

THE SCRAP BOOK is not restricted to the Months of one year, but as a reference to the Months *generally*; and besides noticing incidents and customs peculiar to the Months, it comprises instructive and entertaining Pieces, well suited to excite in youth a relish for useful reading.

THE MONTHLY SCRAP BOOK, FOR SEPTEMBER.

Whate'er the Wintry frost
Nitrous prepared; the various-blossom'd Spring
Put in white promise forth; and Summer-suns
Concocted strong, rush boundless now to view,
Full perfect all, and swell my glorious theme.

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THE KIRN.

BRIGHT now the shortening day, and blythe its close
 When to the *Kirn* the neighbours, old and young,
 Come dropping in to share the well-earned feast.
 The smith aside his ponderous sledge has thrown,
 Raked up his fire, and cooled the hissing brand :
 His sluice the miller shuts ; and from the barn
 The threshers hie, to don their Sunday coats ;
 Simply adorned, with ribands, blue and pink,
 Bound round their braided hair, the lasses trip
 To grace the feast; which now is smoking ranged
 On tables of all shape, and size, and height,
 Joined awkwardly, yet to the crowded guests
 A seemly joyous show, all loaded well ;
 But chief, at the board-head, the haggis round
 Attracts all eyes, and even the goodman's grace
 Prunes of its wonted length. With eager knife,
 The quivering globe he then prepares to broach ;
 While for her gown some ancient matron quakes,
 Her gown of silken woof, all figured thick
 With roses white, far larger than the life,
 On azure ground,—her grannam's wedding garb,
 Old as that year when Sherrifinuir was fought.
 Old tales are told, and well-known jests abound,
 Which laughter meets half way as ancient friends,
 Nor, like the worldling, spurns because thread bare.

When ended the repast, and board and bench
 Vanish like thought, by many hands removed,
 Up strikes the fiddle ; quick upon the floor
 The youths lead out the half-reluctant maids.
 Bashful at first, and darning through the reels
 With timid steps, till, by the music cheered,
 With free and airy step, they bound along,
 Then deftly wheel, and to their partners' face,
 Turning this side, now that, with varying steps.
 Sometimes two ancient couples o'er the floor,
 Skim through a reel, and think of youthful years.

Meanwhile the frothing bickers soon, as filled,
 Are drained, and to the gauntress oft return,
 Where gossips sit, unmindful of the dance.
 Salubrious beverage ! Were thy sterling worth
 But duly prized, no more the alembic vast
 Would like some dire volcano, vomit forth
 Its floods of liquid fire, and far and wide
 Lay waste the land ; no more the fruitful boon
 Of twice ten shrievedoms, into poison turned,
 Would taint the very life blood of the poor,
 Shrivelling their heart-strings like a burning scroll.

THE
MONTHLY SCRAP BOOK.

METHOD OF CATCHING WILD CATTLE IN
SOUTH AMERICA.

OUR host was a native Chilian, but of Spanish descent. He was a considerable landed proprietor, who passed the greater part of his time on his estate, and who, from his knowledge of farming, cattle-breeding, and the cultivation of the vine, had been enabled not only to turn his property to good account, but to obtain great influence in the

BETWEEN four and five o'clock, the siesta, or afternoon nap, being over, our friends, rubbing their eyes, gradually made their appearance; by half past five, we were all assembled. The careta, which is merely a covered cart, and well supplied with mats and straw in place of springs, was ordered for the ladies, who set out to pay what they were pleased to call "gossiping country visits."

The gentlemen rode in another direction to see the cattle selected for next day's Matanza or slaughter. We were guided, by a cloud of dust, to the spot where the country people had collected the drove, and hemmed them into a corner. The master of the house, accompanied by the principal horseman of his farm, rode amongst the beasts, and fixing his eye upon the fattest, pointed it out to the attendants, who soon separated it, by means of their goads, from the rest. In this way, fifteen were selected, and being surrounded by about a

dozen horsemen, were driven slowly towards the house, and finally into an adjoining Corrall or inclosure.

