

LITERATURE.

Illustrations of Political Economy, by Harriett Martineau.

In our last, we ventured some general observations on Miss Martineau's clever tales, and also on the science which they so forcibly illustrate; want of space, however, compelled us to break off before we had said any thing of the stories themselves. We now, therefore, resume a task which is rendered delightful, both by the interest that which is calculated to excite, and the superior manner in which it is treated.

"Life in the Wilds" is the title of the first tale. It illustrates the principle, "that production necessarily begins with hands—the first implement had no previous implement to assist in its construction," (Mill); and traces the happy effects of a skillful division of labour.

The second story is called "The Hill and the Valley," and is in our opinion better done than the first; not indeed in correctness of doctrine, for that is unexceptionable in all the tales, but in the interest given to the story, and in the forcible manner in which one or two of the characters are drawn. We regret extremely that we have no copy in our possession whence to make extracts, as no copy in our possession illustrative of the effects of machinery, and others aimed at popular errors, at once beautiful and convincing.

The story is the establishment of an iron work in a valley in Wales. For a time all goes on prosperously, numerous families are employed at high wages, and thousands live flourishingly, where before the foot of man scarcely trod. In time, however, high prices produce their invariable result over production. Iron of course declines in price, and it becomes difficult for the masters to maintain their ground. A reduction of wages takes place, which is submitted to, though with an ill grace, by the workmen. Prices, however, continue to decline, and it becomes a question whether the masters will or will not be driven to stop their furnaces and close their works. Ingenuity, however, rises with difficulty, and a machine is introduced which just enables them to keep on the work by discharging some of the workmen. At this juncture, wholly through carelessness, a boy is killed by the obnoxious machine, and a discontented, wrong-headed orator, such as are always to be found on such occasions, excites his fellow-workmen to destroy the supposed cause of their troubles. He succeeds, and the result is, that by the ill-starred act, the politico-economical blunder, he it understood, of a few turbulent men, the whole population of the valley is thrown out of employment; the work being at once shut up. One of the partners, on quitting the neighbourhood, explains to the workmen, that they have mistaken the cause of their distress; that the true cause is to be found in the declining price of iron, resulting, partly from overproduction, which invariably and inevitably follows high prices, and partly from extended competition, both at home and abroad, also the result of high prices, and that without the use of the machine the trade could not be carried on; hence it became a question between half the people with the machine, and none without.

The partners had decided on the former; their comrades, now in custody, had inflicted upon the whole community, the latter. The machine and the distress the former mitigating the severity of the latter,—were, in fact, concurrent effects of the same cause, namely low prices.—The excellent exposition contained in this speech, extends to some length, and branches out into other details, and had we the work, it is the passage we should select for the purpose of extracting; as the case stands, however, we can only recommend our readers, particularly those of our younger readers who are destined for trade, to send home for the books at once,—they are moderate in price being only eighteen pence each.

We have seen it somewhere stated in an English paper, that the "Illustrations" were offered to the society for the diffusion of useful knowledge, and declined. We had long suspected that the above-named society, as a body, is any thing but sincere in its wish to enlighten the people, otherwise it would never have treated a half-famished people, ignorant of the most vital matters, with a highly technical treatise on double refraction and the polarization of light! keeping them ignorant of the general principles of morals, political economy, &c. No one has certainly any right to dictate to the committee, as to whose works they should receive, and whose reject; but as they are said to have rejected works of the quality of which we can fortunately judge, and as political economy is on their own list, (see their prospectus)—the public,—as we economists claim to be part of the British public,—has a clear right to expect from the society, something as good, if such can be found, as Miss Martineau's delightful works.

Something in this way the society has done. Under the influence of fear, at the eleventh hour, the Results of machinery and the Rights of industry were published. They are good in their way, but as works of popular instruction, full of defects, as an intelligent critic in the February number of the New Monthly, has ably and forcibly shown. But to return to our fair favourite.

Brooke & Brooke Farm is the last, & we have it before us. It carries on the question of capital, & completely exposes several popular errors; among others, a prejudice against inclosures and large farms, a part which is extremely well illustrated by a description of the effects of inclosing Brooke common. No matter in what latitude and longitude Brooke may happen to lie, the farm,—the common,—the village have many prototypes. The same causes would produce the same effects any where.

