

POETRY.

[FOR THE COLONIAL HERALD.]

THE BACHELORS' REPLY TO THE LAMENT OF THE SINGLE LADIES.

Dear Maids, how cruel you must be, To taunt us with our irony!

MISERABLE BEINGS.

Anecdote of Bishop Horne.—Humé the Deist remarked, that all the devout persons he had ever met with were melancholy.

The Lawyer.—The lawyer is more conversant and mixed up with the affairs of the world in general than any other human being.

An exciseman calling at the house of a good-humoured landlady at Shrewsbury, was consulted by her about some liquor that had been deposited in her cellar without a permit.

ART OF PHYSICIAN.—Few medicines are agreeable to the taste; but one of the principal objects of the art of prescribing is to modify their nauseous taste as much as possible.

Dr. Bowring tells a characteristic anecdote in his report that, when he expressed his surprise to Mehemet Ali, that the pilgrims going to Mecca, should avail themselves of the steamboats of the infidels which navigate the Red Sea.

My Lord Denbigh being about to marry a fortune, my Lord Gower asked him how long the honey-moon would last.

CROCKFORD'S.—This celebrated societe, the resort exclusively of the haut ton, no longer exists—True, the house stands where it did, and doubtless the new club will long bear the charmed name of Crockford's; but the Crockford's is no more, and the late proprietor has no longer any interest in the management of the table.

THE FAMILY OF JOAN OF ARC.—After so many centuries have intervened, it is indeed singular that we should acquire anything new respecting this wonderful woman.

A HOPEFUL SCION.—A late English paper says—Among the individuals proclaimed outlaws, on Monday week, in open Court, by Hemp, officer to the Sheriff of Middlesex, was the Hon. C. Manners Sutton, son of Viscount Canterbury, Ex-Speaker of the House of Commons.

BRAZILIAN INTRODUCTION.—The warmest manner in which one Brazilian can introduce another to a family is—"This is my friend—if he steal anything, I am accountable for it."

A FACT FOR THE NATURALIST.—In the bag of a cow, which was slaughtered by Mr. Charles Crumrack, of this town, was found a seven shilling piece, a large rusty nail three inches in length, and a handful of large sized shot.

OF A PRINTING PRESS.—A Mr. Lenormand, a French mechanic, has lately discovered the means of printing on one cylinder, both sides of the same sheet, which enables his mechanical press to act with a quickness double any hitherto known, and can produce 4,000 copies in an hour.

During the last year the Independents have built fifty-seven chapels in England, and considerably enlarged thirty-nine.

The Hon. Mrs. Fox, the widow of that celebrated statesman the late Charles James Fox, who is fast approaching her hundredth year, is now living at St. Anne's Hill, Chertsey.

BRITISH PAPER CURRENCY.—In 1839, the amount of bills in circulation in Great Britain and Ireland, was £132,123,460. In the year 1821, there were 114 executions in England and Wales. In 1828, the number was reduced to 59; in 1836, to 17; and in 1838, it was only 6.

IRON WAR STEAMERS.

(From the Liverpool Albion.)

Our readers will recollect the account which we gave, last year, of the two armed iron steamers, the Nemesis and the Phlegethon, built by Mr. John Laird, of North Birkenhead. They will also recollect, that both these vessels proceeded to the China Sea, and joined the expedition directed against the Chinese empire.

DUELS BETWEEN FRENCH WOMEN. That women, who can mostly get silly people to fight for them, should not fight themselves is natural, but there are instances on record in which ladies have shown their determination to avenge their own wrongs.

DEATH OF GENERAL SIR R. C. FERGUSON, G. C. B.—General Sir R. C. Ferguson, G. C. B., and M. P. for Nottingham, died on the 10th of April, at his residence in Bolton-row.

SAINT JOHN, N. B. MAY 8. K. C. H., FROM NEW BRUNSWICK. On Monday morning last, this distinguished Officer, who for the last four years has administered the government of this Province with credit to himself and satisfaction to the great body of the people, embarked on board the steamer Frederickon, Captain Akerly, at Head Quarters, for this city.

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steamer Madagascar arrived at Macao, from the Bogue, bringing intelligence that the Chinese commissioner had refused to accede to the terms proposed by the plenipotentiary, and that the latter had officially informed Commodore Bremer that the business was now placed in his hands.

Accordingly, on the 7th January, dispositions were made for attacking the forts in the Bocca Tigris. A force of about 1,300 men, under the command of Major Pratt, of the 26th regiment, was therefore landed in a Bay below Cheunpee fort, while Her Majesty's ships Calliope, Larne, and Hyacinth, took up a position opposite the lower battery of the fort, and opened a fire upon it, the steamers Queen and Nemesis throwing shells with great effect into the upper fort, so that the garrison were quickly compelled to evacuate it.

