

SELECTED POETRY.

A REFORMED POET.

No more the idle song I weave
To strains of godless mirth;
Earth and its fleeting joys I leave—
Its vain pursuits that still deceive,
And have in sin their birth.

What boots the smooth and senseless lay,
That wakes at beauty's nod?
To waste upon the painted clay,
That praise which through life's little day,
Alone belongs to God!

Of what avail to strike the lyre,
To swell the victor's fame?
To brighter fan ambition's fire,
And bid the busy crowd admire
At war's destructive flame?

Why wait at wealth and folly's door,
And lowly bend the knee,
To him who never fed the poor,
Or lent to misery from his store
A dole in charity?

Ah! richer themes my muse demands;
To wake the sacred lay.
Look on those pierced, those bleeding hands,
That wounded side! To ruffian bands
The Saviour falls a prey!

Oh, God! No more to worldly themes
Shall sink the muse supreme;
The light of Truth around her beams—
She bursts the bands of fancy's dreams;
Blest Saviour, she is thine.

BOSTON BARD.

Newburyport, Feb. 14, 1827.

[From the New York Daily Advertiser]
CUBA IN 1827.

LETTER III.

Cuba was discovered in 1492, by Columbus, who appointed Diego Velasquez, governor. To him there were 15 successors, acting in the same capacity; until the year 1601, at which time, Gaspar Ruiz de Pereda was appointed at the Havana, with the title of Captain General of the Island. Down to this day, there have been in all 71 chiefs, including General Vives, the present governor. The island was occupied in one place on the south side, as early as 1505; but Havana was not settled till 1511. Its locality rendered it a favorable situation for vessels from the various part of the Gulf of Mexico, to stop at; and this at first caused its growth. This place has always been the depot of great wealth, and particularly since the revolution in South America. These events have driven the old Spaniards from the new Republics; and many of them, who have brought wealth with them, have settled in Havana in preference to returning to Spain.

The population of the Havana may be estimated at the present time, at about 140,000; not more than half of which is probably within the walls. This number is given, after having examined the subject as far as is possible, in a place where taking a public census is viewed with so much jealousy, that even one of the commissioners appointed to this duty, ridiculed the report which he and others had made. The usual estimate of the residents is higher; and this may be looked upon as the medium of different opinions. Mr. Poinsett, in his remarks, has given a statement purporting to be official, in which the same number is given as far back as 1817. But this probably included Guanabacoa, distant one league from the city, and containing about twenty thousand inhabitants. As the place has, however, increased rapidly since that period, the above will, I think, be found not far from the truth.

The population is composed of Creoles, Spaniards, slaves and free negroes. Many of the latter were imported from Africa before the Spanish and the English government entered into their present treaty on this subject, and some since. For the execution of this treaty, there is established at Havana a Commission, called "Comision mista," and a judge from each of these governments has been appointed. Henry T. Kilbee, Esq. is there at the present time on the part of the English. In addition to these, there are usually one or more men-of-war stationed at Havana, which have the privilege of examining any vessels entering under any flag, in cases of suspicion. In January last, a French vessel appeared off the Moro, and made the signal of a man-of-war. As it was evening, she could not enter in consequence of the land breeze. Apparently, she was waiting till morning for that purpose; but during the night she took advantage of the current, landed 750 slaves a little to the windward; and having in this way quieted the suspicions of the British commandant on that station, she next day entered as "in ballast." So provoked was this officer, that, on boarding her, he even ordered her sails unfurled, to see if he could not find one slave at least, that he might condemn the vessel. He missed his prize, however, and had to confess himself out-generalled.

The slave trade is carried on, however, from the coast of Africa to the Brazils and Cuba, more even at the present time than most persons in our own country believe. There are 250 vessels called traders, employed in this business; and what is sufficient to make a man blush for the United States, many of her citizens are engaged in it. The crews, commanders, and sometimes owners of these vessels, are from our northern cities; and, while they sustain fair characters, are secretly plundering Africa to gratify their avarice. The temptation, to be sure, is great. A slave can be bought in Africa at about \$10, and when he touches the shore of Cuba is worth from 400 to 500. Great caution is of course necessary in this proceeding; and hence all flags are hoisted, and all artifices resorted to, which the occasion may require. The writer of this is not speaking without information; nor are these assertions founded on any thing less than evidence.

A small Spanish schooner arrived at Matanzas, in February, with 150 slaves, although she could not have been above 80 tons burthen. She landed them before coming into port; but on the second or third day the slaves were introduced into the city—emaciated—almost naked, with an air of despondency and grief which their situation was well calculated to inspire.