In all the stories there is a wrong-headed man placed as sort of shadow, to bring out, in higher relief, the brilliant lights of truth. In the first story it is Arnall, a sort of gentleman idler, who cannot bring himself to labour in common with the hedger and the ditcher, and yet is too proud—has too much proper pride, we ought to say,—to eat the bread of idleness, and so makes a sort of compromise between his pride, his dignity, and his appetite and turns hunter; and as he contrives to make himself useful, and moreover partly conquers his old prejudices, he becomes less obnoxious to his fellow men.

In the hill and the valley the shadow is old Armstrong, a very powerfully drawn character indeed, second only to Paul in the same story. Armstrong laments the introduction of the smoking furnaces into his darling valley, and having been once taken in, hoards a small sum of money to leave to a daughter, or niece, we forget which. His fallacious prejudices are, after Miss M.'s happy recipe, successfully attacked by illustration,—by the short and efficacious road of example, rather than the long one of precept.

Success.

In the case of Brooke, Norton stands on the obstinate ground of error, cultivating a small patch of land until he almost starves, while those who work for Mr. Malton the great farmer, having first sold him their allotments, are bringing up large families in comfort. The reasons why small farms cannot do as well as large are well explained; at the same time, the opposite extreme arising out of primogeniture laws, is shown to be equally against the best interests of society.

We can find in Brooke and Brooke Farm no passage sufficiently short for extract in our limited space, we shall therefore merely give from page 146-7.

Summary of principles illustrated in this volume:— "Primogeniture being the great end of the employment of labour and capital, that application of both which secures the largest production is the best.

"Large capitals, well managed, produce in a larger proportion than small.

"In its application to land, for instance, a large capital employs new powers of production, as in the cultivation of wastes; facilitates the division of labour; the succession of crops, or division of time; reproduction by economizing the investment of fixed capital; the economy of convertible husbandry; the improvement of soils by manuring, irrigation, &c.; the improvement of implements of husbandry; the improvement of breeds of live stock.

"Large capitals also provide for the prevention of famine, by furnishing a variety of food, and for the regular supply of the market, by enabling capitalists to wait for their returns.

"Large capitals are therefore preferable to an equal aggregate amount of small capitals, for two reasons, viz.: they occasion a larger production in proportion, and they promote, by means peculiar to themselves, the general safety and convenience.

"Capitals may however be too large; they are so when they become disproportionate to the managing power.

"The interest of capitalists best determines the extent of capital; any interference of the law is therefore unnecessary.

"The interference of the law is injurious, as may be seen by the tendency of the law of succession in France to divide properties too far, and of the law of primogeniture in England to consolidate them too extensively.

"The increase of agricultural capital provides a fund for the employment of manufacturing and commercial, as well as agricultural labour.

"The interests of the manufacturing and agricultural classes are therefore not opposed to each other, but closely allied."

We observe that No. 4, advertised for publication on the 1st May, is called "Demarara."

ENGLISH PAPERS—BY THE RIVER.

It may give some idea of the state of Ireland when we state that five companies of the 92d and a troop of the Lancers were obliged to be marched from Limerick on Monday to Doonee, to attend the levying, by distress, of the tithes of the Rev. Mr. Rector Coote on the parish priest. It is supposed that near 12,000 of the peasantry had collected to resist the sale of the single cow necessary, which was only effected after some show of resistance, and ultimately the return of the Lancers a short time after the sale, and their firing on the peasantry and killing one and wounding four or five others.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has left Dublin with his family, on his way to London, to attend the Committee on the Reform Bill. The Archbishop of Dublin, Sir H. Vivian, and Lord Chancellor Plunket, are the Lords Justices in his absence.

The Countess of Mulgrave accompanies her lord to Jamaica in H. M. S. Conway, which is now fitting out for that purpose at Chatham. Lord Normandy, his lordship's only child, remains in England for his education.

Mr. Dowell O'Reilly, of the Irish Bar, has been appointed Attorney-General of Jamaica. This gentleman is a Roman Catholic. Mr. J. H. Plunket, another member of the same Bar, is appointed Solicitor-General of New South Wales.

Among the presentations at the King's Levee, 12th April, was Colonel McDougal, on his departure for Canada.

The Countess of Glengall is one of the most resolute politicians of the day. Her ladyship has regularly taken her place in that portion of the gallery of the House of Lords allotted to "the Parliament of ladies" at an early hour each day of the discussion of the Reform Bill, and never left it till the House adjourned.

