

TRKISH MANNERS AND OPINIONS.—BY M. PALEOLOGUS.*

IN spite of the endeavours of some writers, who represent the Turkish Government as a model of perfection, and who seem to insinuate, that they would esteem it happiness to live under Musulman institutions, we may be permitted to think, that every thing is not quite faultless in the country of the Janissaries and Imams. If with us justice is slow in its administration, every one will allow that there it is rather too summary. Literature still enjoys considerable freedom in Europe; in Turkey, there are few presses, fewer books, and, above all, no philosophers. There is some hardship, it is true, in the summary punishment even of European states, but at Constantinople a sack and the sea is the asylum of the unfortunate. Opposition to the sovereign will is practised with much greater impunity in Europe than at the Court of the Grand Signor.

If any of our readers should feel disposed to adopt contrary opinions, we earnestly recommend them to read M. Paleologus's dialogues on the manners of the Osmanlies. M. Paleologus is more competent than any one else to treat on this subject; he was born at Constantinople, and has always lived amongst the people whose character he portrays. He is an ocular and auricular witness of what he describes, and moreover a man of talent.

His dialogues, to the number of twenty, are now before the public. They represent every class of society, each speaking the language natural to it, and exhibiting, free from all disguise, their passions, habits, and prejudices. The author designedly introduces into the speeches of his interlocutors numerous proverbs, with which the conversation of the Osmanlies abounds; every class of this population is furnished with those peculiar to itself. Thus, whilst the people with terror repeat that, 'in order to preserve tranquillity, it is absolutely necessary to be blind, deaf, and dumb; the heir presumptive to the crown, brought up in dissimulation, frequently pronounces these characteristic words, *'We must kiss the hand we cannot wound.'*

Nothing can be more instructive than the picture of the education of a young Sultan; shut up in the seraglio, under the eye of a suspicious and always discontented favourite, he learns from infancy to disguise his thoughts and sentiments, and to lay plots of every description; the ferocity of his mother awakens in his young heart a similar passion. 'Why cannot I, my beloved son, this instant see thee mounted on the throne?—Thou wilt, I am cou-

* See an account of this work in 'The Oriental Herald,' vol. 14, p. 64.

vinced, on that happy occasion, grant me a dozen heads; wilt thou not, *caplancur* ? (my tiger). 'How can I possibly refuse my honoured mother such a trifle! I will immediately deliver over to you a hundred; it will only be my week's allowance.' 'A hardened heart, and perfect sang-froid, are absolutely necessary, in order to reign well.—Your heart is, I fear, rather weak, but that will no doubt change.' 'Thanks to you, my mother, I can correct that.' 'Without doubt: *situation forms the man*. Above all, my son, I advise you to chastise the Russians, as well as all the other petty *kral*s (kings), whom thy father's weakness, as well as that of thy other ancestors, has rendered so insolent and overbearing.' 'That is precisely my project.' 'Exterminate all these presumptuous wretches, and remain sole master of the whole world; there is but one God in heaven, there should be but one king on earth.'

The fourteenth dialogue, in which the speakers are a doctor and an artisan, and the subject of their discourse, public affairs, and the reforms of the Sultan Mahmud, is not the least curious of the collection. They figure to themselves the desolation, the fury of the Janissaries, compelled to renounce their former habits of plunder, and to bow to the discipline of Europe. 'Religion is lost,' they exclaim; 'let us examine whether they have washed our hands and our heads; if our garments are free from dust; if not, there is an end to Islamism!' They then speak of the revolt of the Greeks, and the assistance afforded them by the Kings of Europe. 'Happily,' adds one of the speakers, 'the Grand Vizier of one of these Kral's, that of the *Nemeths*, (Austrians) warns us of all our danger; although an infidel to all appearance, he is said to be a thorough Musulman at heart.' Another observes, 'We must not believe this minister to be sincere, *The thoughts of the fox are not easy to divine*.' 'What does it signify?' replies the doctor, 'when we no longer have occasion for him, we shall know how to get rid of him. *The common end of the fox, is the shop of the furrier*.' It is thus that the hopes and fears of the Osmanlies are expressed in proverbs.

