To the old MAM who wants a Wife, see No. 162 of this Paper. An ACROSTIC. The initials of the lines will shew you who I am.

POOR old man of seventy, who have lived so long,
Hairless, and wifeless, in the midst of the throng.
I admire how you stood it full three months and more:
Love thrilling your members, tho' turn'd of three score.
Look upward, and round you, and see on each side,
In raptures each female I as onward you glide.
Seventy! sure you mistake, you are but twenty one,
Buried your wife so long? and so long liv'd alone.
Leave your whinning, and preaching and no more live in woe.
All things, both my hand and my heart they must go.
Come woo me, come wed me. In winter I can
Keep you warm as a pudding, if you *are* an old man.

DUBLIN, May 28

The iron hand of oppression still bears hard on the poor of this kingdom, whose poverty is now become a proverb with other nations; and from what source proceeds our Misfortunes?—Why, from the unalienable domains of the clergy; from the venality and corruption of our Senate; from the prepossession of our nobility and gentry; from our foreign fripperies; and, lastly, from our cursed absenteeism, who drain the kingdom of its current specie, and rake their tenants with heavy rents, in order to enable those spurious nobility to squander the hard earned substance of the poor man, in riot and debauchery in another kingdom.

The relief of the wretched Africans, who are carried as slaves to the British Isles in the West-Indies, will in some measure, be effected at the beginning of the ensuing sessions. It is not, however, to be supposed, that this traffick in human flesh will be discontinued; but the planters will be made to treat them with more tenderness, or rather less cruelty; and persons fully impowered in different Islands to take cognizance of such matters, and to punish the proprietors of plantations, who make use of wanton severity, either by fine or imprisonment; and declaring the negroes free from further servitude to the same masters; as also, after faithfully discharging their duties for a specified number of years, to be no longer slaves, nor that their children shall be the property of the planters, when able to work.

So, we find, Mr. Hasting's trial cannot be concluded this session of the British parliament, must be postponed to the next. The real truth, however, is, "that he has too much money to be hanged." For while he is enabled to retain several eminent lawyers, to bribe a number of evidences, and corrupt some of the most leading members, even in the upper house, there is no manner of danger or hazard to his person.

Seven cart loads of transports arrived on Tuesday from Cork, and the jails in that county, in order to be sent to the British settlements in America.

As more beggars than we would wish, do still infest our street—It may not be deemed improper to recommend the perusal of the following mode of dispersing those gentry. *(From a late Irish Paper.)*

A few years since James Malone, Esq. mayor of Cork, imagining if he should ship the beggars of the miserable and sickly appearance they generally made, he should divest them of the strongest claim to the charity of the humane, came to the following agreement with one Geoghegan one of his constables, who was by trade a barber, viz. He directing the barber to seize all the beggars he found strolling within the limits of the city, for each whom he promised a reward; but instead of bringing them before him (the mayor) he was to take them to his shop, there shave, wash, dress, and powder them in the genteelest manner. He seized about a half dozen; and with assistance of razors, wash-ball, scissors and powder puffs, he so completely metamorphosed them, that those whom he had apprehended as mendicants, when they left his shop, appeared like macaronies, at least about the head. This laughable scheme was attended with such success, that the whole tribe (during Squire Malone's mayoralty) avoided his jurisdiction as carefully as if it was visited by a pestilence.

GENERAL ORDERS, for the Fourth Division of MILITIA of the Commonwealth of *Massachusetts*.

THE Major-General expects to review all the Regiments of his Division in the course of the fall: The Officers and Soldiers will take care to appear equiped as the Militia Law directs.

ROBERT OLIVER, D. A. G.

Sept. 1st. 1788.

NOTICE is hereby given to the following non-resident proprietors of the town of Worthington, in the county of Hampshire, that their lands are taxed in a town tax for the year 1782 and 1783.—and town, county and minister tax for 1787, as follows, viz.

