

Poetry.

THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE.

BY PARK BENJAMIN.

On the village green it stood,
And a tree was at the door,
Whose shadow, broad and good,
Reach'd far along the floor.
Of the school-room, when the sun
Put on his crimson vest,
And his daily labor done,
Like a monarch sunk to rest.

How the threshold-wood was worn,
How the lintel-post decayed!
By the tread of eve and morn
Of the feet that o'er it strayed,
By the pressure of the crowd
Within the portal small—
By the ivy's emerald shroud
That wrapp'd and darken'd all.

That school-house dim and old,
How many years have flown
Since in its little fold
My name was kindly known.
How different it seems
From what it used to be,
When gay as morning dreams,
We played around the tree!

How we watch'd the lengthen'd ray
Thro' the dusty window-pane!
How we longed to be away
And at sport upon the plain—
To leave the weary books
And the master's careful eye,
For the flowers and for the brooks,
And the cool and open sky.

Alas! where now are they—
My early comrades dear?
Departed far away,
And I alone am here!
Some are in distant climes,
And some in churchyard cold,
Yet it told of happy times,
That school-house dim and old!

Miscellaneous.

THE SEPOYS, OR NATIVE INDIAN SOLDIERS.

The following notice of the sepoys is extracted from a lecture "on the state of the Indian Army," delivered by an officer who had served more than 30 years in India, and reported in the *Bombay Times*—

"As the principal means by which the conquest of India has been made, and the one to which we must chiefly trust for its defence, is the native army of the East India Company. I venture to hope a knowledge of the composition and characters of this branch of our army, which even now in its reduced state, exceeds 150,000 disciplined troops, will probably interest the hearers, and yet admit of being condensed within the limits of a lecture; and it is therefore, by well authenticated anecdotes from Sir J. Malcolm and others, of the conduct of native officers and sepoys of the three presidencies, both individually and collectively, that I propose to illustrate this part of my subject, presuming that their gallant achievements in every part of India, when the Marquis of Hastings carried on his great plan for the extirpation of the Pindarrees being of recent occurrence, are well known. I have preferred in general the records of earlier times, merely premising, that, in all their arduous struggles, the same character of devotion and bravery has been fully maintained. As Bombay was the first possession of importance the English obtained in the East, so it was on that island the first company of disciplined sepoys was raised; but the establishment on the island was then on too limited a scale to maintain more than a small European garrison, and a few companies of disciplined sepoys; but these were gradually increased, for a corps of five hundred is mentioned as having joined the Madras army in 1747. Thus the example of Bombay was soon followed at the other settlements, and on the coast of Coromandel, which became, in the middle of the last century, a scene of warfare between the English and French; a number of peons, or irregular infantry, armed with swords and spears or matchlocks, were enlisted; to these, some European officers were attached, and among them a young gentleman of the civil service, of the name of Haliburton, was the most distinguished, and was employed in training a corps of natives in the European manner, the first of the kind introduced into the Madras service. His death was singular. The council of Fort St. David, on the coast, in a despatch home, dated the 2d of September, 1748, in which they pass an eulogium on the character of Mr. Haliburton, observe that it was by one of our sepoys that he had the misfortune to be killed, who shot him upon his reprimanding him for some offence. The poor gentleman, they likewise add, 'died next day; and the villain did not live so long, for his comrades that stood by, cut him to pieces immediately.' The first sepoys then raised, were either Mahomedans or Hindoos of very high caste, being chiefly rajpoot; and the event above related, marked the two strongest feelings in the minds of these two classes,—resentment for real or supposed injury, and attachment to their leader. The name of Mr. Haliburton was long cherished by the Madras troops; and about 25 years ago, on an examination of old grants of land, some veterans, wearing medals, appeared as claimants, who called themselves 'Haliburton Sabib ke Saphae,' or Haliburton soldiers. One of the first services of regular sepoys was at the siege of Arcot, A. D. 1751. It forms a remarkable circumstance in the life of the celebrated Clive, as stated by Orme; and it was then an occurrence took place which, however, he has not noticed, but which illustrates the character of native soldiers, and is worthy of being preserved.