On our way homeward our host entertained us, by making his people shew us the South African method of catching cattle. The instrument used is called in English a Lasso, from the Spanish Lazo, which signifies slip-knot or noose, and the operation of using it is called Lassoing. It consists of a rope made of strips of untanned hide, varying in length from fifteen to twenty yards, and is about as thick as the little finger. It has a nose or running-knot at one end, the other extremity being fastened by an eye and button to a ring in a strong hide-belt or surcingle, bound tightly round the horse. The coil is grasped by the horseman's left hand, while the noose, which is held in the right, trails along the ground, except when in use, and then it is whirled round the head with considerable velocity, during which, by a peculiar turn of the wrist, it is made to assume a circular form; so that, when delivered from the hand, the noose preserves itself open till it falls over the object at which it has been aimed.

The unerring precision with which the lasso is thrown is perfectly astonishing, and to one who sees it for the first time, has a very magical appearance. Even when standing still it is by no means an easy thing to throw the lasso; but the difficulty is vastly increased when it comes to be used on horseback and at a gallop, and when in addition, the rider has to pass over uneven ground, and to leap hedges and ditches in his course; yet

such is the dexterity of the guassos, or countrymen, that they are not only sure of catching the animal they are in chase of, but can fix, or, as they term it, place their lasso on any particular part they please: over the horns, round the neck, or the body; or they can include all four legs, or two, or any one of the four; and the whole with such ease and certainty, that it is necessary to witness the feat to have a just conception of the skill displayed; which, like that of the savage Indian in the use of his bow and arrow, can only be gained by the practice of many years. It is, in fact, the earliest amusement of these people; and I have often seen little boys just beginning to run about, actively employed in lassoing cats, and entangling the legs of every dog that was unfortunate enough to pass within reach: in due season they became very expert in their attacks on poultry; and afterwards in catching wild birds; so that, by the time they are mounted on horseback, which is always at an early age, they begin to acquire that matchless skill, from which no animal, of less speed than a horse, has the slightest chance of escaping.

Let us suppose that a wild bull is to be caught, and that two mounted horsemen, guassos as they are called, undertake to kill him. As soon as they discover him, they remove the coil of the lasso from behind them, and, grasping it in the left hand, prepare the noose in the right, and dash off at full gallop, each swinging his lasso round his head. The first who comes within reach aims at the bull's horns, and when he sees, which he does in an instant, that the lasso will take effect,

he stops his horse, and turns it half round, the bull continuing his course, till the whole cord has run out from the guasso's hand. The horse, meanwhile, knowing, by experience, what is going to happen, leans over, as much as he can, in the opposite direction from the bull, and stands in trembling expectation of the violent tug which is given by the bull when brought up by the lasso. So great, indeed, is the jerk which takes place at this moment, that were the horse not to lean over, he would certainly be overturned; but standing, as he does, with his feet planted firmly on the ground, he offers sufficient resistance to stop the bull as instantaneously as it had been shot, though at full speed. In some cases, this check is so abrupt and violent, that the animal is not only dashed to the ground; but rolls along at the full stretch of the lasso; while the horse, drawn sideways, ploughs up the earth with his feet for several yards. This, which takes so long to describe, is the work of a few seconds; during which the horseman gallops past; and before the bull has time to recover from the shock, places the noose over his horns, and continues advancing till it also is at full stretch. The bull, stupified by the fall, sometimes lies motionless on the ground; but the horseman soon rouses him up, by tugging him to and fro. When on his legs, with a horseman on each side, he is like a ship moored with two cables; and however unwilling he may be to accompany the guassos, or however great his struggles, he is irresistibly dragged along by them in whatever direction they please.

If the intention be to kill the animal for the sake of the hide and tallow alone, as is often the case, one of the guassos dismounts, and running in, cuts the bull's hamstrings with a long knife, which he always wears in his girdle; and, instantly afterwards, despatches him, by a dexterous cut across the back of the neck. The most surprising thing is, the manner in which the horse, after being left by his rider, manages to preserve the lasso always tight; this would be less difficult if the bull were to remain steady, but it sometimes happens, that he makes violent struggles to disentangle himself from the lassos, rushing backwards and forwards in a furious manner. The horse, however, with wonderful sagacity, alters his place, and prances about, as if conscious of what he is doing, so as to resist every movement of the bull, and never allowing the lasso to be relaxed for a moment.

