

Poetry.

THE DEVOTED CITY.

Go ye not there—go ye not there—
Though the roses bloom and the sky's fair!
'Tis a lovely spot on the sunny earth,
But a curse hangs over its thoughtless mirth;
The breath of the pestilence fills the air;
Go ye not there—go ye not there!

Say you your castle's frowning tower,
That has dared the storm in its fierce power,
The tainted breeze sweeps slowly by;
Where the targeted walls are reared on high;
And a joy is heard—for death is come,
In this fearful night to the warrior's home.

There are glittering lights in the palace hall,
Where the gay have met for the festival;
The perfumed arms with flowers are crowned;
The sparkling goblet passes round;
And the harp's full chord comes swelling on,
In the shrilling numbers of loyly song.

Ave, fill the parting wine-cup high—
Ye meet no more for revelry;
Ye have looked your last on the pictured walls;
Ye pass from the proud ancestral halls
To return no more; for the evening air
Has fanned your brou—nd death is there!

The lovely are met in the dancing room,
With their brilliant eyes, and flushing bloom;
Amid feathered columns they lightly tread;
And scented lamps their fragrance shed
Over their graceful forms, like the breath of
morn.

On the bounding steps of the woodland lawn

Ye part in smiles—but ye meet no more;
Your step is lost from the chequered floor;

The bright and the beautiful pass away,

From the ball-room's glow to the grave's delay.

Spring how's were wreathed round the fair
young brow,

That in death's last sleep lies mouldering now.

When shall ye awake from that sleep again?
Our once dear ones! they call ye in vain;

The cold pale forehead their lips may press—

Alas! ye return not the warm caress;

Life, with the spirit, has passed away—

To the tomb—to the tomb with the senseless
clay.

Go ye not there—go ye not there—
Though the lip its winning smiles may wear,
Though the cheek with health's rich crimson
glows,

'Tis the parting brilliancy sunset throws;

They fade at the breath of the poisoned air:

Go ye not there—go ye not there!

How many summers, love,
Have I been thine?
How many days, thou dove,
Hast thou been mine?

Time, like the winged wind,
When it bends the flowers,

Bath left no mark behind,

To count the hours!

Some weight of thought, though loth,
On thee he leaves;

Some lines of care around both

Perhaps he weaves;

Some fears, a soft regret

For joys agree known;

Sweet looks we half forget;

All else is flown!

Ab, with what thankless heart
I mourn and sing!

Look, where our children start,

Like sudden spring!

With tongues all sweet and low,

Like a pleasant rhyme,

They tell how much I owe

To thee and time.

VARRETTES.

EMIGRATION AND EMIGRANTS.

To those who are favoured with steady employment at home, who possess alliments of land, however small, which furnish them with comfortable subsistence, I say, "be contented—make no experiments—remain where you are—and trust that a kind Providence will bring order and peace out of the present confusion and discord which distract these realms". But to those differently circumstanced, emigration is most desirable, and perhaps no country in the world is more critically suited than North America to the Irish and Scotch poor in particular; the very place of all others where those who have not a shilling in their pockets, and who are accustomed to the vicissitudes of climate and hard work, can live best; where all those who have been bred to farm and handicraft work, if industrious, healthy, and sober, have a moral certainty of succeeding. All such persons, after two years, find themselves in a thriving condition, and are anxious to have their old country friends with them; but mere adventurers, broken down tradesmen, and scheming shopkeepers, may just as well stay and starve quietly at home; such persons would not prosper anywhere.—Nor is North America suited to ladies and gentlemen of very small means who are unused to do anything for themselves; such persons are in general too tenderly reared, too delicately brought up, to dispense with the services of domestics, whom they could not afford to pay in a country where a good pair of hands is worth much, and who are unable or unwilling to bear the privations, of the first two or three years of settlement in the woods; though instances are not wanting of respectable families, with incomes varying from £50 to £200 a year, living most happily and prosperously, and enjoying good society there; but these persons are generally the families of naval or military gentlemen accustomed to rough it, habituated to adequate zeal and energy.—(Martin Doyle's Hints on Emigration.)

The philanthropic Quaker, John Hall, has proposed that the Agricultural Employment Society should borrow £24,000, paying four per cent interest, and keeping one per cent, for contingencies. The charge, therefore, would be five per cent, per annum. 500 acres of land would cost £15,000; 100 cottages, at £600 each, £6000; furniture, £20 for each, £2000; implements of husbandry, £10 for each cottage, £1000; total outlay, £24,000, the sum borrowed. This would employ 130 labourers and their families, or 700 souls. Give each family a furnished cottage, with five acres of land, and spades, seed, or plants; let them be kept by the parish during one year, till the cottages are built and their patches of ground are cultivated; let them enter when the fruit of their labour is ready to be gathered; and let them, when they have been to market, pay five per cent, on the purchase money—that is £7 10s. for the land, and £4 10s. for the rent of the cottages, furniture, and implements. The clear profit of this is a acre farm to an industrious

