

EXTRACT.
EARLY APPLICATION TO WIS-
DOM.

Wisdom is the principal thing; there-
fore get wisdom; and with all thy
getting, get understanding.—Ex-
alt, and she shall promote thee;
she shall bring thee to honour,
when thou dost embrace her.—She
shall give to thee a head as ornate
as a crown; a crown of glory
shall she deliver to thee.

Cicero (than whom no man was
a better judge, for no man more
earnestly fought, or better under-
stood, the true nature of wisdom;
no man, I mean of the heathen
world) has given nearly this defini-
tion of wisdom: "What (says he)
is more desirable than wisdom;
what more excellent in itself;
what more useful to man, or more
worthy his pursuit? They who
earnestly seek for it are called phi-
losophers; for philosophy, in the
strict meaning of the word, is no
other than the love of wisdom;
but wisdom as defined by the an-
cient philosophers, is the knowledge
of things divine and human, and of
their efficient causes; the study of
which whoever despises, I know
not what he can think worthy of his
approbation. For whether you
seek for an agreeable amusement,
or a relaxation from care, what can
be comparable to those studies
which are always searching out for
something that may tend to make
life more easy and happy? Are
you desirous of learning the princi-
ples of fortitude and virtue? This
or, none beside the art by which
you may acquire them. They who
affirm that there is no art in things
of the greatest moment, while no-
thing, even the most trifling, is at-
tained without the aid of art are men
of no reflection, and guilty of the
grossest errors; but if there is any
science of virtue, where shall it
be learned, if not in the school of this
wisdom?"

An ignorant, idle man, is a dead
weight on society: a wicked, pro-
fligate man is a pest, is a nuisance
to society; but a wife and virtuous
man, who labours by all means in
his power to advance the universa-
good, to improve the knowledge and
the happiness of mankind, is at
once an ornament to his nature, and
a blessing to the community; a good
planet shining with a benign in-
fluence on all around him; the truest
resemblance of his God, whose
goodness is continually displaying
itself through the whole extent of
being, and, like that God, seeking
pleasure in conferring good, and
feeling happiness according to the
degree in which he communicates it.

Antisthenes being asked, what he
got by his learning, answered,
"That he could talk to himself,
could live alone, and needed not go
abroad and be beholden to other
for delight." The same person
desired nothing of the gods to
make his life happy, but the spirit
of Socrates; which would enable
him to bear any wrong or injury,
and to continue in a quiet temper,
whatever might befall him.

Count Oxenstiern, the Chan-
celor of Sweden, was a person of the
first quality, rank, and abilities;
in his own country, and whose ear-
and success, not only in the chief
ministry of affairs, but in the
greatest negotiations of Europe,
during his time, rendered him no
less considerable abroad. After all
his knowledge and honours, being
visited in his retreat from public bu-
siness by commissioner Whitlocke,
our ambassador to Queen Christina,
at the close of their conversation he
said to the ambassador, "I, Sir,
have seen much, and enjoyed much
of this world; but I never knew
how to live till now. I thank my
good God who has given me time
to know him and like myself.
All the comfort I take, and which
is more than the whole world can
give, is the knowledge of God's
love in my heart, and the reading
of this blessed book—laying his hand
on the bible.—You are now, Sir,
(continued he) in the prime of your
age and vigour, and in great favour
and business; but this will all leave
you, and you will one day better
understand and relish what I say to
you. Then you will find that there
is more wisdom, truth, comfort,
and pleasure, in retiring and turn-
ing your heart from the world in
the good spirit of God, and in read-
ing his sacred word, than in all the
courts and all the favours of prin-
ces."

FROM THE
MONTHLY MAGAZINE,
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By T. & J. SWORDS.

KOTZEBUE.

AS a dramatic writer, stands almost
unrivalled amongst the Germans.
He is a native of Weimar, in Saxony,
a small but highly polished city,
which has frequently been called
"Paris in miniature." Here he cul-
tivated an early acquaintance with
the Muses, by his unremitting atten-
tion to the dramatic performances of
that place, then in eminent repute,
on account of the refined taste & cor-
rect judgment of the actors and au-
dience. Kotzebue's decided predilec-
tion for the drama, in theory as well
as in practice, is obvious from several
passages alluding to the subject, in
his own works. Yet it is certain that
he never condescended to perform on
a public stage, and that all his at-
tempts as an actor were confined to
private theatres, established among
select parties of literary friends. Thus
he obtained the double advantage
of indulging himself in his favourite
amusement, and at the same time, of
performing dramatic pieces of his own
composition, and deciding on the
merits in a contracted circle of candid
discerning critics, before he ventured
to present them to the public.

