

POETRY.

(Selected.)

LINES

Suggested by the sight of a beautiful Statue of a dead Child.

I saw thee in thy beauty!
Bright phantom of the past;
I saw thee for a moment—
'Twas the first time and the last;
And though years since then have glided by,
Of mingled bliss and care,
I never have forgotten thee,
Thou fairest of the fair!

I saw thee in thy beauty!
Thou wert graceful as the fawn,
When, in every wantonness of glee,
It sports upon the lawn;
I saw thee seek the mirror,
And when it met thy sight,
The very air was musical,
With thy burst of wild delight!

I saw thee in thy beauty!
With thy sister by thy side—
She a lily of the valley,
Thou a rose in all its pride!
I looked upon thy mother—
There was triumph in her eyes,
And I trembled for her happiness—
For grief had made me wise!

I saw thee in thy beauty,
With one hand among her curls—
The other with no gentle grasp,
Had seized a string of pearls;
She felt the pretty tresspass,
And she chid thee, though she smiled,
And I knew not which was lovelier,
The mother, or the child.

I saw thee in thy beauty!
And a tear came to mine eye,
As I pressed thy rosy cheek to mine,
And thought even thou could'st die!
Thy home was like a summer bower,
By thy joyous presence made;
But I only saw the sunshine,
And I felt alone the shade!

I saw thee in thy beauty!
For there thou seem'st to lie,
In slumber resting peacefully;
But, oh! the change of eye—
That still serenity of brow—
Those lips that breathe no more,
Proclaim thee but a mockery fair,
Of what thou wert of yore.

I saw thee in thy beauty!
With thy waving hair at rest,
And thy busy little fingers,
Folded lightly on thy breast:
But thy merry dance is over,
And thy little race is run;
And the mirror that reflected two,
Can now give back but one.

I saw thee in thy beauty!
With thy mother by thy side—
But her loveliness is faded,
And quelled her glance of pride;
The smile is absent from her lip,
And absent are the pearls,
And a cap, almost of widowhood,
Conceals her envied curls.

I saw thee in thy beauty!
As I saw thee on that day—
But the mirth that gladdened then thy home,
Fled with thy life away.
I see thee lying motionless,
Upon the accustomed floor—
But my heart hath blinded both mine eyes—
And I can see no more!

LITERATURE.

The Child's Own Book, illustrated with nearly 300 Engravings by eminent Artists. London: Miller. Edinburgh: Constable & Co. 1830. pp. 630.

ALL men have been children once, and will be again, if they live long enough. Life is a flame that flashes forth from a dark cloud of smoke, flickers and gleams for a little while and (if not extinguished in the very glory of its lustre) is again wrapped in the gloomy tabernacle whence it issued. Manhood is but the link that connects the two ages of childhood—the narrow isthmus that separates the oceans of infancy.

"The child is father of the man," as Wordsworth (repeating the remark of the Hebrew sage) has beautifully observed. We may add, with more quaintness, but no less truth, that he is both father and son. If the impressions received on the mind in infancy do indeed, as the poet-philosopher supposes, generate the character of the man, then must the impressions superinduced during manhood to the obliteration, alteration, or distortion of those imprinted in childhood, give the tone, the colouring, the character to our "second childhood," unless we are to hold, that having once received the impressions of first infancy, the mind becomes hardened and incrustated, no longer plastic and pliable, but cooled into an impenetrable adamant mass, whose form and features no circumstances, however tremendous their agency, can alter or in any one point change. What then is childhood but a vestment, clothed with which we come into the world, which, for a short time, we are permitted to hide and conceal, but which we must inevitably re-assume unhidden, unconcealed, when the hour of our departure is come? And what is manhood? An unnatural mask, a deceptive disguise, an assumed character, a juggling cheat, a legerdemain counterfeit, which we are allowed to wear and pass off for a short space of the brief time we strut on this mortal stage! Sneer then who will at babies and sucklings, the true philosopher will take his home in the nursery (leaving the porch, and the garden, and the tub untenanted), his bed in the cradle, his staff will be the child's bauble, spoon-meat will be his food, and warm milk his drink; his studies will be of fairies and of giants, and of ogres; his library will be "The Child's Own Book." "Jack the Giant Killer" will be his Iliad, and *He of the Beanstalk* his Odyssey; and to crown all, happiness will be his companion. We have a high opinion of the wisdom of our forefathers. Notwithstanding a school-master lay snugly slumbering at home, and intellect had not begun its rail-way march amidst the thunder of steam engines, we suspect the age of chivalry to have been at least as much the age of wisdom as the present. Certainly the meaning which the

