

Poetry.

I WANDERED BY THE BROOK-SIDE.

BY R. M. MILNES.

I wandered by the brook-side,
I wand'ed by the mill,
I could not hear the brook flow,
The noisy wheel was still.
There was no hum of grasshopper,
No chirp of any bird—
But the beating of my own heart
Was all the sound I heard.

I sat beneath the elm-tree,
I watched the length'ning shade,
And as it grew still longer,
I did not feel afraid;
For I listened for a footfall,
I listened for a word—
But the beating of my own heart
Was all the sound I heard.

He came not—no, he came not,
The night came on alone,
The little stars sat one by one,
Each on his golden throne;
The evening air passed by my cheek,
The leaves above were stirred,—
But the beating of my own heart
Was all the sound I heard.

Fast, silent tears were flowing
When something stood behind,
A hand was on my shoulder,
I knew its touch was kind;
It drew me nearer—nearer—
We did not speak a word,
But the beating of our own hearts
Was all the sound we heard.

Miscellaneous.

THE CHINESE ARMY.

The arms and accoutrements of this formidable host are of the most simple nature. A soldier wears an ordinary jacket, with a border round it, the colour of which determines the division to which he belongs, while the name of the division is written in front and on his back. If he can afford it he buys gaiters and a pair of shoes and stockings, but these are not indispensable articles of war. Instead of a knapsack, he only encumbers himself with a canvas bag, into which he puts all his valuables and provisions; and the cartridge box, a small cotton pouch, he wears in front, so that during firing he is in great danger of explosion, a misfortune which has happened very frequently. His cap if he has any at all, is of a longitudinal shape, with a small red tassel. The jackets are of all possible colours—blue, red, yellow and white; nor are they so very nice in these distinctions as the European Barbarians. The ancient Chinese were very fond of wearing armour, and in modern times a few of the elite have retained the custom; it is only, however, on occasions of great state that they appear fully dressed. The uniform of the cavalry does not differ from that of the infantry; they ride on very clumsy saddles, and use immense stirrups, without spurs. As for the officers they wear long robes either of silk or fur, and their dress is distinguished from that of the civilians, solely by the embroidery in front and in rear, of some fierce animal like a tiger, lion or griffin. All have a ring on the thumb to assist them in drawing the bow, and this may be considered as the generic badge of the profession. Every one of them, on occasions of state, sling a bow round his neck and gird on a sword, the former being the natural companion of every warrior. They delight in the grotesque, and are fond of painting tiger heads on the gates of forts, their side-boards, vessels, and in fact, where a place is found which can be garnished with a head. Whoever can procure a tiger skin sleeps and sits upon it; they grind the bones, which are imported from the southern part of Asia in great quantities, and make jelly of them, which is a most delicious repast, while the greatest fit-bit a great officer can partake of, is the gall, and all this is for the sake of inspiring him with tiger like courage. They even dress the privates in imitation of the terrible animal, but in this case they do not use real skins but only dotted cloth. Such a corps really looks formidable, and would perhaps inspire terror in whizzing grape shot, if the latter could be stopp'd in its flight.

The arms are the pike, lance, spear, half-moon, with hooks, and various other implements, double swords, the bow and matchlock. Of the former there exists a great variety, and they become dangerous in a close engagement. The swords are badly tempered and next to useless, yet the sons of Ham have an advantage over all barbarians, for they fight with two. Not satisfied with carrying on the work of slaughter with one hand, they draw both and go on fencing till their antagonist is out of breath. They are very great adepts in the use of the bow, and opposed to any archers of the nomadic tribes they have invariably in a drawn battle gained the advantage. The matchlocks are of the worst description, the barrel being cast and the touch-hole very large, so that no reliance can be placed upon their hitting qualities. The soldiers are averse to their use on account of the many accidents that continually occur, and a brave man looks behind him whenever he takes aim, to preserve his eyesight for a future occasion. Notwithstanding the reiterated orders of introducing fire-arms generally, the bow is still retained as principal instrument of war.—Shields, made of rattan wicker-work, are universally in use, and afford excellent protection against arrows. Soldiers do not encumber themselves with a variety of arms; there are pikemen, swordsmen, archers, and matchlockmen, each of whom has only one weapon, and no other. When drawn up in full array they look the most motley group upon which the eye can rest. We have heard them compared with the military ages; but if the knights and their relations made as sorry an appearance as the warriors of the celestial empire, all the glowing descriptions of helmet, breast plate, and lance, with which the chronicles of chivalric lore abound, seem sadly misapplied. The cannons are of the most varied calibre.—Some are so small that they are carried on men's shoulders, and placed on a stand whenever they are to be used. This is the flying artillery of the celestial empire. The Chinese have managed to cast immense pieces, which would match with our forty-eight pounders, and have in fact manifold variations of this instrument of destruction. They do not understand how to bore them, but the body is ready cast

