

we cotched yez. Come along now, fair an aisey. We have a car outside, to give yez a dhrove to free lodgins for nothin, and aise, an leisure, whin you git there, to sthudy at your plisure. 'Tis meeself made sundhry, vaarions, and particular inquiries concernin your health, and was tould the purty raycrayation you was afther goin to take this blissid mornin. And bad manners to yez, would nothin barrin a berrin ground, wid a tomb sthone for a table, sarve to play yer game of five-and-forty on?" So saying they marched Coolooney off, to the utter disappointment of his friend Casey, who, being at the time far from sober, declared the intrusion to be "nothin more nor less thin a base device iv the inimy."

I remained four months in C—, during which time I formed many a truly agreeable acquaintanceship in its vicinity, and met with genuine Irish hospitality.

But never again, did I hazard a second interview with the *recherché* heiress of Coolnacumbally.

THE WINDS—THEIR INFLUENCE, ETC.

No. III.

THE wind exercises so great an influence over the temperature of the air, the developement of diseases, the conveyance and the dilution of miasmatic poisons, that the character of a climate as to cold and heat, health and insalubrity may be generally known, all things considered, by a correct acquaintance with the winds which are the most prevalent in it. For these reasons a knowledge of them and their various phenomena has been deemed of the highest importance to medicine from the earliest times to the present.

The winds are greatly modified by the nature of the country over which they blow. A large tract of land will completely change its direction, as in the western coasts of Africa and America about the equator, which become so heated by the action of a vertical sun, that the trade winds lose their easterly character, and the prevailing wind of these parts is westerly. They are the most active agents in distributing and tempering heat and cold. The great difference between the cold of parallel latitudes in America and Europe is entirely owing to the winds sweeping over the high lands, lakes, and swamps of North America, by which being rendered much colder than similar currents traversing the same latitudes in Europe, the mean temperatue of the climate is considerably lowered. In this manner the winds passing over the torrid and sandy deserts of Africa blow upon some parts of Italy and the islands of the Mediterranean, with a most debilitating, oppressive, and suffocating heat. The same causes, all things being equal, will constantly produce similar effects. Those which parch and exsiccate the winds of Africa, or refrigerate the winds of North America, and load them

with chilling vapours, are followed by the same phenomena in Australia. These effects were well described by the ancients, and their causes understood : nor have we yet been made acquainted with any which possess an equal degree of verisimilitude, as will be seen when we come to treat of the south wind.

During winter in Australia the surface of the earth becomes cooled by extremely heavy rains, which penetrate deeply into the soil, and by fogs which brood over almost all the low grounds of the country during the night ; and the large rivers and swamps being generally more or less filled with water, combine to lower the temperature and render the north and north-west winds which sweep over them extremely cold and piercing.

In summer, however, when the sun becomes more vertical, different phenomena and quite opposite causes come into operation. The country contains few or no extensive lakes or large permanent rivers to keep up a diffusive coolness and refresh the atmosphere ; the swamps soon dry up, and their rapid loss of verdure evinces how quickly the evaporation of moisture takes place ; even the largest of the rivers commonly dwindle into chains of ponds, so that the whole surface of the earth, subjected to ceaseless and intense solar heat, soon loses its moisture and becomes absolutely scorching, and the atmosphere fervid and dry. The trees also, from being tall and almost branchless and too spare to form shade, reduplicate the heat, not only by reflection of the solar beams from their trunks, but by adding to extent of surface capable of propagating heat. Under these circumstances, when a north-west current of air blows over the earth, losing by absorption as it proceeds whatever moisture it contained, and consequently acquiring increased temperature, it is rendered so hot and parched as to resemble, in all respects, the glowing air at the mouth of a furnace. When it strikes the skin, it feels as if it were deprived of every particle of moisture ; and this is no doubt the true cause why these winds are never, in the smallest degree injurious to health.

The sea and land breezes also arise from similar causes, but modified by the very circumstances which render them regular winds. The earth, and the superincumbent atmosphere, have a higher temperature during the day than the mean heat of the season, consequently the air becoming rarefied rises up and is replaced by the cooler air from the sea, thus establishing a current blowing from the sea upon the land, called the *sea breeze*. But, on the other hand, the temperature of the land and of the superincumbent atmosphere during the night becomes considerably lower than the mean temperature of the ocean, and the air becoming rarified in this case also rises up and a current from the land takes place, which is called the *land breeze*.

