

Further Extracts from late English Papers.

ALARMING RESULT OF A FROLIC.—At this period of the year especially there is a disposition in the minds more particularly of some young people to play pranks by frightening each other with supposed apparitions or ghosts. The following lamentable fact may serve as a warning to those who thus thoughtlessly and wickedly impose upon their companions or friends. One certain evening, at the close of last week, three young men in Leeds agreed to frighten other three of their companions. Accordingly, one of them arrayed himself in something bearing the semblance of a winding sheet, and at an appointed hour made his appearance in the company with all the frightful appurtenances of a ghost. One of the young men, residing in Camp Road, struck with terror at the ghostly appearance, immediately made for the door, but one of his companions, (being in the secret,) having previously fastened it, he was unable to make his exit. Struck with terror at what he supposed to be a spectre, his senses forsook him, and since that period he has been in a state of raging madness. To the inexpressible grief of his parents and friends, no hopes are entertained that he will ever again be restored to sanity.

EXTRAORDINARY MURDER OF A BOY.—A short time since, John Smith, aged nine years, was sent by his father, a baker, in Houlston, to Shetford-hall, Norfolk, distant about a mile, with a basket of cakes. Whilst on his way, he met with another boy, named Barker, aged ten years, who accompanied him to Shetford-bridge, where the boys loitered, and Smith got astride on the parapet-wall of the bridge, when Barker took a cake from the basket, and ate it. Smith, upon this, began crying, and said he would tell his father. Barker then pushed him over the bridge. The boy did not return at night, and his body was found on yesterday week, when an inquest was held upon it, and a verdict of wilful murder was returned against Barker, who confessed having pushed the deceased into the water, and having eaten the remainder of the cakes, and spent the night in a shed, where the basket was found. Barker was then committed to the castle, to take his trial at the next assizes.

A horrible case was revealed to the sitting Alderman at the Guildhall, London, lately. A Mr. Snow, who had returned from Port Philip, gave such a glowing account of that colony and its prospects, that he induced some of his friends to emigrate. He undertook all details, and they were ready to depart from Plymouth, only waiting for him to go on board, when, finding that he did not appear, they went on board the vessel, and discovered that no places had been taken for them, that none of their property was on board, and that some trunks addressed to Mr. Snow, towards which he had directed the greatest care, as enclosing much valuable property, turned out to be filled with old paper, straw, bits of iron, and other rubbish. The condition of the parties thus robbed and left destitute may be conceived. One of them was Snow's own sister, whom he had induced to marry Mr. Williams, another of the party. She was very young, and had given up a handsome income for this "good speculation." Snow has not yet been discovered.

The University of Oxford has determined on purchasing by subscription the drawings of Michael Angelo and Raffaele, formerly in Sir Thomas Lawrence's collection; £500 has already been subscribed for the purpose; they will be placed in the new galleries now in course of erection in the University.

The County of Surrey Lunatic Asylum, capable of accommodating 300 patients, has been just completed, at the expense of £90,000.

Jewels of value, probably pledged by James or Charles, have been discovered in the Exchequer Office. It would have been well if this had been the only discovery lately made there.

The Marquis of Westminster has presented the munificent donation of £500 to the Society for the extinction of the Slave Trade, and the Civilization of Africa.

At a meeting of Chartists, at Ipswich, on Wednesday, to consider the best means to relieve the appalling distresses of the labouring poor, it was agreed that application should be made to the government for a grant of £20,000,000, to locate the poor on the waste land. Some of the speakers thought they must wait until they had obtained the charter before their application would be granted.

There has been produced this season, at Poplar Bank, Kinnoul, a potato measuring in girth 15 inches by 14, and weighing one pound and three quarters.—Ayr Observer.

