MISCELLANEOUS.

St. Michael's Oranges.—The trees are planted at about twenty-five to thirty feet apart, in regular rows, protected by tall shady hedges. They take seven years to arrive at maturity, and from that age, if properly cared for, continue to bear well, till they attain to a good size and an enormous age. In good seasons some of the large trees yield as many as twenty boxes, of a thousand oranges each, and as many as twenty-six thousand fruit have been known to be gathered from one of these prolific trees. No wonder that, during the ripening season, large supports have to be placed under the branches, to prevent them from being torn away from the trunk by the great weight of plump and juicy fruit that glows amidst their glossy foliage.—The quintas of the Azores are full in blossom in the month of April. By October, the most forward oranges begin to ripen ; and in November, the first gathering is made for the London market. The orange harvest occurs in January and February ; and by the end of the latter month, the trees are cleared of their juicy burden, and most of the fruit has been despatched from the Islands. In Spain and Portugal, the same mode of culture is practised as in the Azores, excepting that there no fences are required to shade the trees. The orange-trees of these countries, however, are of greatly inferior size, and the average yield proportionably less; the usual annual crop of one of the Seville trees being about eight thousand. No less than three hundred millions of oranges are annually consumed in this country, and to transport that number here gives employment to upwards of two hundred vessels.

Charity.—The Jews would not willingly tread upon the smallest piece of paper in their way, but took it up ; for possibly, said they, the name of God may be on it. Though there was a little superstition in this, yet, truly, there is nothing but good religion in it, if we apply it to men. Trample not on any ; there may be some work of grace there that thou knowest not of. The name of God may be written upon that soul thou treadest on ; it may be a soul that Christ thought so much of as to give his precious blood for it ; therefore, despise it not. —*Leighton.*

Sad Accident to a Lady.—A lady who was passing along the south side of Chesnut street this morning, met with a sad mishap. Her dress was only moderately long, there not being more than a half of a yard of the costly material of which it was composed, trailing along the pavement. Notwithstanding this commendable moderation, the lady was victimized. A gentleman who was passing along, had the misfortune to tread upon this identical half of a yard, and an awful ripping was the result. The "gathers" being the weaker point, gave way first, and disclosed underneath a hooped arrangement, that might readily have been mistaken for a dimity cask. The lady looked daggers, and the innocent cause of the mishap declared his regret at the occurrence. He thought himself perfectly safe, he said, at the time of the accident, as he was fully four feet in the rear of the lady, and having his attention directed to her bonnet—which he was apprehensive was about falling off behind—he trod upon the train and caused the mischief. He was very sorry, but all he could do was to employ a stout lad who would gather up and carry the half-score yards of silk that hung from the lady, like a flag from its staff on a calm day. We did not learn whether or not the offer was accepted.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

A young man who was convicted of bigamy at Newburyport last spring, upon serving out his term of punishment, was met at the railroad station by his first wife, who took him to a clothing-store gave him a new rig, then presented to him $300 she earned since he deserted her, and they departed together for their former home in New Hampshire. If he isn't faithful to her for the rest of his life, he ought not to live long. It is only the woman that furnishes such instances of constant and forgiving love.

Violent Deaths in California.—The Alta California says:—The homicidal and accidental calendar in California, is one of fearful magnitude, and astounds us when we begin to contemplate and estimate the great number of persons who have met death by violent means, either designed or accidental in our young and scarcely populated State. Some attempts have been made to keep an account of the homicides, but they become so numerous, or so common, as to be unimportant, or from some other cause, the record has been discontinued. It is thought by those well calculated to judge from an extensive observation in California, that the number thus swept out of existence suddenly, and by violent means, will equal an average of about five per day. A great proportion of this estimate is from accidental causes, in consequence of the necessary exposure of the persons of those engaged in most mining localities. The Nevada journal upon this subject says:

"The number of men who meet with deaths in California, cannot be less than 1400 a year, at the rate these deaths are occurring amongst us at present. The number resulting from mining casualties is enormously large, and will doubtless continue to increase in proportion to the extension of hydraulic washing. Those killed in this manner are the bone and sinew of the State, and California could much better afford to lose another class of men. The deaths by banks caving exceeds at this time the homicide calendar. At the rate this mortality goes on, it will require the average number of men brought by five steamers to supply the places of those who meet with violent deaths."

