

POETRY.

EXTRACT from the Poem of N. P. WELLS, delivered before the Faculty and students of Yale College.

So lives the soul of man. It is the thirst
Of his immortal nature, and he reads
The rock for secret fountains, and pursues
The path of the illimitable wind
For mysteries—and this is human pride.
There is a gentler element—and man
May breathe it with a calm, unruffled soul,
And drink its living waters till his heart
Is pure, and this is human happiness.
Its secret and its evidence are writ
In the broad book of nature. 'Tis to have
Attentive and believing faculties;
To go abroad rejoicing in the joy
Of beautiful and well created things;
To love the voice of waters, and the sheen
Of silver fountains leaping to the sea;
To thrill with the rich melody of birds
Living their life of music; to be glad
In the gay sunshine, reverent in the storm;
To see a beauty in the stirring leaf,
And find calm thoughts beneath the whispering
tree;

To see, and hear, and breathe the evidence
Of God's deep wisdom in the natural world,
It is to linger on the magic face
Of human beauty, and from light and shade
Alike to draw a lesson; 'tis to love
The cadences of voices that are tuned
By purity and majesty of thought;
To dwell on woman's beauty like a star
Whose purity and distance make it fair;
And in the gush of music to be still,
And feel that it has purified the heart,
It is to love all virtue for itself,
All nature for its breathing evidence;
And when the eye hath seen and when the ear
Hath drank the beautiful harmony of the world
It is to humble the imperfect mind
And lean the broken spirit upon God.

MAHMOUD II.

THE REIGNING SULTAN OF TURKEY.

He was born July 20, 1785, and is the son of Abdul Hamid, who died in 1789, and nephew of the Sultan Selim III. He was proclaimed Emperor July 28, 1808. The following account of this sovereign is from "Recollections of Turkey," by a person who professes to have resided a long time in Turkey, published in the New Monthly Magazine.

It is not likely that so fit an opportunity as the present one will occur again in the course of my "Recollections" to enter into any particulars regarding Sultan Mahmood, who has occupied the Ottoman Throne up to the present day. I shall, therefore, take the liberty of anticipating dates for the purpose of concluding here the subject with a cursory view of the most remarkable incidents of his reign, and relating what is known of his personal character.

His mother was the daughter of a French merchant at Martinique, who at the age of thirteen, sent her to Marseilles, that her education might be completed in France. The vessel on board of which she had embarked, near the gulf of Lyons, was captured by an Algerine ship of war, and carried into Algiers where the young Creole was immediately transferred to the harem of the Dey. Her extreme beauty appeared to the Dey to render her peculiarly fit for a present to the then reigning Sultan Abdoulhamid, who soon judged her worthy of being honored with his notice.—She bore him a son, the present Sultan, who endeared her to the life she led in the seraglio, inasmuch that she declined availing herself of any of the opportunities of making her escape which her indefatigable and wealthy friends, who had discovered where she was, threw in her way.

Notwithstanding her extreme youth at the time of her being severed from all connexion and intercourse with Christian Europe, she not only retained the knowledge of her native tongue during the remainder of her life, but also a superiority of manners, as well as of mind, which distinguished her from the crowd of ignorant beings with which she was obliged to associate.—The

