

stones, but it is found by the experience already had, that the place is not sufficiently ventilated to admit a greater number of prisoners than can work on the two wheels now in operation.—Each wheel is calculated to give employment to thirty two prisoners, sixteen on each wheel at once; and a bell is so arranged as to strike every half minute when one of the prisoners on the wheel comes off and another goes on by which each man works eight minutes, and rests the same space of time.

The average quantity of grain ground per day, is from 40 to 50 bushels, which it is presumed may be increased to 60 or 70, should it be found on further experience that the prisoners can be made to perform severer tasks without injury to their health. The consumption of the Alms house, Bridewell, and Penitentiary is about 50 bushels of grain ground into meal per day; the grinding of which has cost the public from sixteen to twenty two hundred dollars annually averaging about 1900 dollars per year. It will not be doubted, therefore that a sufficiency of meal may be ground by additional exertion for the whole establishment, and that in a manner free from expense to the public.

The cost of working the convicts out of the prison including tools, barrows, carts, feed for the cattle employed, extra wear and tear of clothes, and pay to the keepers, has amounted to about 7000 dollars per annum. This sum it is supposed by competent judges would obtain through the medium of private contract the performance of twice the labour executed by the prisoners. If this be the fact it is certainly one of much importance: for if it cost the public one hundred dollars to perform a certain quantity of labor, which can be obtained by private contract for fifty, there ought to be some evidence of public utility arising either from the punishment or reformation of the prisoners, to induce a continuation of the operation: but nothing to justify even the belief of reformation has as yet shewn itself, and the only reason that can be adduced in favour of a continuation of the system, is the want of proper employment for the prisoners.

There are always a numerous class of prisoners in the Penitentiary and Bridewell, consisting of female prostitutes and vagrants, for whom little or no employment could be provided; but it has been found by late experience, that the operation of women on the tread wheel, in proportion to their weight, is equally useful as that of the men; there is then this additional advantage arising from the erection of the mill, that after the Board shall have individually examined the operation of the mill, and the condition of the prisons and their inmates.

In carrying into effect our penitentiary system, much difficulty has always been experienced in finding suitable employment for the prisoners; but it is hoped that the introduction of the discipline Mill, will in a great measure supply this deficiency: and that the effects of the labour performed will not only result to the advantage of the public but the reformation and benefit of the convicts; and in order that the result of this species of labour on those who have been in the performance of it may be ascertained, a register has been commenced of the time each person works on the mill, to be referred to in a case of a recommendation, should any of them prove so incorrigible as again to be guilty of any offence that will bring them once more to the test.

Should the advantages arising from this experiment be equal to the expectations of the Common Council, it is hoped that additional mills will be erected at the Penitentiary, and one at least at the Bridewell, in order that the time now employed by the prisoners in plotting mischief, may be profitably disposed of. There is, however, one essential improvement in our penitentiary system in addition to the mill, that appears to be absolutely necessary for the introduction of a proper discipline in our prisons, and that is the provision of a sufficient number of cells or places for the prisoners after the labour of the day has been performed; by which means they will have an opportunity for reflection, free from the baneful influence resulting from the present method of confining 15 or 20 of them in a single room. This subject, however, will not doubt receive the attention it may appear to merit, this class of prisoners will now be made to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow."

EXTRACT.

Dr. Cheyne, in one of his medical treatises, narrates a case, the accuracy of which is established by an irrefragable combination of evidence, of a man who could die to all appearance at any time that he chose, and after having lain for a considerable period exact as a corpse, was able, as it should seem by a voluntary struggle, to restore to himself the appearance and all the various functions of animation and intellect. It is to be inferred from the latter part of the story, that the unnatural and painful exertions by which this person assumed the semblance of decease, produced at length a really fatal result. Death would be no longer mocked with impunity. The counterfeit corpse a few hours after its last revival, relapsed into a state which was capable of no subsequent resuscitation. But the case is so interesting and remarkable, as to deserve our giving it in all the detail with which Dr Cheyne presents it to his readers.

