SUPPLEMENT TO THE BENGAL HURKARU.

CALCUTTA, *(SATURDAY,)* APRIL 24, 1819.

European Extracts.

As all the Members of the Holy Alliance or their Representatives, are now assembled at Aix-la-Chapelle, it is to be hoped that the solemn business of the Congress will be opened with the becoming formality which should attend the proceedings of Potentates and Statesmen, who are not only met together, but actually leagued to preserve the peace of Europe, and promote her moral regeneration.

It is now more than half a century since this town was honoured with similar visitors, professing equally pure and laudable objects. It then contained Plenipotentiaries from England from Maria Theresa; Queens of Hungary and Bohemia, from Louis XV. of France, from the King of Sardinia, from Spain, from the United Provinces, from the Republic of Genoa (now no more), and from the Duke of Modena. These Powers, comprising the great Arbitrators, of the destinies of Europe, held long and weighty negotiations, which terminated in October 1748, in the celebrated Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the chief articles of which breathe such a spirit of pure philanthropy and benevolence, that we transcribe them *verbatim* on the present occasion, when it is highly probable they will furnish (the first of them at least), a precedent for the diction of our treaty-makers, now in Congress assembled.

"Article 1. There shall be a Christian, universal, and perpetual peace, both by sea and land, and a sincere and inviolable friendship between the Powers beforementioned, their heirs and successors, kingdoms, states, provinces, countries, subjects, and vassels, of what quality or condition soever without exception of place or person, in such a manner, that the High Contracting Parties shall have a constant attention to maintain between them and their states and subjects this reciprocal friendship and correspondence, without permitting either one party or the other to commit any sort of hostilities on any account or pretence whatever, and shunning every thing which may tend to disturb or alter the union now so happily re-established between them; engaging themselves on the contrary to procure, on all occasions, whatever may contribute to their mutual glory, interests, and advantages, without giving any succour or protection, directly, or indirectly to those who may so much as attempt to prejudice either one or other of the High Contracting Parties.

"Article 2. There shall be a general oblivion of all that has been done or committed during the war, which is now put an end to, and each party on the day of exchange of the Ratifications on all sides shall be reinstated to the possession of all his effects, dignities, ecclesiastical benefices, honours, and revenues, which he enjoyed, or ought to have enjoyed, on the commencement of the war, notwithstanding all the disposals, seizures, or confiscations occasioned by the said war."

Then follows this enumeration of the restitutions, &c. &c

It is impossible for human ingenuity to devise words more conducive for a bond of permanent amity than those employed in the first Article of the Treaty of 1748. How they were understood by the "High Contracting Parties" (for that is the way, as in the late Treaty of Paris, Treaties, it seems, are to be construed), we must learn by their subsequent acts, which furnish the most extraordinary illustrations of pacific intentions that can be found in the page of history.

In 1748 the Treaty was signed. In 1756 (a period of less then eight years), there was not a quarter of the globe in which the "High Contracting Parties" were not engaged in sanguinary wars with each other.—France and England, not only in America and India, but in the heart of Europe; France and Prussia mutually charging each other with the invasion of Germany, and Austria aiming at the possession of the dominions of the latter. It is curious to observe the alleged causes of these several hostilities. For the possession of the then barren and inhospitable soil of *Nova Scotia*, France and England revived the war, and the Indians were instigated to acts of outrage, which each party laid to the excitement of the other. In Europe, France and Austria accused England (as Elector of Hanover) and Prussia of lighting up the torch of war in Germany, and overturning the laws and constitution of the Germanic Bodies, under the specious pretext of defending the Protestant Religion from attack; but, in reality, for their own aggrandizement. Prussia seized upon Saxony and other smaller States, *to protect the Religion* of the People; and France and Austria in their turn aimed at reprisals in the territories of Prussia and Hanover, for the purpose of *securing the Independence* of the smaller Powers; while Russia and Sweden entered into the views of France and Austria, in the hope of acquiring a settlement in the west of Europe as the reward of their services.

Such are the acts which in little more then seven years, followed the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, for the inviolability of which such solemn pledges had been reciprocally given. The blaze of war continued throughout Europe, with little intermission for a succession of years, until the smaller States, whose integrity and independence gave such a moral lustre to the social compact of the European Powers, fell in their turn a prey to the ambition of individual despots, and sunk into provincial degradation. What moral regeneration the approaching Congress at Aix-la-Chapelle will work, time alone can develope.

Morning Chronicle, Oct. 7.

A person who formerly lived in Portsmouth, writes to a friend from St. John's, New Brunswick, under date August 13, 1818—"Since I have been in this city" it has been visited by a great number of people from Europe; the far greater proportion from Ireland, whose principle object was to get to the United States of America. Others from Scotland and Yorkshire have settled here, and taken up their lands, as by law allowed.

The number of inhabitants is increased one-third. It is a great pity that emigration to America cannot be avoided; for, reason as you may, it will come to this,—It is supplying a rival nation with the sinews of war—with the men that must, and will, 'ere long, turn their arms against the country which gave them birth: the Government that succoured them in the day of distress, may, from the natural operations of the mind, afterwards reckon upon their best affections and services. We have a free trade with America, but none of their vessels have yet entered our harbours. Our ships have stopped some of their fishing-boats, and they have retaliated upon our trade. We must keep a sharp look-out, or they will get the start of us, as it respects our possessions here. This city is greatly improved since my residence: to its public buildings have been recently added a Scotch Kirk, a Baptist Chapel, and a Roman Catholic Chapel. The Baptist Chapel is supplied from England, and he is a very able preacher. The merchants have began to build their houses with brick and stone, and of no small magnitude."

British Press, Oct. 5.

EPITOME OF PHILLIPS'S NEW SYSTEM OF PHYSICAL PHILOSOPHY.

In the system of philosophy called *Newtonian*, Sir Isaac Newton considered Attraction, or Gravitation, as the primary cause of material phenomena. He conceived that bodies fall to the earth, because they are attracted by the earth, and that all matter attracts all matter in a proportion of the bulks and distance; and to account for the motions of the planets, he taught, that at their creation they were projected in the vacuum of space in straight lines, but were drawn into their curvilinear orbits by the attractive force of the sun; and that these two forces, the projectile and the attractive, are always in activity.

On the other hand, Sir Richard Phillips has published a new System, in which he denies that there exist any inherent property of attraction in matter, and ridicules the notion of the projectile force and the vacuum of space. The phenomenon of bodies rushing together he asserts is always an accident, not an innate property; consequently, if there is no universal gravitation, there is no ground for insisting on the existence of projectile force to counteract it, and of a vacuum for a perpetuation of that force. The universal agent operating on matter, he says, is *motion*—and motion, as transferred from body to body, and compounded in various directions, is alleged, in this system to be the efficient and cause of all sensible phenomena. The fall of bodies to the earth is traced by Sir Richard to the orbicular and rotatory motions of the earth, of which motions all terrestrial bodies are the passions. The rotatory motions equalizes the orbicular momentum of bodies of various density; hence the known series of density decreasing (according to this system, in geometrical ratio) from the upper regions of the atmosphere towards the centre of the earth; and hence also the fall of relatively heavy bodies, from the impossibility of their being revolved in any lighter strata into which they may have been raised or projected. All disturbance is therefore instantly corrected, and every part of a planetary mass is forced by the rotatory motion, as conjoined with the orbicular, to seek a position in which it will have the least centripetal force. The return of a perpendicular projectile to the place of projection is illustrated by the well-known phenomenon of a stone let fall from the mast of a moving ship, or of oranges thrown up during feats of horsemanship. The motion of the planets are by this system, ascribed to the impulsion of a moving central mass like the sun, whose motions are transferred to the several planets through the gaseous medium filling space.

Matter being essentially inert, this central motion, so transferred, is considered as the sufficient cause of the orbicular motions of the planets; and the other motions and the anomalies, are ascribed to causes existing between and within the several masses. As no motion exists which is not necessarily caused by some other motion, we thus ascend from effects to causes *ad infinitum*, but, as matter cannot in any manner originate its own primary motion, so this philosophy leads us to a *primum mobile* in that inscrutable Cause of Causes, "through whom we move and have our being."

Such is the new system of Phillips. It establishes the same law of forces, whether terrestrial or celestial, as that ascribed by Newton to attraction, viz. that the force of transferred motion is directly as the quantity of matter, and inversely as the square of the distance: hence the mathematicians have no reason to quarrel with it. It is at the same time not unimportant, whether our reasonings are directed by a true or a false hypothesis: and therefore it is worthy of serious investigation whether transferred motion may be, or may not be, a sufficient cause of all phenomena, and whether it is necessary, or not necessary, to introduce such forces as those of Attraction and Projection into the machinery of nature.

Morning Chronicle, Oct.