When a wild horse is to be taken, the lasso is always placed round the two hind legs, and, as the guasso rides a little on one side, the jerk pulls the entangled horse's feet laterally, so as to throw him on his side, without endangering his knees or his face. Before the horse can recover the shock, the rider dismounts, and snatching his poncho or cloak from his shoulders, wraps it round the prostrate animal's head; he then forces into his mouth one of the powerful bits of the country, straps a saddle on his back, and, bestriding him, removes the poncho; upon which, the astonished horse springs on his legs, and endeavours, by a thousand vain efforts, to disencumber himself of his new master, who sits quite composedly on his back;

and, by a discipline which never fails, reduces the horse to such complete obedience, that he is soon trained to lend his speed and strength in the capture of his wild companions.

During the recent wars in this country, the lasso was used as a weapon of great power in the hands of the guassos, who make bold and useful troops, and never fail to dismount cavalry, or to throw down the horses of those who come within their reach. There is a well-authenticated story of a party of eight or ten of these men, who had never seen a piece of artillery, till one was fired at them in the streets of Buenos Ayres : they galloped fearlessly up to it, placed their lassos over the cannon, and, by their united strength, fairly overturned it. Another anecdote is related of them, which, though possible enough, does not rest on such good authority. A number of armed boats were sent to effect a landing at a certain point on the coast, guarded solely by these horsemen. The party in the boats, caring little for an enemy unprovided with fire-arms, rowed confidently along the shore. The guassos, meanwhile, were watching their opportunity, and the moment the boats came sufficiently near, dashed into the water, and, throwing their lassos round the necks of the officers, fairly dragged every one of them out of their boats.

_____ - *Capt. Hall.*

THE MINISTER OF DALMAILING,
A Tale of 1760.

THIS year was remarkable for three things in the parish of Dalmailing.—First and foremost, there

was my placing ; then the coming of Mrs Malcolm with her five children to settle among us ; and next, my marriage upon my own cousin, Miss Betty Lanshaw, by which the account of this year naturally divides itself into three heads or portions.

First, of the placing.—It was a great affair ; for I was put in by the patron, and the people knew nothing whatsoever of me, and their hearts were stirred into strife on the occasion, and they did all that lay within the compass of their power to keep me out, insomuch, that there was obliged to be a guard of soldiers to protect the presbytery ; and it was a thing that made my heart grieve when I heard the drum beating and the fife playing as we were going to the kirk. The people were really mad and vicious, and flung dirt upon us as we passed, and reviled us all, and held out the finger of scorn at me ; but I endured it with a resigned spirit, compassionating their wilfulness and blindness. Poor old Mr Kilfuddy of the Braehill got such a clash of glar on the side of his face, that his eye was almost extinguished.

When we got to the kirk door, it was found to be nailed up, so as by no possibility to be opened. The serjeant of the soldiers wanted to break it, but I was afraid that the heritors would grudge and complain of the expence of a new door, and I supplicated him to let it be as it was ; we were, therefore, obligated to go in by a window, and the crowd followed us, in the most unreverent manner, making the Lord's house like an inn on a fair-day, with their grievous yellyhooing. During the time of the psalm and the sermon, they behaved them-

selves better, but when the induction came on their clamour was dreadful; and Thomas Thorpe the weaver, a pious zealot in that time, he got up and protested, and said, "Verily; verily, I say unto you, he that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." And I thought I would have a hard and sore time of it with such an outstrapolous people. Mr Given, that was then the minister of Lugton, was a jocose man, and would have his joke even at a solemnity. When the laying of the hands upon me was a-doing, he could not get near enough to put on his, but he stretched out his staff and touched my head, and said, to the great diversion of the rest,—“This will do well enough, timber to timber;” but it was an unfriendly saying of Mr Given, considering the time and place, and the temper of my people.

- After the ceremony, we then got out at the window, and it was a heavy day to me, but we went to the manse, and there we had an excellent dinner, which Mrs. Watts of the new inn of Irville prepared at my request, and sent her chaise-driver to serve; for he was likewise her waiter, she having then but one chaise, and that no often called for.