"When provisions were very low, the Hindoo sepoys entreated their commander to allow them to boil the rice (the only food left) for the whole garrison:—'You English sepoys,' they said, 'can eat from our hands though we cannot from theirs; we will allot as their share, every grain of the rice, and subsist ourselves by drinking the water in which it has been boiled,' and they strictly adhered to it.

"During the wars of Clive, Laurence,

Smith, and Coote, the sepoys of Madras continued to display the same valour and attachment. In the years 1780-81, and 82, they suffered hardships of a nature almost unparalleled; there was hardly a corps that was not twenty months in arrears of pay; they were supported, it was true, by a daily allowance of rice; but this was not sufficient to save many of their families from being the victims of the dreadful famine, which, during these years, wasted the company's dominions in India. Their fidelity never gave way in this hour of extreme trial; and they repaid with gratitude and attachment, the kindness and consideration with which they were treated by their European officers. This feeling extended to the European soldiery, and particular regard in corps that had served together was long entertained for each other by many regiments of the King's and Company's army. The two severest trials of the courage and discipline of the Madras native cavalry, were at Assaye and Vellore; in both these services they were associated with the 19th dragoons. The distinguished commander of that gallant regiment laboured to establish the ties of mutual regard and cordial feelings between the European and native soldiery. His success was complete—his own fame was promoted by their combined efforts,—and the friendship he established, and which had continued for many years, was, after his departure, consummated upon the plains of Assaye. General Wellesley's force, 4,500 in number, of whom only 2000 were Europeans, attacked 50,000 disciplined forces, assisted by a well organised French artillery, and 10,000 infantry disciplined and officered by Frenchmen! At the most critical moment of a battle which ranks amongst the hardest fought of those that have been gained by the illustrious Wellington, the British dragoons, when making their extremest efforts, saw their Asiatic fellow soldiers 'keep pace for pace, and blow for every blow.' A more arduous task awaited the latter: when the battalions of native infantry, which formed the garrison of Vellore, were led by the infatuation of the moment to rise upon and murder the Europeans of that garrison, the fidelity of the native cavalry did not shrink from the severe trial; and after the gates of the fortress were blown open, their sabres were as deeply stained as those of the English dragoons, with the blood of their misguided countrymen."

(From Dunn's China.)

CANTON.

Canton stands upon the north bank of the Chookeang or Pearl River, about sixty miles inland from the "Great Sea." It is one of the oldest cities in the southern provinces, and second in importance to no other in the empire, except Peking, where the Emperor holds his court. It is the great commercial emporium of China, and the only port where foreign trade is permitted. It is not very large in extent, the whole circuit of the walls not exceeding probably six miles; but it is densely peopled, and the suburbs, including the river population, contain as many inhabitants as the city proper. The streets of Canton are very numerous, being more than six hundred. Their names sound odd to us, and have rather an ambitious air. Dragon-street, Martial Dragon-street, Flower-street, Golden Flower-street, &c., are high sounding enough, but some of them have names which would hardly bear to be translated for "ears polite." They vary in width from two to sixteen feet, the average being from five to seven feet. They are all paved with large flag stones, chiefly granite. Wheel carriages are never seen in them. Those who can afford to ride are borne in sedan chairs on the shoulders of coolies, and all heavy burdens are carried by porters. The streets are generally crowded, and present a busy, bustling, animated appearance. They all have gates at each end, which are closed at night and guarded by a sentinel. The houses are but one story high. A few of them are of wood or stone; many, belonging to the poorer classes, of mud, but the largest portion of bricks. The dwellings of those in easy circumstances, contain generally well furnished apartments, the walls of which are ornamented with carvings, pictures, and various scrolls, inscribed with moral maxims from Confucius and other sages. The houses of the wealthy are often furnished in a style of great magnificence, and the occupant indulges in the most luxurious habits. Official personages, however, for the most part, set a commendable example of simplicity and economy in their manner of living. The doors have no plates to tell who the tenant of the mansion is, but cylindrical lanterns are hung up by the sides of the gates of all the houses of consequence, with the names and titles of the owners inscribed, so as to be read either by day or night when the lanterns are lighted. Canton is a large manufacturing as well as commercial town. There are no less than 17,000 persons engaged in weaving silk, and 50,000 in manufacturing cloth of all kinds. There are 4,200 shoemakers, and (which will startle and astound every one) there is an army of barbers amounting to 7,300!—the important office of tonsor can be held only by license of the government. The manufacture of books is extensively carried on in this city. Those likewise who work in wood, brass, iron, stone, and various other materials, are numerous; and they who engage in each of these respective occupations form, to a certain degree, a separate community, and have each their own laws and rules for the regulation of their business. Both operatives and tradesmen are very much in the habit of herding together. Entire streets are devoted to the same kind of business. There is even a street occupied almost exclusively by professors of the healing art, and is then called by the Fanquis, 'Doctor Street.' The signs, gaily painted and lettered on each side, and hung out like tavern signs among us, give the business a lively and brilliant appearance. The population of Canton is a difficult question—it

