

POETRY.

THE HAPPY MAN.

Happy the man who, blest with health,
Pursues the path that Fate hath made;
Who seeks for competence, not wealth,
Through the rich sources of his trade:

Who joins no broils, who seeks no strife.

But that which industry approves;
Whose children dear and smiling wife
Afford the pleasure that he loves:

Who leaves the tavern to the fop,
And worthless vagabonds that roam,
And makes the tiller of his shop;
The treasury of his happy home:

Who, leaving Politics alone,
To party gives no idle heed;
But feels his country's good his own,
And for it honors those who bleed:

Who sees in Heaven the brightest gem
That can ambitious thoughts engage;
And strives, in virtue's path, to stem
The torrent of a downward age!

Contented that he thus can live,
And envy not the proud and great,
Bestowing what his store can give
To the poor suppliant at his gate.

Who thus can walk in Wisdom's way,
Avoiding others' faults to scan,
May leave the restless world to say,
"THE HAPPY MAN."

THE CHALLENGE.

Copy of a letter from Lieutenant CLAXTON
to his father, dated

Macedonian, New-London Jan. 19, 1814.

DEAR FATHER.—For the two last days we have been all anxiety: an American captain returned on parole from the Ramillies 74, a few days since, and communicated to commodore Decatur, a consultation he had with captain Hardy, in which the latter said that two frigates were off of equal force to the United States and Macedonian, that he should have no objection to a meeting taking place, but that he could not allow the challenge to come from the English commander. The hint was embraced in a moment, and captain Biddle dispatched with a challenge from our commanders. In the mean time every preparation was made, on our side, for immediate engagement, which all supposed no objection could be made to, the crews of both ships were called together, and addressed by their commanders, who made known to them the substances of the business then on foot, they were answered by three hearty cheers. Captain Jones concluded his short and pertinent address in the following words spoken with great modesty, 'my lads, our cruise will be short, and I trust, a very profitable one.' Captain Biddle went on board the 74, a signal was immediately made for the two commanders of the English frigates, and they went on board. Captain Hardy addressed them. 'Gentlemen, here are two letters for you, it rests altogether with you to decide on the matter.' Stackpole, of the Statira, answered with the greatest affection, 'pon honor, sir, it is the most acceptable letter I ever received.' The final answer was to be given yesterday. Captain Biddle returned and related the circumstances as I have mentioned. For myself, I thought from the manner of Stackpole that he would be the first to flinch; I am not able to say that he did, it is enough that the captain of the Borer (sloop of war) came in yesterday and made known that they had declined meeting us. This circumstance has made a vast deal of conversation here much to the credit of our commanders—it will probably be distorted into a hundred different shapes before it is done with—I have therefore given you a correct though brief account of it. The

Edymion mounts the same weight of metal with the United States, and three or four guns more; and the Statira is superior to us by one or two guns. The disappointment is very great with us, for every soul calculated on taking her with ease. You see we must trust altogether to our heels.

Your s affectionately,
A. CLAXTON.

EARTHQUAKES.

Extract of a letter from Stanley Griswold, Esq. to his friend in Cincinnati, Ohio, dated Shawanoctown, Illinois Territory, December 18, 1813.

We are again visited here by the terrible phenomenon of earthquakes. A pretty smart shock occurred on the day of our landing here, (Sunday two weeks) which was the first that has been felt since last spring. The day was very cold and clear. On Sunday last we had too severe shocks, nearly equal to those formerly felt at Cincinnati. Several slight ones also occurred—but no damage was done at this place.