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.—The Dædalus, Captain Martin, arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday, from the coast of Africa. Captain Martin reports that the Niger expedition entered the Nun branch of the Niger between the 13th and 15th of August, the Soudan leading. The expedition had, up to that date, lost nine hands by death.—We have much gratification in stating, that the above news from Liverpool, of mortality among the persons engaged in the expedition to the Niger, proves to be greatly exaggerated. A letter from a gentleman on board the Albert, dated off the Nun, August 10, says—"The Wilberforce, Soudan and Amelia joined us yesterday; the officers and men of all the vessels, so far as I can learn, are in good health." On the 18th he again writes—"We are now anchored above Alburkah Island, having passed over the shallow part of the narrow creek, where we had 14 feet water, with the Amelia tender in tow; the Wilberforce and the Soudan come up to-morrow morning. There is one coloured man in the Albert, and another in the Wilberforce, who have the African fever, but the symptoms are favourable; both these men were West India negroes, and entered the ships in England. With these exceptions, I am happy to say, the officers and men of the expedition are quite well." A letter from another gentleman, dated on board the Albert, the 19th of August, says—"We entered this river on the 14th. The health of the whole expedition has been all along very good, considering the number engaged in it, and any illness of consequence which has occurred has been almost exclusively confined to the black men. In the Albert we have unfortunately lost two men; a white fell from the foreyard arm during our passage from Sierra Leone to Cape Coast, and died two hours after the accident from injury to the brain; the other was Mr. Back, the mathematical instrument maker, who was attacked on the 9th inst. with symptoms of fever of a low typhoid kind. It appears that he had been suffering for some time with dyspepsia, and this attack supervening upon a constitution previously debilitated, proved fatal on the 15th; there evidently was nothing local in the cause of his death." A letter from the chaplain to the expedition, dated the 18th of August, says—"All the officers and people of the whole squadron enjoy at present perfect health."

From letters received up to the date of the 20th of August, the whole of the losses sustained appear to have been three, from casualties during the voyage, which, with two coloured men and one European, the latter not from African fever, comprise the entire loss of life sustained by the expedition from the time of its quitting England to the 20th August. The total number employed in the expedition is about 300 persons.

IDOLATRY IN INDIA.—The Calcutta papers lately received contain a most melancholy account of the celebration of the festival of Juggernaut in June last. Upwards of two hundred thousand natives attended the disgusting exhibition; and the rites were performed with more than ordinary pomp and display. Many Europeans were also present, and it is suggested that their lively eagerness to gain an early sight of the elephantine image, left on the native mind a very general impression that they really believed in the divinity or power of the hideous idol. The fearful results of the festival were more than ordinarily disgusting and demoralizing. The "heavenly" town of Poree was filled with cholera, death, and putrescence. Its hospitals presented scenes which ordinary nerves shrank from: the dead were turned out every twenty-four hours. Starvation, nakedness, disease, mingled in the crowded streets with mortality. The various roads to the town were interrupted by the bodies of the dead and the dying; the vultures fed on the carcasses decaying, and a pestilence prevailed in all the surrounding districts.

PUSEYISM.—It is of the essence of Puseyism to repudiate the right of any man to think or act for himself. It demands the surrender of his private judgment, and the independence of his action, to the teachings and injunctions of the Church. Men are to be mere machines—passive agents, equally in civil and religious matters. "Hear the Church," is the sum and substance of Puseyism. It sets aside, with unceremonious hand, the Bible and the Constitution; and would compel universal obedience to its despotic dicta. It usurps authority over the State and the Sovereign, and is prepared to trample on monarchy itself, should it dare to oppose its designs.—London Advertiser.

THE PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC POPULATION OF PRUSSIA.—In Prussia, according to the latest census, it appears that there are about eight Protestants to five Catholics, while all the other sects compose but one-seventieth of the whole population. In Berlin there are more Jews than in any other town, viz., 5,645; and in Potsdam 2,576.

