

EDITOR'S CORRESPONDENCE.

New York, Dec. 28, 1844. HATS. Scarcely receive all the credit they deserve, as giving a finish to elegance of costume and to the person who undertakes their value is not small. It is a specialty, as well as money, in selecting them of an appropriate style and form for the individual wear, without being much hampered by the general fashion. And how often is a recherché dress spoiled by neglect of this one point, while few things so quickly denote an intimate connexion with lower class, or tasteless pockets, as a "shaking hat." But to the point—Hats and Corsets have just opened a Hat Palace at 156 Broadway, for the sale of dresses for the poorer people, and from the extent of the establishment one would think each of the twenty million heads of his majesty might be covered there. The Store is rather a lion in its way, and for the moment somewhat a town talk. The glass in the front window reaches in single plate from top to bottom; the floor is marble, along which are ranged twelve Centre Tables of Marble and carved wood, and the walls are lined with castings, while gold and silver mirrors of the largest class, surrounded with a profusion of glass globes and gas jets. The manufactory is in the rear, and connected with the Street by a Rail-road underground; so that the wholesaling and packing do not offend "ears polite" or eyes polite. The hats which I examined, are unsurpassed for lightness and beauty. Such places are always an ornament to a City, and I hope their taste and expenditure will be rewarded by the "fortune in store." Talking of Hats, brings me somewhat naturally to the hats of the Church.

EDITOR OBERLIN'S TRIAL is dragging its slow length along and will continue to do so probably for some weeks. The Court is held with closed doors, principally because most of the witnesses are ladies, and in many cases they would be deterred from giving their testimony if the examination were public. Indeed, it is matter of conjecture whether we shall ever know more than the general result. It appears to be the general impression, that nothing very criminal is laid to his charge, and that Anti-Passivism is more at the bottom of the affair—a wish to get rid of such a stubborn, high Church Bishop, rather than a body hatred of sin.

SCIENCE.

"What is man that thou art mindful of him," is brought home to the mind with startling force, when looking at the Heavens through scientific spectacles. If our hearts as well as our eyes be opened, the distance and magnitude of the planets, bodies we can measure and place the figures before us, but the mind and imagination fail in all its attempts to grasp their immensity, and distance fades away into unbounded space as time descends into Eternity. The nearest fixed star sends forth its light at the rate of two hundred thousand miles, during each second of time; yet the star is so far away, that it requires ten years for that light to reach this earth! This fact is proved by science, and is undeniably proved too, but where is the mind which can grasp this distance with a thought? Yet on, on, beyond this nearest fixed star, countless wonders are disclosed. We study, we think, we analyze, and gather "knowledge which puffeth up" the vain man, but the wisest therein find most food for profound humility, for they tear the masks from things, and look down, down—but by all is an ungraspable mystery, where they have at last to bow before a God, and confess their line and plummet to an avail, and say with David—"What is man, that thou art mindful of him?" I said a mystery lies at the bottom of all things. Take some of the simplest, physical sciences for instance: We ask why does water run down hill? Because of its weight, answers the careless one, with a smile. The attraction of gravitation forces it down, says the mere man of science, tossing his head; but the wisest still say—I cannot tell it is caused by some strange power, equally pervading our earth, and drawing things towards its centre; but what that power is, whence it comes, or whether it goes, no one can say. Again—take a piece of stone, and our man of science will tear it to pieces, and show the gases, metals, and primitive earth of which it is composed decked out in a dozen Greek and Latin names, and cry—Behold the whole—here are the elements! True they are; but the elements as far as they are concerned will show them, but what are these elements? Whence came they? How formed out of the void immense? If we have handed the Universe, can alone tell that.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE REGISTER. MR. GILES.—Have you any objection to printing a letter upon the names of the Members of the Legislature? The typographical fraternity of the North were once particularly addicted to the practice, but we have seen nothing of it of late. Dr. JOHNSON once remarked, that "the man who would make a pun, would not scruple to pick a pocket." Notwithstanding this severe denunciation, we feel irresistibly tempted to say something of the composition of our present Assembly, especially since we are backed, or rather forwarded by the *Jeux d'esprit* of the "Sole Committee man" on Saturday afternoon last. Dr. JOHNSON was an old fool in many respects—(he certainly did not know the Member from Chatham, (Mr. Guthrie), nor the writer of this, or he would have never uttered such a sentiment. We have not seen the list of any Legislative body this winter, but our own, and therefore, cannot compare them, but our body presents a very considerable number of names that are "jeux d'esprit" of a few of which I now direct you.

FOR THE REGISTER.

