

TERMS OF THE "AMERICAN,"
HENRY B. MASSER, PUBLISHERS AND
JOSEPH EISELY, PROPRIETORS.
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[OFFICE IN MARKET STREET, NEAR DEER.]
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Epitaph on a Candle.

A wicked one lies buried here,
Who died in a decline,
He never rose in rank, I fear,
Though he was made to shine.
He once was fat, but now, indeed,
He's thin as any griever!
He died—the doctors all agreed,
Of a most burning fever.
One thing of him is said with truth,
With which I'm much amused:
It is—that when he stood, forsooth,
A stick he always used.
Now winding sheets he sometimes made,
But this was not enough,
For finding this a poorish trade,
He also dealt in snuff.
If 'er you said, "Go out, I pray,"
He much ill-nature showed;
On such occasions he would say,
"Vy, if I do, I'm blowed!"
In this his friends do all agree,
Although you think I'm joking,
When going out 'us said that he
Was very fond of smoking.
Since all religion he despised,
Let these few words suffice,
Before he ever was baptized,
They dip'd him once or twice.

A Precaution.

Pat Murphy, my footman desirous to suit,
And so quick on his errand to go,
Walk'd till he fairly had worn in his boot
A little round hole in the toe.
Next morning I saw him intently at work,
(I scarcely could ask him for laughter.)
In the heel he was boring a hole with a fork—
"Why, Pat," says I, "what are you after?"
"Faith, master," says he, "you the reason shall know,
The cause I don't wish to conceal,
'Tis to let all the wet that comes in at the toe,
Pass immediately out at the heel."

From the Allgemeine Zeitung. RECOLLECTION OF PEKIN.

BY A RUSSIAN TRAVELLER.
The immense population of Pekin occasions the streets to be filled the whole day with an uninterrupted succession of vehicles, proceeding in two lines in opposite directions, and it sometimes happens that the whole procession is brought to a stand still by nothing more than a question of politeness. If a Chinese, when driving, meets an acquaintance on foot, he must necessarily dismount from his carriage, get the weather or the dirt be what it may, inquire after his friend's health, and invite him to enter the equipage. The pedestrian is, of course, equally bound to reciprocate the inquiries, and to entreat the first to pursue his way.—The owner of the carriage, however, will not get into it till the walker has passed on, and he, on his part, cannot think of passing on, till the other has got in. This ceremony will sometimes occupy half an hour, and if the *recontre* should happen to be of dignified official personages, the Chinese await its conclusion with marvellous patience. Now and then, however, the case is different. On this our first drive it happened that a ragged, dirty fellow, in a kind of greasy smock frock, who was driving a sorry looking machine, drawn by a lean mule detained us all a quarter of an hour with his grimaces on meeting an acquaintance, but this was too much for his long suffering countrymen, and they bawled to him to cut short his politeness and drive on.
Although the principal streets are, as I have said sufficiently wide, the by-streets are so narrow, that two carriages cannot pass in them, and a driver is obliged on entering them to call out, that no one may enter at the same time at the opposite end.—Formerly, at every point of intersection between these streets, there stood a gate closed at night; but though many of these gates are still standing, the custom has been discontinued.
Among the sins of the Chinese, certainly cannot be counted that of an excess of ceremonial devotion, for their temples are almost always empty. A newly-appointed official sometimes seems to consider it a duty, when the place obtained is a lucrative one, to visit all the temples in the city, and he then goes to work in the following manner:—He carries into the temple a bundle of tapers, made of the bark of trees and sweet scented oil, and kindles them before the idols, whilst the priest strikes with a stick on a metal plate. The worshipper then makes a few prostrations, throws down some money, and the business is settled. The common people never enter the temples but on particular occasions, such, for instance, as in times of great drought, when they go thither in troops to pray for rain. Of any other prayer than a supplication for immediate temporal benefit they do not seem to have any idea.
During certain days in every year, indeed, the temples are much frequented, but for the purpose of trade, not of devotion. The courts are then filled with traders, who display their goods, principally of the ornamental kind, and the visitors stroll about, or make purchases, as

SUNBURY AMERICAN.

AND SHAMOKIN JOURNAL.

Absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority, the vital principle of Republics, from which there is no appeal but to force, the vital principle and immediate parent of despotism.—JEREMIAH.

By Masser & Eiseley.

Sunbury, Northumberland Co. Pa. Saturday, June 18, 1842.

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at a fair. Enormous prices are demanded on these occasions. For a stone of a grass green colour, much valued by the Chinese for rings, bracelets, &c., a merchant asked me 250 *tan* (nearly £100) and took £26. The stone is further enhanced by the exhibitions of conjurers throwing knives, tumblers walking on their hands, and other similar diversions, but by the evening the temple is again left silent and desolate. The priest alone has the ceremony to perform of burning three times in the day a small taper before the idols, prostrating himself at the same time. Should this duty become too onerous, he sends one of his scholars to do it for him, and if the scholars should not happen to be in the way, perhaps a common day labourer. As long as the tapers are lighted at the proper time, and the due portion of prostrations performed, all is right. It must be a very unreasonable idol that would require more.

If the houses of religious worship usually stand empty, the houses of public entertainment on the other hand, are almost full. The prices charged at these places are enormously high, and among the young men of the wealthy classes, it is by no means uncommon for a supper party of three or four to spend 50 *tan* (£23 10s) on the dainties consumed on these occasions. The dainties consumed on these occasions are of a very *raochoche* description, and principally recommended by the difficulty of procuring them. A favourite dish, for instance, is roasted *ice*, which is enormously dear, as very few cooks possess the skill and dexterity required for its preparation. A lump of ice is taken upon a sieve, and after being quickly enveloped in a sort of paste made of sugar, eggs, and spices, is plunged into a pan full of boiling pork fat or lard. The grand point is then to serve it up before the ice has time to melt. What may be the peculiar attraction of this dainty dish it would be hard to say, for though frozen inside, it burns the mouth when first tasted. A small platefull costs six *tan* (about 3s). The Chinese viands in general are disagreeable to a European, as they do not use salt in their cookery, and do use an immoderate quantity of pork fat, besides ginger and garlic. The toast meats, however, it must be admitted, form an honorable exception, and would be acceptable even at the table of a Parisian *gastromome*. The immense number of taverns (or *traiteurs*) in Pekin find no want of support, as it is the custom to entertain guests there, and not at private houses, to which relationship or very particular intimacy alone can give a claim to be invited. A banquet at one of these houses is considered to be a necessary conclusion to the pleasures of a theatrical entertainment, which is generally over by six in the evening, beginning at eleven in the forenoon. At these dinners or suppers, the handsome boys who play the female parts are frequent guests, and they are allowed to select the dishes. Their choice as may be supposed is seldom guided by economy, and indeed, it occasionally happens that they have an understanding with the master of the house. These boys are elegantly dressed, polished in their manners, and fluent and even witty in their conversation.
The Chinese women are to be seen neither in the temples, nor the theatres, nor the taverns but only in the streets. None but the lowest class ever walk on foot, others drive in carriages, and ladies of the highest rank are borne in litters. They go without veils, with their heads uncovered, and decorated with beautiful artificial flowers. Indeed, this custom of sticking flowers in the hair is so prevalent, that I have known a dirty old cook, running out to buy a little garlic or cabbage, stop to adorn her grey locks with a flower. The dress of the Chinese women consists of red or green trousers, embroidered with colored silks, and a jacket and upper garment likewise embroidered. Narrow shoulders and a flat bosom being regarded as handsome, they had a broad girdle tight over the breast by way of improving their figures.
Going to take a drive is an affair of great ceremony with a Chinese lady, as she must have one horseman to ride before her carriage, one to ride after, a coachman to drive, and two men on each side to hold up the vehicle lest it should tip over. The entrance is to the front, and the mule which draws it, is not harnessed till the lady and her attendant have entered, which is managed by bringing the carriage into the house and resting the poles upon the stairs. When a gentleman goes out he displays his magnificence by the number of his attendants which often exceed twenty. Not more than one or two of these fellows are decently dressed, but however ragged or dirty, pride demands that a numerous troop of these lazy vagabonds should be maintained.
The movement in the streets of Pekin begins with break of day—that is, in summer at four o'clock, and in winter at six, and the noise and bustle increases till seven, when it is at its height. By nine or ten o'clock the whole city is asleep the most profound stillness reigns

in the desolate streets, and only here and there is seen the faint light of a paper lantern fastened against a post.

