

THE VALPARAISO ENGLISH MERCURY.

CONTAINS THREE CURRENTS OF NEWS. (MARKET)
Together with occasional intelligence with reference to the mercantile transactions, or the relations of Europe and other parts of the globe.

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Having deemed it advisable to depart in some measure from our original plan of publication, we beg to state that for the present this journal will be issued weekly instead of twice a week as originally intended. The price of subscription will, in consequence be reduced one half, until circumstances shall render it prudent to return to the first intended design.

Two possessions of wealth however desirable it may appear to the multitude and however eagerly sought after by the generality of mankind, is not in itself a laudable object of ambition; but if such possessions are accompanied on the part of its owner by that proper and becoming liberality, that spirit of correct judgment which prompts to employment in objects of general utility and advantage, it becomes well for communities when a given number of their individual members (endowed with the spirit above referred to) are permitted an moderate accumulation of riches. We have been led into these reflections from noticing in one of the late English papers an account of the death of the descendant of Aethelwight, accompanied by a statement of the probably unimproved fortune which he left to be divided by the surviving members of his family. And this leads us again to follow up a new train of reasoning on this subject, and to ponder on the beneficial things which now pervade society viewed relatively to its condition a few centuries ago. Probably few men have lived in any age, whose virtues have contributed more entirely to the solid comfort of mankind, than those of Aethelwight the founder of the spinning-jenny and grandfather of the individual in whose descent we have made allusion above. For he it from us to disengage us in the slight undertone to understand the merits of the strenuous, the poet, the philosopher, or to moderate the impetuosity and levity of the man, which they generally preserve even the well-being of their fellow-men; still we are inclined to consider that in this manner of last age, the individual who contributed in whatever manner to the material comforts of his fellow-men, probably as important a part as the great drama or any of the better named members of society, occupying as the latter do a more important position in the eyes of the world in general.

It is no slight and transient blessing on the child of fate that of giving us advice upon the individual pursuits of life, of bestowing an "impetus" upon the beneficial exertions of commerce and thus indirectly contributing to the discovery of new lands; no man can result of well directed endeavours that which teaches the savage race and rational beasts and thus furnishes him with resources for the exercise of those industrial powers which had before time late descended from him; of some extensive means to develop their resources; no trifling inducement that which teaches Nature's children that their highest glory is not constituted in idleness; it is the change in imaginary society over those strange brethren in the field; no more sublime moral scenes that which exhibits to the inhabitants of the rocky portion

of the human family that they have blood relations in other parts of the world; and that they can put forth powers which will render them of value to those their brethren whom they find at first sight regarded as of a superior and distinct race to themselves.

Results are thus induced of immense importance, and results of the same kind which the very accumulation of private wealth in individual hands (when accompanied on the part of its owner by the ardent spirit of enlightened liberality) renders more easy of accomplishment; and though we again and again protest against any interference in regard to the accumulation of wealth as proceeding in that accumulation might that higher productivity or nobility to be desired, still do we say that when, in our time, in the instance which called forth these observations, that accumulation is accompanied by a spirit of philanthropy on the part of its owner, and a knowledge of the proper method in which to bestow and employ it, fortunate is it for the world to remember that individuals of that stamp are permitted to realize through the arts of industry, the improvement of humanity and to appoint to moderate fortunes.

No one who regards with the slightest approach to careful attention the existing aspect of affairs as displayed by the various sort of representations on the surface of the globe; no one who views with philosophical eye the materials incessantly at work in that busy and bustling as shown in human society; or who honestly endeavours to draw conclusions for the better good from past and present occurrences, but must be impressed with a firm conviction that the elements of important change are ready at work in the major portion of these communities and that the future is destined to be of ideas regarding man, subjects of leading importance in undergoing a momentous and radical transformation.

That such change in the direction of the current of progression; that such departure from the old established routine of thought and action on many subjects in facts received and recognized after the fashion of the laws of the Medical Profession (which varied not); may supersede scenes of violence in some instances, and that civil in every case be succeeded by the substitution of a more able combination in the current of thought and action, we have every reason for judging upon the known importance of Man's nature and his presence to earth, as well as upon the constantly prevailing influence of good and evil which is ever linked by his own disobedience, both to fear and desire, but we are urged by first in the statements of the generation that we have the greatest right to regard the operation in the main as likely to be productive of the highest results, and as conducing to the most salutary improvement in the condition of society. A recognition of the existence of the feeling whose prevalence, a glance as we are now assiduously would wish to direct attention to two documents in our columns—nothing the situation in England of two societies,

having actually in view as the end of their institution the abrogation of war and the abolition of the practice of duelling. Nor from the known character of many of the individuals who have taken an active part in the formation of these peace associations and the states which they occupy in society, can we for a moment regard the representation of these opinions—concurring from visionary ideas, but emanate from other kind. View them as the wise endorsement of a sound judgment and correct modes of thinking to give an "impetus" to public opinion and bring it to bear upon the matter in question with a view to reform and amelioration. It is a great step on the road to improvement when such individuals unobtrusively come forward and boldly make the avowal before their country and the world of their adherence to such opinions and of their determination to stand not from using their influence to give effect to them, and to highlight page in the history of the human race when individuals of such modified character and intellectual capacities, placed here at the bar of public opinion for a verdict against the exercise of that faculty of "destructiveness" so largely developed in the human "condition." We have not before us the details of the proposed subjects in the case of duelling, though reference of the points in dispute to the decision of a tribunal constituted for the purpose is a leading feature, but have no doubt that in a few years if these philanthropic views are carried into effect, men will wonder that such a relic of the dark ages should so long have held its ground sustained by the usual march of improvement about successful shared as to the mode of procedure adopted. At all events the initiative has been given and we have caught in time for the abrogation of this legacy in the intended project.

In the various lines that the publication of the names of those of our countrymen who have arrived from Sydney in the brig "Princess" with an indication of the several trades which they profess, may be the means of their obtaining employment. We beg to direct attention to the list given on the other side. Many of these are married and have families; and in addition to the various occupations pursued by those whose names are publicly there are others followed by some of those who arrived at the "Broughams," "Michael Williams," "Margaret Connell," &c., &c., those of teachers, carpenter, miller, sailmaker, silversmith, shoemaker, &c.

Reduced to a small space in our through this representation to visit the shores of this country, we make no acknowledgment to all our countrymen in their efforts to improve which we are well satisfied will not be made in vain to those whose means enable them to secure the opportunity. And when attention more minutely or more widely of comparison than that of those our countrymen that happened to leave their native land and find the foreign ground. The liberal conduct of this government in providing them with shelter in their hour of need, merits and has our warmest praise.

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