

CHINESE JESTS.

Dead for fifty; half dead for twenty-five.—A rich man proposed to a covetous greedy wretch to make him a present of fifty pounds, if he would let him beat him to death. The miser mused upon it for a long while; at last, raising his head, 'No,' says he; 'give me twenty-five pounds, and beat me till I'm half dead. What do you say?'

No getting up to the Doctor.—A doctor had a patient that he promised to cure easily and speedily. The patient spent a deal of money and got no better; at last he was very angry and sent a domestic to lecture him. The domestic returned. 'Well, have you taken him to task?' 'No sir, not yet.' 'Why so?' 'I sent you on purpose to scold him.' 'Ay, sir; but there were so many folks that wanted to scold him, and so many folks that wanted to beat him, crowding about him that there was no getting near him. I squeezed in among the rest, and did my best; but it was all in vain.'

The Dog keeps school. A man who was accustomed to deal in the marvellous, told a country cousin of his that he had three great curiosities in his house: An ox that could go three hundred miles a-day, a cock that told the hour of the night, and a dog that could read in a superior manner. Says the cousin, 'These are extraordinary things indeed! I must call upon you and beg a sight of them.' The liar returns home and tells his wife what has happened; saying he was got into a scrape, and did not know how to extricate himself. 'Oh, never mind, says she; 'I can manage it.' The next day the countryman calls, and inquiring after his cousin, is told he was that morning gone off to Pekin. 'And what time is he expected back?' 'In seven or eight days.' 'How can he return so quick?' 'He's gone off upon our ox. Apropos of that, continues the guest, 'I am told that you have a cock that marks the hour.' A cock happened just then to crow. 'Yes, that's he: he not only tells the hour of the night but reports when a stranger comes.' 'Then your dog, that reads books?' might I beg to borrow a sight of him.' 'Why, to speak the truth, as our circumstances are but narrow, we have sent the dog out to keep a school.'

A faggot-man, carrying a load, by accident brushed against a doctor. The doctor was very angry, and going to beat him with his fist. Pray, don't use your precious hand good sir; kick me and welcome. The standers by asked what he meant. Says the woodman, 'Kick me with his foot and I shall recover: once come under his hands, and 'tis all over with me.'

A countryman, returning home from the town, mentioned to his wife that he had sneezed a surprizing number of times that day. 'Why, my dear, that's because I have been thinking of you all day.' Some days afterwards, carrying a heavy burden of manure over an awkward narrow slippery-foot-bridge, he was suddenly taken with a fit of sneezing, and had like to have lost his footing. 'That idle jade,' says he, 'is pleased to think of me; but she ought to consider what sort of a place I am in.'

A miserly man would not go to the expense of muskito-curtains. In the summer the gnats were very troublesome. He borrowed an old mask of a neighbour, and clapt it on his face at night. The gnats coming, would not get their suckers in. Oh! quoth one of them, he has got a new face! Ay, says another, he may well be ashamed of his meanness! I dont wonder at his changing countenance.

WILMINGTON, (Del) May 9.

Large Fish.—A rock fish was caught in

the Delaware, nearly opposite this borough, on Thursday last, in a gill net, by Mr. Burden, which weighed, when taken out of the water, 76lbs. and another which weighed 65lbs. Another one was caught in the net, but made its escape by breaking it, which was supposed to be larger than either of those which were secured.

Caution.—On Monday last, the lives of a whole family, were seriously endangered by eating cheese at dinner, which had been rendered poisonous, probably by some ingredient used for coloring it. Two of the children were very ill for several hours from this cause.—*National Intelligencer.*

A singular instance of sickness similar to the above occurred in this town on Tuesday last. A military company, which paraded that day, had cheese at the refreshment table in the forenoon, which was freely eaten by members and others. After dinner several were seized with violent pains and sickness; others continued to be attacked during the afternoon, some very seriously, till one half of the company were carried home sick. Others were taken the following morning. There were two different kinds at the table; only one of which it is probable was poisonous, and those who ate of the other escaped. As the cheese was not coloured, it is difficult to know to what its singular effects can be attributed; but it is generally presumed to have been some chemical change effected in the cheese.—*Salem Gazette of May 9.*

LONDON, April 16.

At eleven o'clock on Saturday se'night the Dorking coach was upset at Ewell. The coach left the Elephant and Castle at nine o'clock, full inside and outside, and arrived safe at Ewell, when Joseph Walker, the driver and proprietor, alighted for the purpose of delivering a parcel from the back part of the coach, and gave the reins to a boy that sat on the box to hold for him. While delivering the parcel to the person who stood near the after wheel of the coach, the boy cracked the whip, and the horses set off at the top of their speed. Several attempts were made to stop them, but in vain; they passed Ewell church, and tore away about twelve yards of strong paling, when the wheels mounting a small eminence, the coach was overturned, and the whole of the passengers were in an instant thrown from the roof.—Some of them were in a state of insensibility, showing no symptoms of life. One female was thrown upon some spikes, which entered her breast and neck; she was dreadfully mutilated none of her features being distinguishable; she lingered until Monday, when she expired in the greatest agony. Two were put into a post-chaise and started immediately for London. Four of the sufferers were put to bed at the King's-head, where they now lie in a very dangerous state. Some measures should be adopted to prevent horses going at full speed, as locking the wheel, or having a person at the head of the leaders. Were these precautions enforced, such melancholy occurrences would not so often be related.

AEROSTATION.

The following are the particulars given by Mr. Green of the phenomena observed by him during his late ascent:—

He states that from the storminess of the weather he entertained serious apprehensions lest in rising from the ground the balloon should be driven against one or other of the surrounding houses, and in order to guard against such a calamity, caused it to be inflated considerably beyond the extent originally intended. By this precaution they gained an ascending power, which carried them rapidly, and almost perpendicularly

to a considerable elevation, when entering a cloud, they lost sight of the earth. They continued for some minutes to pass through a succession of clouds, which were piled one above another, those lowest being as usual, the most dense and opaque; and at last emerged into a pure expanse, in which not a cloud or vapour was to be seen; and where the sun was shining with the utmost brilliancy.