of iron, with many pores, and often honey-combed, so that they frequently burst. The touch-hole is moreover too large, and the whole without mathematical proportion, and of course not able to maintain a well directed fire. Instead of balls they often use stones or pieces of iron of every possible shape. They also avail themselves of grapeshot, rockets, and grenades, which, on account of their clumsy make, prove almost harmless.

The gong and a small drum are the principal instruments for encouraging the soldiers to make an attack. The latter emitting a deafening noise, is well calculated to rouse martial ardor. They have also horns which howl like conchs, but are not frequently blown.

The army is divided into 5, 10 and 130, and these again into battalions, camps, brigades and divisions, rather different from what we are accustomed to. They do not march in those ranks, nor wheel round and draw up like our soldiers, nor can they be said properly to march. In fact they walk as they best can, without putting themselves to any inconvenience, and in time of need they run in a trot, and whoever is the foremost is the bravest.

The Chinese have a great variety of weapons upon tactics, and they have the advantage of containing the experiments made during the space of two thousand years, and if the officers by studying them do not become first rate tacticians, there will never another be formed anywhere. The great art consists in drawing up from ten to one hundred men in a circle, and making them move about in all possible directions so as to annoy the enemy in front and rear. The whole army is divided in van, centre, and rear, and each party consists of a number of these subdivisions. At each of these circles stand several standard bearers, who indicate the movements by their flags. They fall down, rise again, jump forward, yell, strike the gong, form again, then holla out, and thus proceed to terrify the enemy. It is also customary that the bravest ride before the ranks, and after having soundly abused their antagonist, they challenge the strongest to single combat. This offer decides the whole battle, and the party whose champion is beaten thinks it only proper to retreat in disorder, or be cut up in piece-meal. Engagements where masses fight are unknown, and the whole art of extermination is reduced to mere skirmishing.

The army is raised from the offspring of the soldiers, who are almost all married. It is rather an appellation to be a soldier, and the very name of laon-tseang is enough to fill people with aversion, so that no honest man would enlist. As the army is very badly paid, the privates are obliged to shift for themselves as well as they can. They generally understand some craft or other, and are frequently engaged in husbandry. Every province has some lands which are either cultivated by the military, or let for their own advantage. The most propitious time, however, for these heroes is, when they are on actual service. Then they find some opportunity for squeezing and robbing, and their numbers insure to them always impunity. Hence the terror awakened amongst the peaceful inhabitants at the sight of the defenders of the country, for they are private marauders.

Every private may become an officer, and the greater mandarins have risen from the ranks; the qualifications for advancement are a thorough knowledge of archery, running, jumping, and a general knowledge of tactics. It is surprising how ignorant the officers in general are, though there are regular examinations instituted to enable them to obtain a degree. Once advanced, they are promoted by slow steps, and though merit constitutes the sole cause, yet money is a still more important article, and one may buy a commission at ease. As however, the situations are by no means lucrative, and are retained with considerable risk, there is little ambition shown to rise in the service by paying sums.

As a whole, the Chinese army is unique in its kind, and time will show of what stuff the men are made, who, according to their own statement, keep all nations in subjection.