JEWISH GENEROSITY.—The following details, from a Hamburg paper, run pleasingly counter to the popular idea concerning the cupidity of the "Jewish nation":—"Herr Solomon Heine, the rich Israelite banker of our town, who has so often distinguished himself by his patriotism and munificence, has just afforded two additional proofs of liberality which deserve to be generally published. The Lutheran church of the parish in which M. Heine resides being in a very tottering condition, and the Lutheran parishioners not possessing or not being able to contribute the necessary funds to secure its thorough repair, it was resolved that a collection should be made throughout the parish, without religious distinction. The deputation entrusted with the task of making the collection presented themselves first at M. Heine's with the list, which was still a 'virgin page.' 'Gentlemen (said the banker), I shall contribute to the repairs of your church with the utmost pleasure; but I can by no means accept the honor you offer me of inscribing my name at the head of the list. Go to Herr Von Bauer, the richest of your own parishioners, and entreat him to head the subscription: whatever he gives, I will give the same.' The deputation followed his counsel, and Herr Von Bauer, perceiving that the requisite sum was 30,000 current marks (about 2,000l.) subscribed with splendid liberality for half the amount. The deputation having again presented themselves before Herr Heine, that gentleman immediately handed them an order upon his cashier for a like sum, thus completing at once the entire subscription, and exonerating the poorer parishioners from the necessity of a single farthing of outlay. Another splendid instance of Herr Heine's generosity was afforded a week or two previously, under the following circumstances:—An individual named T——, the head of one of the oldest commercial houses in Hamburg, called on Herr Heine, and solicited a loan to cover a liability for an accepted bill to the amount of 30,000 marks (about 2,000l.) He complained to Herr Heine that if this bill was protested, both he and his partners, with their numerous families, would be ruined, and entreated the banker to convince himself of the accuracy of his representations by inspecting the books of the house. The banker entered his chief clerk's office for a moment, and then accompanied T—— to his own house. There he satisfied himself, by an examination in detail, of the actual position of T——'s affairs, reproached him slightly for his imprudence in compromising the greater part of his fortune by a hazardous speculation, and afterwards handed him a paper folded in the form of a letter, using the words:—'Take this paper; it is all I am able to do for you at present.' The banker then withdrew hurriedly, as if greatly pressed by business. We need scarcely say that T—— immediately tore open the letter, when, to his astonishment and delight, he found therein his own acceptance for 30,000 marks, noted with the words 'Pay at your leisure.—S. Heine.'

FITTING RETRIBUTION.—A letter from Lille, in the Constitutionnel, states that a man in that place had met with his death by swallowing a live mouse. He was in a public house, and the mouse having just been caught, he laid a wager that he would swallow it alive. He did so, but immediately afterwards was attacked by violent convulsions, and in three hours was a corpse.

THE CHINESE TAILOR.—Among the many whimsical anecdotes told of the peculiar habits of the Chinese, perhaps few will be considered more characteristic of their love of imitation than the following:—Towards the close of the last century an officer of the "Pitt" East India-man, when that ship lay off Canton, sent ashore to a native an order for a dozen pair of trowsers, to be made of the nankeen for which China has been so long famed. The Chinese artisan required a pattern; he could not make anything without a pattern. So a pair of trowsers were sent at his request, which pair had been mended with a patch and needlework on the knee. In due time the dozen pairs were sent on board, of a fabric of exceeding beauty for fineness and quality, but every pair bearing, like an heraldic badge, the obnoxious patch on the one knee, exactly copied, stitch for stitch, in a style that reflected the highest credit on the mechanical skill of the workman, and for the difficult execution of which an extra charge was made upon the purse of the exasperated owner, who had no alternative but to bring home his bargain as a qualification for the Travellers' Club.

