

## ORIGINAL.

## FOR THE GLEANER.

## HISTORY OF POLAND.

Segismund was crowned King of Sweden after his father's death; but being expelled by the Swedes, a long war ensued between them and the Poles, which terminated in favor of the latter. Segismund being secured on the throne of Poland, aspired to that of Russia as well as Sweden; but after long wars he was defeated in both views. He was afterwards engaged in various unsuccessful wars with the Turks and Swedes; at last a truce was concluded under the mediation of England and France: but the Poles were forced to agree that the Swedes should keep Elbing, Memel, Braunsberg, and Pillau, together with all they had taken in Livonia. In 1623 Segismund died, and Uladislau, his son, succeeded.

This Prince was successful both against the Turks and Russians, and obliged the Swedes to restore all the Polish dominions they had taken in Prussia.

His reign, however, was unfortunate, by his being instigated, through the avarice of his Nobles and Generals to encroach upon the privileges of the Cossacks in the Ukraine. As the war which followed was carried on against the Cossacks, upon ambitious and perfidious principles, the Cossacks, naturally a warlike people, became desperate; and on the succession of John II., brother to Uladislau, the Cossack General, Sehmieleski, defeated the Poles in two great battles, and forced them to a dishonorable peace.

It appears that during the course of this war, the Polish nobility behaved as the worst of Ruffians, and their conduct was highly condemned by John; while his nobility disapproved of the peace he had concluded with them. As the jealousy hereby occasioned continued, the Russians came to a rupture with the Poles; and being joined by many of the Cossacks, they in 1654 took Smolensko.

This was soon afterwards followed by the taking of Wilna and other places, and they committed great ravages in Lithuania. Next year, Charles the Tenth of Sweden, after over-running great and little Poland, entered into Polish Prussia, and all the towns of which received him, except Dantzic. The resistance made by that city gave the Poles time to re-assemble; and their King, John Casimir, who had fled into Silesia, was joined by the Tartars as well as the Poles: so that the Swedes, who were dispersed through the country, were every where cut to pieces.

The Lithuanians, at the same time, disowned the allegiance they had been forced to yield to Charles, who returned to Sweden with a handful of his army. It was during this expedition, that the English and Dutch protected Dantzic, and the Elector of Brandenburg acquired the Sovereignty of Ducal Prussia, which had submitted to Charles. Thus the latter lost Poland, of which he had made a complete conquest. The treaty of Oliver was begun after the Swedes had been driven out of Cracow and Thorn, by which Royal Prussia was restored to the Poles.

They were, however, forced to quit all pretensions to Livonia, and to cede Smolensko, Kiou, and the Duchy of Siveria, without reserve, to the Russians.

During these transactions, the Polish nobility grew dissatisfied with the concessions their King had made to the Cossacks, many of whom had thrown off the Polish yoke; others charged him with want of capacity, and some, with an intention to rule by a mercenary army of Germans.

Casimir who possibly had no such intention, and was fond of retirement and study, finding the cabals and factions increased every day, and that he himself might fall a sacrifice to the public discontents, abdicated his throne, and died Abbot of St. Germain in France; employing the remainder of his days in poetical compositions, which are, indeed, far from being despicable.

The most remote descendants of the ancient Kings, ending in John Casimir, many foreign candidates presented themselves for the crown of Poland, but the Poles chose for their King a private Gentleman, of little interest and less capacity, one Michael Wignowski, because he was descended from a Piast. His reign was disgraceful to Poland. Large bodies of Cossacks had put themselves under the protection of the Turks, who conquered all the provinces of Podolia, and took Karminieck, till then thought impregnable. The greatest part of Poland was then ravaged, and the Poles were obliged to pay an annual tribute to the Sultan. Notwithstanding these disgraceful events, the credit of the Polish army was in some measure maintained by John Sobieski, a crown General, and a brave and active commander, who had given the Turks several defeats. Michael dying in 1673, Sobieski was chosen King; and in 1676 he was so successful against the infidels, that he forced them to remit the tribute they had imposed upon Poland; but they kept possession of Kominieck.

In the year 1683, Sobieski, though he had not been very well treated by the House of Austria, was so public-spirited as to enter into the league that was to be formed for the defence of Christendom against the Infidels, and acquired immortal honor by obliging the Turks to raise the siege of Vienna, and making a terrible slaughter among the enemy; for all which glorious services, and driving the Turks out of Hungary, he was ungratefully requited by the Emperor.