Another dialogue on the same subject is given, between the Grand Vizier and the Reis Effendi, (the Minister for Foreign Affairs,) which is treated with more gravity. Two statesmen hold a conversation on the proclamation, in which the Powers have announced their mediation between the Porte and the Hellenes. The utmost contempt for the Christians reigns throughout their discourse. The Reis Effendi proposes dissimulation to the Vizier. 'Feign to cede,' says he, 'and when the Greeks have laid down their arms, and the Europeans have retired, fall on them suddenly, and you will exterminate them; they will at first cry out against this, but every thing will soon be quieted again: *The dog barks, but the caravan passes on*.'

The Reis Effendi then declares, that the Allies are very little

touched by the interests of the Greeks; that it is only to spite the Turks, that they have taken up their defence; that all the boast of their pretended feeling for the sufferings of their fellow-Christians, is the mere work of book-makers and newspaper scribblers. The Grand Vizier then expresses his astonishment that Governments should lend an ear to such babbling. 'Oh! that I were but Grand Vizier, for one single day, among these Franks; it would suffice to bring them back to reason. A hundred *djillads* (executioners) would soon settle the business, I assure you.'

We have only ventured to cite a very small portion of M. Paleologus's work, and it appeared to us advisable to select those dialogues which bore some reference to the affairs of the moment. Had we analysed those which treat on the private manners, customs, and opinions of the Osmanlies, what abundant quotations might we have made!

The author paints with energy, the vices of the Mussulman clergy, from the Imam down to the mendicant dervish. It is Spain under another name; all the vices of the clergy are united in the person of the dervish; he alone, without a single obstacle, works on the gross credulity of the people. He lives on the public ignorance.

M. Paleologus is not less powerful in his description of the Janissaries, living at the expense of the unfortunate, and anticipating with anxiety plague or fire, in order to profit by the spoils. The whole work is highly deserving of attention.

SONNET TO THE MEMORY OF JOHN KEATS.

Lake to the tinkling of the pilgrim rills,
 Unseen amid green shadows,—lilies' bowls—
 Whence Dryads drink the spring-dew of their souls—
 Lilies! whose leaves the life of freshness fills!
 Like to that woodland music—when from hills,
 Tree-shrouded, the hoarse wind-wave wildly howls—
 Is thy lyre's breathing:—mocking earth's controls,
 Glideth the stream which from yon heaven distils.
 And let the winds howl on!—the myriad voices
 Of waving forests echo the wild shout!
 Calmly, yet ceaselessly, the brook rejoices,
 While trees their leaf and life are wearing out.
 The cloud may bear the rivulet to heaven,
 Whilst the dark trunks to rot on earth are given!

THOMAS M****S.

ARBITRARY PROCEEDINGS AT BOMBAY, AND SPECIMENS OF
INDIAN LEGISLATION.

Our readers are aware that the Calcutta Government have lately, with the sanction of the Court of Directors, and the approbation of the Board of Control, passed some Stamp Regulations, for Bengal. After they had been passed several months, the Government found that the regulations for the collection of these stamp duties could not be enforced, unless they were first registered in the Supreme Court. A motion was accordingly made to the Supreme Court, and, after long argument by Counsel, employed by the inhabitants of Calcutta, the Court decided upon registering these Regulations. The Judges gave written judgments, which were originally inserted in 'The Government Gazette,' and have been since re-published in 'The Oriental Herald;' and from those judgments it appears that the Court were unanimously of opinion that, though the taxes or or duties might be imposed by the local authorities, as directed by the 53d G. III. c. 155, s. 98, nevertheless, the regulations for their enforcement, under the 99th section, must, equally with all other regulations which affect persons within the jurisdiction of the King's Court, be first registered in those Courts.

