

FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS MAGAZINE.

JACK AND THE DEACON.

An Anecdote in the Style of PETER PINDAR.

TWO sons of Neptune, Jack and Will,
One Sunday's morn were walking,
On various subjects, this and that,
With much sang froid were talking.
Per chance as near a house of prayer
They fearless urg'd their careless way,
The deacon of the church they met;
In robes bedizen'd for the day.
He bow'd, and thus the tars address'd,
"Good sirs, why pass ye thus the time;
Surely you'd better walk with me;
Sport on this day is no small crime."
With all my heart, each tar reply'd,
And boldly with the man they ventur'd;
Who kindly led them to the house:
When on his course the parson enter'd.
With prayer the solemn work begins,
A song of Zion next succeeds;
And here the deacon, rising slow,
Gravely proclaims the psalm and reads—
"With Hyssop purge thy servant Lord;"
Then tun'd aloud his vocal nose;
But luckless man, behold! a tune,
That suited ill his verse, he chose:
Thrice he essay'd to sound the line;
And thrice he hem'd to change his tone;
But vain, alas! prov'd each attempt;
The man now wish'd himself alone.
Jack, mov'd to pity, saw his friend's distress,
Nor could he long his summon'd feelings curb,
But rising from his seat he loudly cry'd,
Deacon! for G—d's sake try some other herb.

FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS MAGAZINE.

A MISTAKE CORRECTED.

Messrs. THOMAS & ANDREWS.

IN your last magazine, a lady under the signature of *Philenia* has favored the public with a beautiful and pathetic poem, on the loss of the question for the abolition of the *Slave Trade*, in the British Parliament. The concluding address to those distinguished characters who supported the motion is particularly animated and striking; but I must beg leave to correct a small mistake which *Philenia* has incurred in supposing Mr. Wilberforce, the leading advocate in this debate, to be a member of the society of *friends*. This may probably have arisen from the early, general, and indefatigable exertions of that society in this cause of humanity, both in Europe and America. Mr. Wilberforce is a professed member of the established church, having received his education at St. John's college, in the university of Cambridge. This truly philanthropic Senator has been Representative in the British Parliament for the county of York, since the year 1784; and though possessed of a delicate and sickly constitution, has devoted the most ardent and persevering attention for several years to this common cause of justice and benevolence, the advocates for which, we hope, notwithstanding their late defeat, will finally be crowned with success.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

Boston, August 20, 1791.

THE OPINIONS OF STANISLAUS, KING OF POLAND.

WE ought to be more offended at excessive praises, than at invectives: Many would be more esteemed, with a less profuseness of their merit: It should be laid out by measure, and only when wanted.

There is a dignity, which however exalted of itself, gives no rank; that resulting from the character of a good man.

Shall we give over being virtuous to avoid the sneers and machinations of envy? Where would the world be, should the sun withdraw his beams, that they might not dazzle weak eyes?

In most kinds of governments, man is made to conceive himself free, and really to be shackled.

Esteem is more pleasing than friendship, and even than affection; it captivates the heart effectually, and never makes the objects ungrateful.

Most parsimonious people are very good natured, continually amassing wealth for those who wish them in the grave.

Some authors labour and polish their compositions to such a degree, that all they publish is mere filings.

There is in the world a tribunal more to be feared, than those of civil authority. This is invisible, has neither officers, forms, nor ensigns; it is likewise universal and every where alike, and every one has a right to vote in it. In this court, the slave sits in judgment on his master, and the subject passes sentence on his sovereign. It is composed of all good persons, and they alone respect it; as, on the other hand, it is only the most hardened profligates, who make light of its decrees.

Natural manners silence the laws; and it is they by which Empires are raised or overthrown.

The greatest pleasure that can be done to a vain man, is not so much to praise him, as quietly to hear him praise himself.

EXTRACTS.

