FROM THE BALANCE.

POLITICAL.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

AS you have to provide weekly fare for the public which is a great gormandifer, I believe that fometimes you muft needs be fcant of provifions, and that you would be glad, now and then, to accept of any wholefome difh that fhould be furnifhed you; therefore, though my own ftore is fmall, I feel conftrained from mere charity to fend you a *fragment*, which is all that I now have to fpare.

Happening lately, on a wet day, to ftep into the fhop of neighbor Cordwainer, to get a rent in my fhoe clofed, I found the fhop filled with men (the weather being unfuitable to work in the field) and that an outlandifh fellow, who, two or three years ago, came among us, and has been employed by the neighborhood as a fchool-mafter, was declaiming with great earneftnefs upon the bleffed nature & fruits of liberty. He was clofing his declamation as I entered, and finifhed it in the words following: "This celeftial principle, heaven-born liberty, naturally fprings up in every human mind, and grows therein with its growth and ftrengthens with its ftrength." I perceived that the company, in general, were mightily pleafed, and none more fo than neighbor *Pluck*, whom I had lately detected in fteeling my fheep.—There was one in the room, however, who did not manifeft any token of approbation. My uncle Abram, who had happened to enter the fhop, was fitting on a bench and fmoking his pipe; and, as the orator concluded, he gave a long whiff and fhook his head. Uncle Abram is a plain old man, who makes no noife in the world, fpeaks little, but has read and thinks much. Now, as I obferved before, he appeared rather diffatisfied, and his diffatisfaction was remarked. "Have you any objection to thefe eternal felf-evident truths?" faid our fchool-mafter to him, with energy of voice and with great affurance? Uncle Abram paufed, took his pipe out of his mouth, ftroked his grey beard and hemmed feveral times (for he is not a ready fpeaker) and at length fpoke, as nearly as I can remember, in the following manner:

"Liberty," quoth uncle Abram, "is a word that is ufed in various fenfes, and frequently in no fenfe at all. In our day, the word is made ufe of by political jugglers, as a charm to flatter the vicious and dupe the ignorant: yet liberty is a good thing when not abufed. The love of liberty, you fay, is natural to the human mind. I grant that every human creature loves its own individual liberty; but there is nothing "heaven born" in this, for even the moft ferocious among brutes poffefs the fame principle. A wolf loves its own individual liberty"—"*He exprefsly fpeakes the lango of John Adams,*" whifpered our declaimer—"But the wolf," continued uncle Abram, "does, in no wife, refpect the rights of the lamb: and fo in the great human family there are thoufands and millions, who have a mighty love of liberty, as far as it refpects their own dear felves, but, at the fame time, are difpofed to invade the rights of others, as the wolf does thofe of the lamb. Hence arifes the neceffity of the powerful reftraints of law." *The fheep fteeler knit his brows.*" Becaufe," quoth uncle Abram, "without fuch reftraints, wicked men by their abufe of liberty would deftroy all focial order, & render fociety itfelf a curfe. The felons in our ſtates' prifons love liberty moft dearly and pant it moft ardently; but the reftraint of liberty, refpecting fuch villains, is neceffary to the peace and fafety of fociety." *Here the fheep-ſteaker threw into his face a ghaftly ſcowl.* "Together with the natural love of liberty, (continued uncle Abram) there is natural love of power, and a natural inordinate felfifhnefs, which hates reftraints, and muft be checked and repreffed by the powerful arm of government. Men have a right to as much liberty as they are difpofed to ufe virtuoufly, and to no more; and indeed good men wifh for no more liberty than they enjoy under wholefome laws, enacted for the general good of the public. The French have made a great pother about liberty, and have turned the world upfide down; but they had not national information and virtue enough to be free, and fo, you fee, they have a mafter; and, if we in this country fpend our time in bawling about liberty, without taking care to difcharge the moral, focial and civil duties of life, (as too many of us feem to do) we fhall have a mafter too. Abundance is faid and written, now-a-days, about the rights of men and the rights of women; and I think it is high time to attend a little more to the *duties* of men and women: for they have duties to perform as well as rights to vindicate, and generally are much more apt to neglect their duties than to forget their rights.