But, although my people received me in this unruly manner, I was resolved to cultivate civility among them; and therefore, the very next morning I began a round of visitations; but oh, it was a steep brae that I had to climb, and it needed a stout heart. For I found the doors in some places barred against me; in others, the bairns, when

they saw me coming, ran crying to their mothers. "Here's the feckless Mess-John;" and then when I went in into the houses, their parents would not ask me to sit down, but with a scornful way, said, "Honest man, what's your pleasure here?" Nevertheless, I walked about from door to door, like a dejected beggar, till I got the almous deed of a civil reception, and who would have thought it, from no less a person than the same Thomas Thorl that was so bitter against me in the kirk on the foregoing day.

Thomas was standing at the door with his green duffle apron, and his red Kilmarnock night-cap—I mind him as well as if it was but yesterday—and he had seen me going from house to house, and in what manner I was rejected, and his bowels were moved, and he said to me in a kind manner, "Come in, sir, and ease yourself; this will never do, the clergy are God's gorbies, and for their master's sake it behoves us to respect them. There was no ane in the whole parish mair against you than mysel, but this early visitation is a symptom of grace that I couldna have expectit from a bird out of the nest of patronage." I thanked Thomas, and went in with him, and we had some solid conversation together, and I told him that was not so much the pastor's duty to feed the flock, as to herd them well; and that although there might be some abler with the head than me, there wasna a he within the bounds of Scotland more willing to watch the fold by night and by day. And Thomas said he had not heard a mair sound observe for some

time, and that if I held to that doctrine in the poopit, it would na be lang till I would work for change.—“I was mindit,” quoth he, “never to set my foot within the kirk door while you were there; but to testify, and no to condemn without a trial, I’ll be there next Lord’s day, and egg my neighbours to be likewise, so ye’ll no have to preach just to the bare walls and the laird’s family.”

I have now to speak of the coming of Mrs. Malcolm. She was the widow of a Clyde shipmaster, that was lost at sea with his vessel. She was a genty body, calm and methodical. From morning to night she sat at her wheel spinning the finest lint, which suited well with her peevish hands. She never changed her widow’s weeds, and she was aye as if she had just been ta’en out of a band-box. The tear was often in her cheek when the bairns were at the school; but when they came home, her spirit was lighted up with gladness, although, poor woman, she had many a time very little to give them. They were, however, wonderful bred things, and took with thankfulness whatever she set before them, for they knew that their father, the breadwinner, was away, and that she had to work sore for their bit and drap. I dare say, the only vexation that ever she had from any of them, on their own account, was when Charlie, the eldest laddie, had won fourpence for pitch and toss at the school, which he brought home with a proud heart to his mother. I happened to be daurnin’ bye at the time, and just looked in at the door to say gude night: It was a sad sight. There was she sitting with the silent tear on her

check, and Charlie greeting as if he had done a great fault, and the other four looking on with sorrowful faces. Never, I am sure, did Charlie Malcolm gamble after that night.

I often wondered what brought Mrs Malcolm to our clachan, instead of going to a populous town, where she might have taken up a huxtry-shop, as she was but of a silly constitution, the which would have been better for her than spinning from morning to far in the night, as if she was in verity drawing the thread of life. But it was, no doubt, from an honest pride to hide her poverty; for when her daughter Effie was ill with the measles—the poor lassie was very ill—nobody thought she would come through, and when she did get the turn, she was for many a day a heavy handful;—our session being rich, and nobody on it but cripple Tammy Daidles, that was in that time known through all the country side for begging on a horse, I thought it my duty to call upon Mrs Malcolm, in a sympathizing way, and offer her some assistance, but she refused it.

“No, sir,” said she, “I canna take help from the poor’s box, although it is very true that I am in great need; for it might hereafter be cast up to my bairns, whom it may please God to restore to better circumstances when I am no to see’t; but I would fain borrow five pounds, and if, sir, you will write to Mr Maitland, that is now the Lord Provost of Glasgow, and tell him that Marion Shaw would be obliged to him for the lend of that soom, I think he will not fail to send it.”