has been placed at a million and a quarter, including the suburbs and river—but this estimate is probably beyond the mark considerably.

THE BORROWED AXE.—Amidst that series of miracles which distinguished the whole life of Elisha, and extended even to a period beyond his death, there is something in the very minuteness of the object of this one that gives it a peculiar character. The man of this world's wisdom reads it with a contemptuous smile, and fancies, perhaps, that he discovers in it a new argument against the truth of the Scriptures, so much does it contradict his ideas of wisdom, and a Prophet at whose voice the dead had been raised and lepers cleansed, put forth his heavenly gift to console a poor labourer by restoring to him the lost head of his axe! Perhaps even you yourself, who have no doubt that the Bible is the word of God, may have seldom read this passage without a sort of involuntary surprise, or even a secret displeasure, that so trivial a circumstance should find a place in the history of so renowned a life. The disciple of the Prophet, also, who by this miracle recovered the implement he had lost, seems never to have dared to expect it. He tells his grief to his master, but he asks him nothing; one would say that he is afraid to demand the aid of Heaven for so minute an affair.

But let our views be more simple, let us have more true faith, and we shall find this incident, which is a stumbling-block to others, full of interesting and consoling instruction. Thus the same God who looks with holy compassion upon the grief of the Shunammite for the loss of her beloved child, and upon the affliction of the valiant Naaman covered with his leprosy, is he who pities a poor workman in the loss of the head of his axe. He commiserates in little as well as in great calamities, and how tender a proof is this of his love!—For if it be our hearts the Lord demands, it is also, if we may be allowed the expression, the heart of the Lord that we are encouraged on our part also to ask; and his love is the most precious of all his gifts. The more minute the occasion, the greater the display of this love. How admirably does this illustrate the name of Father, by which he has deigned to reveal himself, and the tender nature of that care which is compared to the tender watchfulness of a mother. Does a mother sympathize with her child only on some great occasions? Ah! no; there is not a grievance, however trifling, however imaginary, even, that calls not forth her tender solicitude. She considers not what that grievance is as it respects herself, but as it respects her child. This is the tender love of a Mother.

And it is thus that the Lord loves us! Nothing that affects us in the most remote degree is viewed by him with indifference. The "very hair of our head is numbered!"—Let us then give him our hearts, and since he loves us as a father, let us confide in him with the heart of a child, even of a "little child."

When afflicted with the loss of a child, or when visited with a long and painful illness, think of the Shunammite and of Naaman. But if you meet with any little reverse, or with any of those little disappointments with which our daily life is full, remember the "Borrowed Axe."—*L'Esperance.*

