

## Literature, &amp;c.

## British Magazines for August.

Dublin University Magazine.  
IRELAND.

[This periodical contains a lengthy review of a new work bearing the title of "Kane's Industrial Resources of Ireland," from which we make the following selections, which will enable our readers to form some idea of the great natural capabilities of Ireland.]

With regard to our coal fields, the labours of Griffith, Weaver, and other eminent geologists, have rendered the actual quantity of fuel thence available pretty well known; but we were by no means prepared to find so very encouraging a report as Dr. Kane gives us of the extent and value of our metalliferous deposits. The weakness of that too prevalent habit of decrying every thing Irish is strikingly illustrated in the fact, that the ironstone of the Arigna district, so long regarded as a sort of paradise of Irish folly, is positively as rich as the richest Welch ore, hitherto regarded as the richest in the British Isles, and considerably richer than the best ores of Staffordshire and Glasgow; while Doctor Kane, having shown the quality by an analysis, goes on to declare, that "in quantity, there is no doubt but that the ironstone of this district is practically inexhaustible." There is only an extensive deposit of ironstone, equal to that of Staffordshire, throughout the Kilkenny coal field. We own these analyses, which want of space prevents our inserting in detail, have surprised us, and we begin to hope that our mining prosperity will not always be confined to the single article of copper. In copper, as most of our local readers may be aware, we are tolerably prosperous; our annual yield exceeding that of Cornwall in A. D. 1780. It is true, the mines of Cornwall have since then been rendered five times more productive, or, in other words, have been worked with five times as much profitable application—a hint, which from the steadily increasing value of shares in Irish mining companies, we hope has not been thrown away. Doctor Kane, as might be expected, touches very lightly on the Wicklow gold mines; and yet it is certain that in the bed of the little stream descending from Croghan Kasella to the vale of Arklow, unusually large masses of native gold have been found from time to time, and that not less than £10,000 has been paid for the stray lumps so discovered by the peasantry. Our lead mines however, appear to hold forth a promise of present metal less deceptive. The average quantity of silver contained in a ton of lead is about seven ounces. A lead mine near Quin, in the County Clare, yields the extraordinary proportion of one hundred and twenty ounces of silver to the ton.

Of our other metalliferous deposits the most practically valuable are those of manganese at Howth and Glandore, and a peculiar ore of antimony found at Killbricken, in the county Clare, consisting of sulphuret of lead, in the identical proportions in which they are used in the type foundries, so that this ore, when smelted, should give a natural type-metal. The ordinary ore of antimony occurs in a vein of considerable richness at Clontibret in Armagh.

But our potter's-clays and glass-sands are of infinitely more consequence in an industrial point of view than scattered veins even of the precious metals. Of such deposits we have an abundance, fit for all purposes, from the manufacture of the tile and fire brick, up to that of the finest porcelain and plate-glass. Porcelain clay is a product of disintegrated granite. That made use of in the potteries of Staffordshire is brought from the granite district of Cornwall. Our granite districts of Mourne and Wicklow supply the same material. At Kiltranelagh, near Balinglass, it exists as a pure deposit; and at Tullow, in the county Carlow, it is found in a somewhat inferior quality. Such deposits are of rare occurrence elsewhere. In Cornwall the preparation of the kaolin, as the pure porcelain clay is called, is entirely artificial. The granite is crushed and washed, and the sediment collected. We do not even work our beds of ready made kaolin. All the coal tracts abound with fire-clay, an article indispensable in the preparation of iron. Ordinary potter's clay occurs in every county, more or less. Yet the total number of potters in Ireland in 1841 was but 199. How unimportant an item this is in the general industry of the country may be judged of from the fact, that the tobacco-pipe makers were nearly as numerous, being in the same year 166. Yet for potter and glass we sent out of the country annually £130,000. As to the latter manufacture, we export considerable quantities of the raw material, which we possess in the shape of flint-sand of extraordinary purity, in different localities. The finest known deposit of such sand is on Muckish mountain, in Donegal, down the precipitous sides of which Otway observed the agents of a Glasgow glass factory rolling the precious material in bags, at a time when it was generally supposed that those wilds contained nothing fit for the use of man but game and potteen. But it is time to proceed to the consideration of the forces applicable to the conversation of these vast materials to articles of more immediate use.