At Petersburg the wind blows ninety-three days from the W.N.W. and S.W. during the winter and spring months ; fifty-four days from E.N.E. and S.E. ; twenty days from the south, and fourteen from the north. During the summer and autumnal months a

W.N.W. and S.W. wind prevails for seventy-eight days, and an E.N.E. and S.E. wind for fifty-two days; the south wind for twenty-two days, and the north for thirty-two.

At Kamstchatka, westerly winds prevail the greater part of the year.

At Copenhagen, the north and west predominate.

In Great Britain and Ireland, the west wind blows about double the time of all the other winds. In the spring the north-easterly are the most prevalent. The south-west are generally exceedingly violent, as being currents of air flowing from the tropics, having their velocity increased by the diurnal motion of the earth. Being impregnated with the vapour contained in the atmosphere of the more southern latitudes, they commonly bring rain. The velocity of the winds, from a north or easterly direction, is much slower from proceeding partially contrary to the earth's motion. A north wind always brings intensely cold weather to Great Britain. Its particular direction may be owing to its very great density, giving it a rate of motion nearly equal to the latitudes over which it passes. These winds, therefore, are most prevalent when the northern hemisphere begins to be most inclined towards the plane of the earth's orbit.

Some philosophers suppose the south-east to be north-east currents deflected and turned back by a stream of air of greater force flowing from the equator; so also the north-west, which seem to be currents previously flowing from the south-west deflected from their course by the force of the current setting in from the pole; the former taking an easterly direction in consequence of not having acquired the motion of the latitudes over which they had passed; the latter appear to be from the west, by having acquired an accelerated speed in coming from latitudes more to the south.

The west winds prevail on the western coasts of France and Belgium. The north wind predominates on the southern coasts, and the south-east on the north of France, and in the heart of that country the south-west and north-east prevail. At Mont-pellier the north and north-east.

The winds blowing on Germany are modified by the Baltic Sea and German Ocean: the easterly winds prevail in the higher provinces; but in the lower, nearer the sea coast, the westerly predominate.

Alpine countries have great effect on the course of the winds. In Switzerland, although a small country, they are exceedingly various.

At Berne the north and west winds prevail; at Lausanne the north-west and south-west nearly divide the year equally between them; but they have no regular periods.

At Milan the easterly winds are most common; at Rome, and all along the shores of the Mediterranean, the north-west are the most prevalent.

In Egypt, all organic life, animal and vegetable, is continued in existence by the blowing of the northerly winds the greater part of the year.

In Venice the south-west and south-east blow nearly an equal number of days.

At Constantinople north winds predominate, although a south wind also blows a considerable part of the year.

A west wind is most prevalent on the north-west coast of Spain; and along the shores of that country which are washed by the Mediterranean, an east wind predominates during the year.

In Eastern Tartary the northerly winds are the most frequent, and sometimes the easterly.

In Cashmere the north and south winds blow through equal seasons of the year, which is occasioned by the mountains which divide that province from east to west.

The most frequent winds at Bagdad are the south and north-west; at Bassora the north-west; at Aleppo the west and the north-east. In Syria, the extensive sea coast and high mountains, render the winds variable throughout that country. At Pekin the south and north winds prevail. About New York, Hudson's Bay, and Nova Scotia, west winds prevail for three-quarters of the year. Westerly and northerly winds are the most frequent in Virginia, except during the months of June, July, and August, when the south-west blows almost constantly; in November, December, January, and February, the north-west predominates. Having given the sketch of the winds most prevalent in certain parts of the globe, we shall now take them up in the order in which they are arranged in the Aristotelian scheme, (See No. 7 of this Magazine,) beginning at the right or east side of the diagram.

Apheliotes, Solanus, and Subsolanus, the east wind. In the language of ancient meteorology, it blows from under the rays of the sun when he is in the equinoctial circle, whence the etymology of his names, *sub sole*. and *απ'ηλιου*. This is the wind which drove the fleet of Xerxes on the coast of Magnesia; in relating which disaster, Herodotus* informs us Apheliotes was called Hellespontias by the people of that country, *ανεμος απηλιωτης τον δε Ελλεσποντιην καλουσι ο περι ταυτα τα χωρια*.

