

POETRY.

Selected.

VERSES

Composed for the Anniversary of Robert Burns' Birthday, celebrated at Sheffield, (Eng.)

BY J. MONTGOMERY.

What bird, in beauty, flight, or song,
Can with the Bard compare,
Who sang as sweet, and soar'd as strong,
As ever child of air?

His plume, his note, his form, could Burns
For whim or pleasure change;
He was not one, but all by turns,
With transmigration strange.

The blackbird, oracle of spring,
When flow'd his moral lay;
The swallow, wheeling on the wing,
Capriciously at play.

The humming-bird, from bloom to bloom
Inhaling heavenly balm;
The raven in the tempest gloom;
The halcyon in the calm.

In "Auld Kirk Alloway" the owl
At "witching time of night";
By "Bonny Doon" the earliest fowl
That carol'd to the light:

He was the wren amidst the grove,
When in his homely vein;
At "Bannockburn" the bird of Jove,
With thunder in his train:

The woodlark in his mournful hours;
The goldfinch in his mirth;
The thrush, a spendthrift of his powers,
Enrapt'ring heaven and earth:

The swan, in majesty and grace,
Contemplative and still;
But rous'd,—no falcon in the chase
Could, like his satire, kill:

The linnet in simplicity;
In tenderness the dove;
But more than all beside, was he
The nightingale in love!

Oh! had he never stoop'd to shame,
Nor lent a charm to vice;
How had devotion lov'd to name
That bird of Paradise.

Peace to the dead! in Scotia's choir
Of minstrels great and small,
He springs, from his spontaneous fire,
The phoenix of them all.

ON THE BIRTH OF GERTRUDE.

The morn that usher'd thee to life, my child,
Saw thee in tears, whil't all around thee
smil'd;
Now when thou'rt summon'd hence to thine
eternal seat,
May'st thou be seen to smile, whil't all a-
round thee weep.

VARIETIES.

THE GREAT UNIVERSAL PLAGUE.

The different plagues which have visited Great Britain, within the last five hundred years, were summarily adverted to, in the first number of the Journal, particularly that in London, in the year 1665. It was there stated, that one of the greatest of these pestilences occurred in the reign of Edward III.; and as this was perhaps the most dreadful, and the most universal plague, which is related in Modern history, it is worth while to present a more lengthened description of its character and duration. For this purpose I take the liberty of abridging an excellent account of this great plague from a recent number of *Fraser's Magazine*.

"This dreadful pestilence, like the Cholera, made its first appearance in the east. It arose in China, Tartary, India and Egypt, about the year 1345. It is ascribed by contemporary writers, to the general corruption of the atmosphere; accompanied by the appearance of millions of small serpents and other venomous insects, and in other places, quantities of huge vermin, with numerous legs, and of a hedious aspect, which filled the air with putrid exhalations. Making every allowance for the ignorance and credulity of the age, it appears evident that some natural causes had contributed to corrupt the air, and load it with pestiferous vapours. Thus it came into England in the end of the year 1368; and it rained from the previous Christmas until Midsummer, almost without ceasing. Great inundations followed, and accumulations of stagnant water, by which the whole atmosphere was poisoned. It appears that in many countries there were also earthquakes and tremblings of the earth. In many of the accounts given of these convulsions of nature, we may presume there was a good deal of exaggeration. But the testimonies are too numerous and respectable to leave any doubt that, before and during the pestilence, the elements were in a state of general convulsion which seems unparalleled in history.

The plague extended its ravages from India into the more western parts of Asia, into Egypt, Abyssinia, and thence into the northern parts of Africa. It proceeded over Asia Minor, Greece, and the islands in the Archipelago, almost depopulating the regions over which it stalked. It may be literally said to

have decimated the world, even though we were to take this term as implying the destruction of nine, in place of one out of ten. The plague appears to have staid five or six months in one place, and then to have gone in search of fresh victims. Its symptoms are minutely described by many writers, and appear to be the same in every country it visited. It generally appeared in the groin or under the arm pits, where swellings were produced, which broke out into sores, attended with fever, spitting and vomiting of blood. The patient frequently died in half a day generally within a day or two at the most. If he survived the third day there was hope, though even then many fell into a deep sleep from which they never awoke.

From Greece the plague passed into Italy. The Venetians having lost 100,000 souls, fled from their city, and left it almost uninhabited. At Florence, 60,000 persons died in one year. France next became exposed to its ravages, and the mortality was horrible. The malady proceeded northward through France, till it reached Paris, where it cut off 50,000 people. About the same time it spread into Germany, where its ravages are estimated at the enormous amount of 12,400,000 souls.