We believe we may regard falling water as one of the valuable appurtenances of soil, as much as gold or silver, and nearly as much as coal—for to all the more important uses of coal, as a moving power, it is equally applicable; and therefore we include it among the great physical features which we have adverted

so as calling for the intention of the investigator in the first instance. Two great forces are continually in operation: one, looking to the sun, exhibiting its phenomena in expansion, elasticity, and perhaps in vegetable, and possibly even in animal life; the other, looking towards the earth, consisting in the various manifestations of the law of gravitation. Thus the presence of fire converts the prone mill race into the expansive cloud of steam; and again, a jet of cold water reduces the elastic vapour of the steam boiler to its original condition of a dense fluid. And such is the great operation going on continually over the whole face of the earth, of waters drawn up by the heat of the sun, during the day, in gaseous exaltations, and returned again to earth, in the form of dews, at night, or, in certain electrical states of the atmosphere, in that of rain. And through this process all the waters on the face of the earth are continually passing; otherwise they would either fly off, and leave the globe dry, or else would collect into one place, and stagnate. But the sun and earth, with their alternate forces, keep them in continual circulation; so that, if we would know how much water runs from any given area of the earth's surface to the sea, we have only to estimate the amount of rain and dew for that area, and subtracting from these the land evaporation, the remainder will be the quantity of water delivered to the sea [the great evaporating reservoir for the whole earth]; and then for every ten weight of water so descending through a given space in a given time, we have the mechanical value of that water-delivery in horse-powers. To ascertain the quantity of rain and dew is not a matter of much difficulty; but to estimate the amount of evaporation that takes place from the surface of a hilly country, diversified with so great a variety of growths as cover large scopes of arable and pasture lands, is a very complex problem. It has, however, been approximated, both for France and England; and Doctor Kane enters into a similar calculation, from which he reduces the amount of evaporation for Ireland at about twelve out of the thirty-six inches of rain that fall here in a year; thus leaving the water-power of the country to be represented by two feet in depth of water, descending from the medium level of the whole island once in every year to the sea; that is assuming the average height of the surface of Ireland to be four hundred and fifty feet above the level of the sea, about 70 millions of tons of water falling through that height every twenty-four hours, which is equivalent to the continual exertion of the power of one and a half million of horses. The falls of the Shannon alone, between Killoe and Limerick, afford a motive force equal to thirty thousand horse-powers in continual action, day and night, throughout the year. Such is the stupendous machinery of nature, and with such great inducements does she solicit man to industry.

It would not be consistent with the limited character of a paper of this description, to proceed further in the contemplation of the bare *terrene*, though we would willingly follow Dr. Kane into the question of facilities for communication, in which he strenuously urges the adoption of the atmospheric principle of railway propulsion; but taking it as we have it now, with its soil of ascertained extent and quality, its minerals, coal-fields, and water-power, the next consideration in the great social problem which we have proposed will be how much more of the goods of life ought it to produce? and how can it be made to yield that increase?

That Ireland does not produce as much as she ought, is, unfortunately, a proposition that needs no proof; and so long as it remains certain enough to be admitted as an axiom, that she does not produce *one half as much* as she ought to do, to bring her up even to the imperfect standard of the sister island, we need not seek to stimulate exertion by holding forth this or that measure of ultimate advancement. Before the period can arrive when the estimates of the lowest calculators can approach fulfilment, a new generation will have arisen, with increased wants, larger wishes, and in all likelihood, with improved means of developing materials of wealth and fertility, undreamt of even in the bold philosophy of the present day; for here in Ireland the plough may be said to have entered an intellectual fallow of centuries, and a crop, for good or evil, is growing up, such as the sickle of the great Reaper does not in many ages enter upon.

[The same periodical contains an article, bearing the title of "Australia—Present and Future," being a Review of a new work by John Hood, on that country. The following are extracts from the same.]

## DESCRIPTION OF SYDNEY.

The general appearance of the town exceeded my expectation. Although the houses, even in the principal streets, form most striking contrasts as to architecture—a handsome stone building of four stories being frequently next neighbour to a slab wooden erection of one—still the great length of some of the streets, and the regularity of their plan, being cut at fixed distances by others at right angles, and the great extent of the place altogether, bordered by these beautiful bays on every side; give the whole an extremely imposing effect to a stranger.

