

transition is easy, from pointing out an error on one hand, to recommend the adoption of a contrary error on the other.

CENSOR.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,

DESIROUS that those who merit honours should receive them, through the medium of the Belfast Monthly Magazine, I wish to make public the following discovery.

Yours,

JOHN TEMPLETON.

The attraction of cohesion subsisting between gold and iron, has always been an impediment to the artist engaged in working gold. An ingenious artist of Belfast, Mr. Alexander Dunlap, has discovered a few months ago, that, by using cream, or even milk deprived of its butter in place of oil, gold may be drilled, or burnished with the same facility as brass or any other metal. No sooner had he made the discovery, than with an enlightened liberality he hastened to inform his friends, and it is now successfully practised by many workmen, both in Belfast and Dublin.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

The following Account of a new Volcano, in one of the Azores, has lately been given to the public, by the American Consul at St. Antonio.

Fayal (Azores) June 25th, 1808.

A PHENOMENON has occurred here, not unusual in former ages, but of which there has been no example of late years; it was well calculated to inspire terror, and has been attended with the destruction of lives and property. On Sunday, the first of May, at one, P.M. walking in the balcony of my house, at St. Antonio, I heard noises like the report of heavy cannon at a distance, and concluded there was some sea-engagement in the vicinity of the island. But soon after, casting my eyes towards the island of St. George, ten leagues distant, I perceived a dense column of smoke, rising to an immense height; it was soon judged that a Volcano had burst out about the centre of that island, and this was rendered certain when

night came on, the fire exhibiting an awful appearance.

Being desirous of viewing this wonderful exertion of nature, I embarked on the second of May, accompanied by the British consul, and ten other gentlemen, for St. George; we ran over in five hours, and arrived at Vellas, the principal town, at eleven A.M. We found the poor inhabitants perfectly panic-struck, and wholly given up to religious ceremonies and devotion. We learned that the fire of the first of May had broken out in a ditch, in the midst of fertile pastures, three leagues S. E. of Vellas, and had immediately formed a crater in size about twenty four acres. In two days it had thrown out cinders, or small pumice stones, that a strong N. E. wind had propelled southerly; and which, independent of the mass accumulated round the crater, had covered the earth from one foot to four feet in depth, half a league in width, and three leagues in length; then passing the channel five leagues, had done some injury to the east point of Pico.

The fire of this large crater had nearly subsided, but in the evening preceding our arrival, another small crater had opened, one league north of the large one, and only two leagues from Vellas. After taking some refreshment, we visited the second crater, the sulphureous smoke of which driven southerly, rendered it impracticable to attempt approaching the large one. When we came within a mile of the crater, we found the earth rent in every direction, and as we approached nearer, some of the chasms were six feet wide; by leaping over some of these chasms, and making windings to avoid the large ones, we at length arrived within two hundred yards of the spot; and saw it in the middle of a pasture, distinctly at intervals, when the thick smoke which swept the earth, lighted up a little. The mouth of it was only about fifty yards in circumference, the fire seemed struggling for vent; the force with which a pale blue flame issued forth, resembling a powerful steam-engine, multiplied an hundred fold; the noise was deafening. The earth where we stood had a tremulous motion, the whole island seemed convulsed; horrid