ROMANCE IN REAL LIFE.—A romantic incident has just occurred in the Marylebone Infirmary. Ann Dempsey, a young and interesting girl, who had been the support of an aged mother, had gone into the infirmary for the purpose of undergoing an operation for the removal of a dropsical complaint, which had assumed the form of a large tumor. She was warned of the painful and even perilous nature of the operation, but she expressed her resolution to submit to it, owing to her ardent wish that her life might be spared for her mother's sake. The operation was accordingly performed in the presence of her mother and several eminent medical men. It lasted two hours and forty minutes, and the magnitude of the tumor taken from her may be imagined when it contained no less than two gallons and a half of water. Notwithstanding the long and painful operation, singular to relate, this heroic girl never uttered a single cry; but at the conclusion tears were observed rolling down her cheeks, and being desired not to shed them, she replied that they were tears of joy at her freedom from the incubus which had so long afflicted her. As she appeared to be in a sinking condition, the medical gentlemen, upon a consultation, deemed a fresh infusion of blood into her veins absolutely necessary. On making inquiries as to whom they could procure to provide the blood, it was ascertained that two men were in an adjoining room, one 25 and the other 30 or 40 years of age, anxiously awaiting the issue of the operation. Believing them, in the first instance, to be relatives of the poor girl, they were ushered in to the room, when it turned out that the eldest was her employer, for whom she worked at shoe-binding, and the other a journeyman in the same employ, both devotedly attached to the unfortunate girl. On being made acquainted with her state, and what was required to be done for the patient, they both simultaneously volunteered to supply the blood from their veins.

Much bitterness of feeling and contention between them ensued as to which should do so, which was put an end to by the decision of the surgeons in favour of the youngest, who baring his arm with great energy exclaimed, 'that he

was willing to lose the last drop of his blood to save her life.' The blood was then carefully infused from his arm into the veins of the poor sufferer, till the young man fainted from his loss. On this taking place the elder lover implored permission to supply the remainder, but the girl recovering, it was deemed unnecessary. The poor girl began to improve, and great hopes were entertained of her recovery, but unfortunately these hopes were blasted, for, unknown to the surgeons, she was found to be afflicted with a severe diarrhoea, which increased until it became a confirmed case of cholera, from the effects of which she died on the fifth day after the operation. She was sensible to the last, and the death-bed scene is represented as truly affecting. She expressed a wish to see the young man who had lost his blood for her, kissed him, and bade him cut off a lock of her hair, and begged of him to be kind to her mother. She then entered into prayer with the Rev. Mr. Moody, the Chaplain to the workhouse, and in the midst of it expired.—*London paper.*

FATE OF THE APOSTLES.

ST. MATTHEW.—This apostle and evangelist is supposed to have suffered martyrdom, or was slain with a sword at a city in Ethiopia.

ST. MARK.—This evangelist was dragged through the streets of Alexandria, in Egypt, until he expired.

ST. LUKE.—This evangelist was hanged upon an Olive-tree in Greece.

ST. JOHN.—This apostle and evangelist was put into a caldron of boiling oil, at Rome, and escaped death. He afterwards died a natural death at Ephesus, in Asia.

ST. PETER.—This apostle was crucified at Rome, with his head downwards, by his own request, thinking himself unworthy to die in the same posture and manner as his beloved master.

ST. JAMES, THE GREAT.—This apostle was beheaded at Jerusalem.

ST. JAMES, THE LESS.—This apostle was thrown from a pinnacle, or wing of the temple, and then beaten to death with a fuller's club.

ST. PHILIP.—This apostle was hanged up against a pillar at Hierapolis, a city of Phrygia.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW.—This apostle was flayed alive by the command of a barbarous king.

ST. ANDREW.—This apostle was bound to a cross, whence he preached to the people until he expired.

ST. THOMAS.—This apostle was run through the body with a lance, at Coromandel, in the East Indies.

ST. JUDE.—This apostle was shot to death with arrows.

