# Literary and Miscellaneous.

From the London Literary Gazette. FIRST AND LAST HOURS. Lov'st thou the hour, the first of day When the dowy flowers are opening bright, When through the curtain of morning gray Are stealing streaks of crimson light? Hath it not a power, a spell? Doth it not thy warm heart tell

Of life, fresh sparkling, new born life, And scenes as yet too young for strife ? Lov'st thou the hour in twilight time, When every flower is closing round When fainter and fainter the far bell's chime Comes with a soothing, dying sound? Hath it not a spell, though it be Differing from the first, for thee? Doth it not tell of visions deep, And a gradual dropping down to sleep .

These hours are types and signs of thine; The first hour brought both smiles and tears, And called forth feelings half divine, In those who looked to future years. And watched how grew each feature's mould, And saw their little buds unfold, And trusted strife would never come, To cast on heart and brow a gloom.

And thy last hour-'tis thine to make It calm, as twilight's lovely time, A blessed sleep, from which to wake, Will be to the better world to climb Remember, 'tis thine-ay thine-to choose, If storms shall take place of stars and dews, Or if thy spirit shall have a power To make its parting like day's last hour.

# KNOWLEDGE FOR THE PEOPLE.

A series of pamphlets, with this title, have for some time been in the course of publication in London. They purport to be the productions of John Timbs, author of "Laconics," "Arcana of Science and Art," &c. The first blind gird, whose situation has been described of them, republished in a very neat form, in so beautiful and affecting a manner by Mrs. reached us yesterday from the publishers. Sigourney. A charity box, the proceeds of Messers. Lilly, and Wait and Carter and Hen- which are designed exclusively for her support, dee, of Boston, through the politeness of their is placed at the main entrance, which it is cerco-publisher of Philadelphia, Messrs. Carey tain no stranger can pass, after viewing the utand Hart. We have looked attentively through ter desolation in which she was left by nature, its pages, and think this series of essays will without dropping his mite. Her name is Julia prove a desideratum-filling up a gap in science Brace, and she is a native of the immediate and literature that has long been palpable to neighborhood of the asylum. She is the only the discerning mind. We cannot, however, instance of so great a misfortune, of which any better afford the reader an idea of the work, record is extant, except one European boy, by which is really valuable, than by offering an ex- the name of James Mitchell. He was so irritract .-- Nat. Intel.

### WHYS AND BECAUSES.

flaming fire apparently increase the combust- when I saw her, from some temporary vexaion?

which expanding and mixing with the flame, her needle-work in her lap. "There is nocaused it to spread out into a much larger vol- thing disagreeable in her countenance, but her ume than it otherwise would have occupied .- eyes, forever closed, create a deficiency of ex-Arnott.

ney top of foundry furnaces?

that the smoke burns on reaching the oxygen Many strangers have waited a long time to see of the atmosphere.

which has been exposed to the sun be often the aid of the tongue." faded, while those parts which have not been so exposed retain their original colors?

in the state of oxygen gas.

are non-conductors of heat.

loosely and easily in a cold day, and stick in a trast. warm one?

on which they are placed.

sales in warm weather.

zing of water in pipes during winter?

tained in steam pipes.

do wine-coolers consist of double vessels?

are non-conductors of heat. Why have some houses double windows?

also a bad conductor of sound. Why does sunshine extinguish a fire?

had hitherto supported the fire.

cold weather? Because the air being more dense, affords

nourishment to the fire.

vive it?

place extinguish a chimney when on fire?

consequently annihilated.

by immersing the bottle up to the neck? Because the binding ring is thus heated and blind girl was capable. expanded sooner than the stopper, and so becomes slack or loose upon it.