I wrote the letter that night to Provost Maitland, and by the return of the post, I got an answer, with twenty pounds for Mrs Malcolm, saying, "that it was with sorrow he heard so small a trifle could be serviceable." When I took the letter and the money, which was in a bank-bill, she said, "this is just like himself." She then told me, that Mr Maitland had been a gentleman's son of the east country, but driven out of his father's house, when a laddie, by his step-mother; and that he had served as a servant lad with her father, who was the Laird of Yillcogie, but ran through his estate, and left her, his only daughter, in little better than beggary with her auntie, the mother of Captain Malcolm, her husband that was. Provost Maitland in his servitude had ta'en a notion of her, and when he recovered his patrimony, and had become a great Glasgow merchant, on hearing how she was left by her father, he offered to marry her, but she had promised herself to her cousin, the Captain, whose widow she was. He then married a rich lady, and in time grew, as he was, Lord Provost of the city; but his letter with the twenty pounds to me, shewed that he had not forgotten his first love. It was a short, but a well-written letter, in a fair hand of write, containing much of the true gentleman; and Mrs Malcolm said, "Who knows but out of the regard he once had for their mother, he may do something for my five helpless orphans."

Thirdly, upon the subject of taking my cousin, Miss Betty Laushaw, for my first wife, I have little to say. It was more out of a compassionate

habitual affection, than the passion of love. We were brought up by our grandmother in the same house, and it was a thing spoken of from the beginning; that Betty and me were to be married. So when she heard that the Laird of Breadland had given me the presentation of Dalmailing, she began to prepare for the wedding. And as soon as the placing was well over, and the manse in order, I gaed to Ayr, where she was, and we were quietly married; and came home in a chaise, bringing with us her little brother Andrew, that died in the East Indies, and he lived and was brought up by us.

Now, this is all; I think; that happened in that year; worthy of being mentioned; except that at the sacrament, when old Mr Kilfuddie was preaching in the tent; it came on such a thunder-plump, that there was not a single soul stayed in the kirk-yard to hear him; for the which he was greatly mortified, and never after came to our preachings.

Galt.

SECESSION CHURCH.

THE SECESSIONS are a numerous body of Scottish Presbyterians, who first broke off from the kirk establishment about the year 1733. The Secession was formed on the alleged ground of corruption, both in doctrine and government, in the National Church, and with a view to restore the genuine principles of Presbyterianism. In the salutary work of reform, the celebrated Ebenezer and Ralph Erskine took a leading part; and in 1745, the

seceding ministers were become so numerous, that they disjoined themselves into three different presbyteries, under one synod. A disagreement having taken place among them relative to the Burgess oath, administered in several of the royal burroughs of Scotland, they have since been distinguished into Burghers and Antiburghers, and meet in different synods.

Both parties affirm, that the established kirk of Scotland still perseveres in a course of defection from her professed principles, and consequently that the grounds of secession, which at first were sufficient to justify a separation from her communion, have increased; hence the Seceders are gaining in number and strength to the present day. Their form of worship is the same as in the established kirk, and their discipline the same as used to be universally practised in the kirk, but which is almost generally disused. So that the church government of the Seceders is Presbyterian, and tenets strictly Calvinistic.

The Seceders hold no communion with other societies. The settlement of their ministers always proceeds upon a popular election, and the candidate is ordained by the suffrages of a majority. Among both parties of the Seceders the Gospel is generally preached, and endeavours are used to commit the ministry only to serious and faithful men. Some ministers deliver three public discourses on the Lord's day, publicly catechise, and privately visit their congregations once a year, without respect of persons. Private baptism is rejected as a relic of popery; the Lord's supper is administered

once or twice, and some four times, in a year, and care is taken to admit none to communion but such as make a credible profession of Christianity. They never accept of a sum of money as a commutation for any offence, as is done in the established kirk, but every offender is subjected to public admonition or exclusion. Yet notwithstanding the strictness of their discipline, and their rigid adherence to the original principles of Presbyterianism, it is apprehended that many of the present generation of Seceders fall considerably short of their predecessors in knowledge, piety, and zeal. The increase of both parties in the Secession has however been rapid and extensive; they now have upwards of two hundred congregations, and some of them consist of full a thousand members.

In the year 1820 a union of these two bodies was effected; and they are now designated "The United Associate Synod."