BRAZIL. Don Pedro is carrying matters with a high hand. He recently seized the brig Spark of N. Y. at Rio, and detained two of her seamen, an American and an Englishman, on board of the Don Pedro 74—the latter was finally sent on board of an English man-of-war, and the American retained, in double irons, on the plea of being a deserter from the Brazilian service. Spirited remonstrances against these proceedings have been made by Mr. Raguet, the representative of the American government, which in the first instance remained unattended to, and at last were answered in such an insulting manner by the imperial government, that he has been compelled to demand his passports. These, he has been informed, would be immediately furnished, and he is now preparing for a speedy departure for the United States. The conduct of Mr. Raguet has met the entire approbation of his fellow-countrymen at Rio.

[The particulars relative to the brig Spark, are in substance as follows:—The Spark, it appears, arrived at Rio from New York, with an armament and equipments suitable for a privateer, and was offered for sale in that port. No sale having been effected, she left the port of Rio and had proceeded but a short distance, when she was pursued, captured and brought back, under the plea or suspicion that she was about to be converted into a Buenos Ayrean privateer, to be employed against the Brazilian commerce. Her guns were taken from her by order of the emperor, and the crew experienced very harsh treatment.]

Since the above, the Brazilians have offered to give up the Spark, but the owners have very properly abandoned her, determined to seek redress from their own government—but it appears that the American seamen lately attached to her, returned on board, dispossessed the Brazilians of their arms, and threw both men and arms into the sea. The cries of murder happily brought several boats to their assistance, and they were all picked up.—Nothing had yet been done about the matter.

By a late arrival from the La Plata we learn that admiral Brown has captured a fleet of fifteen sail of gun-boats up the river Uruguay; and by the British packet, still later, we hear commodore Biddle, in company with a British man-of-war, boarded the Brazilian admiral's ship at Monte Video, and demanded those seamen to be given up whose terms of service had expired. The demand was complied with, and 70 British and 40 American seamen instantly liberated.—Niles.

AMERICAN MANUFACTURES. It is stated that orders have been received at Pittsburg for the manufacture of eight steam engines, of twenty-one horse power, designed expressly for woollens. This shews that the passage of the wool bill is calculated upon at the next session of congress.

A friend and manufacturer of machinery in New York, in a letter to the editors says—"I don't recollect that I informed you we had made an elegant broad cloth power loom to go to Leeds, which left this country in last month. This is certainly a new article of export."

[Our readers will recollect that a little while since, see page 81, when speaking of the arrest of some persons in England for exporting machinery to France, we recommended that application should be made to our work-shops, and that "Brother Jonathan" would supply certain important

articles of his own "new contrivance."—Our friend Mr. Brewster, who was in Baltimore a day or two ago, told us that the machinery which he had sent, by order, to Prussia, was so much approved, that he had received fresh orders for the supply of a quantity of his own machines and other machinery for the manufacture of cotton and wool. These are new things and pleasant. We like this method of exporting provisions. We pack up 500 or 1,000 dollars worth of flour, in a small box, and foreigners are made to contribute to the profits of our farmers, who will not directly receive any thing from them.

Niles.

"She has finished her education," said my friend. Finished her education! said I—just as though a young lady's education was a stocking or rather a bonnet, and now it was to be placed in the band box, to be displayed to visitors, and worn only on set occasions—Mr. editor, I protest against the doing up and finishing off a young lady's education with her teens—just at that time when she begins, if she ever does begin, to THINK. A young man has just acquired at one-and-twenty, the elements of education, and is prepared to study advantageously according to his own discretion; but a young lady has done—finished,—the circle of her science is complete; and she is ready for any station in life, that may be thrown in her way.—Now, why, in the name of common sense may not a woman THINK, and if she may think, why may she not study, and acquire profitable food for thought?

There is a lady, of whom I have some knowledge that "finished her education," by leaving peculiarly good advantages at an early age. She is now a wife and mother of six children. She plays well upon the Piano—sings sweetly—dances elegantly—is very polite, &c.—but her husband must, and actually does put all the children to bed, and take care of them through the night; and as to her table—the bread is execrable, to one who has visited his grand mother's pantry; and her coffee—O! her coffee! it would cost her her head, if the very scent of it reached the Grand Turk's palace—and yet the lady has "finished her education."

EDUCATION.—We perceive (says the Albany Argus of the 16th ult.) by the annual report of the regents of the University made to the Legislature on Friday last, that the four colleges in the state, Columbia, Union, Hamilton, and Geneva, the aggregate number of students during the past year, was 436; and that there are 33 Academies in the state, among which a part of the literary fund is apportioned. In those academies the whole number of students at the date of the report was 2440; and the whole number during the year was 6139. The amount annually distributed by the regents among the Academies, under the late law, was 6000 dollars. It will be gratifying to those who know and appreciate the value of these local institutions, that the law passed at the last session, and which makes a large addition to the Literature as well as to the common school fund, augments the annual appropriation to Academies nearly 9000 dollars; thus making the amount to be distributed among them hereafter about 15000 dollars.