Shocking Death — Capt. William Eaton, of Wells met with a most shocking death on Monday last. He was engaged in his mill sawing logs, when ,by some means not known he was thrown across the carriage which supports the logs, and directly in front of the saw, and was sawn completely through, part of his body falling through the mill into the stream below. Capt. Eaton was very much respected, and his sudden and shocking death has caused a profound sensation in the town, He was aged about 66 years. He was alone in the mill at the time.—Portland Advertiser.

Paper has been made from the bark stripped from cotton stalks, with favorable results. The Savannah Republican says:

"The practice with the planters hitherto has been, after the cotton has been gathered, to collect the plants into heaps before preparing the ground for another crop, and burn them,out so that the hemp that may hereafter be obtained from them will be a clear gain, and add so much additional to the yield of their cotton fields."

From twenty-six medical colleges in the United States, there graduated, last year, about thirteen hundred doctors.

Ireland.—Once more emigration is on the increase, and the peasantry are leaving the country in large numbers.

A VISIT TO EDINBURGH—THE UNIVERSITY, &c.

Correspondence of the Newark Advertiser.

This city owes its prosperity almost entirely to its literary and scientific institutions, its University and law courts. The commerce of the place is very trifling. I visited, this morning, the Parliament House, where the courts of justice are held. Lord President McNiel presided, and there was a formidable array of lawyers, engaged in trying a case for damages sustained in a coal-pit. The judge, as well as the lawyers, were dressed in flowing gowns and capacious wigs. Nothing looks more odd, or more ridiculous, than to see these lawyers, many of them young men, with black gowns and enormous wigs, the curls reaching down to their shoulders. The proceedings were somewhat different from those in our own court. The oath is administered to the witness by the judge, and the lawyer, in making his examination, stands up, and does not resume his seat till through with the witness.* No interruption is allowed by opposing counsel ; everything is conducted with the most rigid decorum. Adjoining the court room is a spacious hall in which the Scottish Parliment was formerly held. It is 120 feet long by 50 wide, has a curious and elaborately wrought ceiling of oak, and the floor is made of the same material, laid in large blocks.

The sides of the room are adorned with several beautiful statues by Chantry, among which were those of Lord Melville, Blair, and Jefferies, the celebrated editor of the Edinburgh Review, who was one of the judges of the Court. This room is appropriately called the suitor's room, as it is exclusively used by those having suits at Court. The library room is exceedingly tasteful and beautiful, 140 feet long, 40 wide and 35 high. In the centre is a cupola, ornamented with paintings in oil of Apollo and the Muses. The library, a rare and choice collection, consists of upward of 60,000 volumes The vestibule and stairs are slso adorned with portraits and busts of distinguished men. In front of the main entrance to the courts is a statue of Charles II. In the commercial towns of Scotland, there are no lawyers. All the law business of the whole country is transacted in this city, and the number of judges, advocates, writers , &c., exceeds twelve hundred. While in the court room, during the progress of the trial, one of the counsel took occasion to make a fling at the medical profession, expressing his regret, that there were so many contradictions and uncertainties in medicine. From no class of men does a remark of this kind come with so ill a grace as from gentlemen of the bar.—They seem to forget the law's delay, and its worse than uncertainty. The lines of the poet are full of force and truth.

"There was on both sides much to say,
He'd hear the cause another day—
And so he did—and then a third
He heard it—then he kept his word
But with rejoinders or replies,
Long bills, and answers stuffed with lies
For twenty years the cause was spun,
And then stood where it first begun."

The grounds in the immediate vicinity of the Parliament House, now an open space, was once a portion of St. Giles's churchyard, and here were interred the remains of John Knox, but the precise spot where he was buried is unknown. The house in which the great reformer lived and died is situated in Canongate street, and is carefully preserved. There is a window on the North side, where a pulpit was formerly erected and from which Knox was accustomed to address the people. Here are to be seen his sitting room and study, which latter is a very small room 9 feet long by 6 wide, the pannelings of oak, with an old oaken door and primitive knocker. It was in this room, that he composed his history of the reformation.

In Canongate street, most of the noblemen resided when Holyrood House was occupied by Queen Mary. The most conspicuous of these ancient mansions of the nobility, is that of the Earl of Foray.—Oliver Cromwell took up his residence in this house in 1648. It has an old stone balcony in front. The building is now used as a school-house, belonging to the Free Church of Scotland. In the neighborhood of this house is a venerable-looking building which for a long series of years was the principal hotel in Edinburgh. It was at this inn, that Dr. Johnson stopped with Boswell on his way to the Hebrides.

