and to faſten the visier expertly and exactly. When the knight had mounted the great horse, and had entered on an engagement, every equerry remained behind his master, in some ſhape an idle spectator of the combat; but while he was idle in one respect, he was not so in another; and his looking on, if useful for the preservation of the master, was equally inſtructive to the servant. Every equerry was atten-

tive to all the motions of his master, to give him in case of accident. new arms to retaliate the blows he had received from his adversary, to relieve him and give him a freſh horse; while the equerry of him who had the advantage seconded by all the means which his addreſs, valour, and zeal suggested, keeping always within the bounds of the defensive, aſsisted him in making such use of his advantage, as would gain a complete victory. It was to the equerries also that the knights in the heat of the engagement, entrusted the prisoners they had made. This sight was a lively leſson of addreſs and courage, which continually ſhewed the young warrior new means of defending himself, and of making himself superior to his enemy, and gave him an opportunity of trying his valour, and of knowing whether or not he was capable of induring so great toil and labour. Thus the youth, weak and unexperienced, was not exposed to bear the fatigues of war, without having learned long before, whether his strength and abilities were sufficient for it. But the equerry did not all at once step from a peaceful service to the perils of war. The courts and castles were schools where they always continued to bring up the young men for the defence of the state. Military games had long been strengthening and preparing them for the tournaents, those images of war, kept up in courts of the barons, which were by an useful policy converted to the amusement of the knights, when their arms were engaged on no serious occasion. The presence of the ladies, who made it an amusement to aſsist at these games, animated those who wiſhed to distinguiſh themselves there.

ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF TIME.

For the Bee.

SEE how th' industrious bee doth every hour,
Still wing its airy way,
Culling the choicest sweets of May,
With anxious care from every opening flow'r.

And like the Bee we should our time employ,
For youth doth wear away;
And beauty must decay,
But wisdom's blossoms time will ne'er destroy B. B.

MOONLIGHT:

Lo! from her azure heaven the queen of night
Sheds on its dusky brow her silver light;
Whilst on the yellow shade it softly sleeps,
Her court within, an elfin spirit keeps;
Here, lull'd by murmurs of the silver stream,
May feed bright fancy on her golden dream;
Here contemplation seeks truth's hidden lore,
Or beauty's breast its tender wishes pour;
Here, may devotion wake her solemn lyre,
And mount to heav'n on rapture's wing of fire.
But should this scene, so richly dight, allure
Licentious folly from her haunts impure;
Should here revenge, that fiend without controul,
Brood o'er the sullen purpose of his soul,
Then horror-struck, the rays would quit their dell,
While the refulgent moon eclipses at their spell.

A NEW-YEAR'S WISH

ACCEPT, my dear Chloe, from Martha, thy friend,
Each wish that can friendship endear;
May the bounty of heaven propitiously send
Long health—and a happy new year—

May every enjoyment which prudence allows,
Thy life long continue to bless;
May love and esteem weave a wreath for thy brows,
And beauty be crown'd with success.

Literary Olla. No. ix.

For the Bee.

On the Character of a Gentleman.

Many years ago, on the death of a respectable country gentleman of large estate, I found myself remembered by him in his will with a small legacy for a mourning ring, and a collection of classical books; which last I particularly valued on account of many of them having slips of paper in them with judicious original remarks, not at all in the manner of an author, but in the plain unaffected manner of genteel conversation.

Among other detached little pieces I found the following remarks on the indiscriminate appellation of *Gentleman*, which from some circumstances I believe to have been written soon after the peace of Paris, when, by an immense and sudden influx of wealth, gentlemen, *properly so called*, were thrown a good deal, and somewhat disagreeably, into the back ground of opulent society.

It is so genuine a transcript of character, and so descriptive of the feelings attending a new æra in Britain, that I thought it would be a delicate morsel for the Bee.

Go then busy Bee! Go, and carry it on your thighs to the uttermost limits of the rational world. Go, and tell every choice spirit on your course that there is a little spot of earth not far from the frozen regions of the pole, where yahoos begin to learn, not only not to say the thing that is not; but boldly to say the thing that is. And give them, oh! give them to hope, that the time may come when it shall not be the only deliberation of the

virtuous Houynhnms whether it would not be better that they were exterminated from the face of the Globe.

Nam propriæ Telluris herum natura neque illum, nec me, nec quemquam natuit.

" In this active and busy age, where every one is expected to act a part, there is a clafs of men who formerly ad great sway in the direction of public affairs, but seem now to be fallen into general contempt, and appear fitted only to minister to the avarice and luxury of those whom heretofore they looked upon as greatly their inferiors.

" It will readily be perceived that the land proprietors are those I mean to treat of. To these and their unoccupied descendents, the epithet of *gentleman* was formerly only applied; now-a-days we have not only gentlemen of the law, of physic, of divinity, and trade, (whose profefsions seem to be entitled to it,) but the appellation is surely abused and prostituted when applied to some lower orders; and evidently so, when bestowed upon an impudent varlet out of livery, who forsooth is dignified with the appellation of gentleman, though perhaps it is bestowed with great impropriety even upon his master.

" Though the profefsion of divinity is most honourable and respectable, when the profefsors of it behave in a suitable and becoming manner, yet it does not appear to me that they ought to affect the appellation of gentlemen The idea of the sphere they act in, impreſses one with the notion of some characteristic epithet, leſs worldly, and more suitable to their profefsion; and surely those who affect it, as conceiving it attached to theirprofefsion, though of low birth, and illiberal education, most certainly disgrace it, and bring themselves into contempt, by which

means the profession itself is liable to suffer though undeservedly.

"Though I have described the land proprietor as unoccupied, yet I would not be understood to mean that he should be so: far from it; every man in his station ought to be employed; and it is encumbent upon him to act in his sphere, for the good of society. The question is how a mere country gentleman can employ himself properly? To be sure very many do not, but on the contrary misspend their time, and waste their fortunes, in frivolous, and often in vicious pursuits. But *are there no innocent amusements, no rational occupations to be found in a country life?* Are these confined to courts and great cities only, where there is a constant bustle and struggle to get wealth and power, and then as constant a vying with each other, how to dissipate and waste, what indeed, has often been acquired by unwarrantable means.

"Have rational creatures, or as the king of Prussia defines them, rather *reasoning animals*, nothing else to do here, but to amass wealth, for their profligate giddy heirs to throw away?

"But who then is the gentleman properly to be called so? The foundation of gentility no doubt, is to be allowed to consist in a great measure in wealth, and contentment. If a moderate estate has been transmitted by ancestors who could say they came fairly and honestly by it, and looking round them, could see much greater opulence without envy, because they beheld much greater numbers in a far inferior situation, and so could say it is enough, and more perhaps, than falls to my share, if every one had his due, therefore I will spare as I ought to some who deserve, but who have been denied the gifts of fortune; more has been bestowed upon me, than upon many others of superior merit and endowments, so I con-

clude that there is a trust reposed in me, to bestow part upon others who stand in need of my assistance. *Generosity seems to be the main characteristic of a gentleman*, and generous in the old Roman language corresponds to what we mean by that term.

I would not be understood to mean however that the person who has had a competent estate transmitted to him, is in all events to rest satisfied with it, and never attempt to rise to a superior degree of rank and wealth. By no means: let every man try his talents and abilities, and if he continues to carry true gentility along with him, the more wealth he acquires, the more influence he has in the management of public affairs, or in the distribution of justice &c. the more his friends and country will feel the happy effects of his generous and disinterested behaviour in whatever sphere he acts. But many persons of good fortunes, and not destitute of merit, have not talents for higher stations: it is well it is so, otherwise there would be too many candidates for high offices; and it would be well if those who aspire to them, would first well weigh and consider their abilities before they did attempt to aspire to them.

But are inferior talents, and those who are willing to submit to be governed, to be quite despised and neglected? I imagine that no state can ever have the happiness of good and able rulers, unless a sufficient number of those who are to be governed, can make it appear that they deserve to be justly and well governed: a such there are, it is to be hoped, in this country especially, and yet it is to be lamented how few know how to assert the privilege of their birthright upon proper occasions; hence the abuse of power in those who take the lead, and of clamour by those of inferior ranks against things that are at least indifferent: while measures of a real destructive tendency are overlooked.

HINTS ON DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

From an old Tradesman to Young Ones.

Letter II.

Gentlemen, I took the liberty to addreſs you on the score of punctuality, the neceſsity of which, to give you proper eſtabliſhment in trade, none of you will I hope doubt; for if you in one instance allow yourselves to grow remiſs in this reſpect, you will seldom be able to regain the character you have lost. Men in trade have much confidence in each other, though without that implicit trust which subsists only among intimate friends; for with all their confidence, they are not without a proper degree of timidity and suspicion. To be suspected is very mortifying; but to be justly suspected, you will find to be still more disagreeable. After you have deceived a man once, which is by no means difficult, you will not find it easy to deceive him a second time. When you have deceived a man you are connected with, although in a very inconsiderable matter, you alarm his jealousy, and from that moment make him watchful, cautious, and sullen towards you.

I believe there is no occupation, profeſsion, or calling, followed by men, in which we find more instances of mutual confidence and real friendſhip than among traders. I have seen and known by information much of this, and I can say with confidence, that no young tradesman who pursues the system of probity and punctuality, will fail of meeting with public and private aſsistance and encouragement.

But to come to the second subject of my advice to you, which is this, "Learn to see the proper value of money.

To acquire money, and live comfortably, is the first and most natural wish of all young tradesmen; for this plain reason, that there is no living comfortably without money. But it unfortunately happens, that many do not know what they themselves desire. To live comfortably is an easy matter. A little money will suffice for this purpose; but many understand comfortably to mean luxuriously or splendidly. The moment they affix this meaning to the word comfortably, their good principles receive a shock, and we find them deviating by little and little from the generosity of their character. The first thing a man does who is ambitious of great wealth, is to launch out into more businesses than one. One business, however has generally been found sufficient for one man; of more he must have but a superficial knowledge, and lays himself open to deceit and disappointment. Dissatisfied men seldom succeed in any thing. They are not contented with the fair profits of trade, and consequently will form secret fraudulent schemes for increasing those profits; schemes which perhaps may, in some cases, never be detected, but more frequently are detected to the shame, confusion, and ruin of the unhappy contriver.

Be always then content with small profits of your trade. Do not fix your eyes too eagerly on the great fortunes which have been made in London. There is nothing, it is true, in your case different from that of those men, when they were like you young and not provided for. But you are to consider, that you may perhaps be of a business in which few fortunes ever were made. Such trades we know there are; and if you know this to be the case, you will be the less anxious to amass more money than your business can bring. Nor, when you look at men who have risen to great fortunes, are you always to suppose that they have acquired such fortunes by the most creditable means.

This, alas! is not always the case. It is no reproach for an honest, industrious, and wealthy man, to be told that he was once a footman; but some of nearly this description, who have amassed riches, had better continued footmen still. In a word, esteem no man for his wealth, unless you know that that wealth has been acquired in the smooth way of fair profit, honour, and punctuality; and is so used as to add dignity to the possessor. To gain riches honourably, and employ them usefully, is a great merit. Merely to possess riches, and to pride yourself on them, is the most disgraceful instance of meanness.

Learn then, I say, the proper value of money. It will make you happy while you use it well; and a very little will be requisite for the purpose even of elegant life; much less than you imagine, unless you think it necessary to become the ape of men of fashion and extravagance. But perhaps I wrong many of you, in supposing that you would become imitators of those whose example is the bane of society; or that you would ever desire to have more wealth than could be accounted for on principles of the strictest honour and generosity.

In the following pages, I mean to dilate more fully on the subject of luxury as applicable to young tradesmen.

To be continued.

ACCOUNT OF THE BREED OF CARNWATH HORSES, FROM MR URE'S HISTORY OF RUTHERGLEN AND KILBRIDE.

"THE horses are mostly for the draught, and are deservedly esteemed the best, for that purpose, in Europe. They are generally of the Lanark and Carnwath breed, which was introduced into the county more than a cen-

tury ago. It is said, that one of the predeceſsors of the present duke of Hamilton, brought with him to Scotland six coach horses, originally from Flanders, and sent them to Strathaven, the castle of which was, at that time, habitable. The horses were all stallions, of a black colour, and remarkably handsome. The farmers in the neighbourhood, readily embracing the favourable opportunity, croſsed this foreign breed with the common Scotch kind, and thereby procured a breed superior to either. From this, a strong and hardy race of horses was soon spread through the country, but in many places, owing to neglect, was left to degenerate. By want of proper attention, we often let slip the most favourable opportunities of improvement, and suffer unmanly indolence to deprive us of many bleſsings we might otherwise enjoy. A high degree of merit, however, is due to the farmers in the upper part of the county, for their unremitting endeavours to improve this excellent breed. They pay strict attention to every circumstance respecting the colour, the softneſs and hardneſs of the hair; length of the body, neck, and legs; but chiefly to the ſhape of the back, breast, and ſhoulders of their breeders. No inducement whatever can lead them to encourage the breed of a horse that is not poſseſsed of the best qualities. Providence commonly favours the attentive and the diligent. Their laudable attempts have proved to be succeſsful; and Britain is now reaping the merited fruits of their well directed care. Every farm, almost, through the extent of several parishes, supports 6, or at least 4 mares, the half of which are allowed, annually, to foal. The colts * are mostly sold at the fairs of Lanark and Carnwath, and bring to the owners from 5l. to 20l. each. They

* The colts, when a year old, are called tomontals, a provincial contraction for twelve-month old.

are generally purchased by farmers from the counties of Renfrew and Ayr, where they are trained for the draught, till they are about five years old: they are then sold at the fairs of Rutherglen and Glasgow, from 25l. to 35l. each; from thence they are taken to the Lothians, England, &c. where they excel in the plough, the cart, and the waggon."

The latter part of this assertion is well supported by the following curious facts, extracted from the same work which exhibit proofs of a degree of exertion by this useful animal that is perhaps unequalled in any part of the world.

"The coal works carried on at Stonelaw, by Major John Spens, are of long standing. There is no account when coals were at first wrought in this place. But from the number of old wastes the period must be very remote. At present about 126 persons are employed in the works. The water is raised by a steam engine, which about 1776, was erected by Gabriel Grey, esq. of Scotstoun. The coals turned out are of different qualities, but all of them are very good. They are sold on the hill at 10d. per hutch, weighing 400 lb. but it commonly exceeds that weight; carriage to Glasgow is 4d. so that a cart load of three hutches, weighing about thirteen Cwt. is laid down in the street for 3s. 6d. But two wheeled waggons, containing six hutches, are commonly used. Some of them that lately were occasionally weighed, contained no less than twenty-six Cwt. of soft coal; which, however, is specifically heavier than hard coal. The empty waggon generally weighs about eight Cwt and an half. It is commonly two feet in depth; three and an half in breadth; and five and an half in length; the wheels are four & two thirds feet in height. The whole amounting to about thirty-four Cwt. and an half is drawn by a single horse,

which goes to Glasgow three times a-day. Glasgow is distant from Stonelaw three miles and an half. Such heavy draughts, drawn by one horse, even for a greater length of road, is not unfrequent in this country. The horses employed are of the Lanarkſhire breed." Their superior excellency, after the above-mentioned exertion of the strength, to which they are daily accuſtomed, need not be called in question.

