thus producing, by successive efforts, a new and unusual configuration of its parts. Such exertions in the sprig of mint, to rectify its inverted position, and to remove from a foreign, to its natural element, seems to evince volition to avoid what was evil, and to recover what had been experienced to be good. If a plant in a garden pot, be placed in a room, which has no light, except from a hole in the wall, it will shoot towards the hole, pass through it into the open air, and then vegetate upwards, in its proper direction. Lord Kaims relates, that—"amongst the ruins of New Abby, formerly a monastery in Galloway, there grows on the top of a wall, a plane tree, twenty feet high. Straitened for nourishment, in that barren situation, it several years ago directed roots down the side of the wall, till they reached the ground, ten feet below; and now, the nourishment it afforded to these roots, during the time of descending, is amply repaid; having every year, since that time, made vigorous shoots. From the top of the wall, to the surface of the earth, these roots have not thrown out a single fibre, but are now united into a pretty thick hard root."*

The regular movements, by which the sun-flower presents its splendid disk to the sun, have been known to naturalists, and celebrated by poets, both of ancient and modern times. Ovid founds upon it a beautiful story; and Thompson describes it as an attachment of love to the celestial luminary.

> "But one, the lofty follower of the sun,
> "Sad when he sets; shuts up her yellow leaves,
> "Drooping all night; and when he warm returns,
> "Points her enamour'd bosom to his ray."
>
> Summer, lines 216.

IV. Nature has wisely proportioned the powers of motion, to the diversified necessities of the beings endued with them. Corallines and Seapens are fixed to a spot, because all their wants may be there supplied. The oyster, during the afflux of the tide, opens to admit the water, lying with the hollow shell downwards; but when the ebb commences, it turns on the other side; thus providing by an inconsiderable movement, for the perception of its proper nutriment; and afterwards discharging what is superfluous.† Mr. Miller, in his late account of the island of Sumatra, mentions a species of coral, which the inhabitants have mistaken for a plant, and have denominated it Lalan—Caut, or sea grass. It is found in shallow bays, where it appears like a straight stick, but when touched, withdraws itself into the sand.‡ Now, if self-moving faculties, like these, indicate animality, can such a distinction be denied to vegetables, possessed of them in an equal, or superior degree? The water-lily, be the pond deep or shallow in which it grows, pushes up its flower-stems, till they reach the open air, that the farina fecundans may perform, without injury, its proper office. About seven in the morning, the stalk erects itself, and the flowers rise above the surface of the water: in this state they continue till four in the afternoon, when the stalk becomes relaxed, and the flowers sink and close. The motions of the sensitive plant have been long noticed with admiration, as exhibiting the most obvious signs of perceptivity. And if we admit such motions, as criteria of a like power, in other beings, to attribute them, in this instance, to mere mechanism, actuated solely by external impulse, is to deviate from the soundest rule of philosophizing, which directs us not to multiply causes, when the effects appear to be the same. Neither will the laws of electricity better solve the phenomena of this animated vegetable: for its leaves are equally affected by the contact of electric, and non-electric bodies; shew no change in their sensibility, whether the atmosphere be dry or moist; and instantly close when the vapour of volatile alkali, or the fumes of burning sulphur are applied to them. The powers of chemical stimuli, to produce contractions in the fibres of this plant, may perhaps lead some philosophers, to refer them to the *vis insita*, or irritability, which they assign to certain parts of organized matter, totally distinct from, and independent of any sentient energy. But the hypothesis is evidently a solecism, and refutes itself. For the presence of irritability can only be proved by the experience of irritation; and the idea of irritation involves in it that of feeling.

But there is a species of the order of Decandria, which constantly and uniformly exerts a self-moving power, uninfluenced either by chemical stimuli, or by any external impulse whatsoever. This curious shrub, which was unknown to Linnæus, is a native of the East Indies, but has been cultivated in several botanical gardens here. I had an opportunity of examining it, in the collection of the late Dr. Brown. It is trifolious, grows to the height of four feet, and produces, in autumn, yellow flowers.—The lateral leaves are smaller than those at the extremity of the stalk; and all day long, they are continually moving either upwards, downwards, or in the segment of a circle: the last motion is performed by the twisting of the footstalks; and whilst one leaf is rising, its associate is generally descending: the motion downwards is quicker and more irregular than the motion upwards, which is steady and uniform. These movements are observable, during the space of twenty-four hours, in the leaves of a branch lopped off from the shrub, and kept in water. If, from any obstacle, the motion be retarded, upon the removal of that obstacle, it is resumed with a greater degree of velocity.§ I cannot better comment on this wonderful degree of vegetable animation, than in the words of Cicero. *Inanimum est omne quod pulsu agitatur externo; quod autem est animal, id motu cietur interiore et suo.*

