

to a focus until they have passed the retina: and secondly, because a greater quantity of light is necessary to imprint an object with distinctness upon the retina. Convex glasses of any kind will remedy the first defect; but if they are coloured they will diminish instead of increasing the quantity of light the eye receives; and will be found to operate exactly in an inverse proportion to our wants. The more defective the eye becomes, the stronger must be the light it requires, the more convex must be the glass it uses, and if that glass is green, the greater will be the quantity of light excluded.

I offer these hints to the public, that those who have weak or defective eyes may examine this subject, and discover whether for a temporary convenience they do not expose themselves to greater inconveniences, which may arise at a period when it will be too late to think of devising any remedy for their calamity.

PYTHAGORAS.

FROM THE CONNECTICUT COURANT.

The PROMPTER.

Any other time will do as well.

NATURE never says this. She jogs on without delay and always does her work in season.

The parson puts off preparation for Sunday, from Monday to Tuesday, and from Tuesday to Wednesday, and so on to Saturday. He can write a sermon at any time. The first of the week slides away in visits—in business—in amusements—the last of the week is to be devoted to study—but company, a sick parishioner, and twenty unexpected avocations break in upon this reserved part of the week—no preparation is made for the duties of Sunday, until Saturday evening—a genius may yet be tolerably well prepared in a few hours—but how few are the preachers of such genius!—Yet even the dull have a resource—an old sermon with a new text is just as good as a fresh made sermon—True, for how few would know whether they had heard a sermon once or a dozen times. Happy dullness! Like people, like priest!

The Doctor has a patient in a dangerous situation—he hurries to his relief—he makes no delay.—But suppose his patient has a lingering disorder—why, says the doctor, I can visit him at any time. He has assigned an hour indeed when he will see his patient; but any other time will do as well. The patient waits till the hour is past—then he becomes impatient—if his disorder is not violent, most probably he is cross and irritable—he frets at the doctor—and ten to one the doctor loses his custom. Then the doctor believes with the Prompter, that no time will do so well as the right time.

The Lawyer has several causes in court—he can prepare them for trial at any time. Several causes stand assigned for trial before his—he can finish the pleadings at any time—by some unforeseen accident, business takes a new turn—the court urge forward to complete it—his causes are called, and they are not ready—a nonsuit—a continuance—or some other expensive alternative is the consequence.

The Farmer's fence is down and his fields exposed to his neighbour's cattle—but he has a little job to do first—he can repair his fences at any time—before his any time comes, fifty or a hundred sheep get into his field and eat and trample down his wheat.—For want of an hour's work, he loses ten, fifteen or twenty bushels of wheat. His apple trees want pruning—but he must dress his flax before he can do it—warm weather approaches—he will certainly prune his trees in a day or two—but he'll finish a little job first—before he has done, the season is past—it is too late to prune his trees—they must go another year—and half his fruit is lost.

The lounging house-wife rises in the morning in haste; for lazy folks are ever in a hurry—She has not time to put on her clothes properly—but she can do it at any time. She draws on her gown, but leaves it half pinned—her handkerchief is thrown awry across her neck—her shoes down at the heels—she bustles about with her hair over her eyes—she runs from room to room slipshod, resolved to do up the work and dress herself—but folks who are slipshod about the feet, are usually slipshod all over the house and all day—they begin every thing and finish nothing. In the midst of the poor woman's hurry, somebody comes in—she is in a flutter—runs into the next room—pins up her gown and handkerchief—hurries back with her heels thumping the floor—O dear, you have caught us all in the luds—I intended to have cleaned up before any body came in—but I have had every thing to do this morning—in the mean time, she catches hold of the broom and begins to sweep—the dust rises and stifles every soul present. This is ill manners indeed to brush the dust into a neighbour's face, because the woman is very sorry it happens so.

Many a neighbour has thus been entertained with apologies and dust at a friend's house, and wherever this takes place, depend on it, the mis-

treff puts off to any time, that is to no time, what ought to be done at the present time.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Prompter sends his respects to his correspondents, with thanks for their aid. As it is his professed business to give good hints, he is cordially disposed to take them.

WARSAW, (Poland) January 15.

AFTER the debates which were finished by the law relative to proclamations, the Diet entered on the question proposed to know whether they should resume the business of the Cardinal laws, some of which had already been decreed by the Diet, previous to its new constitution, or if they should proceed to regulate the form of government. Upon this occasion some violent debates ensued, and a great disorder prevailed throughout the assembly. Matters even rose to such a height, that some Nuncios endeavoured to oblige the Marshal of the Diet to join them, to separate themselves from the Senate, and take possession of the Nuncio chamber. The Marshal of the crown thought to restore tranquility by putting to the vote the question which occasioned the disturbance, but the tumult only increased. They reproached him with exceeding his authority in putting the question without its having been called for. The King, however, at length brought them to be quiet; and it was resolved that the question should be put the next day, whether they should proceed with the form of government and Dietines, before they began to discuss the Cardinal laws. They were a long time in collecting the votes on this occasion, as each member gave his motives for voting as he did. Nearly all the Senate, the Marshals of the Diet, and a great number of Nuncios voted for the continuation of the Cardinal laws; but the majority were for previously beginning with the form of government, and in the first place with the new form to be given to the Dietines.

The decision of the republic relative to the succession to the throne of Poland, meets with fresh difficulties daily, at least nothing positive is yet resolved as to the conditions to which the success acknowledged by the republic must accede. Many powerful members of the republic and whole provinces are against an hereditary succession; we therefore fear that the variety of sentiments on this subject will cause much trouble and confusion.