Why is wine and water called negus? Because of its origin from Francis Negus, watches and employing her to restore them to Esq. in the reign of George the First, when a their right owner. party of whigs and tories having assembled to

plants in pots, be kept in bedrooms?

the purity of the air during the night, by giv- habit of being in contact with articles of dress stand his profession by pressing a finger on dead in the morning, as effectually suffocated respect the right of property, and whose per- hood, it is the more surprising that she should have been found the bursting of their boilers. as if there had been a charcoal stove in the room. fect blindness must often render it difficult even so readily comprehend the efficacy and benevo-

qualities, and value of tea? because of the difference in the times of gain- is also connected with it a deficacy of feeling frespecting field as to been received, the Department has not suc. in each year, according to the age of the plant; it necessary in presenting her any gift, to as- fatigue the reader. those leaves which are gathered earliest in the sure her repeatedly by a sign which she underspring, make the strongest and most valuable stands, that it is for her, ere she will consent to tea, such as pekoe, souchong, &c.; the inferior, accept it. the months of August and September.

# From the National Gazette.

JULIA BRACE .- DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND GIRL. At the Hartford Asylum.

By far the most interesting subject at present in the institution, is the poor deaf, dumb and table, that few experiments could be tried for his benefit; but Julia Brace, it is said, has been Why does water thrown on a brisk and mild and docile from her childhood; although tion or indisposition, she was evidently some-Because the water is converted into steam, what out of temper. She was seated at a table. pression. Her complexion is fair, her smile Why are strong flames often seen at the chim- gentle and sweet, though of rare occurrence; and her person somewhat bent, when sitting, Because the heat of the furnace is so great from her habit of fixed attention to her work her thread her needle which is quite a mysteri-Why will that part of the curtains of a room ous process, and never accomplished without

She was the daughter of exceedingly poor parents, who had several younger children, to Because the oxygen which existed in a solid whom she was in the habit of showing such form in the dye of the curtains will be rendered offices of kindness as her afflicted state admitted. æriform by the rays of the sun, and will go off Notwithstanding her blindness, she early evinced a close observation with regard to articles Why are urns for hot water, tea pots, coffee of dress, preferring among those which were pots, &c. made with wooden or ivory han- presented her as gifts, such as were of the her seat at the table. finest texture. When the weather became Because, if metal were used, it would conduct | cold, she would occasionally kneel on the floor the heat so readily, that the hand could not of their humble dwelling, to feel whether the bear to touch them; whereas, wood and ivory other children of the family were furnished Why does a gate in an iron railing shut out, and would express uneasiness at the con-

Seated on her little block, weaving stripes Because in the latter there is a greater ex- of thin bark with pieces of leather and thread, pansion of the gate and railing than of the earth which her father in his processes of making shoes rejected, she amused herself with con-Why will a vessel which has been filled to structing for her cat bonnets and vandykes, not the lip, with warm liquid, not be full when the wholly discordant with the principles of taste. Notwithstanding her peculiar helplessness, she Because of the expansion of the fluid by heat. was occasionally left with the care of the young Hence some cunning dealers in liquids make children, while her mother went out to the octheir purchases in very cold weather and their cupation of washing. It was on such occasions, that little Julia evinced not only a ma-Why does straw or flannel prevent the free- ternal solicitude, but a skill of domestic legislation, which could not have been rationally Because it is a slow conducting screen or expected. On one occasion she discovered covering, and thus prevents heat passing out of that her sister had broken a piece of crockery the pipe. By the same means the is heat re- and imitating what she supposed would be the discipline of her mother, gave the offender a Why have ice houses double walls, and why blow. But placing her hands upon the eyes of the little girl, and ascertaing that she wept Because air fills the intervals between the she immediately took her in her arms, and with walls or vessels; or in some cases the space is the most persevering tenderness, soothed her filled with straw, sawdust or charcoal, all which into good humor and confidence. Her parents were at length relieved from the burden of her maintenance, by some charitable individuals, Because the air inclosed between the two who paid the expense of her board with an windows greatly prevents the escape of heat elderly matron, who kept a school for small which is produced within the house in winter. children. Here her sagacity was continually Thus, air is an imperfect conducter of heat. on the stretch to comprehend the nature of Houses which have double windows are like- their employment, and as far as possible to wise more quiet than others, from the air being imitate them. Observing that a great part of their time was occupied with books, she often held one before her sightless eyes with long Because the rays engage the oxygen which patience. She would also spread a newspaper would shake the animal to express displeasure at its indolence and obstinacy. These circum-Why does a poker laid across a dull fire re- stances, though trifling in themselves, reveal a mind active amid all the obstacles which na-Because the poker receives and concentrates ture had interposed. But her principal solace the heat, and causes a draught through the was in the employment of needle-work and knitting, which she had learned at an early age Why does flour of sulpher thrown into a fire to practice. She would thus sit absorbed for hours until it become necessary to urge her to Because, by its combustion, it effects the de- that exercise which is requisite to health. composition of the atmospheric air, which is Counterpanes beautifully made by her, of small pieces of calico, were repeatedly disposed of, Why is a glass stopper, sticking fast in the to aid in the purchase of her wardrobe. And neck of a bottle, often released by surrounding small portions of her work were sent by her the neck with a cloth taken out of hot water, or benefactors as presents into various parts of the Union, to shew to what neatness of execution a