Simultaneously with this attack Her Majesty's ships Druid, Samarang, Modeste, and Columbine took up their position opposite the fort of Ty-cock-low which guards the Southern entrance of the Bocca Tigris, and opened a heavy fire, which was, for a short time, briskly returned; but it being soon silenced, a party of sailors landed, and after a determined resistance on the part of the Chinese, this fort was also captured.

After the capture of the forts, the steamers were sent to destroy the war junks in Anson's Bay; but the shallowness of the water admitted only of the approach of the Nemesis, towing some 10 or 12 boats. The junks endeavoured to escape, but a rocket from the Nemesis blew up the powder magazine of one of them, and 18 more, which were set on fire by the English boat crews, all successively blew up.

Preparations were then made for attacking the principal fort of Anunghoy on the following day, when a flag of truce was despatched to the superintendent, and hostilities ceased. The result of these affairs was the circular from Captain Elliot, dated January 20, which we have given amongst our extracts, together with the singular document of the imperial commissioner, Keshen.

Details of the attack on the forts, extracted from the Bombay Times and Canton Press, are given hereafter. The two forts were utterly destroyed, the guns rendered useless, and the numerous dead buried.

It appears that on the 21st all the ships had left the Bogue, and it was said that part of them would sail for Hong Kong immediately, and take final possession of the Island. The English colours had been removed from Cheunpee, and those of the Chinese nation substituted. Hong Kong is to be garrisoned by Her Majesty's 18th Royal Irish, and two 18-gun vessels are to constitute the naval force, which is to be under the command of Commodore Smith, C. B.

The Chinese have, as usual, published a great number of edicts, from the translations of which it seems that they still speak of the British nation with contempt.

McLeod was taken up by Mr. Hume, calling for papers in the case of 6th, but on the request of Lord Palmerston, who stated that while those matters, exciting a strong feeling on both sides of the Atlantic, were the subject of communication between the two governments, both of which entertained an anxious desire to bring the matter to an amicable and satisfactory termination, anything like a discussion of the details in the House, would only tend to delay, and perhaps to defeat the object, not only of the mover but of the English Government, and the Government of the United States—he consented to postpone the motion.

The British nation are rejoicing that Queen Victoria is again in a state of domestic solitude. There is a fair prospect that she will increase the pension list as much as her grandfather George III. Each of the nurses of the royal babies receives a retiring pension for life of 200 pounds sterling; and George III. had eleven nurses, living at one time with these pensions, amounting to 11,000 dollars a year, about half as much as the salary of the President of the United States.

DEATH OF GENERAL SIR R. C. FERGUSON, G. C. B.—General Sir R. C. Ferguson, G. C. B., and M. P. for Nottingham, died on the 10th of April, at his residence in Bolton-row. General Ferguson entered the army as an ensign on the 3d of April, 1790, and attained the rank of major-general in 1808.

On several occasions he distinguished himself as a gallant soldier and most able leader, but in the midst of a severe indisposition, by which his life was in imminent danger, to withdraw for a time from active service. By his death the colonelcy of the 79th regiment of foot, or Cameron Highlanders, becomes vacant. General Ferguson has survived his brother, the late Robert Ferguson, Esq., only a few months.

Sir Ronald Ferguson represented the borough of Nottingham before the passing of the Reform Act, and has continued to sit for it ever since.

Joseph Bonaparte was dangerously ill, at the seat of the Earl of Denbigh.

The Archbishop of York has disgraced and deprived the Rev. William Cockburn, D. D. Dean of the Cathedral, from his office, and from all the honours, titles and emoluments of Dean, for Simony in its most aggravated form.

The Tracts for the Times published by the Puseyites at Oxford, which have made so much noise, and excited such keen controversies in England, have been discontinued, in consequence of a remonstrance from the Bishop of Oxford, who considers the Tract No. 90, in the series, as "objectionable, and may tend to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the Church."