The shops are very handsome; and were it not that the *trottoirs* are so villainously bad, as even to endanger life at night, and so broken up as to appear intended as a check, or at least a punishment to drunkenness, one would have pleasure in looking at these signs of prosperity, and at the most wonderful collection of merchandise, furnished by almost every part

of the globe. Some of the shops are lighted up with gas; and those of the confectioners, silver-smith, haberdashers would, many of them at least, not discredit Prince's-street, Edinburgh, or that street of streets, Regent-street, London. I will not assert that such sights, as Everington's in Ludgate-hill, or Holmes's, in Regent-street, are to be seen here; but certainly there are many shops in Sydney much above the average of their fellows in London.

The first sight of the town and people does not impress a European with the idea of being in a country so distant from his home: the language, the manners, and dress of the inhabitants being for the most part similar to his own. But there are many peculiarities that gradually display themselves, chiefly attributable to the climate. There is a sallowness of countenance in the male, and a delicacy of feature and skin in the female, that I have not seen elsewhere; while you are now and then instinctively placing your hand upon your pockets, as some suspicious looking fellow passes you. Nor is this to be wondered at, when it is remembered that every seventh man you meet in the street has 'left his country for his country's good'; or is the offspring of those who have done so. There are at the same time very fine specimens of our kind to be seen; above the average height, and with well proportioned frame; though it is remarked, that tall, well made men, who have been born in Australia, do not possess that muscular power which is found in Britain generally. black in both sexes, the nose rather Roman than Grecian, and finally formed, and the whole expression sharp and good. On hot days, the white dress, very generally worn by all classes, gives a lightness and gaiety to the streets, that is very striking. Few ladies are to be seen walking in the public streets—it is not the custom; and this, I confess, is a great drawback to the general appearance of the place. But the truth is, prudence, as well as that first of female attributes, delicacy, have rendered it necessary in Sydney.

## LIFE IN THE BUSH.

Here, at Connobolas, we rejoice in one table of homely manufacture, fixed to the earthen floor, with a long suitable seat to match. A similar piece of upholstery, minus one leg, supports my desk and dressing-case; a stretcher [universally used in a bush] supplies the place of my bedstead;—mine I have adorned magnificently with a curtain of musquito-gauze. The rafters are our roof and ceiling, and slabs of bark our serking and slates. Glass windows we do not patronise; shutters we do not patronise; shutters outside are our only screens. The walls are slabs of bark, closely fitted upon upright slabs of wood; and the painting or papering are clean white sheets, nailed all around the room, to exclude in some degree the light, and cold by night, and the sun by day. Two loaded guns stand, ever ready, in the corner; and pistols are always below my pillow. In the space betwixt my apartment and that of James Simpson, is the couch of my sons, where beside another stretcher, may be seen saddles, bridles, ropes, rice, tea, sugar, tools of all descriptions, gig gear, preserves, butter, cheese, spirits, *et multa alia*. As to James, he and his wife slumber on a very primitive elevation above the floor, prepared by him in a half an hour, and peaceful oblivion "as well as e'er they did at home." The cuisine is furnished with considerably fewer materials than would be held requisite at the Clarendon or Gresham's; but there is merit in management, and I never dined more comfortably in my life than among the mountains of Connobolas; nor has the fear of snakes (although the trail of one that must have been at least six feet long, and as thick as my arm, lay on our path to-day, betwixt the stations, of blacks, or of bushrangers, yet cost me an hour's rest. There was a person in this neighbourhood, fifteen or twenty miles distant, who forfeited this station and his licence, in consequence of having allowed bushrangers from those haunts to come about his house—harbouring them, as it is called; and it is not a fortnight ago since certain gentleman (?) made use of the enclosures around for the purpose of branding their neighbours' cattle and calves with their own marks—a process carried on by the light of the moon, and a favourite pursuit in this colony. If my memory serves me, there is a motto on the borders of Scotland, "Reperabit Cornua Phæbe!"

The nearest town is Batkurst, distant from us about fifty miles; and there, also, are the nearest magistrates' bench, church, and physician. Our nearest post office is at Boree or Peiseleys, both of which places are fourteen miles distant, and the post is only once a week. At Boree, also live our nearest friends. The Shepherd's huts are scattered around in every direction, but some miles from us, and quite out of reach in any case of emergency.