Cultivation of the Grapes.

There is no department of agriculture which has been so systematically neglected by farmers generally, as the cultivation of fine and delicious fruits. This is a matter of surprise whether we regard profit, or the pleasure and satisfaction to be derived from an abundant supply for our own families. How delightful and wholesome at all seasons of the year (as we may it we will) in the bosom of our families, surrounded, perhaps, by our friends and neighbors, to refresh ourselves with the various gifts of Pomona.

There is hardly any fruit which can be more easily cultivated, or may be made longer to administer to our pleasure or profit, than the grape. Of this, there is almost an endless variety, both foreign and native; none of the former, and but few of the latter, should be cultivated by farmers generally. The Isabella, Catawba and Clinton, may be classed among the best native varieties—though in all parts of the country, there are some wild nameless varieties, rich and delicious, for the neglect of the propagation of which, our farmers are without excuse, for the grape is wholesome, and may justly be called one of the greatest delicacies, which an all-wise and bountiful creator has bestowed upon man.

This fruit is easily cultivated, and may be increased to any extent with no expense but labor,—from cuttings which may be obtained in thousands, from any person pruning his vines, or some exquisite variety may be obtained from the hedge or the swamp, and propagated to any extent. Will you give this subject your attention?

The best grapes are superior to either the peach, the apple, or the pear,—comes after the former has pretty much gone and may be kept through the winter, as well as the apple or pear. For winter's use they should be packed in layers.—Thus they may be kept till March, better in flavor than when they were first gathered from the vines. They should be kept cool, dry, and away from the frost.

The best mode of cultivation in the garden is on a single trellis, running North and South—the posts of which should be cedar or have cedar bottoms, and then be spliced about ten feet high, and have strips of board about two inches wide nailed on to them, about three feet apart. The usual way of cultivating them on an arbor with an arch, is bad, for the reason that those clusters which do not get the sun, will seldom ripen well, and if they do, they will be without flavor.

They should immediately after the fall of leaves, be thoroughly pruned and have every runner of new wood-cut into fine buds or eyes of the old wood. They should be kept open and free. New shoots should be encouraged near the ground in order to have the bearing wood low, and to protect the frames from the winds.

They may be cultivated at the foot of old and worthless fruit trees, or on shade trees, and after three or four years of protection from the cattle, they will give you no further trouble. Thus the care and expense of trellising and pruning will be wholly spared.

One single Isabella vine cultivated in this way has been known to produce for the four years last past, from ten to fifteen bushels per year. Such a vine as this, in the vicinity of any of our cities, or large manufacturing villages, would yield more profit than two acres of Indian corn.

Now farmers do you want to have a few bushels of fine grapes for winter, to cheer the social circle, and gladden the hearts of your friends and guests during our long and winter evenings. If so, you have but to will it, and it is done. You can obtain vines at twenty five cents a piece. This luxury is at the command of the rich and poor—then go ahead adopt the mode of culture best adapted to your circumstances, and for this advice we shall ask no greater reward than a rich cluster of delicious grapes, when we call on you three years from next February, if our life shall be so long continued unto us.

RUSSIA.—The emperor of Russia is engaged in a contest with his Nobles about the emancipation of the serfs throughout his dominions. His Imperial Majesty is opposed to serfage, and since his accession has done all in his own power to give freedom to the most oppressed and most deserving class of his subjects. The Nobles, however, who are the owners of the serfs, and who regard them in the light of property, are so opposed to the measure that a revolution may be expected should the Emperor persevere. Now, persevere he will. All who know anything of the character of the Emperor Nicholas, must be aware that he never swerves from any purpose which he has undertaken. His obstinacy is so great that nothing can remove it.
London Sun, May 6.

To make Hens Lay Perpetually.