A proposal has been made in the Watchman Newspaper, organ of the Methodist body. The Court of Rome is at open war with the Spanish Regency. In a consistory held on the 1st of March, the Pope declares that he is obliged to abandon gentle measures, and by virtue of his apostolic authority, he not only disapproves of a number of decrees, passed by the Government of Madrid, but declares them for the past and for the future, null and void, and conjures the authors of these decrees, to set against those who attack the rights of the Church.

and 6 brigs, and other light vessels. The entire population of Constantinople and its environs lined the banks of the channel, and crowded the heights which overlook the city, in order to enjoy the spectacle. In the course of the afternoon, the Sultan went on board the Mahmoudieh, accompanied by all the Pashas, and complimented Admiral Walker, in the most flattering terms, on his conduct throughout the recent occurrence.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.—The Constantinople correspondent of the Augsburg Gazette represents the state of things in that capital as still unsettled; the Porte having communicated to the Four Powers that Mehemet Ali had refused the conditions of the investiture. No joint act of the ambassadors was expected, inasmuch as it seems doubtful if any of them have instructions what to do on the occasion. It was rumoured that the London conference had broken up, and that the Porte would consequently be left to deal with its vassal single-handed.

BOSTON, APRIL 26, 1841.

ARRIVAL OF THE GREAT WESTERN.—Four days later from England.—The steamship Great Western arrived at New York on Saturday, at 1 o'clock, in 16 days from Bristol. She brought about 50 passengers.

The Great Western encountered very severe weather, and fell in with large islands of ice. On the 18th from 9-15 passed several small pieces—blowed the engines, and at 9-30 run into a field of ice extending as far as the eye could reach; at 10-15 succeeded in getting the ship's head to the eastward, and at 11 got clear of the field. On the 18th and 20th was completely surrounded by ice.

MURDER AND ARSON.—A small hut, about five miles from Camden, N. J., near the Pen Shore, was partially burned on Tuesday April 13. It belonged to two brothers, Jacob and Peter Williams, the latter of whom was found drunk upon the floor during the fire, and from marks of violence upon his person, appeared to have been fighting. On a search being made, the body of his brother was discovered under a heap of mouldering rubbish, burnt almost to a crisp. Beside it was a razor covered with blood. Suspicions being aroused, Peter was taken before a magistrate in Camden, and committed on the two charges of murder and arson. It is supposed that the brothers were both intoxicated, and quarrelled, and that Peter killed the other, and then set fire to the hut to consume the body.

It is stated that among the Canadian French, below the rank of their doctors and notaries, not one in one thousand can distinguish one letter in the alphabet from another. Even a French sheriff, in summoning a grand jury from the important and populous districts of Montreal and Quebec, the very head quarters of erudition, one would suppose, has never yet been able to get a quorum who could write their own names; and incredible as it may appear, nothing is more common than to see presentments of nuisances and other grievances, elaborately detailed in the public newspapers, under the authority of the grand jury, with the assent of twelve out of seventeen members, signed by a cross [thus: X]. In the country parts it is rare that a foreman can be found sufficiently advanced in the occult art of penmanship, to put together with accuracy the letters composing his name.

THE SNOW STORM.—The ground early on Tuesday morning, in New York, was covered with snow to the average depth of about a foot! Pretty well for the 13th of April.

ALEXANDER MACLEOD.

We see it stated in some of the morning papers that McLeod was yesterday in Albany, on his way to this city, to appear, it is intimated, before the Supreme Court, at the present May term, while his Counsel move for a Habeas Corpus, but with what hope or object is not precisely mentioned.

In the meantime, if our private advices from Washington do not mislead us—and this they have never yet done—a decision of some importance has been come to there, in reference both to this case and the boundary question.

If we are rightly informed, it has been agreed between Mr. Fox and the Government of the United States that no further opposition shall be made by the former to the trial of Mr. McLeod. That trial is to go on, under the Jurisdiction of New York, without interference either by the British Minister or the national government. If acquitted, as is most probable, McLeod will be discharged, of course, and the matter thus disposed of. If convicted, the national Government will take the necessary steps to afford him that measure of justice and protection which all the circumstances of the case may require.

As to the boundary, we learn that a convention has been signed on the part of Great Britain and the United States, which provides for the appointment of six commissioners, three for each party to the dispute. These six, if they cannot agree they are to appoint three others, and a decision by the majority of the nine is to be conclusive.

Such, we understand, is the arrangement agreed upon. Some of the details may be incorrectly stated, but we have every reason to believe that the general fact, of a convention being signed, will prove authentic.—New York Commercial Advertiser, May 3.

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The Steamer reached Indian Town about seven o'clock in the evening, where Sir John, who was accompanied by Lady Harvey, Capt. Tryon and Lady, Lieutenants Henry Harvey, R. N., Warwick Harvey, 36th Regt., and F. Harvey, 34th Regiment, and Brigade Major Nugent, was met and escorted into town by the Heads of the Civil and Military Departments, Executive Councillors, Members of A. H. family and suite, proceeded immediately to the Salina Hotel, where apartments had previously been provided for their reception.

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