EAST INDIA SHIPPING.—According to Mr. Stikeman's comparative statement of the number of British ships with tonnage, &c., which have entered inwards and cleared outwards from and to places within the limits of the East India Company's charter for the quarter ending the 30th of June, 1841, it appears that the total number of ships entered inwards, was 402, with 158,388 tonnage, and 8,249 men, showing, as compared with the same period in 1840, an increase of 83 ships, 35,139 tonnage, and 1,602 men. Of this total amount, 278 ships, 111,423 tonnage, and 6,056 men, entered at London; 90 ships, 35,172 tonnage, and 1,583 men, entered at Liverpool; 9 ships, 3,208 tonnage, and 166 men, entered at Bristol and Hull; and 25 ships, 8,585 tonnage, and 444 men, entered at Clyde, Leith, and other British ports. The arrivals were as follows:—135 ships from Calcutta, 5 from Madras, 35 from Bombay, 14 from China, 9 from Ceylon, 28 from Singapore and Penang, 12 from the Philippine Islands, 1 from New South Wales, 75 from the Mauritius, 1 from Madagascar, 27 from the Cape of Good Hope, and 11 from the South Seas. The clearances outwards comprised a total of 480 ships, 194,791 tonnage, and 9,983 men, which, as compared with the same period of 1840, gives an increase of 75 ships, 40,147 tonnage, and 1,418 men. Of this total, 274 ships, 110,274 tonnage, and 6,045 men, cleared from London; 138 ships, 59,610 tonnage, and 2,662 men, cleared from Liverpool; 14 ships, 4,670 tonnage, and 230 men, cleared from Bristol and Hull; and 54 ships, 20,237 tonnage, and 1,046 men, cleared from the Clyde, Leith, and other British ports. Their destinations were as follows:—116 ships for Calcutta, 9 for Madeira, 59 for Bombay, 22 for China, 10 for Ceylon, 21 for Singapore and Penang, 3 for Java and Sumatra, 1 for Arabia, 160 for New South Wales, 55 for the Mauritius, 16 for the Cape of Good Hope, and 8 for the South Seas. The ships which have left for China double in number those which left for the same situation last year, and there is a great increase in the number bound for Singapore and Penang, which goes far to show that there is expected to be a revival in the trade with those countries at no very distant period. The number of ships cleared out for New South Wales is, we believe, beyond a precedent, but the prosperity of the colony does not appear to keep pace with the increase of traffic, and perhaps it would be better if it were in a measure restricted.—*Times.*

OPERATIONS AGAINST THE WRECK OF THE ROYAL GEORGE.—The red flags having been hoisted at Spithead, on Monday last, and all preparations being made, and the charge of 650 lbs. of powder placed by Corporal Harris, at four o'clock, p. m., the time appointed, Colonel Pasley ordered the bugle to sound, and the volta circuit was immediately completed by Lieut. Hutchinson; but no explosion took place. As the cask containing the powder had been proved by

sending it down empty some days before-hand, and had come up again perfectly watertight, after remaining an hour at the bottom, the cause of the failure was known to be some defect in the priming apparatus, consisting of a few ounces of fine powder, into which the water had penetrated. It being too late to remedy this defect on the same day, Colonel Pasley directed that the explosion should take place next day at the same hour, which was done accordingly, a new priming apparatus prepared with great care, having been substituted. To render this small charge water-tight, was no easy task, as the two volta wires had to be led into the centre of it, after passing through 300 or 400 feet of water. Some of the men on board the lumps declared that they saw flame rise above the surface at the moment of the explosion. The commotion was considerable, and a circle, black with mud, gradually increasing, extended to about 100 yards in diameter, before it disappeared. On Thursday, Private James Anderson, a military diver, who only commenced that day, in anxiety to sling a piece of timber, remained at the bottom after the tide had begun to run strong, and having, through inexperience, let go his ladder-line, he was swept off his legs by the tide, and floated up towards the surface; but on attempting to pull him up by his breast-line, or life-line, it was found to be entangled, which caused some anxiety for his safety; but after a short period of suspense, Mr. Clewitt, the leading rigger, observed him at the surface, on the contrary side of the lump to that from which he had descended—so that his line had passed under his heel whilst he was drifted in that direction. Clewitt immediately got into a boat and towed him round to the proper side, where he was got up unhurt. A great quantity of timber has been brought up during the week, amongst which are several fragments of floor timbers.—*Hampshire Telegraph.*

