

danger is not lessened in the present age. A CRITIC.

*To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.*

GENTLEMEN,  
**A** MINUTE Critic in your last number, when speaking of the costume of the Irish Chieftain in delivering the Prologue, wishes to be informed how he disposed of his half boots and saffron sleeves, as his legs and arms were *bare*. All that need be said in reply, is, that the short boots edged with fur, came scarcely above his ancles, and his legs were bare; and that the saffron sleeves were tucked above his elbows, so that his arms (or at least his *fore*-arms, it the critic be an anatomist) were *also* bare. In short the Irish Chieftain was represented, like most of his countrymen at that time, and ever since that time, as being (proh pudor!) without shirt or stockings. Will this explanation serve to satisfy this critic animalcule, who is only known by the initials of his name S. N.?

There is a sort of spume or froth,  
 Which hangs on plants of summer growth;  
 The froth without, so light and thin,  
 Hides a poor *nameless* fly within;  
 You've hit this critic to a tittle;  
 'Tis nothing else than Cuckoo Spittle.

I AM YOUR'S, &c. X.

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

#### CALCULATIONS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

**T**HE difference in weights and measures, and the different denominations of them are frequently perplexing in the calculations of commerce. They also render it more difficult to compute the relative prices of grain in different countries. One use of a *magazine*, is to lay up, as in a *store-house* for future reference, such memorandums as are liable otherwise to escape the memory. Accept then the following calculations to show the relative proportions between the measures of England, and the weights of Ireland, by which grain is sold, in the former country by measure, and in the latter by weight.

A quarter is 8 bushels of Winchester measure. An English quarter of good wheat may be taken, at an average at  $32\frac{1}{2}$  stones of 14 lbs.; of

barley at 28 stones, and of oats at  $21\frac{1}{2}$ . The Irish barrel of wheat is 20 stones, or  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cwt.; of barley 16 stones, or 2 cwt. and of oats 14 stones, or  $1\frac{3}{4}$  cwt. Thus a calculation may be easily made, by reducing the weights of the one country to the measures of the other. A READER.

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

#### LETTER ON MR. LANCASTER'S IMPROVED METHOD OF TEACHING

*We cheerfully embrace the views of the Committee and Teachers of the Belfast Sunday School, in giving further publicity to the following valuable Letter on the much improved plan of Education so successfully practised by J. Lancaster. The Letter is in reply to one written by a Member of the above Institution to his friend in London, requesting a general outline of the system, discipline, books, slates, &c. &c. used, and the yearly salary requisite to bring one of Mr. Lancaster's finished Pupils to conduct a School in this country on his plan.*

"42, Bedford Row, London July 28, 1810.

"DEAR SIR,

"**B**Y appointment I was yesterday favoured with half an hour of Mr. Lancaster's time, which is equally valuable and constantly occupied, especially during the short period which he spends in London. In answer to the question respecting remuneration to one of his pupils to establish a school, he observed that eighty or one hundred pounds a year is common, but that he could say nothing till you informed him, by letter (the only mode in which he wishes to communicate any information on this subject) what is the extent of the proposed school, what scale it would be established on, the nature and extent of the building, number of pupils, &c. In a word, a summary statement of what you want, and what you think of attempting to establish. His opinion generally is that you ought to proceed on a grand scale, and not attempt the adoption of his plan in a contracted manner, which could not be advantageous to any party; that you ought to endeavour to obtain the unqualified approbation of all the leading characters in the place, insure the attendance of the great mass of the population, and proceed on such a liberal principle that you must eventually succeed.

"You request a minute description of the mode of teaching, books, benches, slates, &c. used. These things require in general a month or