Sobieski returning to Poland, continued the war for some time against the Turks, but unfortunately quarreled with the senate, who suspected that he wanted to make the Crown hereditary in his family. He died after a glorious reign in 1696.

After the death of Sobieski, Poland fell into great distraction. Many confederacies were formed; but all parties seemed inclined to exclude the Sobieski family. In the mean time Poland was insulted by the Tartars, and the Crown in a manner put up to sale. The Prince of Conti, of the blood-royal of France, was the most liberal bidder; but while he thought the election almost sure, he was disappointed by the intrigues of the Queen's dowager in favor of her youngest son, Prince Alexander Sobieski; she was driven from Warsaw to Dantzic. Suddenly Augustus, Elector of Saxony, rose up as a candidate, and after a sham election, being proclaimed by the Bishop of Cujovia, he took possession of Cracow with a Saxon army, and was actually crowned in that city in 1697.

The Prince of Conti made several unsuccessful attempts to revive his interest, and pretended that he had been duly chosen; but was afterwards obliged to return to France, and the other powers of Europe seemed to acquiesce in the election of Augustus. But it

was not until the year 1712, that Augustus was fully confirmed on the throne, which he held upon precarious and disagreeable terms. The Poles were naturally attached to Stanislaus, and were perpetually forming conspiracies and plots against Augustus, who was obliged to maintain his authority by his Saxon guards and regiments.

In 1725, his natural son, Prince Maurice, afterwards the famous Count Saxe, was chosen Duke of Courland; but Augustus was not able to maintain him in that dignity, against the power of Russia and the jealousy of the Poles.

To be Continued.

## FOR THE GLEANER.

MR EDITOR,

I beg leave to present you my thanks for inserting in your paper, the statement which I sent you of the MILL MACHINERY of the Province, as I entertain some hopes that the information may be found in many respects useful, by contributing to the knowledge of those who have the means of forwarding our interests. Since writing my last letter, I have heard that the mercantile inhabitants of Miramichi have appointed a Committee to co-operate with that of the St. John Chamber of Commerce, and should any matter which I may be able to contribute, further in any respect their researches, my gratification will be greatly increased.

I am much disposed to entertain the belief, that when our machinery receives a value, the amount will fall far short of the expectations of many. Yet the consideration that our sawn timber trade composes but a small portion of our staple export, particularly on this shore of the Province, and consequently that the capital embarked in it, is less in the same proportion, will receive its due weight. Undertaking to affix a value on this property, is rather a hazardous undertaking, but in doing it, I only obtrude my private opinion, and I shall always thankfully acknowledge judicious correction.

The Mills for sawing Lumber are undoubtedly the most valuable portion of our machinery; the others in fact being collectively insignificant; and the most ready way to obtain for them an equitable appraisement, will be to consider each saw as a mill. A serious obstacle to this mode is offered by the erection of Messrs. Gilmore & Rankin, which works occasionally twenty-four reciprocating saws;—but I beg leave to express an opinion, that after the lapse of a year or two, when a little age will have deprived it of the charm of novelty, and some experience have washed off the lacquer of the gilded hobby, it will be discovered that a common mill, working two saws in the usual simple manner, will yield the same quantum of profit as their whole twenty-four. We have to consider at present, however, only the fact of relative value, and as this mill presents an obstacle to my manner of appraising all these establishments, I shall deal with it as Alexander did with the Gordian knot. Being erected in a more substantial manner than any other in the country, and the machinery composed of more durable and costly materials, I shall of course take into account the extra value; although I shall by no means estimate the actual outlay, nor yet bring into full force the old proverb, 'the value of a thing is just what it will bring;' but bearing in mind the real amount of capital usefully set into operation. Estimating every reciprocating Saw in the country as one mill, I shall consider that now under notice as six; and instead of reckoning the whole twenty-four saws among the remaining mills, I shall add but six to the number.

Taking all the saw mills, one with another, in reference to age and efficiency, I am more disposed to think that I am over the mark than under it;—however the builders of these establishments may be disposed to dispute it;—when I estimate the value of each saw mill at £400. The whole in round numbers, may be reckoned at two hundred, and worth £80,000; and all the other machinery in the Province I am not inclined to value at a sum exceeding £20,000, making a total amount of £100,000. This sum I estimate as the actual value—or probably, a little exceeding it—of all the mill erections throughout the Province; but the amount of capital which they keep in active operation, is altogether another thing, and which I am confident when more generally known, will excite astonishment.

