

themselves into a company, with additional partners, under the firm of Joys, M'Cabe, and M'Cracken, and contracted with the same charitable institution, for the employment of a number of its children, as well as for the use of their vacant rooms. They dispatched a skilful mechanic to England, who at personal risk and considerable expense, procured a minute knowledge of the most improved British machinery, which the inventors and proprietors intended to have kept a secret both from this and foreign countries. On his return they erected a new carding machine of superior structure to the first imperfect one, and a spinning jenny, of 72 spindles, then reckoned a large one, differing materially in its construction from the other.

In a memorial to the Dublin Society, praying for aid, from which the substance of this statement of facts is principally extracted, they informed the board, that so far from confining their hopes of gain to themselves, they had encouraged the public to avail itself of their discoveries. They had exposed their machinery to open view, permitted numbers, even from distant parts, to be taught in their apartments, without any charge for such indulgence; and promoted the progress of the manufacture of Cottons, Dimities, and Marseilles quilting, equally by example and instruction.

The magnitude of those improvements at the time is now to be estimated by comparison. Prior to this, from 8 to 10 cuts per day were the scanty produce of the most laborious spinner on the common wheel, while in the same time not more than a single pound could be carded by hand. On their Jenny of 72 spindles, 72 Irish hanks were spun weekly, an increase of 14 to one. And by their carding machine, twenty pounds of rovings were daily thrown off, an increase of twenty to one. These exertions were in time followed, on an enlarged scale, by Messrs. Nat. Wilson and Nich. Grimshaw, both since deceased. To the talents, property, and adventurous spirit of the former of these two gentlemen, and to the practical knowledge, genius, and

industry of the latter, this country stands very highly indebted.

The first mill for spinning twist by water in Ireland, was built by them in the year 1784, from which date the Irish Cotton manufactures were considered firmly established.

In the year 1800, only twenty-three years from the origin of the enterprise by Joy and M'Cabe, it appeared in evidence before Parliament, that the Cotton manufactures which they had thus introduced, gave employment to 13,500 working people, and including all manner of persons occupied in various ways, to twenty-seven thousand, within a circuit of only ten miles, but comprehending within its bounds the towns of Belfast and Lisburn.

It deserves remark, that as far as machinery is concerned, a Poor-house was the cradle of the cotton trade of Ireland; and that the detail now given should be a stimulus to the exertions of every individual, it demonstrates how much may be effected by a limited capital and ardent zeal.

In the present instance, the early introduction of a manufacture, already of immense and increasing importance, has been traced to the perseverance of two members of society, actuated by a wish to create useful employment for unfortunate infants; to assist the working classes, at a time when the Linen manufacture was in its most depressed state, and to render a permanent benefit to the community at large.

Whoever wishes to inquire further into the subject, may see an original document, which is left at the Belfast News-Letter Printing Office; they are also referred to the Memorial itself to the Dublin Society, and to minutes in the books of the Belfast Charitable Society.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

SCOTCH LAW AND POLITENESS.

GENTLEMEN,

IF the following narrative is deemed worthy a place in your valuable Magazine, you are at liberty to insert it; you may rely on its veracity; I

shall "nought extenuate, nor aught set down in malice."

In April, 1801, I had the honour to return from Edinburgh to Ireland in company with Mr. C——, on board a pleasure-boat, the property of that gentleman. We embarked at Leith, and on arriving at the entrance of the canal that connects the friths of Clyde and Forth, it was necessary to engage a driver and a pair of horses to drag the boat along the canal; a man having offered his services for this purpose, Mr. C. immediately agreed with him, and he engaged to come on the following morning at six o'clock; he did not, however, arrive at the hour appointed; and after waiting for him until eight o'clock, another man was employed, who had not proceeded one mile with the boat until the person first employed made his appearance, and demanded permission to attach his horses to the boat; this was peremptorily refused, reminding him, that he had violated his agreement by not coming at the appointed time; he then insisted on being paid the stated sum, as he had lost his day's work in consequence of a person being engaged in his place: this Mr. C—— also very properly refused. He then threatened to apply to a magistrate (for what he was pleased to term redress) and left us laughing at his threats, not conceiving that any person in a commission of the peace would grant an attachment on the bare statement of such a fellow; but in this we were disagreeably disappointed, for on arriving half along the canal, the driver, in company with two bailiffs, stepped into the boat, and arrested Mr. C——, under an attachment granted by Justice H. of K——s. Mr. C. refused to pay the driver, and demanded to be taken to the magistrate, which was complied with. I and two other gentlemen went with Mr. C. and after a march of two miles, reached the house of Justice H. He met us as he came round the corner of his pig-stye, surrounded by a number of hungry swine—(what a figure for the pencil of Hogarth.) Picture to yourself a man about fifty years of age, five feet eight inches high, pale, pock-marked, and cadaverous, dressed in a blue home-spun coat, and grey