A friend of ours, who lingered late within the walls of the House of Lords, describes the appearance of it at five o'clock on Saturday morning, when the horizontal rays of the sun began to dash through the windows and mingle with "motty misty light" of the decaying candles, as hardly less interesting than the gay scene of the morning of the Coronation day. The body of the House was crowded with Peers, eagerly bent forward to catch the reply of the Premier, whose tall and venerable figure appeared on the floor; the eyes of the Chancellor flamed like two diamonds in their native dew; Lord Lyndhurst's lips were formed in their usual craty smile; "the Duke" looked as wooden as ever; and nothing indicated the long and heavy and harassing duty in which the listeners more than the speakers had for so many hours been engaged. The Peersers had kept their seats to the last; they too showed no signs of fatigue; and one of them, conspicuous above the rest, seemed to show that she was not unused to late vigils, and had perhaps personal or family advantages in contemplation. It was not until the division was called that the fair lady and her gay bey withdrew, resting in the precincts until the decision was known, and for one week at least the hope of office regained was put to rest.

A project is on foot, with every prospect of immediate success, to run locomotive engines between the Bank Islington, Paddington, Hampstead, Highgate, Hornsey, &c., to carry both goods and passengers. The present receipts on these roads exceed £120,000 per annum.

A railway from London to Bristol is about to be commenced, and with the Irish steamboats from that place will considerably shorten the route from London to Dublin.

JAMAICA.

New York, May 24.—We have this morning received a file of Kingston (Jamaica) papers to the 1st of May, brought by the brig Lawrence, in 19 days from Kingston.

The Earl of Belmore having been called from the government of Jamaica, a splendid military band was given to his Countess, at Kingston, on the 2d of April. The Countess was toasted with four times four, and the Earl with nine times nine. The editor of the Courant says, Lord Belmore has been withdrawn, because he was considered too good a Governor for the Ministers.

On the 3d of April a petition, numerously signed, was presented to the Colonial Assembly, setting forth that the late bloody and unnatural rebellion had been caused by the Wesleyans and Baptists, and praying that all the members of these denominations may be transported from the island!

A committee on the subject of the late rebellion reported, on the same day, a series of resolutions which are

to be transmitted to the King. They express a decided opinion that the insurrection was caused by the sectarian Missionaries.

Bitter complaints are made as to the financial condition of the colony. Extraordinary means have been resorted to, for meeting the exigencies of the State. Coinages of small Checks to the amount of £50,000 have already been issued. All the extra taxation which they can impose, will not meet one-third of the expenses of the State. The suspension of payment of all debts, save the taxes, for one year, is recommended.

The Rev. Messrs. Kibbles, and Gardiner, Baptist Missionaries on the North side, have now been expelled to quit the country parts of the island—which, the Courier tauntingly remarks, have become too hot for them.

On the 6th of April, Mr. Beaumont complained in the Assembly, that the Council had deliberately and intentionally insulted that body, by refusing to open its doors to a committee, going to the Council with a message. It was, he said, the second offence of the kind; and he gave notice, that on the next arrival of a message from the Council, he should move to close the doors, and refuse to receive it.

Mr. Beaumont on the same day gave notice, that he should move for a return from all the newspapers on the island, of the amount of their receipts for the last seven years. He said that it would be seen that some of them had been receiving £6000 or £7000 per annum from the public, for services which they ought to render for nothing.

One hundred and fifty guineas have been voted for a sword, to be presented to Commodore Farquhar, for his conduct during the late rebellion.

The legislature adjourned on the 28th of April. Another report on the late rebellion was made by a committee on that day. They attribute it jointly to the measures of the parent government in favour of the slaves, and the conduct of the Missionaries. The damages done by the late insurrection, independently of the loss of life, estimated at £1,111,628—to which is to be added the sum of £163,000, the expenses of suppressing it.

Keene, an old favorite with the New Yorkers, and Edelman, another vocalist, is about embarking for the United States.

On the closing of the session of the Legislature, addresses were interchanged between the two branches and the Governor, Earl Belmore. They all seem to regret the removal of his Lordship from the Government. One part of his reply to the Assembly gave much offence, however, to the more rigid of the slave-holders. It was the following:—"The real condition of the slave, it is true, must be seen, to be known; and then it admits of various gradations. The real cause of your present distress results from that policy by which slavery was originally established; and this fine island can never develop the abundance of its resources while slavery continues. But it is obvious to every one capable of forming an opinion on this important question, that any sudden measure must produce consequences equally disastrous to the master and the slave—to the United Kingdom and her Colonies."

LOWER CANADA.