INDEX INDICATORIUS.

"THE following is entitled, the language of experience and years, to young persons," signed a *hammer man.* It contains such a mixture of good and bad as exhibits a very unusual appearance. The hand writing and the orthography seem to indicate that it is written by a young person. If so, and if it be not purloined from some other performance, the writer ſhould get somebody to revise his pieces. It is written as printed.

> In rosy joyous youth ere yet we tread the
> Circle round of earth's vain frivlous joy; ere yet
> We felt how cozning is the scene,
> And hollow; all of pure congenial bliſs, to souls—
> How beats the gay deluded heart, how fond
> Their ardours for the glittering toy;
> In superficial glare all radiant are
> And treacherous. Man looks back on all
> The gewgaw scene and earthly pursuit with a sickning
> Loathing soul, as an illusion great and fancys dream,
> That in the barren wilds and wastes of life
> Hath driven him out to roam disconsolate,
> Far from the path of joy sincere and pure,
> And now in disappointment dire they roam.

Two other verses, or stanzas, or what you please to call them, of the same kind follow, which are here omitted.

A *Silly Leither* gives a very strong representation of the inconveniences to which the traders are subjected by the board of customs. He says "You will find the merchant paying duty for weight that the purchaser will not receive, and the inferior officer trembling lest it ſhould be too much." "No allowance (he says) is there given for the ignorance of a merchant; and when redreſs is applied for, it is a board of justice into whose gloomy mansions mercy dare not enter." And so on.

Vague language of this sort can never tend to any good purpose. If grievances of the kind here alleged did prevail to the extent insinuated, doubtless they would have been complained of in another manner. In the execution of an extensive business, where many men of different talents and dispositions of mind must be invested with power to a certain extent, it is impossible to prevent abuses of every sort; but wherever they do prevail so generally as to become a matter of serious evil, a distinct specific representation of facts that can be fully authenticated by evidence, without exaggeration or declamatory insinuations, will always be so much attended to in this nation, when brought forward by such a body of respectable men as shall show that the evil is generally felt, will of necessity command so much attention as to cause any board in the nation correct their errors; but ill founded clamours, arising from accidental disappointments by sanguine men, ought ever to be discouraged by the judicious, because it tends to diminish the weight of sober serious representations whenever they shall become necessary. This correspondent (and probably many others) seems to have imagined that because the Editor of this miscellany has pointed out some evils in the executive department of this country, which he thinks ought to be corrected, as retarding the prosperity and diminishing the energy of the nation, that therefore he will be disposed to lend a willing ear to every groundless clamour that may be raised against the servants of the state. This however, is far from being the case: for in every instance he will, with equal firmness, support them when right, as oppose them when wrong. It is by this conduct alone he can ever hope to claim the attention of the public; and whenever he shall be found to depart from it he will then say he deserves to be disregarded.

To Correspondents.

The anonymus essay on the effects of heat and light on some of the important functions in the vegetable economy is received, and will appear as soon as conveniency will permit.

Linnæus's method of cutting the sheets of swine, as transmitted by a correspondent in Sweden, is thankfully received, and shall be brought forward as soon as an engraving can be got finished.

Philocles will please be informed that the delay of which he complains has been in some measure unavoidable; far from intentional, of which he would be satisfied were this a place for explanation. The Editor hopes soon to be able to gratify his benevolent wishes.

The remaining notes to correspondents deferred till our next.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGNCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28. 1793.

ON THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SHEEP IN A WILD AND DOMESTIC STATE, REARED IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE, AND BY THE PASTORAL NATIONS FROM THE FRONTIERS OF EUROPE TO THOSE OF CHINA.

Continued from p. 248.

The Fourth variety.

The Boucharian sheep.

THIS variety, raised by the Boucharian Tartars, and Persians in great numbers, Dr Pallas regards as a mixed breed, from the union of his first and third varieties, *viz.* the long, and fat tailed sheep.

This fact, the particular configuration of the *tail* seems to indicate, as it is made up of those of its two parents; (see the article uropygium below.)

The sheep of this variety which the doctor saw in his travels were only two years old, and of course not at their full growth, but he thinks they could never attain the size of either of their parents, the *dolichura* and *steatopyga*, or even become much lar-

ger than the common Rusian sheep, or *brachiura*, of our author.

Head is like that of the Kirguise, but the muzzle is sharper, resembling the Indian sheep of Buffon, (vol. 23d plate 3d. f. 36.)

Body, rather smaller than that of the Kirguise sheep.

Ears large and pendant.

Uropygium. They have a small one like that of the Tartar sheep on the Jenisy, especially when begotten by a Kirguise ram, but in general they have a

Tail, fat and broad at the base, with a long narrow appendage; this last addition resembling the tail of the Tscherkessian sheep.

Grown sheep.

Wool compact and thick in the grown sheep, soft, elastic, and elegantly formed into frizzled circles.

Lambs.

In the lamb it is formed into delicate little circular waves, as if pressed close to the skin by art, but when taken from the mother, or killed immediately after birth, they are still more beautiful, and often elegantly marbled, with feathered waves like silk damask.

These three furs are the finest and most precious of the kind known to Europe and the east; they are brought to us by the Boucharian Tartars and Persians, who sell them dear. The most prized are the *blue*, the black, and the silver grey; but of the *unborn lamb skins*, as the fine glossy thin furs are called, which so much resemble silk da-

mask, the fine black is dearest and most esteemed.

To obtain these valuable furs, the Boucharian Tartars purchase whole flocks of male lambs *, just dropped from their mothers; as to kill a female till past the age of breeding, is held as a kind of crime by all the Tartar hordes; such is their reverence for an animal which constitutes their greatest riches, and the propagation and care of which is the great business of their lives; so that all the furs we see of this species sold by the Tartars, are from young rams †.

* The circumstance of the Bouchatians purchasing whole flocks of lambs accounts for the doctor's having not seen any full grown sheep of the Boucharian variety, and for their being all about the same age, viz. two years; that appeared an extraordinary case to the author of the paper, who forgot to demand an explanation from Dr Pallas. *Areticus.*

† There is a peculiarity respecting these sheep that deserves to be taken notice of here; *viz.* the singular beauty of the furs of the new dropped lambs; which affords a clear proof that the wool is quite free from hair; for it is observable among the sheep of Britain, that when any hair is among the wool, that shows itself at the birth of the lamb; as it is then more fully grown than the wool, and makes the fleece of an unsightly shagged appearance.

Every particular in the description of these sheep seems to indicate, that they are a breed essentially distinct from any of those reared in Europe; and that the fleece is of a nature totally different from theirs in some very important particulars. The most universal quality of European wool is that it is crisped or frizzed, somewhat of the nature of negroes hair. Even the kinds of wool that we distinguish by the term *lank*, and which sometimes hang in locks, is in no case free of that kind of crispiness. From the glossy silky like appearance of these furs, it would seem that this peculiarity is

The Boucharians are of opinion that art is necessary to preserve these furs in their greatest beauty, and in that idea keep the lambs under shades, &c during the meridian ardour of the sun; but Dr Pallas has reason to think that these precautions are useless, as he observed that the same variety of sheep produced the same fine furs, equal in every respect, without any sort of care, in the hands of the Kirguise Tartars.

He therefore imagines that it would be well worth the attention of Europe, to transport this breed of sheep, and make experiments on the valuable fur they yield which might probably be much meliorated by the skill of the expert and industrious Europeans.

He follow the reasons for the doctor's supposition, that the Boucharian variety are descended from

there totally wanting. Calves, and other animals of this country bearing hair, are found in the uterus, when the mother is killed during an advanced state of pregnancy, covered with short glossy hair, that lies close to the skin, and is much more beautiful than that of the same animal after birth. This seems to be much the case with these lamb's skins. On the whole, it seems to be a valuable breed of sheep totally unknown in Europe, which if better known might perhapsprove highly advantageous in agriculture and arts: but we are as yet too little acquainted with it to be able to say in what respects it could be most beneficially employed. It is therefore a fit object of experiment.

There are many difficulties occur respecting the idea of this being a mixture between the fat rumped and long tailed sheep; especially if the hairy fleece, and clotted fur be admitted as invariable characteristics of the fat rumped sheep; for nothing of that sort appears in this breed. The fur indeed seems to be finer than that of the Tscherkessian sheep itself. This subject shall be resumed at an after period. *Edit.*

a mixture of the long and fat tailed ſheep, whose wool is meliorated by the climate; they are principally drawn from the figure and compoſition of the *tail* (as described in page, 306) and the great reſemblance between them and the mixed race the doctor ſaw in Siberia, as mentioned in his ſecond variety, produced by croſsing the *fat*, with the *ſhort* tailled or Ruſsian ſheep; and with another breed of mixed ſheep he met with among the Krasnojark Tartars.

The ſame variety which makes the ſubject of this article, is likewiſe raiſed in great numbers by the Perſians, and it is more than probable if we are to give credit to authors ancient and modern, that this very variety obtains in Syria, Paleſtine, and divers countries of Africa, known to them by the name of *ovis macrocereas* *.

It differs in all thoſe countries from the fat tailed or *ſteatopyga* of Pallas, in having a *long tail*, fat and broad above, with a long narrow appendage, which is exactly the great marked character of the

* The wools of Perſia and of Caſhemire, have been long eſteemed the fineſt that are brought to the European market; and for many centuries paſt, have ſold at the highest price. In the year 1719 Pierre Ricardo, in his *Traite le Negoce d'Amsterdam* ſtates the price of wools in that market as under:

Wools of Germany from 7d. to 11 d *per* pound.
Wools of Poland from 9 d. ½, to 1 s. 0 ½ *per* ditto.
Wools of Perſia or Caramania. { White from 3 s. to 3 s. 6 d. / Red —— 4s. 1d. to 4 s. 3d.
Spaniſh from 1 s. 2 d. ¾, to 3 s. 10 d. ½.

About that period the beſt Engliſh wool ſold for about 8 d. ½ *per* pound. *See Anderſon's obſervations on National Induſtry* p. 247.

Boucharian breed. Pliny tells us, that the Syrian ſheep have *long* fat tails, and carry wool; and by Ruſsell's account of them in his Natural History of Aleppo, they resemble the Kirguise ſheep in the *head*, *face*, and *ears* hanging on the cheeks; but the *tail* is that of the Boucharian, fat above with a long lean appendage: he adds, that they are covered with a soft wool, which is another trait of resemblance with our present variety; and that they weigh sometimes an hundred and fifty pounds, one third of which is the weight of the *tail*. Gesner, in his work on quadrupeds, tells us that the Arab ſheep of Kay, have nearly the same characteristic marks, especially with regard to the *tail*.

Shaw relates in his travels, that ſheep with such a compound tail, are common in Mauritania, and in all the east. Whilst Kolbe aſsures us, that the ſheep which are brought on board the ſhips at the Cape of Good Hope, have tails weighing twenty-five or thirty pounds, fat above, with a bony appendage hanging from it; and lastly the abbé Demanent, in his new history of Africa, mentioned in a former article, says that ſheep are found in Africa covered with *wool*, and with such a tail as we have been describing; whilst at Cape Guarda in the south of Africa, all the ſheep are white, with rather small black heads, otherways a large handsome breed *with broad fat tails, six or eight inches long*.

The doctor however does not entirely close his proofs here, for he quotes several paſsages from Moses in confirmation of what he has advanced, viz. *that the Boucharian ſheep obtain in Syria, Palestine,*

and divers countries of Africa: but as I find that in our translation of the Bible, the ſheep mentioned by Moses, are rather the fat rumped than the Boucharian, I have contented myself with giving merely his references, without making any extracts from Holy Writ, that the curious may consult the original Hebrew ; they are :

Moses book third, chapter eight, verse twenty-fifth ;—and chapter ninth, verse nineteenth.

But it is probable the doctor took his quotations from either the Latin or German versions.

Explanation of the Plates Of theRu ſsian ſheep.

Plate first is an accurate view from a coloured drawing done by Dr Pallas's draughtsman under his eye, of the Siberian argali or wild ſheep.

Plate second, is a side, and back view ; letters A *a* of the ram of the *steatopyga* or fat rumped variety in its greatest purity of breed, as obtaining among the Kirguise Tartars in the vast plains of Southern Tartary ; the position of the animal marked with *a* ſhows the *uropygium* or fat rump.

Letter *b* is a representation of the head of the same animal, with a couple of *noneola* hanging from the neck, called by the Ruſsians ear-rings.

Letter C is a drawing of another Kirguise ram with five horns, ſhowing at same time the hanging position of the *ears* of this variety.

Plate third, is a drawing of a degenerate breed of the *steatopyga* variety of sheep, reared on the banks of the Jenisy and Volga, without horns, and with the *uropygium* or fat rump greatly diminished, and one *noneola*.

Letter *b* is a drawing of a ram of the same variety of sheep, from the flocks of the Jenisy Kirguise, with four horns symmetrically arranged by nature, as is frequently the case with this breed.

Plate fourth, letters *a a*, gives two different views of the horn of the *ægagrus* or wild goat, found by Pallas on the mountains of Caucasus and Tauri.

Letter *b* represents one of the horns of the Siberian ibex, an animal resembling the goat on a superficial view, but differing widely on nearer inspection.

The account of the OVIS TAURICA, *and concluding observations, will be given in a future number.*

TO A YOUNG LADY ON THE STUDY OF NATURAL HISTORY.

For the Bee.

Continued from p. 286. *and concluded.*

MY DEAR ALATHEA,

IN swimming highly polished needles that had been accidentally touched by the magnet on a bason of water, it is believed the polarity of the needle was

first thought of being applied to navigation by placing it on a pivot *.

The art of printing, *that choice bleſsing to society*, was discovered by a goldsmith's ſhopman, trying experiments with stamping with ſhoe black, on wet paper from some of his master's puncheons. The weather glaſs was discovered by Torricelli, in trying various experiments with quicksilver, and paying constant attention to the proceſses and results.

So dull and fooliſh do we become by inattention, or by always digging towards the bottom of a pit in search of truth, when it is to be found on the surface, that it is not even a long time since we considered that the only way to prevent interference of paſsengers, horsemen, or carriages, on a road, is for each to keep the right hand side of the road.