But this designation belongs to a different wind, as will be seen below. Apheliotes, as is manifest here, has usurped the place of Eurus, which was the most ancient name of the east wind; that is, his place is now determinate and fixed to one rhumb, whereas formerly Eurus comprehended not only the east but all its collaterals, as has been shown above. It is considered the chief of all the winds; for the eastern region of the heavens was in a manner held sacred by the ancients, because, says Aristotle, that quarter is the right side of Heaven and the dwelling place of the Deity, hence we adore the rising sun.

It seems to have been an essential act of the religion of ancient times for the people to turn to the east in adoring the Deity. This custom of associating the idea of sanctity with that quarter of the

* Lib. vii., cap. 188.

Heavens was common to several of the oriental nations in the most ancient times, and adopted afterwards by those of the west, and even to this day the east is held in particular reverence both by the christian and the pagan.

We can easily imagine how readily and sincerely the untutored and single minded savage or pagan would be led to entertain sentiments of awe and veneration for the rising sun, being the most glorious and captivating of all the visible works of God. But why a notion which has no solid foundation in reason or true religion should continue to influence the actions of the enlightened christian is altogether unaccountable, except it be on the plea of ancient custom; a plea which has too frequently been esteemed sufficient to sanctify the greatest absurdities and the grossest acts of impiety in the christian church. The habit of turning to the east in prayer cannot fail to impress on weak minds the idea of a *local Deity*; and such impression must detract from God one of the most amazing, incomprehensible, and essential of His attributes of divinity.

In humble subservience to this singular practice which confines the presence of God to one corner, the christian of several denominations still scrupulously arranges the most sacred parts of his temple, worships his God, and buries his dead towards the east.

The origin of this superstition rests in an ancient belief of the Jews, or rather of the Chaldees, who, according to the Rabbis, believed that the first man whom God made was created with his face to the east. Whether this belief rests on a true or false foundation is impossible to decide, but it receives countenance from a singular fact or coincidence in the Hebrew language, where the words *before*, *behind*, *right*, *left*, are used also to signify *east*, *west*, *north*, *south*: and what is more, the word *face* in the Chaldee signifies also the *east*. This is literally exemplified in the sublime language of Job*—"Behold I go forward, but He is not there; and backward but I cannot perceive him; to the left hand where He doth work, but I cannot behold Him; He hideth Himself on the right hand, that I cannot see Him."

Many passages in the Old Testament seem to favour this practice, more especially in Ezekiel. †

The Greek scholiast upon Pindar, informs us the people were accustomed to turn their faces towards the east when they prayed to the Gods. Besides the ancients built their temples in such a manner that the most sacred part should be exposed to the rising sun, and the most sacred offices should be performed towards the east. The front of the edifice was placed towards the west, in order that the altars, the statues of the gods, and the worshippers should be towards the east. ‡

Qualities.—According to Aristotle, Apheliotis is a moderately

* Chap. xxiii. v. 8. † Chap. xliii., v. 1, 2, 4, and chap. xlii.

‡ Clem. Alex. Strom viii., and Hygenus de Agr. lib. i., Porphyr. de Antro Nymph. Vitruv. de Arch. iv., cap. 5. 8. Livy lib. i., cap. 18. Cœlius Rhodig. vii., 2.

humid wind, and blows usually during the night: it is also a refreshing morning breeze, and is commonly announced by gentle and cooling gales.* Pliny recommends villas and vineyards to be so exposed as to have the full afflatus of this wind. In hunc salubribus locis villae vineaeque spectent, Ipse lenitur pluvius, tamen siccior favonio.† Avicenna says it blows from the equinoxes, because it is produced by the solar rays: it is temperate, sweet, pure, and extremely salutiferous.‡

This was always considered an extremely healthy and invigorating wind on the shores of the Mediterranean. During summer in Minorca, says Cleghorn, § the middle of the day is cooled by refreshing breezes which rise in the east, and following the course of the sun increase gradually till two or three o'clock in the afternoon, and die away insensibly as night approaches. This renders the intense heat of the sun less dangerous and inconvenient; but if these breezes intermit for a day the natives themselves grow languid and inactive from the sultriness of the season.

