

SEAT OF THE MUSES.

SONG.

WHILE beauty and pleasure are now in their prime,
And folly and fashion expect our whole time,
Ah! let not those phantoms our wishes engage,
Let us live so in youth that we blush not in age.

Tho' the vain and the gay may attend us awhile,
Yet let not the flattery our prudence beguile,
Let us covet those charms that will never decay,
Nor listen to all that deceivers can say.

"How tints of the rose, and the jess'mine's perfume,
The eglantine's fragrance, the lilac's gay bloom,
Tho' fair and tho' fragrant unbedded may lie,
For that neither is sweet when FLORELLA is by."

I sigh not for beauty, nor languish for wealth;
But grant me, kind Providence, virtue and health,
Then richer than kings, and as happy as they,
My days shall pass sweetly and swiftly away.

When age shall steal on me, and youth is no more,
And the moralist Time, shakes his glass at my door,
What charm in lost beauty or wealth should I find?
My treasure, my wealth, is a sweet peace of mind.

That peace I'll preserve then as pure as 'twas given,
And taste in my bosom an earnest of Heav'n,
For virtue and wisdom can warm the cold scene,
And sixty may flourish as gay as sixteen.

And when long I the burthen of life shall have borne,
And Death with his sickle shall cut the ripe corn,
Resign'd to my fate, without murmur or sigh,
I'll bless the kind summons and lie down and die.

SCRAPS.

A TALL gentleman lately conversing with a short one, asked him, among other things, what advantages there were in being short. To which he answered, Two very great ones: first, Short persons may stand upright, where tall ones cannot; second, short people may be assisted by tall ones, on many occasions, where tall persons could not be helped by short ones.

Odd Proclamation for holding a Fair among the Scotch.
O Yes! and that's e'e time; O yes! and that's twa times; O yes! and that's thaird and last time. All manner of pearson or pearsons, whosoever, let 'em draw near, and I shall let 'em kenn, that there is a fair to be held at the muckle town of Langholm, for the space of aught days, wherein if any hullrin, cultrin, land-lopper, dub-skouper, or gang-the-gate-swingers shall breed any hurdam, durdam, rabblement, brabblement, or squabblement, he shall have his lugs tacked to the muckle throne, with a nail of a twa-a-penny, until he down on his hobshanks, and up with his muckle douns, and pray to hea'en neen times—God bless the King, and thrice the muckle Laird of Relton, paying a groat to me, Jemmy Ferguson, Bailey of the aforefaid manor.—So you heard my proclamation, and I'll gang heam to my dinner.

PETER THE GREAT.

DESIROUS of forming useful establishments in his dominions, and of encouraging those already existing, visited the different work-shops and manufactories with much assiduity.—Among others, were the forges of Muller, at Mita, on the road to Kalouga, at ninety wressls distance from Moscow. He once passed a whole month there, during which time he drank chalybeate waters; and after having given due attention to the affairs of the state, which he never neglected; he amused himself with not only seeing and examining every thing in the most minute manner, but also with putting his hand to the work, and learning the business of a blacksmith. He succeeded so well, that one of the last days of this excursion, he forged alone eighteen poods of iron (the pood is equal to forty pounds), and put his own particular mark on each bar. The boyars and other noblemen of his suite were obliged to blow the bellows, to stir the fire, to carry coals, and perform all the other offices of journeymen blacksmiths.

Some days after, on his return to Moscow, he went to see Verner Muller, bestowed great praise on his establishment, and asked him how much he gave per pood for iron in bars, furnished by a master blacksmith. "Three co-packs, or an alain," answered Muller. "Well, then," said the Czar, "I have earned eighteen alains, and am come to be paid." Muller immediately opened his bureau, took out eighteen ducats, and counting them before the Prince, "It is the least," said he, "that can be given to such a workman as your Majesty." But the Emperor refused them; "Take again your ducats," said he, "and pay me the usual price; I have worked no better than another blacksmith, and this will serve to buy me a pair of shoes, of which I am in great want;" at the same time His Majesty threw him those he wore, which had already been soled, and stood in need of another repair. He took the eighteen alains, went directly to a shop, bought a pair of shoes, and took great pains in showing them on his feet, saying to those who were present, "I have earned them well, by the sweat of my brow, with hammer and anvil."

Peter, after having brought the Swedish war to a glorious conclusion, determined to avail himself of the troubles in Persia, and to march against the Sophy. He discovered his design to none but the empress, and his favourite, Menchicoff, with whom he was quite alone. "I have entrusted my secret," said he, "to none but you, and forbid you to speak of it to any one." Some days after, being alone with one of his denicht chicks, and meditating on the means of executing his great design with success, he asked if there were any news: "None, Sire, except that we are going to march against the Persians." "What," replied the Emperor, with surprise, "March against the Persians! Tell me, immediately, from whom you had that falsity!"

"From the empress's parrot, Sire; I heard it yesterday, while I was in the anti-chamber, repeat several times, *Ei perfi padiom* we will march into Persia." Peter sent immediately for Prince Menchicoff to attend him to the apartment of the empress, and told them both, that as the secret he had entrusted to them was divulged, he insisted on knowing to whom they had mentioned it. Catharine and Menchicoff protested they had not opened their mouths on the subject. The Czar, convinced of their innocence, turned towards the parrot.

"Here," said he, "is the traitor; it was one of my denicht chicks who told me. In our conversation we frequently said, *we will march into Persia*, and the rogue has remembered and repeated it. You must remove him from your apartment," added he to the empress, laughing, "for it is necessary that we should be on our guard both against traitors and babblers."

HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 27.

Yesterday morning arrived here the Brig Eliza, Roberts, from Greenock, with Dry Goods, Coals, &c.

The Eliza left Greenock on the 12th ult. and we have been favoured with Papers brought by Capt. Roberts, to the day on which she sailed; but they contain nothing new, except, that BONAPARTE has turned Methodist!!!

Extract of a Letter from Quebec, dated October 31.

"The trade for England are dropping down this day—Two ships are said to have on board furs and peltries to the amount of 400,000l. sterling, which will pay a duty to the Mother Country of 20,000l. sterling, on being imported into Great-Britain. A million bushels of wheat will be exported from this country this season; 200 fail of ships and brigs have been, or will be, loaded before the navigation closes; and vessels are yet arriving daily.

"Wheat has got up to 6s. per bushel, owing to a continual rain for fourteen days during the harvest, which damaged, at least, one sixth part of the whole produce.

"The vessels are beating down the River with an Eastwardly wind; and snow is already about six inches deep on the ground."

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St. John, (Printing-Office) September 25, 1802.

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NEHEMIAH MERRITT.

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