This unanimous judgment of the Supreme Court of Calcutta appeared in the Calcutta 'Government Gazette,' on the 30th July, 1827, and reached Bombay on the 31st August, in the same year. On the 29th of the same month, (August,) the Governor, in council, of Bombay published a regulation (of which a copy has been sent to us) for the collection of duties; namely, 19, 20, and 21, of 1827, passed on the 1st January preceding; and another regulation, (28,) dated the 1st August; in which the dates are fixed, from which all the new regulations are to take effect; namely, the 1st September and the 1st November following. Thus, notwithstanding the proceeding by the Calcutta Government, in applying to the Supreme Court there to register the regulations; notwithstanding the unanimous judgment of the Supreme Court there, of the necessity of such registration; the Bombay Government passed these regulations, and fixed the time for their enforcement, without any registration in the Supreme Court of their Presidency.

This, however, is not the most extraordinary part of the conduct of the Bombay Government, respecting these regulations. By the same 99th section, the mode of enforcing fines, penalties, and forfeitures, for the non-payment of such duties or taxes, and for the breach of the regulations, is pointed out; namely, by indictment, information, or suit in the Supreme Court. Having committed one breach of the law, by ordering the above regulations to be enforced, without previous registry, in the Supreme Court, the Government of Bombay, in order to make this effectual, commit another and

more flagrant breach. They altogether put aside the Supreme Court's jurisdiction, and, of themselves, erect another jurisdiction in their own servants, for the recovery of the penalties and the taxes or duties.

By section 3, clause 2, Regulation 19, the collector's decision is to be *final*, unless suspended by the decree of the *revenue* Judge.

By section 4, clause 1, the collector may, twenty days after demand of payment of the revenue due, levy the same, by distress and sale of the defaulter's property; and, if the property be not sufficient, he may apprehend, and confine the defaulter in jail; and the collector's certificate is to be the sheriff's warrant, *equally with the usual legal process, in ordinary cases of arrest in execution of judgment for debt.*

By section 7, the revenue Judge is to decide all suits against the collector, or any person on his establishment, &c. The same section, clause 2, says, the revenue Judge shall possess the same powers as if he were conducting a criminal investigation, as senior Magistrate of the Police.

By section 8, the decree of the revenue Judge is made appealable to the *Sudder Adawlut*, that is, one of the Company's courts.

These provisions relate to the land revenue; and they are repeated, when applied to other duties, by section 14 of the same Regulation; and the same enactments run throughout the Regulations, ousting the Supreme Court's jurisdiction, and erecting a tribunal of their own, for the punishment even of *British* subjects. That such proceeding is utterly illegal, is not only clear, but well known to the Bombay Government itself, not only from the statute, which points out the tribunal before which fines, penalties, and forfeitures, and duties, and taxes, are to be recovered, (namely, the Supreme Court,) but from its being actually stated by the Judges of the Supreme Court, at Calcutta, that they must all be recovered before the Supreme Court; and which judgments excited so much attention, that they were inserted in all the Calcutta Papers, and read and talked about by every one in India. The Chief Justice, Sir Charles Grey, says, 'I do not find any thing which is repugnant to law, nor do I think that it will in effect be oppressive to the inhabitants of Calcutta, *considering that it must be enforced by proceedings in this Court.*' The Bombay Government, therefore, cannot say that it was from ignorance, however much of it we may give them credit for, that they have erected a new Court within the jurisdiction of, and in opposition to, the Supreme Court at that Presidency.

But this is not all. It is well known that the spirit and letter of the whole of legislation for British India, is, that British subjects shall not be amenable to the Courts of a mercantile company, but to those alone of the King; and though this principle may be said

to be trenched upon by the 107th section of 55, G. III, which makes British subjects, *residing ten miles from the Presidency*, subject to the local civil judicature, that section still gives an appeal to his Majesty's Court. This principle is carried so far, that though justices of the peace are appointed by the Government, they must still derive their authority from the Crown; namely, from commission under the seal of the Court.