"I grant, (proceeded uncle Abram) that the love of liberty is fometimes a noble virtue; that is to fay, when it is the principle of a man "to live and let live," or to allow to others the fame rights which he claims to himfelf, without entertaining a wifh to ufe his own liberty, power or influence in invading the rights even of the weakeft of his fellow-creatures; a love of liberty, I fay, thus extended, is noble, is heaven born. But there are few who love liberty in this liberal fenfe; and among thofe few, I never yet found a fingle one of your bawlers about liberty. Long experience has taught me that their pretended love of liberty is a love of perfonal popularity, of influence, of power; and that, as far as they get power, they never fail to ufe it tyrannically."

Here uncle Abram ended, "*He's either an Hamiltonian or one of Adams's kidney,*" faid our emigrant fchool-mafter, in an audible whifper.—"*He's an ariftocrat,*" replied the fheep-ftealer.

Uncle Abram, feemingly taking no notice of their malicious whifpers and wry faces, laid his pipe afide and walked out with a fteady countenance and firm ftep, as one unconfcious of having faid or done wrong.

OBADIAH.

MEDICINE, SURGERY, &c.

The fixth volume of the "MEDICAL REPOSITORY, and *Review of American Publications on Medicine, Surgery, and the Auxiliary Branches of Science*" conducted by doctors MITCHILL and MILLER, has juft iffued from the prefs of Meffrs. T. and J. SWORDS, in New-York. The following preface contains an account of the work, which will be read with intereft by the medical profeffion, and by all who regard the progrefs of fcience in the United States.

HAVING now completed the fixth volume of the *Medical Repofitory*, we think it expedient to incorporate this and the preceding five into a diftinct whole; and here to clofe the prefent courfe of the work; in order afterwards to proceed with a new feries of volumes of the fame number, and conducted on a fimilar plan.

The fet of fix volumes, which is intended to form an entire work, independent of what fhall follow, is denominated the firft *Hexade;* a term which the claffical reader will inftantly perceive is defigned to expref a feries of *fix*, as the analogous and more familiar term *Decade* is ufed to fignify a feries of *ten*. The unwieldinefs of a larger fet of volumes, and the defire of accommodating new fubfcribers, have chiefly induced us to adopt this plan, which we hope will be acceptable to our readers. By thus reverting to the point of beginning, we wifh likewife, periodically, to renew the fpirit and alacrity of thofe exertions which inftituted the work, as well as to afford an opportunity for fuch as did not originally affift us by their communications, now to contribute their fhare of correfpondence and patronage.

It will be unneceffary to direct the reader's attention to the benefits which have refulted to Medicine, as well as to all other fciences, from the adoption of periodical publications. They are now fo far multiplied, in every part of the learned world, as to form a confiderable portion of the means by which knowledge is diffufed through all grades of fociety, and brought within the reach of every enquirer. They prefent the beft means of concentrating into a focus the labors and obfervations of all who devote themfelves to fcience. They conduce not only to extend the circulation, but alfo to augment the number and excellence of medical communications. Subftantial difcoveries and improvements may generally be exhibited in a few words, and ought always to be made known in that fimple, cheap and expeditious manner, which belongs alone to periodical publications. Volumnious & fyftematic works the benefits of oral inftruction and individual correfpondence, are often inacceffible to perfons who are ardent in the purfuit of knowledge; but of the fource we here recommend all may participate who feel a difpofition to enquire. The prevalence of this kind of publications, makrs an era in the hiftory of the human mind. To cultivate or neglect them may well be confidered, at prefent, as a teft of the progrefs or torpor of fociety. Their influence on the fcientific body may be compared to that of the arteries in the animal body, which carry nourifhment, warmth and life, to the moft diftant parts. Or, rather they may be defcribed, perhaps, with more propriety, as the great conductors by which knowledge is tranfmitted with electric velocity, through the civilized world.