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waistcoat with long flaps, a pair of dirty white leather small-clothes, jack boots (ten years at least old) newly greased on the occasion, a bay wig that had long defied the barber to make any further repairs on. In short, imagine ignorance and vulgarity personified, and you see this great autocrat of K——s. He saluted us with "Weel, wha are yee?" "I am," said Mr. C. "the person against whom you have granted an attachment, and I am convinced, on investigating the affair, you will immediately supercede it." "I dinna ken that, for why you no pii the mon his money!" "Because I have no right to do so, the man having violated his agreement, and not performed his work." "Yie are all a domed Irish Compaction!! and I'll be neething to de wei yee—tak them awaa to Sir Wulliam, and he wul sort them." "I request, Sir, that as you have granted the order, you will investigate the affair, delay here being attended with much inconvenience to me." "I he ne time, for I am gawn awa to Gleasgow, and the truck boat is waiting, and gane I shud miss it, I wud be te hire a chee, and that wud be o mere consequence than keepen you here this fortnight; and besides my breakfast is waitin—tak them awaa; I say againe yee are all a dam'd compaction."

After this polite and eloquent conversation, he disappeared round the corner of his house, followed by his hungry swine, who appeared as anxious for their breakfast as their lordly master, and in my opinion deserved it much better.

We were now conducted two miles further to the house of Sir William ——. This gentleman did not honour us with a sight of his presecence, he being at breakfast, but kindly ordered us to wait in his hall, without a seat to sit on, and after having detained us one hour, he changed his mind, and would have nothing to do in the affair, but ordered us to be taken to Mr. C——'s, at Carron Foundery. This was nearly two miles further, and we were marched to it through the town of Falkirk, to the great entertainment of the Scotch multitude. We were informed at the house of Mr. C——, that he was also at breakfast,
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and ordered to remain in the lawn before the door, though raining, which we did for one hour. We were then admitted to the hall, and a consultation held in an adjoining room by the driver, the bailiffs and the justices which terminated in a message to Mr. C. to put the man his siller or go to jail. Mr. C. said he would not pay one farthing, and he would submit to go to jail, but he would not hesitate to spend some thousand pounds to punish all concerned in this most illegal and unjust proceeding. This seemed to stagger the justice, and all concerned were admitted into his office, when they were examined on oath; and though it was perfectly clear that the arrest was unjust and illegal, yet it was about to be determined in favour of the driver, when a young man who was present, (and who I afterwards learned was the son of Mr. C.—d—l) reminded his father that Mr. C. and his party appeared to be respectable people, and that the driver was to his knowledge a rogue, having robbed him at one time of a quantity of oats, for which he was dismissed his service. This appeared to have most weight, and the complainant was nonsuited, and obliged to pay the expenses;—what shame must these gentlemen feel, when they are informed that Mr. C. is a gentleman of the most amiable manners, the strictest honour, and that he possesses a handsome landed property in Ireland, and is at present a member of the Imperial parliament.

S. D. S.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE COURT OF JUNO....A VISION.

(Continued from No. XV.)

A LONG walk after a sea voyage, with the excellence of the entertainment, might have excused an extended meal; but the goddess of beauty was not to be seen on common terms; I could think of nothing but the divine hand to which my lips had been so lately pressed, and the elegant and varied feast had passed, perhaps, unnoticed, had not a reluctance to discover the feelings that absorbed my mind, excited me to an effort to conceal them, and I partook

of the repast more from this view than from appetite. But the ladies made ample amends for my deficiency, for they ate well, and drank still better, while the lively jest and reiterated laugh was mingled with their flowing cups.

When they had sufficiently indulged in this way, one of them mentioned, that their company for the evening was by this time assembled, and proposed that we should join them. On inquiring of whom the company consisted, the same lady informed me, that it was their custom to spend the evenings in the society of the captives who happened to be on the island; that those of superior rank, education, or accomplishments, alone were admitted to the palace; but that the rest had such parties of a similar nature in different parts of the island, and such associates as best suited their tastes. Immediately on this she arose, and proceeded, accompanied by the rest, into a spacious apartment, furnished and ornamented with the same elegance as those already described, and splendidly illuminated, in which a number of gentlemen of all nations were assembled in groupes, conversing with ladies who had not been of our party.

After some time spent in this manner, the appearance of musicians, with various instruments, entering a small gallery at the lower end of the apartment, and the separation of the groupes towards the sides, indicated the approach of some other entertainment; and accordingly when the middle of the apartment was sufficiently cleared, a large pair of folding doors were opened at one of its sides, and a number of young beauties entered, arrayed in the dresses of the Otaheitan females, and performed several of the dances of that country with much gracefulness and activity.

To describe the nature or effect of these dances is needless, after the minute accounts which have been given of them in the various voyages to the South sea islands, which have been already published. It is enough to observe, that they seemed to give the utmost satisfaction to the beholders. These dances continued a considerable time; and at last the dancers retired with general applause.