Kotzebue was educated for the law,
which he practised for a number
of years, in various eminent stations,
till he was appointed president of the
high college of Justice in the Russian
province of Livonia. Here he wrote
the greater number of his dramatic
works, as well as his miscellaneous
compositions in the department of the
Belles Lettres. His numerous per-
formances are the more surprising, as
his leisure time till lately, must have
been remarkably short, on account of
the multiplicity and importance of his
other avocations, which required the
whole of his attention, while he held
the distinguished office before men-
tioned. Fortunately however, for the
Muses, and particularly those of the
German State, he met with a number
of inviolable opponents in Livonia,
who magnified every trifling fault
of his private conduct into a crime of
the first magnitude, and persecuted
him with such unrelenting malignity,
that he thought proper to retire from
his splendid office of state, and to
devote the remainder of his life to
the service of a more grateful public.
Hence he betook himself entirely to
literary pursuits, and having left
the Russian dominions he repaired to
the court of Vienna, where he readily
obtained the appointment of "Dra-
matist to the imperial theatre." It is
unnecessary to detail here, the com-
plicated intrigues carried on under
the late Empress of Russia, in every
province of her extensive empire;
and the frequent persecutions which
foreigners promoted to office, sustain-
ed from the semi barbarous natives.
Let it suffice to observe, that they too
often succeeded in their nefarious
designs against those aliens, whom
they hated both on account of their
superior talents, and their abhorrence
of Russian sloth and drunkenness.
Kotzebue was one of the many objects
of persecution in Russia, although
his moral character must have been
exceptionable; as it is not prob-
able that the emperor of Germany
would otherwise have appointed him
to be his "dramatic poet."

The merits and demerits of this
writer in the wide field of romance,
as well as of the drama, are but im-
perfectly known in this country, as
only a few of his productions have
been translated into the English lan-
guage. And from the metamorphosed
late in which German translations
generally appear before the English
public, it is not an easy matter to
ascertain the due and relative me-
rit of either author or translator. Kot-
zebue has published, besides a great
variety of romances and novels, about
thirty dramatic pieces of various
merit. Among the latter we find
"Menschenhaß und Reue," or "Mis-an-
thropy and Repentance;" "The
Negro Slave;" and "The Indians
in England," which three are the
most popular of his performances.
The first of these has been translated
with some success in this country,
(though in a very mutilated coun-
dition) under the title "The Stran-
ger," where it has, during a great
part of last season, attracted crowded
audiences to Drury Lane theatre. The
other two pieces namely, "The Negro
slaves," and "The Indians in Eng-
land," have likewise met with trans-
lators, though the latter of them is
not yet published nor is it likely that
any other of his dramatic composi-
tions will ever be brought on the En-
glish stage. This may be partly at-
tributed to the great difference subsist-
ing between the national taste and
manners of the English and Germans,
and partly to a certain characteristic
which distinguishes his productions
from those of all other modern writ-
ers. His knowledge of the human
heart and its secret meanders, is

unquestionably great; he has not
only made the prevailing manners,
allies, and vices of the age, but
also man himself, as influenced by a
variety of ardent passions, the object
of its minute research. Few writers
have ever attained to his excellence
in delineating whimsical and impar-
tial characters; & in scenes drawn
from private and domestic life, our
poet eminently excels his contem-
porary rivals, both in the unaffected
felicity of the sentiments he conveys,
and the freedom and precision with
which he introduces them. His lan-
guage, though generally correct and
lightened, is occasionally tinged
with an ambiguous mode of expression,
& his dialogue sometimes degenerates
into a winning tone. But this is not
so much the fault of an individual, as
of the depraved taste of his country-
men. This false taste, however, may
be manifested in different ways: in
England the constant visitors of our
theatres well known, that equivocal
phrases or sentiments, such as do not
too grossly offend the delicate ear of
females, are not unfrequently more
applauded than the most refined
moral doctrines. Kotzebue's plans
are formed with great art, and de-
veloped, for the most part, in a most
unexpected and successful manner.
His system of morals, however, as
exhibited in his dramatic composi-
tions, does not seem free from cen-
sure, for it certainly is too great a
sacrifice made of virtue, when char-
acters of vicious habits are repre-
sented as having attained their end, and
finished their immoral career in tri-
umph, merely because some fortunate
accident, turned the scale in their
favour. If the remark which has
frequently been made in our reviews
as well as newspapers be just, that
all German productions of the dra-
matic kind, "abound in sentiment
and reasoning;" and if these are
objectionable qualities of a perfor-
mance which is to be subjected to a
popular tribunal, there is little or no
danger to be apprehended, that the
English stage will be inundated with
German plays. With respect to the
translations in Kotzebue's life, a few
circumstances only have transpired to
public notice. It is known, that in
his youth, he was a favourite pupil
of the late professor Mülhausen of
Weimar, under whose care and tuition
he was educated; that he left the
Russian dominions chiefly on account
of a work called "The Life of Count
Beniowski," written by himself,
which contained many private anec-
dotes relative to the cruelties practised
by order of the late Empress of Russia;
and that soon after his arrival at
Vienna, he was appointed Imperial
dramatist, in which situation, at pre-
sent his merits, and talents meet with
that reward and degree of public ef-
teem which he so amply deserves.