word *child* bore in those days was no proof of their folly. To discover the then significance of that word, since the publication of "Child Harold," there has been no necessity to resort to Upton, or Tyrwhitt, or Theobald, or Warburton, or Percy, or Jamieson. Every one knows now-a-days, that in the old days of chivalry the knights and nobles of the land, nay, even the princes and sovereigns gloried in the title of 'Child,' and justly and philosophically gloried, sagely preferring to the visionary and temporary titles of Sir, Lord, Prince, or King, the changeless, philosophical one of Child. The very word 'Knight'—the Anglo-Saxon *Chnoct* or *Chniz*—means, in fact, a baby, a suckling, as does the Spanish 'Infante,' the title by which their princes are dignified. Some learned etymologists, moreover, contend that *Baron* is neither more nor less than a corruption of the Teutonic *Bairn*, *Berne*, or *Berren*, (Tonskie. Dict. Teut. v. Bairn.)

Were we ashamed to say thus publicly that we have read the volume before us, we might plead with Falstaff—"Tis our vocation Hal; 'tis no sin for a man to labour in his vocation." But we scorn to shelter ourselves under such an excuse. We avow that we have read the book for the sake of instruction and amusement, and of both have found great plenty. It is in truth an amiable volume—beautiful in the design, and beautiful in the execution. It is edited by one of the fair sex, and breathes throughout a most lady-like spirit. The selections have been made with a fine taste, and the abridgements are most happily executed. The wood-cuts, of which there are some hundreds, are most excellent, and the paper, typography, and binding all capital.

It is the remark we believe of Bacon, that "some will pretend to despise whatsoever things they do not understand, and so would have their ignorance seem judgment." A truer sentence was never penned. It furnishes a complete key to the conduct of those who look down with such ineffable contempt on the little stories that are contained in the *Child's Own Book*, forgetting that wisdom may be brought forth from the books of babes and sucklings. Did we think it worth while to waste time upon such wisecracks, we might shew them, but these tales, silly as they may think them, are what Milton has called—

"Teachers best of moral wisdom." We might draw from the most silly or insignificant of them a moral far better than many touched in swagging Johnsonian sentences. The truth of the following reflection, for example, will, we are sure, be admitted by every one—"Some people's relations and friends seldom take notice of them when they are poor, but as we grow rich they grow fond; and this will always be the case while people love money better than virtue." This sentence, which for beauty of language, depth of thought epigrammatic effect, and profundity of philosophy is almost unparalleled, occurs in the tale of "Goody Two Shoes," p. 135. We might shew that these tales are of vast utility in a historical point of view, in illustrating the origin of nations, the history of mythology, the diffusion of superstitions. The tale of "Beauty and the Beast" will be found to bear a most singular resemblance to the story of "Cupid and Psyche," as detailed by Apuleius in the 4th Book of his *Metamorphoses*; and, in one part, to the ancient romance of "The Marriage of Sir Gawaine," (Percy's *Reliques*). The oriental story of "Diamonds and Toads" has a counterpart in the "Fairy Legends of the South of Ireland," by Crofton Croker. "Graciosa and Percinet" is little else than a modern version of the story of "Pandora and her Box," and there are innumerable other similarities on which at present we have no room to touch.

We speak advisedly when we say, that to this little volume our poets have been more indebted than to any other volume, however vast—in any language whether dead or living. Milton, in particular, has borrowed largely from it. We shall give a few instances of his plagiarisms from the unpretending history of "Jack the Giant Killer." Every one must remember that sublime passage, where, describing the fallen angels, Milton, adverting to Satan, writes:—

"He above the rest,
Stood like a tower."

This is a magnificent simile, but most plainly borrowed from the following:—"The Giant followed him like a walking castle,"—p. 302. In another passage Milton compares the Archfiend to

"That sea beast,
Leviathan, which God, of all his works,
Created largest that swim th' ocean stream." But here again he has been forestalled by the author of the *Giant Killer* (or, as some read, *Queller*).—"He (the Giant Blunderbore), tumbled into the water, and rolled about like a large whale."—p. 303. In "Blue Beard" (p. 61,) we are told that "Blue Beard now cried out so loud that his voice shook the whole house." This passage is clearly the prototype of the following—

"I fled and cried out 'death,'
Hell trembled."