"He could die or expire when he pleased, and yet by an effort or somehow he could come to life again. He insisted so much upon seeing the trial made, that we were at last forced to comply. We all three felt his pulse first; it was distinct though small and thready, and his heart had its usual beating. He composed himself on his back, and lay in a still posture for some time: while I held his right hand. Dr. Baynard laid his hand on his heart, and Mr. Skirne held a clear looking glass to his mouth. I found his pulse sink gradually, till at last I could not feel any by the most exact and nice touch. Dr. Baynard could not feel the least motion in his heart, nor Mr. Skirne perceive the sign of a breath on the bright mirror he held to his mouth. Then each of us by turns examined his arm, heart, and breath; but could not by the nicest scrutiny discover the least symptom of life in him. We reasoned a long time about this odd appearance as well as we could, and finding he still continued in that condition, we began to conclude that he had indeed carried the experiment too far; and at last we were satisfied that he was actually dead and were just ready to leave him. This continued about a half an hour. By nine o'clock in the morning, in autumn, as we were going away we observed some motion about the body, and upon examination found his pulse and the motion of the heart gradually returning; he began to breathe gently and speak softly. We were all astonished to the last degree at this unexpected change, and after some further conversation with him, and with ourselves, went away fully satisfied as to all the particulars of this fact, but not able to form any rational scheme how to account for it. He afterwards called for his attorney, added a codicil to his will, &c. and calmly and composedly died about 5 or 6 o'clock that evening."

The *parting of friends* is death in miniature. You have not, it is true, the glazed eye, the closed lip, the damp flesh, the marbled countenance, the ghastly form, and the horrible repose of death; but you feel that which embitters death, the agony of separation. Yet we part with our friends daily, and there is somewhat of cheerfulness mingled with the reluctance with which we take leave of each other.—A slight glow on the cheek, a tremulous grasp of the hand, and a few sighs soon dissipated in the surrounding atmosphere, are the fleeting memorial of the severance of the living.

The hope that we will meet again—and the belief that we will meet again—and the confidence that Heaven will continue to us its merciful protection—these are the consoling stamina of happiness. How wretched then must he be, who, in death, hath not hope, because he hath not faith. Religion would, therefore, be a blessing, even if its promises failed of reality. A belief in the superintending goodness of the Deity, is a safe and delightful substitute, when the wisdom of the world fails, as it must, and its promises die, and its beauty fades, and its hopes are wrecked and desolate.

RECEIPT FOR THE CURE OF HYDROPHOBIA.

From the original MS. of Dr. Lewis, of Mamaroneck, New York.

An herb (the Scullcap) grows in low land, mostly at the outlet of swamps; it has square stalks, and a notched leaf, red at the root; a purple blow seed in shape of a bell. It must be gathered before or after dog days. Cure it from the sun. Cut it up fine, and

make it as strong as common tea, and give a child of three years of age one gill at night, and one in the morning, both fasting. Take it two days in like manner, and miss one—the day you miss, take a portion of sulphur sufficient to move the person.

A child of six or eight years old, a gill and a half, a child of twelve years old, a half pint—eat nothing greasy—drink no spirituous liquors—keep clear from getting your feet wet—continue on for forty days following the above direction strictly, and it will prove an effectual cure.

A new invented Mirror.—A small Mirror has been lately invented in Paris called, *Polymorphoscope*, which reflect not only the face of the Lady who looks into it, but, by means of painting, contrived in a curious manner, shows her in various kinds of dress and taste, so that she may see what becomes her best, and be guided accordingly in her choice.

Definition of the word PATRIOT.—An Irishman being suspected of disaffection to the existing government, was asked by a friend one day, was he a Patriot? who answered, "my name, by —, is Pat, sure enough, and when drunk, I think nothing of kicking up a bit of a riot."

Although fees to Counsel are purely honorary, yet it is almost proverbial, that a lawyer never does any thing well for which he is not feed. Lord Mansfield told a story of himself; that feeling this influence, he once, when about to attend to some professional business of his own, took several guineas out of his purse, and put them into his waistcoat pocket, as a fee for his labour!

It was decided in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, that if a person having a joint interest with another in a chattel (in an estate for years for instance), commits suicide, the whole chattel becomes vested in the king. The case in which the judgement appears was this: Sir James Hales, a judge of the Common Pleas, and his wife, were joint tenants of a term for years: Sir James drowned himself, and was found *felo de se*; and it was held, that the term did not survive to the wife, but that Sir James's interest was forfeited to the king by the felony, and that it consequently drew the wife's interest along with it. The argument of Lord Chief Justice Dyer is remarkably curious; "The felony (says he) is attributed to the act; which act is always done by a living man, and in his life-time, as my brother Brown said; for he said Sir James Hales was dead; and how came he to his death? It may be answered, by drowning; and who drowned him? Sir James Hales; and when did he drown him? in his life-time. So that Sir James Hales being alive, caused Sir James Hales to die, and the act of the living man was the death of the dead man. And then, for this offence, it is reasonable to punish the living man, who committed the offence, and not the dead man. But how can he be said to be punished alive, when the punishment comes after his death? Sir, this can be done no other way but by divesting out of him, from the time of the act done in his life time, which was the cause of his death, the title and property of those things which he had in his life time."—An author remarks, that this must have been a case of notoriety in the time of Shakspeare; and it is not improbable that he intended to ridicule this legal logic by the reasoning of the Grave-Digger in Hamlet, upon the drowning of Ophelia.