ST. SIMON, ZEALOT.—This apostle was crucified in Persia.

ST. MATTHIAS.—This apostle was first stoned and then beheaded.

ST. BARNABAS.—This apostle of the Gentiles was stoned to death by the Jews, at Solonia.

ST. PAUL.—This apostle was beheaded at Rome, by the tyrant Nero.—*Frederick Visitor.*

WELLINGTON ON HIS LEGS.—His style of speaking is what might be expected from his character—plain, simple, straightforward. His sentences are short and pithy—his language clear and lucid; his delivery abrupt. When he makes a point, it falls on the mind with the force of a sledge hammer. His voice reminds one of that of an officer giving the word of command: he lays emphasis, short and somewhat harsh, on the leading word or words of the sentence, and speaks the rest in an undertone. The arts and tricks of the orator he wholly disdains. They are foreign to the genius of his mind. They would be out of place in his speeches, who depend for their interest and their value upon their simplicity, their truthfulness, and their common sense. For the same reason, he never attempts to impose on the house a fictitious enthusiasm or a pretended excitement. If the Duke of Wellington gets excited—and he will sometimes get into a terrible passion at any infringement of constitutional integrity or breach of discipline—there is no mistaking it for a mere prepared climax to a speech; he is completely possessed by the demon. The only action he ever uses is on such occasions, and then it is almost convulsive. His arms and legs seem no longer to be under control—they quiver, and shake and tremble; and the clenched fist violently and frequently struck upon the table, denotes that some very potent feeling of indignation is, for the time, mastering the usual calmness of this self-possessed man.

NOVEL AND EXTRAORDINARY PHENOMENON.—Accident has led to the discovery, that the steam which escapes from the boilers of steam-engines in many cases develops or gives out great quantities of electricity. About a fortnight since, the engineerman at a stationary steam-engine, on a railway, in the neighbourhood of Newcastle, happening to have one hand in a copious jet of steam which escaped from an accidental aperture in the boiler, whilst he applied his other hand to the lever of the safety-valve, experienced an electric shock. This led to the discovery, that electricity was given out by the steam with great rapidity, and might be collected as from a powerful electrical machine. It has been ascertained, moreover, that the phenomenon does not rise from any circumstance peculiar to the boiler in which it was first observed; for in many other boilers, which have since been tried, the steam has been found to develop electricity very copiously. The subject is being followed up here by experiments, and has been brought under the notice of some of the most eminent scientific men of the day. It is not unlikely, that the newly-discovered phenomenon may lead to important results, in advancing our knowledge of the nature of the subtle and mysterious fluid, and form an era in the history of electrical science.—*Correspondent of Galeshead Obs.*

PHYSICAL ENJOYMENTS.—There is often no material difference between the enjoyments of men of the highest rank, and those of persons in the rudest stages of society. If the life of many young English noblemen and that of an Iroquois, or an Arab, are compared, it will be found that their real sources of happiness are nearly the same—the destruction of wild

animals, or the management of impetuous steeds. This is a fact which is matter of daily observation; and it furnishes a most instructive lesson as to the proportion established by nature between the active and the speculative part of mankind. The great majority in every class of society are incapable of receiving happiness from any other source than physical excitation; and every plan for human improvement, which is founded on any other supposition will necessarily fail. Nor is it without good reason that nature has established this disproportion between the studious and the active. The great mass of undertakings essential to the existence and welfare of mankind depend on physical exertion; and, unless the greater part of our fellow creatures were disposed to that species of labour, and gratified with the enjoyments that attend it, the race would speedily perish, and the speculations of science disappear with the individuals who formed them.—*Alison's Principles of Population.*

A BLESSED SPOT.—From an epigram of Abulfadhil, recorded in D'Herbelot. (An unpublished translation, by Percy Bysshe Shelley.)

Hamadan is my native place,
And, I must say, in praise of it,
It merits, for its ugly face,
What every body says of it.

Its children equal its old men
In vices and avidity;
And they reflect the babes again,
In exquisite stupidity.

