lively ; the ſecond from the right denotes 100 ; the fifth 1000. This order, and theſe intervals, are taken to prevent any confuſion in ſo peculiarly important an article of the in­telligence to be conveyed.

Perhaps, however, none of the telegraphs hitherto offered to the public exceeds the following, either in ſimplicity, cheapneſs, or facility in working, and it might perhaps, with a few trifling additions, be made exceedingly diſtinct. It is thus deſcribed in the Repertory of Arts and Manufactures : For a nocturnal telegraph, let there be four large patent reflectors, lying on the ſame plane, parallel to the horizon, placed on the top of an obſervatory. Let each of theſe reflectors be capable, by means of two winches, either of elevation or depreſſion to a certain degree. By elevating or depreſſing one or two of the reflectors, eighteen very diſtinct arrangements may be produced, as the following ſcheme will explain @@(a).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | B | D | E | F | G |
| o  ooo | o  ooo | o oo o | o  ooo | ooo  o | ο  ο  ο ο |
| I | K | L | M | Ν | 0 |
| o  o  o o | ooo  o | oo  00 | o o  o o | o o  oo | 00  οο |
| P | R | S | T | U | Y |
| o o o o | oo  o o | oo  o o | o  o o  o | o o oo | ο  οο  ο |

For the ſake of example, the above arrangements are made to anſwer to the moſt neceſſary letters of the alpha­bet ; but alterations may be made at will, and a greater number of changes produced, without any addition to the reflectors. In the firſt obſervatory there need only be a ſet of single reflectors; but in the others each reflector ſhould be double, ſo as to face both the preceding and ſubſequent ob­ſervatory ; and each obſervatory ſhould be furniſhed with two teleſcopes. The proper diameter of the reflectors, and their diſtance from each other, will be aſcertained by expe­rience.

To convert this machine into a diurnal telegraph, no­thing more is necessary than to inſert, in the place of the reflectors, gilt balls, or any other conſpicuous bodies.

Were telegraphs brought to ſo great a degree of perfec­tion, that they could convey information ſpeedily and diſtinctly ; were they ſo much simplified, that they could be conſtructed and maintained at little expence—the advanta­ges which would reſult from their uſe are almoſt inconceivable. Not to ſpeak of the ſpeed with which information could be communicated and orders given in time of war, by means of which misfortunes might be prevented or in­stantly repaired, difficulties removed, and diſputes precluded, and by means of which the whole kingdom could be prepared in an inſtant to oppoſe an invading enemy ; it might be uſed by commercial men to convey a commission cheaper and ſpeedier than an expreſs can travel. The ca­pitals of diſtant nations might be united by chains of polls, and the settling of thoſe diſputes which at preſent take up months or years might then be accompliſhed in as many hours. An eſtabliſhment of telegraphs might then be made like that of the poſt ; and inſtead of being an expence, it would produce a revenue. Until telegraphs are employed to convey information that occurs very frequently, the perſons who are ſtationed to work them will never become ex­pert, and conſequently will neither be expeditious nor accu­rate, though, with practice, there is no doubt but they will attain both in a degree of perfection of which we can at yet have but little conception.

TELEMACHUS, the ſon of Ulyſſes and Penelope, was ſtill in the cradle when his father went with the reſt of the Greeks to the Trojan war. At the end of this celebrated war, Telemachus, anxious to ſee his father, went to ſeek him ; and as the place of his reſidence, and the cauſe of his long abſence, were then unknown, he viſited the court of Menelaus and Neſtor to obtain information. He afterwards returned to Ithaca, where the ſuitors of his mother Penelo­pe had conſpired to murder him, but he avoided their ſnares; and by means of Minerva he diſcovered his father, who had arrived in the iſland two days before him, and was then in the house of Eumæus. With this faithful servant and Ulyſ­ſes Telemachus concerted how to deliver his mother from the importunities of her ſuitors, and it was effected with great ſucceſs. After the death of his father, Telemachus went to the iſland of Ææa, where he married Circe, or, ac­cording to others, Caſſiphone the daughter of Circe, by whom he had a ſon called *Latinus.* He ſome time after had the misfortune to kill his mother-in-law Circe, and fled to Italy, where he founded Cluſium. Telemachus was ac­companied in his viſit to Neſtor and Menelaus by the goddeſs of wisdom under the form of Mentor. It is ſaid that, when a child, Telemachus fell into the ſea, and that a dol­phin brought him ſafe to ſhore, after he had remained ſome time under water. From this circumſtance Ulysses had the figure of a dolphin engraved on the ſeal which he wore on his ring.

From theſe ſtories, collected from Homer and the other poets of antiquity, the celebrated Fenelon archbiſhop of Cambray took the idea of his well-known *Adventures of Te­lemachus ;* which, though not compoſed in verſe, is juſtly in­titled to be eſteemed a poem. “ The plan of the work (ſays Dr Blair) is in general well contrived; and is deficient neither in epic grandeur nor unity of object@@. The author has entered with much felicity into the ſpirit and ideas of the ancient poets, particularly into the ancient mythology, which retains more dignity, and makes a better figure in his hands than in thoſe of any other modern poet. His de- ſcriptions are rich and beautiful ; eſpecially of the ſofter and calmer ſcenes, for which the genius of Fenelon was beſt ſuited ; ſuch as the incidents of paſtoral life, the pleaſures of virtue, or a country flouriſhing in peace. There is an inimitable ſweetneſs and tenderneſs in ſeveral of the pictures of this kind which he has given :” and his meaſured proſe, which is remarkably harmonious, gives the ſtyle nearly as much elevation as the French language is capable of ſupporting even in regular verſe.

According to the same eminent critic, “ the beſt execu­ted part of the work is the firſt ſix books, in which Tele­machus recounts his adventures to Calypſo. The narration throughout them is lively and intereſting. Afterwards, eſpecially in the laſt twelve books, it becomes more tedious and languid ; and in the warlike adventures which are at-

@@@[mu] Lectures en Rhetoric and the Belles Lettres.

@@@(a) Each reflector, after every arrangement, muſt be reſtored to its place.