It was occasionally the practice of gentlemen who from pity or euriosity visited her, to make trial of her sagacity, by giving her their

drink wine, fell into a high dispute; and Mr. gard to her, and each strive to take the watch They would change their position with re-Negus being present, recommended them in fu- which did not belong to him—but though she ture to dilute as he did. This suggestion might at the same time hold two or three, neichanged the argument to one on wine and water, ther stratagem nor persuasion would induce which concluded by their nicknaming the drink her to yield either of them, except to the per-Why will not plants flourish in close rooms? seemed to be a principle in the tenacity with son from whom she had received it. There Because they require fresh and constant which she adhered to this system to give every supplies of oxygen, of which there is but com- one his own, which may probably be resolved paratively little in the atmosphere of the room, linto that moral honesty which has ever formed

Why should not flowers in water, and living a conspicuous part of her character. Though male department who has acquired great penenurtured in extreme poverty and after her re- tration into the idioms of Julia's character, and Why is the distinction in the appearance, to define them, the incorruptible firmness of lence of the medical profession. It would be were thought best calculated to obtain the rethis innate principle is truely laudable. There easy to relate other remarkable circumstances quisiteinformation. But, allhough some highly Because of the difference in the times of gath- is also connected with it a delicacy of feeling respecting her, but it is not desirable that interesting and valuable communications have

punctually repaired to the school room, and true sportsmen. daily devoted hour after hour to copying their curate her delineations sometimes were, they

she had so decidedly sealed. sagacity of a spaniel. Yet keeping in view all and secured his prize."-U. S. Gaz. the aid which these limited faculties have the power of imparting, some of the discoveries and exercises of her intellect are still, in a measure, unaccountable.

As the abodes which from her earliest recollections she had inhabited, were circumscribed the truth of the following: & humble, it was supposed that at her first reception into the asylum she would testify surprise at the comparative spaciousness of the mansion. But she immediately busied herself in quietly exploring the size of the apartments, and the height of the staircases; she even knelt and smelled to the thresholds; and now, as if by the union of a mysterious geometry with a powerful memory, never makes a false step upon a flight of stairs, or enters a wrong door, or mistakes

Among her various excellencies, neatness, ple wardrobe is systematically arranged, and it is impossible to displace a single article in with shoes and stockings, while she was with- her drawers, without her perceiving and restoring it. When the large baskets of clean linen are weekly brought from the laundress, she selects her own garments without hesitation, however widely they may dispersed among the mass. If any part of her dress requires mending, she is prompt and skilful in repairing it, and her perseverance in this branch of economy, greatly diminishes the expense of

Since her residence at the asylum, donations of charitable visitants have been considerable in amount. These are deposited in a box with an inscription, and she has been made to understand that the contents are devoted to her bene-

fit. This box she frequently poises in her hand, expresses pleasure when it testifies an of her wants, and attaches to it a proportionate pit, was the predicament of the miserable Af-

Though her habits are peculiarly regular and consistent, yet occasionally some action occurs which it is difficult to explain. One morning during the past summer, while emagain resumed her work.

sed by those in thefull enjoyment of sight.

habits assert that she constantly regards the self to unusual quietness as if in meditation.-Her needle-work, from which she will not be he was not so much skeered at his bignessdebarred on other days, she never attempts to but that tarnal tail at each end." resort to; and this wholly without influence from those around her.