Hens will lay *perpetually*, if treated in the following manner: Keep no roosters; give the hens fresh meat, chopped fine like sausage meat, once a day to each hen during the winter, or from the time insects disappear in the fall, till they appear again in the spring. Never allow the eggs to remain in the nest, for what is called the *nest eggs*. When the roosters do not run with the hens, and no eggs are left in the nest, the hens will not cease laying after the production of twelve or fifteen eggs, as they always do when roosters and nest eggs are allowed, but continue laying perpetually. My hens always lay all winter, and each from seventy-five to one hundred eggs in succession. If the above plan were generally followed, eggs would be just as plenty in winter as in summer. The only reason why hens do not lay in winter as freely as in the summer, is the want of animal food, which they get in the summer in abundance in the form of insects. I have for several winters reduced my theory to practice, and proved its entire correctness. It must be observed that the presence of the male is not necessary for the production of eggs, as they are formed whether the male be present or not. Of course such eggs will not produce chickens. When chickens are wanted, the roosters must, of course, run with the hens.
A. G. C.

ROOT CULTURE.—We deem it necessary to remind our readers that, if they have not already got in their *Mangel Wurzel* and *Sugar Beet*, it is time they had done so; and to those who may intend to sow *Ruta Baga*, we feel it but proper to say, that if they desire to be successful in their culture of that root, they should give the ground whereon they intend to grow them the benefit of repeated ploughings; they should give it a deep ploughing now, another the beginning of next month, and the last one at the time of seeding; when the manure should be put on, and ploughed in about three inches deep. The *Ruta Baga* is comparatively slow in its growth and requires time and plenty to eat to induce it to yield largely. If well manured and cultivated cleanly, there are none of the root tribe superior to it. In England, it is fed to horses, cows, fattening bullocks, swine and sheep, and found to answer well—and might here be made an economizer for grain.—*American Farmer*.

A DUTCH ROPIING-GAME.—*Pet Deutsche* tells a good thing: a fellow who went into a grocery store and called for a quart of molasses. The molasses was brought, and the purchaser demanded to have it poured into his hat. The grocer's clerk offered to lend him a measure, but no—the purchaser insisted upon having it put into his hat, at the same time laying down a piece of money which required change. The shopman, much wondering at so odd a whim, hesitated no longer, but doused the molasses in his customer's old hat, and then pulled out his money drawer to make change. In a twinkling the rascally purchaser dropped the hat on the young grocer's head, grabbed all the money with his reach, cooly put the grocer's good hat on his own head, and walked off whistling, while the shopkeeper was blinding, choking and smothering in a bath of molasses.

AMUSEMENTS AT THE COURT OF PETER THE GREAT.—Peter the Great, of Russia, kept twelve fools for his own special amusement. One of them, called Pope Zotof, was eighty-four years of age. The Czar made him espouse a woman equally old. The nuptials were celebrated with appropriate festivities, tinged with the barbarism of the age. The groomsmen were decrepit old men; the servants were all men distinguished for their monstrous size; the music was carried on a car drawn by bears; and an old priest, blind and deaf, untied the youthful couple.

ABSURDITIES.—It is absurd for a person to suppose that in this world he will meet with no injustice. It is absurd to think that all beautiful women will make good wives. It is absurd to expect decency of a fool, or brains from a dandy. It is absurd to think of passing thro' life without adversities.

Two citizens courting the daughter of Theoclestos, he preferred the worthy man to the rich one, and assigned this reason: "I had rather she should have a man without money, than money without a man."
SUBURBAN EXTRACT.—"It is a terrible thought, at an hour like this, to remember that nothing can be forgotten. I have somewhere read that not an oath is uttered that does not continue to vibrate through all time, in the wide spreading currents of sound—not a prayer heard, that its record is not also to be found stamped on the laws of nature by the indelible seal of the Almighty's will.—*Cooper's "Two Admirals."*

"Do make yourself at home, ladies," said a lady to her visitors one day, "I am at home myself, and wish you all were."
FOREIGN FLOUENCE.—"May it please the court and gentlemen of the jury. We shall attempt to prove, 1st, that my client's hog did not commit any depredations on the complainant's fence. 2d, that the hog broke only three pickets instead of six, as set forth in the indictment; and 3d, that my client has no hog, nor never had."
SHORT.—A prelate, walking with Dr. Johnson, in St. James' Park, remarked that the trees grew very large and strong. "Sir," said the crated poet, "they have nothing else to do."
"Peter, never go to bed at night without knowing something you did not know in the morning."
"Yes sir—I went to bed *sleeped* last night, didn't dream of such a thing in the morning."

