

AN INTERESTING QUESTION RESOLVED AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE YEAR.

[From FAWCETT'S Elegiacal Mortality and Hope:]

SAY, must I toil YEAR following YEAR to stay,
In all their coarser or their subtle forms,
The various follies on my peace that prey,
Only, at length, to fall the prey of worms?

When love of knowledge most intense shall glow,
When most I value reason's precious light?
Then must I cease, for ever cease to know?
Then reason's lamp go out in endless night?

Heaven's beautiful works, with clearer views survey'd,
When with devouter awe, mine eyes adore;
Shall their fair object from before them fade,
And I admit these beautiful works no more?

Or was I form'd a vain desire to feel
Of lovely truths, their radiant face that hide?
Truths that to me their charms most ne'er unveil,
For ever to my longing eyes denied?

While the brute tribes with happier dulness blest,
No painful scene of straiten'd knowledge show;
In easy ignorance all incurious rest,
Content their fellows and their food to know;

Was I inform'd with this more stirring mind,
To mourn a night no law shall e'er remove?
Seeking a day, I ne'er am doom'd to find,
With anxious, fruitless steps, ordain'd to rove?

To paint the alluring form of social weal,
Where minds, in order moving, all agree;
And in sweet chime the silver spheres excel,
Yet ne'er in act the lovely picture see?

To spend my soul in life consuming sighs,
That men on men with savage rage should prey;
Nor hope to see a fairer scene arise,
Whose smiling image shall my pains repay?

The noblest want which nature knows to raise,
Say, shall she leave alone without its food?
Leave, while each lower thirst her care allays,
Unlack'd the lofty wish for boundless good?

While for each humbler power her hands have made,
Those hands a field of ample scope prepare;
For oary fins, while watery paths are plac'd,
For winnowing wings the liquid plains of air;

Shall souls, equip'd with wondrous powers to fly
Through the vast tracts of truth's and virtue's reign,
Be ne'er allow'd to fall that glorious sky,
Cag'd in this narrow lie, and wing'd in vain?

Cease—cease my song to mourn the lot of MAN!
Revoke the murmur and recall the tear!
It CANNOT be—that nature's faultless plan
To him alone devils a suited sphere.

The eagle-pilots of this ACTIVE MIND,
Though now a little space enclose their flights,
At length she PERMANENT they ask shall find,
And soar without control, CELESTIAL HEIGHTS!

ANECDOTE.

The Hon. Captain John Murray, being in Baltimore last year, in the month of July and August, fold a curriole to Jerome Buonaparte, brother to the First Consul of France, (now Emperor,) having the Arms (a) and Motto (b) of the family painted upon it. Jerome had driven out of town several times, in the curriole, and on his return, lodged it in the back yard in the Fountain Inn. One day when several gentlemen were looking at the curriole, one of them remarked that the Armorial bearings and the Motto were well adapted to the name and fortune of Jerome's family. True replied another, but he has, I presume, come by these arms and motto as his brother did by his Empire, not honestly—for I know these to be my Lord Dunmore's arms, and that his motto. This being mentioned at the public table in the Inn raised a laugh of which, it is probable, Jerome had received information, as the arms and motto were rubbed out next morning; and nothing left but the ornament which was around them.

(a) Craft being a naked man with a dagger in one hand, and a key with a chain in the other.
(b) Fortune and fill the ills.

EMPEROR OF GARRATT
PERAUS
EMPEROR BUONAPARTE.