Town tax 1782 & '83	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*T. C. & min. tax '87.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
John Barret, Esq.	2	14	4	0	7	4	0
Heirs of A. Willard, esq.	0	15	7	0			
Col. Gardner Chandler,	0	18	6	0	2	11	0
Simeon Peale,	0	4	10	0			
Samuel Foller,	0	5	7	2	3	8	0
Ichamer Pelton,	0	5	9	2			
John Northam,	0	1	9	0			
Elnathan Taylor,	0	1	7	2			
Heirs of Tim. Dwight,					4	9	3
Joseph Vinter,					11	1	3

Unless said taxes are paid on or before the 3d Tuesday of October next, so much of said lands will be then sold at public vendue, at the house of Mr. Thadeus Chapin, innholder in said Worthington, at two o'clock P. M. as will be sufficient to discharge the same, with intervening charges.

ASA COTTERRELL, Collector.

Worthington, June 27. 1788.

Breck & Clarke,

INFORM their Customers and others, that they now have at their Store east of the Court-House in Northampton, a general assortment of GOODS, which they are determined to sell, for Cash, at a much lower rate than they have sold heretofore—Their assortment consists in the following articles, viz.—

BROAD CLOTHS.
German Serges.
Kerseymers.
Coatings.
Baize and Flannels.
Camblets.
Callicoes and Chintzes.
Bed Furniture.
Irish Linens.
Jeans and Fustians.
Cordroys.
Thickseets.
Cotton Denim.
Boglepoors.
Silk Shagg.
Prunella.
Bombazine.
Serge Denim.
Ladings.
Moreens.
Poplins.
Crapes.
Callimancoes.
Tammy.
Durants.
Shalloons.
Rattinet.
Cotton Velvets.
Marseilles Quilting.
Checks.
Satins and Modes.
Sarsenets.
Lutestrings.
Persians.
Worsted Hose.
Thread and Cotton, do.
Men's & Women's Silk do.
Cambricks.
Lawns.
Muslins.
Muslin Handkerchiefs & Aprons.
Lawn, do. do.
Tiffany Handkerchiefs.
Gauzes.
Gauze Handkerchiefs.
Black Silk do.
Bandanno, do.
Romal, do.
Shawls, all sizes.
Linen and Cotton Handkerchiefs.
Boiling Cloths.
Ladies Gloves.
Fans.
Cape Velvet.
Vest Patterns.
Silk Mitts.
Ribbons,
Qualities and Bindings.
Garters and Tapes.
Bobbing Threads.
Laces and Edgings.
Taffe.
Needles and Pins.
Hat and Hair Pins.
Sleve Buttons.
Shoe and Knee Buckles.
Cutteaus & Pen-Knives.
Shears and Scissars.
Raisors.
Thimbles.
Iron & Brass Candlesticks.
Japan'd do.
Metal & Twist Buttons
Horn and Ivory Combs.
Wool and Cotton Cards.
Knives and Forks.
Shoe Knives and Hammers.
Awls and Tacks.
Plated and Steel Spurs.
Snaffle and curb'd Bits.
Men's and Women's Stirrups.
Girth, Straining and Surcingle Webb.
Tosh Nails, Clouts and Tacks.
Sadlers Hammers.
Copper and Tin Coffee Pots.
Door, Chest, Cupboard, Draw and Fall Locks.
Door Handles.
H & HL Hinges, Bolts.
English Steel.
Curry Combs.
Cork Screws, Graters.
Brass Cocks, Brass Knobs.
Butts and Screws.
Walnut Frame, Statia & Pocket Looking Glasses.
Snuff and Tobacco Boxes.
Rasps and Files.
Augers, Chissels, & Gouges.
Chafin Dishes.
House, Hearth, Cloth, Shoe and Buckle Brushes.
Powder and Shot.
Bar and Sheet Lead.
Iron Shovels and Spades.
Sand Rubs, and Norway Rags.
Scythes and Sickles.
Brass Kettles and Skellets.
Shovels and Tongs.
Steel & Iron plate Saws.
Frying Pans.
Iron Wire.
20d, 10d, 8d, & 4d Nails.
6d, 5d. 4d, & 3d. Brads.
Bellows.
7 by 9, & 6 by 8. Taylor's London Glass.
London Pewter Plates & Platters.
Quart and pint Pots.
Gallon, three quart, two quart, one quart and pint Basons.
Porringers.
Quart, pint, and half pint Tea-Pots.
Pewter & Tin Wine Measures.
Tunnels, Pepper Boxes.
Graters and Dippers.
Blue and white China Cups & Saucers.

Crockery Ware, viz.
Plates, Bowles.
Quart and pint Mugs.
Tea Pots and Dishes.
Mustards, Salts, Pipes.