OPERATIONS AGAINST THE BOYNE.—Mr. Abbot has been for some time past successfully engaged in removing the wreck of this vessel. On the 8th instant, two charges of 100 lbs. and 60 lbs. of powder were lowered into the after part of the ship, and fired with considerable effect by Daniell's battery. The diver visited the spot on the following day, and the workmen were then engaged in removing what they could, by means of a machine constructed for the purpose. It is a powerful and well-constructed scoop; by means of this instrument, a great deal of mud was removed, and considerable quantities of timber and iron work were brought up. But the most curious thing recovered on this occasion, and brought up in the scoop, was a beautiful ornamented brass field-piece of three inches and a quarter calibre, and four feet in extreme length. It has the following inscription in Swedish:—"With God's help, by King Charles XII., taken at the battle of Clitow, 9th July, 1702." This battle was fought between Augustus, King of Poland, and Charles, on the plains between Cracow and Warsaw, the former having about 24,000 men, and the latter little more than half that number, yet Charles gained a complete victory, and took possession of the enemy's camp, baggage, cannon, &c., of which the one now recovered was one. It seems somewhat curious that this gun was raised from the deep on the anniversary of the day Charles took it from the Poles. In addition to the above inscription, this gun has also the following—"F. A. H. Z. S. I. C. B., and under this, 'E. U. W. C. H. U. R. F.," under this again there is a shield, having on it two swords crossed. The operations are still proceeding. [The gun here mentioned was doubtless brought from Guadaloupe, as the Boyne had in her many trophies from that island when she was burnt.]—*ib.*

THE MARRIAGE STATE.—If two persons are happily united in affection, in faith, and hope, as helpmeets in promoting the same final cause, and fellow-heirs of eternal life, their chief danger, I was going to say, is lest they should be too happy. But the Lord, who loves them, will take care to prevent this danger. By the wise and gracious appointment of Him, who considers our frame and our situation, there is a *per contra* side. A new set of feelings is awakened; new and unexpected, at least untried, sources of inquietude and anxieties are opened; and the pains, perhaps, are fully proportioned to the pleasures. The tender heart finds enough to bear while single, in such a world as this, but when doubled in wedlock, and multiplied in children, it stands as a broader mark for the arrows which we can neither foresee nor avoid. And we are liable to suffer, not only in ourselves, but perhaps more keenly in the persons of those whom we love. But we may say with the Greeks, *nisi perissem, perissem.* He who loves us gives us a thousand daily proofs that he delights in our prosperity, so far as we can safely bear it; and if we are in heaviness there is a need-be for it. These painful dispensations are necessary to keep us from sleeping upon the enchanted ground, and to make us not only say, but feel, that this is not, cannot be, our rest, for it is polluted. Here our roses grow upon thorns. Vanity, if not vexation of spirit, is entwined with all our earthly comforts.—*J. Newton.*

COALS IN SOUTH AMERICA.—*Talcahuana, Chili, March 5, 1841.*—Mr. Wheelright, the indefatigable projector and part owner of the steam-ships on this coast and Peru, has been fortunate in discovering coal in this immediate neighbourhood, and at Valdivia, south of this. It is found in great abundance, and resembles the "Cannel" coal of England. It has been tried on a trip to Valparaiso and back, and found to answer the purpose, with a consumption of about 30 per cent. more than the coal used in English steamers, to perform the same distance in the same time. I think a less consumption will take place in raising the same quantity of steam, by an alteration of the furnaces. The impression is, that the coal will be found to be more suitable as they work the mine. I am told that this coal can be placed on board the steamers at a cost of about 2 dollars 50c. per ton! Whereas, coal brought from England, would cost the Company 10

dollars the ton. Ere long, it will not be a very tedious journey from England, or France, or the United States, to the city of Lima, in Peru, or the city of St. Jago, in Chili, via Talcahuana, Chagres, and the Isthmus of Panama.

CAST IRON CHURCHES.—Saint George's Church, Liverpool, says the London Mechanics' Magazine, is an object of considerable interest for its taste, and as having been nearly the first iron Church erected in Great Britain. The whole of the frame work of the windows, doors, groins, roofs, pulpit, ornamental enrichments, are of cast iron. The length is 119 feet, breadth 47. It is ornamented by a splendid cast iron window of stained glass.

It is not, perhaps, generally known, that a great proportion of the larger manufactories erected in England within the last ten years are all iron except the walls. And within two years past, several cottages and country villas have been put up near London, which are exclusively cast iron:—walls, doors, steps, roof, chimney, sashes, &c.