education of her son became the only object of her cares and occupations; and her counsels, joined to those of Sultan Selim, who evinced a strong partiality for the growing prince, prepared him for the important duties of the throne. Since the commencement of his reign, the wisdom and soundness of his mother's politics have been rendered apparent. According to law, not only was she enabled, as Sultan Validay (Emperor's Mother), to appear in public with perfect freedom, but also to take a direct part in the deliberations of the Divan on every important occasion, through the person of her own chancellor, who has a seat in it. Mahmood, however, seems to possess too haughty and fiery a temper to have suffered himself at all times to be influenced by her wholesome advice; and he had become too much attached to Selim's views, not to make their accomplishment paramount to all considerations as to the iniquity of the measures, to which he had determined to recur for that purpose. The principles of the system which he in consequence adopted, and has since pursued, may indeed be considered, in some measure, applicable to the temper and habits of his people; but generally speaking, a policy tending to the diminution and destruction of the population of an empire, to say nothing of the natural odium it necessarily excites, must be looked upon as calculated to defeat its own object. I shall not here specify the number of Janissaries, who, it is asserted by all well-informed persons residing in Constantinople, have gradually disappeared through mysterious means, from 1808 to 1824. Suffice it to say, that it is not less than the amount of population in one of the second-rate kingdoms of Germany!—And if the waters of the Bosphorus were, by miraculous operation, suddenly withdrawn, the heaps of human bones which they perhaps still serve to conceal, would fill one with amazement and horror. If the annihilation of the corps of Janissaries be ultimately effected through the physical destruction of the people who compose it, it remains to be seen whether the facilities afforded by such a removal of opposition are likely to ensure the full execution of the Sultan's plan. It can only be a deluded and short-sighted government who would seek strength by diminishing the number of its subjects.

Among the few of Sultan Mahmood's confidential servants who are known to have exercised any influence over his measures, the keeper of the seals, Hallett Effendi, has made himself the most conspicuous. This man had a refinement and suavity in his manners, and the art of giving a fascinating power to his conversation which made him pass as an accomplished gentleman even in the most fashionable salons of Paris, in which capital he had resided some years as Turkish Ambassador. But says the Greek proverb, "A Turk is always a Turk, do what you will with him," and so Hallett Effendi proved himself to the utmost extent, when he afterwards found the means of governing his country through his artful intrigues. The butcheries committed at Constantinople, soon after the breaking out of the Greek insurrection, among the most innocent and peaceable of the Greek inhabitants, are well known to have arisen from his instigations; and many other acts of cruelty and of private persecution owe their origin to the same course. Loud complaints commenced at last against him, but remained for a time unheeded; and the immediate patronage of the Sultan still encouraged him in a career of iniquitous measures, for which he was considered personally responsible. The increasing power of his enemies became at last too great to be withstood, and, when

joined by the clamour of the Janissaries, his fall became inevitable. The Sultan protected him to the last with the whole weight of his authority, but when he found his own life to be endangered by this obstinacy, he caused his favourite to be exiled to some place in Asia Minor, where he was soon after beheaded. Thus ended, in 1822 the life of Hallett Effendi, whose name will form an epoch in the annals of Turkish history, and whose ultimate fate is a striking instance of the insecurity of Turkish power.

In his manner of living, Sultan Mahmood is said never to surpass the bounds of moderation. He rides a good deal on horseback and makes frequent aquatic excursions, landing at some one of his numerous *kiosks*, which border or crown the heights of the Bosphorian shores, in the gardens of which he amuses himself a great portion of the day by firing with a rifle-piece at a target. He has raised a barrier between himself and his subjects, which renders impracticable all personal intercourse with him beyond a few favored individuals; and he is only officially accessible on Fridays, whilst he is riding in state to the mosque. On this occasion petitions are presented to him, and taken by the chief of his eunuchs, (who also acts as minister of his household) riding next to him. It seldom happens that he reads any of them; but when he happens to do so, and is struck with any injustice therein complained of, he is quick in granting redress. He takes an essential part in the directions of public affairs, and often descends so far into trifling details which relate to his internal government, that a great number of things are done by him, without the participation or knowledge of his ministers to whose respective departments they may immediately belong. In 1812, having judged it expedient that a late Vizier, exiled to Cyprus, should be put to death, and wishing to spare the feelings of one of his ministers, who was the Vizier's relation and friend, and through whose hands the order was to pass, or prevent perhaps the possibility of notice being transmitted to the intended victim of what was in preparation, the Sultan wrote a *Ferman* with his own hand, forged it in the names of the Grand Vizier and other ministers by whom mandates of this kind are signed in his name, confided it into the hands of one of his Capigee Bashees, who are usually sent upon such errands, and addressed another letter in the actual Vizier's name to the Pasha of the Island, ordering him, on the part of the Sultan, to assist the Capigee in the execution of this commission. The business was soon done, and the Pasha addressed to the Porte an official account of it, which, coming by sea conveyance, arrived at Constantinople before the Capigee, who had landed at Saralia, and was returning on horseback. On the receipt of this despatch, the Grand Vizier and the other ministers were filled with consternation;—and as the nature of its contents required that the Sultan should be informed of them immediately, they made up their minds for the worst, should the Sovereign's wrath not be directed to the perpetrator of what appeared to them an unauthorized act. The Grand Vizier approached tremblingly to give his account of the transaction, and to his great relief was told not to trouble himself about it. He was left to guess at the truth.