If this wind blows about the end of night and the dawn of day, says Avicenna, it|| comes from air which has been attenuated by the sun, and whose humidity has been, in a great measure, extracted; for which reason it is drier and thinner: the contrary happens when it blows at the end of the day and beginning of the night.

The east wind blows the whole year in the Atlantic Ocean, verging a little to the north or south, according to the nature of the places over which it blows. Along the coast of America, it keeps almost invariably a few points from the east; and as it approaches nearer that quarter it blows more vehemently, and becomes altogether stormy, but when it recedes a few points southward, it clears the air and blows more gently. At Sene Gambia it occasions an almost insupportable heat as it sweeps over the whole breadth of the torrid surface of Africa. In New South Wales it is one of the most salubrious winds, having all the characteristic mildness of the west wind of Europe.

The tempestuous winds experienced about the equinoxes are shown by Monsieur Monier to be occasioned by the combined influence of the sun and moon. He remarks, that when the moon passes the meridian above or below the horizon, it occasions a strong east wind, which dissipates the clouds, or a strong west wind bringing rain. This is most frequent about new or full moon, and when these planets are most distant from the equatorial line.

In returning to Europe from Java, in the months of January and February, ships sail with an east wind to the 18° of south latitude.

In the Isle of Banda, violent east winds commence to blow with rain in May.

In the Indian Ocean the winds called monsoons, are east from January to June, and west from August to January.

* Meteor lib. ii., cap. 2—6. † Nat. Hist. xviii., 34. ‡ Fen. 2 Doct. 2. 1.
§ Minorca Introd. p. 5. || Canon. Med. lib. i. Sect. 2. cap. 10.

From Japan to Macao, along the shores of China, there is an east and north-east wind during the months of February and March. Along the Malabar coast, in summer, from September till August, land winds blow from the east from midnight till noon: they are never felt beyond ten miles at sea.

In the Bay of Panama, from 6° to 8° of north latitude, the prevailing winds are easterly.

The trade winds occupy certain limits on each side of the equator blowing from east to west; but according to the position of the sun in the ecliptic, they incline more or less from north to south. During the equinoxes the currents are more directly from the east; but as the sun ascends either in the northern or southern tropics, these winds vary from this point and differ on each side of the line. On the north side of the equator during summer, the general current varies and becomes more easterly. The easterly current of the trade wind on that side of the equator where the sun happens to be, is evidently occasioned, in some degree, by the greater rarefaction of the air directly under, and consequently the greater influx of air from the pole rushing forward by its elasticity to preserve the equilibrium of the atmosphere, every place of the hemisphere then must be inclined towards the sun, and thereby establishes an easterly current from the pole to the equator.*

Eurus, Volturnus, sometimes *Σκοπελευς*, and *καρβας* the east south-east wind. This wind comes from the winter solstitial rising of the sun. *Ευρος απ' ανατολης χειμερινης πνει.* † Some assign it a different position and make it breath on the same rhumb as Caecias. Virgil ‡ seems to favor this view.

Talis Hyperboreo septem subjecta trioni
Gens effræna virum Riphæo tunditur Euro.

The Rhiphaean mountains were supposed to be in the north-east part Europe, consequently Riphæo Euro appears to signify a north-east wind. Ovid, however, gives him the usual position.

Eurus ad auroram Nabathæaque regna recessit.§

Qualities.—Aristotle ¶ considers this wind less hot and dry than Apheliotés; and says that all things appear larger when he blows. Galen || says he blows about the winter solstice, and is a dry and sultry wind. It was under favor of this wind and while the sun was glaring in the face of the Roman troops, that Hannibal gained the memorable battle of Cannæ. Such at least is the apology made by Polybius and Livy for the defeat of the Romans. *Sol, seu de industria ita locatis, seu quod forte ita starent, peropportune utrique parti obliquus erat, Romanis in meridiem, Poenis in septentrionem versis; ventus quem Volturnum incolæ regionis vocant, adversus Romanis coortus multo pulvere in ipsa ora volvendo prospectum ademit.***

According to the poets he is violent, and sometimes accompanied with thunder.

