



POETICAL ASYLUM.

FROM THE SHAMROCK.

BY A JUVENILE SON OF ERIN.

THE LAND OF HEROES.

Tune—Vive La.

AMERICA, thou lovely nation,
Offspring of eternal day,
Why should not the whole creation
Homage to thy virtue pay;
That in the field and heat of battle,
On the deep where cannon roar;
Firm, triumphant and undaunted,
Banish'd tyrants from your shore.

Long had liberty lay sleeping,
Wrapt in darkness, bound in chains;
The nation Independence seeking,
Rous'd to arms her rights regain;
High exalted rose the Eagle,
Glorious as the morning star:
Nature smil'd and seem'd delighted,
Freedom's voice was heard afar.

Liberty thou here shalt flourish,
On the soil that gave thee birth;
All your sons your rights will nourish,
Blest with festive joy and mirth;
Whilst the nations of the world,
Tortur'd, shivering in despair,
Mourn their agonizing victims,
Cries of death ascend the air.

With gallant Gates at Saratoga—
With brave Montgomery at Quebec;
The foe you there most nobly foil'd him,
And sustained the fierce attack—
Hail Columbia, land of heroes,
Boundless may thy influence run;
Universal as the day,
And everlasting as the sun.

VIRTUOUS LOVE.

How sweet is Love, when Virtue guides,
How transient is the mind—
Smooth as the Summer's peaceful tides,
As grateful and as kind.

The morning breaks serenely clear,
We welcome in the day,
The evening comes without a fear,
The night our toils repay.

But sad reverse, when Vice appears,
With all her scorpion train—
Joyless we pass our prime of years,
And end our life in pain!

MISCELLANY.

The following maxims or rules of action might if strictly observed, go far to increase the happiness, or at least diminish the inquietudes of life.

Live constantly in the unshaken belief of the over ruling providence of an infinitely wise and good, as well as Almighty being; and prize his favor above all things. Observe inviolably, truth in all your words, & integrity in all your actions. Accustom yourself to temperance, and be master of all your passions. Be not too much out of humor with the world; but remember, tis a world of God's creating, and how sadly forever it is marred by wickedness and folly, yet you have found in it more comforts than calamities more civilities than affronts more influences of kindness towards you than cru-

elty. Try to spend your time useful both to yourself and others. Never make an enemy nor lose a friend unnecessarily—cultivate such a cheerfulness of mind and evenness of temper, as not to be ruffled by trivial inconvenience and crosses. Be ready to heal breaches in friendship; and to make up differences, and shun litigation as much as possible—for he is an ill calculator that does not perceive that one amiable sentiment is worth two lawsuits. Be it rather your ambition to acquit yourself well in a proper station, than to rise above it. Despise not small honest gains, nor risk what you have on the delusive prospect of sudden riches. If you are in a comfortable thriving way, keep in it, and abide in your own calling, rather than to run the chance of another. In a word, mind to 'use the world as not abusing it,' & you will find as much comfort in it, probably, as is most fit for a frail being who is merely journeying thro' it toward an eternal abode.

Con. Courant.

Important!—If true.

NORFOLK, May 17.

"There is a British frigate below, that has, within a few days, impressed a number of men, (American) from on board our coasters. Two of our men came up to day to get protections."

"May 18.—We are all in a bustle.—A vast many reports respecting an engagement the night before last, between two ships of war, off our capes, ten or twelve leagues from the land; one vessel from Salem, the captain reports having been bro't to by a frigate, which he saw make for another sail; getting late in the evening could not discover what she was, but he saw the firing after night. A captain this morning from Havana—the same evening about 8 o'clock, was in sight of a heavy engagement; could see the fire of, and counted above 300 shot in 45 minutes, but did not see the ships. A pilot came into Hampton last night, who saw two ships engaged, and was so near the shot as to cause his taking distance; he knows not what ships they were.

"Tis said that Rodgers had orders to demand or take from a British frigate on the coast, an impressed seaman. Rodgers sent an officer on board a vessel which has arrived, and which he fell in with somewhere to the northward of our Capes—the officer or purser told the captain, the frigate was in search of the British frigate, and for the purpose of obtaining said man. An action and a very severe one there has been, which lasted for 45 minutes—we must know the whole affair in the course of the day.

"Decatur has a recruiting party for volunteers now parading to make up the complement of his ship's crew, and I understand, means immediately to get under weigh from Hampton Roads for sea, to look into said affair. In a few minutes he got 40 men."

Richmond Enq. May 21.

Advices from Cadiz of a very late date say, that gen. Graham had made another attempt on the French near Cadiz, but failed with considerable loss of troops. This result is attributed to the treachery of the Spaniards.

FIRE AT NEW-YORK.

On Sunday morning at half past nine o'clock, a fire broke out of Mr. Gray's cabinet shop, in Chatham street, N. York, the 3d door from the corner of Duane street, & the wind blowing a gale from N. E. in about 3 hours upwards of 100 houses were laid in ashes, and many poor families deprived of most of their effects. The scene of distress and confusion beggars description.

The fire from its commencement spread in the rear of Augustus street, and in front crossed Chatham street, burning both sides as far as Lorillard's fire proof building, and

within two doors of the Museum, on the opposite side—went thro' Duane street, on the west side of William street, thence along said street as far as opposite Rhinelander's sugar house, levelling every house in its progress, being principally frame buildings.

The calculation is, that about 60 tenements in Chatham street, 15 in Augustus street, 15 in Duane street, and 10 in William street, have been destroyed.

NEW-YORK, May 11.

Destructive Fire in the West Indies.