Lieutenant-General Canuel, M. de Songis, and M. de Romilly, have been accused by an Ordinance of the Tribunal of the First Instance, for a conspiracy against the internal safety of the State. The Royal Court Chamber of Accusation will decide ultimately upon their fate. M. the Viscount de Chapdelaine and M. de Joannes, acquitted by the same Ordinance, have been set at liberty.

The auditory at the Court of Assizes, was yesterday shocked by the kind of defence set up by a girl accused of forgery in a private transaction. She pretended to be a creditor of a Mr V —— for the sum of 30,000 fr. which had been placed in his hands by her aunt, whose heir she was, besides 24,000 francs, for interest from fifteen to twenty years. On the faith of this debt to her, she borrowed sums from several individuals, producing in support of it, forged letters, acknowledging the debt.

The accused was not in the least embarrassed by the objection, that her aunt was not sufficiently rich to place a capital of 3,000 francs in Mr. V——'s hands; she asserted that her aunt had 20 years ago been the accomplice or witness of the murder of her mother, and had received this sum for her share of the plunder.

The court condemned the girl, whose name is *Barbe Pourchon*, to six years close imprisonment to the pillory, and to be branded with the letter F.

Letters from Cadiz of the 18th of September state, that the Spanish house Vanda de Ruiz and Terry the younger, has failed for nearly a million of piastres. This house owed but little abroad. Its failure was caused by the expenses it underwent in fitting out six large armed frigates for the American Spaniards, and in having at present two freighted for Vera Cruz.

PARIS, Sept. 24.

I can hardly give you any thing more interesting than the following remarkable anecdote of Louis XIV. which the Editors of the *Bibliotheque Historique* have published in their last number. They state it to be extracted from some MSS. collected by the late M. Dionis, perpetual Secretary of the French Academy. I give it as nearly as I can in the phraseology of the original.

"A great hunting-party took place at St. Germains. The Count de Gatche, the Count, since Duc, de Lude, Vardo and M. de Lauzun, who recounted it to me, and I know not whom likewise, went astray in the forest, and thus were they in the dead of night, not knowing where about they were. After long wandering on their horses, overcome with fatigue they descried a light. They went towards it and found themselves at length at the gates of a sort of Chateau; they knocked, they called, they named themselves, and craved hospitality. 'Twas towards the close of autumn, and betwixt ten and eleven o'clock at night. At length the gates were opened, the master came forth, made them unboot and warm themselves, had their horses put into the stable, and, in the mean time, caused a supper to be prepared, of which they stood in great need. The repast was not long coming; excellent it was, and the wine of various kinds; the master polite and respectful; neither ceremonious nor obsequious, with all the best air and grace in the world. They learned that his name was Balthasar de Fargues, of the house of Courson; that he had retired on this spot, that he had lived for several years, that he sometimes received [illegible] their, and that he had neither wife nor children. [illegible] that looked intelligent, and the house bore [illegible] an air of affluence. After having thus entertained [illegible] guests, Fargues did not keep them in waiting [illegible] their beds. The next morning they found an excellent breakfast spread before them, and after it their horses in readiness, and as refreshed as themselves.—Pleased with the courteous behaviour of Fargues, and moved at such kind reception, they made him many offers of service, and then set out on their return to St. Germain. Their wanderings in the forest had been the topic of the day; their return and adventure of the night became the topic of another. These Gentlemen were the flower of the Court, and of gallantry, and all of them were familiars of the King. They related their adventure, the wonders of their reception, and descanted in praise of their host, his good cheer and pleasant mansion. The King inquired his name. No sooner did he hear it than he said, "what Fargues, is he here and dwelling so nigh!" The Gentlemen earnestly recommended their praise of him, and from this moment the King said no more. Having withdrawn into the Queen's apartment, he told her the adventure and both esteemed it bold in Fargues to dwell so nigh the Court, and strange indeed that they should only have learned of it by this hunting adventure, long as he had been there.

"Balthazar de Fargues had made himself conspicuous in the commotions at Paris betwixt Cardinal Mazarine and the Court. If he had not been hanged it was for no want of a desire to be avenged of him; but he had been protected by a party, and expressly comprised in an amnesty. The hatred he had incurred, and under which he had well nigh sunk, led him to the resolution of leaving Paris for ever, in order to escape all trouble, and of retiring unsolicited to his home, and until then indeed he had remained unobserved. Cardinal Mazarine had died, and things gone by were no longer thought of; but, as he had been very much noted, he feared, lest on his account the past should be revived, and for this reason he lived in great retirement, quite at peace with his neighbours, and free from care as to the troubles of the past, on the *faith of an amnesty* and in this way for a long while. The King and the Queen, his mother, who had only forgiven him by force, sent for the First President, Lamoignon, and commissioned him to inquire closely and secretly into the life and conduct of Fargues, to examine if means there were not of chastising his past insolence and make him repent of defying them so close to the Court by his opulence and tranquillity. They related to him the adventure of the hunt, by which they had detected his abode, and testified eager desire that he should find out some juridical mode of ruining him.

"Lamoignon, greedy, and a nice Courtier, resolved to satisfy them, and to find in it his own account. He accordingly set about his researches, reported them, and strove at length so hard and well, that suddenly Fargues found himself seized by tipstaves upon a warrant, and led into the prisons of the Conciergerie; and vainly did he then justify himself of the charges against him, alleging that even if he were guilty, the amnesty effaced the memory of all that passed in time of confusion; the whole was without avail. The distinguished Courtiers who had met such welcome in his mansion, used all endeavours with the King; it was vain:—Balthazar de Fargues speedily had his head cut off, and his confiscated domain given as meed to the First President; it was conveniently situated for that magistrate, and subsequently fell to the lot of his second son. There is hardly one league from Bastille to Courson."

We have received Boston Papers to the 20th and New York to the 17th last. The following is an extract:—The Editor of *The Democratic Press* has received from his Correspondent at St. Thomas's, under date of August 12, the following news from Venezuela:—"Notwithstanding the rivers had inundated the plains, and the campaign was supposed to be at an end, General Paez had the hardihood, with his troops, to swim the rivers, and with his numerous cavalry make an attack on the Royalists in the plains of Varinas, who, not suspecting any danger, were reposing in perfect security, and were completely defeated by this enterprising Chief. The Royalists at Caraccas have in consequence been thrown into much consternation, apprehensive that they too may be unexpectedly visited."

Orders have been given by agents of the French Government in the United States of America, to purchase their seeds and trees of the finest species, for the purpose of their being naturalised and cultivated on a large scale in Britanny, Gascony, and other parts of France.

Several vessels from the Mediterranean, with cargoes of beans, have been seized at the Custom-house, for a violation of the Navigation Laws, the article being the produce of Turkey, and therefore not allowed to be imported. A deputation of gentlemen interested in them, have waited on the Lords of the Treasury, and presented a long petition, in which they represented, that the violation of the Navigation Laws arose from ignorance of the subject, and prayed the release of the vessels in question. The Lords of the Treasury have not, however, yet come to any decision; but it was intimated that a favourable determination may be expected shortly.

The equinoxial gales have expedited the annual migration of the herrings to the southern coast. The fishermen have commenced their season with every prospect of success.

The herrings which have been caught, are of larger size and finer flavour than any they have taken for many years past.

Herrings were so plentiful on Thurday at Hastings, in Sussex, that they sold at the rate of 28 for four-pence.

British Press, Oct. 13.

A most enormous mushroom, of the button sort, was exhibited in this market on Tuesday last, which sprung up, with many others of

inferior size, from an asparagus bed, lately belonging to Mr. Gill, rope-maker, near Stoke mills. It attained in four nights and three days the circumference of four feet five inches, and the weight of sixteen pounds. The owner sold it out in pieces at one penny each.—(*Plymouth Paper*)

HURRICANE

ON THE 29TH AUGUST, NEAR BERMUDA.

Extract of a letter from Captain Levy, of the *Agnes*, from Jamaica, to his owner at Liverpool, dated ship *Anges* at sea, September 8, 1818, in lat. 34. 44. long. 55 30.—"On the 29th August, at ten o'clock at night, being eighteen miles to the southward and about sixty to the eastward of the island of Bermuda, we experienced a most dreadful hurricane; it commenced from E. S. E. veered round from S. S. W. and S. W. and from that to the West, and continued until two p. m. on the 30th, with the greatest fury; after that time, it began to abate, the vessel was down on her side, deck under water, and remained so for a considerable time, until relieved by the head of the mainmast going, and carrying away all the mainmast; and soon after the mizenmast went two feet from the deck; unfortunately the mast hung by some rope we could not get cut for some time; it got under the quarter, started the quarter-piece, broke in the delights, and nearly unshipped the rudder. By this accident, a quantity of water got into the cabin and rooms, in which our bread and other stores were stowed, and am sorry to say they are all damaged. When the hurricane abated, I cannot describe my feelings—not twenty-four hours previous the ship was in complete order, and in want of nothing, and in so short a time to be deprived of every thing. We secured the fore and mizen-mast, but the tops and cross-trees were broken; neither sails, yards, or rigging left that was above deck, with the exception of the fore and cross jack-yards. When it became moderate, I examined the ship well, and found she had not received any injury in the hull, therefore resolved to proceed on our passage. I do not think this violent storm extended so far to the northward as most of the ships would be, which sailed at the same time, as they went through the Gulph the second day." *British Press, Oct. 1.*

The following imperfect sketch is taken from a fragment of an American paper of September.