It is well known, that the King's Court supersedes every other within its jurisdiction; this may be collected, not only from principle, but from almost every statute on the subject. It required an Act of Parliament, namely, section 113 of the same statute, to empower the Company's Courts, of the highest jurisdiction, even to *arrest*, in civil or criminal process, within the Presidencies, which they could not do before.

Many other, and equally strong objections, to these regulations, might be pointed out; but the two already mentioned are sufficient: namely, that, *these Regulations for the collection and enforcement of the duties and taxes have been passed, and the time fixed for their enforcement, without registration in the Supreme Court; and a new tribunal erected by the Government, in contravention of the law, and in opposition to the Supreme Court.*

It appears from Regulation 28, that the Stamp Regulation had also been passed, and was to be enforced from the 1st November last, though it has never been published at Bombay, and no printed copy of it was to be obtained there.

There is one other observation to be made. No tax or duty is valid, unless previously sanctioned by the Directors and Board of Control, and such sanction is expressly to be mentioned in the Regulation. Regulations 19 and 20 contain no such mention, though they are evidently not mere regulations for the collection of duties, but are actually impositions of duties. Thus, chapter 6 of Regulation 19, section 30, clause 1, is as follows: 'The following fees shall be levied in the Court of Petty Sessions, and in the offices of the magistrates of police, on the Island of Bombay;' appendices B and C are to a similar effect. It may be that these fees have, in some other documents, received the necessary sanction; but, nevertheless, it is contrary to the express words of the Act, to pass them without the mention of such sanction, nor could the Judges take judicial notice of them.

None of the previous Regulations, passed during the year 1837, and which had already taken effect, could be obtained at Bombay. On application at the office of the Government Paper, 'The Courier,' for printed copies of them, the answer was, that they were published for the Government, and not for the public!!!

We give, as specimens of British-Indian Legislation, a few extracts from the Regulations above adverted to.

CHAPTER II.

Rules for the Collection of the Tax called 'Market Fees' on Shops and Stalls, on Beating the Battakee, on Country Music, and on the Erection of Wedding Sheds and other Places of Public Amusement.

SECTION 9, clause 1—The Collector of land revenue, at Bombay, shall make a quarterly assessment on each and every shop and stall, within the town and island of Bombay, according to the rates enumerated in Appendices B and C.

SECTION 10—All persons desirous of erecting wedding sheds, or other places of temporary amusement, in or upon any part of the public street or roads, shall apply for license to erect the same, to either of the Magistrates of Police, who are hereby authorised and required to grant such license, unless they see good cause for refusing the same, and to direct the Engineer officer, attached to the Court of Petty Sessions, to measure off and mark out the space of ground required, or so much of the same as they or either of them may think proper. And on the space of ground being so marked out and measured, the Engineer officer is hereby required to deliver a certificate, of the space so marked out and measured, to the party obtaining the said license, and a duplicate of the same to the Collector of Bombay; and the said Collector is hereby authorised and required to make an assessment upon each and every person enclosing such space, so marked out, as aforesaid, at the rate of five rupees a night, for every space not exceeding ten square yards, so taken in and enclosed, and for every such space exceeding ten square yards, at the rate of *one rupee a night for every square yard so enclosed.*

SECTION 11—Any person presuming to enclose any part of the public streets or roads, for the purpose of erecting a wedding shed, or other place of temporary amusement, without having previously obtained such license as aforesaid, from one of the Magistrates of Police, and such certificate as aforesaid from the Engineer officer, shall forfeit the sum of five rupees a night, for every square yard so enclosed, as a penalty; and any person taking in or enclosing a *greater space* of ground, than what was marked out and measured off by the said Engineer officer, and included in such certificate as aforesaid, shall be surcharged, and shall forfeit, as a penalty for the same, at the rate of *five rupees a night, for every square yard so enclosed*, which shall not have been so marked out, and measured, and included in such certificate.