The Quercus Cerris, or Oriental Oak, is abundant in Florida. It is the tree on which the nugaills are produced. These are the work of an insect, for the purpose of depositing its eggs; and they are found on the branches of the tree so abundantly, that a person gathered several pounds of them in a few moments; and it is probably that they will become a considerable article of commerce, being in quality quite equal to those imported from the Levant.

The Charitable Highwayman.—It was said of Boulter, (a better sort of highwayman) that one day riding on horseback on the high road, he met a young woman who was weeping, who appeared to be in great distress. Touched with compassion, he asked what was the cause of her affliction; when she told him, without knowing who he was, that a creditor, attended by a bailiff, had gone to a house, which she pointed out,

and threatened to take her husband to prison for a debt of 30 guineas. Boulter gave her the 30 guineas, telling her to go and pay the debt, and set her husband at liberty; and she ran off, loading the honest gentleman with benedictions. Boulter, in the mean time, waited on the road till he saw the creditor come out, he then attacked him and took back the 30 guineas, besides every thing else he had about him.—*Memoirs of a traveller now in retirement.*

Lent.—There is a curious passage in one of the Roman Casuists, respecting the keeping of Lent—it is "That beggars who are ready to famish for want, may in Lent time, eat what they can get."

Kicking the bucket.—As two celebrated punsters were walking in the street, one of them struck his foot against a small pail: his companion drily observed, "Why, Sam, you have kick'd the bucket." "Oh no," replied the other, "I have only turned a little pail."

From American papers to the 21st ultimo.

SOUTH AMERICA.—Some hard fighting may be expected in the Brazils when the reinforcement of troops (which is on its way) arrives from Lisbon.—Without their aid the Royalists at Bahia have kept the Revolutionists at bay—and with their assistance will probably act offensively.

At Rio Janeiro, September 20, a decree was issued, ordering all subjects, not favourable to the cause of Brazil to leave the Kingdom.—Eight Deputies to the Brazilian Cortes had been elected at Rio, amid the greatest rejoicings. A decree had been passed, announcing the intention of the People to proclaim the Prince Regent, on the 12th of Oct. EMPEROR OF BRAZIL, and shouts of "Viva L'Imperador" were uttered at the Theatre. The national Cockade and Flag were established, 19 Provinces adhere to the Prince.

WEST-INDIES.—The excitement at the Havana is so great against the Americans that on the 18th ult. it was dangerous for an American to be on the key, and several were insulted. The people complained that they are called Pirates and Revolutionary Privateers have been fitted out in the U. S. ports.

On the subject of the piracies in the West Indies, the London Traveller asks, "What is the reason that our navy, which costs ten times as much as the navy of America, is so managed that our commercial ships have to thank the Americans for their only protection?"

Several of the accomplices in the expedition against Porto Rico had been arrested; among them two emigrants from Hayti were shot, as well as a man named Dubois, who had a fine estate on the Island.

A bill was before the Legislature of Jamaica, October 17, for laying a duty on all merchandise imported from the U. States, said to be in substance the same as formerly established, and as stated in the free trade bill of the mother country. A new tonnage duty bill had also passed.

BOSTON, Nov. 19.

By the brig Clarion, Capt. Abbot, from Calcutta, we received papers to July 18. The Relief Committee of Calcutta, have employed Major Stuart, to carry succours to the District of Backergungaw, which suffered so dreadfully from the late inundation. Letters of the 7th and 11th of July had been received from him.

Major Stuart arrived at Burrissaul on the 7th of July.

Mr. Cardew, the Acting Magistrate, readily gave him every information he possessed relative to the effects of the recent inundation, which though not so bad as at first apprehended, are yet melancholy enough; as by the reports already from only six Thanas, there have been lists of 3884 people missing and drowned, whose names were specified; besides about 500 dead bodies, which were removed from the shores of this station.

The loss of cattle must have been very considerable, as some thousands of their carcasses have been floating about in all directions; but the loss of grain in store, is the most urgent.

The letter of the 11th says, "Mr. Cardew has put 3 row boats and 4 large guard boats under my orders, the whole of which, also 2 large Saugor Punsways, with between 20 and 40 maunds of Grain and Salt in