From the Franklin Gazette.

SOUTH AMERICA.

SKETCH, &c.

On the fourth night we slept at the foot of the steep ascent which leads over the crest of the Cordilleras, and set off at the dawn of day in order to pass over before the wind rose.—At this height the wind blows with great violence from ten o'clock until evening. In the whole passage of the Cordilleras the traveller suffers from the sudden gusts of wind, which are frequent and very violent. We toiled up this ascent for four hours, passing over the loose stones, which are constantly rolling from the rocks above. Near the summit, I observed two birds of the dark grey colour of the rocks, and resembling in shape the dove. They did not attempt to fly when thrown at, and merely moved their heads; the muleteers call them agacha doches (dodgers.) They are always seen in pairs, and may be approached within a yard before they rise.

The condor was seen hovering over the loftiest heights. This bird, of which exaggerated accounts have been given, has the head and form of the eagle, the plumage of the neck, body and wings is raven black, a white stripe about four inches wide extends along the tip of the wings, and when the bird is sitting, appears to encircle the body; a circular fringe of white feathers ornaments the neck of the male. They are very bold and may be approached very near. We shot two of them, one measuring nine feet and three quarters from wing to wing, the other ten feet and a half. They are generally seen in pairs unless attracted in large numbers by some dead animal. Their sense of smell is very acute, and they are seen flying from all parts to feast on dead cattle. They frequently carry off sheep, and when pressed by hunger descend in flocks on the plains and destroy calves and colts.—In order to effect this they form a circle, enclosing the intended victim, and prevent its escape by flapping their wings, one of their number then attacks the colt or calf, fixes its talons in its back, and kills it by striking its beak into the eyes.

The country people make traps for them, by placing carrion in a pen. The condor first picks out the eye and then devours the entrails, when it has gorged itself, it cannot fly without having a space to run and raise itself gradually. The peasants come upon it when gorged, and kill it with clubs in the pen.

The snow lies longer on the west than on the east side of these mountains. After passing the west of the Cordilleras, the descent for the space of three leagues was covered with snow. The frequent passage of mules had worn a deep path through this snow, which rose on each side 15 feet high. On emerging from this narrow defile, the scenery wore a different aspect from that on the east side.—It resembled the scenery of the Alps, spots of verdure were scattered over the loftiest mountains.

* * * * * * * Every part of Chili which is susceptible of irrigation, whatever be the nature of its soil, produces the fruits of the earth with a luxuriance never before remarked in any part of the world. Wheat yields commonly forty and fifty times the seed, and in the valley of Aconcagua and some other fertile spots, 80 and even 100 fold.

The house to which my muleteer conducted me, was a large farm house, inclosed in a court yard, shaded by some fine trees. A respectable old couple, and a young wife and sisters, received my conductor with smiles and embraces. In the first transport of joy they overlooked every other object; but as soon as they perceived me, they were extremely eloquent in excuses and welcomes. They ushered me into a large room, where a long low table was spread, with a clean table cloth and silver covers; a small table was immediately spread for me, and it was with difficulty I prevailed upon this hospitable family not to delay their dinner until I had dined. The profusion of plate at this house was to me surprising; the dishes, plates, and covers were all of silver; and after dinner a large silver basin of water was set on the table to wash in. The whole family, according to the custom, I afterwards remarked, prevailing in Chili, dipped their fingers into the same basin. After dinner I was shown into another room, when I found a mattress spread on the floor. A long ride on a sultry day, disposes a stranger to conform to the custom of sleeping the siesta, and I rose at five o'clock perfectly refreshed. On walking out I found an armed chair placed under a tree in the court, and one of the family waiting with a matti. Notwithstanding my aversion to the taste of the herb of Paraguay, I could not refuse this attention.

On the ensuing morning I took leave of this family, who had given me a favorable idea of the people of their class in Chili. Our party were mounted on fine fat horses and felt exhilerated at changing the slow heavy pace of the mules, for the gallop of gay Chilian horses. The breed of horses in this country is the finest in South America. The Chilian horses are sent into Peru, and even across the continent to Buenos Ayres, and thence to the Brazils; they are active and vigorous, and capable of enduring great fatigue, their heads well proportioned, flat and bony, the ears small and pointed, the neck short and thick, the body stout and the legs closely joined. The most esteemed do not move their tails, either to brush away the flies, or when the rider strikes them with the spur. The jockies of Chili reverse our method, and sometimes cut the sinews to make the tail lie close. They stand generally fifteen hands, but I have seen them measure from fifteen and a half to sixteen hands. They are trained to start instantly into full speed, stop suddenly and wheel on their haunches. They are trained likewise to stand when the rider dismounts, and they will remain on the same spot for hours champing the bit. The people of the country are all good horsemen, and I have seen them urge a horse full speed down a steep hill covered with wood. We passed over two lofty hills, and after riding six hours, entered the village Colina, where there are mineral baths much frequented by the inhabitants of Santiago.—Here we passed the siesta. In the afternoon we travelled along a flat well cultivated country, and after riding four leagues, entered the eastern suburb of Santiago, called the Canadilla. The houses are low but well built, and there appeared a great throng of business.—We entered Santiago by a magnificent bridge, and every thing wore the appearance of a large flourishing town.

SHARPING.—*From a New York Paper.*—An honest unsuspecting John Bull, but a few days arrived from England, while walking up Broadway, ruminating how he should obtain employment, was accosted by a spruce looking young man, who enquired if he wanted employment. "Yes Sir," was the ready. "What do you do?"—"I am a coachman says John." "Aye, aye! that's the very thing (says the gentleman), my father wants a coachman. What do you expect a month?" "Eighteen dollars."—"Well my father will give you twenty, for I perceive you are an Englishman. Come with me." Away the poor fellow went, quite elated at finding English coachman in such high estimation, and was conducted to a private house near Broadway. When arrived there, the gentleman made further enquiries. "You have some money I suppose?"—"Yes Sir,"—"How much?"—"Six guineas, and one of your three dollar notes."—"Let me see that note. It is likely that you have been imposed upon and that the note is bad."—"Here it is." "Aye it looks suspicious, Let me see how much do you expect to get for your guineas."—"I don't know yet."—"Well give them to me, and I will take them with the note to my brother's store in the Broadway. But here, good woman, give this honest man some beefsteaks and porter, for my father always gives his coachman beefsteaks and porter, towards noon. As I was saying I will see how much my brother will give you for the guineas, and if the note is good." On which he decamped, and left poor John to find his way some three hours after to the police-office, without either beefsteaks or porter in his stomach, and but four shillings in his pockets, to solicit detection of the sharper and his guineas. We would warn both *John Bull* and his half brother *Pat*, for neither of them appear to possess too much circumspection to be more cautious who they trust in the street with their guineas. There are some sharp blades here asin other cities, on the look out for suitable subjects of plunder. This is the fourth complaint of a similar nature made within the last three weeks; in one of those instances a calf-headed fellow was flicked out of every thing he possessed, and the sharper wanted to persuade him that he bought from him *a calf with three legs*, for which he was to pay twenty dollars to which allegation poor Pat very naturally rejoined—"Is it likely, your honour, that I would be after buying a calf with three legs, when I have not a shilling to bless myself with, for the thief got every thing I had under pretence of being a friend to me in a strange country. What would I want with such a beast?" Nor was it until the rascal found himself looked up, and in a fair way for the Penitentiary, that he relinquished the charge of the calf with three legs, and disgorged his plunder.

THE NAVY.

The List of the Royal Navy, corrected up to the 30th of Sept. contains the following Officers, &c.:—

Admiral of the Fleet		1	
Admirals of the	Red	17	
	White	16	
	Blue	17	2 employed.
Vice-Admirals of the	Red	23	
	White	18	
	Blue	19	
Rear-Admirals of the	Red	25	1 employed.
	White	24	5 employed.
	Blue	23	5 employed.
		183	13

Superannuated Rear-Admirals	26	
Ditto, and retired Captains	29	
Captains	852	62 employed.
Commanders	789	56 employed.
Lieutenants retired with the rank of Commanders	97	
Lieutenants	3923	404 employed.
Superannuated Masters	48	
Masters for Service	643	142 employed.
Physicians	16	
Surgeons retired	71	
Surgeons for Service	931	113 employed.
Assistant Surgeons	367	161 employed.
Dispensers of Hospitals	19	
Hospital Mates	6	
Pursers	815	130 employed.
Chaplains	51	18 employed.
Ships of various description in commission		142.