holder would be £60 a year; for he has no horse to keep, no wages to pay, no poor's rates nor assessed taxes coming against him. His stock at the outset is found for him. Rent paid, a good house, comfortably furnished, his land "in fettle," a cow, a pig, and a small garden, work for boys and girls, and plenty to do for all; with at least 20s. a week to keep them on the farm; who would be happier than a sober, industrious, English labourer? Again. The cottages, gardens, piggies, and furniture for another 100 labourers, without land, might be located near. They would labour for the farmers and raise money to purchase the produce of those who laboured for themselves. This second 100 could be accommodated for £14,000. This latter part of the plan is one of our suggestions. Such a colony in every parish would make rates unknown. The meetings of the Agricultural Society are held at 82, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, and at 51, Treadneedle-street. At either place the inquirer will find abundant information.—London Paper.

COMFORTS OF TRANSPORTATION.—The following extract is explanatory of the "comforts" enjoyed by convicts in Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales.—

"COMFORT 1st.—As soon as he lands, he is packed off sixty or seventy, or one hundred miles, into the interior, or he is placed in the prisoners' barracks, of which it would be only necessary for an Hon. Member to see the inside to convince him it was a joke,—in either of which cases, if he has brought any trifles with him, he is sure to be relieved of them before the following day. If he does not lose his government clothing, he may consider himself fortunate; should he, however, do so, the following morning he may safely calculate upon.

"COMFORT 2d.—In the shape of fifty lashes, or ten days' work on the treadmill, or in the chain gang.

"COMFORT 3d.—If he be assigned to a master in the town, and happen to take a glass of grog after his long voyage, it is a great chance if he lodge not in the watch house for the night, and takes 'fifty' before breakfast in the morning, by way of 'comfort.'

"COMFORT 4th.—Travelling through a wild forest, without knowing his way, and surrounded, perhaps, by the hostile aborigines, who, so sure as they met, would kill him.

"COMFORT 5th.—Should he lose his way, and escape starvation in the bush, probably a sound flogging for not having arrived sooner at his master's house.

"COMFORT 6th.—Perpetual work, and no pay:—in many cases hard labour, hard living, hard words, and hard usage.

We have hitherto spoken only of the reception met with by a well disposed prisoner—one who wishes to reform. If he be in any way refractory, let the good people of England thoroughly understand, that he is sure of a most adequate reward. A short answer, when spoken to by his master or overseer, or a common soldier, or even a constable, is a crime punishable by flogging; getting tips, places him in the stocks; missing muster, may get him flogged, or into the chain-gang, where he works in irons on the roads—Should he commit any second offence, Macquarie Harbour, Port Macquarie Norfolk Island, or Moreton Bay, is his fate, where every rigidity of discipline—nay, sometimes even cruelty, is exercised. The hardest of labour, and but one meal a day of the coarsest food, is the lot of the man who goes to a penal settlement. To these places it does not take felony to send a prisoner; many have been removed there for very trivial offences. Those who wish for places of horror and terror, or as receptacles for criminals, need not go far afield; we can supply them with such places as would satisfy the most insatiate appetite for torturing and punishing. When men commit murder, purpose to be hanged, in preference to bear the terrors of these places of secondary exile, it cannot be expected that they are in the enjoyment of much comfort. This is no exposition tirade; nor is the statement made for our colonial readers; the facts are too well known here to require description. It is a true picture, intended for the eye of our numerous English readers."

EFFECT OF LIGHT ON PLANTS.—Vegetable physiology is indebted to Senebier, Saussure, De Candolle, and others, for numerous researches on this interesting subject. M. Glocker, in 1820, published at Breslau a work, in which he has brought together all the facts known, and even the most plausible hypotheses. M. Leuchs has also lately added some interesting experiments on the same subject. It is known that the solar light, by favouring the assimilation of carbonic acid gas in plants, gives them the faculty of becoming green, and of forming the volatile and aromatic principles. These conditions are necessary to their flowering and fructification, insomuch that ripe seeds have never been obtained from plants kept in darkness. If, on the contrary, bleached plants are exposed to the sun for three, four or five hours, they become as intensely green as if they had been reared in the sun. Vegetables reared in the open air become pale, and fade in two or three hours, if they are transported to a dark place; but those which, after growing in the shade, have been exposed for some time to the sun, can no longer support the privation of light, and water impregnated with camphor, or essential oil, which is highly favourable to regulation in other circumstances, does not prevent them from fading and perishing. The entire privation of light is, therefore, very hurtful to plants. M. Leuchs concludes from this, that, without the light of the moon and stars, vegetables would be destroyed by the influence of the night. The light of a lamp is capable of replacing that of the sun, though in a very imperfect manner. The plant becomes green, and directs itself towards the lamp, as M.

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