One of the most important objects which attracted Sultan Mahmood's attention soon after his accession to the throne, and which seemed to him to call loudly for a thorough reform, was the existence of some remains of a feudal system in certain provinces of the empire. It was only, however, when he had freed himself of the shackles of the

war against Russia, that he felt at liberty to undertake the destruction of feudalism, a work hitherto looked upon by him as attended with great difficulty, and which only appeared practicable during a time of peace with foreign states. After several years' labour, and happily for him, before the breaking out of the Greek insurrection, his exertions were crowned with complete success, and the extensive districts lately under the paternal and peaceable authority of the *Devlehs*, or tributary princes, were converted into *Poshalics*, or military governments, commanded by Pashas of three tails. He has thus substituted for those who possessed the real means of being useful to him in all his troubles and difficulties, and whose very existence interested them in supporting his government on all occasions, a set of mercenary agents, strangers to the people, over whom they are sent to rule with absolute sway; who are actuated by no consideration but the gratification of their own avarice, and exercise, therefore, a system of oppression and plunder, equally ruinous to the peasant and to the state; and who, frequently, after having amassed wealth through their rapacity, believe they have become sufficiently powerful to maintain themselves independent of the Porte, and raise the standard of revolt against the imperial authority; thus involving the empire in perpetual trouble and confusion, and breeding all kinds of discontent in every part of it, without being thereby ultimately benefited themselves. But such is the strange fatality which seems to attend the fate of this misguided government, that it seems to labour with unremitting assiduity at its own destruction; and such must infallibly continue to be the case, so long as the interests and passions of one individual are acted upon without the slightest reference to the general good. It is almost needless to deduce from these observations the rapid decline of the Ottoman empire, which a recent commotion has shaken to its very foundations. No event could have held up to a clearer light the state of its degeneracy, than its impotent and long contention with a handful of people, against whom all its national strength and resources have, during now more than four years, been employed in vain.—The contest for freedom, justly entered into by the Greeks has moreover served to show, that upon the industry of this people alone had hitherto depended the pecuniary resources of the Turkish government, whose finances are now reduced to that impoverished state which necessitates a recourse to the last alternative of all barbarous governments—the progressive diminution in the intrinsic value of the national coin.

In 1820 the piaster in Turkey was equal to nine English pence; it is now worth four, and there is every local prospect of its continuing to fall. To what end such a state of things will lead, a very few years must determine.

The N. B. ROYAL GAZETTE, is published every Thursday, by GEO. K. LUGRIN, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, at his Office in Queen Street, over Mr. SLOOT's Store, Frederickton, where Blanks, Handbills, &c. can be struck off at the shortest notice.

CONDITIONS.—The price of this Paper is Sixteen Shillings per annum (exclusive of Postage)—the whole to be paid in advance.

Advertisements not exceeding Fifteen Lines will be inserted for Four Shillings and Six pence the first Insertion. Advertisements must be accompanied with Cash and the insertions will be regulated according to the amount received.

Agents for the Gazette.—St. John, H. N. H. LUGRIN, Esq. St. Andrews, JAMES CAMPBELL, Esq.; Miramichi, J. A. Street, Esq.; Westmorland, E. B. CHANDLER, Esq.; Sheffield, JAMES TILLEY, Esq.; Gage-Town, B. P. WATMORE, Esq.; For Woodstock and Northampton, THOMAS PHILLIPS, Esq.