The following Lieutenants have been promoted to the rank of Commanders, viz.:—

George Frederick Bridges; Rob. Deans, late Flag Lieutenant to Adm. Sir W. Hope, at Leith; and Joseph Harrison, late First Lieutenant of the Semiramis.

Lieutenant Sir Thomas Legard, Bart. is placed on the superannuated list of Commanders, in the room of Captain Wm. Ellettson, deceased.

The following Officers are appointed Supernumerary Lieutenants of the Severn frigate, at Deal, and will have parties of midshipmen and seamen under their respective orders, for preventing the landing of contraband goods between the Isle of Sneppy and Beachy Head, viz.:—

James Elphick, Henry Foster, H. Mackworth, Sam. Grandy, C. F. Turner, G. B. Skardon, Jas. R. Purches, Jas. Robinson, P. Graham, C. Byne, and A. H. White.

They are to be stationed at such distances as will enable them to keep up a constant communication.

The following Midshipmen have been promoted to the rank of Lieutenants, viz.:—

Lord H. J. S. Churchill, and to the Amphion frigate on the Brazil station; Hon. Geo. Cavendish, and to the Egeria sloop of war, at Newfoundland; Hon. Fred. Spencer, and to the Myrmidon frigate, in the Mediterranean; Henry R. Moorsom, and to the Tagus frigate, in the Mediterranean; J. J. Sawyer, and to the Andromache frigate, South America; H. Bolton, and to the Blossom frigate, Brazils; G. T. Gooch, and to the Eurydice, St. Helena; C. Gordon, and to the Glasgow, Mediterranean; C. H. Swinburne, and to the Racoon, at St. Helena; J. H. Bulteel, and to the Scamander, at Barbadoes; James E. Hone, and to the Larne, at Jamaica; C. Graham; J. Brothers; C. Austen; C. R. Malden; Horatio D. K. Darby; and E. Belcher.

Viscount Kilburne is appointed Lieutenant of the Favourite, of 26 guns, at St. Helena.

The Hon. Edward Gore is appointed Lieutenant of the Sir Francis Drake flag ship, at Newfoundland.

Lieut. J. Burton is appointed Flag Lieutenant to Admiral Otway, at Leith; and Lieutenant John M'Dougal, to Admiral Donald Campbell, on the Barbadoes station.

The Rev. John Morgan and the Rev. John Jones, are appointed Chaplains of the Rochefort, of 74 guns, and the Tartar frigate.

Messrs. Sparshott and Irvin are appointed Supernumerary Pursers for the Officers and Seamen employed in preventing smuggling.

The new harbour at Howth has been of the greatst advantage. Since the packets went there on the 1st of July last, only ten mails have been due in London, and those ten were detained by the extreme calmness of the weather. Seventy-seven mails out of 86 have reached Dublin from London before nine o'clock on the third morning, and 30 out of 36 within 48 hours. On the 1st of April next, the mail coach is to arrive at Holyhead in 36 hours, viz. by eight in the morning instead of ten, as at present; and when the new bridge over the Menai, and the new road through Anglesea, are completed, the mail coach journey from London to Holyhead will be under 33 hours. It is to be hoped that Government will adopt the system of steam navigation across the Irish Channel during the summer months, either by means of steam packets or (wha perhaps would be better) steam-tugs, to tow the present vessels across, which, in moderate weather, can be accomplished at the rate of from five to six miles an hour, even though the wind is contrary. A considerable expedition has been accomplished since the first of last month, by the Irish Post Office, in forwarding the English letters to Cork. We are convinced that nothing will tend to benefit the sister kingdom so much as facilitating the communication between the two countries.

The Pagoda Bridge over the canal in St. James's Park is in a state of rapid decay. It is, we understand, to be succeeded by a cast iron bridge, now preparing.

Bell's Weekly Messenger, Oct. 11.

SCOTCH JURY COURT AT GLASGOW.—A cause occurred on the 5th inst. in the case of a libel which appeared in *The Belfast News Letter*, u on Mr. Thos. Stewart, of Glasgowfield, the pursuer. The defenders were the proprietors of the publication, Mr. Thomas Allen, banker, of Edinburgh, and Mr. Alexander Mackway, of Belfast. The libel was headed, "Heinous Fraud," and contained a story of a servant of a Mr. S. of Glasgow, hearing that a relation had died years back in India, and had left him a large sum of money. It added, that the master was not desirous to obtain information for the man, but that, upon recent inquiries being made, it appeared that the person in India had left 20,000l. sixteen years ago, which was paid to Mr. S. of Glasgow, in behalf of his servant, the deceased's relative. The cause lasted a considerable time. The jury gave 1,500l. damages.

AN HYPOTHESIS

OF THE

POLES OF THIS GLOBE,

BY ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES HENRY KNOWELS, BART.

If the Poles of this Globe have not earth at their points (1), there must be at each an immense whirlpool of water, occasioned by the diurnal revolution of the globe. This seems requisite to counteract the masses of ice formed around the vortices, and much of this ice must be crushed to atoms by the rotatory motion of the whirlpools; and the re-action of the water in its distant ascent, will produce a current (2) to force the ice, as now happens, in a direction southerly from the North Pole, and in a northerly direction from the South Pole, when added by solar (3) heat in the prevention of frost. This may be the case, because it is apparent, every where, that destruction and reproduction are requisite to constitute the changes on this globe; and a similar renovation must take place at the poles as in other parts. Our globe flies through space in its orbit; but this probably does not counteract the effects of its diurnal motion at the poles (4), nor impede the progression of physical causes (5).

(1) If there was land, the ice could never be detached from them, but by a convulsion of nature, and which does not appear likely to be alternate at each Pole.

(2) A current runs from the Polar Basin into the Atlantic Ocean, from Norway to America; but there is no proof of any current running to the northward through Behrings's Straits, because that great man, Captain Cook, met with none, but a barrier of ice, which ice came from the Polar Basin, and was jammed there. If a current ran to the northward under this barrier of ice, when the ice was broke up by the violent gales of wind in February and March, the force of such a stream would have raised it to the surface, and driven the ice to the north, and Captain Cook would have had a clear sea to sail through; but the contrary happened, and prevented his success. Neither Captains Cook nor King, met with any current on the N. W. coast of America; nor Monsieur de la Perouse on the coast of Asia, nor between Sagalien Island and the Maine setting to the northward, but a mud bank (too shoal for the boats to pass over) to the south of the River Amor, and which bank of mud could not have been formed had there been a current. As the Polar Basin is not supplied, by a current running through Behring's Straits from the North Pacific Ocean, the current from the Polar Basin, in every direction, must proceed from some other cause, and that cause must be the diurnal motion of the globe. Perhaps it will ultimately be discovered, that Europe, Asia, and America, do not extend to the North of 73. of lat.

(3) In the absence of the sun, the severity of the frost may be such as to lessen the power of the whirlpool, which will act with its full force when the frost ceases, by the return of the sun.

(4) The motion at the Poles is slow, and the velocity great at the Equator, and this is the same in a whirlpool, for the motion is communicated from the circumference to the apex, which has the least motion, as a whirlpool screws downwards. This is the reverse in a whirlwind on land, and water-spout at sea, where the motion is communicated from the centre to the circumference, and screws upwards. On any other theory the water could not descend in a whirlpool, nor ascend in a water spout*, nor land in whirlwind.

* Water-spouts are said to be conical and cylindrical; but though they may first appear the latter, they soon assume a conical form, and become the frustrum of a cone, the smaller part downwards; and this smaller part varies in size, from two hundred yards, or more, to twelve feet diameter; and a point only when sometimes forming in fine weather. But in the larger ones, the point (it is to be presumed), is below the surface of the water, and the quantity of water raised in a given time, must be in a ratio to the depth of the apex. The influence of water-spouts must extend much below the surface, as numbers of fish are taken up by them, and which fall from the clouds far in land.

(5) The diurnal motion of the globe, from west to east, is the occasion of the trade winds in the Atlantic Ocean, and also of the current of water which runs within the Tropics, from the coast of Africa to the bottom of the

Gulf of Mexico, and thence by the shores of Florida, through that Gulf to the northward, and past the Bank of Newfoundland, until opposed by the current, at the polar basin, when it takes a direction eastward. If the diurnal motion acts on the water at the Equator by velocity, it will also act at the Poles by a counter effect.

A PROFESSOR OF SIGNS;

OR, TWO WAYS OF TELLING A STORY.

