

POETRY.

Original.

[FOR THE ROYAL GAZETTE.]
THE VALE—BY W. M. LEGGITT
(To be set to Music.)

Mid the garland of Hopes time bath woven for me,
From my Harp of the hills to the dark rolling sea,
There sparkles no gem half so dear to my soul—
There murmurs no stream with such witching control—
These blossoms no flower—there whispers no gale
Half so sweet, as the magic that hangs o'er the Vale.

II.
No Palaces lift their tall pillars on high—
No turret domes hide themselves in the sky—
Our parks are the woodlands—our gardens, the fields—
Mountains our ramparts and friendship our shields—
And rich the perfumes our wild roses exhale
As they kiss the bright dew from the robes of the Vale.

III.
In the mountain's dark shade for the Muses design'd,
O'er the lone haunted-stream near my cottage reclin'd—
I'd woo, my wild harp, thy expiring tone,
And languish to sleep, by the moss-cover'd stone,
Whilst echo—soft echo—should whisper the tale
How the Bard sweetly dreams in the arms of the Vale.

Sussex Vale, N. B.

From the Casket.

Soze.—By Mrs. Jane E. Locke.
I smile upon the world, love,
Because they smile on me;
And not because I feel, love,
The joy I feel, with thee.

The world is made of smiles, love,
They have no tears for thee;
And smiles are often heartless, love,
Too heartless, ay, for me.

Yet smiles have language sweet, love,
When heaped from you to me;
But tears have language powerful, love,
More powerful far, for thee.

Oh, then kindly value, love,
The tears that fall from me;
The smiles that tell the treasure, love,
My heart has stored for thee.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

In consequence of the approaching termination of the Charter enjoyed by the corporation of the Bank of England, a Committee of Secrecy, consisting of thirty-two Members of the House of Commons, was appointed on the 22d of May last, in order to inquire into the expediency of renewing that Charter, as well as for the more general purpose of examining into the system in which banks of issue in England and Wales are conducted. This Committee immediately applied themselves to the inquiry, by calling for all the accounts which appeared necessary for elucidating the affairs of the Bank of England, by examining evidence for the purpose of ascertaining the principles on which that body regulates the issue of its notes and conducts its general transaction, and by procuring information on the other important branch of the subject committed to their examination. Having collected together a vast mass of evidence from persons whose practical knowledge and experience pointed them out as best qualified for affording it, the Committee, on the 11th of August, reported the documents and minutes of evidence which they had so collected for the consideration of the House; and this Report having been printed, we are enabled to offer the following abstract of its contents:—

The points to which the attention of the Committee was principally directed, are—1st. Whether the paper circulation of the metropolis should be confined, as at present, to the issue of one bank, and that a commercial company; or whether a competition of different banks of issue, each consisting of an unlimited number of partners, should be permitted.

2dly, If it should be deemed expedient that the paper circulation of the metropolis should be confined, as at present, to the issue of one bank, how far the whole of the exclusive privileges possessed by the Bank of England are necessary to effect this object.

3dly, What checks can be provided to secure for the public a proper management of banks of issue, and especially whether it would be expedient and safe to compel them periodically to publish their accounts.

In pursuit of these objects, the Committee have examined into the effect produced by the establishment of the branch banks of the Bank of England, and have obtained from various persons well qualified by experience to guide their judgment, opinions as to the expediency of encouraging the establishment of joint-stock banks of issue in the country. The advanced period of the Session at which the Committee was appointed, did not, as they have stated in their Report, enable them to render the evidence upon their various points of inquiry complete enough to justify them in offering any recommendation to the House; nor, indeed, do they appear to have themselves formed any sufficiently decided opinion upon some of the most important parts of the question to warrant any such recommendation. It will not, therefore, be expected that this abstract of the Committee's labours should convey opinions which they have abstained from offering. All that it can properly attempt, is to give a very condensed account of the general tendency of the evidence. Those of our readers who have any desire of informing themselves fully upon the subject of very great national importance, will do well to consult the original document, which contains the deliberate and well-expressed opinions of several of the most intelligent and best informed men of all parties in this country, upon the principles

which should guide and govern our monetary system. We cannot forbear quoting the concluding paragraph of the Report, as it is calculated to afford satisfaction to the public mind upon a point of considerable interest:—

'Of the ample means of the Bank of England to meet all its engagements, and of the high credit which it has always possessed, and which it continues to deserve, no man who reads the evidence taken before the Committee can for a moment doubt; for it appears that, in addition to the surplus "rest" in the hands of the Bank itself, amounting to £2,880,000, the capital on which interest is paid to the proprietors, and for which the State is debtor to the Bank, amounts to £14,553,000, making no less a sum than £17,433,000 over and above all its liabilities.'