PRICES OF ADVERTISING.

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ANECDOTE OF DR. HUMM.—"If a pair of spectacles could speak," said Madame Aimz to the Doctor, "the name of what great theologian would they use?" It was an old conundrum, but the Doctor, had never before heard it. "Was *Se well* a theologian?" inquired he. "No," replied Madame A., triumphantly, "but *Zu se-bis* was." "But," said the Doctor, "if the charity boys speak of their friend, the name of what waters do they use?" "Straits of Sunday!" inquired Madame A., hesitatingly. "No," replied the Doctor, "they would say *Boz-phorus*—The Dickens they would," said Madame Aimz.—*Boz Post.*

DR. SOUTH.—Dr. South visiting a gentleman one morning, was asked to stay to dinner, which he accepted of, the gentleman stepped into the next room and told his wife and desired she would provide something extraordinary. Hereupon she began to murmur and scold, and made a thousand words: till at length her husband, provoked at her behaviour, protested that, if it was not for the stranger in the next room, he would kick her out of doors. Upon which the doctor, who heard all that passed, immediately stepped out, crying, "I beg, sir, you will make no stranger of me."

HANNA MORE AND DR. JOHNSON.—When she was introduced to him, she began singing his praise in the warmest manner, and talking of the pleasure and instruction she had received from his writings, with the highest encomiums. For some time he heard her with that quietness which a long use of praise had given him: she then recollected her strokes, and, as Mr. Sevard called it, peppered still more highly; till, at length, he turned suddenly to her, with a stern and angry countenance, and said, "Madam, before you flatter a man so grossly to his face, you should consider whether or not your flattery is worth his having."

LORD WILLIAM LENNOX, describing a ride to Epsom with Theodore Hook, says:—"As we reached Vauxhall bridge, 'I wonder if this bridge pays?' I remarked, 'Go over it, and you'll be tall'd,' replied the ever ready punster. 'So,' said he, addressing the gatekeeper, who was hoarse, 'you haven't recovered your voice yet?' 'No sir,' was the answer, 'it's caught a fresh cold.' 'But why did you catch a fresh cold?' asked Hook; 'why didn't you have it cured?'"

BETTER THAN NONE.—A poor married woman was telling a staid lady, somewhat on the wrong-side of fifty, of some domestic troubles, which she, in great part, attributed to the irregularities of her husband. "Well," said the old maid, "you have brought these troubles on yourself; I told you not to marry him. I was sure he would not make you a good husband."
"He is not a good one to be sure, madam," replied the woman, "but he is a power better than none."—*National Intelligencer.*

That 'ere.—"I like that 'ere"—as the Secker exclaimed, the first time he put one end of a straw into a pipe, and applied his *suction* hose to the other.

"I like that air?"—as Weber and Palauer both said, when Nagle had finished Paganini's favorite on his Cremona.

"I like that air?"—as Matilda, languishingly remarked when I opened the window on a warm evening.

"I like that hair?"—as Albert observed to Vic, when the nurse presented the *Prince of Wales* to him.

"I like that are?" (bare) as the cockney replied when asked if he was fond of roast mutton.

"I like that are?" (hair) as Capt. Shinsley admiringly observed, when contemplating Miss Coghlan's flowing tresses.

A WAY TO GET OVER.—"Pray, madam," said a country girl, in a low tone of voice, at the close of a long party, "shall I see you here?"

"No," answered the lady sharply.

"Perhaps you didn't understand me," said Jonathan, aloud.

"I understood you to ask for my company home."

"Not at all," said Jonathan, laughing, "I asked you—how's your *marriage*?"

"I have a great ear, a wonderful ear," said a musician, in the course of conversation. "So has a jackass," was the abrupt ejaculation in reply.

"Do you ever play cards?" inquired George H. of Horne Tooke. "Please your Majesty," was the reply, "I am so well acquainted with court cards, as not to know a KNAVE from a KNAVE."

A NICE MOUTHFUL.—"Hallo Pomp, what are you doing here?" "Fishing." "And what you got in your mouf?" "Nogn, but some worms for bait."

"No smoking allowed here," said the steward of the steamboat to an Irishman. "I'm not smoking aloud, your honor," was the reply.