King James VI. on removing to London, was waited upon by the Spanish Ambassador, a man of erudition, but who had a *crotchet* in his head, that every country should have a Professor of Signs, to teach him, and the like of him, to understand one another. The Ambassador was lamenting one day, before the King, this great *desideratum* throughout all Europe, when the King, who was a *queerish* sort of man, said to him—"Why, I have a Professor of Signs in the nothernmost College in my dominions, viz. at Aberdeen; but it is a great way off, perhaps 600 miles." "Were it ten thousand leagues off I shall see him," says the Ambassador, "and am determined to set out in two or three days." The King saw he had committed himself, and writes, or causes to be written, to the University of Aberdeen, stating the case, and desiring the Professors to put him off some way, or make the best of him. The Ambassador arrives, is received with great solemnity, but soon began to enquire which of them had the honour of being the Professor of Signs? And being told that that Professor was absent in the Highlands, and would return nobody could say when;—says the Ambassador—"I will wait his return though it were twelve months." Seeing that this would not do, and that they had him to entertain at a great expense all the while, they contrived a stratagem. There was one Geordy, a butcher, blind of an eye, a droll fellow, with much wit and roguery about him. He is got, told the story, and instructed to be a Professor of Signs; but not to speak on pain of death! Geordy undertakes it. The Ambassador is now told that the Professor of Signs would be home next day, at which he rejoiced greatly. Geordy is *gowned, wigged*, and placed in a chair in state in a room of the College, all the Professors and the Ambassador being in an adjoining room. The Ambassador is now shewn into Geordy's room, and left to converse with him as well as he could, the whole Professors waiting the issue with fear and trembling. The Ambassador holds up one of his fingers to Geordy, Geordy holds up two of his. The Ambassador holds up three; Geordy clenches his fist and looks stern. The Ambassador then takes an orange from his pocket, and holds it up; Geordy takes a piece of barley cake from his pocket, and holds that up. After which the Ambassador bows to him, and retires to the other Professors, who anxiously enquired his opinion of their brother. "He is a perfect miracle," says the Ambassador; "I would not give him for the wealth of the Indies!" "Well," say the Professors, "to descend to particulars." "Why," says the Ambassador, "I first held up one finger, denoting that there is one God; he held up two, signifying that these are the Father and Son. I held up three, meaning the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; he clenched his fist, to say that these three were one. I then took out an orange, signifying the goodness of God, who gives his creatures not only the necessaries, but the luxuries of life; upon which the wonderful man presented a piece of bread, shewing that it was the staff of life, and preferable to every luxury." The Professors were very glad that matters had turned out so well; so having got quit of the Ambassador, they next got Geordy, to hear his version of the signs.—"Well, Geordy, how have you come on, and what think you of your man?" "The rascal," says Geordy, what did he do first, think ye? He held up one finger, as much as to say you have only ae ee! Then I held up twa, meaning that my ae ee was perhaps as good as baith his. Then the fellow held up three of his fingers, to say that there were but three een between us; and then I was sae mad at the scoundrel, that I *sleekit my neve*, (clenched my fist) and was to come a whack on the side of his head, and would ha'e done it too, but for your sakes. Then the rascal didna stop wi' a' his provocation here; but forsooth takes out an orange, as much as to say, your poor beggarly cold country cannot produce that!—I shewed him a whang of bear bannock, meaning that I didna care a farthing for him nor his trash neither, as lang's I hae this! But by a' that's Guid (concluded Geordy) I'm angry yet that I didna thrash the hide o' the scoundrel!"—So much for signs, or two ways of telling a story.

THE SHIFTS OF IGNORANCE IN PLACES OF IMPORTANCE.

[*From "The New Monthly Magazine" for October.*]

The conduct of a man in public life, occupied in concealing his ignorance, is an absolute system of tactics. It is curious to remark his studied silence when the conversation turns upon a subject which he is conscious he ought to know well, and of which he is equally conscious that he knows nothing; to see how he slinks away when this conversation approaches too near him, and he looks if the circle around seem to express that they are all expectation to hear his opinion. He goes up in an absent way to the chimney-piece, takes up some papers that lie there, and begins to look them over with profound attention, while nevertheless, if he hears any thing said on which he may venture with confidence to put in a word, *'tis so*, says he, *exactly so*, not taking his eyes however from the papers till the moment when he can adroitly give another turn to the conversation; and to this resource he has been obliged to recur so often, that it has become entirely familiar to him.

Sometimes he will be a little more adventurous; and if a debate arises in his company upon the period when some event of antiquity happened, or upon the distance between two large towns, and different opinions on the question are supported with equal pertinacity, one maintaining, for instance, that it was the year 300, before our era, another, that it was the year 200; one that the distance between the towns was 2,000 leagues, another that it was 2,400, he will fix the period at the year 250, the distance 2,200 leagues; this is a medium he ventures to take without having any notion whatever upon the subject, only he feels confident that he cannot be very wide of the mark. But with such fortunate opportunities to display his knowledge, he is not often favoured. It is more easy for him to terminate a controversy on any axiom laid down, since he has always some commonplace remark or assertion ready at hand, suited to the occasion. Sometimes he takes his revenge; and if he happens to have been reading in the morning, in the way of his business, any paper or papers, through which he has acquired some piece of statistical knowledge, he does not rest till he gives the conversation such a turn, as will enable him to bring it out. Woe, then, to any one who thinks he shall pay his court to him by making many inquiries upon the subject, or who offers some slight objection, that they may ask for an explanation; our man of ignorance is already at the full length of his tether; he answers only by monosyllables, and becomes evidently out of humour.—*Madame de Stael.*

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

THE HERMIT IN LONDON,

OR

SKETCHES OF ENGLISH MANNERS.

No. VII.

ON GUARD FOR THE FIRST TIME.

....."The Soldier little quiet finds,
But is exposed in stormy winds
And weather."

L'ESTRANGE.

"Hopfman,* wake me at six o' clock tomorrow morning, or I shall never be in time for Guard (pronounced affectedly, Gard:)—and, I say, (in a slow conceited tone,) but let me have the last boots which Hoby made me; not the Wellingtons, nor the dress boots, nor any of the six pair in the closet, nor the iron heeled ones, but the last ones with copper heels;—and I say be sure to use the blacking made after Lord R—'s receipt, which comes to so much money, that which has Marasquina in it, and oil of lavender, and about twenty other things, and has such a superior polish;—and, I say, fetch home my regimental jacket from Scott's;—and, I say; see that it is well padded on the breast, which gives a martial air and well stuffed on the shoulders, so as to give me my *natural* look of strength;—and, I say, lay out the pantaloons which were made by the German soldier under the patronage of the Prince Vanstinkerstein,—not those made by the leather breeches maker nor any whatever made by my three English tailors;—and, I say, put two handkerchiefs in my regimental jacket, one of cambric and one of my Barcelonas;—and, I say, perfume them well; and let me have my gold snuff-box with the sleeping beauty on it, for which the Italian took me so d—ly in—not the gold embossed one, nor the gold engine-turned, nor the gold antique box, nor the silver gilt, nor the one which I bought at the Palais Royal;—and, I say, order my tilbury to take me down to the *Gard*, for I shall otherwise get my boots dusty and might be run against by some coal-porter or sweep, and have my French scarlet cloth soiled; besides, one looks heated and flustered after a long walk from Harley Street to the Parade, instead of coming cool into the field;—and, I say, I'll wear the twenty guinea gold chain round my neck, with my quizzing glass; and you must bring down my silk nightgown, and Turkish embroidered slippers, in order to astonish the weak minds of *my Camarades*; and, I must have my backgammon-board *pour passer le tems*, and my poodle dog to play with; an you may take a coach and bring my violoncello with you, and my writing desk, that I may write billet doux, in order to soften the hardships of war;—and, I say, I must have the cedar-box of segars, my gold segar tube, my German bag, some scented tobacco, and my *ecume de mer pipe*; 'twill pass an hour, and it looks so soldier-like to smoke on *Gard*;—and, I say, I must have a Jem'ric *Chemise*, with the collar highly starched for dressing time—one of those which look like winkers; and you may bring another regimental jacket—either the one made by Scott so nicely pigeon-tailed, or that made by Weston and I must have my musical snuff-box for dinner; you'll put Prince's mixture in it, and high-dried in the other; and you'll bring my light morocco boots for dinner, with soles as thin as a wafer;—and, I say, I shall begin to dress at five or half after, for it is too warm to hurry one-self; and I must have my hair brushes, and my razors (for which he had very little use,) and damask napkins, and rose water for my eyes, and all my soaps, and some white wax for my nails, and all my paraphernalia set in gold, with my crest on each article in my best dressing case;—and, I say—" (Servant) "Meisheer;" "Nothing; you may go away now; but be sure to awaken me at six. What a bore *Gard* is!"

Thus ended the colloquy betwixt a young cousin of mine and his servant; and although he called being on Guard "a bore," yet he was delighted with this début, and quite captivated with "all the pomp and circumstance of war." Thus mounted he his first Guard, and gave me the following account of the manner in which he spent his time.