Glass Ware, viz.
Quart & pint Decanters.
Wine Glasses and Tumblers.
Crewits and Salts.
Mustards and Basons.

Iron Hollow Ware, viz.
Pots and Kettles.
Skellets and Spiders.
Stew Pans and Tea Kettles.
Gallon Basons.
Dripping Pans.
Waggon Boxes.

Bibles and Testaments.
Webster's Institute, three parts.
Primers, Psalm Books.
Perry's Dictionary.
Account Books.
Ink Powder, and Ink Pots.
Paper, Quills.
West-India and New-England Rum.
French Brandy, Gin.
Lisbon, Malaga, and Claret Wine.
Raisins, Tea, Coffee,
Chocolate, Pepper.
Indigo, Ginger.
Chalk, Salt-Petre.
Brown Sugar.
Loaf do.
Cinnamon.
Crown Soap.
Bed Cords.
Ginn Cases.
Cotto Fans.
Glue.

All Persons indebted to said BRECK & CLARKE, are requested to make immediate payment.

Northampton, August 25, 1788.

Wanted by the Subscriber,

A GOOD COOPER, to make two hundred casks—for which honorable wages will be given in English or West-India Goods. Apply to

CYRUS MILLER, of Williamsburgh.

August 27th, 1788.

Levi Shephard,

At his Medical Store in Northampton, has just received a fresh assortment of European and India

GOODS:

Which compleat Assortment, equal, if not superior to any Store in *this county* or county, which he has determined to sell for cash at such a price, as he has no doubt will give full satisfaction to the purchaser, and as low as at any Store in the town without exception. He determines to receive in pay for any of his Goods, water-rotted Flax, Duck, Salts, Feathers, and Flax-Seed—He gives Cash for Pierce's Final Settlements, Bees Wax, and Shiping Furrs.

August 27, 1788.

Tappan & Fowle,

HAVE for sale at their Store opposite the Court-House, a large assortment of English

GOODS,

(part of which they have just received) containing almost every article enquired for; which they will dispose of at as low a rate as they can be purchased at any Store in the county.—Also, Bohea Tea, Chocolate, Loaf and Brown Sugar, Pepper, Raisins, Powder and Shot, Pewter, Looking Glasses, Iron Wire, Codfish, Hard Soap, Indigo, &c. &c.

Northampton, August 27, 1788.

LANDS to be Sold.

The following Parcels and Tracts, viz.

THIRTY-FIVE acres, in Hadley Back-street.
Commons.
One acre and a quarter in Hadley, Back-street.
Nine acres with a House on the same.
Two-thirds undivided parts of lot No. 14, Hadley inner Commons.
Two small pieces in Hackaunum meadow.
A Tract of Land in the town of Amherst.
One right and an half in the town of Brookfield, State of Vermont.
One right in Grantham, state aforesaid.
A tract in Chesterfield, state of New-Hampshire.

The terms of sale will be made easy, and the conditions known, by applying to PRESCOTT & DEXTER, at their Store in Northampton, Where is to be Sold a small assortment of English GOODS,—Also, WOOL CARDS, by gross, dozen, or single pair, warranted equal to any made in this country,—Likewise, best cut NAILS.

August 20, 1788.

Hudson and Goodwin,

Have for Sale near the Bridge, *Hartford*,

CLOTHIER's Press-Papers, of the best kind, by the gross or dozen.
Bonnet-Papers, by the gross, dozen or single.
Writing-Paper, by the ream or quire.
Common and small Wrapping-Paper.
Law's Collection of Music, by the dozen or single.
Webster's Institute, all parts, by the thousand, gross, dozen or single.
Dillworth's Spelling Book, by the dozen or single.
Watt's Psalms, by the gross, dozen or single.
Account Books of various sizes.
A few Books on Divinity, History, Physic, &c.

☞ Grain of any kind, Rags, Tan'd Sheep Skins, Bees Wax, or Public Securities, will be received in payment.

Solomon Allen,

Has for sale, at the Store lately occupied by Southworth Cole, near the liberty-pole in Chesterfield—

WEST-INDIA RUM, by the hogshead or less quantity—New-England Rum, Molasses, Salt, Sugar, Brandy, Gin, Indigo, Snuff, Crockery Ware, Felt Hats, the best of Bohea Tea at 3/4 per pound for cash, less by the hundred weight—Scythes, Sickles, &c.