THE COUNTRY OF PARIS.—One of the great charms of Paris, as a metropolitan residence, consists in the peculiarly rural character of the environs. Up to the very gates of the city, the country is really country; and within view of the exterior Boulevards small farms are carrying on their agricultural operations with all the rude simplicity of our remote counties. Instead of the ten miles of Villas and Londonized hamlets surrounding our metropolis, the student walks out from the Pays Latin to watch the process of the harvest, or from the Quartier des Invalides proceeds to botanize in the woods of Mendon or Vincennes. This is again partly the result of the absence of coal-smoke. It is well known that many species of flowers (the yellow rose for instance) will not blossom within ten miles of London; Paris, on the contrary, produces the finest flowers, not alone in the royal gardens of the Tuilleries and Luxembourg, but in the nursery-grounds of the famous rose-growers Noisette and Laffay, which in the Faubourg St. Germain enjoy advantages such as it would be necessary to retreat many miles from London to secure. In the older portions of Paris, every house of note has its garden; and it is sometimes startling, in a narrow, gloomy, obscure street, to perceive, at the extremity of a long passage, a grove of green acacias, or some of those gaudy flower-pots which the dry and sunny climate clothes with such brilliant colours.

CONSUMPTION OF ANIMAL FOOD IN LONDON.—Of the quantity of cattle annually disposed of in Smithfield market, the number is ascertained to amount of 156,000 calves, 21,000 calves, 150,000 sheep, and 26,000 pigs.—This does not, however, by any means, form the total consumed in London, as large quantities of meat in carcasses, particularly pork, are daily brought from the counties round the metropolis. The total value of cattle sold in Smithfield annually is calculated at £8,250,000. The quantity of poultry annually consumed in London is supposed to cost between £70,000 and £80,000; the game depends on the plentifulness of the season. There is nothing, however, more surprising than the sale of rabbits; one salesman in Leadenhall market, during a considerable portion of the year, is said to have sold 14,000 rabbits weekly. It is supposed that a million a year is expended on fruits and vegetables. The consumption of wheat amounts to a million of quarters annually; of this four-fifths are supposed to be made into bread, being a consumption of sixty-four millions of quarter loaves every year, in the metropolis alone. The annual consumption of butter in London amounts to about 11,000, and that of cheese, 13,000 tons. The money paid annually for milk is supposed to amount to nearly £1,250,000.

THE IRISH MIDDLE-MAN.—A middle-man was usually, in his origin, "one of the people," who having made money, took a farm, or an estate—rented a hundred, or, as was often the case, a thousand acres; the landlord in chief, generally an absentee, looked to him alone for the payment of his half-yearly rent, and knew nothing whatever of the condition of the cottiers who dwelt upon his estate; if we add that he cared nothing, as well as knew nothing, we shall not be far from the truth; for while pursuing a course of pleasure in the metropolis—in Dublin, sometimes, but in London more frequently—he was far away from the sight of their sufferings. The peasantry, badly housed, badly clothed, badly fed, were no way necessary either to his luxuries or his necessities; the middle-man was always a punctual paymaster, and he was the only person upon his estate with whom the landlord was brought into contact, or called upon to correspond. This middle-man had to transmit to his employer perhaps three or four thousand pounds—often more—every year. And how was he to procure it? First, his system was to parcel out the estate into small bits—seldom more than two or three acres to each, but generally averaging an acre. These "bits" were invariably let annually, and never on lease; the occupier, therefore, had no temptation to cultivate the land. His slip of ground seldom bore any other produce than potatoes; these were designed solely for the consumption of his own household and the support of a pig, which, if it lived, and no unusual misfortune attended the family, was "to pay the rent." Of course, the land was let at the highest possible rate, and to the highest or most thoughtless bidder; the middle-man had to pay the landlord, and grow rich himself; as the tenant was invariably in arrear, he was at all times in the power of the middle-man; and the putting on of a new coat, the addition of a trifling article of furniture, or the appearance of any thing like comfort in or around his dwelling, was a sure and certain notice that the bailiff would be "down upon him" ere the sun had set. This infamous system is, as we have said, almost at an end; out of it arose the wretchedness of the Irish peasantry, and unhappily it originated a war between landlord and tenant, the effects of which have not disappeared with the cause.—Mr. and Mrs. Hall's Ireland.