You have frequently remarked, and perhaps admired, the volubility and lustre of the little globules of rain, that lie upon the leaves of kail or colewort, and of other vegetables; but I dare say

* When a highly poliſhed needle is made to swim on water, it does not touch the water, but forms around it, by a repulsive power, a bed whose concavity is much larger than the bulk of the needle. This affords a much better explanation of the fact than the common one deduced from the tenacity of the water: for the needle swimming upon a fluid much lighter than itself, must needs displace a quantity of water equal to its own specific gravity; and the repulsive power on the surface occasions the singular circumstance. This instance leads us to a just and neceſsary precision in the hydrostatical law, "That the whole swimming body is equal in weight to a quantity of the fluid whose bulk is equal to that of the part immersed. For it ſhould be expreſsed, "That the weight of the swimming body is equal to the weight of the quantity of the fluid displaced by it.

you have never taken the trouble of inspecting them narrowly.

Mr Melville, a young Scotchman of uncommon genius *, was struck with the appearance, and applied his attention to the investigation of it.

He discovered that the lustre of the drop is owing to its copious reflection of light, from the flattened part of its surface, contiguous to the plant; and that when the drop rolls over a part which has been wetted, it instantly loses all its brightneſs, the green leaf being seen through it.

From these two observations he concluded, that the drop does not really *touch* the plant, whilst it retains its quicksilver like appearance, but is suspended by the force of a repulsive power.

For there could not be any copious reflection of white light, from its under surface, unleſs there was a real interval between it and the plant. And if no contact be supposed, it is easy to account for the wonderful volubility of the drop, and why no traces of moisture are left wherever it rolls.

Now this, my dear Alathea, explains how the finely poliſhed needle I formerly mentioned is made to swim upon water without touching it; and how such a trivial circumstance ſhould have led to one of the most important improvements in the world.

When the late Sir John Pringle and Dr Benjamin Franklin were travelling together in Holland, they remarked that the *track schuyt* or barge in one of

* Author of some most ingenious tracts, who deserves to be mentioned in a Biographia Scotica.

the stages moved slower than usual, and inquired the reason of it.

The boatman informed them, that it had been a dry season, and that the water was low in the canal. Upon this he was aſked if the water was so low that the boat touched the muddy bottom of the canal? to which he answered in the negative, adding, (however,)that the difference in the quantity of water was sufficient to render the draught more difficult to the horse. Dr Franklin struck with this circumstance, and imputing it to the increased resistance of the under keel-water by the small room left for its being displaced by the volume of the boat, ascertained by many well concerted experiments, that if four men or horses be required to draw a boat in deep water, four leagues in four hours, five will be neceſsary to draw the boat the same distance in the same time in ſhallow water; a discovery of high importance in the construction of navigable canals, *owing to the judicious curiosity of a traveller.* One instance more I will give you before I put a final close to this unmerciful letter.

A playful boy, whose buſineſs it was to open and close alternately the communication in a steam, or what is commonly called a fire engine, between the boiler and the cylinder, discovered that this trouble might be easily saved. Whenever therefore he wiſhed to be at liberty to divert himself with his companions, he tied a string from the handle of the valve which formed a communication to the other part of the machine that was in motion; and the valve then performed its office without

afsistance. The boy's idleneſs being remarked, his contrivance soon became known; and the improvement is now adopted in every fire engine, whilst the origin of the discovery is known but to a few.

If such consequences can arise, my dear Alathea, from a little whetting of curiosity and ingenuity, how much pleasure and satisfaction may you not have in employing your leisure in rational inquiries *proper for your sex?* and I know of none more so than the study of natural history; particularly if you ſhall confine your ambition to some one department that is commodiously within your reach.

Birds, insects, and plants, seem to be your choice; and among them you may have ample scope. As you are so much in the country, and in a sandy soil, what would you think of inquiring whether the house swallow or martin is often discovered in the cutting of the banks, or in the draining of ponds? Try if you can learn to descry little birds that are supposed to be of paſsage, among the furze and brakes in winter. You know what an eye can be acquired by game keepers to find a hare sitting upon ploughed land, *invisible to all common and unaccustomed eyes.* By this perhaps you may have the honour to solve problems that have puzzled all the naturalists in Europe.

I see you are particularly fond of the little songsters of the groves; and so, as I sent you formerly the song of the ſky lark, and of the nightingale, I

send you now by way of douceur, a little elegy by a wood lark of the Tweed *, to the cooing wild doves.

RONDEAU.

I.

Ah! how divine to hear my Tueda flow,
With tinkling eddies as it pours along,
While love dispels my inly thrilling woe;
And yon red rocks re-echo to my song.
Happy! happy! happy! doves,
Long may ye bruick your secret nest;
Long undisturb'd enjoy your loves;
They truly love that are in secret blest.

II.

Ah how devine to quaff the balmy gale;
And chaunt reposing on the hov'ring wing,
Then o'er the clust'ring bush to sail,
Fix on the spray and dainty seeds to fling.
Happy! happy! happy! doves,
Long may ye bruick your secret nest,
Long undisturb'd enjoy your love;
They truly love that are in secret blest.

III.

Last night I heard a little tit-lark say,
That all the wood was now belaid with snares,
That owls and bats were ever in the way,
And soon the groves would be beset with cares.
Happy! happy! happy! doves,
Long may ye bruick your secret nest,
Long undisturb'd enjoy your loves;
They truly love that are in secret blest.

Ah how divine to hear my Tueda flow,
With tinkling eddies as it pours along,
While love dispels my inly thrilling woe,
And yon red rocks re-echo to my song.

Farewell my dear Alathea! Listen to the melody of the groves, study natural history and be happy!

* In these lines the mellow notes and round of the wood lark's song is attempted to be imitated.

HINTS RELATING TO CHIVALRY.

For the Bee.

The education of a knight.

Continued from p. 292.

THE young men followed the armies in time of war; and in time of peace went journeys, and carried meſsages to foreign courts, in order to acquire a greater knowledge of arms and tournaments, and to be acquainted with the manners of other nations. At one time they became archers, at another, equerries, serving in the kitchen and at the table; then they became warriors, and served their apprenticeſhip (if I may be allowed the expreſsion) to chivalry, eight or ten years before receiving it. They again employed this time in performing tournaments, making war, and visiting foreign countries wherever honour, arms, and the ladies were in most repute. The end of these journeys was to improve and instruct themselves in the exercises then in vogue at the different courts, and to learn new methods of defence. They did not study them superficially, but remarked every thing with scrupulous attention.

The evening before the tournament was solemnised by games that were called eſsays or proofs; in which the most expert equerries contended against one another with arms lighter and more easily managed than those of the knights; more brittle, and

leſs dangerous to those who ſhould be wounded. This was the prelude to the grand tournament, in which the most active knights were to tilt before an immense crowd of spectators. Those equerries who signalized themselves most in the first tournament, and who had carried off the prize, sometimes obtained the honour of contending in the second with the more illustrious knights, receiving at the same time the order of knighthood; for this was one of the steps by which the equerries ascended this temple of honour. This was the most effectual reward which could be offered on important and dangerous occasions, to redouble the courage of the combatants. The age of twenty-one was the time at which young men, after so many proofs of their courage and tryal of their ſkill, could be admitted into the order of chivalry; but this rule was not always observed.

Ceremonies on the creation of a knight.

It will be neceſsary for us now to inquire what were the ceremonies instituted for the creation of a knight. Austere fasts, nights spent in prayer with a priest and their relations in the public churches or in private chapels; the sacrament of penitence and the eucharist received with devotion; bread, which signified the purity neceſsary to the state of chivalry; white garments, which marked the same purity; a sincere confeſsion of all the faults of their lives; a serious attention paid to sermons explaining the principal articles of the faith, and of Christian duty, were the preliminaries of the ceremony by which the novice was to be invested with the word of chivalry. After performing these duties, he en-

tered into the church, and advanced to the altar with his sword hanging from his neck. He presented it to the officiating priest, who blefsed it, and again put it on the neck of the young man, who went with his hands clasped, and placed himself on his knees at the feet of the person who was to invest him with the order. The knight then asked him with what intention he wifhed to enter into the order; and having received his oath that his views tended only to the maintainance of religion and chivalry, agreed to fulfil his desire. Immediately the young man was clothed by the knights, and sometimes by the ladies, with all the exterior marks of chivalry. He was armed in the following order: they first put on his spurs, beginning with the left; after that his coat of mail, his cuirafse, and his gauntlets; then his sword: being thus armed he remained on his knees. The knight then rising from his throne, gave the young man three strokes with his naked sword on his fhoulder, pronouncing at the same time, these or the like words: "In the name of God, and St Michael, and St George, I make you a knight." A helmet, buckler, and lance were then given him; after that he mounted a horse and rode round brandifhing his sword in order to display his new dignity and addrefs. In speaking of these ceremonies, I wifhed to fhew what was the idea of the duty of a knight, and what means were employed to make them feel the extent and purity of their engagements, which they could not violate without perjury and sacrilege.

Independently of the protection of religion, the young man, by the laws of chivalry was required, under the penalty of infamy, to protect widows, orphans, and all those who groaned under oppreſsion. They were obliged not only to give them the aſsistance of their arm, but even to sacrifice their life in their cause. The ladies, without arms to maintain poſseſsion of their fortunes, denied the means of proving their innocence when attacked, would have often seen their fortune and their lands become the prey of an unjust and powerful neighbour, or their reputation yield to the rude attacks of calumny, had not some generous knight been always ready to take arms in their defence*. Chivalry, as was formerly mentioned, naturally arose from the state of society in the middle ages, when the earth was overwhelmed with rapine and murder. Generous persons, therefore, entered into an aſsociation together, to protect the weak from the hand of the oppreſsor. Such was the origin of chivalry, which like some mighty river, at first small and insignificant, rising among rude rocks and barren deserts, by the rapidity of its course, the depth of its current, the extent of the country it adorns, and the cities and palaces it waters, is rendered more remarkable and worthy of attention.

There being little or no security to be had, so many reſtleſs spirits, and the claſhing views and interests of a neighbouring, numerous, and independent nobility, the military discipline of

* Memoirs sur l'anciene chevalerie; par M. de la Curne de St Palaye.

their followers, even in the intervals of peace, was not to be relaxed, nor their ardor suffered to grow cool by a total disuse of martial exercises: hence the origin of Tournaments, those images of war, which were kept up in the castles of the barons; and, by an useful policy, converted into the amusement of the knights, when their arms were employed on no serious occasion*.

The singular institution of chivalry, in which valour, galantry, and religion, were so strangely blended, was wonderfully adapted to the taste and genius of martial nobles; and its beneficial effects were soon visible in their manners. War was carried on with less ferocity, when humanity no less than courage, came to be deemed the ornament of knighthood. More gentle and polished manners were introduced, when courtesy was represented as the most amiable of knightly virtues. Violence and oppression decreased, when it was reckoned meritorious to check and to punish them. A scrupulous adherence to truth, with the most religious attention to fulfil every engagement, became the distinguishing characteristic of a gentleman; because chivalry was regarded as the school of honour, and inculcated the most delicate sensibility with regard to these points. The admiration of these qualities, together with the high distinctions and prerogatives conferred on knighthood in every part of Europe, inspired persons of noble birth on some occasions with a species of military fanaticism, and led them

* Let. on chiv.

to extravagant enterprises. But they deeply imprinted on their mind, the principles of generosity and honour. These were strengthened by every thing that can affect the senses or touch the heart. The wild exploits of those romantic knights who sallied forth in quest of adventures, are well known; and have been treated with proper ridicule: The political and permanent effects of the spirit of chivalry have been less observed. Perhaps the humanity which accompanies all the operations of war, the refinements of gallantry, and the point of honour, the three chief circumstances which distinguish modern from ancient manners, may be ascribed in a great manner to this institution, which has appeared whimsical to superficial observers; but by its effects has proved of great benefit to mankind. The sentiments which chivalry inspired, had a wonderful influence on the manners and conduct of men during the twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries. They were so deeply rooted that they continued to operate after the vigour and reputation of the institution itself began to decline. For some considerable transactions of later ages, resemble the adventurous exploits of chivalry, rather than the well regulated operations of sound policy *.

M. C.

* Robertson's Charles v, vol i. pp. 84, 85.

To the Editor of the Bee.

MR EDITOR,

AN answer to the humorous sea letter of last year, having this year, fallen into my hands, I send it with the more pleasure, as you seemed so content with the former; and as I really think the nautical stile of Charles Chokablock, by no means disgraces that of his messmate Mat Marlinspike. I must own at the same time that I am individually happy to find a remnant of the maritime pleasantry of Smollet's sea characters still remaining in the British navy, as I see no harm in keeping up a little of that marked character and language, which formerly distinguished the generous and humorous British tar, from his more *worldly* brethren ashore. One thing I perfectly remember, that they fought as well *then*, as they have ever done since; and I shall never forget the shrewd remark of a distinguished British admiral (who I hope is well, and will read this,) on a tour in Russia, before the breaking out of the American war. On my asking how he was *pleased* with the French marine, which he had just been visiting in their ports: he replied, shaking his head, "not at all; for I found the officers *in trousers*, with their *hats on their heads:* no good news for Britain. I wish they do not change characters with us in time."

Now, Mr Editor, the opinion of such a man, (who I am convinced will give the people he com-

mented on a good drubbing this war, if they fall in his way,) emboldens me to forward Chokablock's letter; as it is in the language of the old school, of which he is an *eleve*, and which falls so much in with the old fashioned ideas and *lights* of your correspondent

Imperial corps of Noble Cadets in St Petersburgh, May the 12th 1793. ARCTICUS.

CHOKABLOCK'S LETTER.

From the drum head of the capston of the Trimmer in Cronstadt Mold.

AVAST brother shipmate, avast running your rig on an old sailor; and pray belay all the rigmarol stories about prancing Peter's, and dancing Jacky Dobros; for I have been at sea from the height of our joly boat, and never met in my born days, half your adventures on a land cruise. Zounds Mat, your deviliſh fine story about Mechanſky* moorings, mother Bumboats, and God knows what, has set all the ſhips company a-gog, to get under way for town, with or without leave; and I believe we ſhant get them to do another days work, till they have overhauled all your Peterſburgh rounds.

However, to ſhow that adventures are to be met with in Cronſtadt, as well as Peterſburgh, at least of the *limbo kind*, I ſhall tip you a ſpell from our log book ſince your departure from the ſhip, that will

* The Mechanſky is the Covent Garden of Peterſburgh.

match the foundering and careening of Will Gaskin, or even honest Jack's running down the Czarina's palace officer.

Trimmer's log book, June 6th 1791, *second watch.*

Letter received from the boatswains-mate on ſhore with six hands on leave:—dated Cronstadt guard house, ten o'clock A. M. wind at S. W. with squalls.