SECTION 12, clause 1—All persons, desirous to use or employ country music *without doors*, shall apply for a license in writing so to use or employ the same, to either of the Magistrates of Police, who are hereby authorised to grant such license, unless they should see good reason for refusing the same. The license shall be in the

form of Appendix D, specifying the number of days for which it is granted, and intimating, moreover, that it is of no effect, until countersigned by the Collector, in testimony of the fees imposed by regulation on the use of country music.

Clause 2—All persons, using or employing such music as above described, shall be assessed at the rate of one rupee a day, for the period specified in their license; and any person so using or employing such music, without a license granted and countersigned as above, or for any period exceeding the number of days specified in such licenses, shall be liable to a fine of five rupees for every day that such unlicensed music shall be so used or employed.

Section 13, clause 1—All persons, desirous of giving public notice by beat of battakee of the sale of any house, building land, or other immoveable property, or of the sale of any goods or chattels, or of publicly offering or giving any other kind of lawful public notice by beat of battakee, shall obtain a license, in the mode prescribed in the preceding section, in the form of Appendix E, from either of the Magistrates of Police, and procure the countersignature of the Collector upon the same; and the Collector, previously to affixing his countersignature, shall levy the following fees upon each license respectively, &c. &c. &c.

	Rs.	Gr.	Piss.
For giving public notice by beat of battakes of the sale of any house, land, or other tenement, for each notice . . .	2	2	0
For giving the said public notice of the sale of any goods or chattels, for each notice	1	0	0
For giving the said public notice of any reward that may be legally offered, or for any other public notice, for each notice	1	0	0

Section 14, clause 1—All fines, penalties, and forfeitures, incurred under this chapter, shall be adjudged and determined, upon oath, by the Collector, (himself,) if he be a Justice of the Peace, and if not, then by any Justice of the Peace acting within the Presidency of Bombay; who is hereby authorised and required to levy the same, on warrant, under his hand and seal, by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels.

CHAPTER IV.

Rules for levying a Tax on Carriages and Riding Horses, on the Island of Bombay.

SECTION 24, Clause 1.—There shall be assessed and levied, in the Island of Bombay, on every four-wheel carriage, 40 rupees per annum; on every two wheel carriage on springs, 30 rupees per annum; on every wheel carriage without springs, except such as are drawn by bullocks, 20 rupees per annum; on every two wheel carriage, used for riding, and drawn by bullocks, 15 rupees per annum; on every two wheel carriage, used for carrying loads and

drawn by bullocks, 5 rupees per annum; and on every riding horse, 6 rupees per annum.

Each military officer shall be allowed two riding horses, exempt from assessment.

All carriages and horses employed by Government, shall be exempt from assessment.

Section 26, clause 1.—The engineer officer, attached to the Court of Petty Sessions, shall perform the duties of assessor, and shall make quarterly returns, to the collector of land revenue, of the number of carriages and horses assessable, and the amount and names of the owners respectively; and if any person shall wilfully obstruct the assessor, or any of his deputies in the due execution of such office, or shall refuse, or wilfully and unnecessarily delay, to give the list required by Clause 1, of Section 25, upon demand made under the authority of the assessor, he shall for such offence, upon conviction thereof, on the oath of one or more credible witnesses, before the Court of Petty Sessions, forfeit such sum as the said Court may adjudge, provided it does not exceed the sum of one hundred rupees; and such penalty shall be recoverable, by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, in the usual manner.

CHAPTER VI.

Rules for levying Fees in the Court of Petty Sessions, and in the Offices of the Magistrates of Police.