The above Articles will be sold as cheap as at any store in the county.—Almost all kinds of Produce will be received in payment.

Said ALLEN wants to purchase Two Thousand bushels of Flax Seed—one half he will pay in Cash, and the other half in Goods, and the highest price given.—Also wants to purchase a number of Cattle for barreling and shipping.

August 11, 1788. (t. f.)

GINSENG.

WANTED a quantity of good and well-dried GINSENG—Also a quantity of Red and White CLOVER SEED—for which articles a generous price will be given in any kind of Goods, by

WILLIAM MOORE.

N. B. The best method of curing this Root, will be to string and hang it in an upper room, otherwise out of the sun, where it may have a free air. This may serve as a caution against curing of the root by the heat of the fire, as it will totally ruin it for any market in America.

Greenfield, August 11, 1788.

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HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1788.

NORTHAMPTON, (MASSACHUSETTS) Published by WILLIAM BUTLER.

Saturday and abused Cleanliness.

My wife's of manners gentle, pure and kind,
An honest heart, a most ingenious mind;
Beauteous and gay, domestic business rules,
And but one fault—indeed it's never nice;
Mops, pails, and brushes, shifters, mutts and soap,
Are sceptres of controul—her joy, her hope;
Each day we scrub and scour house, yard and lands,
And on a Saturday ye Gods we swoon!

THOUGH Xantippe broke the head of Socrates with a piss-pot, and he had temper to bear it, with this early remark, "That after thunder rain generally follows." Yet, if we had the old fellow amongst us now, I believe we should try his philosophical patience on a Saturday. The rage for scouring and cleaning is not peculiar to our house, for I find all my friends complain of the universal deluge on the Saturday. In short, it is the vice of the ladies; and what they call being only clean, is a general inconvenience to business and health.

If I was to give the journal of one of our Saturday's, I believe it might suit half the houses in town. The day of cleaning begins like the Sabbath of the Jews, on the Friday night, when we are ordered hastily and early to bed, that the dining room may be scrubbed out; or else we are all crammed into a little parlour, and smothered by way of being cleanly. To accomplish this, the stairs being just scoured down, we are all commanded to go up barefooted, though at the risk of a tertian ague, or a sore throat. Early in the morning the servants are called up, and, for the operations of the morning, accordingly dressed;—and tho' smart enough on other occasions, yet to see them in their Saturday's garb, for the mop and broom rencounter, you would swear they were Sybils, or Norewood fortune tellers. One of our girls, who is little and handsome, to accommodate herself to circumstance, is obliged to lower her head dress half a foot, and put on a close flat one; as well as to descend from her stilts, which are usually worne instead of shoes; but when out of them, she looks like Titania who had been miselled by that merry wag, and night wanderer, master.

To get at the breakfast room, I am under the necessity of wading over shoes: and if I am not very accurate in my steerage, I am sure to tumble over a pail, or break my shins across the broom. The weather hath nothing to do with this aquatic operation; frost or snow, dry or wet, the house must be cleaned on that day; and while we are at breakfast, every door and window is opened, to give a quick current to the air, that the rooms may be dried soon. By this means, unless clothed in fur, or swaddled in flannel, I am persished to death, sure to take cold. Arguments will avail nothing: mistresses and servants are combined in the watry plot, and swim or drown is the only despotic alternative. Some times I have pleaded for a room that hath not been used in the week, but in vain; the word WASH is general and all must float from the garret to the cellar. I once or twice in my life ventured to take a peep at the cook and the kitchen; but to be sure, no fury could look so fierce; her hair was dishevelled about her shoulders; she mounted on high pattens—her dressers covered with pots and pans, and her face all besmeared with soot and brick dust. The animals too upon this day of execution, skulk into holes and corners—the dogs retreat with their tails between their legs to the stable—and poor domestic puss is obliged to ascend a barrel in the cellar way by way of throne where she purs away her time, longing for the return of the dove and olive-branch, as much as Noah did in the old forge-beaten ark.

But these misfortunes are not all—my Lady-wife, and all the maids, as if by agreement, or intuition, or inspiration, or devilish witchcraft, are all in the dumps—they universally put on one face; and for the last twelve years I have not seen a Saturday's smile on their faces. I have often thought Mr. Addison took his hint of the first speech in Cato, from the last day of the week at his house; for great wits are very apt to adopt sublime passages from ludicrous hints;—and though some people may call it a parody, I am rather inclined to believe it an original thought.