The advantages of periodical publications in medicine and furgery, and all the auxiliary branches of fcience, were never fo confpicuous and univerfally acknowledged as at the prefent moment. Since the commencement of this work, a revolution in the mode of conveying medical inftruction to the public has taken place in moft parts of Europe, and more efpecially in Great-Britain. Monthly journals inftituted on liberal principles, and poffeffing a circulations of unprecedented extent, collect with avidity whatever can promote the progrefs of medicine, and then diffufe it every fucceeding period, to the moft diftant regions of the earth. The number and reputation of fuch publications on this fubject in Europe, now furpafs all former example, and are inceffantly pouring forth a ftream of actual practical information, which, in value and copiofnefs, has been hitherto unknown in the annals of fcience.

The inftitution of this work was originally undertaken as an experiment on the condition of fociety and the progrefs of fcience in the United States. We were fully aware of the labor, difficulty and difcouragement which await fuch attempts, of the fate of former publications in this country, and of the uncertainty of fuccefs in this untried field of enterprife. For that public fpirit which has conftantly affifted our exertions we then could only form our wifhes; of the reality of its exiftence we entertained the utmoft doubt.

On a retrofpect of the fix years employed in completing this firft Hexade of our work, it is with equal pride and pleafure that we furvey the mafs of communications which has enabled us to render the publication acceptable to our readers, and we truft reputable to our country. Such a number of contributions to medical and phyfical fcience as our correfpondence has enabled us to exhibit on the pages of the Repofitory, is without parallel in American literature. They have been prefented by perfons in the United States who are among the moft diftinguifhed for fcience, liberty and public fpirit. We fhall hazard no rafhnefs of affertion by declaring, that a large proportion of them would do honor to the oldeft countries, and are alone fufficient to demonftrate the futility of many of the reproaches which are ftill fo frequently thrown on the American character. For this amount of communications equally unexpected and flattering, we beg leave, in this public manner to return our thanks. Let the phyficians of the United States behold what may and has been done by the aid of their liberal encouragement and co operation. Let them learn that every country abundantly poffeffes the materials of fimilar undertakings, which only require collection and arrangement And let them likewife learn, that a great many of their communications to the Medical Repofitory, which, perhaps, were written chiefly as the amufement of an hour at leifure, after traverfing in that vehicle the ample territory of the United States, have been republifhed in European journals, and through the medium of various languages, have been circulated throughout the learned world.

In the choice of fuch papers as correfpondents fubmit to our difpofal, we are uniformly inclined to prefer thofe which are founded on facts and experience, and are practical and ufeful rather than fpeculative. We wifh always to bear in mind the fallacy of hypothefis, and the durabilenefs of obfervations founded on truth and nature. Conformably to this it appears, on a retrofpect of fix volumes, that the practical papers bear a large proportion to the reft of the work. The period at which our editorial labors began, and during which they have been continued, muft be confeffed to be fingularly intereffing in the hiftory of American epidemics. *Peftilential difeafes*, formerly fo rare in this country as to have been almoft forgotten, have become lately fo frequent and fatal as to fpread univerfal alarm. Our correfpondents, juftly confidering this as the moft prominet object, have beftowed upon it a principal part of their attention. More than ninety effays or papers concerning the hiftory and phenomena of peftilential epidemics, or collaterally relating to that fubject, are found on our pages. Befides thefe, a variety of other difeafes are particularly treated of, in a manner which reflects credit on the learning and talents of the refpective authors.

Natural Hiftory, which in this young country prefents fo many afpects of novelty and intereft, has not efcaped the contributions to this work. The naturalifts will not, indeed, find fo great a number of communications on this fubject as might be wifhed, or as the ftate of our country might readily fupply. When it is recollected that an immenfe proportion of our territory has never yet been explored by a zoologift, botanift, or mineralogift, there will appear every inducement duly to appreciate the few obfervations we have received, and as far as poffible, hereafter to add to their number.

Nor have our correfpondents been inattentive to the intereffing province of *Chemiftry*, which is allied to fo many other fciences, the parent of a multitude of the arts, is inceffantly extending its dominion, and may be afferted to comprehend among its objects every fubftance on the globe. Many of thefe communications we have received on this fubject are read with avidity in every part of the world where letters are cultivated.