It is not necessary on this occasion to offer any statement of the origin of the Bank of England, or of the objects contemplated by its formation, that information having been incidentally included in the statement of the progress of the funding system of this country, given in the Companion for 1832.

Since the period of the establishment of the Bank of England, the commercial interests of this country have grown up to a magnitude which it is probable no one then contemplated. The capital of the Bank has, during that time, been augmented from £1,200,000, to the sum already mentioned of £14,553,000 and its influence upon the money concerns of the kingdom has increased in a proportionate degree. This influence has, in fact, been so great of late years, that by contracting or enlarging its issues of paper money, the means of doing which are always completely within its power, it can at any time exert the most important influence on the rate of foreign exchanges, and on the state of mercantile credit in this kingdom. That the operations of this powerful body have at times, been productive of evil consequences to the commercial world, few will be inclined to deny, after an examination of the evidence contained in this Report. At the same time justice requires it to be stated, that at no time does that influence appear to have been exerted with an improper or interested motive. The principal functions of the Bank of England, as at present privileged, are in the estimation of its highly respectable Governor, to furnish the paper money with which the public act around them, and to be a place of safe deposit for the public money, or for the money of individuals who prefer a public body, like the Bank, to private bankers. The Bank of England does actually perform two other functions, which are of great importance. It acts as a bank of discounts for the accommodation of the mercantile and trading interests, and it undertakes the management of the public debt of the country, by the registration of transfers, and by keeping the accounts of the fundholders as well as by making the quarterly payments of the dividends. In this last capacity it acts merely as the agent of the Government, taking upon itself not only the expense of offices, clerks, stationery, &c., but also the risk of loss from forgeries, in return for which the public pays to the Bank a fixed annual sum, amounting to £445,000.

It is by means of the privilege which it exclusively enjoys of issuing paper-money in the metropolis, and which money constitutes a very principal proportion of the circulating medium of the country, that the Bank has the power of so materially interfering with all our money concerns. The manner in which this interference may be made to operate will be understood from the following hypothetical statement.

If by the purchase of an undue amount of securities, or by an ill-advised augmentation of the accommodations usually granted to the commercial part of the community, any great increase is made to the amount of its notes in circulation, the market-rate of interest may be lowered. Capitalists may then be led to seek new channels for the employment of their money, so that commercial speculations may be encouraged, and the prices of goods may be raised. As a natural consequence, a diminution will take place in the amount of goods exported. Since no corresponding rise in prices will be experienced in foreign markets, gold will become a more profitable species of remittance, and will take the place of goods in the returns made for foreign merchandise. The Bank will then be called for payment of a large amount of its notes, in order to provide this bullion for exportation. The Directors, seeing their coffers rapidly drained of the precious metals, will naturally become alarmed for the safety of their establishment,—the securities which they hold will be suddenly thrown upon the market, and the supply of circulating medium will by such means be reduced below the actual, and probably even below the ordinary and legitimate wants of the merchants; the rate of interest will be rapidly augmented; those accommodations which encouraged mercantile speculations will be withdrawn, and all the miseries of a commercial panic suddenly brought about. In the course of time, matters will again adjust themselves; the fall in the prices of commodities will occasion them to be again exported; the scarcity of circulating medium, and the consequent fall in the foreign exchanges, will bring back gold; confidence will be gradually restored; and the Bank, finding its coffers replenished with bullion, will be led to enlarge its issues by the re-purchase of securities bearing interest, and circumstances will assume the same aspect which they bore before the over-issue. Some portion of the mischief which will have been thus produced is indeed speedily rendered apparent by the numerous list of bankrupts, which are sure to accompany or to follow close upon a pe-

riod of panic; but many years may elapse ere the extent of the evil will be brought to light. The sacrifices which must be made by some mercantile establishments, in order to provide for their engagements during the moments of distress, and the losses to which others are subjected, from the insolvency of those with whom they have had dealings, may perhaps be borne at the time, but their business must in future be carried on with crippled resources, and by means of expedients: they are no longer able to await the most favourable moments for disposing of goods, and their ruin is frequently precipitated by a trifling disappointment, or an accidental disarrangement, which, but for previous losses, would have passed without producing the slightest injury. Seven years have now elapsed since the memorable mercantile panic of 1825; and the commercial public is yet occasionally destined to witness the truth of this remark in the bankruptcy of establishments which date the origin of their ruin from losses then experienced.