At the United States Saline (12 miles back of us in the country) the shocks on Sunday last were far more severe, and as many as fifteen distinct ones were felt in the course of the day. They continued on Monday and Tuesday, and so late as Wednesday, which is the last I have heard from thence. It is very surprising they should be so severe and numerous at so small a distance from us, and not be perceived at this place. The damage done at the saline is considerable. Several furnaces were broken down or much injured—sheds overturned—the reels for drawing water upset—the logs for conveying it dislocated—the springs of some wells stopped, and others increased with fresh water—A strong smell issued from them.—The lumbering noise, resembling distant thunder, was heard very plainly here, but at the Saline it was frightful. The roaring was continual, and at times reports went off like cannon near at hand. The workmen were greatly affrighted and many have deserted. One honest fellow in remonstrating with these, declared he would stay at his work, believing it would be as acceptable to God to die with an axe in his hand as in any other way.—The weather on this day was moderate and moist with some snow and rain.

A thick falling of snow appeared to precede the heavy shocks for some minutes, and continued a short time after them. Writers on earthquakes are in the custom of noting the state of the weather at the time of their occurrence.

But from all appearance in this quarter there seem to be no particular connection—they have occurred in all kinds of weather. Still I think coldness and moisture attend them more than heat and dryness of temperature. But this may arise from the greater prevalence of that kind of weather in the western country.

Extract of a letter, dated Sackets Harbour, Jan. 13.

"We have every possible reason to expect and I have not the least doubt but that we will be attacked during the winter.—Report says the enemy are making every necessary preparation for the purpose at Kingston. A short time since several detached companies of troops amounting to about 800 men, were marched from this place to French Mills, leaving this place nearly destitute of troops—there remains at the Harbour only about 700 or so of Harrison's men. Our fleet is moored to the best advantage, but at the best they can only operate as batteries.

Another letter states, that Mr. Eckford was there, and had about 400 ship carpenters at work; and that all the force were employed in cutting and drawing timber, and erecting block houses.—GAZ.

BURLINGTON (Vt.) Jan. 14.

General Wilkinson and suite arrived at this post on Wednesday of this week, and are now on their way to Albany.

A detachment of about a thousand men have arrived at Plattsburgh from the French Mills, and all the troops at this post have been ordered thither. The object of the enemy appears to be to divert the attention of our forces in this quarter, while they are transporting their military stores to Kingston. We have it from good authority, that 120 yoke of oxen have gone over the lines for this and other purposes.

BATAVIA, Jan. 8.—*Merited Justice.*—

A white man, whose savage heart had induced him to adorn his person with an Indian dress, was shot near Daniel's Inn, 14 miles from this place, by Dr Turtelot, while attempting to make his escape from the guard. He was taken prisoner a short distance this side of Buffalo, and was one among a party of Indians who just plundered, and set Hodge's brick house on fire. He was known to be a prominent leader among the Indians, stimulating them to the commission of the most wanton and cruel barbarities. There is but one wrong attending this transaction, that is, ever taking him prisoner.

From the Boston Daily Advertiser, Jan. 18.
POSTSCRIPT.

FROM OUR ATTENTIVE CORRESPONDENT.
Officer of the Newport Mercury, }
Jan. 16th.

This morning arrived here the sch. William, captain Richards, of New-York, 40 days from Nantz. The latest papers brought by captain Richards, and a file of the Paris Moniteur to the 30th of October. These we have been favored with. The Moniteur of the 30th, contains Bonaparte's official narrative of his disaster, which does not materially differ from the translation in the late Boston papers.

The William left Nantz river on the 25th November.—Captain Richards informs that Paris papers to the 20th November were received at Nantz the day before he sailed, which he was unable to procure. They contained the proceedings of the French Senate upon a new requisition by Bonaparte for 300,000 men. The men were ordered and several corps had already begun their march to join the army.

Bonaparte arrived in Paris the 15th Nov. The remnant of his army had crossed the Rhine. No affair of consequence had taken place since the battle of Leipsic. Bonaparte left Paris on the 20th Nov. to re-join his army. Immense convoys of ammunition, provisions, &c. had left France for the army.

It was said in France, that the recent losses of the French army in Germany were immense. Great disaffection to the government of the mild Napoleon was sneaking itself in every part of France.

The French Senate, it was said, had requested Bonaparte to propose to the Allied powers a negociation for peace. He not only rejected the proposition, but expressed great indignation at its having been made.