In England, where wood is dear and iron cheap, the first cost of such buildings is less than those of timber. In durability and in beauty they are, of course, unequalled. When once finished, such buildings require no repairs; and the most finely carved ornaments cost little more than plain castings.

AUCTION SALE.

TO be sold at Public Auction, pursuant to a Decree of the High Court of Chancery, made in a cause of *FLEMING* against *Cox*, with the approbation of the undersigned, one of the Masters of the said Court, at his Office in Fredericton, in the County of York, on Wednesday the first day of December next, between the hours of 12 at noon, and two o'clock in the afternoon of the same day: all that certain piece, parcel, or tract of Land, Tenement and Premises, situate in King Street, Fredericton, bounded South Easterly by Land in the occupation of *THOMAS BOWDEN*, North Westerly and North Easterly by Lands owned and occupied by *ROBERT CHESTNUT*, and South Westerly by King Street, measuring in breadth on the front, forty feet, and thence running North Easterly at right angles, to King Street, sixty six feet, with all Buildings and Erections thereon, being the Premises occupied by the said Defendant, *JOHN S. COX*, subject to such conditions of sale as will be then and there produced.—Any further particulars may be had at the said Master's Office in Fredericton, and at the Office of *D. L. ROBINSON*, Esquire, Solicitor, in Fredericton.
GEORGE F. STREET,
Master in Chancery.

Fredericton, July 29, 1841.

AUCTION.

FOR SALE,

The Brewery at the Nashwaaksis.

TO be sold at Public Auction, pursuant to a Decree of the High Court of Chancery, made in a cause of *ODELL* against *KAY* and others, with the approbation of the undersigned, one of the Masters of the said Court, at his Office in Fredericton, in the County of York, on Wednesday the first day of December next, between the hours of 12 at noon, and 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day: all that piece or parcel of Land, situate, lying and being in the Parish of Douglas, in the County of York, near the mouth of the River Nashwaaksis, formerly occupied as a Brewery and Mills, by the late Firm of *BRAITHWAITE, KAY & Co.* together with the Brewery, Mills, Malt House, Steam Engine, Machinery, and all other the Buildings, Erections, and appurtenances to the said piece or parcel of Land, Brewery and Mills belonging, or in any wise appertaining, subject to such conditions of sale as will be then and there produced.—Any further particulars may be had at the said Master's Office in Fredericton, and at the Offices of Messrs. *G. F. STREET* and *STRATTON*, Solicitors, in Fredericton, and of *W. H. ODELL*, Esquire, at the Secretary's Office in Fredericton. Dated at Fredericton, the 31st July, 1841.

GEORGE J. DIBBLEE,
Master in Chancery.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons who have any demands against the Estate of *CATHARINE KNAPP*, late of this place, deceased, Widow and Sole Executrix of the late *TITUS KNAPP*, Esquire, will present their Accounts, duly attested, within eighteen Calendar Months from this date, to the Subscribers; and all Persons who are indebted to the said Estate will please make immediate payment to

JOHN GEO. ALLAN,
JAMES DICKSON,
Executors of the said *Catharine Knapp*.
Westmorland Point, Westmorland County,
June 8, 1841.

CABINET BUSINESS.

GEORGE BROWN
BEGS leave to inform his friends and the public generally, that he has commenced the
Cabinet Business
in Mr. *RICHARD DUNN's* Building, near the Central Bank, where he intends carrying it on in all its various branches, and hopes by a strict attention to business, to merit a portion of their patronage. He has on hand a lot of ready made Work, such as Mahogany and Birch Pembroke Dining and Lue TABLES, SOFAS, BEAUREAUS, Butternut and Pine WASH STANDS, BEADSTEADS, &c., all which he will sell low for *Cash* or *approved credit*.
Fredericton, July 7, 1841.—2m.

FOR SALE,

SEVERAL LOTS of valuable LAND, fronting on the *ROYAL* and *STANLEY* ROADS, containing 800 acres, with extensive clearings thereon, and a number of good buildings. This property is about eight miles from Fredericton, and will be sold on reasonable terms.—For particulars apply to
WILLIAM MORGAN,
Fredericton, June 16, 1841.