A good mill, working two saws, while in operation during six months of the year, will retain in constant employment four first rate millers or sawyers, four of a second rate, and two labourers. To provide the raw material, it will require for the same length of time,

as many Tarter chiefs. All the nobles of Germany and Poland were on the other side; Sobieski was at once the Agamemnon and Achilles of that splendid host.

The young Eugene of Savoy made his first essay in arms, by bringing to Sobieski the intelligence that the engagement was commenced between the advanced guards at the foot of the ridge. The Christians immediately descended the mountains in five columns like torrents, but marching in the finest order: the leading divisions halted at every hundred paces to give time to those behind, who were retarded by the difficulties of the descent to join them. A rude parapet, hastily erected by the Turks to bar the five debouches of the roads into the plain, was forced after a short combat. At every ravine, the Christians experienced fresh obstacles to surmount: the spahis dismounted to contest the rocky ascents, and speedily regaining their horses when they were forced, fell back in haste to their next positions which were to be defended. But the Mussulmen, deficient in infantry, could not withstand the steady advance and solid masses of the Germans, and the Christians everywhere gained ground. Animated by the continued advance of their deliverers, the garrison of Vienna performed miracles on the breach; and Kara Mustapha, who long hesitated which battle he should join, resolved to meet the avenging squadrons of the Polish King.

By two o'clock the ravines were cleared, and the allies drawn up in the plain. Sobieski ordered the Duke of Lorraine to halt, to give time for the Poles, who had been retarded by a circuitous march to join the army. At eleven they appeared, and took their post on the right. The Imperial eagles saluted the squadrons of gilded cuirasses with cries of 'Long live King John Sobieski!' and the cry, repeated along the Christian line, startled the Mussulman force.

Sobieski charged in the centre, and directed his attack against the scarlet tent of the sultan, surrounded by his faithful squadrons—distinguished by his plume, his bow, and quiver of gold, which hung on his shoulder—most of all by the enthusiasm which his presence everywhere excited. He advanced, exclaiming, 'Non nobis, Domine, sed tibi sit gloria!' The Tartars and the spahis fled when they heard the name of the Polish hero repeated from one end to the other of the Ottoman lines. 'By Allah,' exclaimed Sultan Gieray, 'the king is with them!' At this moment the moon was eclipsed, and the Mohometans beheld with dread the crescent waning in the heavens.

At the same time, the hussars of Prince Alexander, who formed the leading column, broke into a charge amidst the national cry, 'God defend Poland!' The remaining squadrons, led by all that was noblest and bravest in the country, resplendent in arms, buoyant in courage, followed at the gallop. They cleared without drawing bridle, a ravine, at which infantry might have paused, and charged furiously up the opposite bank. With such vehemence did they enter the enemy's ranks, that they fairly cut the army in two,—justifying thus the celebrated saying of that haughty nobility to one of their kings, that with their aid no reverse was irreparable; and that if the heaven itself was to fail, they would support it on the points of their lances.

The shock was so violent that almost all the lances was splintered. The Pachas of Aleppo and of Silistria were slain on the spot; four other pachas fell under the sabres of Jablonowski. At the same time Charles of Lorraine had routed the force of the principalities, and threatened the Ottoman camp. Kara Mustapha fell at once from the heights of confidence to the depths of despair. 'Can you not aid me?' said he to the Kara of the Crimea. 'I know the King of Poland,' said he, 'and I tell you, that with such an enemy we have no chance of safety but in flight.' Mustapha in vain strove to rally his troops; all, seized with a sudden panic, fled, not daring to lift their eyes to heaven. The cause of Europe, of Christianity, of civilization, had prevailed. The wave of the Mussulman power had retired, and retired never to return.

THE LIFE OF A GENTLEMAN.—He gets up leisurely—breaks—fasts comfortably—reads the paper regularly—dresses fashionably—lounges fastidiously—eats a tart gravely—tattles insipidly—dines considerably—kills time indifferently—sups elegantly—goes to bed stupidly—lives uselessly.

A shopkeeper the other day in urging a lady to buy a gown of him, said, buy enough for the SLEEVES, madam, and I'll throw in enough for the SKIRT.