Address of HARRY the First, his Imperial Majesty, Emperor of Garratt to his Loving Subjects.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I KNOW not which is most painful, a full heart or an empty belly; I am ready to burst with gratitude at such frequent and transcendent proofs of your kindness and attachment. Sir HARRY DUNDALD, your once able, honest and worthy representative, created spontaneously the redoubtable EMPEROR OF GARRATT. Proud day of my life! may HARRY the First long enjoy the enviable honour you have so freely conferred. Long live the Emperor of Garratt!—You have made me an Emperor; I will not basely degrade you by making you Slaves; I will not support my throne by acts of cruelty

and tyranny; I want no Mamelukes to protect me from the daggers of the distracted relatives of those I have murdered; no Legion of Honour, or Legion of Devils to surround my person; No! HARRY the First is not a Corsican; he is an Englishman, and English hearts engender no such crimes, and need no such protection. You may live happy during my Emperorship; you may warm the cockles of your heart by swallowing a bumper glass of the best Cordial Gin; and your Emperor will not force you to mix Bitters with it; you may fill a pipe of the best Virginia, and quietly smoke it without fear of a bayonet being thrust into your bodies. I will neither banish, prison or strangle you. If you prove tired of my Reign, should you wish me to budge, I am off in the twinkling of a Pig's whisper; I'll bundle directly! Dare every Emperor say as much! But that dreadful day will never come; the Emperor of Garratt loves his Subjects, and his Subjects' Wives and Daughters, and they love him, and even the infant offspring of his People exclaim HARRY THE EMPEROR FOREVER!! London paper.

REMARKABLE DEATH.

Died lately, at Canada, *Tyenté Fohi*, aged 102; a native of China, brought to America in early youth. He is said to have descended from the race of ancient Chinese Emperors; and being of strong powers of mind and body, instituted in Canada, a society by the name of "Roufficouche," in imitation of those of his own native country, and in Europe; several branches of which are now in existence in the United States. Some of the objects of these societies are to obtain and preserve the curiosities of nature, to forward the arts and sciences, and to practice Olympic games, &c. It was in the act of attempting to throw an iron spear, weighing 600 lbs. at a mark 20 feet off, (and which he effected) that he came by his death, having produced a violent hemorrhage. The friends and acquaintances of the deceased will recall his many virtues and talents to remembrance with affection; and the Asiatic, European, and American Societies of Roufficouche, of many of which he was an honorary member, will hear of his death with deep regret.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE KENTUCKY PALLADIUM.

Frankfort, Dec. 12, 1804.

SIR, No circumstance relating to the history of the western country, probably has excited, at different times, more general attention and anxious curiosity, than the opinion that a nation of white men, speaking the Welsh language, reside high up on the Missouri. By some the idea is treated as nothing but the suggestion of bold imposture and easy credulity; while others regard it as a fact fully authenticated by Indian testimony and the report of various travellers worthy of credit. The fact is accounted for they say, by recurring to a passage in the history of Great-Britain, which relates that several years before the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, a certain Welch prince embarked from his native country with a large party of emigrants—that after some time a vessel or two came back with the account that they had discovered a country far to the westward, and that they set sail again with a fresh reinforcement and never returned any more.—The country which these adventurers discovered, it has been supposed, was the continent of North America, and it has been conjectured, that they landed on this continent some where in the gulph of Mexico, and from thence proceeded northward till they got out of the reach of the hostile natives, and seated themselves in the upper country of Missouri. Many accounts accordingly have been published within the last 30 years of persons who in consequence either of accident or the ardour of curiosity have made themselves acquainted with a nation of men on the Missouri, possessing the complexion of Europeans, and the language of Welshmen. Could the fact be well established, it would afford perhaps, the most satisfactory solution of the difficulty occasioned by a view of the various ancient fortifications with which the Ohio country abounds, of any that has ever been offered. Those fortifications were evidently never made by the Indians. The Indian art of war presents nothing of the kind. The probability too is that the persons who constructed them were at that time acquainted with the use of iron: the situation of those fortifications, which are uniformly in the most fertile land of the country, indicates that those who made them, were an agricultural people, and the remarkable care and skill with which they were executed, afford traits of the genius of a people, who relied more on their military skill than on their numbers.—The growth of the trees upon them, is very compatible with the idea that it is not more than 600 years ago that they were abandoned.