"May our ſhip miſs stays on a lee ſhore, if ever I was so bambouzled and palavered with outlandiſh gibberiſh since I went to sea, as in this plaguy Ruſsian bilbo, into which I have got, for the puniſhment of my own sins, and those of all the ſhips crew, I verily believe. But I ſhall give you a relation of the action that brought me here.

"Last night we had been taking a cann of grog at the *new sign* of the hugging *fox* and bear, and got about half seas over, when in came Catim the boatswain, grinning like the ſhips head, to pipe all hands on board; and we only wet his whistle before we got underway, and made right for the ſhip; at least as streight as could be expected, considering that some of us rather made bad weather of it, and rolled gunnel in as we went.

Old Binacle the quarter master, kept *conning* us all the way, with "steady as you go boys," and now and then a "thus, thus, no nearer," when we were rather steering wide, and bruſhing the lamp posts on either side; however we were setting every rag to get on board, and coming on chearily in spite of a little lee-way, when as the devil

would have it, a flaming Ruſsian captain of a man of war, came right down upon us from the guard house, carrying a scarlet awning* over his head, which made us all stare again, and scattered the whole squadron, to give him sea room. Some of us threw up in the wind, to look at him; others bore away, and whilst I was clapping hard a-port, to give him a good birth, I unfortunately ran foul of a sentry box, and overset it. The lubberly soldier made such a bawling in his tub, that the whole guard turned out, and took me, after a smart chase, just as I was weathering an unlucky apple stall that was moored right in the road; but had not I had such a heavy head sea against me, the clumsy land lubbers, ſhould not have come up with me so fast.

"Would you believe meſsmate, that instead of taking me in tow like a fair prize, who had done nothing but capsize a sentry box, in steering clear of an iron bound captain, they put me in irons and lugged me along like a pirate, as Davy Jones will lug them one day on their long voyage.

"Pray send a hand aſhore to get me quickly out of this Muscovite limbo, and pay my ransom, or I ſhall kick the bucket with vexation in a few tides, as sure as I am a seaman and your meſsmate."

BOB RATEND *boatswain's mate.*

There is a spell of slack jaw for you master Marlinspike, that matches your Peterſburgh journal; and from as briſk a seaman as ever handed a top-

* A parasol.

sail in a gale of wind. The captain is gone to get him out of limbo; and we hope to see you all soon aboard again; as there seems little sea room in Ruſsia for a Britiſh tar, without running foul of a parasol captain or a fine gentleman.

That you all were swinging in your hammocks once more on board the Trimmer is the hearty wiſh of your ſhipmate

CHAS. CHOKABLOCK.

QUERIES.

To the Editor of the Bee.

I. HAS the discovery of America been useful or hurtful to man?

II. If advantages have resulted from it, what are the means to increase and secure them?

III. If it has been productive of disadvantages, what are the means to remedy them?

IV. When arose, or from whence came the custom of using pipes and tobacco at burials in the island ot Great Britain?

V. What was the motto of the ancient Roman ensign of the eagle?

VI. What is the name, nature, or cause of the curious white frothy matter resembling a spittle, so often to be met with on thistles, *&c.* and having a small insect contained in it? J. SOMERVILLE.

Answer: this is occasioned by the puncture of a small green insect to be found in the heart of the froth.

On the poisonous nature of lead. &c.

Notwithstanding the many and frequent cautions given the public, with respect to the dangerous nature of copper; I have rarely observed any precautions given concerning the poisonous nature of lead, which is to be avoided more cautiously, as its poison, though perhaps slower in its effects, may yet prove as fatal, or even more certainly so than that from the copper.

Lead enters into various compositions, and forms many of the utensils in common use; and in this country the health of its inhabitants is much more exposed from the deleterious quality of the lead, than from that of copper.

A small quantity of lead received into the habit, is capable of producing spasms and convulsions, tremors and palsies; it interrupts the secretions, retards circulation, and injures the nerves.

So virulent is the poison of this metal, that it is said that where the ore is washed and smelted. it proves fatal to dogs, cats, and fowls, which are kept near the works; —every kind of beast feeding upon the grass over which the steam of the smelting ore passes, live but a short time.—The workmen and those who dig the ore, are short-lived, and most commonly die paralytic—those who work the oxyde or calx of this mineral are so subject to the colic. that the disease is known by the name of the painter's colic.

The potter also who is familiar with the preparations of lead in his glazings, rarely fails of carrying visible marks of it in his countenance, and of the complaints of its deleterious effects.

Only three grains of lead to the gallon of new rum, which a regiment of soldiers made free use of, produced a most terrible complaint of the colic, of which a great part were down at the same time *.

Some, by a practice of sitting with their feet on sheet lead, which was laid before the fire, have been affected with the palsy in the legs.

Preparations of lead in oil, and other solutions of lead applied to large surfaces denudated, or even to so small a part as the nipples, when excoriated, have been known to produce acute pains at the stomach, colic, loss of appetite, flatulence and depression in the nurse; and in the child put to suck, (without proper precaution) violent gripes, and even convulsions; but more frequently are these effects produced by the use of the sugar or salt of lead, for the cure of the rush or sore mouths in infants.

Many have experienced pernicious effects from only working on oil cloths made with drying oil, prepared with lead. And I have repeatedly known fatal effects produced by lodging in a confined room, newly painted with leaden pigments.

Printers have sometimes become paralytic by handling their types, which consist of a portion of lead.

The vintners or wine sellers, in order to render their harsh wines vendible have recourse to a horrid diabolical practice, and frequently soften and sweeten them with some preparation of lead. So strong is their passion for gain, that they are lost to all the feelings of humanity, and prepare a fatal poison, of which there can be

* It has been observed that the colic has been less frequent in this country since the introduction of earthen instead of pewter plates; but perhaps the introduction of iron tea kettles, instead of the copper lined with pewter, may be as salutary a change in this respect.

no mistrust in those who are to endure the fatal effects.

If the observations on the nature of lead upon the human constitution are well founded, (which I believe cannot be confuted, as they depend on facts,)—then it concerns every individual to take the caution, as all perhaps are more or less conversant with some or other of the saturnine preparations, many of them unthought of and never suspected. I write unto you nurses, that while you are consulting the diversion and amusement of your little innocents, you may not introduce a fatal poison into their habit, by putting some painted poisonous toy into their hands, which have some lead or other poisonous paint upon them, and only covered with a slight varnish, which is soon rubbed and washed off in their mouths, and so much poison introduced into their habit, as to become a source of a long train of evils, if not eventually fatal.

I write unto you honest retailers, to be attentive and ever jealous of your pewter measures, many of which have a great share of lead in their composition; and if acid liquors are permitted to remain any time in them, they will be strongly impregnated with the poisonous salts of this mineral, and rendered extremely dangerous to those who drink the liquors.

I write unto you cooks, that you be careful of your pewter vessels, or copper tinned therewith, that you do not suffer your sharp or poignant sauces to be prepared or stand in those vessels.

I write to you pye and pastry makers, that you not only disuse pewter, but that you be aware of your common coarser earthen ware, whose glazing is of lead and easily corroded.

I write unto you painters, that ye be cautious of the poison, on the use of which your subsistence so much de-

ponds, that you abstain from that too common practice (from a mistaken idea) of taking by way of antidote, a double allowance of spirituous liquors; for one devil is not cast out by another; else is Satan's kingdom divided.

Therefore be admonished while working your lead to use spirits sparingly, if at all; and instead of your usual nips, take half a gill of sweet oil, which will be found a great preservative to health.

Now I write unto you limners, and those who use the pewter paints, that ye may take the above precautions; and in particular, that while you are studying your devices, you do not hold your pencil in your mouths; nor, as it is too customary, to clean it with your mouths.

I write unto you who have devoted yourselves martyrs to Sir Richard, that ye may look well to it, that old Saturn by an untimely stroke of his sharp scythe, does not rob Sir Richard of his sacrifice.

To you bachanalians, that the god you serve may not be dishonoured, nor robbed of the glory which would be shortly due to him, were it not for the interposition of this rapacious mineral.

Lastly, I write unto you vinters, wine sellers, who make use of this poison to disguise the acid of wine, that you may consider the justice of your damnation, how inevitable! how aggravated! for it swiftly comes from that hand which is termed the avenger of blood, and lingereth not.

ANTI-SATURNUS.

SIR *To the Editor of the Bee.*

AFTER reading the observations on the gooseberry caterpillar, in number 138, of the Bee, where it is said that

the method of destroying them by brimstone, destroys also the leaves. I happened accidentally to find the following passage, in the gentleman's magazine for June 1769.

Berryrig, July 27. J. R.

On the gooseberry catterpillar.

" As the gooseberry and currant bushes in my neighbourhood have been overrun this season with caterpillars, the following method has been contrived for effectually destroying them. Make a hood in form of a bell, with wooden hoops, pasted over with brown paper, large enough to inclose the bush, under which place a mat to the full extent of the hood. Then on the windward side of the bush stick upright in the ground some lighted matches well stored with brimstone, and then cover the bush and the matches with the hood. This done, almost instantaneously the caterpillars will drop upon the mat, so that you may destroy them at pleasure. Be sure instantly, on removing the hood, to *wash the tree well with water*, otherwise the brimstone will destroy every leaf *.

" It may, however, be of use to remark, that the loss of the leaves, should that circumstance happen, will be *no hurt* to the future vegetation of the tree; for it will again put forth leaves, and acquire a new and more beautiful verdure. Perhaps if it were early deprived of its leaves, it would even put forth fruit."

* This seems to insinuate, that if proper care be taken to remove it speedily, and wash the bush, there would be no danger of destroying the leaves.

On Modesty.

For the Bee

Modesty is one of the first ornaments, and one of the most becoming virtues that a human being can posibly posefs. 'Tis not like a fine polifhed diamond, which will only please the eye of its beholders by the vividnefs of its colours, or by the brightnefs of its reflections; but it likewise can entertain the ear of the person that is a connoifseur of good breeding, as well as the eye: for which reason, whenever it makes its appearance, 'tis esteemed by the wise, provided it is not accompanied with timorousnefs or morosity, which are depravers of genuine modesty.

There is something modesty comprehends, which as powerfully as the magnet attracts iron, will attract the attention and gain the approbation of the beholder, in favour of the harmlefs and gentle creature, who uses it as a rule to drefs, to talk, and to act by. But on the other hand, the woman who does not let modesty operate on her mind, so as to bias or direct the same, whenever fhe is in company with those that embellifh themselves with it, fhe then appears, in similitude, not much unlike the odious weed that we sometimes see peeping amongst a bed of charming flowers. F. K.

Queries.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

Allow me to avail myself of your disposition to render your valuable work of as general utility as posible, by requesting you to insert all the information you can collect of the progrefs made in the Britifh Fifheries, establifhed

a few years since in your part of Great Britain. The Earl of Bredalbine transmitted to the government of Bengal the plan that was laid down for the management of them, and a great many of the residenters of this place took shares in the society;—since that time we have had no information whatever relating to it; and you would afford your readers in general, and the parties concerned in particular, much satisfaction to lay before them the extent to which they may have been carried, and such improvements, as may have been adopted. These particulars, we expected to receive from the secretary to the society; but have been disappointed.

As I may soon have it in my power to furnish your Miscellany with some curious articles, in consequence of a long journey I am about to take into the most unfrequented parts of this country, I shall beg leave to make myself known to you under the signature of *.

Calcutta, 20 *October* 1792. EUGENIUS.

* The querist will find that they have been in some measure already answered in the Bee. By these notices it will appear that the directors of the society have by no means been inattentive to their charge; Mr Dempster, and Mr Pulteney in particular, have had this object much at heart. It must, however, be owned that notwithstanding their exertions, the success has not been such as fully to answer their beneficent views. While the salt laws continue in force, it is equally vain to expect that the fisheries can be fully established, if even the whole revenue of Britain were to be expended on bounties and premiums, as to expect, by means of powerful incitements to make a horse whose head was bound to his feet succeed in the race. Of this no one can be more sensible than both Mr Dundas, and Mr Pitt. When the body of landed proprietors on those coasts shall become equally sensible of this as they are, so as heartily to co-operate with these ministers, the business will be done. Till that time, which seems not to be at hand, those who have the prosperity of that part of Scotland at heart must moderate their expectations.

The information politely offered by this correspondent will prove very acceptable.

The obliging favour of *B. C.* is acknowledged; nothing but the multiplicity of engagements the Editor lies under, and the impossibility of complying at once with the wishes of all his correspondents, prevents him from doing what would be agreeable to them. He is in the train of bringing forward the index indicatorius as fast as possible, and shall continue to do so.

Nor has he forgotten his promise respecting the poor laws; nothing but want of room, and a fear of obtruding his own observations impertinently in preference of others has kept that so long back. But as several correspondents have expressed a wish that it should be done, he will endeavour to bring it forward as soon as his other engagements will permit.

The poem by *A. Z. C.* is unfortunately too long for this miscellany. Indeed were all the poems the Editor gets sent him to be inserted, there would be no room for any thing else. He has often expressed his wish that his poetical correspondents would rather exert themselves to polish *a gem*, than to bring forth whole masses of unpurified ore from the mine faster than they can get it refined.

The poems by *Iphigenia*.—*Justus*, *Humanus alter*, and *Tiresias* are all received.

The obliging favour of *Anonymous* containing another packet from Isabella to Albert, is thankfully received. He feared the whole had been exhausted.

And the Editor acknowledges with great pleasure the favour of the much respected *Senex*, "who was lost and is now found;" the earliest opportunity will be taken to introduce his welcome letter.

To the readers of the Bee.

The Editor begs leave to announce to his readers that he has lately obtained a literary morsel by the favour of a man of eminence in the literary world; which he hopes will gratify the curiosity of most of his readers. It is a moral tale, written by the present Empress of Russia, in the Russ language, which his informant says has considerable merit, independent of its being the undoubted production of such an illustrious personage. It is just now in the hands of the translator; and it is hoped will be ready for one of the early numbers of the next volume. He is also promised some account of the life of Lomonosof, the Shakespeare of Russia, with translations of some of his historical and miscellaneous tracts, by a gentleman well versed in Russian literature, and thoroughly acquainted with the language of that country; which he says is the most beautiful he knows, whether antient or modern.

The Editor has also just received from his valuable correspondent *Scrutator*, a full account of all the iron manufactures in Russia. With the names of the proprietors: where situated; quantity made in one year; price at which it is sold; the nature of the ore from which it is made &c.; which will be inserted in the course of the ensuing volume. As also an account of the mode of tanning all the different kinds of Russian leather. &c. &c.