Our *miffcellaneous* communications, difperfed through the fix volumes, and which cannot diftinctly be referred to any one head, are numerous and refpectable. Many of thefe enter deeply into the fcience of the human frame, and generally of the animal economy; an enquiry which is rapidly rifing to the diftinction it deferves, and muft foon be confidered as one of the moft intereffting purfuits of the human mind.

As to thofe parts of the work, for which the editors themfelves are more immediately refponfible, we fhall take the liberty to detain the reader only with a few remarks.

In the department of *Review* we have undertaken an arduous task, which nothing but the importance of its relations and confequences could have induced us to hazard. An account of upwards of one hundred and thirty publications, in the courfe of the work, has been laid before the public. Among many other advantages of the Review, we hope it will be found to preferve the remembrance of fome fmall and fugitive performances of merit, which hereafter may intereft curiofity, and which otherwife, in the lapfe of time, might be liable to be loft and forgotten. It has been our practice, in general, to offer an analyfis of the work under examination, and more particularly to exhibit fuch parts as included any difcovery, improvement, or other fubftantial merits which are thought worthy of fpecial attention. Nor have we forborne, generally, to fubmit our judgment of the character, tendency and utility of thefe performances; being perfuaded that a review, unaccompanied by fuch declaration, is little entitled to the refpect of the public. We are aware that this part of our duty is full of difficulties, and that, after our beft exertions, we are often expofed to the charge of partiality and morofenefs. It is not eafy always to conciliate the minds of author and reader, as each may have a feparate intereft, and either may be unreafonable or unjuft. But the opinions of a reviewer are merely the opinions of an individual; and the author who finds himfelf aggrieved, may make his defence before the fame tribunal of public juftice at which he was arraigned. On the points of controverfy, which agitate the phyficians of this and of other countries, we have not hefitated explicitly to deliver our opinions. And our opponents on thefe queftions, whatever may be their other objections, will not accufe us of verfality or indecifion.

Our departments of *Medical and Scientific Intelligence* is fubdivided into a *domeftic* and *foreign* head. Under the former it has been our aim to collect and arrange whatever of ufeful, inftructive, or intereffing matter our country prefents to view; to ftate facts which appear to bear any important relations, and to place on record many things worthy of prefervation, which, tho' generally well known at prefent, are liable to be forgotten or indiftinctly recollected. Under the *foreign* head, we have endeavored to exhibit, in a condenfed point of view, the fubftance of all that vaft mafs of matter which is inceffantly iffuing from European preffes; carefully felecting what is new, important, and applicable to the ufe of our country, from whatever is of an inferior character. In doing this, we are aided not only by an extenfive correfpondence with men of fcience in different parts of Europe, but alfo by a multitude of the periodical publications in that quarter of the world which we regularly receive, and from which our readers obferve copious extracts are frequently taken. On a review of the volumes which now complete our firft Hexade, notices will be conftantly found, more or lefs minute in proportion to their importance, of all the leading difcoveries and improvements in medicine and the auxiliary fciences, which have occurred within the period in queftion. On this point alone, we might be contented to reft a great portion of the value of the work. Many phyficians are remote from libraries, and even if access to them were eafy, have no leifure for extenfive reading. To fuch, the Medical Repofitory will faithfully announce every article of medical intelligence which deferves attention, and, at the fame time, give an abftract of much of that new and intereffting matter, which the modern traffic of book-making is too apt to fcatter through a multitude of volumes. But it ought likewife to be duly impreffed on our readers, that while we confider a felection of the more important foreign intelligence, and other new matter, as conftituting a very valuable part of our work, the number of original communications from correfpondents in this country, and the quantity of American intelligence, not to be found in foreign journals, are, in our judgment, fufficient to ftamp a folid and independent intereft on the Medical Repofitory.

To prevent mifapprehenfion, it will not be improper to obferve, that we are moved by no lucrative confiderations in the conducting of this work. The editors have hitherto derived no emolument from it; and every profpect of that kind is at prefent fo remote and uncertain, as to offer no encouragement of fuch expectations.