At last this fearful scourge began to be felt in England. About the beginning of August, 1348, it appeared in the sea-port towns on the coasts of Dorset, Devon, and Somersetshire, whence it proceeded to Bristol. The people of Gloucester immediately interdicted all intercourse with Bristol, but in vain. The disease ran, or rather flew, over Gloucestershire. Thence it spread to Oxford, and about the first of November reached London. Finally it spread over all England, scattering every where such destruction, that out of the whole population, hardly one in ten was left alive. Incredible as this statement may appear, it seems borne out by the details of contemporary annals. In the churchyard of Yarmouth 7052 persons, who died of the plague, were buried in one year. In the city of Norwich, 57,374 persons died in six months. In the city of York the mortality was equal. In London, the dead were thrown into pits—forty, fifty, or sixty into one; and large fields were employed as burial places, the church-yards being found insufficient for the purpose. No attempt was made to perform this last sad office with the usual care and decency. Deep and broad ditches were made, in which the dead bodies were laid in rows, covered with earth, and surmounted with another layer of bodies, which were also covered. The mortality fell chiefly upon the lower classes of society, and, among them, principally upon old men, women and children. [In these respects, this plague seems to have differed from some of the plagues in the 17th century, which fell particularly among the upper classes.] It was remarked, that not one king or prince of any nation, died of the plague, and of the English nobility and people of distinction very few were cut off. Among the higher orders of the church, the deaths were rare. It appears that no precaution could prevent the influence of the contagion. The bonds of society were loosed: parents forsook children, and children parents; some fled to the country, others locked themselves up in their houses, and many went on board vessels. But every where the fugitives were followed; for the destroying angel had a foot on the waters as well as on the land. "The pestilence spread into Wales and into Ireland. As to the Scots, they are said to have brought the malady upon themselves. Taking advantage of the defenceless state of England (or rather to avenge the injuries they had suffered under the Edwards,) they made a hostile irruption with a large force into the country. But they had not proceeded far, when the plague overtook them. They perished in thousands, and carried the disease with them into Scotland, where its ravages were soon as destructive as they were in England. Early in the year 1349, the plague began to abate; and by the month of August it had entirely disappeared. Its consequences, however, continued for some time to be severely felt. During the prevalence of the disease, the cattle, for want of men to tend them, were allowed to wander about the fields at random, and perished in such numbers as to occasion a great scarcity. Though the fields, too, were covered with a plentiful crop of corn, much of it was lost for want of hands to reap and gather in. The last dregs of this great plague were drained by that unfortunate race, the Jews. A belief spread over several countries that they had produced the pestilence by poisoning the wells and fountains; and in many places they were massacred in thousands by the infuriated populace. In several parts of Germany, where this persecution chiefly raged, the Jews were literally exter-

minated. Twelve thousand of them were murdered in the single city of Mentz; and multitudes of them in the extremity of their despair, shut themselves up in their houses, and consumed themselves with fire. The extent of such atrocities in a barbarous age, may well be imagined, when we remember the outrages which were at first produced in some parts of the Continent by the cholera panic."

MISCELLANEOUS EXTRACTS.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 6.—*Marriage of the Sultan's Daughter*.—On the 1st instant the ceremony of the espousals of Hali Pasha and the Princess Salihah took place at the Sublime Porte. About nine o'clock the bridegroom's presents left Eski Sarai, preceded by a numerous body of Pashas, Generals and officers in their gala uniforms, with a battalion of infantry, and a fine band of music playing martial airs. Then came upwards of 100 pages, each bearing on his head a salvor, on which were placed baskets of flowers and sweetmeats tastefully enveloped in gauze of various gay colours; cooking utensils of silver with gilt handles and knobs followed; and these were succeeded by the *nishan takimi*, objects invariably presented to a bride, consisting of a pair of pattens and a hand mirror, for use at the bath; the former were of gold enamelled, the broad strap richly studded with brilliants, and the back and handle of the mirror were equally ornamented with jewels; an *entree* (petticoat) sparkling with diamonds was also exhibited; and finally two fine waggon's filled with trunks, containing, I understand, among other precious objects, an abundance of costly French millinery, to decorate the oriental person of the Princess. To these were added a purse on behalf of the Seraskier, containing a million of piastres, or upwards of 10,000 guineas, to assist in the lady's outfit. The Seraskier himself, surrounded by his staff, brought up the rear of the procession which moved slowly towards the Imperial Palace entered at the Babi Humayoon, and went straight to the Derri Sandel (Gate of Felicity), where the presents were delivered over to the officers of the Princess. The Seraskier then repaired to the sublime Porte, where the Grand Vizier received him in state, and the Akdoo Nikiah, or ceremony of espousals, was duly performed. An immense concourse was collected on the line of the procession, consisting chiefly of the fair sex, who seemed to interest themselves most particularly on the occasion. The nuptial rejoicings are to commence on the 24th instant, and will continue until the 5th of June, when the fortunate Pasha will behold his modest bride for the first time. The Yougho Kadar, who presents them to each other, will, no doubt be an old lady of high rank. The oriental custom of supping together on a bailed foul will be observed, and the following morning the ceremonies will be wound up by the young Pasha's visit to kiss the dust of the feet of his imperial father-in-law, and the hem of the garment of each of the Princesses, and other near relatives.