PARIS, February 14.

COUNTER REVOLUTION.

The rumours of this project not only strengthen, but at length assume something like a digested plan of concerted operation. The circumstances are thus stated.

The months of April and May are fixed for the time of attempt. The troops furnished by the leaguering Princes are said to be thus appointed:

The Emperor,	—	100,000
King of Prussia,	—	40,000
German Princes,	—	30,000
His Sardinian Majesty,	—	20,000
The Princes Artois and Conde	—	50,000
		240,000

This formidable army is to be divided into three principal bodies, and attack France at three different points. The principal attack is to be made on the side of Germany, in consequence of expected co-operation from Bouille, who influences 13 French regiments.

The Aristocrats affirm, that for supplies, money will be furnished by all the European Potentates, even such as do not supply any forces to the enterprizes. Their intention, if they succeed, is to reform the constitution and restore the Nobility and Clergy to their rights. Parliaments to be re-established, and the famous declaration of the King of the 23d of June proclaimed with certain modifications.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, February 13.

THE consideration of the duties on tobacco was resumed, and in addition to the article passed on Saturday, it was decreed that the importation of manufactured tobacco shall be prohibited.

That the importation of tobacco in leaf shall be allowed into ports to be mentioned, charged with a duty of twenty-five livres per quintal.—Tobacco imported in French bottoms directly from America, to pay only three-fourths of this duty.

February 14. The Bishop of Viviers took the ecclesiastical oath on the 7th inst. and to avoid the imputation of being influenced by motives of interest, immediately resigned his see, declaring that he would cheerfully perform the duties of any ecclesiastical office which they should think him worthy to fill. It is needless to add, that he was unanimously re-elected.

Of fifty Priests belonging to the cathedral, one only followed his example.

This Bishop was chosen a member of the States General, and was then a strenuous advocate for the three orders sitting and voting in one house.

INHABITANTS AND ELECTORS OF IRELAND. From the detailed statement given at different times of the population of that country, it appears, that the number of inhabitants in the nine northern counties, that form the province of Ulster, are 1,323,228

In the twelve eastern and midland counties of the province of Leinster, are 1,314,386

In the six southern counties of the province of Munster, are 1,011,498

And in the five western counties of the province of Connaught, are 517,306

Making a sum total of 4,166,418

Of these the electors of all the counties, cities and free towns amount not to 60000—a disproportion striking and shameful and that loudly calls for immediate correction.

The progress of improvement, and the consequent increase of wealth, will no doubt effect it in the course of time: but the operation of these causes should be accelerated by the spirit of the people and liberality of parliament.

UNCLAIMED DIVIDENDS.

The following is one of the principal causes of Dividends remaining unclaimed, and we strongly recommend the public to attend to it. A Stockholder, named John Smith, dies, and leaves James Brown, executor. James Brown does not take the Stock into his own name, but with a view perhaps to avoid a trifling fee to the Clerk, has his name added to the original account, so that he receives his dividends in the name of Smith, till his dying day.

His executor then applies to the Bank to know what stock stands in the name of James Brown: he enquires of the Clerk under the letter B. who answers there is no Stock in Brown's name; the clerk having no concern with the Ledger under the S. can give no intelligence with respect to the name of Smith, so that it frequently happens that both principal and interest are lost and neglected altogether.

In order therefore to avoid this mistake in future, we advise all executors to take their stock into their own names immediately, and the public in general, whose friends or relatives were ever known to be interested in the funds, to enquire after the names of those persons to whom such relations were executors: this, in many instances, will lead to discoveries not only of dormant dividends, but also of the dormant principal.

ANSWER TO MR. BURKE.

Mr. Paine's reply to Mr. Burke's pamphlet, was advertised for this day—and there is not now a copy to be had.

It is addressed to the President of the United States, in the following words:

SIR,

I PRESENT you a small treatise in defence of those principles of freedom, which your exemplary virtue hath so eminently contributed to establish: That the rights of man may become as universal, as your benevolence can wish—and that you may enjoy the happiness of seeing the new world regenerate the old, is the prayer of

Sir,

your much obliged,

and obedient humble servant,

THOMAS PAINE.

Infant re-animation, by Mr. R. Thompson.

I was lately called to a lady, who was delivered of a child to appearance dead; I ordered it to be put before the fire, and as soon as I could leave my patient, which was in about a quarter of an hour, I examined the infant. It was dead-cold, its face livid, and no signs of life remained. The father, who was of the profession, was satisfied it was dead; but I rubbed it with warm flannel, and inflated its lungs by blowing in the mouth frequently. By persevering in these methods, I had at length the pleasure to perceive signs of returning life, and the child is now a very fine girl. The gratitude and transport of the parents, will be better conceived than language can possibly describe.

Singular Sign adopted by a Dutch Midwife.

At a small village called Bergen ad Zoon, is the following whimsical Sign. It is a tree bearing fruit, and the branches filled with little naked urchins, seemingly just ripened into life, and crying for succour; beneath, a woman holds up her apron, looking wishfully at the children, as if entreating them to jump into her lap. It belongs to the house of a sworn midwife, and has this inscription:

"Vang my, ik zal zoot zyn."

In English,

"Catch me, I'll be a sweet boy."

Whoever visits many families during the drawing of the Lottery, will be convinced that the punishment of the Wheel is not abolished in this country!

Mr. Burke, in his treatise on the sublime and beautiful, has a chapter on the sublime of odours and stinks.—M. MIRABEAU's address to the Quakers in the National Assembly might be added, as the sublime of hypocrisy.