From the Western Telegraph.

At the close of the last session of
Congress, the honorable MATTHEW
LYON, Esq. member from the State
of Vermont, applied to the Sergeant
at arms (who settles the members bills
for mileage and attendance) to settle
his bill for mileage and attendance dur-
ing the session. Mr. Lyon had come
to Congress only a very short time be-
fore the session ended, having in the
fall of last year been imprisoned in
the goal of Vergennes, in the State of
Vermont, on a judgment of the Cir-
cuit Court there, for Sedition. But
Mr. Lyon had the modesty to de-
mand pay for attendance in Congress
during the whole of the session. The
Sergeant at arms, thought it inadvisable
and would not pass his account with-
out the approbation of the Speaker.
Mr. Lyon had so much grace left him
as to be ashamed to apply to the Spea-
ker himself; but he had so little grace
as to ask another to do which he
knew he ought not to do himself. At
his request, the Sergeant at arms men-
tioned the matter to the Speaker.
The Speaker (like the Sergeant at
arms, and every honest man) was of
opinion, that Mr. Lyon's claim was
inadmissible. Mr. Lyon "claimed
mileage from the goal of Vergennes
to Philadelphia. The readers is re-
quested to observe, that the goal of
Vergennes is further from Philadel-
phia than Mr. Lyon's house is. The
Sergeant at Arms was again sent to the
Speaker, with all the promptness for
which Mr. Dayton is remarkable, re-
plied, "Perhaps the claim is right;
Go back and get from Mr. Lyon a cer-
tificate, that the goal of Vergennes is
his usual place of abode, and that he
means to return thither; and on that
certificate I will authorize the settle-
ment of his account for mileage as he
has presented it."

It is needless to add, that Mr. Lyon
did not choose to give such certificate,
and Mr. Lyon got only the wages he
deserved. But it may be proper to
observe, that two other bills for Se-
dition were sent and dry for Mr. Lyon,
on his return to Vermont; and that
he chose to retire for shelter with his
friend Mason of Virginia; and has
lately announced his intention of go-
ing to Kentucky.

VIRGINIA, May 6.
THE following Ten characters will
truly represent this State in the
Sixth Congress:—For ability and eve-
ry variety of ardent passions, the Union cannot
put a like number against them, viz.—
HENRY LEE, JOHN MARSHALL,
LEVEN POWELL, SAMUEL
GOODE, EDWIN GRAY, JAMES
HAYMOND, GEORGE HANCOCK,
JOSHUA PARKER, THOMAS E.
VANS, and ROBERT PAGE.—The
three last gentlemen are re-elected.
—The Democratic Members will be,
if they repeat not, of which there are
some hopes.—MATTHEW CLAY,
JOHN DAWSON, ANTHONY NEW
JOSEPH EGGLESTON, JOHN NI-
CHOLAS, JOHN RANDOLPH, DA-
VID HOLMES, SAMUEL JORDAN
CABAL, and one other cavalier, whose
name we have not ascertained. The
members who have leave to stay at
home, are the Ex-Hon. Messrs. Clai-
borne, Harrison, Machir, Trigg,
Jones, Clopton, Brent and Venable.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAKIERS OF
MALABAR.

The Senalleys are a sect of men-
dicant philosophers, commonly known
by the name of Fakiers, which literal-
ly signifies poor people. These idle
and pretended devotees, assemble
sometimes in armies of ten or twelve
thousand, and, under a pretext of
making pilgrimages to certain tem-
ples, lay whole countries under con-
tribution. These saints wear no cloths,
are generally very robust, and con-
vert the wives of the less holy part
of mankind to their own use, upon their
religious progresses. They admit any
man of parts into their number, and
they take great care to instruct their
disciples in every branch of knowledge,
to make the order the more revered
among the vulgar.

When this naked army of robust
saints direct their march to any tem-
ple, the men of the provinces through
which their road lies, very often fly
before them, notwithstanding the sanc-
tified character of the Fakiers. But
the women are in general more reso-
lute, and not only remain in their
dwellings, but apply frequently for
the prayers of these holy persons,
which are found to be most effectual
in cases of sterility. When a Fakier
is at prayers with the lady of the
house, he leaves either his slipper or
his staff at the door, which if seen by
the husband, effectually prevents him
from disturbing their devotion. But
should he be so unfortunate as not to
mind those signals, a sound drubbing
is the inevitable consequence of his
intrusion.