A captain of a trading ship being not long since in the city of Constantinople, lodged in the house of a seafaring Turk. One day he observed to the Musselman, that in all his walks through the immense city of Constantinople and its suburbs, he had not seen any thing like a jail for imprisonment of debtors. Christian dog! (said the disciple of Mahomet) do you suppose we are so debased as to copy the Nazarine policy? We take care to strip a debtor of all his property, as far as it will go, to pay his just debts—but there we leave him—we instantly turn him loose to begin the world again. The believers in our prophet are above shutting up their fellow men in cages in order to starve, persecute and torment them. We make a distinction between a man and a rat—I have been in several of the Nazarine (Christian) cities, and never looked at a debtor's prison without horror, as a place where a man is degraded to the condition of a rat!

From the Trenton Emporium.

"I DIDN'T THINK."

A sprightly little girl, who occasionally entertains me with her prattle, has often amused me by the readiness with which to every charge of misconduct, she furnished this brief excuse—*She didn't think.* It is a child's excuse.—But how many of us are childish in this particular.

Close and habitual thinking is the foundation of all prosperity. There is no business, no pursuit, no situation in life

that does not require this constant operation of the mind—whatever is thoughtlessly done is ill done. A little observation will convince any man that a well regulated, close calculating mind, is seldom found on the shady side of the hill. What a great many of those whom misfortune has overtaken, have done things for which the only excuse they can offer is—*They didn't think.*

We had once a friend—a tolerably sensible man, one who took the world very easy, and made himself a happy as possible. He was a merchant, with a good capital and good credit. He bought largely, trusted freely, seldom troubled his debtors, and detested dunning; his great object seemed to be—to sell. But his creditors troubled him. And when his business came to be closed it seemed wonderful that a man of so much sense should have travelled so directly to poverty. How did you expect said one of his creditors to him, ever to pay your debts when you never looked after your dues; when you did so wild a business. Ah, said he "*I didn't think.*" He never recollected that to sell was the smallest part of a trader's business. All are not fools who do foolish things; the wisest men are sometimes caught in the silliest acts, simply for the want of proper reflection.

Of that class of men who are in the habit of getting their wisdom by experience, the great majority make this particular mistake—"They don't think."—and their misfortunes are to be traced to this headless source.—Only a single thoughtless moment is sometimes fatal. I have known a fine fortune ruined by a simple indorsement, the work of less than a minute; a house burned by the careless snuffing of a candle; a life of embarrassment produced by a bargain made in a few moments at a casual meeting. And ruin comes oftener in this way than by shipwreck, or the torch of the incendiary, or the charges of the times.

What grey headed man has looked back from the last stages of life over the history of his earlier times; and recollects no losses occasioned by thoughtlessness? It is the language of every man—language which you daily and hourly hear—In this and that transaction, I might have done better—but *I didn't think.*

FRESH GOODS.

JUST received a general assortment of

DRY GOODS,
HARDWARE,
SADDLERY,
CROCKERY,
GROCERIES.

Leghorn Hats with extra crowns,
ditto Bonnets, Straw Bonnets,
Ladies' morocco walking shoes,
ditto high heel pumps,
Men's Monroes calf skin shoes,
ditto. Boots of a good quality.

Malaga, Teneriffe & Madeira
WINES,

REAL FRENCH BRANDY, expressly
for sickness,
CROSS-CUT & MILL SAWS.

All of which have been selected with care, and bought in the markets of New York and Philadelphia, which we offer, **WHOLESALE OR RETAIL**, at reduced prices.

E. L. & P. H. FROST.

5th Mo. 25th, 1827.

New Goods!

JUST received, from Philadelphia, a neat and plain assortment of

DRY GOODS, &
HARDWARE.

Among which are

100 pair super morocco and prunelle shoes,
Calicoes, Seersuckers,
Washington Stripes,
4-4, 7-8 & 3-4 Muslins, brown & bleached,
6-4 & 4-4 Cambric } Muslins,
do. do. Book }
Silks, Braids, Linen & Cotton Checks,
Gorum and Metal Buttons,
Razors, Strops & Paste, &c. &c.

J. P. PLUMMER.

31 mo. 29th, 1827.

BEEF CATTLE.

THE subscribers intend purchasing, throughout the ensuing summer, any number of well-fed BEEF CATTLE, for which they will invariably pay CASH. They will be at Richmond, prepared to purchase, about every third week, when they hope those who have Cattle to sell will call upon them. During their absence, JEHU STUART, senior will attend to the business for them.

JEHU STUART,
NATHANIEL M. REEDER.

April 20, 1826.

A LOST FILLY.

STRAYED from the subscriber, in April last, a dark bay or light brown mare colt, two years old last winter; with a small star in her forehead, a little white around her left hind foot, and slightly docked. A reasonable compensation will be given to any one who may take her up and return her, or give information where she is.

LEWIS M. WALLING.

Brownswale, Union co. May 24, 1827.