Section 30, Clause 1.—The following fees shall be levied, in the Court of Petty Sessions, and in the offices of the Magistrates of Police, on the Island of Bombay:

	Rs.	Gr.	Ann.
For every complaint instituted, when filed in the office of a Magistrate of Police *	0	2	0
For every complaint instituted, when filed in the Court of Petty Sessions *	1	0	0
For summoning each party to answer before the Magistrate.....	0	1	0
For summoning each party to answer before the Court of Petty Sessions.....	0	2	0
For every voluntary affidavit.....	0	1	0

Section 31, clause 1.—The Clerk of the Petty Sessions, for the time being, shall receive the whole fees above mentioned, and is hereby authorised and empowered himself to levy them, or to appoint, at each office of Police, some proper person, who shall levy the sums taken in pursuance of the provisions of this Chapter, and shall be accountable to him for all such sums.

* So that a poor palanquin bearer, who may have been ill used by his European master, (a rare occurrence!) if he dares to complain to a single magistrate, must pay three days' wages, or if to the Petty Sessions, six ditto—his wages being seven and a half rupees per month!

List of the Rates at which Shops and Stalls, within the Bombay Division of the Town and Island of Bombay, shall be assessed according to Regulation 19, A. D. 1827.

Description of Shops or Stalls.	Rate to be	Description of Shops or Stalls.	Rate to be
	paid per- quarter.		paid per- quarter.
	Rs. gr. reas.		Rs. gr. reas.
Attarces or perfumers.....	1 2 0	Fuddia, or Grain retailers....	1 0 0
Anllers.....	0 1 20	Goat Butchers.....	0 3 84
Bakers.....	0 3 80	Goldsmiths.....	1 2 0
Bangle sellers.....	1 2 0	Ironsmiths.....	0 1 20
Bluntians, or Country eating houses.....	0 3 0	Leather Merchants.....	0 1 20
Billet wood sellers.....	0 1 20	Liquor sellers.....	0 0 96
Brick makers.....	0 3 0	Mat-makers.....	0 1 20
Carpenters.....	0 3 0	Milk sellers.....	0 0 60
Cattle Butchers (slaughterers) 1 2 0		Mutton Butchers.....	0 3 84
Cattle Butchers (sellers).....	1 0 0	Oil makers.....	1 0 0
China ware shopkeepers.....	1 2 0	Pearl and Coral sellers.....	2 0 0
Chowkeseys or repairers of jewels.....	1 1 0	Picc shopkeepers.....	5 0 0
Chuman sellers.....	1 0 0	Polishers.....	0 1 20
Cloth shops.....	1 0 0	Rattanners.....	0 1 20
Cooleys.....	0 0 48	Rice sellers.....	0 0 96
Coppersmiths.....	1 0 0	Ruffagers, or repairers of Shawls &c.....	0 1 20
Cotton sellers.....	0 1 20	Seed shops.....	1 1 0
Dyers.....	1 0 0	Shoemakers.....	0 1 20
Earthen pot makers.....	0 0 48	Straw sellers.....	1 2 0
Europe shops (including the shops of natives, wholesale purchasers of European in- vestments).....	5 0 0	Sweetmeat makers.....	1 0 0
Fowl sellers.....	0 1 20	Tailors.....	1 0 0
		Toddly sellers.....	0 0 60
		Turners.....	1 0 0
		Wood Warehouse, 1st Class..	1 2 0
		Wood Warehouse, 2d Class..	0 3 0

Scarcely a fortnight had elapsed, however, after the publication of these regulations, (which appeared in the 'Bombay Courier Extraordinary' of August 29th, 1827,) before a new and increased rate of taxation was resolved on, and published in another 'Bombay Courier Extraordinary' of September 10th, 1827, of which the following short extract will furnish a specimen :

THE COURIER EXTRAORDINARY.

Judicial Department.

THE Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to publish for general information the following Regulations passed by the Honourable the Governor in Council, and Notification issued from the Territorial Department Revenue.