*** *The engraver has not been able to get forward with the plates of the sheep. Those wanting will be given in the next volume as soon as they can be got ready.*

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

Wednesday, July 24. 1793.

Foreign.

France.

The allied army on the borders of France towards the Netherlands, have at length succeded in carrying Condè, which surrendered, by capitulation, on the 10th instant. The garrison originally consisted of four thousand men: of these only fifteen hundred were capable of doing duty when they surrendered as prisoners of war. The remainder were either killed or in the hospital.

The capture of this small place it is thought will greatly facilitate the future operations of the campaign. It commands the sluices which innundate a considerable part of the environs of Valenciennes, so as to enable the besiegers to drain it, and thus get acceſs to the weakest parts of the fortifications of that strong place. Condé also can be defended by a very small garrison, and will be a safe place for forming magazines for the future operations of the war.

Valenciennes continues still to be valliantly defended. The besiegers are advancing with caution; and there can be little doubt, that unleſs Custine ſhall be able to raise the siege, by some decisive action which he seems to have in contemplation, that place also must soon be captured. The town already seems to be reduced to a heap of ruins, and the miserable inhabitants reduced to the utmost state of wretchedneſs, for want of accommodation or ſhelter from the bombs of the besiegers.

Mentz is nearly in the same situation. The defenders, now driven from most of their out posts, are confined within the walls of the place itself, which is thrown down by many powerful batteries. The fine Cathedral, for sparing of which it is now said a blockade alone was at first attempted, is now a heap of rubbiſh, and many other parts of the town entirely consumed by fire. The sallies of the garrison which were at first vigorous and often succeſsful have been in general repreſsed of late; and the French themselves begin to speak of the fate of that place as inevitable, unleſs it can be relieved by some powerful diversion from without.

Custine is, as formerly, inceſsantly writing letters to the Convention, vindicating his own conduct from the imputations of others, and denoun-

cing them as traitors. He reproaches the former generals for having abandoned the strong Camp of Famars without necessity, and demands a large reinforcement of men to execute a great project he has in view, which he says may free the country from its present perplexity, but which may also miscarry, unless conducted with the utmost spirit and caution.

Towards Nice, the Sardinian forces have made some advances, and carried some out posts, so that that place may be said to be blockaded towards the land, if the Sardinian account may be believed; and they expect a fleet to block it up by sea.

Corsica is in a state of insurrection, and only three places belong to the French in that island.

On the other hand if the letters of SERVAN who commands the French army of the Pyrennees, can be credited, the Spaniards have been every where defeated by these troops in the most shameful manner. SERVAN himself, however, is so much suspected by the nation, that he has been superseded by another General, and ordered home to answer for his conduct.

In Brittany the insurgents have met with a check. Saumur is retaken; and the patriotic army has advanced to Nantes, from the neighbourhood of which place they hope soon to be able to drive the insurgents.

In the mean while the Marseillese have openly declared themselves against the Convention; and after publishing the following manifesto, are said to be on their march to attack Paris.

MANIFESTO

Of the city of Marseilles to the French, republicans.

"You know the dangers which threaten the public cause; they are such that we must hasten to expose ourselves to death in the field of honour, or be butchered by our fire sides. We must save the Republic, or perish with it; cares anarchy, or destroy it.—We must resume our place among nations, or rank ourselves among the slaves of Asia, or the hordes of savages.

"When the national representation is dissolved by losing its integrity; when the departments, whose mandatories are shamefully confined, justly consider themselves as not represented; when the majesty of the people is violated by insults offered to their ambassadors; when the faction who wish for a king insolently domineer in that corrupted city which braves us, there is then no middle point: flame and slavery, or to hasten to Paris.

"If you waste, in deliberating on the evil, that valuable time which ought to be employed in applying the last remedy, your country, your liberty, the honour of the French nation, you, your children, and wives, will be for ever lost. There will be no longer public or private fortune; you will have lost four years of care, trouble, anxiety, battles, and torrents of blood shed for the noblest of causes.

"You will lose them without resource: A base handful of factious men murders the liberty of more than twenty-five millions. In this state of crisis

and agitation, a voice proceeds from the centre and extremities of the Republic;—it proclaims that the nation have risen to conquer, or bury themselves under its ruins.

"The nation has risen: Let us march; Marseilles says so; and Marseilles, doubtless, has a right to your confidence, and to support that revolution of which it set the example. This is the last use which it wishes to make of the freedom of speaking, to manifest its grand resolutions and decisive measures; instead of an armed people, a nation of warriors, who wait only for the signal of battle, the vain preparation of words, it is the courage of actions which we have need of.

"Let us strike, and let the French, accused so long of being frivolous prove to the world, that if they were so under kings, they are become impatient of insult, and terrible like the Gauls and the Franks, from whom they have the honour to be descended.

"Republicans, men of all countries, who wish for liberty and detest licentiousness, who abhor royalty, and who wish to maintain the Republic one and indivisible, join the Marseillese, who express that wish already expressed by a great number of departments.

"They perceive that the present political situation of Paris is equivalent to a declaration of war against the whole Republic.

"They accuse and denounce to you, as the occasion of all the disorders which afflict France, Philip of Orleans and his faction; the frantic monster who sells to him his howlings, and whose name would disgrace this proclamation; the den of the Jacobins at Paris, the factious and intriguers who are dispersed throughout it, and who make themselves busy in every corner of the Republic. Marseilles marks them out as the enemies of the public, who wished to conduct us to the brink of the precipice, to adulterate their monstrous and preconcerted anarchy with a king of their own creation;—and this king would be the most corrupted man of his age: a man loaded with debt; rich in disgrace, baseness, and debauchery; a man whom a virtuous citizen would not admit among the number of his footmen, and whom the latter would drive from among them.—A man, in short, confined within our walls, and against whom we invoke speedy and severe punishment.

"We invite you to sign with us the just and indispensible confederation, which we propose for the public safety, and to walk away so many injuries.

"Marseilles consequently declares that it is in a legal state of resistance to oppression, and that it authorises itself by the law of public safety, to make war on the factious.

"That it cannot any longer acknowledge in the Convention, whose integrity has violated the national representation and that, at that epoch only when the mandatories of the people restored to their functions, shall vote in freedom, the nation will obey them with confidence and submission.

"That the throne of anarchy has been raised on the bloody ruins of that which you have so justly overturned, and that tyranny is detestable in proportion to the perversity and the excessive corruption of those who wish to exercise it.

"That the factious have already been able to dissolve the Convention, by weakening it; by carrying into the bosom of it disorganization, disorder, and foolish temerity; and the French nation cannot consider the acts emanating from a portion of the representatives of the people who still occupy their places, but as so many proofs of the constraint exercised over some by the perfidy and villainy of others.

" That theimprisonment of a great number of Legislators is a crime produced by the delirium of villainy; a crime which posterity will scarcely credit, if it come not to them accompanied with proofs of the striking vengea.. w ich we swear we will take, and which you will be able to obtain along with us.

" That the people of worth, whom Paris still contains, are invited to second, as much as may be in their power, the united efforts that we are going to make for the common safety, and suffer to fall on the heads of the factious all the weight of that responsibility which they have incurred by their crimes.

" That the ruling faction at Paris has reduced the Republic to suffer in that city, too long domineered over and abused, an armed force, which is the last resource of the Sovereign People, by declaring that the destination of confederated forces under the orders, and raised according to the wish of the departments, is to carry on a mortal war against those who wish to direct it into our bosoms, torn by their criminal hands.

" That every man capable of bearing arms is summoned in name of the law, of general and individual interest, and of humanity, to come and strenghten the mound which we are going to oppose to the destructive torrent, unless every citizen wishes to be hurried into the abyss which anarchists and infamous depredators have prepared for us.

" That by decreeing to raise a determined number of men ready to unite in a body to effect the annihilation of the factious in their dens, the Marseillese, who wish to terminate the revolution they began, and to propagate the example they gave, invite to them all citizens desirous of meriting well of mankind. They adopt this mode only on account of the urgency of the case, and submitting their measures to the examination and approbation of all the Members of the Sovereign, and without pretending to set bounds to the zeal of the generous defenders of their country, who wish spontaneously to reinforce the phalanx of liberty, they hope it will encrease in its passage, and will be joined by all citizens desirous of doing good.

" That in the colours of this army, the soldiers of their country will read the completion of every good law; the Republic one and indivisible; respect to persons and property—consoling words already engraven in their hearts.

" That we appeal to God and to our arms, on account of the crimes committedagainst the integrity of the national representation; the insults offered to the individual liberty of our extraordinary deputies; the *liberticide* plots from which a miracle of Providence has saved us, and the accomplices of which, charged with executing the horrid deed within our walls, Marseilles is now prosecuting. A popular tribunal to which it owes its peaceful and aweful existence is trying the conspirators, notwithstanding the obstacles which have been thrown in the way. Invested with the confidence of the people, and defended by it, the most imperious of laws, those of the present circumstances, determine its activity, and the people of Marseilles, instead of being refractory to the law, by employing the sword of it to strike the guilty, discharge the principle of social duties, which is the speediest distribution of justice.

" Thus the city of Marseilles joins to the motives drawn from the common safety of the Republic, which legalizes its determination, a representation of the particular grievances which afflict it, and the necessity it is under of silencing its calumniators, who despairing of being able to kindle among us the torch of discord, dare to present it to the National Convention as the light of truth.

"Republicans, the signal has been given—the moments are precious, and decisive measures are necessary. Let us march—let the law enter Paris along with us; and if you are not acquainted with the roads to it, follow the traces of the blood of your brethren; they will conduct you to the bottom of its walls, from which have proceeded those murderous scourges; the sanguinary plots and destructive manœuvres—the sources of all our misery.

"There you will restore liberty to good citizens, and dignity to the national representation. The villains will disappear, and the Republic will be saved.

"Deliberated in the General Committee of the thirty-two sections of Marseilles, June 12. 1793, the 2d year of the French Republic.

(Signed) PELOUX, President,
CASTELLANET and PINATEL Secretaries."

On the 16th, all the administrative bodies took an oath expressive of the sentiments contained in this manifesto.

DUMOURIER exhibits at present a singular appearance in Europe: after having, in common with other patriotic adventurers, amassed, during his administration as a minister, and his operations as a general, a sum of money, amounting by report, to more than three hundred thousand pounds, which he took care to secure in the funds of foreign countries, where the government is more stable than in France; finding there was a chance that he might be made to submit to the fashionable operation of the guilottine, which he did not at all relish, thought it prudent to take himself away before he was subjected to that operation; and wishing to conciliate the favour of those he had formerly offended, he, with that pliable morality which seems to be so well suited to the French principle, endeavoured to effect a revolution in favour of those who were fighting against his country. But having failed in this respect, he now wanders literally a vagabound through all the countries in Europe, in none of which he has yet been able to find a resting place. He has tried the Netherlands, several parts of Germany, Switzerland, England, the Netherlands again, in which he was reported o have been arrested: but this information, as appears by a letter from the Elector of Cologne, seems to have been unfounded. Where he will now direct his course it is difficult to say. There is little probability that the American States, were he to go thither, would receive him; neither Sweden nor Denmark, it is probable, would choose to afford him shelter: The Empress of Russia would not probably like to admit such a troublesome inmate into her dominions; the bow string is such a well known means of recovering ill gotten gear in Constantinople, that he would not probably like to trust himself there; and the jealousy of the Venetian Nobles against the intrigues of a man of so much activity, with such a command of money, would probably render his abode in the Venetian State by no means agreeable. Which way therefore he will turn himself, it is difficult to say, so that it will be a matter of some curiosity to trace his steps in future. Britain has hitherto been ready to open her arms to receive *monied* men, without being very scrupulously inquisitive into the mode by which they have acquired that wealth. If these men have been able to satisfy their own consciences as to the matter, and willing to communicate a reasonable share of that wealth to their partizans, the business has been managed tolerably well. Are we from the case of Dumourier to conclude that the morality of the age is improving, or to what other cause are we to ascribe this singular phenomenon? This is a question for the philosophers to solve.

CUSTINE seems to be in the fair way of either becoming shorter by nine or ten inches ere long, or of following the example of his worthy predecessor.

General Montesquiou has contrived to take himself out of a very disagreeable situation with much address. He made his escape many months ago from his army along the lake of Geneva: and has never more been heard of. Probably by changing his name, and living a retired life in some obscure corner, he may escape detection till the present storm be fairly overblown.

The empress of Russia, taking advantage of the disturbances in the west of Europe, has carried matters forward with very a high hand in Poland. A few weeks ago every thing bore the appearance there of an absolute submission to the imperial requisitions. Some appearances now begin to indicate that the flame though smothered is not entirely extinguished; but there is little reason to expect that such unanimity can prevail in that unhappy country, as to give sufficient energy to the opposition to her will to make it effectual.

Three British fleets of considerable strength are now at sea; but nothing of importance has been done by any of them. Lord Howe's squadron consisting of fifteen ships of the line, seven frigates, one sloop, and a firethip, sailed from Portsmouth on the 13th instant; but the place of its destination is not yet known. It is generally supposed to be bound for the coast of Brittany to favour the operations of the insurgents there; but from what circumstance this conjecture originates we know not. It does not appear that any extra land forces are on board; nor have we learned that any preparations for facilitating a descent have been observable in the equipment of that fleet.

In the mean while, the attention of government seems to have been so fully fixed on the equipment of these great squadrons for the southward, as to occasion a great and very alarming neglect of the trade in the northern seas. Few cruisers have been able to be spared for the northern coasts of Scotland and the German ocean; so that many captures of unarmed merchant vessels have been there made; and the trade has been so long delayed for want of convoy as to subject the merchants to very serious loises. In consequence of the infrequency of convoys from the sound, the Thames and the Race horse were obliged to take under their convoy at one time no less than 150 vessels, which is a number far too great for any two vessels to convoy with safety, let the vigilance of the commanders be even unimpeachable. In consequence of this, information that seems to be authentic, has been received, that fifteen sail of this fleet have been captured at once by three French privateers and carried into Bergen. And that these privateers have again sailed in hopes of being able to come up with and to capture some more of the dullest sailing vessels of that unwieldy fleet.