Being now about to undertake a fecond Haxade, we are determined to remit nothing of the diligence and zeal with which we flatter ourfelves the firft has been conducted The firft volume will be immediately begun and publifhed as heretofore in quarterly numbers. We truft our correfpondents, to whom we are already fo greatly indebted, will continue to afford that affiftance which has always ferved to lighten our labor, and to animate our exertions.

The fubject of Medical Biography has been too much neglected in the United States. Phyficians certainly owe it to one another to commemorate the talents and virtues of all who diftinguifh themfelves in a profeffion, fo clofely allied to the progrefs general fcience, and to the beft intereffts of humanity. It will contantly give us pleafure to be inftrumental in recording the merits of fuch of our countrymen as have deferved well of the republic of medicine.

Our leading objects fince the firft eftablifhment of this work uniformly have been, to form a centre of communication for the contributors to fcience in all parts of the United States: to refcue from oblivion the fruits of the experience and obfervation of our medical brethren, fcattered over a widely extended territory; to allure men of talents from the inactity which diffidence and retirement are too apt to impofe, by foliciting their communications; to give early and authentic information of all fuch difcoveries and improvements in every part of the civilized world, as fall within the limits affigned to our publicition; to offer fome fmall return to the learned nations of Europe, for the obligations we owe them as our original inftructors and parents in fcience; and finally, to inftitute a national work, which may affift fimilar defigns elfewhere in exciting the energies, developing the productions, and haftening the maturity of a young and rifing empire. How far we have fucceeded in thefe endeavors, is willingly fubmitted to the candor and juftice of the public.

☞ *Editors of newfpapers in the United States, are refpectfully requefted to infert the above.*

BY THIS DAY's MAILS.

CONCORD, June 23.

HAIL-STORM.

On Friday laft, about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, a violent ftorm of rain and hail, attended with lightning, paffed over this town. The wind was exceedingly high; and its courfe (which was a little in the weft of fouth) tore up many trees, and fhattered and demolifhed fome buildings. A very large new barn on the eaft fide of Merrimac river, belonging to Mr. Ifaac Emery, was levelled to the ground; the roof of the houfe of Mr. David George, jun. partly taken off; the roof of colonel Stickney's houfe was confiderably damaged, and twelve or fifteen of his apple-trees blown down; feveral other orchards fuffered more or lefs. Many fquares of glafs were broken by the hail, which was generally larger than mufket balls, and fell with great rapidity by the violence of the wind. A number of grain fields are entirely cut off, and many others greatly injured.

We hear that the ftorm was more fevere in fome parts of Bow, particularly in the neighborhood of Mr. Jofeph Baker, who, we learn, is a confiderable fufferer in grain, fruit trees, &c. A large rock, near his houfe, about 10 feet long and 4 or 5 feet fquare, which lay on the top of the ground, was rolled from its bed. It is faid that in Groffs town many windows were broken by the hail.

A gentleman from the fouth part of Hanover informs, that though there was no hail in his neighborhood, he could difcern the fwells of land in the eafterly parts of Lebanon, which appeared to be covered till two or three hours after the ftorm; fo that we fear its effects have been very extenfive.

SALEM, June 21.

Arrived at Beverly, fchooner Nautilus, Raymond, 38 days from Bilboa. Sailed in company with captain Bartlett, and Brewfter, for Plymouth, and captain Virgin, of Plymouth, for Lifbon. May 20, lat. 44, long. 25, fpoke fhip Mary, of Bofton, 38 days from Alexandria, for Lifbon, with flour.

June 24.

Entered, brig Cynthia, Andrews, Martinico; fchooners Three Brothers, Story, Alicant; Nautilus, Raymond, Bilboa.

Cleared, fhips Betfy, Thorndike, Copenhagen; Eunice, Shillaber, do.; Triton, Buchmore, do.

BOSTON, June 24.