(Concluded in our next.)

SHOWERS OF BLOOD.

Showers of liquid matter of a crimson colour, and supposed by the ignorant to be blood, have frequently spread consternation in different countries, and been deemed the presage of direful events, or the omen of the destruction of cities, and the overthrow of empires. These crimson rains have several times occurred in France, and some of my juvenile readers will remember that they form one of the phenomena illustrated by Madame de Genlis in her Tales of the Castle. From the same natural causes which produce showers of blood, there is to be found, in different parts of the earth, snow of a reddish hue, or of the finest pink or rose colour; and specimens of it have been more than once brought to England, as a curiosity for the investigation of naturalists. Coloured ice is also to be found in the polar regions, the hue it possesses being often of a fine orange appearance. To us in Scotland, or in Great Britain, who never saw, or scarcely ever heard of, snow or ice being any thing but a pure white aspect, these notices may appear doubtful, yet they are quite reconcilable with facts. The cause of showers of red liquid was discovered in France upward of two hundred years since. About the beginning of the year 1603, one of these blood showers fell near the suburbs of Aix, and for many miles round the place; and particularly the walls of a churchyard were spotted with it. This exceedingly strange event very much alarmed the people, and would have been chronicled in history as a superstitious prodigy, had not Aix possessed at this time a philosopher, named Peirece, who, eager in the pursuit of knowledge, fell upon the cause of the shower. It is related in Gassendi's life of this ingenious man, that he was fond of study of insects, and that one day finding a large chrysalis of a beautiful appearance, he preserved it in a box. Some time after hearing a noise in the box, he opened it, and found that the chrysalis had already become a butterfly, and that, in the transformation, it had left upon the bottom a stain of considerable magnitude, and apparently of exactly the same nature with the drops on the stones, popularly supposed to be blood. He now remarked, that there were countless numbers of butterflies flying about which confirmed him in the belief of his having discovered the true cause, and this was further corroborated by his finding none of the said drops in the heart of the city, where the butterflies were rarely seen. He also remarked, that the drops were never on tiles, and seldom on the upper part of a stone, as they must have been had they fallen from the clouds, but usually appeared in cavities and parts protected by angular projections. What Peirece had thus ascertained, he lost no time in disclosing to many persons of knowledge and curiosity, who had been puzzling themselves to account for the circumstance by far-fetched reasonings, such as a supposed vapour which had carried up a supposed red earth into the air that had tinged the rain;—no less wide of the truth than the popular superstition which ascribed it to magic, or to the devil himself. Thus the cause of showers of blood was discovered, and any one may convince himself of the fact, by rearing any of the spinous caterpillars, which feed on the nettle, till they are transformed into the butterfly. Red and pink coloured snow and ice are referable to the same causes. According to a celebrated foreign naturalist, red snow is very common in all the alpine districts of Europe, and Captain Ross brought some home from the polar regions. The most remarkable red snow shower in recent times, was that which fell on the night between the 14th and 15th of March 1832, in Calabria, in Tuscany, and the whole chain of the Apennines. The colouring of these snows and ices, as well naturally be supposed, produced by the infusion of a red matter from minute insects, and which are found to be not larger than a pin's head. As the showers have never been seen to fall, it is correctly imagined that the infusion takes place when the snow or liquid rests on the ground, or the water, or when afterwards warmed by the rays of the sun. Well may we say, How wonderful are the works of Nature!

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The following anecdote was related at the late Temperance meeting in Philadelphia, by Rev. Mr. Hunt of North Carolina, as reported for the New York Observer.

Of all reforms in the world, [said Mr. H.] that of a confirmed drunkard, though not absolutely impossible, was certainly the most hopeless. When once the habit of drinking had been formed, and the appetite for liquor fixed in the system, it requires little less than a miracle to eradicate it. If it is true that men carried into the eternal world, the lusts and vices they had indulged in this, it was not too much to say, that even in the world to come, could the means be had, a drunkard would be a drunkard still. In illustration of this remark Mr. H. related another anecdote.