A VERY sensible and good man, and an exemplary divine, once told me, that when he settled in the ministry, his parishioners would all with one accord, have it that he was an angel; a few years, he said, convinced them of their error; and then, says he, they as universally agreed that I must be a devil. The truth was that this man was neither devil nor angel; but if viewed with an impartial eye, and his perfections and imperfections both considered, would have been found to be a very worthy man. Men in high stations in life are too often treated in this way. Sometimes they have too much merit ascribed to them, but oftner too little: Envy is ever officious on these occasions; people are apt to imagine when they see one rising in the world, that he is rising from their ruins; the applause given to a rising character, seems to echo reproaches to them; they immediately set themselves to work to retain their supposed merited importance; and as is always the case, with weak minds, they begin at the wrong end; instead of correcting their own faults, their whole time is devoted to hunting for foibles in the man of eminence, the object of their envy; and if, in him, they can discover blemishes, they are spread abroad as veils for their own."

"Friendship is a sacred word, a holy thing; it never subsists but between good men, nor commences but by a mutual esteem: It is kept up, not so much by a benefit received or conferred, as by a virtuous life. That which makes one friend assured of another, is the knowledge he has of his integrity. The sureties he has for him, are his good disposition, his truth and constancy. No friendship can subsist where there is cruelty, treachery, and injustice. When the wicked meet together, it is a conspiracy, not a society of friends. They cannot mutually aid, but are afraid of one another. They are not friends, but confederates in guilt."

"Virtue to crown her favorites loves to try
Some new, unbeaten passage to the sky;
Where God a seat among the just shall give,
To those who die for meriting to live!"

Virtue and eminent abilities are so far from being a defence against the shafts of malice and envy, that they seem peculiarly exposed to their attacks—the shadow is not a more constant attendant on the substance, than the ill wishes of the worst characters on the best.—But every good man knows that this is a tax which he must pay for that sublime pleasure which results from conscious rectitude.

The malignant bosom is constantly feeling a return of those corroding sensations which harrow up its tortured imagination—its envenomed attacks recoil with redoubled force on itself—for, like Sisyphus, it is condemned to perpetual and unproductive exertions.

Happy is it for mankind that their natures are too versatile for the constant and universal exercise of this baleful propensity. The envious often find themselves solitary beings—for in the revolutions of human affairs it constantly happens, that the public opinion does justice to innate probity and real abilities—
"And tho' a late, a sure reward succeeds."

RECIPE, FOR THE CURE OF WOUNDS FROM RUSTY NAILS, &c.

TAKE Turpentine and Soft Soap, equal quantities of each; mix them well together, and apply them on the wound, as a plaister, and they will extract the poison common thereto, and cure the wound, without any dangerous consequences.

For contracted Joints, in cases where the Legs or Arms have been kept many weeks in a bent position, and by that means the sinews, tendons, &c. have become contracted.

TAKE the yolk of an egg, beat up with a tea-spoonful of clear water, and anoint the part three-times a day; and in a week begin to extend the limb gradually. Four or five weeks will produce a great effect in suppling the joint, and restore the lost vigor. *Museum.*

LONDON, July 6.

THE first king of France was Pharamond, who at the head of a colony of Franks, attempted the conquest of that country, then called Gaul; and his ceremony of inauguration was that of being carried round his camp on a buckler.—This was in the year 420; and in 28 years afterwards, Merovius, who was the successor of Clodio, the son of Pharamond, made himself master of Paris.

In 493, the Christian religion began to flourish there; and Clovis, who married the King of Burgundy's daughter, was publicly anointed in Paris, by several Bishops who came from Rheims. The streets were hung with tapestry, and the oil poured on the King with a phial, which was announced to have been brought from Heaven by an angel in the shape of a dove. Some thousands of the people were baptized at the same time.

It is thought the defence of the King and Queen of France will soften matters much in their favor: it is even conjectured that it was drawn up for them by connivance of the National Assembly, who are disposed to act as favorably as circumstances will admit, wisely considering the danger of committing any act of violence against them.