These hints, however, are thrown out rather to excite enquiry, than by way of advancing any decided opinion on the subject. Having never met with any of the persons who had seen these white Americans, nor even received their testimony near the source, I have always entertained considerable doubts about the fact. Last evening however, Mr. John Childs of Jassawine county, a gentleman, with whom I have been long acquainted, and who is well known to be a man

of veracity, communicated a relation to me, which at all events, appears to merit serious attention. After he had related it in conversation, I requested him to repeat it, and committed it to writing. It has certainly some internal marks of authenticity. The country which is described was altogether unknown in Virginia, when the relation was given, and was probably very little known to the Shawanese Indians. Yet the account of it agrees very remarkably with later discoveries. On the other hand, the story of the large animal, though by no means incredible, has something of the air of fable; and it does not satisfactorily appear how the long period which the party were absent was spent—the Indians are, however, so much accustomed to loiter away their time, that many weeks and even months, may probably have been spent in indolent repose.

Without detaining you any more with preliminary remarks, I will proceed to the narration as I received it from Mr. Childs. Maurice Griffith, a native of Wales, which country he left when he was about 16 years of age, was taken a prisoner by a party of Shawanese Indians, about 40 years ago, near Vosse's fort, on the head of Roanoke river, in Virginia, and carried to the Shawanese nation. Having staid there about two years and a half, he found that five young men of the tribe, had a desire of attempting to explore the sources of the Missouri. He prevailed upon them to admit him as one of the party. They set out with six good rifles, and with six pounds of powder a piece, of which they were of course very careful. On reaching the mouth of the Missouri they were struck with the extraordinary appearance occasioned by the intermixture of the muddy waters of the Missouri, and the clear, transparent stream of the Mississippi. They staid two or three days amusing themselves with the view of this novel sight: they then determined on the course which they should pursue, which happened to be so nearly in the course of the river, that they frequently came within sight of it as they proceeded on their journey. After travelling about 30 days through pretty farming wood land, they came into fine open prairies, on which nothing grew but long, luxuriant grass. There was a succession of these, varying in size, some being 8 or 10 miles across, but one of them so long, that it occupied three days to travel through it. In passing through this large prairie they were much distressed for water and provisions, for they seldom saw either beast or bird, and though there was an abundance of salt springs, fresh water was very scarce. In one of these prairies, the salt springs ran into small ponds, in which as the weather was hot, the water had sunk and left the edges of the ponds so covered with salt, that they fully supplied themselves with that article, and might easily have collected bushels of it. As they were travelling through the prairies, they had likewise the good fortune to kill an animal which was nine or ten feet high, and of a bulk proportioned to its height. They had seen two of the same species before, and they saw four of them afterwards. They were swift footed, and they had neither tusks nor horns. After having passed through the long prairie, they made it a rule never to enter on one which they could not see across, till they had supplied themselves with a sufficiency of jerked venison, to last several days. After having travelled a considerable time through the prairies, they came to very extensive lead mines, where they smelted the ore and furnished themselves with what lead they wanted. They afterwards came to two copper mines, one of which was three miles through, and in several places they met with rocks of copper ore as large as houses.

When about 15 days journey from the second copper mine, they came in sight of white mountains, which though it was in the heat of Summer, appeared to them to be covered with snow. The sight naturally excited considerable astonishment, but on their approaching the mountains, they discovered, that instead of snow, they were covered with immense bodies of white sand. They had, in the mean time passed through about ten nations of Indians, from whom they received very friendly treatment. It was the practice of the party to exercise the office of spokesman in rotation; and when the language of any nation through which they passed was unknown to them, it was the duty of the spokesman, a duty in which the others never interfered, to convey their meaning by appropriate signs.

The labor of travelling through the deep sands of the mountains, was excessive, but at length they relieved themselves of this difficulty by following the course of a shallow river, the bottom of which being level, they made their way to the top of the mountains, with tolerable convenience.

After passing the mountain they entered a fine, fertile tract of land, which having travelled through for several days, they accidentally met with three white men in the Indian dress. Griffith immediately understood their language, as it were pure Welsh, though they occasionally made use of a few words with which he was not acquainted. However as it happened to be the turn of one of his Shawanese companions to act as spokesman, or interpreter; he preserved a profound silence, and never gave them any intimation that he understood the language of their new companions.

