

JUVENILE ENTERTAINER.

"Torquet ab obscaenis jum nunc sermonibus aurem."

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THE JUVENILE ENTERTAINER

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BIOGRAPHY.

The Progress of Genius

FROM OBSCURE AND LOW SITUATIONS, TO EMINENCE AND CELEBRITY.

Genius is that gift of God which learning cannot confer, which no disadvantages of birth or education can wholly obscure.

SIXTUS V.

When very young, was employed in the lowly situation of a Swine herd, from which he was taken by a cordelier who was pleased with his quickness, and placed in a convent of the order, of a menial capacity.

He made such great progress in learning as to be admitted into orders, after which he became doctor and professor of divinity; and having obtained several marks of distinction, was afterwards created Cardinal; from which situation he had the address to get himself elevated to the vacant chair, at the disputed election upon the death of Gregory XIII.

NATURAL HISTORY.

CAMEL.

This useful beast is a native of Asia and Africa, and is generally of a lightish brown colour. Its height at the shoulders is from five to six feet, and his length is from six to eight feet. He has long slender legs, and two bunches on his neck. The hair is soft, woolly, and unequal, being longer about the head, throat, and bunches than other parts of the body. The tough and spongy feet of these animals are peculiarly adapted to hot climates, for on the most fatiguing journeys they are never found to crack. The tail, indeed, seems to be their chief element, for do sooner do they leave it and touch the ground, than they can wearily keep upon their feet; and their continual stumbling in such a manner is very dangerous to the rider. They do not travel over the sandy desert, without drinking for several days together; and they can go all water at the distance of more than a mile: after long abstinence will hasten towards it,

long before their drivers can perceive where it lies. Their patience under hunger is also very great, as they will go for many days with only a small quantity of food. They will lie down on the sand to rest without showing the slightest discontent.

A large Camel is able to carry a load of a thousand or twelve hundred pounds weight. When about to be loaded, these animals, at the command of their drivers bend their knees, put their bellies down to the earth, and remain in that posture till they are loaded and ordered to rise.

In eastern countries, but particularly in Arabia, there is no mode of travelling so cheap, convenient, and expeditious as that by Camels. The merchants and other passengers, to prevent the insults and robberies of the Arabs, unite together with their Camels, sometimes to the number of ten thousand, and form what is called a caravan. In these commercial travels they usually go about 2000 miles. The Camels are then not hurried; they only walk about thirty miles a day. Every night they are unloaded, and allowed to pasture at freedom, but they very seldom find anything to eat. These animals are peculiarly patient and submissive; they traverse the burning sands of Arabia and Africa, carrying burdens of amazing weight. The Arabians consider the camel as a gift sent from heaven, a sacred animal, without whose assistance they could neither subsist, traffic, or travel. They drink the milk of the Camel, eat its flesh, and make garments of its hair. In possession of their Camels, the Arabians have nothing to fear from other persons; they avoid their enemies by hastily proceeding into the desert, at the rate, if necessary, of more than a hundred miles in a day. All the armies in the world would perish in the pursuit of a troop of Arabs.

The pace of the Camel being a high trot, M. Denon says, that when he first mounted one of the beasts, he was greatly alarmed lest this swinging motion should throw him over its head. He, however, being once fixed on the saddle, found that he had only to give way to the motion of the animal, and that it was impossible to be more pleasantly seated for a long journey, especially as it did not require guiding. "It was entertaining enough," he says, "to see us mounting our beasts; as soon as the rider is seated on his saddle, the Camel rises very briskly, first on his hind, and then on his fore legs; thus throwing the rider first forward, and then backward; and it is not till the fourth motion that the animal is entirely erect, and the rider finds himself firm in his seat."

Camel's hair is an important article of trade, as it serves for making tents, carpets, the small painting brushes, &c. and strong leather is made of its skin.

The Camel is often mentioned in Scripture, but we can only refer to some of the passages, and request our young readers to examine them in their Bibles. See Genesis, 12:16, 24:19, 30:43, &c.; Exod. 9:3; Judges 6:5, 7:12, &c.;

1 Sam. 30:17, 1 Chron 5:21; Est. 8:10; Job 1:3; Isaiah 30:5; [carry their treasures on the bunches of Camels,] Matt. 3:4, &c. &c.

NARRATIVE.

For the Juvenile Entertainer.

In the spring of 18-- the pressing call of business forced me once more to visit my native country, a land endeared to me by many a halcyon & affecting recollection, and, though fondly cherished in memory, a long series of years had intervened since I last had caught the most distant glimpse of her hills of heather, or rambled among those ivy coloured towers in which she so numerously abounds. My passage across the Atlantic, though devoid of any circumstance sufficiently interesting to be worthy of recital, was comparatively short, and after an interval of three weeks or so, I found myself once more busily engaged in preparation for landing at one of those spacious quays, which are found at every town or village that can boast of commercial speculation to any extent. The place at which I landed happened to be one with which I was in my youth extremely familiar—the scene of many a juvenile frolic: in short I was born quite in its vicinity. The appearance of the place strongly impressed on my mind the idea of change; and, though I was aware that time and extreme fatigue incidental to dwelling in a new settled country had been committing their ravages upon my person, and considerably changed my general appearance, still perhaps at no other period did thoughts of by gone days spring up so fruitfully in my memory or did imagination ever extend the period of our separation so far beyond its actual limits. What was formerly a neat little village, boasting of its Parson, and its Domine, who held the double situation of schoolmaster and fiddler, of the parish, and several other important personages who are always to be found in a place of this description, was just now commencing to assume the more imposing appearance of a neat and well regulated manufacturing and commercial town. Opposite the place lay a steam boat busily engaged in landing its wares, while another was preparing to start on a trip. Between these and some sailors who were actively sitting their gallant ship for some foreign port—altogether, it was a spirit stirring scene. Immediately on landing I set out in search of an inn, and, after passing a few of no very inviting appearance, I arrived at one, which, though exceeding my simple ideas of an hotel seemed to promise accommodations infinitely superior to those which I had already rejected. To this place having got my luggage conveyed, and having arranged things to my satisfaction, I set out next day to perambulate the town.

As is always the case when a village is converted into a town, considerable alterations and improvements had been made in the original plan of the ground. Here what used to be a confined and narrow lane, was now enlarged so as to form a spacious and beautiful street, adorna-