Though war must ever be accounted the most grievous scourge that can oppress the human race; yet it is one of those evils that must necessarily be submitted to on some occasions. Such a necessity, in the opinion of a great majority of the dispassionate part of the people of Great Britain did actually exist at the beginning of this year; and Britain was constrained to draw the sword in order to guard against more serious evils. The inconveniences of this war have been already deeply felt in this island as well as other parts of Europe, and even in America itself, if we can give faith to the reports from that country. It is therefore the general wish of the great body of the people that some mode consistent with the honour and safety of this nation could be devised, for putting as speedy a termination to the war as can be done. Conquest is by no means the present wish of the great bulk of the people! nor are they desirous of aggrandising any power whatever, to the degradation of France or any other kingdom; but they wish for some reasonable security that they themselves shall not be disturbed in the peaceable prosecution of their own manufactures and trade, foreign and domestic. This they are confined to hope, from the situation of things on the continent at pre-

t may be now pretty easily attained. France is already so hemmed in on t sides, that if a few frontier places were obtained, which seems likely on to happen, to be strongly garrisoned, and kept as cautionary towns to event them from encroaching on the territories of others, they might then left to fight each other fairly within their own dominions, and to regute their own internal government as seemed good unto themselves, without ceiving any disturbance from our interference. Such is the general opinion, d almost the universal wish of the people of this part of the country. But ere is a party in this state that has discovered principles so inimical to our vable constitution; and this party of late made such advances, and so boldly posed the administration of this country, as to occasion a very serious arm to most well meaning sober men, so as to produce a more general id marked opposition to the views of this party than was ever seen in this ation during our time. The national jealousy of the views of this party still, ith much reason, prevails, and therefore every man is afraid even to whisper his wishes for a peace, lest it should, by seeming to favour the views of hat party, give it a weight and preponderance in the nation he wishes it ever to attain. Hitherto every motion tending to recommend conciliatory measures to the members of administration have originated with that arty, and therefore have been unsupported by the nation at large. When e first heard of the petition from Glasgow mentioned in our last chronicle, was represented as originating with the most respectable members of the ociety at large, without any connection with party, and, as this is well nown to be the genuine opinion of the people at large, it was hoped it would have that weight with the community in general that its importance eserved. It now appears however that this was not the case. The petition here mentioned is said, on good authority, to have originated with that ame party of which the public at large are so jealous; and subscribers to it nave been obtained, if we are rightly informed, by nearly the same means hat were adopted for forwarding the other popular views of the party, on which account it meets with opposition from a great majority of the most respectable citizens; and it well, we are afraid, rather tend to frustrate than accelerate the prayer of the petition. Such are the circumstances that in civil society must frequently occur to frustrate even the most salutary propositions; for, when two evils are to be eschewed, the greater of the two ought ever to be guarded against.

That "misfortunes never come single" is an old adage, which, whatever may be the case in respect to morals, is undoubtedly true in regard to political arrangements. The violent proceedings of the antimonarchical party above alluded to, produced a counter association, which if not in its turn guarded from excess, threatens to become equally subversive of that constitution which it was avowedly instituted to support. The committees of that society, in imitation of the republican party, who laid themselves under contribution to print and disseminate among the people, *gratis*, or below cost, writings that favoured the views of the party, begin already with the funds in their hands, to print and publish in the same manner, writings favourable to the views of these committee men. The public seem not aware, that poison may be thus administered to the people on both sides, under the name of wholesome food: nor has it been yet adverted to that under pretext of supporting the constitution, this institution may be employed as a most effectual engine to augment ministerial power,—a power which though this constitution does acknowledge, ought ever to be watched with greater care, than perhaps any other, because it possesses in a peculiar degree the means of gratifying the wishes of those who distinguish themselves by

their zeal in its support. The public in this instance seem to have lost sight of a just principle they almost unanimously acknowledged, *viz.* that "The British constitution poſſeſſes of itself powers sufficient to correct any leſser disorders that may accidentally affect it for a time." In this instance do they not imitate the absurd practice of the religious bigots of former times, who under the pretext of vindicating "*The glory of* GOD," who certainly required no aid from such a weak creature as man, persecuted their fellow creatures, and eſtabliſhed at last the most cruel system of despotic tyranny that ever existed upon the earth? If our constitution is endowed with sufficient powers to purge itself from any peccant humours which may accidentally arise, why not allow it to operate freely, and not raſhly conjoin the popular with the ministerial power, which tends to destroy that balance that constitutes the peculiar excellence of our truly enviable constitution? The liberty of the preſs is in all cases the greatest bulwark of freedom; and if leſt to itself it will be sufficient to inform the minds of the people in regard to every particular that it is of importance for them to know: but if popular committees, under ministerial influence, ſhall be permitted to waste the national treasure, in diſſeminating at an under price among the people, such doctrines as tend to forward their own views, while they are by the same authority and influence, protected in the exercise of an *inquisitorial power* over other writings, so as to deter men from expreſsing their genuine sentiments with a becoming freedom, then, though we ſhould still retain the name of a free people, that independence of mind which constitutes its eſsence would be for ever gone. Poisoned by political medicines, for which we had no occasion, we might then adopt the *epitaph* of the Italian who killed himself in the same way; *Sta bene*, &c i. *e* "I was in good health, I wiſhed to be better, and here I am."

The thing chiefly to be dreaded in this case is, that when the great body of the people of this nation, if they ſhall go too far in this train, ſhall perceive that they have done so, may turn with a voilent unanimity to the opposite side; and under the idea of correcting this evil, may totally overturn the power which ſhall have incurred their displeasure, and thus may long have occasion to mourn an exceſs, which if moderated in time, would occasion no political evil of lasting endurance.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14. 1793.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

THE distractions in France seem to be accumulating. Since the Jacobins acquired the ascendency by force of arms, and on the 2d of June overawing the National Convention, so as to compel the arrest of the twenty-two members, the country is divided into parties not only of republicans and royalists, democrates and aristocrates as formerly; but of republicans against republicans, who seem to be animated with a greater degree of fury against each other than against the favourers of the royal party itself.

Assassination of Marat.

It is by the hands of a zealot, a champion of one of these parties, that MARAT, whose crimes have been so long the detestation of all Europe, has been honoured by a mode of death that has been usually applied to persons of much more exalted character. A woman named CHARLOTTE CORDE, a native of Caen in Normandy, of a respectable family there, having conceived an idea that she would do an acceptable deed, by ridding the world of this man, came to Paris on purpose to carry her design into execution; which she effected on Sunday the 14th of July, by stabbing him with a knife. The particulars were nearly as follows:

On the Thursday preceding his death this woman, of a respectable appearance, arrived at Paris from Caen in Normandy. On the two following days she was busied, it should seem, in making inquiries respecting the various crimes imputed to her destined victim; and having satisfied herself as to the truth, on the Sunday she obtained an interview with MARAT.

She continued in conversation with him for some time, asking his opinion of several persons whom she named; and on his averring them to be Counter Revolutionists, she instantly stabbed him; declaring that she was then convinced that every thing she had heard of him was true.

On her being seized and interrogated, she justified her conduct by declaring her conviction that MARAT had been the cause of all the evils with which France had lately been afflicted; she seemed to glory in her act, and declared, that she had not been instigated by any person, and that no one was privy to it.

Thus perished a man, who has been a principal actor, if not the instigator of more important events within the last twelve months, than perhaps any other person in a similar period of time.

This intrepid assassin was instantly seized and tried on the 17th before the revolutionary tribunal, on which occasion she behaved with a firmness and intrepidity that would have been deemed heroic magnanimity if it had been exerted in a better cause. When brought before the judges her countenance displayed heroic disdain, and her answers, by their boldness, struck every spectator with astonishment.

At the beginning of her trial she thus addressed her judges:—"I did not expect to appear before you; I always thought that I should be delivered up to the rage of the people, torn in pieces, and that my head, stuck on the top of a pike, would have preceded MARAT on his state bed, to serve as a rallying point to Frenchmen, if there still are any worthy of that name. But, happen what will, if I have the honours of the guillotine, and my clay cold remains are buried, they will soon have conferred upon them the honours of the pantheon, and my memory will be more honoured in France than that of Judith in Bethulia." Sentence of death was pronounced upon this resolute woman, and she was executed in the evening.

When she was led forth to execution, she smiled at the guillotine, deliberately cut off a quantity of her hair, and entreated that it might be sent to her father at Caen. She then told the executioner, with a chearful countenance, that she was ready, and disired him to remember that she died *a pure republican.*

It does not appear that this woman had any accomplice in her plan; and though some attempts were made in the Convention to inculpate several of its members as being connected with her, yet no proofs of that sort that could impress an impartial mind with conviction have yet been brought forward; though it was easy to discover that many persons in the Convention were no favourers of Marat's plans.

The body of Marat was interred with great pomp on the 16th. But it appears from the report of his friends on that occasion, that he had been in such a state of health before, as that in all probability he could have lived but a short time. His body was in such a state of putridity that it could not be exposed so fully to the people as his partizans would have wished.

Few events could have more effectually discovered the inconsiderate blindness of that phrenetic zeal which stimulates to assassination, than the present. The cutting off of Marat in the present situation of affairs in France is like abstracting only a drop from the bucket; and by exciting the detestation of mankind against the atrocious deed, it must tend rather to augment the strength of his party than to diminish it.

Capture of Mentz.

At last the king of Prussia has succeeded in obliging the garrison of Mentz to surrender. This event took place by capitulation on the 22d of July. The garrison consisting of about 12,000 men were allowed to march out with the honours of war, but without artillery; and were conducted to France,

under condition of not serving against the allied powers for one year. It appeared that the garrison had been reduced to great distress for want of provisions and stores of different kinds, particularly medicines, of which they were utterly destitute. Before this surrender took place, the French forces on the Rhine under BEAUHARNOIS had made several vigorous but unsuccessful efforts to raise the seige by different rapid and unexpected attacks, in which, though several times successful at the beginning, they were always ultimately repulsed by the combined armies. The French have now no place of strength in that quarter nearer than Landau.

Capture of Valenciennes.

This important fortress which had been so long gallantly defended by General FERRAND, having been reduced to the utmost extremity by the blowing up of some part of the walls on the 25th, followed by a vigorous asault in which the combined forces made a lodgement in the covered way, from which a general asault being intended, no hopes remained of any resistence they could make proving effectual, General FERRAND found himself reduced to the necessity of surrendering that place, by capitulation, to the duke of York, on the 28th of July. The French troops were allowed to march out with the honours of war: and to be conducted safely to the nearest part of France, on conditions that they shall not serve against the allied powers during the war. FERRAND will thus in all probability soon add one more to the list of unfortunate officers confined in the prison of the *Abbaye* in Paris.

No accounts have as yet transpired of the intentions of the allied powers with respect to the future operations of this campaign. But if appearances may be trusted Britain seems to entertain a serious design of besieging Dunkirk in form; a large train of battering cannon have been shipped off from hence for Ostend; and the English troops since the capture of Valanciennes seem to point their route towards Dunkirk. We have not heard that the French have taken any extraordinary precautions for the security of that place.

From the inactivity of the French forces on the frontiers during the latter part of the siege of Valanciennes, it would seem that their force and ardour were both greatly diminished of late. A motion was once made in the National Convention to raise the whole body of the people capable of bearing arms to the northward of Paris; to be marched directly against the combined powers, that by their numbers, which were supposed to exceed one million of men, they might totally overpower their enemies. But it would appear that the Convention, distrusting their unanimity on the present occasion, had thought it prudent to depart from this extraordinary mode of warfare. What mode of defence they mean to adopt against the efforts of the allied powers on the north is by no means obvious at present. Lisle, which is a place of great strength, they are said to be pre-

paring to abandon; as report says, they are carrying off the artillery and stores from thence; nor do we hear that either Douay, Cambray, or Bouchain have been put into a condition to make a vigorous defence.

The tenth of August, being the day in which the new constitution is to be accepted or refused by the delegates of the several departments of France in the *Champ de Mars* at Paris, when, if it be accepted, the present Convention will be dissolved and a new election will take place, a considerable ferment in Paris is likely then to take place; and every engine of intrigue may be expected to be now fully exerted in favour of the heads of different parties. *Condorcet*, *Brissot*, and others keep themselves at present quiet probably in expectation of the result of that event.

Custine,

As was to be expected from his violent proceedings, having been called to Paris, was accused in the Convention of many crimes; deprived of his command, and KELLERMAN we believe appointed in his stead. He was finally committed to the prison of the *Abbaye* to take his trial before the revolutionary tribunal. It is reported that he has already been guillotined; but this wants confirmation.

Minister at war deposed and restored.

BOUCHOTTE, minister at war and his assistants were, upon the 25th of July, on the representation of DARTIGOYTTE, set aside by the Convention as unfit to occupy the important places they held; and on the 26th the men of the 10 of August appeared at the bar requesting he might be replaced, and upon the motion of ROBERSPIERRE the National Convention revoked its decree against *Bouchotte* and his assistants amidst the loudest applause.

GARAT, minister for the home department, accused GRAIN the first agent of the committee of supplies of the commons of Paris, with being the author of a libel against him: he justified his conduct in a long speech, and impeached that of his adversary.

In the mean time the accounts we receive respecting the military movements in the interior of France, are so vague and contradictory that nothing with certainty can be made out of them, unless it be that none of the parties have as yet obtained any decisive advantage over the other. The following letter of General Wimpen, commanding the rebel troops in Calvados, has at least the merit of being laconic.

"*General Wimpen, to the General of the Parisian army, greeting.*

"If you want civil war, advance—if not, do not set your feet on the territory of Calvados. I wanted to avert many misfortunes, but soon shall an explanation take place."

Rear Admiral TRUGUET, who for the two last years has been chief in command at sea in the Mediterranean station, presents a long representation to the committee of public welfare, respecting the present state of the

French navy and its officers, dated Paris 22 July; in which he points out, with much apparant justice, the dangerous tendency of a want of confidence in officers, and the neceſsity of enforcing discipline at sea, and of choosing able officers for command; complaining that some of the best sea officers had been unjustly degraded and thrown into dungeons, and requesting their enlargement and restoration to their former rank. Does not this man seem to be in the direct road for the *Abbaye*?

Naval affairs.

Whether the administration of Britain are themselves well informed at present respecting the naval armaments of France, it is difficult to say; but if they be, they have taken very effectual care not to allow any intelligence respecting it to transpire in the nation. A great fleet of Britiſh and Spaniſh ſhips of war are aſsembled in the Bay of Gibralter; probably intended for the Mediterranean, where Truguet's fleet, from his own account of it, seems to be in no condition to cope with them.

Lord Howe has been cruising for some weeks in the chops of the channel, afraid, as some allege, to put to sea, lest he ſhould fall in with a superior squadron of French ſhips which lately sailed from Brest, though no intimation ever reached the public that such a fleet was even equipping there. Others allege Lord Howe has it in view to intercept a large convoy of French West India men, and that the account of a French squadron being in the channel is unfounded.

For some time past, we have been made to believe, that admiral Gardener's squadron in the West Indies was superior to any thing the French could attempt to bring into those seas; and it is only of late, that he is represented as having ſummoned Martinico to surrender to the Britiſh arms. Yet we are now aſsured with great confidence that a French fleet of superior force is at present hovering before Jamacia, whose ports are blocked up by it, and a great fleet of victuallers from Ireland is expected to fall into their hands, the Britiſh admiral having no ſufficient force to protect them. Yet this French fleet must have left Europe without the smallest intimation of its movements ever having reached this island. Such things used seldom to happen on former occasions.