In describing the approach of Sin to Satan, Milton says—

"The monster moving onward came as fast,
With horrid strides; hell trembled as he strode." The talented author of *Jack the Giant Killer* followed, making the earth shake at every step. There are so many passages from which the following may have been borrowed, that we do not know which is the fortunate one—we therefore subjoin two or three of the most conspicuous. (Milton is describing the conflict of the Angels in Heaven)—

"All heaven
Resounded, and had earth been then, all earth
Had to her center shook."

"The trunk of his body tumbling to the ground, and made not only the trees shake, but the earth itself tremble with the force of his fall."—p. 298. "He tumbled headlong into the pit, and his fall shook the very mountain."—p. 282.

So much for Milton's plagiarisms from the *Child's Own Book*. Before pointing out some of the more glaring thefts of our modern poets from the same volume, it may be mentioned that there are ideas in it whose grandeur Milton no doubt properly appreciated, but which, for reasons best known to himself, he has not transferred to his pages, and a few of which we shall therefore transfer to ours:—"At length the Giant fell asleep, and snored like the roaring of a cannon!"—p. 323. "He roared like loud claps of thunder!"—p. 299. "His eyes looked like flames of fire, his face was grim and ugly, the bristles of his beard seemed to be thick rods of iron, and his long locks of hair hung down upon his broad shoulders like curling snakes!"—p. 299. "He snored so loud that Jack compared the noise to the roaring of the sea in high wind when the tide is coming in!"—p. 327. The sublimity of these and many thousand similar passages is so very evident, that we can only account for their not having been appropriated by the light-fingered class of poets by supposing them conscious that their value was so great that they could not be disposed of without creating suspicions which would lead to the detections of the robbery.

When we reflect on the extent of Lord Byron's depredations, it would have been surprising indeed if he had kept his hands off the *Child's Own Book*. Accordingly, the idea of Conrade (in the *Corsair*) entering the divan of the Pacha Seyd in disguise, is taken from the tale of "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." Not only this, but the description of the divan also, and the time of the intrusion, is borrowed:—

"Removed the banquet and the last Pilaff,
Forbidden draughts 'tis said he dared to quaff,
While dance the Almas to wild Minstrelsy."

We beg to call the readers attention to the three points of this description—1st, The banquet's being removed; 2d, The drinking of wine; and, 3dly, The dancing girls; and to ask him if they are not all found in the following:—"When supper, was ended, and the dessert and wine on the table, Morgiana went away and dressed herself in the habit of a dancing girl; she next called Abdalla, a fellow-slave, to play on his taber while she danced."—p. 30. We may add that the plot of the *Corsair* is not half so happily managed as that of Ali Baba—but this was to have been expected; as the Proverb says, "What is lightly got is lightly spent—thieves can afford to sell goods cheaper than honest men." Sir Walter Scott, upon the whole, is as honest as any poet of the present day, yet, for all that, the following lines from the "Lady of the Lake,"—

"Forth from the pass in tumult driven,
Like chaff before the wind of heaven
The archery appear."

are not so original but that we find something like them in the luminous "History of Jack the Giant Killer."—"He (the giant) was now within a mile of the house, the people flying before him like chaff before the wind."—p. 301. The story of the "Fisherman and the Genie" has supplied James Hogg with one of the best similes he possesses, viz.—that where, speaking of the Spirit of the storm, he describes—

"His stature on the mighty plan
Of smoke, tower o'er a burning pile."

The fisherman, in the tale we have alluded to, draws up in his net a copper vessel, from which, when opened, a thick smoke issues—"The smoke (the tale goes on to say) ascended to the clouds, and extending itself along the shore, formed a great mist; when the smoke was all out of the vessel, it re-united itself and became a solid body, of which there was formed a genie."—pp. 241, 242. But we must forbear, from want of room, to point out the numberless plagiarisms of poets, ancient and modern, foreign and domestic, from the humble tales which compose the *Child's Own Book*. It may be observed en passant, that the frequent thefts committed on them have caused much of the obloquy which has been bestowed on them; your highwayman generally murders, and almost always, maltreats and abuses the wayfarers whom he robs.