Julia Brace leads a life of perfect contentment-and is in this respect both an example by all the gifts of nature and fortune.

lone heart to gladness-and she gathers the first flowers, and even the young blades of grass ideas were favorable not only to cheerfulness Surrington, died in 1797, at the age of 160. but to mirth. The society of her female companions in the Asylum is soothing to her feelings; and their habitual kind offices, the guiate pressure of their hand, awaken in her demonstrations of gratitude and friendship. Not long since, one of the pupils was sick-but it was no supposed that amid the multitude which surwas called, and the superintendent of the fe- experimented branch.

### A FISH STORY.

We find in the "New York Evening Post," of obtaining the requisite information, by any Continuing to become an object of increased the following record of an adventure that de- means within the power of the Department. gatherings, by a different mode of drying. The attention, and her more remote situation not serves promulgation. The modern Scipio who and of the deep interest which the community, first gathering of the leaves begins about the being convenient for the access of strangers, is the hero of the tale, carried the war into and more especially those engaged in steam namiddle of April, and continues to the end of application was made for her admission into May; and the second lasts from midsummer to the asylum, and permission was granted by the the end of July; the third takes place during Directors in the summer of 1825. After her valrous about it. When a baited hook is beable, and are disposed to promote the benevo. reception into that peaceful refuge, some at- thrown, there seems to be some will in the lent object of the Resolution. tempts were made by a benevolentinstructor to matter-the fish may bite or let it alone; but to teach her the alphabet, by means of letters pounce at once upon a Bass in his own element, the House to prevent, have, unfortunately. both raised above and indented beneath a and drive him ashore, high and dry, is en- been so numerous, that many persons will have smooth surface. But it was in vain that she tirely discreditable, and should be censured by it in their power to state the causes and cir-

> forms with pins upon a cushion. However ac- taken day before yesterday, by a colored servant fail to be highly useful. living with Benjamin Baily, Esq. on the banks conveyed no idea to the mind sitting in dark- of the Harlæm river, a little south of the tion a precise and explicit character, the followness. It was therefore deemed wiser to con- bridge. The fish was discovered by the man ing queries were prepared:fine her attention to those few attainments, from the end of the dock, which projected some which were within her sphere than to open a distance into the river. At times he would the points presented in them, or the form of a warfare with Nature in those avenues which sail gently along past the dock into quite shoal communication which they may seem to indiwater, but how to capture him was the ques- cate. On the contrary, the Department will be It has been observed of persons who are tion. No net, nor hook and bait was at hand, happy to receive any information within the deprived of a particular sense, that additional and as the golden opportunity might not last scope of the resolution, and communicated in quickness or vigor is bestowed on those which long, our hero quickly resolved to encounter such manner as the writer may be pleased to remain. Thus blind persons are often disting- him single handed in his native element, and at employ. uished by particular exquisiteness of touch, and a favorable moment he leaped from the dock It is desirable that communications on this the deaf and dumb, who gain all their knowl- directly upon his back. The affrighted fish subject should be transmitted by the first of edge through the eye, concentrates, as it were, darted from under him as though a shark was in December, or early as may be thereafter. their whole soul in that channel of observation. pursuit, and as luck would have it, took a di-With her, whose eye, ear and tongue are alike rection for the shore, and ran up nearly high dead, the capabilities both of touch and smell and dry into the mud. Before he could get are exceedingly heightened. Especially the fairly affoat again and have a plenty of sea INTERROGATORIES IN RELATION TO latter seem almost to have acquired the proper- room to make his escape, the colored man seized THE BURSTING OF STEAM BOILERS. ties of a new sense, and to transcend even the him by the gills, dragged him up on the beach,

# FREDERICK, Md. Oct. 19.

A friend, upon whose accuracy and veracity we have the most perfect reliance, vouches for