KINGSTON, (Jam.) July 16.

There are half-joes in circulation which will deceive the nicest observation, unless put into a scale, when their weight will be found not to exceed eight penny weights.

We find the following article in an English paper:—"From making a proper analysis of the counterfeit guineas impressed with the date 1781, and which have been made to circulate in the country, it is found that they are compounded of platina and gold, and it is from the former that they have received a palish cast, and the nicety of weight, without encreasing the bulk, as platina is rather heavier than gold, and refractory in the hottest fire, that it resists all fusion, except when melted with other metals. (This phenomenon of the mineral kingdom is found in Mexico and Peru, and considerable samples have been brought from the island of Jamaica.) The public should therefore be extremely cautious in the examination of gold, as weight alone cannot admit of any possibility of detection."

PROVIDENCE, Sept. 3.

A number of public spirited gentlemen have determined to open a subscription for a BANK, to be established here, of 150,000 dollars, in 500 shares, of 300 dollars each, payable one half in silver or gold, and one half in the 6 per cent. and 3 per cent. funded debt of the United States, in equal parts—one quarter part of both specie and paper to be paid on the 1st Monday of October next, and the other three quarters to be paid quarterly, viz. on the 1st Monday of January April and July next. The particular plan of the subscription will be published in the next paper, and will be as similar to the National Bank as may be. All therefore who wish to partake of similar advantages and of the amazing profits on Bank Scripts, have this public notice, that they may prepare themselves to attend at the Court House in Providence, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of said 1st Monday of October next, when a Chairman will be appointed, to receive the number of shares each person may wish to subscribe, in order, should the subscriptions exceed the proposed 500 shares, that each claim may be proportionably reduced. 37 dollars, being the first quarter, must be paid in specie, and the same sum in the above securities, to each share, into the hands of the Directors, which are then to be chosen, and the Bank to be put into immediate operation, to facilitate the fall business.

BOSTON, Sept. 3.

Extract of a letter from an officer in the Federal Army, to the editor, dated Fort-Pitt Aug. 9, 1791.

"On Sunday last I arrived at this post with about 200 men, after a disagreeable march of 700 miles. I found that all the troops had gone down the river, except 300 levies. Next week we embark for Fort Washington. The whole army will be about 4000, exclusive of the militia. Heaven grant us success.

"About 12 miles from this place, I encamped last Saturday. I was curious to behold the place where Gen. BRADDOCK was defeated in 1755. With my two officers, and a man of this country acquainted with the ground, I marched about 4 miles to it, and we made such observations as gave us satisfaction. The man who conducted us, led us to a tree which had a number of balls in it, and which had been felled about 25 years.—Mr. C. my Ensign, found a grape shot in one part of it, about 25 feet from the butt, which he cut out—and which, together with two pieces of Skull Bones which I picked up on the field, I send you, by the bearer, Lieut. SHERMAN. You will observe how the wood and iron are concreted. We reconnoitred the place at which he passed the river—it is called the Monongehala, nine miles from this place, that and the Alleghany river make the head of the Ohio. I give you this information and send the balls and bones, as I think it may amuse you and my friends. I wish I had time to have been more particular, but you may rely on the fact.—It was not made in a Printing or a Lawyer's office, nor in a barber's shop, but it was made on the spot, known by the name of Braddock's Fields. God bless you and all friends."

Extract of a letter from London, to the Editor of the *Argus*, dated July 6, 1791.

"There is a letter received from Mr. Christie (author of a famous piece against Burke) dated at Paris, the 24th of June, which has this remarkable passage: "The contest will be now between the Royalists and Republicans; which ever conquer the form of government will be decided by. Spain is revolting. That nation has not yet had an example from a people whom they did not deem heretics in religion. They are now determined to follow Catholic example, and not be deemed heretics in the cause of civil liberty."