CONSCIENCE.—The good or evil we confer on others, very often, I believe, recoils on ourselves; for as men of a benign disposition enjoy their own acts of beneficence equally with those to whom they are done, so there are scarce any natures so entirely diabolical as to be capable of doing injuries without paying themselves some pangs for the ruin which they bring on their fellow-creatures.—Fielding.

The following inscription is on a stone in the wall of Chiswick church-yard:—"This wall was made at ye charges of ye Right Honourable and truly pious Lorde Francis Russell, Earle of Bedford, out of true zeale and care for ye keeping of this church-yard, and ye wardrobe of God's saints, whose bodies lay therein buried, from violation by swine, and other profanation.—So witnesseth William Walker, Vo. A. D. 1623."

ECONOMY is the parent of integrity, of liberty, and of ease; and the beauteous sister of temperance, of cheerfulness, and health: and profuseness is a cruel and crafty demon, that gradually involves her followers in dependence and debates; that is, fetters them with "irons that enter into their souls."

PIG PENS.—I made a yard, adjoining the hog-pen, equal to ten or twelve feet square, for each hog, in which I deposit a layer, at least a foot thick, of black swamp earth, such as may be easily obtained in dry time by almost every farmer. The hogs having a way to pass, deposit all their manure in the yard, which leaves the pen clean and healthy, a decided advantage in fattening hogs. If the yard becomes very muddy, I throw in litter. After the hogs are killed, I deposit another layer of the like earth, of about half the thickness of the former, and put up my store pigs to winter, which I think is far better than to suffer them to run at large. In the spring, I have a fine rich yard of manure, which I verily believe, when judiciously applied, pays more than a hundred per cent.—Cultivator.

FATTENING CATTLE.—We would suggest, that a yard is better than a field for winter feeding and littering stock, and a barn or shed better than a stack for secu-

ring hay. If cattle are fed from a stack in a grass field, the sod is broken, the ground badly poached, the manure virtually lost, and the fodder wasted. All these evils are avoided by feeding in a yard, particularly if the stock are fed in mangers, under cover. They may be tied while feeding on hay, and loosened in the day time, while feeding on the straw litter in the yard. The saving in manure and fodder, the great materials of fertility and profit, will far more than compensate for extra trouble and expense. We beg leave to repeat our recommendation, to give cattle access to salt daily, and we do it after having pursued the practice for a dozen years, with high satisfaction. Salt is of the same use to beasts as it is to man—it is a healthful condiment—a preventive and often a cure for disease. Man finds it most congenial to these ends, and most grateful to the palate, when taken with his daily food—and it is no less so to dumb animals. When permitted free access to salt, farm stock never take it in excess, and consume but very little, if any more, in a season, than when given to them once or twice a week. We learn from a work now before us, that in Spain they attribute the fineness of the wool to the quantities of salt given to sheep; that in England 1,000 sheep consume at the rate of one ton of salt annually. Our practice is, to have salt troughs under our cattle sheds, where they are secure from rain, and to have salt in them, accessible to the farm stock, at all times.—Ib.

(To the Editor of Bell's Weekly Messenger.)