The down is overcast, the morning lowrs,
And heavily, in clouds, brings on the day,
To important Saturday,
The great, the important, hurried Saturday,
Big with the fate of bucket and of broom!

My style, I fear, upon this dark subject, carries with it some Pleasantry; and if so, it is far from my intentions that it should, for if one theme more than another can bring the chill of dullness over my senses, it is this whenever it arises humidly to my mind.

My miseries are not to be enumerated at once;—and I dare say what is my misfortune is the woful misfortune of many other worthy and unhappy gentlemen. This Saturday carries with it a general perfection.—It is not that we are harassed from room to room—floated from cellar to garret—washed out of the house—and starved to death with thorough air (than which there is nothing worse) but our stomachs, our craving bellies, pinch for it too.

Nothing is to be fouled—all is to be reserved for Sunday—The dinner must be made of small scraps—The pantry must be cleared though the offals are nasty, and the bread is mouldy. If a friend, quiet regardless of his own felicity, attempts to swim like the adventurous Leander, through files and floods of implements of cleanliness, and gain the fire side, a thousand apologies are made for a Saturday's dinner with "I know him; such a one knows what is what—and Saturday's Saturday every where." I feel confused for such excuse: but the laws of Medea and Persia will sooner give way than the adopted tyranny supported once a week in every mansion. I very often, to keep of the ague, draw a cork extraordinary, for there is positively nothing else left for it; and if by misfortune a drop of wine sullies the bri, it lackered table, my lady rises with the dignity of a pontiff, and with a rubber, labours for twenty minutes against the spot. Now, though my lady wife possesses the virtues of Dian—yet the plagues of Egypt never came on the nation once a week, in which we are bound to submit, in spite of every amusement, salutary and festive.

I know but one wedded fair one who is a contradiction to this weekly rule of conduct, which is Bella Flora, who is never disturbed by washing, who hath always the same table covered and the same temper to grace it; who never considers cleanliness further than as conductive to health, and the embraces such opportunities that the very cat of the family shall not be under the distress of wetting her feet. The morning early, is to adjust these matters—the night face—or absent hours, which fall to the portion of every family. I would not wish the Scotch days of Cromwell to return amongst us, when houses in the city of Glasgow were only cleared on family deaths and christenings; which filthy Oliver, in some respects removed by command to shovel out the dirt daily. But though cleanliness may be carried to a fault, yet I would rather have it, with all its inconveniences, than Scotch filth.

From the GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE, for 1787.

Original reflections relative to the watering of Flax, by a new method, so as to shorten labour, add to the strength of the flax, and give it a much finer colour, which would render the operation of bleaching safer and less tedious.

THOUGH the following reflections have for their object an improvement in the very essential article of watering of Flax; yet I must advertise the reader, that they are only theory, and must depend entirely for their truth and justification upon future experiments, skilfully and judicially made. Should repeated trials prove the advantage of the method proposed, we may venture to affirm, it would increase the national income in the agricultural branch many thousand pounds annually, would add greatly to the perfection of the linen manufacture, and, over and above, would suppress a very disagreeable nuisance, which the present method of watering flax occasions some part of the summer, in every flax growing country.

The intention of watering flax is, in my opinion, to make the boon more brittle or friable, and by soaking, to dissolve that gluey kind of fap, which makes the bark of plants and trees adhere in a small degree to the woody part. The bark in flax is called the harle; and when separated from the useless woody part, the boon, this boon itself is called flax. To effect this separation easily, the practice has long prevailed of soaking the flax in water, to a certain degree of fermentation, and afterwards drying it. For this soaking some prefer rivulets that have a small current; and others stagnant water, in ponds or lakes. In both these the water acts as all other cases of infusion or maceration. After a four or three weeks it extracts a great many juices of a very strong quality; which, in ponds, give the water an inky tinge, and offensive smell, and in rivulets mix in the stream, and kill the fish. Nay if this maceration be too long continued, the extracted and fermented fap will completely kill the flax itself. For, if instead of two or three weeks the new flax were to lie four or five months, I presume it would be good for nothing but to throw on the dunghill; both harle and boon would in that time be completely rotted: yet the harle or flax when entirely freed from this fap, and manufactured into linen, or into ropes, might be many months under water without being much damaged; as linen it may be washed, steeped, and boiled in scalding water twenty times, without losing much of its strength; and as paper, it acquires a kind of incorruptibility.