Though the Fakiers enforce with
their arms, that reverence which
the people of Hindostan have natu-
rally for their order, they inflict volun-
tary penances of very extraordinary
kinds upon themselves, to gain more
respect. These fellows sometimes
hold up one arm in a fixed position
till it becomes stiff, and remains in
that situation during the rest of their
lives. Some clench their fists very
hard, and keep them so till their nails
grow into their palms, and appear
through the back of their hands. O-
thers turn their faces over one shoul-
der, and keep them in that situation,
till they fix for ever their heads look-
ing backward. Many turn their eyes
to the point of their nose, till they
have lost the power of looking in any
other direction. These last pre end
sometimes to see what they call the
sacred fire, which vision, no doubt,
proceeds from some disorder arising
from the distortion of the optic nerve.
It often appears to Europeans in
India, a matter of some ridicule to
converse with those distorted and
sunk philosophers; though their
knowledge and external appearance,
exhibit a very striking contrast. Some
are really what they seem, enthusiasts;
but others put on the character of
sanctity, as cloak of their pleasures,
but what actually makes them a pub-
lic nuisance, and the aversion of poor
husbands, is that the women think
they derive some holiness to them-
selves, from an intimacy with a Fak-
ier.

Many other foolish customs, besides
those we have mentioned, are pecu-
liar to those religious meditants. But
enthusiastic penances are not confined
to them alone. Some of the vul-
gar on the fast of Oppos, suspend
themselves on iron hooks, by the flesh
of the shoulder blade, to the end of a
pivot, on the head of a high pole.
The enthusiast not only seems insen-
sible of pain but very often blows a
trumpet as he is whirled round above,
and, at certain intervals, sings a song
to the gaping multitude below; who
very much admire his fortitude and
devotion. This ridiculous custom is
kept up to commemorate the suffer-
ings of a martyr, who was in that man-
ner tortured for his faith.

PHILADELPHIA, May 18.
Yesterday morning, Mr. LEWIS
concluded the pleadings in support of
his motion for granting a new trial to
JOHN FRIES; when, after taking
some time for consideration, Judge
IREDELL delivered his opinion on

the several reasons which had been
assigned by the counsel of the prisoner,
as a ground for their motion. He be-
lieved, that though the juror, Mr.
Rhoad, might have made the declara-
tions which had been ascribed to him
by the several witnesses who had been
examined, respecting the punishment
which the prisoner at the bar and o-
thers deserved, without any bad in-
tention, yet he considered them such
as would have been deemed sufficient,
had they been made known before
the trial, to have disqualified him as
a juror (since they were evasive of
his having made up a decided opinion
on the criminality of the person
whom he was called upon to try) and,
therefore, that his having made them,
afforded a sufficient reason for grant-
ing a new trial. The Judge exami-
ned all the other additional reasons
which had been brought forward in
support of the motion for a new trial,
which, without the first, he should
have considered as unavailing.

Judge PETERS declared himself to
be of the same opinion with Judge
IREDELL, with respect to all the
reasons which had been assigned for a
new trial, except the first; but, in re-
lation to that, he differed with him.
Though he could not doubt Mr.
Rhoad had made use of the expressi-
ons with which he was charged, yet,
in forming an opinion upon so public
a topic, he had done no more than
most other men had done, and in do-
ing which he did not think it appear-
ed that he had evinced any malice a-
gainst the prisoner, and therefore that
the opinion could have had no influ-
ence in his decision upon this trial. In-
deed it was his opinion that the trial
had been perfectly fair, and that a
new trial ought not to be granted;
but, known the consequence of a divi-
sion of opinion in the Court, would be
to defer the motion under considera-
tion; knowing also that the punish-
ment which shall be inflicted upon
the prisoner at the bar, will have the
better effect as a public example,
when it shall appear that every objec-
tion to the fairness of his trial shall
have been obviated, he yielded to the
opinion of Judge Iredell, and consented
to a new trial being had.

The new trial cannot, of course,
take place till the next Circuit Court,
which will be held in October next.

A spirited English writer, with
much neatness of antithesis, mentions
these as the contradictory principles
of the French: To establish revolu-
tionary governments—to murder
with the hand of justice—pillage
legally—force loans, compel a man
to be free—evince the sovereignty of
the people by battles in every pro-
vince—conciliate the conquered by
rapine—regenerate by destroying,
justify means, however fatal, by the
end, however remote—strengthen so-
ciety by debauching its principles—
and annihilate the Being of the Au-
thor of all Beings, by vote!

Shakespeare has an expression—
"this is a mad world my masters"—
and who can doubt it now amidst
the confusion that prevails in every
part of it?

The Italian has lost his Music—
The Dutchman his Treasure—
Switzerland her Liberty, and
All Europe its Tranquility.

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