A Regulation for increasing the Taxes on Carriages and Horses at the Presidency, made with the sanction of the Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, and with the approbation of the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India, and passed by the Governor in Council at Bombay, on the 3d September, 1827.

WHEREAS it has been deemed expedient, that the taxes, hitherto levied on carriages and horses at the Presidency, should be increased, the following rules for that purpose have been enacted by the authority of the Governor in Council, with the sanction of the Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, and with the approbation of the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India, and shall have effect from the date of promulgation.

Section 1, clause 1—Clause 1, sec. 24, Reg. 19, A. D. 1827, is hereby rescinded.

Clause 2—The taxes on carriages and horses, used on the island of Bombay, shall in future be assessed and levied according to the following rates: on every four wheel carriage, four rupees per month! on every two wheel carriage on springs, three rupees per month! on every two wheel carriage without springs, except such as are drawn by bullocks, two rupees per month! on every two wheel carriage used for riding and drawn by bullocks, one rupee and a half per month; on every two wheel carriage used for carrying loads and drawn by bullocks, if the wheel be of the breadth of two inches and a half, one quarter of a rupee per month! if the wheel be narrower than above specified, three quarters of a rupee per month. On every riding horse, one rupee and a half per month.*

If the great art of good government be (as some writers contend) to draw as much as possible from the industrious poor, in order to pamper the luxuries of the indolent rich, then are the Governor and Council of Bombay among the best of rulers on the earth; and their Honourable Masters in England, among the greatest benefactors, in thus keeping their distant subjects from the evils of surplus wealth!

THE BROKEN HEART.

SHE stood, in the glorious morn of her life,
 Ere her beauty had come to its prime;
 And she vow'd that for ever she'd quit the world's strife,
 For the hopes of her early spring time,
 Like a perishing dream of the night had gone by—
 Her fount of delight was all broken and dry.

* Just three times as high as the tax imposed only a month before: namely, six rupees per annum; the present rate being eighteen, or, by lunar months, nineteen and a half rupees per annum.

Her soul's inmost love, which a lov'd one had spurn'd,
 She vow'd to her God should be given—
 In her heart's sinless shrine, that the incense which burn'd,
 All pure should be wafted to heaven :—
 In her cell's hallow'd stillness she deem'd to have peace,—
 That all rebel repinings for ever should cease,
 So she looked her last with a tearless eye,
 On a world she loved no longer—
 She passed from its pleasures without a sigh—
 As the holy flame grew stronger,
 She deem'd her fond longings were thrown to the wind—
 That her earthly affections were all left behind.
 She entered those precincts of horrible gloom,
 Whose threshold is pass'd again never—
 The silence, but not the deep rest, of the tomb,
 There she found had its dwelling for ever,
 A desolate calmness, all cold and unblest,
 Pervaded those shades—'twas not laden with rest.
 With its vigils and fasts, stern devotion was there,
 But its comforts were barren and vain ;
 All heartless and cold was the murmuring prayer—
 All feeble the languishing strain.
 The tide of existence stood stagnant and still,
 Yet her heart's early throbbings came back at their will.
 Then she thought of the world from which she had pass'd—
 It seemed robed in the hues of delight,—
 A more beautiful green o'er its bosom was cast,
 And the beings who walk'd it were bright
 With beauty and love, then did sorrow arise
 Within her fair bosom, and gush from her eyes.
 And the vision of him who had won her first love,
 In slumber came often before her,—
 In the accents of strong deathless passion he strove
 To tell her he yet did adore her.
 Then the flood-gates of bliss once again were unseal'd,
 But the convent's lone gloom with the morn was reveal'd.
 The present was dark as the valley of death—
 The future, a dull hopeless void ;
 All chill'd was the glow of religion and faith,
 And the dreams of the past were denied.
 Yet she drank of the cup which her destiny gave,
 Till its waters o'erflowed,—then she sunk in the grave.