A Portuguese fleet of ten ſhips of war are at present in the harbour of Portsmouth, one would think they might be much better employed in reinforcing the squadron of Lord Howe, if it be in danger of being nearly equalled by the French fleet.

A squadron of Ruſsian ſhips sailed from Cronstadt above a month ago; but have not yet paſsed the sound. And where the Dutch navy is no one can tell. Many Dutch merchantmen have been captured in the northern seas without convoy.

These facts seem to indicate that some of the allied powers are not as serious in their exertions as the interest of others would seem to require; and that of course these others ought to look after their own interest in preferrence to that of allies who are seemingly desirous of shifting the burden from themselves.

Termination of the war.

The object of the war against France, in as far as regards Britain, and indeed all the allied powers, seems to be now in a great measure effected: and it is apparently the interest of all parties, if the profesions with which they began the war were sincere, now to think seriously of some mode by which the grievances that ever must result from a state of warfare may be averted. Those parties concerned, especially, who must have an interest in preventing the dismemberment of France, which by weakening that nation might tend to augment the power of another so much as to indanger the tranquillity of Europe, ought soon to interfere and withdraw their afsistance, at least in aiding a plan of aggrandisement to those whom in a few years they may be forced to pull down again. Britain and Holland can surely have no interest in augmenting too much the power of Austria and Prusia. But should they heedlesly go forward at present in afsisting these operations, and should they indeavour to penetrate into the interior of France, who can say, in the present distracted state of that unhappy country, where it may end? On the one hand, should a man of political intrigue appear under the auspices of these sovereigns, he might fall upon means of so managing parties in France, as to produce great revolutions, and of a more permanent tendency than those which have lately taken place in that country. On the other hand, should these powers suffer any great defeat, and this no one will say is impofsible, it will draw us into an indefinite expence to support them, and involve us in commercial difficulties that it is greatly the interest of almost every individual in this country to avert.

As to the difficulty about the mode of treating, though it be of some moment, it does not seem to be insurmountable. The generals of armies are always understood to have a power of suspending hostilities on certain conditions *by truce*, for a shorter or longer time. There is little room to doubt but the French at the present time would be glad to conclude a truce with all the nations around them, for any definite time, on the condition that France should not only relinquish all the acquisitions she had made from foreign states, and allow the late conquest against them to remain *uti posidetis*; but would also agree to put into the hands of the allied powers one or more fortified places to be held as cautionary towns, under the guarantee of those of the allied powers that did not obtain posefsion of any, to be delivered up to France, on a general peace, provisionally, when the government of that country should be settled on such a stable foundation, as that the power

of Europe in general should agree to recognise it as a legal government. It is not at all impossible but on these terms Britain might obtain possession of Dunkirk without bloodshed, as a security that such stipulations as should be agreed upon *by the truce*, for disarming the navy of France to a certain degree should be adhered to. It is unnecessary to specify terms more particularly; but it is not difficult to foresee, that if Britain, Holland, and the other allied powers, were as seriously disposed to obtain a reasonable security only against the hostile encroachments of France, as all parties will be now willing to declare they are, it would be no difficult matter for an able negociator who had no sinister views, to establish such a truce in a very short time. France might then be allowed to scramble as long as she pleased about the best form of government for her, while other nations were allowed to prosecute their own domestic affairs in tranquillity and peace.

Poland.

It is the interest of the Empress of Russia to aid the emperor and the king of Prussia, or at least to seem to aid them, by fair speeches, but with as little expence as possible, in regard to their secret views on France and the western parts of Europe, in order that they may not too scrupulously pry into the transactions of Poland. The Poles are not yet sufficiently tamed; and, like a spirited horse which has lately been taken into hands, they fret and make a little disturbance: But the power that is over them so far exceeds their forces, that there is little doubt, if left to themselves, how that contest will end. The coffers of the empress are now a little drained, or it is probable she would have found means of doing it before now. The late convention of Grodno, discovered that they submit to the harness with reluctance.

Domestic.

Though the commercial distresses of Britain have somewhat diminished since our last, they are yet far from being removed; and the capture of vessels, and the great interruption that long delays occasion, tend to sour the minds of the people, and render them every day more and more averse to the war. It is hoped that administration will not be so blind to their own interests as to disregarded these circumstances so long as to excite a general clamour. Happy is it for that minister who foreruns the wishes of the people!

Ireland.

During the last session of Parliament the Irish have made one useful reform, that does not appear to give room for apprehensions of any hurtful consequences. It is an absentee act; by which persons who have been non residents in Ireland for a certain time, are declared to be incapable of being elected to serve as members to Parliament. This act and the act which

frees Roman catholics from certain civil inabilities to which they were formerly subjected give very general satisfaction. But the law establishing a militia has given rise to freſh disturbances in that unhappy country.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The French East Indiaman, San Jean de Leon, prize to the Surprise privateer, is safe arrived at moorings off Deptford-yard. Her cargoe is rated at 410, ool. sterling, of which goods to the amount of 85,ooo£. are claimed by Meſsrs Constable and Co. of New York in America, one of the partners of whose house was on board her when captured; also goods to the amount of 35,ooo£ are claimed by a house at Geneva. The rest will be the property of the captors.

A small veſsel has been fitted out at New York, said to be intended on a trip to Charlestown, and not till within a few hours of her sailing did ſhe aſsume the appearance of a privateer. On the 13th ult between the hours of nine and ten at night, ſhe took in her guns and ammunition. The Mayor being informed of the circumstance, communicated it to the Governor, when they both, with laudable zeal, and accompanied by some officers of the peace, pursued the veſsel which had set sail, overtook her, and brought her back.

The voyage round the world by M. Dentrecasteaux, who sailed from France on the 28th of September 1791, is so interesting, that the following particulars will doubtleſs prove acceptable to the public.

M. Fitz, a celebrated French mathematician, has just received a letter from his son, who sailed with M. Dentrecasteaux, dated from Amboyna, one of the Moluccas. This letter gives the following particulars of his voyage. M. Dentrecasteaux left the Cape of Good hope, Feb. 16th, 1792.—In April he arrived at New Holland. In June at New Caledonia. On the 9th of June at the land of the Arsacides and Bougainville's island. On the 28th at the Admiralty Isles, where he thought he perceived some traces of the ſhipwreck of Peyrouse; and on the 6th of September he reached the Island of Amboyna, where he received such refreſhments as were neceſsary to enable him to pursue his voyage to Batavia. Farther details respecting this expedition are expected by the first Dutch ſhips which ſhall arrive at that colony.

Mr Muir, (late advocate), who was outlawed by the High Court of Justiciary, accused of seditious practices, landed on the 30th ult. at Port-Patrick from Ireland. He was immediately known and apprehended, brought to Stranraer, and safely lodged in jail. It appears by his paſsports, that he had lately left France, from whence he came to Ireland. He has been since brought to Edinburgh.

On the 2d curt. Mr T. F. Palmer, Minister of an unitarian congregation at Dundee, was brought to town from that place by Mr Williamson, meſsenger, on suspicion of being the author of a hand bill of a sedicious tendency. He was examined on his arrival by the ſheriff, and is committed to the tolbooth.

A person of the name of Moren, a ſhopkeeper in Edinburgh, is also committed to the tolbooth, accused of being accesſory to the above seditious writing.

An Iriſh priest who deserted to Valenciennes from the 14th regiment, was interrogated by the Governor as to the cause of his desertion. The fellow answered, the ill treatment he experienced from the non-commiſsioned officers. The Governor aſked him why he did not complain to the officers?—The answer was, because they were a set of rascals:—On this the Governor observed, that if that was the manner he spoke of Britiſh officers he would not credit the other information he might give, and ordered him to prison, where he now remains.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4. 1793.

FOREIGN.

Progress of the combined armies.

SINCE the capture of Mentz and Valenciennes, the combined armies have been uniformly successful in all their enterprises, though they have met with several interruptions and smart skirmishes in which some lives have been lost on both sides. On the Rhine the Prussians have pushed forward to Landau and Strasburgh, both which places are blockaded, but no regular siege has yet been commenced.

At a council of war held soon after the capture of Valenciennes, it is confidently reported that the duke of York proposed to push forward directly to Paris, without stopping to besiege the fortified places, concluding, no doubt, that sufficient force could be left behind to overawe the garrisons of these places, while by the rapidity of the movements of the combined armies, the forces of the republic, already disgusted and disunited by the severe treatment of their generals, would be struck with panic and incapable of making any vigorous resistance. Prince COBOURG, it is said, though at first averse to the plan, was at last brought over to that opinion, and it was agreed that the Duke of YORK should advance with 30,000 men, while the prince of COBOURG should support him with a body of 40,000, the remainder of the combined troops being left behind to overawe the garrisons. This plan however was abandoned on the representations of the count de MERCY governor at Brussels, and more cautious measures adopted.

It now appears to be determined to dislodge the enemy from all their strong posts; and to besiege the fortified places, in the idea that though the war may thus be prolonged, the success will be ultimately the more certain; and probably not without an eye to the final termination of the war, when, whatever terms of agreement shall be proposed by France, it will be much easier for the allied powers to keep possession of those provinces in which they shall have the full power of all the fortified places, than it would be, were tranquillity restored to France on such terms as they could not object to upon the principles openly avowed by all parties, and to which those who may *secretly* wish to dismember that kingdom, would be obliged then to accede; whereas by being once in possession of the strong places, it might not be so easy to dislodge them. A cabinet remarkable for depth of political views might foresee this. It might also foresee that to retake these towns may be the source of future wars. Possibly all this is foreseen and disregarded, because of the vast influence that war must ever give to those who shall have the distribution of the money that it necessarily requires.

However that may be, the Austrian troops have advanced, and after dislodging the French with little difficulty from the strong post called Cæsar's camp near Cambray, and that called Magdelene in the neighbourhood of Lisle, they have laid siege to Cambray, which is not conceived to be well provided for making a vigorous resistance.

While the main body of the combined troops are thus employed, a strong detachment under the command of the duke of York has marched to besiege Dunkirk, great preparations having been made in England for carrying on the siege of that place by sea. On their march thither, the British

and Heſsian troops have had ſeveral very ſharp rencounters, in which ſome officers of rank and great eſtimation have fallen, particularly in an attack on the ſuburbs of that place on the 24th August, in which the troops were inadvertantly expoſed to the fire of ſome maſked batteries, which they had not perceived, which did great execution.

Internal ſtate of France.

The uncertainty that ſtill prevails with regard to intelligence from that country, obliges us to form opinions from facts and circumſtances that are only imperfectly known; but by a careful compariſon of theſe, there ſeems to be reaſon to believe, that the influence of the ruling powers at preſent is greatly reduced; and that a criſis extremely different from what they hold forth to view in their public haranging, is ſeriouſly apprehended by them. It is evident that ſince the commencement of the preſent Campaign, notwithſtanding their utmoſt exertions, they have never been able to bring forward a force ſufficient to give any effective check to the combined powers on the northern frontier; but ſince the defection of DUMOURIER, and much more ſince the impriſonment of CUSTINE, the debility has been extremely apparent; for nothing elſe but a diſinclination to the ſervice, or a diviſion of councils, productive of a want of diſcipline, or an abſolute want of troops, could have induced them to abandon the two very ſtrong poſts above named, with ſo much facility. It indeed appears, that weak as theſe armies already were, they were obliged to detach from thence a ſtrong body of cavalry into the interior of the kingdom to ſuppreſs the numerous inſurrections there.

The ruling junto ſeem to have been long aware of theſe evils, and have made every exertion in their power to overcome them. Senſible that their whole reliance is on the *ſans culottes*, all their views have been ſteadily directed to the obtaining the favour of the mob. It has been repeatedly declared that aſſeſſments ſhall be made upon the rich to pay for the accommodation of the poor; and it has been lately declared, that grain ſhall be ſold to the poor at a low price, and that the money to pay for the defalcation of that price to the baker, ſhall be aſſeſſed from the rich; but afraid to put this decree into actual execution, the decree is not to take effect till the firſt of November. Even this deſigneur not having produced that hearty concurrence which was expected, other ſchemes have been adopted. To keep the populace attached to their cauſe, the groſſeſt falſehoods have been fabricated. In this line, BARRERE has become ſingularly conſpicuous of late. On the firſt of Auguſt, he announced in the convention, that a letter from Mr PITT had been intercepted, containing directions for fomenting diſſentions in France; and is beſides evidently calculated to throw public odium on certain perſons they diſliked. It produced the following decree, which ſufficiently marks the ſtate of mind of the convention at the time.

Decree propoſed by BARRERE on the 1ſt of Auguſt, and decreed.

ART. I. The National Convention denounces the Britiſh government to Europe and the Engliſh nation.

II. Every Frenchmen that ſhall place his money in the Engliſh funds ſhall be declared a traitor to his country.

III. Every Frenchmen who has money in the Engliſh funds, or thoſe of any other power with whom France is at war, ſhall be obliged to declare the ſame.

IV. All foreigners ſubjects of the powers now at war with France, particularly the Engliſh, ſhall be arreſted, and ſeals put upon their papers.

V. The barriers of Paris ſhall be inſtantly ſhut.

VI. All good citizens shall be held, in the name of the country, to search for the foreigners who are concerned in the plot denounced.

VII. Three millions shall be at the disposal of the minister at war, to facilitate the march of the garrison of Mentz to La Vendee.

VIII. The minister at war shall send to the army on the coast of Rochelle all the combustible materials necessary to set fire to the forests and underwood of La Vendee.

IX. The women, the children, and old men, shall be conducted to the interior parts of the country.

X. The property of the rebels shall be confiscated for the benefit of the Republic.

XI. A camp shall be formed without delay between Paris and the northern army.

XII. All the family of the Capets shall be banished from the French territory, those excepted who are under the sword of the law, and the two offspring of Louis Capet, who shall remain in the temple.

XIII. Marie Antoinette shall be delivered over to the Revolutionary Tribunal, and shall be immediately conducted to the prison of the Conciergerie. Louis Elizabeth shall remain in the temple till after the judgement of Marie Antoinette.

XIV. All the tombs of the kings which are at St Dennis, and in the departments, shall be destroyed on the 10th of August.

XV. The present decree shall be dispatched by extraordinary couriers to all the departments.

This disposition is still more distinctly marked by the following decree enacted on the 2 August on the proposal of COUTHON.