I walked up and down St. James's Street and Pall Mall forty-four times; sent my servant home for my stopwatch, and made a calculation of the time which it took to go from Hoby's corner to the St. James'; looked in at Parslow's and lost some money at billiards, my hand shook like h—l; but I drank some Curacoa, and took three ices afterwards to cool myself; spoke to two and twenty pretty women, and bowed to fifty carriages, by which I got a stiff neck; hung on to Lady Mary's carriage facing White's for just twenty minutes, and was envied by the whole street; played a tune on my violoncello, and amused myself a whole hour, by my repeater, in teaching my poodle to do his exercise with a cane, and to smoke a pipe, thus fitting him for a military life; read the Racing Calendar, and a table of odds at betting, looked into the Horse Guards, and found a rascal dunning my friend Beilamour; kicked the fellow down stairs and took a hit at backgammon; treated my brother officers on Guard with some *liqueurs*, dined, got half and half, looked in at some gambling shops, came off minus ten guineas—devilish lucky, for at one time I was out a hundred; left Lord Sommerfield and Dick Dandy in the hands of the watchmen; drew my sword like a man, and put the raggamuffins to flight; saw the sun rise in St. James's Park,—beautiful, by Jove! wrote a dozen billet-doux, and made as many appointments, not half of which I shall keep; bivouacked (very like bivouacking!) for an hour on three chairs; smoked a pipe, which did not agree with me; was relieved, (by the Guard, be it understood;) came home, and slept until dinner time.

It will be unnecessary to comment on the useful life of this my young cousin, nor on the active nature of his services. He is however, very young, very good hearted, but, unfortunate for him, very vain and very handsome. I have often done every thing in my power to break him of being such a puppy; but it is all in vain. He holds the last generation very cheap indeed, and laughs at the old school, and at myself as much as any of them.

I endeavoured to point out to him how idle such a division of time was, and that, even on guard, a man might do something useful and ornamental; that he might read improving books in and out of his profession, draw play on some instrument, and learn languages by study; and that tactics, histories of campaigns, and mathematics, would be most exemplary lessons for these occasions. But my *Exquisite* cousin seemed to think that "all that" was impossible in London, and far beneath a Gardsman; adding, that the Gards behaved as well in the field as any men, that it was time enough to study when a man was going on actual service, and that he was as well pleased with his first Gard as if he had returned home covered with glory.

He considered him as now completely lauched in high life, and as having received the last stamp of fashion by being an officer in the Guards. He assured me that he was considered as a very hopeful recruit—as a very prime fellow, by his brother officers: they said that he had nothing of the freshman—of the green-horn about him, and that he was as much *the thing* as if he had been a red coat for a twelve month. He furthermore informed me, that his *liqueurs* were very much admired, that he had been offered a pony for his Germany pipe, which cost him sixty guineas from the famous Mr. Hudson, and was a splendid article,—that he had fifty guineas bid for his musical snuff box,—that he had given a dozen receipts for his superior blacking—that his taste was generally admired—that Poodle was considered as very little inferior to *le Chien Munito*,—and that he had received a score of invitations, and was to be proposed as a member of all the best Clubs in town. The plain English of all this is, that my poor cousin is now enlisted under fashion's banner, is a recruit of pleasure—an aspirant of sensuality—that he is about to become the dupe of gamblers, and the imitator of the great,—that his moderate fortune is marked down for a finish,—and that he is on the high road to ruin. The peace is an unlucky circumstance for him, since actual service and going abroad, years and experience, would be the only cure for his fashion-fever—the only check to his extravagance, for he pays no regard to the lectures of

THE HERMIT IN LONDON.

Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine.

No. XVIII.

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE STATISTICS AND EXISTING COMMERCE OF THE PRINCIPAL SHORES OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN.*

In our last Number we took occasion to insert a short account of the Spanish Philippine Islands, with which we had been favoured by Captain M'Konochie, and which had been sent to him by a gentleman long a resident at Manilla, for his assistance in the composition of the work, the somewhat ample title of which we recite below. We now propose to give the public an account of this work itself, premising, however, that we shall attempt little more than a mere analysis of its principal contents; the nature of its pretensions being such, our readers will see, as to supersede, very nearly altogether, the exercise of *literary* criticism in their review.

"There are two principal objects," says Captain M. in his Introduction, "besides some others of lesser note, contemplated in this work; and as I am unable adequately to set them forth in a title page, however copiously weeded I beg leave to prefix to the whole, the following summary exposition of them:—

"The first is an attempt to fix public attention on the Pacific Ocean,† that immense gap in our commercial relations, whose shores extend to every habitable degree of latitude in our globe, and teem with every valuable article of exchange, which yet hitherto have been scarcely visited once in a season by a British merchant ship, unless on one obscure point, where a Colony for the reception of Convicts has been established. This singular apathy and indifference, it has appeared to me, are in part owing to our inadequate knowledge, in general, of the various resources, commercial and political, of this Great Ocean, as it is also emphatically styled; and endeavour to combat them accordingly, in the first instance, by a summary digest of the leading features of the Statistics of its principal shores; of their means of foreign communication, whether maritime or overland; and of the extent to which these are as yet improved—in other words, of the amount of their existing Commerce. My first chapter, then, is consumed in these details, which I seek still further to illustrate, by prefixing a skeleton chart of the whole Ocean, coloured to indicate the principal divisions of its shores, and the sovereign powers, whether Native or European, by whose subjects they are severally occupied; thus supplying at a single glance, a distinct idea of the proportion and degree to which these latter have as yet extended their dominion within its limits. In the second, I pass on to the consideration of the benefits which it would appear to me would result to this country, from the establishment of a Colony in one of those Islands with which its surface is studded, selecting, of course, a point whence an easy communication may be instituted with every considerable market within its scope. I further propose, that this point be declared a free port to all and every speculation; and that it should thus not only be an emporium whence our own exportations would readily diverge to their several destinations within its horizon, but also a conduit by which the whole speculations of these seas would be conveyed to the European and other Atlantic markets. To the Commercial views opened by this speculation, I add a few Political considerations in its favour; but of these I shall here only quote two,—the expediency of providing a bulwark to India on the side of the Spanish South American colonies, in the event of their effecting their emancipation, and becoming consequently young and ambitious states; and of imposing a curb on the piracy of their Marine, should that grow desperate by their defeat, and attempt to renew in the Pacific, those buccaneering scenes which were so long the disgrace and terror of the Caribbean Sea.

* A Summary View of the Statistics and Existing Commerce of the Principal Shores of the Pacific Ocean, with a Sketch of the Advantages, political and commercial, which would result from the Establishment of a Central Free Port within its Limits; and also of one in the Southern Atlantic, viz. within the Territory of the Cape of Good Hope, conferring on this latter, in particular, the same Privilege of Direct Trade with India and the Northern Atlantic, bestowed lately on Malta and Gibraltar. by Captain M'Konochie, royal navy. London. Richardson; Edinburgh Blackwood. 8vo. p. 366.

† The Pacific Ocean, as our readers well know, is that immense sea, the theatre of the exploits of Drake, Dampier, and Cook, which extending north and south even to the polar ice of either hemisphere, washes to the eastward the western shores of America; and is bounded to the west by that continued series of islands, which, commencing near the south point of the Peninsula of Kamtschatka, in 51° north latitude, stretches thence in a line near south as far as 45° south; its extreme groups forming that division of our globe to which some modern geographers have given the name of Australasia. Thus defined, the Pacific is conterminous with the Indian and Atlantic Oceans, and comprises, within its limits, the Spanish provinces of Chili, Peru, New Grenada, Guatimala, and Mexico; the North West For Coast of America, the Russian Settlements of Kodiak, Kamtschatka, &c. the Japanese and Loo-Choo Islands; the Indian, Malay, or Oriental Archipelago; New South Wales, &c. &c. and although somewhat strongly characterised in our text as one entire "gap in our commercial relations," abounding undoubtedly in many objects of interesting speculation, yet entirely novel to the British merchant.