In one part of Virginia, there were certain abandoned coal pits, which had been formerly worked to a great depth, and which presented a series of dark and dismal caverns, well calculated, if any thing in this world could be, to exhibit a visible representation of the regions of despair. A certain man, of respectable connections and good education, resided not far from these pits, who was in the habit of constant inebriety, inasmuch that his friends told him, if he did not resist, he would certainly die in one of his fits of beastly excess. The man, however, thought there was no danger: he should not die; they were a parcel of fanatics, and wanted to destroy all his joys. He continued to drink, till in one of his frolics, he became what is called dead drunk—totally unconscious and insensible to every thing around him.

In this situation his friends conceived, as a last expedient, the design of alarming him, if possible, by a near prospect of death and eternity. They accordingly provided a coffin, and arraying him in grave clothes, placed his body in it and lowered him down into one of the deepest of these pits. One or two of them accompanied him, to witness the result of the experiment. The place was perfectly dark, and profoundly still. After a considerable time the fumes of the liquor began to evaporate, and the drunken man came to himself. He opened his eyes, and after a few moments heard him exclaim, "what—is it so?—am I dead?—am I really dead?" They answered in a feigned voice—"Yes, you are dead and buried." After some time a glimmering light was seen at a distance, men in disguise approached, and taking him out of the coffin, commenced the application of pretty heavy bastinado. The man now believed himself in the regions of sorrow, and began to beg very hard for mercy. They told him that he had been condemned as a drunkard, and that there was no mercy for him. They then laid him down again and retired. As they were going away, intending to try the result of solitary reflection on the mind they heard his voice calling suddenly and loudly after them, "Hullo! Mr. D—I! have you any drink down this way?"

[Shows of laughter, and it was some minutes before the audience became composed.]

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GHOSTS.—There is a curious case related, of a man who was a well known character, and a man of sense—where it was said he used to see a number of people in the room with him. Now, he himself has described the whole of the phenomenon, and all the adjuncts to it. He has said, after taking a cup of coffee, or tea, or so on, they came into his room in great numbers; and as he got better, and less nervous, he has only seen the arms or legs of the persons, without seeing any other part of them. Now, this is all an irregular action of the retina of the eye. A gentleman sitting in his library one day, reading or writing, on turning round his head, saw, sitting in a chair, a woman in a red cloak. And he said, how came you in here, good woman? The woman said nothing. What is the reason of your being here woman? No answer was made. You have no right to be here; go out of the room. She took no notice of him. He got up, and rang the bell for the servant. The servant came in. Turn this woman out. What woman, Sir? Why, the woman in a red cloak. There's no woman, nor any red cloak, Sir. Well, go and fetch the doctor for me; tell him I am ill, and wish to speak with him. The man, however, was not to be frightened by this, because he knew it was a delusion of his sight. Now, I have had it so often, that it has been a matter rather of amusement to me, than anything else. I have stood before a glass, and seen the upper part of my head and eyes, and nose; very distinctly; but I never saw that I had any mouth or jaw; and I have seen my shoulders very well, but all was blank between my nose and shoulders. Why, now I say, what can you make of this, but that it is errors of action, or inaction in parts of the retina?—Berkeley's Lectures.

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FILIAL AFFECTION OF THE MOORS.—A Portuguese surgeon was accosted one day by a young moor from the country, who, addressing him by the usual appellation of foreign doctors in that place, requested him to give him some *drugges* to kill his father, and as an inducement, promised to pay him well. The surgeon was a little surprised at first, as might be expected, and was unable to answer immediately; but quickly recovering himself (for he knew the habits of the people well), replied with *sang froid* equal to the Moor's, "Then you don't live comfortably with your father, I suppose?" "Oh, nothing, can be better," returned the Moor; "he has made much money, has married me well, and he cannot work any longer, he is so old, and he seems unwilling to die." The doctor, of course, appreciated the amiable philosophy of the Moor's reasoning, and promised to give him what he desired. He accordingly prepared a cordial potion, more calculated to restore energy to the old man, than to take it away. The Moor paid him well and departed. About eight days after he came again, to say that his father was not dead. "Not dead?" exclaimed the apothecary, in well-feigned surprise; "he will die." He composed accordingly another draught, for which he received an equal remuneration, and assured the Moor that it would not fail in its effects. In thirteen days, however, the Moor came again, complaining that his father thrived better than ever. "Don't be discouraged," said the doctor, who doubtless found these periodical visits by no means unprofitable; "give him another portion, and I will exert all my skill in its preparation." The Moor took it, but returned no more. One day the surgeon met his young acquaintance in the street, and inquired the success of the remedy. "It was of no avail," he replied mournfully; "my father is in excellent health. God has preserved him from all our efforts; there is no doubt but that he is a Marabout!"—(A Saint)—Monthly Magazine.