RAPIDITY OF MODERN PRINTING.

"Can you print me a bible?" said an old lady, who some years ago came into a printing office in the country. "Certainly," said a man at the case, who was dabbling at the types like a hen picking up corn, "certainly, madam; but not just at present: it will take some time to do it."

"Oh," returned the lady, "for that matter I'm in no great hurry—any time to-day will answer."

"To-day?" said the printer in astonishment, "why ma'am you don't think—"

"O yes," said the good woman, seating herself, and taking out her knitting-work, "I can wait just as well as not. It's only about one o'clock now, and I suppose you will get it done about tea time."

"What! print a bible in one afternoon? Why it would take me and my devil, madam, a whole year to print a bible."

"O my gracious!" exclaimed the old lady, starting up in astonishment, "you don't have the evil one to work for you, do you?"

"Evil one? yes, he is evil enough, the lazy dog."

"I would not have him to print a bible for me on no account. I shouldn't believe a word on't if he did—for he's a liar and the father of lies."

"I don't know whether he's the father of lies or not; but it is true enough he is a lying little devil—there's no trusting him. I mean to cancel his indenture."

"Well, good bye, Mr. Printer—I could not think of having a good book done in such a bad office. Employ the devil! O dear, dear."

The old lady made her way with all haste out of the office; and when it is considered that she was unacquainted with the technical language of typographers, and did not know the difference between the printer's devil, and old Nicholas himself, it must be owned that her horror was very natural.

The idea of printing a bible in one afternoon, however preposterous it might have been at the period of the above dialogue, would not in the present day appear altogether so much out of the way. With steam engines and power presses, books are worked off with such rapidity, that old John Faust, even with the aid of the devil, with whom he was accused of having made a league, could never have dreamed of. Two thousand impressions: an hour would astonish the ghost of the ingenious old Dutchman, if, by any means, he should be allowed to visit a modern printing-office. "Furflutch and der tyfel!" he would exclaim, "never taught all diesen I infents de art of printin. Vifty copies in von hour vos as moech as I could do, for de life of me mit mine own bress. But now mine Cot, dey make no pones of strikin off two thousand, and all mitout de help of a vinger, and just by de obberation of von shteam kettle. Der tyfel!"—*N. Y. Transcript.*

Lauriston relates among other anecdotes of Napoleon's sojourn at the camp of Boulogne, a remarkable instance of intrepidity, on the part of two English sailors. These men had been prisoners at Verdun, from whence they made their escape, and arrived at Boulogne, without having been discovered on the road, notwithstanding the vigilance with which all the English were watched. They remained at Boulogne for some time, without money, and unable to effect their escape. They had no hope of getting aboard a boat, on account of the strict watch kept on vessels of every kind. They however made a boat of little pieces of wood, which they put together as well as they could, having no other tools but their knives. They covered it with a piece of sail cloth. It was only three or four feet wide, and not much longer, and so slight that a man could easily carry it on his shoulders. So powerful a passion is the love of home and liberty! Certain of being shot if discovered; almost equally sure of being drowned if they put to sea, they nevertheless resolved to attempt crossing the channel in their fragile skiff. Perceiving an English frigate within sight of the coast, they pushed off and endeavored to reach her. They had not gone a hundred toises from the shore, when they were seen by the Custom House officers, who pursued, and brought them back. The news of this adventure spread through the camp, where the extraordinary courage of the two sailors was the subject of general remark. The circumstance reached the Emperor's ears. He wished to see the men, and they were conducted to his presence along with their little boat. Napoleon, whose imagination was struck by every thing extraordinary, could not conceal his surprise at so bold a project undertaken with such feeble means of execution. "Is it really true," said the Emperor to them, "that you thought of crossing the sea in this?" "Sire," said they, "if you doubt it, give us leave to go, and you shall see us depart." "I will, you are bold and enterprising men; I admire courage wherever I meet with it. But you shall not hazard your lives—you are at liberty: and more than that, I will cause you to be put on board an English ship. When you return to London, say how I esteem brave men, even when they are my enemies." Happ who with Lauriston, Dorie, and many others, were present at this scene were not a little astonished at the Emperor's generosity. If the men had not been brought before him, they would have been shot as spies: instead of which they obtained their liberty, and Napoleon gave several pieces of gold to each.