Capt. Nelson who arrived this morning in 18 days from Falmouth, Jamaica, informs that on the 21st of April, 10 o'clock in the evening running down close in with the land, he saw the town of Montego bay on fire, it continued burning all that night, & until the evening of the next day. Capt. Nelson touched at the Havanna, where he saw Capt. Railey who informed him that he touched at Jamaica, and was at the fire on the 22d of April, and that the town of Montego bay was entirely destroyed.

NEW-YORK, May 15.

Hayti.—Letters from Port au Prince, mention, that Petition had ordered all the French white inhabitants to leave the island on a suspicion that they were aiding gen. Rigaud.

Our affairs with England.—We have just seen a letter, dated in London, April 15th, which states, that the prince Regent had determined not to send Mr. Foster to this country; and that the British council were about to issue orders prohibiting American produce in any other than British vessels. We understand that a very intelligent passenger confirms the contents of this letter, and adds, that Mr. Pinkney had excited much disgust in London by refusing to attend the first levee held by the prince as regent of the empire. Mr. Pinkney was the only foreign minister then in London, who was not present on that occasion.—(Mr. P. was not a minister at that time.)

Our relations with Great Britain.

Our readers will have learnt by the extracts which we have, within a few days past made from British prints, that a minister is at length deputed to this government, to supply the place vacated by the recall of Mr. Jackson.

It would afford us great gratification if we could anticipate from this mission, any result favorable to a settlement of our differences with G. Britain; but circumstances forbid such an expectation. Procrastination is still the order of the day; and we fear, so long as the American people and government permit it, so long will it remain.

It now fully appears, that the prince of Wales, though invested with the dignity of regent, and attended by the symbols of sovereignty, considers himself in consequence of the king's convalescent state, a mere ministerial agent, a machine contrived to affix the signature to the acts of ministers selected by his father in a lucid interval. In such a state of things, exercising no volition, merely filling up a chasm in the machinery of government, a mute in the political drama, he has no opportunity for the exercise of that discretion which would induce him to seek conciliation with America. The speech at the opening of the parliament, made in his name, his known intimates here for him disavowed; & well they might, for it involves a deceit in relation to this country, which, if the prince's character be not misrepresented, he would have scorned to sanction.

Our readers will doubtless recollect its having been stated in the London papers, that when Mr. Pinkney was about to depart for this country he was requested by the Marquis Wellesley to protract his stay, as he (the Marquis) had an important note to address to Mr. Pinkney—this note was not presented until some days after the meeting of parliament, as we are informed by the British papers. We have not ourselves received London papers later than the 7th March; but we find the following article in a late New York Gazette:

"Our files of London papers, though brought down to a late date, do not furnish any extraordinary events.

The Marquis Wellesley is understood to have given a definitive answer to certain categorical questions put by the American minister, on the chief points in dispute; the purport of which answer we need not state, but that his Britannic majesty cannot consent to abandon his right to search A-

merican vessels (merchants we presume) for British seamen; nor to alter or modify the existing system of blockade, nor to withdraw the orders in council, till the Berlin & Milan decrees are substantially rescinded."

After pledging their reputation to the British nation and the world, in the speech to Parliament, that the discussions with this country were still progressing amicably, the Marquis it seems delivers to Mr. Pinkney the note he must have had in his bureau for weeks, which note he could not but know, would break off all negotiation; because it peremptorily refuses every thing which we have demanded at their hands, and is a solemn mockery of our claims for redress.—The note it appears from the above article, and we know nothing of it but what we find there, refuses,

1. To abandon the practice of impressing whomsoever her commanders choose to call British seamen.

2. To alter the existing system of blockade, so far as it affects the rights of the U. States.

3. To revoke the orders in council, as respects the U. States.

These are 3 great preliminary points for adjustment, previous to a discussion of minor points of difference; and the note delivered by Marquis Wellesley of course precluded all further intercourse, on the part of our minister, who, in pursuance of his instructions, is on his return home.

If we are thus met at the threshold, and the door rudely closed upon us, when representations are made by our minister specially instructed on the subject; what can be expected from the agent who, at the same time is announced as the bearer of propositions to this government? Is it to be believed, after the refusal to meet us on the points above stated, that Mr. Foster will bring propositions acceptable to us? Supposing facts to be correctly stated in the British prints, it is impossible; and we cannot but believe, that any propositions this gentleman may bring, and any discussion which may ensue, will only serve as in the missions of Jackson and Mr. Rose, to display more strongly the distance at which the lofty pretensions of G. Britain to maritime dominion throw every probability of an accommodation.

Let us not be misunderstood. We do not anticipate from Mr. Foster the conduct which disgraced the British nation in the person of Mr. Jackson: he will probably conduct himself in the spirit of a gentleman so far as he can consistently with the letter of his instructions.

If things should eventuate as we apprehend (and we have no pleasure in contemplating the prospect) it will be for the people of the U. States, speaking thro' their delegates, to nerve the executive arm, and enforce rigorously the present non-importation, or substitute for it some measure more consonant to the feelings of the nation.

Nat. Int.

Dreadful conflagration.—Letters from India state, that the forest of Imel-bdar (in the kingdom of Ava) was, thro' the negligence of some wood-cutters, who had kindled a fire at the root of several lofty trees in a state of conflagration in the early part of June. The forest was 65 miles in length and 58 in breadth, and such was the power of the flames, aided by the high wind, that masses of burning wood weighing half a ton were carried thro' the air to the distance of 20 miles. Fifty villages in the vicinity of the forest were destroyed. Many of the unfortunate and idolatrous natives believing the calamity to be a direct visitation of some vengeful deity, and not choosing to survive the loss of their property precipitated themselves into the flames. At the date of these letters the conflagration had continued with unabating fierceness for five weeks; and from the vast area in which the body of fire lay together with the contiguity of other forests, the destruction of half the kingdom appeared.

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