

hour; and then, in my happy, lucid moments, with a silver garment thrown across me by the Queen of Night, I put "my pearls upon my feet," and "danced upon the sands!" There is a prejudice among the vulgar that the moon has great influence on various diseases of the human frame. Howsoever it may be with others, every change of the moon has a visible effect upon me, although I am no lunatic. I am somewhat of a physician; and so impartial in my practice that the noble lord, in all the "boasts of heraldry and pomp of power," will receive from me the same treatment as the humblest individual in the realm. I need scarcely add, that I am a latitudinarian in principle, and fond of levelling all distinctions, notwithstanding which, my success is undoubted. There never was a poet who did not celebrate my praise, unless it were some Bohemian, who never saw me; and I have furnished more similes than earth, or air, or sky. Treacherous and deceitful, yet open and rough in my manners; calm, yet contentious. Who or what am I? Beware how you ponder. Aristotle, unable to find out the cause of my actions, drowned himself in despair.—*Mr. Wallis's New Year's Gift.*

STATISTICS OF GREAT BRITAIN.—The number of men, from 15 to 60 years of age, is 2,244,847, or about 4 in every 17 males. There are about 90,000 marriages yearly, and of every 63 marriages, 3 only are observed to be without offspring. The deaths every year are about 332,700; every month, about 25,592; every week, 6,393; every day, 214; every hour, about 40. The proportion of the deaths of women to those of men is as 50 to 54. *The married women live longer than those who are not married.* In country places there are, on an average, 4 children born of each marriage; in cities and large towns the proportion is 7 to every two marriages. The married women are, to all the female inhabitants of a country, as 1 to 3; and the married men to all the males, as 3 to 5. The number of widows is to that of widowers, as 3 to 1; but of widows who re-marry to that of widowers, as 4 to 5. The number of old persons who die during the cold weather is to those who die during a warm season, as 7 to 4. Half of all that are born die before they attain 17 years. The number of twins is to that of single births, as 1 to 65. Old Boerhaave says, the healthiest children are born in January, February, and March; only 1 out of 3125 reaches 100 years. The greatest number of births is in February and March. The small pox, in the natural way, usually carries off 8 out of every 100 it attacks; by inoculation 1 dies out of every 300. The proportion of males born to that of females is as 26 to 25. In our sea-ports, there are 132 females to 100 males, and in the manufacturing towns, 113 females to 100 males.

HORRORS OF WAR.—The enemy fought their howitzer well, and almost all the gunners lay dead about it: a young artillery officer was the first I took notice of; his uniform was still on him, an unusual thing; he wore a blue frock-coat; across his shoulder hung his cartouche-box; and the middle of his forehead was pierced by a musket ball. His features, which were beautiful, showed, nevertheless, a painful distortion, and it was evident that the shock which deprived him of life, though momentary, was one of excruciating agony;—beside him lay one of his gunners, who appearance was altogether different from that of his officer. A round shot had taken off his thigh a few inches below the groin, and his death, though not as instantaneous, seemed to be void of pain. The bare stump exhibited a shocking sight,—the muscles, arteries, and flesh, all hanging in frightful confusion, presented the eye with a horrid sample of the effects of those means made use of by man for his own destruction: the ramrod of the gun was near him; his back rested against one of the wheels; and there was that placid look in his countenance which would lead you to think he had sat himself down to rest.—*Reminiscences of a Subaltern.*

VALUE OF COLONIES.—The economists assume, that, if we were now to divest ourselves of our North American provinces, we might make them an independent state, and that, in intercourse with them as such, we should have every commercial advantage which

we are now supposed to possess. First, we cannot make them an independent state; nor, if we could, should we dispose them to be one friendly to us, by the act of throwing them off prematurely for selfish and narrow reasons. We may train them to become such; but this must be by a mode of treatment very different from that which certain moralists inculcate. There is no higher object of policy, than to raise up, in that quarter, a powerful and, finally, an independent state, as there is no doubt we may do, provided we continue to act on old-fashioned principles, which appear, however, to have been rejected by the political economists. It is assumed that, if we had no colonies, we should be able to purchase from them, as independent states, at a lower price to the consumer, the articles which we now get from them as colonists. Treating this as a mercantile, and not a political consideration, is it not perceived that, by divesting ourselves of our colonies, we should render ourselves entirely dependent, for what we now get from them, on foreign states, and, consequently, be obliged to deal with foreign traders on their own terms? So long as we possess sources from which to procure what raw materials we require, we can retaliate and compete, but without these we must submit to take what we must have, upon such terms as it may please the seller to dictate. It is undoubtedly a great deal cheaper to descend to be a feeble, and to submit to be an inferior power, than be rich and powerful: and if perpetual peace could only be established, and we could persuade all other nations to adopt practically the new notions of domestic policy, the wisdom of retaining our foreign possessions might be doubtful. But how, without these, could Great Britain have gone through the late struggle against all Europe? The very sources of her industry—the raw materials of her manufactures—half the elements of her greatness, might have been cut off by such a combination as has already been witnessed amongst foreign nations; a combination which nothing but the Colonial power of Great Britain could prevent their renewing, or enable her again to defy."—*Sir Howard Douglas's Pamphlet.*

THE VILLAGE OF SCHEVENINGEN.