They soon experienced excessive heat, the rays of the sun being concentrated, and reflected back upon them from the clouds below, and the thermometer, which a few minutes before was below, fifty, rose rapidly to 70. The expansion of the gas produced by this increase of temperature, was so great, that although the valve was opened to its greatest extent to admit its escape, they still continued to ascend, and in 17 minutes from the time of quitting the earth, they found themselves at a height of nearly two miles above its surface. The barometer which had stood, at 29 degrees and 7-10ths on their rising from the ground, was now found to have sunk to 21 and 3-10ths. On looking down at this elevation at the clouds through which they had passed. Mr. Green says they appeared to him just like a vast extent of country covered with snow. They also now perceived in the clouds opposite to the sun, a most beautiful and perfect reflection of their balloon and its appendages encircled by two haloes presenting with the utmost vividness all the varied colours of the rainbow. The nearest halo was about 100 yards from the reflected balloon, and the other about twice as far. The former was the most brilliant. The clouds in which this curious illusion was observed were about 3000 feet distant. Mr. Green states the appearance to be far from unusual, but that he never remembers to have seen it when the sun was more than 50, or less than forty degrees above the horizon. It is not often however, he says, that the colours are so vivid as on this occasion.—The illusion did not cease during the whole time they remained at the height, but followed the progress of the balloon, and afforded the aeronauts by its motions an easy mode of ascertaining the direction they were proceeding in. It has been stated that birds let loose at this height betray symptoms of fear, and soon become exhausted, owing to the extreme rarity of the air. On the contrary three pigeons let fly on this occasion (and Mr. Green says he has observed the same thing on many former ones) kept flying about in all directions near the balloon, and had not commenced their descent so long as they remained in sight of the aeronauts. In the course of the evening they returned home without appearing in the least exhausted. After continuing at this elevation nearly an hour, Mr. G. commenced his descent, and in about a quarter of an hour was sufficiently near the earth to be able to ascertain that he was floating over part of Kent; but on descending about 100 feet lower, the balloon entered a fresh current of air, which carried him across the river into Essex, and in a few minutes he made a safe and easy landing on the estate of Joseph Martin, Esq. at Rainham, near Barking. Several gentlemen in the neighbourhood, with true English hospitality, invited the travellers to their respective houses; but Mr. Green, anxious to convince his friends in London of his safety, declined their invitations, and having procured a post chaise, returned to the metropolis by 10 o'clock at night bringing with him his balloon. The valve by which the escape of the gas is regulated, is upon new construction, and is so decided an improvement, that Mr. Green says he can exhaust the balloon in one tenth of the time it used previously to require for that purpose.

As a general observation, Mr. Green states, that at an elevation of 3000 feet, the earth appears to be one continuous level, the houses and trees appearing as so many coloured patches upon its surface. Indeed so perfect is the illusion, that Mr. Green, jun., on the occasion of his first trip actually mistook a plantation of trees for a bean field. Rivers and lakes are at all times prominent objects, and when the sun is shining upon them have all the appearance of highly polished metal; the former Mr. Green compares to a vein of silver running along the surface of the earth. When the sun does not shine on these objects, they have a dull and heavy aspect. The appearance of the sea, when the sun is shining on it, Mr. Green pronounced to be grand in the extreme, presenting as far as the eye can reach, one vast sheet of polished steel.

BERMUDA, (HAMILTON), May 3.

Sailed on Monday last H. M. S. Mermaid Captain Stewart, having on board the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, on his return to Halifax.

His Lordship was, on Saturday last, sworn in a Member of His Majesty's Council.

On the morning of his embarkation, a deputation consisting of twenty Gentlemen of the first rank in the Colony, waited on his Lordship with the following address, which may be said to have been almost universally subscribed by the people of these Islands.

TO THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF NOVA-SCOTIA.

5th May, 1826.
MY LORD—We, the undersigned Members of His Majesty's Council, Members of the late House of Assembly, Magistrates, Clergy and other Freeholders of Bermuda, beg to offer your Lordship our cordial congratulations on your elevation to the See of Nova-Scotia, and our thankfull acknowledgements of the important services conferred by your visit on this part of your Lordship's Diocese.

As this is the first visitation of a Bishop to these Islands, it may easily be credited that we looked forward to the arrival of your Lordship with no ordinary interest, and that we were disposed to receive with respectful attention, the Prelate to whom had pleased our Gracious Sovereign to assign the Government of the Episcopal Church of Bermuda.

But my Lord, whatever was the interest we took in your appointment to the high Office; and whatever were our expectations of benefit to be derived from your visit to our shores, we wish to assure your Lordship, that that interest has been considerably heightened, and these expectations have been amply realized by your coming among us, and that on your departure you will be with you, not merely the respect which is due to your official character, but the reverential and affectionate esteem of a people, whom you have equally impressed by the dignified eloquence of your discourse, and attached by the amiable kindness of your deportment.

Under the governance of so much wisdom and benevolence as seem to be happily combined in the character of your Lordship, we cannot doubt that the church of this colony will, by God's favour continue to fulfil the end of its institution, and be a source of blessing to the land in which it is established.—And in taking leave of your Lordship, we shall earnestly pray that you please an Almighty Providence to prolong your days in all health and prosperity, and we look forward with genuine hope and satisfaction, to a renewal of an acquaintance from which we have already derived permanent and substantial advantage.

We remain, my Lord, your Lordship's most faithful and obedient Servants.

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