In 1799 a division took place in the Burgher branch of the Secession, in reference to the 23rd chapter of the Confession of Faith, regarding the power of the civil magistrate in religious matters. The party who considered this portion of their Standard as an infringement on liberty of conscience, were by far the most numerous, and were designated "New Light Burghers; whilst the other party, who adhered literally to the disputed requirement, were denominated "Old Light;" and assumed, as their distinctive appellation, the name of "Original Burghers."

In 1806, a division also took place in the Anti-Burgher branch of the Secession, upon the

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same question ; and the two parties were also designated by the same appellatives. They designated themselves the “ Constitutional Associate Presbytery ;” and seem more strictly to consider the binding obligation of the covenant ; and that the ordinary exercise of civil authority is necessary to the better promoting of the interests of morality and religion, and may warrantably be employed in settling, not only secular affairs, but also the peace, order, and security of the church of Christ, in the permanent enjoyment of her own peculiar liberties and government.

THE REFORMERS.

WHAT an inexhaustible subject, is the deformity of vice and the loveliness of virtue ! how incontestible, how convincing, are the proofs ! but, if moralists were in earnest, they would find, that the surest mode of amending others, is first to reform themselves.

Two citizens, who were neighbours, often indulged themselves with a morning's walk in the vicinity of the metropolis, before the hurrying hours of business came on. In one of these early perambulations, after ordinary conversation had ceased, one of them lamented the deluge of vice, which like an inundation, had overspread the whole land ; that virtue was driven to the very confines of these once happy realms ; and that even charity herself was preparing to depart : yet, amongst the general dearth of beneficence, he himself had a heart so very compassionate, that it uniformly melt-

ed with sorrow at a tale of woe, and he longed for nothing more than opportunities to relieve the distresses of his fellow creatures.

He had scarcely finished this fine harangue; when a good looking man in plain attire, approached them, humbly soliciting their attention to his mournful story; he said that his house had been burnt, and his stock in trade completely destroyed, at the same time producing vouchers for the truth of his assertions, from persons of the most undoubted credibility.

The citizen who had not spoken declared his inability to relieve the unfortunate petitioner; but observed to his friend, that here was a fine opportunity of displaying his favourite virtue. The beneficent man, however, declared that pity, was all he could then afford, and he never carried money about him.

The other on the departure of the poor mendicant, began to upbraid his friend: telling him he should have relieved the man himself, had he not been withheld from delicate motives; not wishing to deprive him of his darling pleasure, and again, charity, being a virtue to which he had never pretended. "Now," added he; to his abashed companion; "you have clearly demonstrated that benevolence is your characteristic, valor is mine! I look with reverence on the annals of former times, which furnish us with so many instances of admirable intrepidity; and sadly regret the want of magnanimity in our days, yet, notwithstanding this almost general defection, I think I may, without vanity, boast of as much personal courage as any

man breathing ; and only require a proper occasion of eliciting proofs of it."

They had by this time stroll'd into the fields at a considerable distance from any houses, when an armed robber rushed suddenly from behind a hedge, and with imprecations, threatened them with instant death, unless they immediately delivered their money.

"Now," says the charitable man, "now my friend, exert yourself and save our lives and property."

But the threats of the footpad, so intimidated the worthy moralists, that they very quietly delivered their purses.

The valiant person, was now ironically upbraided by his companion, who positively declared, that if he had rendered the least assistance, he would undoubtedly have secured the thief and given him up to justice.

"You could not certainly have expected me," said he "to rush on with chivalric spirit to the attack, for I have naturally a very *delicate sense of danger*, and require evident odds in my favour, if ever I came to an encounter, for valor is not my *forte*, but and a truce to recrimination; let us from henceforth cease to upbraid each other, for we have proved evidently enough, that though charity and bravery are terms we understand perfectly well, we nevertheless willingly leave the practice to other men.

REPUBLICAN SIMPLICITY OF LIFE.