Arrived, fhip Belle-Savage, captain Ockington, 137 days from Wampoo No later marine news than that received by the Atahualpa, arrived here a few days fince. Spoke with no American veffels in the Chinea Seas. June 10, lat. 30, N. long. 65, fpoke fchooner Hope, of Virginia, bound to Antigua. 15th, a fchooner from New-London, bound to Bermuda, with cattle. 20th, 9 leagues E. from fouth fhoal of Nantucket, Mary, Hoyt, from Newburyport, bound to Norfolk.

Same day, barque Lydia, captain Barnard, 150 days from Manilla. Sailed from thence 1ft December, in company with the Refource, of Providence, for Canton. Spoke June 10, lat. 31, 22, long. 66, captain Pollard, in a fchooner from Fredericksburg, bound to Martinique. June 14, lat. 35, 48, long. 62 1-2, fchooner Four Friends, Hanmar, from New London, for Barbados, 5 days out.

Same day, fchooners Pilgrim, Parry, Yarmouth, 5 days; Betfy, Perry, Windfor, 11 days; and Union, Gould, do.

Same day, fhip Indus, captain Wheatland, 118 days from Batavia. Sailed from thence in company with the fhip Manion, captain William D. Seton, of New-York, for Sumatra. Left at Batavia, fhip Samuel Smith, captain George Stiles, and brig Fame, captain Nichols, of Baltimore, both to fail for Amfterdam in a few days; fhip Fanny, captain Smith, of Bofton, to fail for Tranqebar in a few days. The fhip Alexander Hodgdon, captain Skillings, of Bofton, arrived at Batavia, from the coaft of Sumatra, 23d February. Spoke April 14, lat. 36, 39, S. long. 20, 30, E. fhip Herald, captain Richard Derby, of and for Bofton, from the Ifle of France, and bound to Bofton, out 20 days.

June 25.

Laft evening, arrived the fhip Herald, captain Derby, from Canton, via ifle of France, 92 days from the latter place.—Nothing later than before received from Canton. Left no American veffels at the ifle of France. A fhip failed for Providence the day before captain D. arrived there. Spoke, June 4, lat. 18, 24, long. 49, 36, the brig Difpatch, from Portfmouth, for Trinidad. June 8, lat. 25, 40, long. 57, 32, fchooner Generous Friend, captain Jennings, 18 days from New-York, for Guadaloupe.

Same day, fchooner William, captain Pillfbury, from Martinique.

Same day, via quarantine, the fchooner Mary and Eliza, captain Pratt, 25 days from St. Thomas.

Same day, fchooner Two Brothers, captain Clements, 11 days from Windfor.

June 26.

Arrived, the fhip Bulah, captain Freeman, from Leghorn, via Barcelona, 56 days from latter place. Left captain Matchet, who expected to fail for North Europe. The fhip Tamerlaine, Emes, failed 6 days before captain F. for Bofton; the Betfy, Gorham, was at Naples, to fail in a few days for Bofton. Paffed Gibraltar the 12th May. Spoke, on the 16th, off Cape St. Vincents, the fhip Hibernia, Mentor, from Ivica; fchr. ——, Cruft, from Malaga; and fchooner ——, Rogers, from Gibraltar, all for Bofton—Flour not higher than 7 a 7 1-2 dollars in any port of the Mediterranean, and dull fale at that. All kinds of American exports very low, and bufinefs at a ftand, owing to the unfettled ftate of affairs relative to peace or war.

Same day, via quarantine, the brig Betfy, captain Reath, 28 days from Honduras.

At Quarantine, fchr. William, Paine, St. Vincents, 33 days.

TO THE EDITORS.

"*Glouceſter*—Arrived here the fchooner Charming Nancy, captain Woodbury from Lifbon. Captain W. fpoke the following veffels: June 8, lat. 42, 30, long. 50, the brig Induftry, Crofs, of Newburyport, from Philadelphia for Oporto. June 13, lat. 42, 20, long. 59, 30, fch'r Rambler, Hills, 7 days from Bofton, for Amfterdam. Same day, fch'r Hannah, capt. Andrews, 7 days from Marblehead for Bilboa."