* See the works of Volney, Webster, Robertson. † Aristotle Meteor. ii. 6.

‡ Georgie iii. 380. § Metam. i. 2. ¶ U. S. || Comm. in lib. de Flatibus.

** Lib. xxii. cap. 46, &c., Julius Frontinus Stratag. ii. 7.

Cum mare sub noctem tumidis albescere cœpit
Fluctibus, et præceps spirare valentius Eurus *a*
Altitonans Volturnus et Auster fulmine pollens. *b*

This wind is warm and dry at first; but afterwards becomes humid. and ceases by bringing rain, especially upon the Isle of Lesbos. *c* It prevails both about the vernal equinox and the winter solstice.

Euro-notus Leuco-notus, Euro-auster, Libo-notus, Phaenicias, Phœnix, Orthu-notus, and sometimes *Ἀμνευς*, the south south-east wind. Most of these designations are taken from local circumstances—Ortho-notus, a word without any meaning, ought clearly, according to some critics to be written ornitho-notus.

Qualities.—Galen *d* and Orbasius *e* say, between Notus and the winter rising of the sun breathes that wind which is called Euro-notus; it is warm and occasions stupor. Aristotle *f* says it blows after the winter solstice. Strabog considers it the *ἀργεστην βοτον*, or rapid south wind mentioned by Homer. (See N. S. W. Magazine, No. VII., p. 337.) Vitruvius, *h* Gellius, *i* and Seneca, *j* call it Euro-notus; Vegetius, *k* Leuco-notus. None of these authors mention its qualities, which, Galen *l* says, partake of those of the south except when they are more determinately characterized by local circumstances.

Noros, Auster, Meridies, the south wind, the Sirocco of Italy. Is latinè Auster, Graecè *νορος* nominatur, quoniam est nebulosus atque humectus: *νορος* enim Graecè humor nominatur. *m* It is called Notus by the Greeks, and Auster by the Latins, from the same cause—*νορος a νορος*, wetness, because the south wind generally brought rain in Greece—*Auster* quasi *Hauster*, the drinker, *ab* haurio, from his coming to Italy pregnant with moisture absorbed in his course across the Mediterranean. Hence St. Jerome appropriately calls him *pin-cerna pluviarum*; the butler of the showers. The following *proso-pœia* almost breathes with life; the lines are matchless in beauty.

Protinus Æoliis Aquilonem claudit in antris,
Et quæcunq; fugant inductas flamina nubes:
Emittitque Notum. Madidis Notus evolat alis
Terribilem picea tectus caligine vultum;
Barba gravis nimbis; canis fluit unda capillis;
Fronte sedent nebulae, rorant pennaque, sinusque. *n*

Qualities.—Every writer from Homer downwards gives this wind an unfavorable character.

Vapours blown by Auster's sultry breath,
Pregnant with plagues and shedding seeds of death.

Notus is warm, humid, rainy, and tempestuous; and generally induces a thick and pestilential state of the atmosphere. *o*

Thucydides, in his elegant description of the terrible plague that ravaged Athens in his time, does not inform us what wind was blowing when that calamity befel it; but it may be concluded from the

a Ovid Met. xi. *b* Lucret. v. 744. *c* Aristotle U. S. *d* Com. in lib. de Humorib. *e* Med. Coll., lib. ix., cap. 7. *f* Meteor. ii. 5. *g* Lib. i. *h* Lib. i. 6. *i* Noct. Alt. ii. 22. *j* Nat. Quaest. v. 16. *k* De re Militari. *l* U. S. *m* Gellius Noct. Attic. lib. ii. c. 22. *n* Ovid Met. i. 262. *o* Aristotle Meteor. ii. 6.

direction in which it came, that it raged under the auspices of this pestiferous wind. Other writers are more particular on this point. Ovid, who takes his eloquent description of this plague from Thucydides, makes Auster an accompaniment of that pestilence.