Montreal, May 28.—The jury were engaged during Tuesday, Wednesday, and part of Thursday in listening to the evidence that was adduced before them. They retired on the afternoon of the last mentioned day, but it was soon found that they could not agree, and after several repeated attempts, on Saturday morning they were liberated from their confinement, and no decision had as to the verdict which should be pronounced. Nine gentlemen, Messrs. Matthews, Glackmeyer, E. Desautels, B. Desautels, Vinet, A. Perrault, L. N. Roy, Gregoire Fere, and J. Beauchamps were, we understand, disposed to render a verdict of death by the military under the command of Lieut. Colonel Mackintosh, without any extenuating circumstances, while the three remaining jurors (Messrs. Dewar, Dubois, and Lesperance) wished to add that their deaths took place during a riot then existing.

The coroner's jury were brought up again to-day, and discharged till the 24th August. Mr. Mondelet refused to empanel a new jury, deeming himself not authorized to do so by law. To-morrow Tuesday the legality of the coroner's warrant will be argued before the Judges in Chambers.—(Gazette.)

The following table of distances may prove interesting and useful to persons arriving from the mother country, and who contemplate proceeding to the upper part of this Province.

Table of distances: From Quebec to Montreal (180 miles), Montreal to Kingston (189), Kingston to Hamilton, Gore District (241), From Dundas to Guelph, through Paslinch, 23; or by Beverly and Waterloo, 38 miles.

HAMILTON TO GODERICH.

Table of distances from Hamilton to Goderich: Hamilton to Dundas (5), To Cornell's (Beverly) (8), To Babcocks, do. (6), To Thomas's, (Waterloo) (6), To Staunton's (over new bridge on Grand Rise) (7), To Latham's (5), To Hobson's, (Wilmot) (8), To Martin's, (1st tavern on the Goderich Road) (6), To Frygoes (2), To the Avon River (9), To Rums Thalers (3), To Sebark's (4), To the Thames River (5), To Carron Brook (5), To Ross (10), To Taderburgh's (10), To Goderich (10).

From the Montreal Minerve of Monday.

After three days sitting employed in hearing witnesses, and being confined one day and two nights, the Jury on the bodies of Chauvin, Languedoc and Billet came to the following verdict:—

[Translation.] "The undersigned are of opinion that the persons named Frs. Languedoc, Pierre Billet and Casimir Chauvin, were killed in St. James' street of this city, on Monday last the 21st instant, between the hours of five and six o'clock in the afternoon, by bullets from muskets fired by a party of the soldiers of the 15th regiment, now in this garrison, on the people who were dispersing at the adjournment of the Foil on the aforesaid St. James' street, which soldiers were commanded by Col. McIntosh and Capt. Temple.

(Signed.) Fred. Glackmeyer, Augustin Perrault, Theo. Desautels, Louis N. Roy, Gregoire Fere, Jas. Mathis, Prudent Vinet dit Soulangy, Frs. Desautels, Joseph Beauchamp.

Montreal, 26th May 1832."

[Translation.] "The persons named Frs. Languedoc, Pierre Billet and Casimir Chauvin, were killed Monday last the 21st instant, between five and six o'clock in the afternoon, on St. James' street of this city, by the discharge of muskets loaded with bullets fired by a detach-

ment of the 15th Regiment, now in the garrison of this city, and commanded by Col. McIntosh and Capt. Temple, during a riot after the adjournment of the Foil for the election of a Member for the West. Ward of this city, then holding in the house of the Fabrique opposite to the Place d'Armes.

(Signed.) Chs. Dubois, Alexander Dewar, Edouard Talon l'Espérance."

Montreal, 26th May 1832."

The Coroner afterwards discharged the Jury to reappear this morning, (Monday) at which time he again discharged them to appear on the 27th August, the first day of the Criminal Term.

On Saturday the Coroner, deeming the proof that he had before him sufficient, issued warrants for the arrest of Colonel McIntosh and Captain Temple for a murder. Mr. Chief Justice Reid and Mr. Justice Pyke were then in Court, and both these gentlemen were admitted to bail, the pleadings on their right to habeas corpus being at their request postponed to to-morrow. The Judges will then decide whether they are to be sent to jail until the day of their trial.

Mr. Walker, one of the most distinguished advocates in matters of Criminal Jurisdiction, has been retained by the friends of Mr. Tracey, to watch the proceedings of the Crown Officers, and give his assistance as need may be against the perpetrators of these murders.

We omitted to state that a number of the country people were present at the funeral of the deceased, who, like the town's people, wore crape on their hats. Mr. Papien, the father, was present.

Here follow the names of the witnesses called before the Jury on the Inquest.