One of the most attractive objects in this remarkable city, is the superb monument of Walter Scott. The design is most beautiful. It is 80 feet high, with fluted turrets. On the pedestal fronting the street is placed a marble statue of the poet and novelist, and which is considered an excellent likeness.

The University Buildings are very showy and ornamental. The number of students registered is nearly twelve hundred. The quadrangle is 358 feet long by 255 wide. The pillars of the portico are 26 feet in height, each one of solid stone. The library consists of 90,000 volumes, with many valuable and curious manuscripts. There is in the room a fine statue of Burns. The museum has a good collection of birds and animals, and a large number of interesting fossil remains. There is here a table of Napoleon, used by him at St, Helena, with a burnt spot, marked by his segar. On the opposite side of the street is the Royal Infirmary. The building is three stories high, with two long wings. Over the principal entrance is a statue of George II., in Roman costume. On one side of the statue are the words, "I was naked and ye clothed me," and on the opposite side, "I was sick and ye visited me." The Royal College of Surgeons is a beautiful structure, with a noble hall hung round with the portraits of distinguished men, The Medical school of Edinburgh has always ranked among the first in Europe. Monroe, Cullen, Black and Gregory are among the eminent men who have filled professorships in this college. I had the pleasure of an introduction to Dr. Miller, the distinguished professor of surgery, and whom I received the most kind and marked attentions. This gentleman is in the prime of life, and unites profound learning and skill with the most pleasing manners.

One of the striking features of Edinburgh is the extraordinary height of the houses. Many of them are eight and ten, and some even twelve stories high. Each story is called a flat. I have often seen as many bell-pulls at the front door, as there were flats, each family having its appropriate bell. I took this afternoon what is called the Queen's Drive around Salisbury Craig. Near the top of the hill is the Queen's walk, which conducts to the Peak of Arthur's Seat. Walter Scott has rendered some of the localities about it doubly interesting in the "Heart of Mid Lothian." On the right of the Peak is the place where the rebel army was encamped before the battle of Preston Pans in 1745, and here to is the very spot near the site of the ruins of what was once a chapel where Jeanie Deans had her interview with Staunton, her sister's betrayer, and refused to save her life by a falsehood.

Yours, J. G. G.

* The same rule is now observed in the Supreme Court of New York,—Ed. Con. Adv.

The following is an extract from a letter received from Mr. John Ross, late of Boularderie, C. B. dated Ballarat, Australia, Nov. 10th 1855 :—

"Strange to say, we had an Election at the Mines of Victoria. Yes ; the Miners who were this time last year, thought nothing of better than to be shot down by the troops, and with the order of the Government, are this year allowed the privilege of returning two Members to represent them in our Assembly. But it is still more surprising, that the man who headed the mines against the troops last year, has been returned as one of our Members by the largest majority of any in this Province. This time last year, £500 was offered for his head by the Government, dead or alive. This may remind you of the circumstances connected with the present Emperor of the French.—Here we have no politicians ; we have no Howes or Johnstons , you would have no patience to listen to the senseless harangues about the Rights of the Crown, while the Rights of the people have been neglected.—The petty Government Officers here have carried on all manner of tyranny, bribery, and corruption ; which ought not to exist in a Country claiming to be a Colony of Great Britain. Public grievance will, however, in the course of time, obtain a hearing, even in Australia."—*C. B. News.*

The Two Bostons.—It would appear that the town of Boston, in Lincolnshire, and the town of Boston, in the United States, are very fraternal. At a vestry meeting held last weekin the Lincolnshire Boston, the vicar announced the receipt of two thousand dollars from the Hon. Edward Everett of Boston, Massachusetts, presented in the name of the descendants and admirers of the vicar of old Boston in the reign of Charles I., for restoring the south west chapel of St. Botolph's and the erection of a monument therein to the memory of the said vicar.—*Jerrold's Weekly, 12th.*

Artificial Propagation of Fish.—This subject is now attracting on this side of the Atlantic much attention. The Boston Journal informs us, that a strong movement is there being made to secure the aid of the State in an attempt to repeople the ponds, brooks and water courses with fish. A committee of the legislature have the subject under consideration ; and the plan urged upon the committee has the support of Professor Agassiz, who has given his testimony to the perfect feasibility of the project. The Montreal Natural History Society have appointed a committee to consider the same matter, and report as to how it can be carried out in *this* Canada.—*Montreal Transcript*

A Man Building His Own Monument.—Dr. Orville Dewey has donated the earnings of his last winter's Lectures to his native village, to be expended in planting shade trees along its streets. And its children shall rise up and call him blessed.