Appended to the volume there are a few pages (we wish there had been more,) of ballads and nursery rhymes. The selection of these displays the same nice taste that pervades the rest of the volume. But why, we would ask the fair editress, has not the "Chevy Chase" (blushing as it is with Sir Philip Sidney's eulogium, that it made his heart stir as if it were with a trumpet sound,) found place in her work? We must also call her to account for not having given a correct version of "Little Jack Horner." We are aware that the text she has adopted has been sanctioned by several eminent commentators, but we think the MS. in the British Museum (F. 3. C. 251.), as it is the oldest, ought to have been followed.

EMIGRATION—NEW SETTLEMENTS—1830.

From the Quebec Official Gazette.
At the close of the season of 1830, it is most gratifying to find, that the result has been such as to verify the most sanguine expectations, both as regards the number of Emigrants arriving at this Port—the ultimate settlement of the majority in these Provinces—their present means, and their prospects for the future. In our notice of the result of the former year, 1829, we calculated the expected emigration into

Quebec for 1830, in round numbers at about 30,000 souls. We have now the pleasure of submitting to our readers several facts, and calculations, obtained from the best authority; which we conscientiously believe to be rather under, than over-rated. They will prove that the views of those, who looked to the influx of British population and capital into these Provinces, as conducive to the best interests of the Country, have not been visionary: while they lead us to expect other good effects from the same cause, under the improved system, and the precautionary arrangements, which we have reason to hope and believe; will ere long be taken up and completed, under the highest Legislative authority of the Empire.

The total number of Emigrants from the United Kingdom in 1830, amounted to 28,075.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Viz:—From Ireland, - - - | 17,596 |
| do. England, - - - | 6,895 |
| do. Scotland, - - - | 2,609 |
| do. Wales, - - - | 204 |
| Irish and Scottish from Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, - | 280 |
| Reported at Montreal, - - - | 500 |

Total Emigrants in 1830 - 28,075
The amount of Emigrants in
1828, was - - - - 12,000
do. - 1829 - - - - 15,945

Total during the last three years, 56,020

According to the best calculation that can be made, it is observable, that in the year 1825, about one Twelfth part of the Emigrants, landing in Quebec, remained in Lower Canada.

In 1829, more than one Fifth part remained.

In 1830, considerably exceeding one Third part have taken up their habitations in this Province, and are now in active progress of settlement.

So much for the real increase of British Settlers in Lower Canada. Again, in the year 1828, fully one half of all the Emigrants who arrived in Quebec, proceeded to some part of the United States. The proportion of persons of the latter description in 1829 was considerably smaller, while in the present year, 1830, out of an Emigration exceeding 28,000, it is pretty nearly ascertained that not more than 6,500 passed through the Canadas, and finally settled in the United States. Upon information derived from Upper Canada, and other places, it is fair to presume, that a reflux of British settlers from the United States has entered these Provinces, amounting to but few short of the number admitted to have passed through the Canadas, in their way to settle among our Republican neighbours.

A very considerable number of Emigrants, who arrived this season at New York, are known to have found their way into the Canadas, by way of Oswego; and a large portion of valuable settlers from the United Kingdom, came to Montreal, through St. John's. Among these latter were many Highlanders, and farmers from Sutherlandshire, now principally located, as the phrase is, in Chateauguay, and its vicinity. In addition, we have great pleasure in mentioning, that several respectable Scottish families from Perthshire, who landed last June in the Port of New York, are actually at this moment settled in the rising Township of Leeds.

In the District of Quebec, upwards of 4300 persons, of this year's Emigration, have obtained settlement and full employment.

Every attention has been paid to a very important line of settlement on Craig's Road; and a result has been, 300 families, or about 1500 persons have been located on that Road, principally in the Townships of Inverness, Leeds, Ireland, and in the Seigniories of St. Gilds, St. Croix, &c.

In the Township of Frampton the increase of population this year has been found to exceed 350 persons, giving this year a total of 900 souls, whereas in 1828, the population did not exceed 160.

Nearer the city of Quebec, the settlements of Stoneham and Towksbury have been greatly improved within the last year; and generally, many industrious families have been added to the population of the neighbouring country.

We have said above that in this district, 4300 persons have obtained locations. But the whole number which has remained in the Lower Province may be fairly estimated at 11,000. Upper Canada has found employment and lands for 10,000, and these two sums added to the 7000, make up, as nearly as a calculation can be got at, the gross amount of the Emigration of 1830, nearly 28,000. In again alluding to the 7000 gone to the United States, the reflux mentioned above must be taken into account, amounting, as there are grounds for belief, in nearly an equal number.