ANECDOTE OF THE LATE KING OF HOLLAND.—"Sire, I entreat you to remember that you are the first magistrate of the kingdom," said the Netherlands Minister of Justice to King William, during the course of a conversation a few days since, in which he endeavoured to prevail on him to retain the sceptre. "If it be so," was the King's reply, "I claim the immunities of the post, and solicit permission to retreat. After five and twenty years' service, I think I may be said to have earned it."

PROSPECTUS.

THE MONTHLY REVIEW, DEVOTED TO THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT OF THE CANADAS.

THE Canadas have been united under an amended constitution—the foundation has been laid for an improved system of government. The success of that constitution will greatly depend upon a correct understanding and a just appreciation of its principles; and the advantages of the new system of government will be essentially influenced by the views and feelings of the inhabitants of the Canadas themselves. At a period so eventful, and under circumstances so peculiar, it is of the utmost importance that the principles of the constitution should be carefully analysed, and dispassionately expounded; that the relations between this and the mother country, and the mutual advantages connected with those relations, should be explained and illustrated; the duties of the several branches of the government stated and enforced; the natural, commercial, and agricultural resources and interests of these provinces investigated and developed; a comprehensive and efficient system of public education discussed and established; the subject of emigration practically considered in proportion to its vast importance; the various measures adapted to promote the welfare of all classes of the people originated and advocated; and a taste for intellectual improvement and refinement encouraged and cultivated.

Such are the objects of the MONTHLY REVIEW; objects which it is intended to pursue with views and feelings as unbiased and comprehensive as those of the government itself. Such a publication is a desideratum in the Canadas. The subjects to which its pages will be devoted require, at the present juncture, a more elaborate discussion than is suitable to the columns of a newspaper, and ought to be embodied in a convenient and permanent form. The topics discussed, and the subjects introduced, will become more varied as the immediate objects which have called the publication into existence shall have been accomplished. A monthly retrospect of public affairs, containing notices and observations respecting the measures of the government, and the leading events and questions of the day, will appear in each number.

THE MONTHLY REVIEW will, for the time present, be conducted under the supervision of JOHN WAUGHY, Esquire, late Editor of The Upper Canada Herald, assisted by several able writers in the two Canadas. A general invitation is also given to Gentlemen of talents and acquirements to contribute to the columns of the REVIEW. Each number will contain from 60 to 80 pages, royal octavo, double columns, small type and fine English paper. Each volume will contain not far from seven hundred pages, and furnish about as much reading matter as is contained in three common octavo volumes of five hundred pages each.

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The Editor is permitted and authorised to add, that the MONTHLY REVIEW has been undertaken with the sanction and under the patronage of His EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL; although the writers alone will be responsible for the matter which it may contain. Toronto, Nov. 4, 1840.

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Fredericton, Dec. 5, 1840.

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N. B. Persons asking for any of the above Letters, will please say they are advertised. W. B. PHAIR, Post Master.

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THE Subscribers in returning their sincere thanks to their friends and the public for the encouragement and support afforded them since their commencement in business, beg to inform them that they have entered into Co partnership with Mr. JOHN WALLACE, of Glasgow, and will continue business under the style of

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Full GOODS hourly expected.
G. & J. MUNRO.
Fredericton, 1st October, 1840.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons having any legal demands against the Estate of DAVID CHENNIN, late of Horton, County of King's, Nova Scotia, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested, within three months from this date, at the Office of George J. Diblee, in Fredericton, and all persons indebted to the said Estate will please make immediate payment to George J. Diblee, Esq., who is authorized to receive the same.

PEREZ MARTIN,
Sole Executor.
September 30, 1840.—3mp.

R.A.V. A.W.A.Y.

FROM the Subscriber a short time since an indented colored Apprentice named WILLIAM PHILLIPS. All persons are hereby cautioned against harbouring him or trusting him on my account, as I will not be answerable for the same.

SAMUEL SMITH,
Maugerville, 8th Dec. 1840.—3m.