LITHOTOMY. MR. EDITOR.—This important and exceedingly difficult operation was performed on a young gentleman of your State, at his residence in Northampton County, by Dr. P. C. SPENCER, of Petersburg, on the 20th Nov. last. In the presence of and with the assistance of Drs. FARMAN and GARDNER, of Northampton, and Dr. FARMAN, of Petersburg, Dr. SPENCER removed a stone of uncommon size, from which the patient had suffered great torture for a long time, in a manner so skillfully and adroit, as to excite universal success to the operation. The young man, after many years of affliction, is now restored to his friends, and well. Although this is an event in every way worthy of the most public notice, it may appear, Mr. Editor, that this notice comes before the readers of your admirable paper, in the character of a puff. This however, is far from being the case. A higher motive altogether prompts the writer. His aim, he is assured, is, more to serve the community, than it is to forward the individual interest of the Surgeon. You are well aware Sir, that in the position of the people in this section of country, with its one sea, that is, from home, to procure surgical aid in the treatment of even the minor cases of disease. To say nothing of the increased expenditure attendant upon such a course, the patient is thereby denied the comforts of home, the care and sympathy of all most interested in his fate; and the only object of the writer is to make it known (and the only object of the writer is to make it known) that a surgeon, in every way qualified, not only by education, but by practical experience, to manage all cases of disease, either by operation or otherwise, is so near at hand, as Dr. SPENCER is, it cannot be saying too much to conclude that the people in your section of country, who have hitherto made expensive journeys North for this purpose, will at once see, that it will be to their interest to turn to the services of his valuable services, when exact on requisites. A FRIEND TO THE AFFLICTED.

GOV. GARHAM'S INAUGURATION.

New Year's day, the inauguration of Hon. WILLIAM A. GARHAM, as Governor of North Carolina, took place in the Congress Hall, in the presence of both Houses, and before an audience which, for every thing that could make the occasion imposing, has never been surpassed within our recollection. At 12 o'clock, the Senators, preceded by their Speaker, entered the Hall. A few minutes thereafter, the Governor elect made his appearance, escorted by Governor MOREHEAD, the Judges of the Supreme Court, and the Joint Committee of both branches, consisting of Messrs. SHEPARD, CAMERON, JOYNER, of Halifax, and GUYTON, of the Senate; and Messrs. THOMAS WILSON, MERRILL, GRAY, and BAIRD, of the House of Commons. The Lobby and Galleries were crowded with strangers and citizens, and a brilliant collection of Ladies, all anxious to witness a scene, which gave to the Old North a Governor, of whom the people of the State have every reason to be proud.

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As soon as the immense auditory had assumed the attitude of attention, GOVERNOR GARHAM rose and delivered the subjoined ADDRESS, to which, we know, we need not call the attention of our readers. It is enough to say, as we can say, that this dignified, manly, and most appropriate Speech, delighted his Whig friends, and received the liberal commendations of those who were politically opposed to him. The delivery was as impressive and eloquent, as is the matter of the Inaugural, and this, we think, about as high a tribute as we can pay it.

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Senators and Gentlemen of the House of Commons: In presenting myself before you, to take the oath required for my qualification as Chief Magistrate of the State, I gladly embrace the occasion, to express to our common constituents, my deep and abiding sense of gratitude, for their confidence and approbation, as manifested in the election which evinces hitherto. If by diligence, faithfulness, and impartiality in the high trust I am about to assume—if by a constant observation of those great maxims of liberty and justice that are embodied in the Constitution, which I shall swear to support—if by consultation of our history, and deference to those precedents and examples which are deemed most excellent in past time, I can gather that wisdom which my own faculties are unable to supply, I may hope to render to my countrymen some, although it be an inadequate return, for this mark of their favorable consideration.

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A philosopher observes of our Institutions, has attributed as a defect to the State Governments, that they do not comprehend the duties of a Chief Magistrate of the State. Although the fact be otherwise, yet it is much to be apprehended, that there is a tendency in the affairs of the Federal Government, extending as it does over so vast a territory, and so many millions of inhabitants, identified in recollection with the proudest events of our history—with its power to make war and peace, and being constantly surrounded with the pomp and circumstance of warlike preparation, by land and sea, with a large regular army, and its numerous officers, and their superior compensations above those of the States—its power to regulate Commerce, to conduct our foreign intercourse, and to administer the code of Nations, with the great and concentrated powers and patronage of its Executive—that there is a tendency in the affairs of that Government, with those attributes for admiration and attraction, to engross too much of the attention which is bestowed by our citizens, upon the affairs of the Federal Government, to the neglect of the duties of our own State Governments.

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FOR THE REGISTER.

GOV. GARHAM'S INAUGURATION. (Continued) The Oaths of Office were administered by Chief Justice REYNOLDS, and subscribed by Governor GARHAM, in the book kept for that purpose. The Senate and escort then retired from the Commons Hall, and the Governor, at once entered upon the duties of his Office.

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