THE DEVIL WITH TWO TAILS. We have all heard of Le Diaple Boiteaux, but it was reserved to this age, and to the city of Frederick, to discover the devil with two tails. On Thursday night last, a caravan o wild beasts arrived in this place, and put up at the safety valve? one of the hotels. Among them chanced to be an elephant, which, being too large to enter ted or sticking in the aperture, or was it so at any ordinary stable, it was found necessary to the time? accommodate in a large and close carriage house. This it seems, had been previously taken possession of as a lodging for the night, thereto? and love of order are conspicuous. Her sim- by a hale two fisted negro from the mountain, who was employed in hauling timber to the rail found at the bottom of the boiler? If so, what road, and who had never seen, or perhaps heard of an elephant before in his life.-He was fast asleep when his room-mate was ushered in, and did not awake until, as was his custom, at the first dawn of the morning .-Hearing a rustling in the straw, he turned and Was the valve open? If so, how long before looked, and rubbed his eyes and looked again, the accident? Was it opened by the Engineer, till the pupils dilated almost to bursting-

Hence, horrible shadow, unreal mockery, hence!" What could it be! The devil to a certainty! the huge mass moved and approached him, when lo! a tail at both ends put all doubts to flight, and revealed his Satanic majesty in previously to the bursting of the boiler; and if all the terrors of his reputed attributes With one despairing spasmodic leap, the affrighted wagoner rushed against the door-it was locked-and there was no other possible way increase of weight; for she has long since ascer- tof escape. He screamed for help; he groaned what means been used, with success, to pretained that money is the medium for the supply in agony. Worse than that of Sancho in the rican-for no kind master was within hearing ment or incrustation on the bottom of the boiler, to afford him protection. The "Devil with it requires more fire than usual to raise the two tails" stood over him, and wrapped his soft steam; and how often is the sediment removed, and flexible fore-tail around his neck, and and by what means? whisked it in his face-and then "he grinploved with her needle, she found herself in- ned horribly a ghastly smile." In vain he crustation on the bottom of boilers; and, if so, commoded by the warmth of the sun. She besought him to have mercy-to spare him a arose, opened the window, closed the blind, and little longer .-- The Devil with two tails heeded not his supplications-but kept smelling and At the tea table with the whole family, on feeling him, and brandishing his tail, which he her sending a cup to be replenished, one was now extended and now contracted, until, in the iron of a given thickness? Are the proofs made accidently returned to her which had been used imagination of the negro, there was nothing so when the iron is cold or hot? by another person. This she perceived at the distant or so near as to be secure from it. The moment of taking it into her hand, and pushed it louder he screamed, the more the devil felt him. from her with some slight appearance of disgust, Shrunk up in the least possible dimensions in water, or of the steam in the upper part of the as if her sense of propriety had not been re- a corner of the room, he awaited, in a state of boiler? If so, what is it? for her favorite kitten, and putting her finger garded. There was not the slightest difference alarm, bordering on distraction, the issue of his borrible adventure. The borrible adventure. Why does a fire burn briskly and clearly in on its mouth, and perceiving that it did not in the cups, and in this instance she seems enmove like those of the scholars when reading, dowed with a degree of penetration not posses- mentorat length came to his relief, and released the boat? him from the jaws of the enemy. After his Person most intimately acquainted with her liberation, he had a severe chill of several hours duration, accompanied by a transient derange- a temperature regarded as a cause of exploding recurrence of the Sabbath, and composes her- ment. Having now recovered not only his health but his courage, he swears "by ginny

Quere-Does not Sambo deserve the premium offered for the best original tail ?-Polit. Exam.

The earth is 2,048,572 miles nearer the sun and reproof to those who for trifling inconveni- in winter than in summer. Its motion is 17 supposed to be hot enough to scald? Was the ences indulge in repining, though surrounded miles in a second; so that if a man pulls of current of steam from the rent in the boiler inhis hat to another in the street, he goes many stantaneous, or did it continue for some time. The genial influences of Spring wake her miles bare headed without catching cold.

and inhales their freshness with a delight 1625, was married at the age of 120, retained and what position did each of these persons ocbordering on transport. Sometimes, when his vigor till 140, and died at 152. A Dane by cupy in the boat? apparently in deep thought, she is observed to the name of Drakenbery, died in 1772, at the burst into laughter, as if her associations of age of 147. A Norwegian, by the name of move irregularly, for a few minutes, or for a few

and remarkable experiments made in horticulding of their arm in her walks, or the affection- ture, is that of Prof. Poiteau, in the production how was it accounted for? of enlarged Peaches. He made an incision round the limb of a peach tree, which, as has tributed the bursting of the steam boilers, long been known, will make the fruit larger. which have come within your knowledge? He took a bud from this branch, and inoculated

# TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Остовек 12, 1831. Because the flowers and plants greatly injure moval from the parental roof, in the constant her modes of communication, made her underlution of the 4th of May, 1830, directed the ing out large quantities of carbonic acid, simi- or food, which constantly tempted her desires, she pulse. She immediately are se; and taking Secretary of the Treasury to collect and commular to that which is separated from the lungs she has never been known to appropriate to his hand led him with urgent solicitude of friendby breathing, which is highly noxious. There herself, without permission the most trifling ship to the side of the invalid, and placing his his views on the same, as, in his opinion, may be are instances of persons who have incautiously object. In a well educated child this would be hand upon her pulse displayed an affectionate useful and important to Congress, in enacting regone to sleep in a closet in which there has no remarkable virtue; but in one who has had confidence in his powers of healing. As she gulations for the navigation of steam-boats or been a large growing plant, having been found the benefit of no moral training to teach her to has herself never been sick since early child-steam vessels, with a view to guard against the

Such measures were accordingly taken, as ceeded in collecting facts sufficient to enable itto fulfil the directions of the House.

In consideration, therefore, of the difficulty

Accidents like those, which it is the desire of cumstances of such casualties; and these, col-"A stripped Bass, weighing forty pounds, was lected from various parts of the Union, cannot

With a view to assist in giving that informa-

It is not intended, however, to confine it to

LOUIS McLANE,

Secretary of the Treasury.

I. Are you acquainted with the nature and use of Steam Engines? In what employment have you been engaged? Were you present, and in what capacity, at the bursting of any steam boiler, or collapsing of a flue; or have you been made acquainted, by other means, with the facts in any such case? If so, in what case!

2. In that case, was the water in the boiler above the gauge cocks? If not, at what height compared with the lower gauge cock? 3. If the boiler contained a flue, what was

the difference between the height of its upper side and that of the lower gauge cock? 4. What was the weight per square inch on

5. Had the safety valve ever been found rus-6. Had that part of the boiler above the water

ever been heated to a red heat, or approaching 7. Was there any incrustation or sediment

was its thickness and composition? 8. In what part was the boiler rent, and what

wree the appearance and extent of the rent? 9. If the bursting happened to the bolier of a steamboat, was the boat under way, or at rest! or by pressure?

10. Was the piston going at its usual speed. or faster or slower?

11. Had the firemen found any unusual difficulty in keeping up the motion of the engine so, how long before?

12. Do the iron boilers used in the Western waters generally accumulate a calcereous incrustation at the bottom? If so, have any or

13. Is it observed that when there is a sedi-14. Are any means used for preventing in-

what effect has been observed?

15. Have any means been employed to prove steam boilers before they are used or afterwards and what pressure has usually been applied to 16. Is there any instrument employed to as-

certain the temperature of the boiler above the

18. Have you ever seen steam boilers heated to a red heat on the upper side? If so, is such the boiler?

19. Have any means been used in the con struction of boilers or fire places to prevent the heating of the upper part of the boiler? If so, what are they? 20. How many persons were scalded by steam.

and at what distance was each from the boiler? At what distance from the boiler was the steam , and how long? What number of persons were wounded by the parts of the boiler or machi-Longevity .- Parr, an Englishman, born in nery, which were driven off by the explosion.

21. Have you ever observed the piston to strokes, alternately faster or slower than its usual speed, without perceiving any change in Enlarged Fruit .- One of the most pleasing the resistance to the paddles, or any other obvious cause for such irregularity; and, if so,

22. To what immediate cause have you at-

23. Are there any other facts within your rounded her, the blind girl was conscious of the another tree. The consequence is that the knowledge in relation to this subject, which apabsence of a single individual. A physician fruit is of the same enlarged size as that of the pear to be important in the present enquiry? If so, please to state them.