I have thus attempted, with the brevity prescribed by the laws of this society, to extend our views of animated nature; to gratify the mind with the contemplation of multiplied accessions to the general aggregate of felicity; and to exalt our conceptions of the wisdom, power, and beneficence of God. In an undertaking, never yet accomplished, disappointment can be no disgrace; in one, directed to such noble objects, the motives are a justification, independently of success. Truth, indeed, obliges me to acknowledge, that I review my speculations with much diffidence; and, that I dare not presume to expect they will produce any permanent conviction in others, because I experience an instability of opinion in myself. For to use the language of Tully. *Nescio quomodo, dum lego assentior; cum posui librum, assensio omnis illa elabitur.* But this scepticism is perhaps to be ascribed to the influence of habitual preconceptions rather than to a deficiency of reasonable proof. For besides the various arguments which have been advanced, in favour of vegetable perceptivity, it may be further urged, that the hypothesis recommends itself, by its consonance to those higher analogies of nature, which lead us to conclude, that the greatest possible sum of happiness exists in the universe. The bottom of the ocean is overspread with plants, of the most luxuriant magnitude. Immense regions of the earth are covered with perennial forests. Nor are the Alps, or the Andes, destitute of herbage, though buried in depths of snow. And can it be imagined, that such profusion of life subsists without the least sensation or enjoyment? Let us rather, with humble reverence, suppose, that vegetables participate, in some low degree, of the common allotment of vitality; and that our great Creator hath apportioned good to all living things, in number, weight, and measure.||

* *Gentleman Farmer.*

† *Spratt's History of the Royal Society.*

‡ *Philosoph. Transact. vol. LXVIII. pa. 178.*

§ *See Encyclopedia Britannica, Art. Heaysarum.*

|| *It has been estimated, that our globe contains 20,000 species of vegetables; 3000 of worms; 12 000 of insects; 200 of amphibious animals; 2,600 of fishes; 550 of birds; and 200 of quadrupedes. (Vid. Linn. Amenit. Academ. and Stilling fleet's Miscellaneous Tracts, page 125.) A calculation like this, it is evident, must be very defective; because founded on past discoveries in a science, which is now in a state of rapid progression. But future accessions, both of plants and animals, with respect to number, may produce no material changes in their relative proportions.*

From a late London paper.

POPULATION OF LONDON.

In Tuesday's paper we gave a general Bill of the Christenings and Burials in the Metropolis for the last year. It must be very satisfactory to observe, that it these accounts be correct, so considerable a decrease as 2544 has taken place this year in the burials, and that the christenings have exceeded the burials by 4505. That in a city so large as London there should be no actual decrease of population affords a satisfactory proof that the mode of living, and every circumstance tending to the preservation of health, have been brought to a very high degree of perfection. But, by this statement, there is even a very considerable increase in the population of London arising from its own internal resources—no less an addition in twelve months than 4500 souls. If to this we add the number of new members which London is constantly deriving from all parts of the United Kingdom, as well as from all parts of the world, the annual increase of its population must be much more considerable than it is generally believed.

From the list before mentioned it would appear, that the parishes continue to retain their original accidental organization, and that no measures, at least no adequate measures, have been taken for dividing them upon some fair and equal principle. The christenings, for instance, in the 97 parishes within the walls, amount only to 1119, whereas the christenings in the 17 parishes without the walls amount to more than three times that number, and those in the 24 out-parishes in Middlesex and Surrey are more than double of these, 10,141. This immense difference, it is obvious, can only arise from the difference of population. It consequently follows, that if the officers, and all incidental expences, are on the same scale in the small as in the large parishes, there must be either too great a burthen upon the former, or too small upon the latter.—But the probability is, we think, that the small parishes are excessively burthened; and that many persons are thus permitted to subsist by the public, who ought to live by the fruits of their own labor. It is a subject which certainly seems to require an investigation. The inequality which, from the present organization, has already so much increased, will, while the causes continue to exist, also continue to increase, until the evil must at length become intolerable. The height to which the grievance has already arrived, seems indeed to demand the utmost attention of the government and the public.