THE VALUE OF NOTHING.—An old proverb, great dearth of novelties, when the answer to every question of what power is necessarily "Nothing," we have thought it may be as well to show how valuable a possession this same Nothing is.

'Nothing' is more important than the latest news.
'Nothing' is more valuable than bread and meat to a hungry man.
'Nothing' is more desirable than money.
'Nothing' is more sought after than wealth.
'Nothing' is more estimable than a good character.
'Nothing' is more charming than a lovely woman.
'Nothing' pleases a politician better than success.

'Nothing' rejoices the greatest number of persons more than health and competency.
'Nothing' gives the editor more gratification than pleasing his readers.

Here is 'Nothing' repeated over nine times, yet it is 'Nothing.'

Since then 'Nothing' possesses a worth which cannot be multiplied, it is no wonder that it is of such inestimable value.

In offering, therefore, this delectable article to our readers this evening, we must give them great pleasure and happiness, since, whatever they may be in search of, they are sure in 'Nothing' to be more gratified than in having every thing they can desire.—Greenock Intelligencer.

PROSPECTUS

Of a Literary, Commercial, and Political JOURNAL, to be called
THE TIMES.

"The noblest motive is the Public Good."

HAVING been earnestly requested by a number of enlightened and influential individuals to recommend the publication of a liberal Journal in this County, the undersigned has, though resolved to comply with their wishes, provided sufficient encouragement is afforded to induce him again to incur so heavy an expense and responsibility.

It would be unnecessary here to refer to the causes which influenced him in resigning the publication of the Herald, having already been fully set forth in that paper; suffice it to say that *punctuality* on the part of his subscribers can alone enable him to carry on the contemplated Journal with advantage to the public or credit to himself.

The Times will strictly watch over the people's rights and endeavor to guard them from oppression; the vice and follies of the great will not be overlooked, neither will it be unkind of those whose virtues command our respect, or whose talents are worthy of admiration.

Every exertion will be made by the Editor to render the columns of the Times both instructive and amusing. All debates of general interest, or particularly affecting the Trade, Commerce, or Political condition of the Province, either in the British Parliament, or Foreign or Colonial Legislatures, will be carefully noted in its columns. The Marine List and all other shipping intelligence will receive particular attention, and an occasional Price Current will be inserted.

The Editor will be thankful to his Literary friends for their assistance; all original communications which may meet with his approbation, will be graciously received and conscientiously inserted. He also solicits the patronage of the Advertising community, whose interest will not be overlooked.

The political principles of the Editor are, too well known, to render it necessary for him here to elucidate them; he therefore presents himself to the public without further introduction, and confidently relies on their liberality, for a satisfactory patronage.

The Times will be published (so soon as a sufficient number of subscribers may be obtained) once a week with good clear type, and paper of the same size and quality as the late St. Andrews's Herald. Terms—15s. per annum, payable in all cases one half in advance.

JOHN STUBBS,
Editor and Publisher.

St. Andrews, 24th June, 1833.

EDUCATION.

MRS. DEBERGUER, FROM ENGLAND, BEGS leave to intimate that she proposes opening in Fredericton, an Establishment for Young Ladies, which will be conducted on an English system, and where a polite English Education will be given, with French and Drawing if required.

Mrs. DEBERGUER has taken the House situated on the corner of King and Regent streets, belonging to the estate of the late James Cumming; where, if sufficient encouragement be afforded, she will open her school, on Monday, the 22d inst.; and she trusts by assiduity and attention, to merit the confidence that may be reposed in her.

Mrs. DEBERGUER hopes soon to be enabled to accommodate two or three young ladies as Boarders, and parents committing their children to her charge may depend upon the strictest attention being paid to their religious and moral improvements.

Terms made known by applying to Mrs. DEBERGUER at Jed. Seaton's Esquire, Fredericton, 4th July 1833.

TO LET, and possession given immediately, a COTTAGE, &c. in Queen Street, belonging to the Estate of the late Mrs. Margaret Blair; for further particulars inquire of Aug. 21. Wm. D. PHAIR.

THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

Terms—16s. per Annum, exclusive of Postage.

Advertisements not exceeding Twelve Lines will be inserted for Four Shillings and Sixpence the first and one Shilling and Sixpence for each succeeding Insertion. Advertisements must be accompanied with Cash and the Insertions will be regulated according to the amount received. Blanks, Handbills, &c. &c. can be struck off at the shortest notice.

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