DURING the American war of 1799, a British officer was sent with a flag from George town to

settle with Marion, the American general, concerning an exchange of prisoners. When led into Marion's presence, and the bandage taken from his eyes, the British officer, instead of the imposing dignity he expected to behold, was astonished to see a little sallow man, clad in a thread-bare homespun suit, surmounted by a few sun-burnt, half-naked militia men, roasting potatoes in the ashes, with their black firelocks, and coarse unseemly powder horns, lying beside them on logs. Having recovered a little from his surprise, the officer presented a letter to General Marion, and the exchange was adjusted to their mutual satisfaction. The officer took up his hat to retire, "pray Sir," said Marion, "give me the pleasure of your company to dinner, it is now about our time." The British officer glancing his eyes to the fire-place, saw nothing to flatter his hopes; but could not, consistent with good manners, decline the invitation. The general called to one of his men to produce the dinner.—Tom, (as the general named the fellow who held the capacity of cook and waiter,) with a pine-stick fork, liberated a quantity of sweet potatoes from the embers and ashes, pinching each to assure himself they were well done; having made them clean, as he supposed, partly by blowing on them with his breath, and partly by rubbing them with the sleeve of his cotton shirt; he took a large piece of bark, and piled some of the best potatoes before the British officer. The British officer was a well-bred man, and pretended to eat of this rustic fare; but before they parted General Marion inspired him with heartfelt respect, "Sir," said he,

“I feel perhaps, as Agesilaus felt, when the Persians were astonished at the rude simplicity of his garb, but I am in love. The patriarch Jacob served fourteen years for the beautiful Rachel. I could serve a lifetime, yea, I would give life itself for my mistress, her name is Liberty; be that heavenly nymph my companion, and the wild woods of my native country are a paradise, I live happy, and if I die obscure, and the children of distant generations never hear my name, still it gladdens my heart, and reconciles me to hardship, that I have fought and suffered to make them free.

VARIETIES.

Prevention of Cholera.—Cholera generally begins with disorder of the bowels, often slight but sometimes severe; this is frequently occasioned by improper food, either in quality or quantity, therefore avoid all indigestible substances, such as meat that has been fried or twice cooked—fish, particularly pickled salmon—all raw vegetables (cucumbers, salads, &c)—unripe fruit and fruit-pies—and even boiled pease and beans if old. Eat stale bread—mutton and beef in preference to pork or veal—light puddings of flour or rice; gruel or milk may be eaten with impunity. Abstain from all acid drinks, such as stale beer, porter or cyder; and instead, drink fresh mild beer, or very weak gin and water. If these are beyond your means, take ginger tea; never drink bad water, or cold water, when you are heated by exercise. Do not get drunk, for cholera has seized the drunkard first in all countries in which it has prevailed. Be temperate in all things and fear not. Avoid, if you can, too great exertion and fatigue—shun the night air and the heavy dews which fall after hot days—do not bathe in cold water, or take violent doses of physc. Remove all offensive dung-heaps that may be near your house, as well as decaying vegetables—clear out or cover over all drains, gutters, or cesspools—lime wash your house—keep open your windows, except at night—be cleanly in your persons, and keep your children so—pay no unnecessary visits to sick persons. Those who have had bad health and weak bowels should wear a broad flannel belt. If you have even a slight bowel complaint, send at once for your medical attendant; if you live in the country, and must wait some time before he can arrive, take thirty or forty drops of laudanum, a little magnesia, and half a glass of brandy or gin, mixed all together.

Comforts of Transportation.—As little is known in this country on the subject, we give an extract explanatory of the “comforts” enjoyed by convicts in Van Diemen’s Land and New South Wales:—

Comfort 1st.—As soon as he lands he is packed off 60, or 70, or 100 miles in the interior, or he is placed in the prisoner’s barracks—of which it would be only necessary for any Hon. Member to see the inside to convince him it was no joke—in either of which cases, if he has brought any trifles with him, he is sure to be relieved of them before the following day. If he does not lose his Government clothing, he may consider himself fortunate; should he, however, do so, the following morning he may safely calculate upon—

Comfort 2nd.—In the shape of fifty lashes, or ten day’s work on the tread-mill, or in the chain-gang.

Comfort 3rd.—If he be assigned to a master in the town, and happens to take a glass of grog after his long voyage, it is a great chance if he lodge not in the watch-house for the night, and take ‘fitty’ before breakfast in the morning by way of ‘comfort.’