Of the 17,000 deaths which had taken place in London during the last twelve months, 1420 were aged persons, and 4881 had died under two years of age, of which 601 were abortive, or still born, being more than a third of the whole number. It is certainly a great satisfaction on the one hand that so considerable a proportion of the members of which our community has been deprived, should have consisted of persons who had not yet attained, or had already survived their utility. But, on the other hand, we are a good deal surprised to find the number of deaths by measles stated at 619, and of those by inflammations at 603, certainly a very extraordinary proportion, considering that the subjects who are apt to be thus cut off, are generally among those who are approaching, or have already attained, that period at which they are useful to society, and even of these the most robust are those who suffer. It cannot be but very desirable that the causes of this extraordinary mortality among that description of persons should be investigated and ascertained; and we cannot help apprehending that it may arise from a general cause, which, we understand, must always operate more perceptibly in acute than in chronic diseases, namely, the treatment of them according to false theories, whether ancient or modern. No subject, as we learn from medical men, has given rise to more medical controversies than the doctrines of inflammation; and it would appear from the facts before us, that they are not yet, by any means, generally well understood, or at least that their application to practice has not, during the last year, been attended with the most desirable success. This would not be the proper place if we had even the power, to enter into any discussion of medical doctrines—our object is merely to point out a general inference, which must be obvious to every attentive reader; but we should be very happy to see the enquiry instituted by some able hand, as all such investigations, besides their great general utility, must tend to the amelioration of health, and the increase of population, in this great Metropolis, the first city in the universe.

FOREIGN NEWS.

LONDON, February 4.

The additional papers presented to parliament, are so voluminous, that we are sorry that we can only confine ourselves to a general description of most of the letters. We have, however, given at full length the letter which the Spanish ambassador, the Chevalier D'Anduaga, wrote to Lord Harrowby, previous to his departure from London. The arguments contained in that letter are nothing more than what his excellency might, without much trouble, have collected from the Morning Chronicle.

The main point, however, on which all his argument turns, is the supposition that there did exist some convention or agreement, by which Great Britain bound herself to overlook the granting pecuniary succours to France. The papers now moved completely overturn that supposition. The next paper which follows the letter of the Spanish ambassador, is a letter from Mr. Hammond, the under secretary, to Mr. Frere, desiring to know whether any such agreement, either expressed or understood, was entered into between him and the Spanish government. Mr. Frere most positively denies that there was any such; and says, the expression in the ambassador's letter is to him wholly unintelligible. It is most evident, that there does not exist any written agreement to bind this country, or Spain would be able to produce it; and that there was no verbal agreement, or any thing like an agreement, we have now solemnly declared by Mr. Frere, the only person who had the power to make such agreement. Mr. Frere never did give the court of Spain a hope of any thing more than a temporary forbearance from this country, as long as the subsidiary treaty was in force.

It appears to be now universally conceded, that the assistance given to France by Spain, was of itself a sufficient ground of war; and the only question that remained was, whether there was any such acquiescence on the part of Great Britain, as deprived her of her rights; or whether there were any considerations of policy to prevent the exercise of them?

Having disposed of the question of Convention, we have only to consider it on the ground of policy, and in that respect it will be sufficient to state what we know of the subsidiary treaty, always bearing in mind, that as Spain would never venture to communicate to us the whole extent of it, she is bound to assist France still further than has come to our knowledge.

The Prince of Peace first informed Mr. Frere, that the subsidy fixed upon as an equivalent for the contingent was six millions of livres per month, being about three millions and a half sterling, annually to be paid by Spain. This is at least one half of the revenues of Spain, which was to be given by way of equivalent for its military contingent. In another part of the papers we see that 800,000 dollars monthly had been hitherto regularly paid, and that Spain must in a few years be drained entirely of specie by such an enormous tribute. This was not all: France was raising loans upon the security of these subsidies, and Portugal also was made to contribute a million a year annually, to be employed against this country.

It is then evidently absurd for the opposition writers to talk of a small pecuniary assistance to France, when there are authentic documents that prove that Spain was called upon in the first instance for half its entire revenues; and if any ministers of this country would permit the principle to be established, that Spain might, both now and for ever, assist France with half her revenue, and that this country must patiently acquiesce in it, such ministers would deserve to be stigmatized in the annals of our history, as the base and pusillanimous betrayers of their country's rights.

When it is considered, that the four millions annually levied from Spain and Portugal, will from the scarcity of money in France, go at least twice as far in the expence of armaments as the same sum would in this country, what name can we give to that degree of imbecility and dotage, that could suppose it good policy to allow such an enormous tribute to be annually paid to France, when we are able to prevent it?

The capture of the treasure ships, and the war expences, that Spain must now incur, will shew her that we can prevent it, Bonaparte has discovered that we can prevent it, and it will be recollected, that (whatever rage he expressed at hearing of the capture of the treasure ships, and blowing up of the Mercedes frigate) it was not until he heard of the firmness of our government, and the capture of those treasure ships, that he made his overtures of peace.