"Thus far, then, the work proceeds in the two first chapters; and with them I conclude nearly all that on the present occasion I propose to advance in relation to the Pacific Ocean. The third commences the second principal discussion which I would introduce, and which, I am inclined to think, will be, for the present at least, much more interesting than the other. It is entitled, 'On the policy of forming a similar establishment also in the Southern Atlantic, (viz. within the territory of the Cape of Good Hope,) and of conferring on that particularly the privilege of direct trade with India, lately bestowed on Malta and Gibraltar.' Now, it is impossible in this Introduction to enter into the entire argument which I have adduced in its place in favour of this whole proposal, that indeed is of an extent and variety, to which I can only now generally allude; but there is a primary recommendation or at least the last clause of it, which I can here venture to detail, prefacing it, however, with some little necessary explanation. It will be within the knowledge, then, of all commercial readers, that ever since we were possessed of transmarine Colonies, it has been a principle rigidly maintained in our policy respecting them, to oblige their produce to repair first to England as to a great emporium, whence, after first paying import duty, and then receiving a portion of this again as a drawback it finds its way to its ultimate market. This passage through England is familiarly called the transit of colonial produce; and the excess of the import duty above the drawback is equally known by the name of the transit duty. With respect to East Indian produce, this transit was long confined exclusively to London, that port alone possessing the right of trading to our Indian possessions; but this right was, some few years ago, extended also to certain other domestic ports, the original principle being yet still maintained, requiring transit through England. Last session of Parliament, however, a Right Honourable Member, high in the ranks of administration, rose in his place, and having represented the inconvenience and loss entailed on British merchants carrying East Indian produce to the Mediterranean from the necessity of taking Ro[illegible]d in their way, all the ports of which lay most remote from the direct track; (an inconvenience which was enabling foreign merchants, particularly the subjects of the United States, to undersell them at every point;) he concluded by moving, that the same privilege of direct trade with India, formerly conceded to other domestic ports than London, should now also be extended to Malta and Gibraltar; in other words, that transit through them should be made equivalent, in all respects, to transit through any port in England. The motion passed almost unanimously, was carried through the usual forms of legislative enactment, and the corresponding statute now stands on the record as law.

"Such then are the facts on which I found, *prima facie*, the proposal contained in the last clause of the title of the third chapter of this work, the proposal, namely, to extend the same privilege also to a port within the territory of the Cape of Good Hope. I argue, that if the English domestic ports are remote from the direct track from India to the Mediterranean, they are even more so from every route to the American and West Indian markets; and I assert, that, in consequence of this very remoteness, we have no share whatever in the supply of any of them with East Indian produce, unless only such as are subject to our legislative enactments, while even in these a very considerable contraband trade is carried on by means of the neighbouring port St. Thomas. If, then, there was an extreme case made out with respect to the Mediterranean, it equally, or even in a still greater degree, applies to these other markets, to those, namely, of Buenos Ayres, Brazil, Caracoas, New Grenada, Mexico, the West Indies, United States, &c. in the supply of all of which we might pretend to a share, by advancing a port near the Cape of Good Hope to the rank of a transit port. This, however, is, after all, only one argument among many in favour of such a measure; for the consequences to which it would seem inevitably to lead, particularly when further developed by the additional gift to the proposed point of an absolutely free trade, the consequences, I say, to which it would then seem inevitably to lead, are of a weight and importance which can only be seen by a reference to the third chapter itself, but which sink every consideration of mere competition in the supply of the American market with East Indian produce, even as nothing in the comparison.

"The fourth and concluding chapter of the whole contains a slight review of those merely local and adventitious circumstances, which would seem to dictate our selection of the several points, the Society and Sandwich Islands in the Pacific, and Saldanha Bay within the territory of the Cape of Good Hope in the Southern Atlantic Ocean, as the sites of the free ports which it is recommended to establish; and comprising, accordingly, a slight review of the capacities of this latter to become the centre of a great commerce, concludes with a brief recapitulation of the scope and leading features of the whole argument in favour of both measures. I shall not, however, anticipate any part of these discussions in this place." &c. &c.

Such being the outline of our author's plan, in his own words, we now proceed to fill up the most important details of the speculative portion of his work, to which the summary view, or narrative part, is evidently only subsidiary and subordinate.

The first proposal submitted to us, as we have seen, is, that we should establish one or more central free ports in the Pacific Ocean; and the argument by which Captain M. seeks to recommend this measure, may thus be condensed. Whoever will examine the commercial history of the several shores of this sea, will readily be satisfied that none of them have ever enjoyed the benefits of any mutual or neighbouring traffic, although such is, unquestionably, the most powerful agent in eliciting the mercantile resources of an infant state, through the quick circulation of capital which it produces. Even those points, which have been either occupied by Europeans, or are regularly visited by their shipping, have yet only had their means developed by their intercourse with these their remote masters or visitants. Even this market has been, at the same time, narrowed in every instance by some motive or maxim of jealous and exclusive policy; while, on the other hand, those portions of these distant shores which have either not been occupied, or are not regularly visited by Europeans, have absolutely had no principle of improvement applied to them at all. Their savage inhabitants have been rather nurtured, in all time past, in the habits of rapacity, violence, and deceit, to which many of them seem naturally very prone, by the circumstance of their having been subjected to the occasional and incidental sight of objects of extreme desire to them, but which, if they could not succeed in obtaining at the instant by favour or fraud, they could have no assurance that they would ever again behold. Now these several wants of mutual and permanent traffic, each of most injurious effect to the wealth, morals, and happiness of those subjected to their operation, are those precisely which the proposed establishments would altogether obviate. To them the merchants and agents of every several point would readily and habitually repair, secure of meeting in their markets the buyers and sellers, not only of every other corner of the Pacific itself, but of the Atlantic world also; which latter, on the other hand, instead of traversing, as at present, each shore of the Pacific themselves, would in such case naturally look to these emporia alone for their sales and supplies. The innovation, accordingly, would not only bestow on the several shores of the Pacific that contiguous traffic which none of them have ever enjoyed, but would improve also materially their European communication. The whole operating, in the first place, to their own incalculable advantage, and then benefiting, in an equal, or even superior degree, that great manufacturing and commercial empire (Great Britain), whose subjects would assuredly engross the greater share of the entire carriage and agency, whose wares would equally supply the principal demand, and whose revenue, finally, would be essentially recruited by even the most moderate impost on the whole transit. This anticipation would appear so certain, it might safely be left, as thus stated, in only its most general form; but we may add, that in the work before us it is considered in great detail, and its interest essentially heightened by the connexion of its operation with a great many local objects of pursuit, such as Captain M.'s minute research into the history and statistics of the several shores of the Pacific, has assisted him in discerning, and in the consideration of which his previous summary enables his readers to accompany him. These, however, we can only recommend to the attention of mercantile men, our limits will not allow us to enter on them ourselves.

Captain M.'s second proposal is, that we should establish another free port at Saldanha Bay, within the territory of the Cape of Good Hope, bestowing on it, in particular, the privilege of receiving the transit duty on Indian importations in British bottoms, in like manner as was lately conferred on Malta and Gibraltar. The arguments adduced in behalf of this measure are of a much more complex nature than those we have just reviewed, and must be stated accordingly more at length, particularly as they lead to conclusions of an infinitely more important cast, involving at least as much of national as of commercial policy in their details. The first step of the entire anticipation is the probability, or rather certainty, that through means of the proposed privileges, the trade of the Cape of Good Hope, with both hemispheres, would speedily so increase, as that our free port or city within its limits, would become a complete emporium of their respective productions; would become, as Captain M. expresses it, "Europe to Asia, and Asia to Europe," uniting at only half the distance at which they are themselves removed, a variety and assortment of the productions of both, such as no one point in either could offer the other. Hence, it is argued, may be deduced the positive conclusion that in time, this point would bound the speculations of both extremities, the traders of each being naturally led to resort thither for a market both of sale and supply, in preference to making the whole voyage; the rather, as there can be no doubt but that the superior economy of thus dividing that into two portions, of which the resident merchants of both hemispheres would each navigate the half contiguous to their own homes and resources, the superior economy, we say, of such a division, aided by the quicker circulation of capital which it would occasion, would infallibly enable us to offer there any species of produce, even although saddled with a small transit duty, at a rate infinitely cheaper than any for which it could be procured at either extremity, burthened with the risk and expenses of so much longer a voyage. These deductions may be considered as our author's premises. The ideas are not in fact new thus far, for they were frequently agitated while yet the Cape of Good Hope belonged to Holland, and would have been acted on, we believe, in 1802, had it not been for the strenuous interposition of the British cabinet, the existing leader of which, the present Lord Sidmouth, readily foresaw the fatal consequences of such a measure, if undertaken by a rival, to the best interests of our trade. Granting them however now, and keeping in mind, moreover, that the Cape of Good Hope is at present an integral portion of the British empire, subject, accordingly, in every respect, to our management and control, the following is the very interesting series of conclusions which Captain M., in the work before us, draws from them:

1. We should acquire, by means of the proposed measure, an immense revenue, levied alike on foreign and domestic speculation, without calculation of drawback, or other material expense in collection, and averaging accordingly, a net return to the treasury, nearly equal to the gross sum levied on the merchant.

2. It would bestow on us a sort of neutral ground, where all duties and obligations would be at least equal, allowing even we did not choose to give our own merchants an advantage, and where, accordingly, British capital, industry, and enterprise, but too often fettered at home by injudicious regulations, would have full scope and play, especially as they would have the advantage of pre-occupying the ground.