Tuesday:—Against the troops. MM. Hippolyte Voyer, John Flaherty; E. E. Rodier (advocate); Michel Jacques, Frs. Tavernier; Wm. Lyman; Alex. Noon; Richard Fogarty and Geo. Doyle (9.)

Wednesday:—Against the troops. MM. Jean Mondelet; Ant. Chs. Fortin; P. Abdella & P. Lukin (notary.)—On the side of the troops. MM. Alex. Robertson; J. B. Finlay; A. Carlisle Buchanan; G. P. Bull; (Printer of the Record) Thos. Mitchell Smith; William Caldwell; (physician) John Wood and Robert Armour, junr. (Editor of the Gazette)—(12.)

Thursday:—Against the troops. MM. J. Jones and Arnoldi; (physician)—(2.) Total witnesses 23.

QUEBEC:

WEDNESDAY, 30th MAY, 1832.

Neither the New-York papers of Thursday evening last, nor the arrivals at this port, furnish later intelligence from Europe.

THE MONTREAL DISTURBANCES.

It has been attempted to throw much odium on the character of Mr. Papien the Speaker of the Assembly, in the Courant, Gazette and Herald, and Quebec Mercury, on account of the part that gentleman has taken at the Coroner's inquest, and in seeking justice in the case of the deceased. These papers appear to have some aversion to justice being done; they go on the supposition that the Coroner and the Jury can be biased by individual representation, and that any citizen, the most humble, can not as a matter of right promote public justice by all the means the law allows him. They in fact, arraign the law, which it will not be maintained did not permit Mr. Papien as an individual to use the efforts he has. The same papers appear also knowingly to conceal the fact that Mr. Papien is by profession an Advocate, and that his services might be given as counsel.

These papers have further entered on a very active defence of Col. McIntosh and Capt. Temple; but they have given us no new facts,—none are really known to them. It is a party defence; and moreover, contrary to all principle, they defend and acquit pending the matter in the Courts; they appear wonderfully averse to the course of the law. The Mercury says of the officers and soldiers that they are "the brave and honorable men who did their duty as good and loyal soldiers." That is a point to be established by the trial.

The papers in question do not show us that all the formalities requisite before the troops fired were observed—particularly that the Riot Act was read on the spot, and at the time immediately preceding the fire, that there was an evident intention to destroy lives and property in the collection of people, and not a mere show of resistance to an electing party, which they had been combating for some weeks before, and which party took a share itself in the disturbance.

The law in this Colony, we shall suppose, is clear that the Civil Magistrate can call the King's forces to his assistance. It is certain that the King's forces, in that case, must obey,—that they must fire if ordered; but it is equally clear that there are formalities to be gone through, which it is absolutely necessary to observe before firing; and that any officer of character would make known his objections if he had any, and require as regards himself the most positive security against the consequences. The Magistrates would probably not order the troops to fire, until they were convinced that there was an intention in the disturbers to destroy lives and property, which could not be prevented by other means at hand.

The Matiny Act of the last Session does not contain any clause authorizing the troops to turn out on the order of the Civil Magistrate. The 4th clause of the Act authorizes the King to make articles of war, which shall be observed by "all Courts whatsoever." It is under these articles of war, we suppose, that the troops came to the assistance of the Civil Power.

It is said that a meeting of the Executive Council has taken place on the subject of the disturbances in Montreal. Mr. Solicitor General Ogden went up by Steamboat Monday night.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR MAY 1831.

[These Reports have been discontinued since October.] The winter did not set in till the middle of November, and there was no severe frost before the first week in December. A small quantity of snow which fell in the beginning of November remained on the ground, but there was no heavy fall before Christmas. Afterwards the snow fell at intervals in large quantities, and particularly towards the Spring. In April it was four or five feet deep in the woods, at a time that usually the greatest part of it is melted. The winter, as indeed the whole of the past year, was remarkable for a succession of mild and severe weather, with one or two thaws and heavy rain. On the 21st April and 3d May there were two heavy falls of snow, and it was not till the warm days of the 10th, 11th, and 12th of the present month, when the thermometer rose to 65°, 75°, or 80°, that the fields began to be clear of snow. On the 17th there was thunder in the south; and since the 13th the wind has continued easterly, with heavy rains. On the 19th and 21st the thermometer was generally down from 40° to 50°, and the weather cloudy.

Wheat sowing commenced about the 12th of the month, and became general the week after, but was retarded by the wetness of the ground in many places. Before the 20th, the usual period when it is conceived to be too