The very first fruits of a decisive policy was an overture for peace, which, whether it is possible now to place on a proper footing or not, we cannot pretend to say, till the Emperor of Russia gives his opinion of the proposals. We only introduce this subject incidently, to prove that the rupture of Spain has hitherto produced no disadvantage to the cause of this country, and that every thing which has since occurred seems to prove that the policy of the present administration in this respect, was the only wise, true, and dignified policy for this country.

NEW Store.

BY WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

The subscriber informs the public that he has commenced business in the house formerly occupied by

MR. QUINN, F. street;

And has on hand, a general assortment dry goods, Groceries, wines and spirituous liquors.

Porter,
Hardware and Cutlery,
Queensware, China and Glass,
Flour, Corn, and Corn-meal,
Oats, and Chopped rye,
Candles and Soap by the box,
Country whiskey by the barrel, and few casks of genuine old Irish whiskey

All of which he will sell low for cash or country produce.

The HIGHEST prices, given for country produce, CASH.

FRANCIS CLARK.

Aug. 29—wtf.

NOTICE.

WAS committed to the jail of Frederick county as a runaway, a negro man who calls himself

GILBERT DAY,

and says he belongs to John Hodd, of Baltimore county, Maryland. He is about 18 or 20 years old, 5 feet 7 inches high; his clothing is a striped Nankeen coat, black cassimere waistcoat, osnaburg shirt, and an old pair of dark cloth pantaloons. He is very black, and has a pleasant countenance. If his master does not release him he will be sold for his jail fees agreeably to law.

GEORGE CREAGER,
Sheriff of Frederick County.

April 15—w8t

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8.

THIS DAY IS PUBLISHED,
BY SAMUEL H. SMITH.
—PRICE TWO DOLLARS—

THE
TRIAL OF
SAMUEL CHASE,

An associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, impeached by the House of Representatives, for high crimes and misdemeanors, before the Senate of the United States, taken in short hand by

SAMUEL H. SMITH,
AND
THOMAS LLOYD.

VOLUME I.

This volume contains,—

1. Measures preliminary to the trial, including the proceedings of the House of Representatives and Senate antecedent to the trial.
2. The answer of Mr. Chase and the replication of the Managers.
3. The speech of Mr. Randolph on opening the impeachment.
4. The evidence on the part of the prosecution.
5. The speech of Mr. Harper on opening the defence.
6. The evidence on the part of Mr. Chase.
7. The speech of Mr. Early.
8. The speech of Mr. Campbell.

The advertisement prefixed to this edition will enable the public to form some opinion of its accuracy.

"The following report of the trial of Samuel Chase has been drawn up with the greatest care. To guard against misconception or omission, two individuals, one of whom is a professional stenographer, were constantly engaged during the whole course of the trial; and the arguments of the managers and counsel have in most instances, and wherever it was attainable, been revised by them. It is with some satisfaction that the editor of this impression is enabled, under these circumstances, to submit to the public a tract whose fidelity and comprehensiveness, he hopes, will amply reward the interest so deeply excited by the progress and issue of this important trial.

"The second volume is in the press, and will be published in a short time."

The second volume will probably contain between three and four hundred pages.

The first volume will be sold only to those who subscribe for the whole work.

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, to wit:

[SEAL.] *BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this twenty third day of April, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and five, Samuel H. Smith of the said district, hath deposited in the clerk's office of the district court of the United States for the district of Columbia, the title of a book the right whereof he claims as author, in the words following, to wit: "The "trial of Samuel Chase, an associate "justice of the supreme court of the "United States impeached by the House "of Representatives for high crimes and "misdemeanors, before the Senate of the "United States, taken in short hand by "Samuel H. Smith and Thomas Lloyd," in conformity to the act of Congress of the United States entitled an act for the encouragement of learning by securing the copies of maps, charts and books to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the time therein mentioned.*

G. DENEALE, Clk. Dist. Col.

VERMONT.

For a considerable time past this state has been represented in Congress by two republicans and two federalists. After a very animated contest in one of the districts heretofore federal it appears, according to the following statement, that the republican candidate has succeeded by a majority of 479.

For James Fisk,		2,292
Wm. Chamberlin, 1,763		
Scattering,	50	1,813
Majority,		479

The towns of Vershire, Brunswick, Granby and Troy, gave 86 votes; which were declared illegal. Of these, Mr. Fisk had 60, and Mr. Chamberlin 26.

By the following extracts from a debate in the English House of Commons on imposing an additional duty on salt, it appears that about one million and a half sterling, or seven millions of dollars, are annually raised on this important necessary of life, which sum amounts to about two thirds of the whole revenues of the United States. Stretched must that system of finance be, that requires