3. The political sovereignty of this almost exclusive medium of communication between the two hemispheres, would give us the power of directing its whole course by mere financial regulations. This power, Captain M. acknowledges to be of very delicate administration, inasmuch as we must never compromise the general interests of the port itself for the sake of any minute object of revenue or regulations; but its acquisition is at least certain, and it might, he thinks, be judiciously exercised in encouraging the export of our manufactures, and in supporting our East India Company's Chinese trade.*

4. The comparative proximity of such a market for Oriental productions, he next observes, would encourage the merchants of continental Europe to do their own shipping, and would thus proscribe and finally run that carrying trade which first aggrandized the Dutch, and is now again fostering the maritime resources of the United States of America.

5. The interposition of this market, by cutting off all direct communication with India, would secure our dominion there, whether we chose to colonize it or not. This last measure, however, Captain M., as we think, somewhat too decidely recommends, arguing that it is called for by a great many considerations regarding the internal state both of England and India, and that it might be done with perfect security to ourselves, if we foster as proposed, the resources of the Cape of Good Hope, the prosperity of that in our hands being not less a tie than a security to these our distant possessions.†

6. The sovereignty of so principal a medium, of communication between two hemispheres at this port is again contemplated, would no further bestow on us a preponderating power and influence in both, not more founded on our ability to injure any point which might excite our displeasure, than on the habitual good with which all would feel towards the state, the protecting privileges conferred by which would this constitute the foundation of their individual prosperity. In our authors own words, "the breasts of all would progressively warm to the port and country which still divide their time and their domestic associations: they would be half our subjects-to whatever other lord the remainder of their fealty might incontestibly be due."

7. This power and influence will, however, Captain M. observes next, always be exactly commensurate with the degree to which the facilities which we may afford at this point shall be improved, "will just fall short of the unbounded extent to which they might be carried by the precise sum of competition which these may not yet be able to supersede, and by the precise deficit of those points in either hemispheres, which may yet continue to have no share in the mutual communication." Hence he argues, our acquisition of this medium, this free port, which we have thus considered in so many points of view, would give us a strong interest, a very strong interest in the prosperity of all, thus identified with that of this point, the fulcrum, as it were, of this immense lever; an interest rivetted, it is true, "by another link than this, for the revenue arising from the contemplated transit of the produce of both hemeispheres, though its stores would always be equally dependent on the same circumstance," but which, he maintains, would be quite as strong in war as in peace, "unless we would deem it good policy to lessen our power, diminish our influence, and curtail our revenue, precisely at the moment when their whole united strength may be strained to the uttermost to cope with the blow levelled at our existence." At this point, accordingly, he proposes, as an improvement on his entire scheme, that we should adopt, and openly declare our resolution to rescue this precious trade from the vacillations even of our military policy, by exempting it in all time to come, (unless we see occasion, on experiment to alter our policy; the declarations of such change however to be equally explicit) by exempting it in every case from that confiscation of private property, which we inflict on all other branches of foreign commerce, on every occasion of national hostility.

"Whatever," he observes, "may be the advantages, of situation, or freedom of trade, or moderation of imposts which we may be able to offer at this point, it can never presume to hope for the monopoly of the whole communication between the two hemispheres, unless we cast into the balance with it this privilege also, which we alone of all the world can bestow. Without this, the principle of its establishment would be adopted on other points by other powers; and the sum of benefit which it is calculated to confer, not merely on ourselves, who would be its masters, but on those also who, under the shadow of our power, would enjoy its privileges would be dissipated and destroyed by the endless jarrings which competition is ever calculated to excite among rival powers. With this high privilege, on the other hand, there would be no room for these sources of contention, these occasions of inimical discussion, these pretexts for bloodshed and strife. The subjects of all powers alike would seek this neutral bound, within which war could find no place, and the very idea of competition would vanish from their minds."

"8. If the foregoing reasoning be correct," Captain M. proceeds, "then would our acquisition of such a free port as has been contemplated, be in the very highest degree acceptable to every humane mind, of whatever country or clime, inasmuch as it would develope the principle, and illustrate the facility, with which we might give up altogether the practice of confiscating private property as an engine of public hostility; as it might tempt us accordingly to the more general experiment; and as it would thus strip war of half its horrors and miseries, while it at the same time removed many of the temptations which usually excite to its renewal*.

And lastly, "The measures thus successively proposed for the promotion of our commercial and political interest in the Pacific and Atlantic Ocean, their colonies, and the minute and permanent intercourse which they would necessarily occasion with even the most remote points of both hemispheres, would facilitate the preaching and propagation of Christian knowledge throughout the world, and thus accomplish readily, and without difficulty, that most important object which our Missionary Societies profess, indeed as the ultimate end of all their labours, but which it is but too evident to even the slightest examination, their limited powers are utterly unable without assistance to attain."

Such are the principal speculations contained in this very interesting and entertaining little volume, and which are illustrated in its pages with considerable variety of historical anecdote and allusion, and their effect further heightened by an exceedingly precise and perspicuous general arrangement.

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* On this last point we differ from our author; we would rather purchase up this monopoly altogether, by granting the Company a per centage on the tran it duty on all other Chinese trade. Indeed we think nothing could be conceived more delicate than the administration of the power in question at all. There is but one prospective case, and that not noticed by Captain M., in which we might be reconciled to it, we mean its application to that proscription of carrying trade, which forms the subject of the immediately following sentence in our text—But even this would require to be very cautiously done.

† We could have wished that Captain M., for the sake of his own argument, had studied the historical details on which this portion of it is founded, with more minute attention, it could not then have escaped him in how much stronger a light he might have placed it. As it now stands, we have the fortune to concur with both his principal conclusions, viz the expediency of colonizing India, and the security with which such a measure might be adopted, in concurrence with his schemes for developing the commerce of the Cape of Good Hope: but we arrive at them by a series of assumption and consequent argument, very different from what he has thought proper to employ. For instance, we do not think North America was lost to us exclusively, though the taxation bills against which the thunders of Lord Chatham's eloquence were directed; neither do we believe that any such peremptory and permanent lesson of *moderation* has been taught us by that catastrophe, as would of itself secure to us, *ceteris paribus*, the prolonged dominion of India, were it colonized; or still less, that such an effort could be guaranteed from any conceivable military or political ascendancy acquired by the Cape of Good Hope over it. On the contrary, we are of opinion that our North American colonies were lost to us through the operation of a long series of injudicious restrictions imposed by us on their trade generally, but particulary on that maintained by them with the French West Indies;—restrictions, the impolicy of enforcing which was seen by Sir Robert Walpole, but overlooked by Mr Secretary Pitt, (Lord Chatham), who thus himself contributed equally with others to produce the ultimate separation.—(See Macpherson's Annals of Commerce, vol 8. passive, but especially p. p. 330—414.) And arguing thence, we would infer, that it is the lesson of *liberality* in our *mercantile* and colonial policy generally, not that of mere *moderation* in minute questions of executive control, which is the "true practical instruction to be drawn from this page of history;" and that it is to the general freedom of trade which Captain M.'s schemes would disseminate throughout the whole southern hemisphere, and which would render the recurrence of similar mistakes *impossible*. That we would have to look, were they to be adopted, for the continued affection and allegiance of India, colonized or not colonized, neither to any supposed, but in truth, problematical wisdom, in future administrations, founded on a long, past, misunderstood, and almost forgotten experience, nor to any control or power of control over our Indian empire, which our policy might bestow on any other portion of our dominion. And hence, as we think, might have been drawn, a very strong argument indeed in favour of the whole schemes in question, but of which our author has almost entirly neglected to avail himself.

* We wish it were in our power to extract the whole passage (p. 310—329.) in which this portion of the subject is considered in the work before us, both as it would give us a very favourable specimen of its general style of execution, and as it relates to a proposal which peculiarly excites our interest and attention, and to which accordingly we shall certainly recur, when we shall have prepared materials for placing it in the point of view it seems to merit. We cannot meddle with it, however, now; and must content ourselves therefore with this simple recommendation of it to our readers' attention, expressing, at the same time, our surprise at a contemporary criticism of the whole work, in the main very favourably couched, but which censures this particular passage, as conveying a proposal, that "free bottoms should make free goods, or something very like it." This is a complete and even very gross mistake. The proposal really made by Captain M. as we have seen is, that free British ports should make free goods; in other words, that if our enemies choose to purchase from us, and thereby benefit our resources, national and individual, equally with their own, they shall, in such case, enjoy a trade, even under their own flag, protected and assured to them by British honour and maritime superiority, otherwise they shall go without it altogether, and shall not even have the privilege of complaint, for the result, whatever it be, will have been their own choice. Surely nothing would appear more reasonable than this, nothing more gratifying to British pride than its general acceptance; need we add, nothing more essentially different than its adoption, from any acquiescence with those neutral pretensions the object of which, on the contrary, it would totally defeat. It is in fact the cause of belligerent direct, not that of neutral carrying trade, which is here advocated; to this last Captain M. shews himself peculiarly hostile in every part of his work.