After proceeding with them four or five days journey, they came to the village of these white men, where they found that the whole nation were of the same colour, having all the European complexion. The three men took them through their village for a

about the space of ten miles, when they came to the council house, at which an assembly of the king and chief men of the nation was immediately held. The council lasted three days, as the strangers were not supposed to be acquainted with their language, they were obliged to be present at their deliberations. A great question before the council was, what conduct should be observed towards the strangers. From their fire arms, their knives and their tomahawks, it was concluded they were warlike people. It was conceived that they were sent to look out for a country for the nation, that if they were suffered to return, they might expect a body of powerful invaders, but that if these six men were put to death, nothing would be known of their country and they would still enjoy their possession in security. It was finally determined that they should be put to death. Griffith then thought that it was time for him to speak. He addressed the Council in the Welsh language. He informed them that they had not been seen by any nation; that as they were actuated merely by private curiosity they had no hostile intentions, that it was their wish to trace the Missouri to its source, and that they should return to their country satisfied with the discoveries they had made, without any wish to disturb the repose of their new acquaintances. An instant astonishment glowed in the countenances not only of the Council but of his Shawanese companions, who clearly saw that he was understood by the people of their country. Full confidence was at once given to his declarations, the king advanced and gave him his hand. He abandoned the design of putting him and his companions to death, and from that moment treated them with the utmost friendship. Griffith and the Shawanese continued eight months in the nation but were deterred from prosecuting their researches up the Missouri, by the advice of the people of the country who informed them that they had gone a twelve months journey up the river but found it as large there as it was in their own country. As to the history of this people, he could learn nothing satisfactory. The only account they could give was that their forefathers had come up the river from a very distant country. They had no books, no records, no writings. They intermixed with no other people by marriage: there was not a dark skinned man in the nation. There numbers were very considerable. There was a continued range of settlements on the river for fifty miles, and there were, within this space three large water courses which fell into the Missouri, on the banks of each of which likewise, they were settled. He supposed that there must be 50,000 men in the nation, capable of bearing arms. Their clothing was skins well dressed. Their houses were made of upright posts and the bark of the trees. The only implements they had had to cut them with were stone tomahawks. They had no iron, their arms were bows and arrows. They had some silver which had been hammered with stone into coarse ornaments, but it did not appear to be pure. They had neither horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, nor any domestic or tame animals. They lived by hunting. He said nothing about their religion.

Griffith and his companions had some large iron tomahawks with them. With these they cut down a tree and prepared it for a canoe to return home in—but their tomahawks were so great a curiosity, and the people of the country were so eager to handle them, that their canoe was completed with a very little labour. When this work was accomplished, they proposed to leave their new friends—Griffith, however, having promised to visit them again. They descended the river with considerable speed, but amidst frequent dangers from the rapidity of the current, particularly when passing through the white mountains. When they reached the Shawanese nation, they had been absent for two years and a half. Griffith supposed that when they travelled, they went at the rate of about fifteen miles a day.—He staid but a few months with the Indians after their return, at a favourable opportunity offered itself to him to reach his friends in Virginia. He came with a hunting party of Indians to the head waters of Coal river, which runs into New river not far above the falls.—There he left the Shawanese, and easily reached the settlements on Roanoke.—Mr. Childs knew him before he was taken prisoner, and saw him a few days after his return, when he narrated to him the preceding circumstances. Griffith was universally regarded as a steady honest man, and a man of strict veracity. Mr. Childs has always placed the utmost confidence in his account of himself and his travels, and has no more doubt of the truth of his relation, than if he had seen the whole himself. Whether Griffith be still alive or not he does not know.

Whether his idea be correct or not, we shall probably have a better opportunity of judging on the return of Captains Lewis Clark—who though they may not penetrate as far as Griffith alleged he had done, probably learn enough of the country to enable us to determine whether the account given by Griffith be a fiction or truth.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,
HARRY TOULMIN.

TO RENT,
A DWELLING House on the West side of Front-street, and a Ware-House on the west. Apply to
January 15. JOHN BRADLEY.