

POETRY.

THE POWER OF THE DEAD.

BY MISS M. A. BROWNE.

Say not their power is o'er!
Although their lips be mute, their limbs be still,
With night unknown before,
Those silent forms the living heart may thrill.

MATERIAL ADVANCEMENT AND MORAL DEGRADATION OF THE FRENCH.

France is unquestionably advancing rapidly in physical and material civilization. It is impossible to travel through the country with an observant eye without being convinced of the fact.

The evidences of a nation's advancement or retrogression in moral and intellectual civilization do not lie quite so much on the surface of things, and are not by their nature so manifest to observation.

The most malignant symptom of this moral disease, which is destroying the nation, is the universal want of faith—not religious faith only, but of faith in any thing—in virtue, honesty, and morality—in the reality of any thing not cognizable by the material senses—in the government, in their superiors, in their neighbours, and in themselves.

It requires but small penetration to perceive that such a temper of mind must lead to a degree of selfishness and individualism which, as soon as ever it becomes sufficiently universal, must sever the bond which binds individuals into bodies politic, and dissolve society into its original elements.

Among a variety of small traits and indications of national feeling, which, as I said just now, serve as straws to show which way the wind blows, many, though producing an impression at the moment of their occurrence which is not afterwards effaced, are themselves of a nature to slip from the memory.

The Charivari is, comparatively speaking, an expensive paper, and would not therefore be found in the smaller and poorer cafes. But in those of more pretension it was invariably taken; and was, as far as very constant reading goes, more extensively observed than any other publication.

much talent; but its staple contents are blasphemy, obscenity, and unceasing attacks on every species of existing institution, whether Whig, Tory, or Radical.

If from the cafes we turn to the circulating libraries, their contents, of a nature equally pernicious and little less ephemeral, amply confirm the conclusions we shall have been inclined to draw from the favourite sheets of the public press.

CANTON.—Canton stands upon the north bank of the Chookeang or Pearl River, about sixty miles inland from the "Great Sea." It is one of the oldest cities in the southern provinces, and second in importance to no other in the empire, except Peking, where the Emperor holds his court.

Wonderful Nature of Lightning.—A very surprising property of lightning of the zig-zag kind, especially when near, is its seeming omnipresence. If two persons are standing in a room, looking different ways, and a loud clap of thunder, accompanied with zig-zag lightning, happens, they will both distinctly see the flash at the same time; not only the illumination, but the very form of the lightning itself, and every angle it makes in its course, will be as distinctly perceptible as though they had both looked directly at the cloud from whence it proceeded.

The Love of Literature.—I say that the love of liberty and the love of literature are kindred and cognate. The love of literature is a free, bold, and independent spirit; for its possessor spurns everything which is low, mean, and vicious.

Influence of Temper on the Voice.—The influence of temper on tone deserves much consideration. Habits of querulousness or ill nature will infallibly communicate a like quality to the voice.

Drunk and Sober.—We saw a hog lying in the gutter the other day; and in the opposite one was a well-dressed man (?). The first had a ring in his nose—the latter a ring on his finger.

Freemasonry.—For centuries and centuries had freemasonry existed, ere modern political controversies were ever heard of, and when the topics which now agitate society were not known, but all were united in brotherhood and affection.

Flouncing.—In Guernsey, when a young man offers himself to a young lady, and is accepted, the parents of the parties give what is termed a flouncing; that is, they invite their friends to a feast, the young lady is led round the room by her future father-in-law, and introduced to his friends, and afterwards the young man is paraded round in like manner by his future father-in-law.

be invested in like manner for the support of her dog, and an annuity of 200 f. for the person who is to have the charge of them.

CAUTION TO BUYERS OF HORSES.—And now, gentle reader, for my inferences a la Martineau. Whenever you see a horse advertised for sale, avoid him as you would a pestilence.

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His Hands Full.—A man is supposed to be tolerably well occupied when he has a wife on one arm, a baby on the other, carrying a basket and a cane in his hands, a cigar in his mouth, and a hopeful heir holding on to the skirts of his coat.

their ultimate funeral courtesies the spirit of imitation is preserved. An epitaph on a negro baby at Savannah commences, "Sweet blighted tily!"

FORCE OF IMAGINATION.—Some years ago, a celebrated physician, author of an excellent work on the force of imagination, being desirous to add experimental to his theoretical knowledge, made application to the minister of justice, to be allowed an opportunity of proving what he asserted, by an experiment on a criminal condemned to death.

AMERICAN FOURIERISM.—This is a new social doctrine, akin to Owenism, just started by Horace Greeley, Albert Brisbane, and others, and endorsed by the Evening Post.

TANNING.—A discovery has been made which seems likely to revolutionize the trade. By means of a tanning machine, or a pair of horizontal rollers fixed over a tank, between which is fixed a band or belt of hides, attached by ligatures to each other, to the number of 50 to 100, and by which the rollers are constantly fed or supplied, the hides are lifted out of the pit on one side of the machine; as they pass between the rollers, the exhausted ooze or tanning liquor is pressed out of them, and they are deposited in folds in the pit on the other side of the machine, where they absorb another supply of fresh liquor.

ENCOUNTER WITH A BOA-CONSTRUCTOR.—In the Surrey Zoological-gardens are several serpents, among which is an enormous boa, measuring upwards of two feet in length and weighing more than two hundred weight.

Extraordinary Journey and Voyage.—It is stated that an English traveller, Sir George Simpson, who recently set out from Liverpool, and left Montreal on his route a few days since, is now engaged in one of the most extraordinary adventures of modern times.

By one of the routes of the Hudson Bay Company, he will then travel on the Pacific Ocean, by steamboats, upwards of 15,000 miles; will visit the Sandwich Islands, Kamschatka, and various other places. He will then proceed to Siberia, and travel 800 miles on horseback, then along the Lena, a distance of 2,640 miles, in the north of Europe, being a distance of 9,500 miles, in all, and on horseback. His calculation is to be sent the whole of this year, and the greater part of the next.

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