1. From the 4th of the present month, the theatres appointed by the Municipality shall act, three times a week, *Brutus*, *Caius. Gracchus*, *William Tell*, and other pieces of this kind, proper to maintain in the hearts of Frenchmen the love of liberty and republicanism.
2. One of those pieces shall be acted once a week at the expence of the republic.
3. Every theatre which shall dare to act pieces tending to revive royalty, shall be shut up, and the managers shall be dealt with according to law.

The speeches of the leading men in the Convention are all directed to rouse a spirit of patriotism, which seems impossible to be atchieved; for notwithstanding the shouts of applause within doors, their effects without doors are not perceptible. Why have we not already, said DANTON on the 2d. August, dragged to the frontiers an immense body of citizens? In several departments the people are fired with indignation at this effeminacy, and have demanded that the tocsin of general alarm should be sounded. The people have more energy than you. Liberty has always proceeded from that part. If you shew yourselves worthy of them, they will follow you, and your enemies will be exterminated. [*Applauses*]. I demand that the Convention will erect into a provisional government its Committee of Public Safety; that the ministers shall be only the first clerks of the provisional government; and that 50 millions shall be at the disposal of that government, who shall give an account of it at the end of the session, but who shall have full power to expend the whole in one day, if they think such a measure useful. - - - From this date you must commit to the disposal of government, one hundred millions, for the purpose of casting cannon, and making muskets and pikes. In all the most considerable towns, the anvil ought never to be struck but to forge that iron which you are to turn against your enemies.—When the harvest is ended, you must draw from

each Commune an additional force, and you will find that you have no occasion to despair.

On the 12th August, BARRERE brought up a report from the Committee of Public Safety; in which, among a variety of other matter, he produces another intercepted letter from Dunkirk, in which he plots of the English ministry are said to be made manifest. "At the end of September, it says, all the bankers of London, Amsterdam, Vienna, and Hamburg, are to stop all payment. No bill will be honoured, and when they will be sent back to the drawer, payment ought likewise to be stooped in France in the same manner. This stoppage will give a general shock to all property, and occasion an utter confusion in your Republic, which will conduct the allied powers to the end which they propose to themselves." He then produces another letter for the same purpose, dated Hamburg, August 2d, containing these words: "A petition, signed by 200,000 persons, has been addressed to the king, demanding a peace with France, and justice to be done upon the ministers: The petition declares, that the petitioners are ready to march to London, where the good citizens are disposed to punish the traitors."—[*Applause.*]—Having thus endeavoured to excite hopes of success, he returns to the *report*. "The national guards, says he, and recruits have received orders to march to St Quentin. We want arms, and the fields still occupy many hands. The cattle and the crops are transporting into the interior parts of the Rupublic. We must strike some great blow: The administrators do not properly spirit up the people.—A grand movement must be made; Paris must rise once more; *we ought to blockade the enemy before St Quentin, else the Republic is undone!* Your committee has ordered 18,000 men, taken from the armies of the Rhine and the Moselle, to reinforce the army of the north; and the last battalion of these I can assure you, arrived there three days ago, and it will shortly be augmented by 30,000 more patriots." It concludes with these words. "Doubt not citizens but your enemies will be destroyed." The President, however, HERAULT DE SECHELLES, thinks it necessary to strenghten these impressions by the following speech.

"Citizens Commissioners of the French nation, when the French demanded a democratic constitution, they displayed their wisdom; by accepting it two days ago in the face of heaven, they shewed their majesty. Now it is time they should make their enemies feel their strength and their power. Depositaries of the wishes of the Primary Assemblies, let the words you have uttered resound throughout the empire, as a thunder of vengeance and destruction! Magnanimous nation! invincible in thy wrath, rise all, and France will in one day be tranquil. Let the south rise, and protect the north, as the north might screen the south. What can our enemies do, who employ their forces against us not so much as their detestable perfidy? We—we all swear by the Genius of the Republic, we will crush them, we will triumph! Distant or rival nations will join us. In despite of the barriers raised by despotism, liberty warrants the concordance of every heart. The national plastic power, the cry of humanity, will arise in a dreadful roar; our eyes, refreshed with comfort, will view from one side the immense and sacred mass of freemen, and on the other an handful of princes and wretched beings and their graves." [*Applauses.*]

The torpor still continuing, BARRERE returns to the same subject on the 14th; "Your committee has been employed in regulating the movement which must be made for the defence of the frontiers, and of la Vendee. It would be betraying the cause of liberty to attempt to conceal that grand measures are called for. The squadrons of the enemy block up our ports; the Piedmontese have had some success; la Vendée is torn by civil discord;

the Austrians and Prussians are advancing; Pitt is expending gold to ruin us; and the fanaticism of religion and royalty misleads the weak minded. The 10th of August was calm, like the reason of the people, and has recorded our oaths in heaven. The envoys from the Primary Assemblies ought to receive the honourable mission of going to warm the public spirit, of inviting the citizens to the common defence, and to destroy the federal efforts of the departments. With such an immense population, and such an abundant harvest, can we be subdued? Did not Louis XIV. resist all Europe? Did not Louis XII destroy the league of Cambray?—Do not the plains of Fontenoy still exist for the soldiers of liberty? Make but an effort of courage for two months more, and our liberty will be secured. Envoys of the people! your mission is about to be consecrated. The 30,000 cavalry already decreed are wanting to our armies.—cannot each of our municipalities furnish one? "I summon you said the infamous Brunswick, to the French, last year, to furnish to-morrow so many men and horses, and so much ammunition."

"Frenchmen, what you gave on the brutal requisition of an Austrian, will you refuse to the republic? Ye commissioners from Lyons, Toulon, Marseilles, la Losere, la Vendee, Eures, and Calvados, you have also a noble mission. Destroy the calumnies thrown out against Paris. Tell your fellow citizens, that if they still resist the voice of their country, their country will be enslaved. Tell the French youth, that they are all in a state of requisition. Let them display valour, union, and unanimity, and victory will be ours."

Barrere then proposed the plan of a decree, the object of which was, that the envoys of the people should be charged to propagate the principles of the unity and indivisibility of the republic, and to invite the French youth to defend the common cause.—Decreed.

Barrere presented also the plan of an address to the French, which was also adopted.

Not yet satisfied that all this would do, Danton adds, "Barrere has not said all. He has spoken of the interest which the rich have to repel the enemy, but he has forgotten to say, that if there should be no longer safety for liberty or other resources, we ourselves must direct the vengeance of the people against the rich. (*Here the whole assembly rose up in testimony of approbation.*) Where patriotism is not sufficiently powerful, the commissioners ought to have the direct power of requisition. I move that they be invested with more direct and positive powers, and that commissioners, chosen from among yourselves, shall be appointed for each district, to concentrate themselves with the envoys of the same districts, in order that they may observe the greater unity in their movements."

All Danton's propositions were adopted.

Still farther to conciliate the good will of the mob, Barrere on the 15th, in the name of the Committee of public welfare, proposed a decree to supply Paris and all the cities and armies with the republic corn.

The Convention adopted the decree in four articles, by which all those farmers or others, who are in the possession of corn in the departments, are bound, on being summoned by the commissioners of the convention, to give up the same within twenty-four hours, under pain of being dealt with as traitors to the republic.

On the 16th, Barrere proposed that it should be declared, that the people of France declare by the mouth of their representatives, "that they will rise in one body, in defence of their liberty, of equality, and of the independence of their territories and constitution."

Decreed unanimously, amidst the loudest bursts of applause, and cries of *Long live the republic!*

And to keep up the spirits of the people a meſsenger is introduced to announce that the siege of Cambray was raiſed. "I present a standard, ſaid he, which has been taken from the Engliſh by the brave garrison of Cambray. After a blockade of several days, the enemy. tired with our frequent sallies, and the briſkneſs of our fire, retreated and raised the siege. My brothers in arms swore to be buried among the ruins of the place rather than surrender it to the enemy."

It is well known that the besiegers had received no check before Cambray at a much latter date.

On the 18th Aug. the executive council of France publiſhed a list of the republican armies, amounting to the grand total of 1,001,962 men, so exact are they in the enumeration as not to omit a single man

So far however are the people from adopting the unanimity declared by the mouth of their representatives, that the cities of Toulon, Marseilles, and Lions are declared to be in a state of insurrection and in great force; and in the Paris papers of Aug. 14th. A letter from Saumur, of the 13th inst. states that the royalists are aſsembling in great force at Chatillon and Chollet, and their forces amounted to between 4 ,000 and 50,000 men.

It did not seem improper to state these circumstances to our readers, as they plainly announce that the French government is at present in a state of debility which plainly announces an approaching change; which ought to influence in a considerable degree the conduct of the allied powers, as it is always much easier to prevent evils than to cure them.

Trial of the Queen of France.

The unfortunate Queen of France was taken from the temple on the 1st Aug. and lodged in the Conciergerie, a common prison, preparatory to her trial. She is said to have undergone five interogatories, all private, on which occasion it is said she behaved with great firmneſs and dignity. Probably the ruling powers expected this menœuvre would produce some effect, in which they were disappointed. Whether their present insecure state makes them dread the effects of proceeding to extremeties with her or not is uncertain; but at present the popular opinion at Paris is that she will be acquitted.

Even CUSTINE is not yet put to death that we have heard of. Ten French generals are now in different prisons, *viz.* BIRON, CUSTINE, LAMORLIERE, SANDOS, CHEZOT, WESTERMAN, L'ECUYER, MIRANDA, LEQUEVI, and STINGEL.

On the 25th of July Maret and Semonville and their suite, going as ambaſsadors from France, the first to Naples, the last to Constantinople, were arrested at Conio, a small place in the Austrian territories, and made prisoners. The women in their suite were sent back to France.

On the 10th of Aug. the new constitution was accepted by the deputies from the departments in the *Champ de mars* at Paris with great pomp and solemnity. No disturbance took place in the city on that occasion.

Venice and Tuscany.

Encouraged by the appearance of the Britiſh and Spaniſh fleets in the Mediteranian, in superior force, have now also declared against France.

Ruſsia, Sweden, and Denmark.

The Ruſsian fleet has now passed the sound, and is cruising in the north seas off the coast of Norway. The empress has sent a formal notification by the Ruſsian Charge des affaires at the court of Stockholm, that she will allow no neutral veſsels to paſs without being searched to discover if they are conveying provisions or warlike stores to France; and all this she says

happens upon this ground, that neutrality can find no place against a government composed of rebels.

The court of Petersburgh has ordered a similar declaration to be delivered to that of Denmark.

The ministers of Great Britain have also delivered a declaration of the same tenor to the governments at Stockholm and Copenhagen.

America.

A report prevailed since our last, that America had discovered very hostile intentions towards Great Britain, and seemed to be determined to depart from the principles of strict neutrality. This however, we had good reasons for being satisfied at the time was groundless report, and it has now subsided. A remonstrance however is said to have been received from the government of the United States in strong terms complaining against their vessels being occasionally detained, and insisting that they shall neither be detained nor searched. Should the same rule be applied to them, as to other neutral powers, (and it can scarcely be expected to be otherwise) this may occasion some umbrage on their part. We hope however, some mode will be contrived for preventing a breach on this head.

Poland,

Is at present completely dismembered. After being compelled to submit to the demands of the empress of Russia from a total inability to resist, they seemed to entertain hopes that by her means they might have been enabled to resist the demands of the King of Prussia; but this they could not effect, and they have at last submitted to his claim also. The King of Poland who seems to be a worthy man is so much hurt at these proceedings, that he talks of resigning his crown, and spending the remainder of his days in a private station.

Domestic,

This island continues quiet. The fleet commanded by the cautious Howe has sustained no damage. The nation believes that if fleets were fitted out merely for the purpose of being preserved, there never was so able a commander as Howe. But ignorant people doubt how far this is in all cases either wise or economical. They have not forgot Rodney in the last war who so happily adopted another system.

Manœuvring of fleets is but of modern date, and was little practised by the great Hawke. Though it is certainly of great importance to maritime affairs, yet it may be carried to too great a height. The English fleet manœuvred off the Chesapeak till Lord Cornwallis and his whole army were made prisoners of war, whom Admiral Grieves was sent to relieve; the masterly manœuvring on the memorable 27th of July 1778 prolonged the disastrous American war at least four years; and a late retrograde manœuvre will probably have the same effect in the present.

It does not now appear that the French maritime force in the West Indies is so considerable as it was represented; and no apprehensions are entertained for the safety of these islands.

East Indies.

By some late arrivals from the East Indies it appears that Tippoo is determined to fulfil the stipulations entered into by him in the late treaty; nor is their any immediate prospect of war in that quarter. Some of the northern circars are still threatened with famine.

Certain information has at last been obtained of the total loss of the Winterton East Indiaman on the coast of Madagascar in August 1792. The Captain, first mate, and about forty other persons perished. The remainder, near 200 were saved, but no part of the cargo.

Accounts have been received that Lord M'Cartney was safe in the straits of Sunda in April last, on his way to China, and informing that he had received dispatches from thence assuring him of a favourable reception in that kingdom. The following extract will be more fully satisfactory.

Sumatra April 2 1793.

"At Batavia, I am happy to inform you, that we met with the expected dispatches from China.

"The contents exceeded our most sanguine expectations. Amongst other papers was a letter written by the emperor himself, fraught with the most flattering promises with respect to our reception. And even expressing a strong impatience for our arrival.

"Orders are given, we understand, to every port on the Yellow sea, to administer to us every requisite assistance. The N. W. Monsoon, for which we are to wait, will not permit us however to see Pekin before the month of August.—The intermediate time we are to spend at Cochin China, and the adjacent islands

"Lord M'Cartney has expressed his intention, if the season permits, to return by the Southern passage. This determination will necessarily prolong our absence; but for this the idea of having encircled the globe, may with many be deemed a sufficient compensation."

MISCELANEOUS.

A dreadful fire lately happened at Archangel; upwards of 800 houses, with the cathedral and two other churches, are destroyed, together with the market, and a very great number of booths, stalls, carriages, *&c.* The court house and several fine stone buildings are among those laid in ashes. In fine, the sum total of the loss was not known when the last intelligence left the place, as every thing was still in confusion, and a total stop put to every kind of business. Great numbers of the poorer kind of people, who have lost their all, were obliged to take any kind of refuge in the neighbouring villages. The hospital was happily saved.

The resource looked to in this calamity, is the generosity of the Empress.

We are happy to hear, that the white herring fishery has set in this season with the most promising appearances of success. In the year 1791, the vessels fitted out from this part of the kingdom on bounty alone, caught 74,700 barrels of herrings, and in the year 1792, 82,500 barrels.

On the 30th Inst. came on before the high court of justiciary in Edinburgh the trial of Thomas Muir younger of Hunter's hill Esq. accused of propogating seditious opinions among the people. The jury were unanimous, *guilty*. He was sentenced to be banished for fourteen years from this country to any place beyond seas his majesty shall be pleased to appoint.

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