In looking over your paper of the 1st November, inst. I observed with some surprise your report of the discussion of the Maidstone Farmers' Club, relative to the preparation of seed wheat to avoid smut, because it is a generally-received maxim in agriculture, that the more simple the process by which a result can be obtained, the better, whereas each succeeding speaker's suggestion seemed to exceed the last in complication, danger and trouble. Salt, lime, boiling water, sulphur, blue vitriol, blue stone, arsenic, sea water, and chamber lye, are recommended as specifics; and surely none can deny the ingenuity and perseverance manifested in thus laying under contribution so many of nature's productions, while the most obvious and simple remedy appeared to have been entirely overlooked, and which remedy has the sanction of upwards of 30 years' most successful experience; so much so, that I would challenge the farmers at Maidstone to produce their books against mine as to the prices realised for their wheat during that period. My remedy against smut is this—the wheat is put into an open tub, and water poured upon it sufficient to cover it to the depth of six or eight inches; it is then well stirred with the hands, and the light diseased corns will rise to the top; the tub is then gently elevated at one end, and the water drained off, carrying the refuse with it, the operators taking care that none of the better corns escape during the process. After performing this ceremony a second time, it is thrown on a stone or brick floor, and lime sifted over it, simply for the purpose of drying it. Two men can prepare as much as 15 sacks a-day in this manner. Though this is my invariable preparation, I consider that much evil may be avoided by proper care and attention in the selection of seed, whereas many farmers, with a short-sighted economy, choose their seed on account of its low price. The wheat should also be thoroughly winnowed, as much that would turn to smut would be carried off in the tailing. Should these hints appear to you calculated for usefulness, you will perhaps find a place for them in your valuable journal, as the testimony of

A SOUTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FARMER.

The Colonial Herald.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1842.

We feel much disappointment at the non-arrival of a Mail since the 19th ult. The couriers from this side have made repeated attempts to cross, but have been unable to get any distance from the land, in consequence of the quantity of loose floating ice in the Strait.

In consequence of the recent fall of snow, and which is now likely to remain on the ground, the town for the last two days has presented quite an animated appearance, the streets every where resounding with the sound of the merry sleigh bells. The quantity of snow which has yet fallen, is, however, barely sufficient to make travelling practicable. Hitherto business has been extremely dull, owing to the state of the roads, which rendered the conveyance of commodities of any magnitude for any distance almost impossible.

We have had no arrivals during the past week, although several vessels are yet expected from St. John's, Newfoundland, and other quarters. The winds, however, have been unfavourable, although the weather, for the season, has been fine. The navigation continues unimpeded, there being only some floating ice in the harbour. The only vessels now in port are H. M. hired surveying vessel *Gulnare*, which has been dismantled and laid up for the winter, and a few coasting schooners, also dismantled.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

On Wednesday evening last, a Meeting was held, for the purpose of electing Office-bearers for the ensuing year, and for other business. His Honor the President was in the Chair, and read the following Report, which he had prepared—and which was ordered to be published:—

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHARLOTTETOWN MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

Your Committee have great pleasure in appearing before their constituents, since they are enabled to announce the growing prosperity and increasing usefulness of the Institution—an announcement which, they trust, will stimulate their successors to increased energy in its management, and secure for them the support and countenance of the members, and of their intelligent and liberal fellow-townsmen. Since the last Session of the Institute, His Excellency Sir Charles A. Fitz Roy, our late esteemed Patron, was removed from the Government of this Colony, to that of the Leeward Islands, and the office of Patron thereby became vacant. Upon the arrival of his successor, Sir Henry Vere Huntley, an Address was adopted from the Office-bearers and Members of the Institute, and presented to His Excellency, requesting him to become our Patron—to which request he kindly consented; and from the liberal sentiments which His Excellency expressed, in his answer to the Address, your Committee are led to the conclusion, that His Excellency will be a Patron to this Institute, not only in name, but also in the more enlarged signification of the term.

The courses of Lectures delivered during the year, under the superintendence of your Committee, have been as follows, namely:—

The Rev. A. V. G. Wiggins, on Astronomy; Dr. MacLaren, on Chemistry; John Little, Esq., on Physical Geography; Rev. R. bert Douglas, on the proposition, "That moderate abilities, combined with application, prudence and economy, are better adapted to a man's success in life than splendid talents without them;" Dr. Conroy, on Animal Physiology; Hon. Charles Young, on Public Speaking; Rev. Robert Patterson, on Philosophy; William Cooper, Esq., on Winds and Currents; the Rev. John Geddie, on Meteorology; Mr. John Macneill, on Education; Rev. John Knox, three lectures upon "Mental Philosophy, as developed by