The increase of the Township of Inverness, in the new county of Megantic, is worthy of particular notice. In May, 1829, when Mr. Buchanan, the resident Agent for Settlers and Emigrants, first visited that Township, its population did not exceed 120 souls, with 220 acres of land, cleared and under crop. On the first of September, 1830, or sixteen months afterwards, it is within our own knowledge, that the population was found to reach 800 souls, with 1040 acres of land cleared and under crop. The Highland settlement of Hamilton, in the same Township of Inverness, was commenced in July 1829, at a spot nine miles from any habitation. On the first September 1830, it possessed 23 dwelling houses, 17 stables, 9 barns, 40 head of cattle, and 134 acres of cleared land and under crop. It is worthy of mention and of praise, that many of the settlers in Hamilton, last spring, made large

quantities of Maple sugar, of a quality which, when shown in Quebec, excited general surprise and admiration, considering the very short existence of the settlement.

The number of unemployed poor has in former years been a great annoyance to the inhabitants, both of Town and Country. Humanity has been gravously put to the proof, and public sympathy was generally and successfully excited. In 1827 and 1828, when Emigration to Quebec amounted to 12,000 souls, not one half of that of the present year, the number of unemployed, and therefore distressed strangers, was very considerable. The calls upon private charity were loud and frequent—benevolent institutions were formed—and the crying evil was but in part removed. In 1829, when Emigration had advanced to near 16,000, the number of unemployed poor at the close of the season was much reduced, in proportion to that of the preceding year; and at the present time, the 9th December, 1830, at the close of an emigration on our shores amounting to 28,000, and exceeding all that has been before experienced in the history of British or any other emigration to one part—it is a fact, that the number of unemployed poor strangers, in this city, was never known to be so trifling, and consequently, so little burthensome on the inhabitants.

These are facts that speak loudly in favour of the general state of the Province, as regards Emigration. We think they are conclusive of every great improvement, arising, in a great measure, from the judicious policy of the Government at home, in placing the interests of the strange and inexperienced Emigrant, who arrives in this vast country, at once in the charge of a responsible officer, to whom may be safely confided his hopes, his means, his present employment, and future advancement in life.

In other points of view, the retrospect, at the close of the year 1830, is not less satisfactory. It may be shortly stated that the Revenue of this year will exceed that of 1829, as that exceeded the Revenue of any previous year, while it is generally admitted on all hands that moral, agricultural and mechanical improvement is daily extending itself throughout every part of the Province.

Two STEAM BOATS are at this moment building in this port. One on a large scale, will ply between Halifax and Quebec, connecting together the several British Colonies, in North America—the other, of sufficient dimensions for the purpose, will run as a ferry boat between this city and St. Nicholas, the outlet of the Craig's Round Settlements.

With respect to the amount of Emigrations to be expected next year from the United Kingdom, it is not too much to consider it as very likely to reach 40,000 souls.

Finally, we congratulate our readers on the statements made above, the importance of which will amply justify the length to which we have extended this article. It is now clear that Emigration judiciously conducted, must tend to the mutual benefit, assistance, and welfare of the Empire on the one hand, and of these Provinces on the other. It blesses both the giver and the receiver. Whether, then, we consider the introduction of capital—the improvement of waste lands—the acquisition of a loyal, peaceful population—it must be admitted that there is good in Emigration; nor can he be deemed a sound politician, or a wise patriot, who refuses his approbation to its continuance and extension.

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THAT the SUBSCRIBERS have been duly appointed Trustees for all the Creditors of JAMES J. SMITH, late of the Parish of Hampton, Farmer, an absconding debtor, and do hereby require all Persons indebted to the said James J. Smith, on or before the 1st day of March, next, to pay all such sums of Money, or other debts, duty or thing, which they owe to the said James J. Smith, and to deliver all other effects of the said James J. Smith, which he, she or they may have in their hands, power or custody, to the said Trustees; and the said Trustees do hereby desire all the Creditors of the said James J. Smith, on or before the said 1st day of March, to deliver to the said Trustees, or any of them, their respective Accounts and Demands, against the said James J. Smith.

GABRIEL FOWLER,
HENRY FOWLER,
S. HALLETT.

Hampton, K. C. 26th Nov. 1830.

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