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL.—About six weeks before the battle of Assaye, General Wellesley thought it necessary to obtain possession of an important fort, named Ahmednugger. It was taken by a most gallant escalade: in the thick of the assault, General Wellesley saw a young officer, who had reached the top of the "very lofty wall," thrust off by the enemy, and falling through the air from a great height. General Wellesley had little doubt that he must have been severely wounded, if not killed, by the fall; but hastened to inquire the name and fate of the gallant young fellow, and had the satisfaction of seeing him in a moment after, comparatively little injured, again mounting to the assault. Next morning the General sent for him—offered to attach him to his staff as brigade-major—and from that hour, through all his fields and fortunes, even down to the conquest of Paris—continued him in his personal family and friendship, and used sometimes to observe that the first time he had ever seen him was in the air; that young officer is now Sir Colin

Campbell—knight commander of the Bath, a major general in the army, and governor of Nova-Scotia. We record with pleasure, this act of justice to a brave and distinguished officer, whose subsequent services have fully justified his own early promise, and the generous patronage of his illustrious commander.—*Quarterly Review.*

A gentleman, stopping one evening at an inn in the North of England, said to a maid servant who waited on him, and who seemed nearly exhausted with the fatiguing duties of her situation, "Sally, I have no doubt but you enjoy your bed when you get into it." "Indeed, no sir," replied she, "for as soon as I lie down at night, I am fast asleep; and as soon as I awake in the morning, I am obliged to get up, so that I have no enjoyment in my bed at all."

PLEASANT DREAMS.—A few mornings since, an ingenious young gentleman said to a prude, "I trust, madam, you had agreeable dreams last night?" "I beg, sir, (replied the offended fair) I may have no more of your indecent allusions."

A hungry Scotchman took up a raw egg, cracked the shell, and was raising it to his mouth, when his ear was suddenly saluted by the shrill pipe of an unborn chicken: "Ye spake too late," cried Sawney, and down went the pullet, feathers and all.

A GOOD WIFE.—A woman who uniformly makes good coffee, does not scold even on a washing day, and would not be ashamed to be seen before breakfast time, will certainly make a good wife.

An Irishman direct from Cork, while employed in one of the factories a few days since, observed a large bumble bee upon one of the windows. Pat's curiosity being somewhat excited by the appearance of the insect, he inquired of one of the workmen what sort of a baste it was that was whizzing about the room; who informed him that it was a Yankee humming bird. "Arrah me darling," says Pat, "and I'll be after cateching ye directly." Pat accordingly laid hold of the bee, and after pressing him lightly in his fingers, roared out, "Och, devil burn me, how hot his little fut is."

REPEATED MUNIFICENCE.—Letters recently received by Wm. Coffin, Esq., President of the Board of Trustees of the Coffin School, from Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin, announce another deed of beneficence towards that thriving institution on the part of its distinguished patron. Sir Isaac has displayed a new proof of his unabated regard for the welfare of his juvenile kinsfolk, the more remote descendants of his own American ancestor, by investing in some permanent fund in England, for their future benefit, an amount of property sufficient to yield, in perpetuity, one hundred pounds sterling per annum. The bountiful donor is desirous of effecting an immediate arrangement, whereby this stock may be placed in the name of the Governor of Massachusetts for the time being, or of the Mayor of Boston; the avails to be regularly drawn from his London banker, and through the Trustees of the School here, applied to its intended object, viz. to be bestowed by way of reward, at every annual examination, upon the ten best and most deserving females—on equal sums; being, as we understand it ten pounds to each.—*Nantucket Enquirer.*

ONE TON OF OAT MEAL for sale by JED. SLASON. Fredericton, June 18, 1834.

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.

AGENTS FOR THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

SAINT JOHN,	Mr. Peter Duff.
SAINT ANDREWS,	Mr. G. Miller.
DORCHESTER,	E. B. Chandler.
SALISBURY,	R. Scott, Esq.
KENT,	J. W. Weldon, Esq.
MIRAMICHI,	Edward Baker, Esq.
KENT, (CO. OF YORK)	Geo. Moorhouse, Esq.
WOODSTOCK, and	
NORTHAMPTON,	Mr. C. Raymond.
SHEFFIELD,	James Tilley, Esq.
GAGTOWN,	Doctor Barker.
KINGSTON,	Mr. W. F. Bondell.
HAMPTON,	Mr. Asa Davidson.
SUSSEX VALE,	Mr. Samuel Hallet.
	J. C. Vail, Esq.