Capt. R. heard nothing of the reported victory of Admiral Young. The French fleet at Brest and Toulon were still in port.

Fifteen frigates had sailed from the different ports in France—2 frigates sailed from Nantz in co with capt. R.

Mr. Crawford our minister in France, has been acknowledged, and it was said, was much pleased with his reception.—Capt. R. has in charge despatches for our Government from Mr. Crawford.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 14.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Meadsville, to the editor of the Pittsburg Gazette, dated 10th of Jan. 1814.—I have this moment seen a letter from captain Elliott to General Mead, in which it is mentioned that the British after the destruction of Buffalo, recrossed the river, but that they have again appeared, and from the great number of sleighs and sleds they have collected, an attack on Erie may be expected as soon as the ice will admit. The British force is estimated at about 3000, including Indians. Our force at Erie is about 2000 militia.

NEW LONDON, Jan. 19.

THE CHALLENGE.

We are informed that in consequence of a conversation which took place in the cabin of the Ramillies, in the presence of an American citizen who was landed a few

days from that ship, from which it appeared to be the wish of capt. Hope, commanding the Endymion, and capt. Stockpole, commanding the Statira, to meet our frigates, the United States and the Macedonian; com. Decatur on Monday last, despatched a communication to sir Thomas Hardy, commanding the blockading squadron, proposing to gratify capt's Hope and Stackpole in their wish.—This invitation, we understand, has been declined by the British.

The Endymion mounts 49 guns, twenty-four pounders on the main deck; the Statira mounts 48 guns, eighteen pounders on the main deck.—The United States mounts 48 guns, twenty-four pounders on the main deck; the Mecadonia mounts 47 guns, eighteen pounders on her main deck.

Extract of a letter dated Fort Trumbull, Jan. 14, 1814.

'Having little of moment to say, I beg leave to give you the following extract of a letter from a gentleman in South Kingston, R. I. dated Jan. 4. 1814, to his brother an officer in this garrison: and he who does not "blush and hang his head to think himself a man," must be dead to every moral and religious sentiment that warms the human breast. "I have to inform you of one of the most horrid murders which the annals of mankind afford. It appears by the evidence before the jury of inquest and the court enquiry, that on the morning of the 37th of December, Wm. C. Brown son of Pele Brown, called on a little girl who lived with him, who was between four and five years of age, to read her alphabet—that she read it through the first time pretty correctly, and that Brown then ordered her to read it over again, which she did as far as the letter P. which she could not read; upon which he went out and got two alder sticks, with which he whipt her until they were unfit for his horrid purpose; that he then took a stick designed for a candle rod, which he also beat her with till she was nearly dead; that after this a larger stick was put to his hand by his wife, with which he beat her still longer; that in the intervals of whipping her, and after he had desisted, he held her naked to the fire and really roasted her; that the skin on her back was found crisp by the jury, and (what is still more horrible if possible) he held her ear between his teeth for a whole hour, which he chewed until lacerated to pieces. The jury found a verdict of murder against Brown, who was committed to jail in this town to await his trial in April next.

"I heard the confession of the mother re-rea. The wretch said he was not sorry: he attributed the death of the child to the burning, saying the fire was hotter than he supposed, but offered no excuse or mitigation for the whipping. It is very surprising that Brown's wife, and Baker and his wife, (a young couple lately married) were all the time in the room, and never made any attempt to rescue the child. Baker has been imprisoned. The child expired about 15 minutes after the last whipping and burning.

It is impossible a more hard hearted set of monsters never met. It is a matter of consolation to the people of this town, that although the order was committed here, the family in town, are not natives of this place but belong elsewhere.

A bill passed the senate of this state on Monday last for raising the wages of the members of the legislature to four dollars a day.

A bill is before the senate for adding two judges to the supreme court.

Mr. Findley is re-elected state's treasurer without opposition.

The banking bill passed the house of representatives on the second reading on Wednesday last, by a large majority—52 to 39.