It appears then essential to the right management of new flax, to get rid of this pernicious vegetative fap, and to macerate the boon; but from the complaints made against both the methods of watering now in use, there is reason to think there is still great room for improvement in that article. In rivulets the vegetative fap, as it dissolves, is carried off by the current, to the destruction of the fish: this prevents the flax from being stained; but the operation, is tedious, and I have been told, often not complete, from the uncertainty of knowing the precise time when it is just enough, and not too much, or perhaps from neglect. In ponds the inky tinge of the water often serves as a kind of dye to the flax, which imbibes it so strongly, that double the labour in bleaching will hardly bring the linen made of such flax to an equality in whiteness with linen made of flax untinged. This seems to be equally unwise, as though we were to dye cotton black first, as a means to whiten it afterwards. These ponds besides become a great nuisance to the neighbourhood: the impregnated water is often of such a pernicious quality, that cattle, however thirsty, will not think of it; and the effluvia of it may, perhaps, be nearly as infectious as it is offensive. If these effluvia are really attended with any contagious effects in our hot climate, a thing worth the enquiring into, how much more pernicious must their effects have been in the hot country of Egypt, a country early noted for its great cultivation of flax?

From these considerations I have been led to think, that the process of watering might be greatly improved and shortened, by plunging the new flax after it is rippled, into scalding water, which, in regard to extracting the vegetative fap, would do more in five minutes, than cold water would do in a fortnight, or perhaps more than cold water could do at all, in respect to the clearing the plant of that fap. Rough almonds when thrown into scalding water, are blanched in an instant—but, perhaps, a fortnight macerating those almonds in cold water, would not make them part so easily with their skins, which are the same as the harle to the flax. Were tea leaves to be infused in cold water a fortnight perhaps the tea produced by that infusion would not be so good to the taste, nor so strongly tinged to the eye, as what is effected by scalding water in five minutes. By the same analogy, I think flax, or any small twig, would be made to part with its bark much easier and quicker by being dipped in boiling water, than by being steeped in cold water.

This reflection opens a door for a great variety of new experiments in regard to flax. I would therefore recommend to gentlemen cultivators and farmers to make repeated trials upon this new system, which would soon ascertain whether it ought to be adopted in practice or rejected. One thing I think we may be certain of, that if the Egyptians watered their flax in our common manner, they undoubtedly watered it in very warm water, from the great heat of the climate, which probably might make them neglect to think of water heated by any other means than that of the sun. A good general practice can only be established upon repeated trials; but I am persuaded, many lose half the value of their crop, by some of the present methods of watering it. Though one experiment may fail, another, with a little variation, may succeed; and the importance of the object desired to be obtained will justify a good degree of perseverance in the prosecution of the means. In this view, as the Chinese thread is said to be very strong, it would be worth while to be acquainted with the practice of that distant nation in regard to the rearing and manufacturing of flax, as well as with the methods used by the Flemings and the Dutch.

Boiling water, might at once clear the new flax from many impurities which were not removed till it be spun into yarn, are then removed with difficulty, and loss of substance to the yarn. Why should the longitudinal fibres of the flax, before they be spun into yarn, be made, not only as fine, but as clean as possible. Upon the new system proposed, the art of bleaching would begin immediately after the rippling of the flax, and a little done then might perhaps, save much of what is generally done after the spinning and weaving. To spin dirty flax, with a view of cleaning it afterwards, appears to be the same impropriety, as though we were to reserve part of the dressing given to leather till it is made into a glove.

Should the plunging of the flax into boiling water not suffice to make the boon brittle enough, as I am inclined to think it would not, then the common water might be tried; but in this case, probably half the time usually given to the watering might suffice; and the flax might then be laid in clear rivulets, without any apprehension of its infecting the water and poisoning the fish, or of being discoloured itself; for the boiling water, into which it had been previously put, would have extracted all the poisonous vegetative fap, which I presume is what chiefly discolours the flax, or kills the fish.

On the supposition that boiling water in the prepara-