Principio cœlum spissa caligine terras
 Pressit, et ignavos inclusit nubibus cœstus
 Dumque quater junctis implevit cornibus orbem
 Luna, quater plenum tenuata retexit orbem
Letiferis calidi spirarunt flatibus Austri. †

Soranus, in his life of Hippocrates, relates, that when the plague ravaged the country of the Illyrians and Pœnians the kings of those countries sent a deputation to Hippocrates to beg him to come to their country and cure them of the plague, which was destroying vast numbers of the inhabitants; he enquired of the messengers what were the prevailing winds at the time, and when they told him the south winds were the predominant winds of the country, he refused to go thither, saying that no mortal could cure the disease under these circumstances.

(*To be continued.*)

FLEETING THOUGHTS.

ON POETRY.

To be a poet, and to compose poetry, are two distinct things. An individual may produce cantos without number, and yet be less of a poet than one who never gave utterance to a stanza. The poet is distinguishable from the ordinary man of the world, by the light in which he looks on external and spiritual nature: the mind may picture a thousand images, the fancy colour them with as many hues, and yet the tongue be wanting eloquence to express them. It would be absurd to suppose nature had conferred imaginative capacities solely on the educated and high born, it is, however, principally from three classes that poetry emanates, and the reason is attributable to the facility of expression afforded them by a competent knowledge of the language in which they write; but command of language without a corresponding degree of feeling and fancy, is insufficient to produce the ingredients of a true poet. We are more struck by a beautiful thought, than with a brilliant display of words, and an appropriate trope though expressed in a homely manner, carries more conviction with it than a false one, introduced with the most classical exactness.

That success in poetry depends, in a great measure, upon the combination of both, there is not a doubt, it is instanced in the popularity of Byron's muse compared with that of Wordsworth's; the latter equals the noble bard in feeling and imagination, but a carelessness of expression, and inattention to the elegancies of speech has thrown him into the shade, and his works have become almost a dead letter. Dr. Johnson, on the other hand, who, in his metrical compositions is more remarkable for classical elegance, than for

* *Metam.* vii. 25.

vividness of fancy, or intensity of feeling, was not, and never will be, popular as a poet.

The combine "Thoughts that breathe with words that burn," is necessary to the man who would become the bard of a multitude, but the essentials of a poet—a fertile imagination—a glowing fancy—and sensibility of feeling may exist of themselves, independent of language, which is only the medium through which the poet conveys his ideas.

A plant is not less a plant, because removed from the soil that nourishes it; its leaves will tremble to the blast equally as well as a cultivated one, it possesses the same properties, and is endowed with the same capabilities, it needs but the assistance of the earth to bring it to perfection, and it will produce fruit similar to the rest of its kind; in like manner may poetry exist in the mind, though from a deficiency of education, and a want of language to give it form, its beauties must remain concealed from all but the possessor.

ON MILTON.

Milton in his poetical character may be likened to one of his own angels—he treads on clouds, and floats in ether—lightnings and thunder are below and around him—the fires of hell, and the halos of heaven illumine him by turns—through chaos and creation—amid rushing storms, and ambrosial zephyrs he wings his untiring flight, and the demon's scowl, or the seraph's smile await him as he approaches the confines of either. With a soul of fire, and an intellect that spurns restraint, he fearlessly moves through all space, and where other poets would "tremble and grow pale," he dares and conquers. What a Herculean task, yet how masterly in its delineations, and harmonious through all its parts is his "Paradise Lost." Satan, in his hands is indeed the "infernal serpent, whose guile, stirred up with envy and revenge, deceived the mother of mankind." His angels are indeed angelic—his Eden indeed a Paradise; nor do his merits rest here—he is superior to other poets in having originated a work as novel as it was grand—one hitherto unattempted in prose or rhyme; and he maintains his superiority by the vigour of his conception, and the sublimity of his language; had his learning (which was great) been little or nothing, the immensity of his genius would have made him famous—his creations are purely original, he worships no model, and is the only English poet, who by the unassisted strength of his imagination, has, in the words of Shakspeare, literally—

"Embodied the forms of things unknown,
Turned them to shapes—and to airy nothings,
A local habitation, and a name."

Many persons, owing to the somewhat intricate character of the bard's style, are in the habit of throwing the book aside, and thus deprive themselves of an enjoyment they little calculate upon. "Milton's" muse is no coquet, she conceals her charms from the vulgar gaze, but to those who seek her with becoming diligence, she reveals beauties which improve on acquaintance, and far surpass the tawdry gildings of many of her more modern sisters.