

POETRY.

FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS ALMANAC.

THE PAST YEAR.

Departed Year! there is a tone
Of silent eloquence in thee,
That tells of hopes and pleasures flown,
Like bubbles on the swelling sea,
That glitter one short moment there,
And then are lost in empty air.

LITERARY SELECTIONS.

THE TRIUMPHS OF INTELLECT.

We have been favoured with the perusal of a very superior production, discussing this highly interesting subject. It is a Lecture delivered in October last, to the Students of Waterville College, by Stephen Chapin, D. D. Professor of Theology in that institution. We think our readers will be much gratified with the following extracts:—

ry branch of science, you must, if you would make the most of your talents, direct them to some one specific field of action. Have you gigantic strength of body, you will not therefore fancy, that there are no limits to your power, and that you can overthrow the Andes, or carry off the Alps.

Be not soon discouraged, if at first you make but slow progress. Students are often disheartened because their first advances are slow; especially if they are outstripped by minds of a quicker expansion. Some capacities are free soils, that promptly yield a light crop with but little labour; others again are like lands of a more fixed character, that must endure a severer process of culture before their strength can be evolved.

Let not formidable obstructions shake your courage or cool your zeal. It seems to be the purpose of Heaven, that we shall gain nothing durable and of high value without much toil and expense. Marble is found in hard quarries and must be relieved from its bed, by great effort, and then it must feel many a blow before it will present the charms of Venus de Medicis.

But Cromwell possessed a mind both strong and elastic. When he had fixed on his course, he pursued it with all the majesty of self confidence, and unbending resolution. Hence obstructions retired before him, as feeble beasts flee before the lion of the forest.

FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.

The human race has been divided by Blumenbach into five varieties, to which all the various tribes of men may be ultimately traced. These are first, the Caucasian; second, the Mongolian or Tartar; third, the African, Ethiopian or Negro; fourth, the American; fifth, the Malay.

First, The Caucasian variety is supposed to have originated in the vicinity of that chain of mountains, which are situated between the Caspian and Black Seas, and among which Mount Caucasus is conspicuous. This variety is distinguished by the fine form of the head and the great beauty of the features.

Second, The Mongolian variety embraces the inhabitants of the eastern part of Asia, of China and Japan, and those of the northern parts of Europe, the Calmucs and others. It is distinguished by a low slanting forehead, high cheek bones, straight, black hair, thin beard, and olive complexion.

Third, The African, Ethiopian or Negro variety is remarkable for its black color, curled hair, flat nose, compressed cranium, and large lips. The individuals belonging to it are nearly all in an uncivilized state, and have an apparent inferiority in intellectual capacity.

Fourth, The American variety, which includes all the original inhabitants of America, except the Eskimaux, is distinguished by no very striking characteristic, either of features, complexion, or language, in all of which there is a considerable diversity among the numerous tribes which inhabit our vast continent.

Fifth, The Malay variety embraces the natives of Borneo, Java, New-Holland, Van Diemen's Land, New Guinea, and the numberless islands of the South Sea. It has no well marked common characters; the various tribes belonging to it differ extremely from each other.

The whole of this arrangement of Blumenbach must be considered rather as the result of convenience, than of any very obvious necessity, as there is an infinite number of shades of difference among the individuals composing these varieties, and the two extremes of the same variety, differ more, perhaps, than some individuals belonging to two different varieties.

The color of the negro, for example, must be the result of an original peculiarity of one variety of the human race. It is well known that in warm climates those negroes, who are exposed to the violence of the sun in the labors of the field, are not as black as those that live in the house, protected from the heat, and who enjoy a more nutritious diet; a fact which is alone sufficient to show, that the color is the effect of a natural secretion, which is promoted by the health of the subject.

The facts and observations adduced in this section, lead us manifestly to the following conclusion. First, That the differences of physical organization, and of moral and intellectual qualities, which characterize the several races of our species, are analogous in kind and degree to those which distinguish the breeds of the domestic animals; and must, therefore, be accounted for on the same principles.

Those who wish to examine this subject at length, would do well to consult the very valuable and learned work of Dr. Pennant, on the Physical History of Man.

powerful is the state of domestication. Fourthly, That external or adventitious causes, such as climate, situation, food, way of life, have considerable effect in altering the constitution of man and animals; but that this effect, as well as that of art or accident, is confined to the individual, not being transmitted by generation, and therefore not affecting the race.

Anecdote of Bonaparte.—A French paper relates the following anecdote of this extraordinary man, which we do not recollect to have before seen:—Gen. Kleber, a distinguished officer, had often expressed his mortification at holding the situation of a subaltern to so young a man as Bonaparte, who had then just attained to the command of the army; and on a particular occasion, he not only refused to execute a movement which Bonaparte had directed, but was so indiscreet as to express his disapprobation before the aid who brought the order.

ONLY A COLD.

The following case may serve to warn people in the first place from catching cold through their own folly, and from delaying the proper remedies.—A fellow pupil of ours was about to be married to a deserving and affluent young lady, he having completed his professional studies. The wedding-day was fixed, and the happy couple anticipating all the blessings apparently hovering over their future life, when the lady went to a ball lightly clad—next morning she was attacked with sore throat, but paid no attention to it, although her lover warned her of her danger, and endeavored to persuade her to submit to take medicine.

OH DEATH! DEATH! DEATH!

When the plague was in London, and multitudes died every day, as a gentleman was passing along the streets a woman threw up a sash, and in the agonies of dissolving nature shrieked out these heart-rending words, "O Death, death, death!" What her situation was, or what became of her, we know not; but the probability is that she was unprepared for this sudden and awful transition from time to eternity; and that the agonies of soul and body wrung those dreadful words from her lips.

A dispute arose between a Doctor and a Chimney-sweep, when they were both standing under the gallows to be hung. The doctor thinking it beneath his dignity, to be close to the sweep, said: "Don't stand a long side of me." The sweep replied, with a heavy oath, "I have as much right here as you." In a few minutes the ropes were cut, and the bodies were precipitated into the