Comfort 4th.—Travelling through a wild forest without knowing his way, and surrounded perhaps by the hostile aborigines, who, so sure as they meet would kill him.

Comfort 5th.—Should he lose his way, and escape starvation in the bush, probably a sound flogging for not having arrived sooner at his master’s house.

Comfort 6th.—Perpetual work and no pay; in many cases hard labour, hard living, hard words, and hard usage.

We have hitherto spoken only of the reception met with by a well-disposed prisoner—one who wishes to reform. If he be in any way refractory, let the good people of England thoroughly understand that he is sure of a most adequate reward. A short answer, when spoken to by his master or overseer, or a common soldier, or even a convict constable, is a crime punishable by flogging; getting tipsey places him in the stocks; missing muster may get him flogged, or into the chain gang, where he works in irons on the roads. Should he commit any second offence, Macquarie Harbour, Port Macquarie, Norfolk Island, or Moreton Bay is his fate; where every rigidity of discipline—nay, sometimes even cruelty—is exercised. The hardest of labour, and but one meal a-day, of the coarsest food, is the lot of a man who goes to a penal settlement. To these places it does not take felony to send a prisoner; many have been removed there for very trivial offences. The gallant colonel, who wishes for places of horror and terror as receptacles for criminals, need not go far a-field; we can supply him with such places as would satisfy the most insatiate appetite for torturing and punishing. When men commit murder on purpose to be hanged, in preference to bearing the terrors of these places of secondary exile, it cannot be expected that they are in the enjoyment of much ‘comfort.’

This is no opposition tirade; nor is the statement made for our colonial readers: the facts are too well known here to require description. It is a true picture, intended for the eye of our numerous English readers.”

A Remarkable Anecdote.—Lord Craven lived in London when the last great plague raged. His house was in that part of the town called Craven Buildings. On that sad calamity growing epidemic, his Lordship, to avoid the danger, resolved to retire to his seat in the country. His coach and six were accordingly at the door, the baggage put up, and all things in readiness for the journey. As he was walking through his hall with his hat on, his cane under his arm, and putting on his gloves, in order to step into his carriage, he overheard his negro (who served him as postilion) say to another servant, “I suppose, by my Lord’s quitting London to avoid the plague, that his god lives in the country, and not in town.” The poor negro said this in the simplicity of his heart, as really believing a plurality of gods. The speech, however, struck Lord Craven very sensibly, and made him pause—“My God (thought he) lives everywhere, and can preserve me in town, as well as in the country; I’ll e’en stay where I am. The ignorance of that negro has preached a useful sermon to me—Lord, pardon that unbelief, and that distrust of thy providence, which made me think of running away from thy hand.” He immediately ordered the horses to be taken from the coach, and the luggage to be brought in. He continued in London, was remarkably useful among his sick neighbours, and never caught the infection.

Caledonian Estimation of Money.—A Scotch pedestrian, attacked by three highwaymen, defended himself with great courage and obstinacy, but was at last overpowered, and his pockets rifled. The robbers expected, from the extraordinary resistance they had experienced, to lay their hands on some rich booty; but were not a little surprised to discover, that the whole treasure which the sturdy Caledonian had been defending at the hazard of his life, consisted of no more than a crooked sixpence. “The duce is in him,” said one of the rogues, “if he had possessed eighteen-pence, I suppose he would have killed the whole of us.”

GARDEN WORK IN SEPTEMBER.

Plant strawberries and box-edgings. Transplant celeriac, lettuce, endive and all evergreen shrubs. Look over wall-trees and espaliers, and fasten straggling branches. Prepare ground for planting fruit trees. Dig up all vacant borders, and clean and roll gravel walks. Destroy snails, caterpillars, and other vermin. Slip and transplant fibrous-rooted plants and flowers.

SEPTEMBER 1 st .	h.	m.	SEPTEMBER 30 th .	h.
Day breaks,.....	3	6	Day breaks,.....	4
Sun rises,.....	5	14	Sun rises,.....	6
—sets,.....	6	43	—sets,.....	5
Twilight ends,.....	8	54	Twilight ends.....	7