Such is our present situation. Hitherto we have not been disturbed by night or day. No door as yet prevents intrusion; a piece of unbleached linen alone excludes man and beast! Indeed, a door of sheet iron would be of little avail against the class of persons who sometimes demand admission from these mountains; and the linen portal is so much cooler, that we prefer it, as it acts like an Indian punka. We erected a tent, but I could not breathe in it. In this country, as in the East, tents ought to be double, to exclude the sun. My two youths intend to try it; but I suspect that, what betwixt the cold by night, and the heat by day, they will be glad to flee to their storehouse again. Amidst all this exposure, which but lately would have appeared to me the life of a savage, with a blazing fire on the hearth in the hearth in the ample chimney of bark slabs, we pass our evenings wonderfully well. Luke, as one of the watchers, sleeps under a

few bark slabs, beside a large wood fire adjoining the sheepfolds, to keep off the native dogs. This is a duty rendered necessary by the frequent attempts made by these animals to get into the yards among the flocks. Throughout the bush it is the universal custom to fold all the flocks every night by sunset, to avoid the ravages committed by these native dogs—a species of jackal, and not unlike the fox. They roam and prowl about in packs; and if once successful in making their way into a yard, they kill and tear as many as they can reach, without being satisfied with what they can consume; their bite is very generally fatal.

Tait's Edinburgh Magazine.

From the "Literary Register" of this periodical, we make the following selections. The following poetical effusion is taken from a new work by Mr Hugh Murray, entitled, "The Prairie Bird."

## INDIAN HYMN:

Sung by the Prairie Bird, a child of the wilderness, bright, beautiful, and artless, brought up in the woods, under the care of a Moravian missionary. The first measure was a low, plaintive recitative.

The sun sinks behind the western hills;  
Deep red are the curtains of his couch;  
One by one the stars appear,  
Many they are and lustrous.  
The pale Moon is among them!  
They walk in their appointed path,  
Singing on their way "God made us all."  
*Machelenda, Sutch, Kilewonsoneca,*  
Hallowed be thy name!

Here the measure changed, and sweeping the strings with a bolder hand, she continued her untutored hymn, blending her Christian creed with the figures and expressions of the people among whom she dwelt.

The Great Spirit of the Lenape is God.  
He has sent his word to gladden the heart of man.

But clouds still darken the minds of the ancient people.  
The Great Spirit knows that they are blind and deaf.

Yet his ear is open to hear,  
His hand is ready to guide.  
*Machelenda, &c.*

Hallowed be thy name!

Again the measure changed, as in the richest tones of her melodious voice she pursued her theme:—

Sion and the everlasting mountains are thy footstool!

Lightnings are above thy throne:

Thunder is thy voice,—

And the Evil Spirit trembles before thee!

The Eagle cannot soar to thy habitation;

His eye cannot look on thy brightness;

Yet dost thou give life to the insect,

And breath to the merry wren!

Thou leadest the wild horse to the pasture,

And the thirsty fawn to the stream:

Hallowed be thy name!

Here the measure resumed its low and plaintive melody, as she thus concluded her song.

Who sings the praise of God?

It is "Prairie Bird," the poor child in the wilderness:

But God spurns not her prayer.

She is a stray leaf that knows not the tree

Whence the rude wind hath blown it;

But God planted the parent stem;

And not a branch or leaf thereof is hid from his sight.

The young whip-poor-will flies to its mother's nest;

The calf bleats to the bison-cow;

No mother's voice says to Olitipa, "Come here."

The wide prairie is her home!

God is a father to Olitipa!

Hallowed be thy name!

The Life of Sir Hugh Palliser, Bart., Admiral of the White and Governor of Greenwich Hospital. By Robert M. Hunt.

It is an interesting trait in his history, that he had the sagacity early to discover the great talents and remarkable character of Cook, when the distinguished circumnavigator was only a common seaman in his ship. The passage affords us an apt extract:—

Shortly after Captain Palliser had taken command of the *Eagle*, a young sailor, who had volunteered from a merchant ship in the Thames to try his future fortune in the royal navy, attracted his notice. A certain reserve and steadiness of demeanor, differing from the usual heedless bearing of the foremost man, but united to the qualifications of an active, and diligent able seaman, marked him as being naturally superior to the situation in which he was then found. His knowledge of the scientific, as well as the practical parts of navigation, was soon ascertained by his captain, and every encouragement which lay in his power was immediately afforded him. This seaman was James Cook, afterwards the enterprising circumnavigator, and celebrated Captain Cook.

Hitherto with the exception of a voyage or two made in the capacity of mate, Cook had been but a common sailor, mostly employed in the coasting trade; and the acquirements he possessed were entirely the result of his own unaided industry.

Before the *Eagle* went to sea, Captain Pal-