A STARTLING sound by night was heard
From the Scheveningen coast,
Like vultures in their clamorous flight,
Or the trampling of a host.

It broke the sleepers' heavy rest,
With harsh and threatening cry:
"Storm was upon the lonely sea!
Storm on the midnight sky!"

The slumberers started up from sleep,
Like spectres from their graves;
Then—burst a hundred voices forth—
The waves! the waves! the waves!

The strong-built dykes lay overthrown;—
And on their deadly way,
Like lions came the mighty seas,
Impatient for their prey!

Like lions came the mighty seas—
Oh, vision of despair!
Mid ruins of their falling homes,
The blackness of the air.

Fathers beheld the hast'ning doom,
With stern, delirious eye:
Wildly they looked around for help—
No help, alas! was nigh.

Mothers stood trembling with their babes,
Uttering complaints in vain;
No arm, but the Almighty arm,
Might stem that dreadful main!

Jesu! it was a fearful hour!
The elemental strife,
Howling above the shrieks of death—
The struggling groans for life!

No mercy—no relapse—no hope—
That night—the tempest-tost
Saw their paternal homes engulfed;
Lost!—oh, for ever lost!

Again the blessed morning light
In the far heavens shone;
But, where the pleasant village stood,
Swept the dark floods alone!

CHARLES SWAIN.

AMERICA.

COLONIAL SUMMARY.

ST. ANDREWS.—On Friday night last, a heavy gale of wind, accompanied with torrents of rain commenced from the SSW, and continued from nearly the same quarter, without intermission until yesterday at noon. We fear great damage will accrue to vessels coming on the coast; as our port is nearly void of shipping, we have but few accidents to record. The ship Governor Douglas left her moorings on Friday afternoon, for Liverpool, and great fears are entertained for her safety. Brig Two Sisters, Smith, lying at Jones' Wharf, was blown over, on Saturday morning—stove her long boat and 3 puns, molasses, but received no material damage. Schr. Cassandia, for Windsor, was driven on shore same day, on the West Bar and is considerably damaged. The heavy rains which have fallen during the past week and the one subsequent, have swollen the rivers, brooks, &c. to such an extent as to carry away many of the small bridges—this, together with the numerous windfalls crossing the roads, have rendered the travelling not only dangerous, but almost totally impracticable.

FREDERICTON.—The breaking up of the ice on our river, has been attended with a circumstance productive of much inconvenience, and during some hours threatening Fredericton with even serious injury. On Saturday the river was seen flowing with a smooth and uninterrupted current, until between five and six o'clock, when it was perceived that the surface of icy fragments had become stationary, their progress being obstructed by projecting points of the bank, three miles below the town. The channel of the river immediately filled, the water overflowed, and in the course of the night several families in the lower part of the town were under the necessity of quitting their houses, and taking refuge in higher ground. On Sunday morning a large part of the town were found to be under water, and as it still continued to rise, many of the inhabitants began to take measures for removing with their effects to a place of safety: the Church and Chapels remained unopen, for none could be expected to visit them; canoes and boats were seen plying in all direction along the streets, and even the rifle brigade had orders to hold themselves in readiness to ascend the hill. At length in the afternoon the ice was happily perceived to be in motion, and ere long the water began to subside; before evening we had the comfort of finding ourselves again on terra firma. The damage done in the vicinity of the town is comparatively trifling with the exception of the house owned and occupied by Mr Balloch, and a two story building belonging to Mr Dunn, which was nearly thrown off its foundation, and is otherwise much racked and injured, both buildings standing in the greatest jeopardy of being precipitated among the moving element. We are sorry to say, that nearly the whole line of fence next to the river, forming that beautiful enclosure laid out by the direction of Sir Howard Douglas, has been laid prostrate by the huge masses of ice which are every where to be seen piled on the banks of the river. So far as we can learn no lives have been lost. On the afternoon of Sunday last, Mr Richard Currie of the parish of Cannon, went from his house with the view of securing his potatoes from the freshet, which was fast approaching the place where they were deposited, and whilst in the act of throwing them on a stage which he had erected for that purpose, the whole gave way, and lodged on the unfortunate individual who was underneath it. The body was extricated from its awful situation about 20 minutes after the melancholy catastrophe, but all symptoms of life were extinguished.

ST. JOHN.—On Friday night a gale commenced from the SSE and veered to WSW, which continued till Sunday evening. Its greatest violence was about ten o'clock, on Saturday forenoon, and lasted about 20 minutes. There has not been so severe a gale felt in this place since 31st December 1819, when the brig Mary and all her crew were lost on Patridge Island.