

Nor did Fitzcarey forget the vision of the night; confessing the vanity of an indolent repentance, which seeks not by *virtue* to obliterate *vice*; but by a *useless* age would atone for a *mischievous* youth.

Yet he bowed with gratitude to the supreme Disposer, who had made even the consequence of his error the cause of his present bliss.

INSTANCES OF THE SAGACITY OF A MONKEY.

[From *Vaillant's Travels into the interior Parts of Africa.*]

AFTER giving an account of the usefulness of a cock, which he carried with him on his travels, M. Vaillant proceeds to expatiate on the diverting qualities of another of his companions.

'An animal,' says he, 'which rendered me still more essential service, whose diverting presence has suspended, nay, even dissipated a number of disagreeable and painful reflections; and whose provident instinct seemed to outstrip the efforts of my reason, was a Monkey, of that kind commonly known at the Cape, under the name of Bavians.

'He was very familiar, and particularly attached to me. I made him my taster: whenever we found any fruits, or roots, unknown to my Hottentots, we never attempted to eat them till they had been presented to Kees, and, if rejected by him, we concluded they were either disagreeable, or dangerous, and abandoned them accordingly. Animals of the monkey kind, seem distinguished from others, by their similarity to the human species.

'Nature had furnished this creature with an equal quantity of gluttony and curiosity; without appetite, he will taste any thing that is presented to him; without necessity, he will examine every thing on which he can lay his paws.

'Kees possessed another quality, still more estimable than these I have already mentioned: his extreme vigilance rendered him my greatest safeguard both day and night. The approach of the smallest danger roused him in an instant; by his cries and frightened gestures, we received intimation of the enemy, even before my dogs suspected it.

'They were accustomed to his voice and manner, and seemed to rely so much on his care, that they slept at their ease; and I was not without my fears, that if death should deprive me of my faithful guardian, I should not find that security from them I had flattered myself with, and which I thought I had a right to expect. When once Kees had raised them, they seemed very attentive to his signals;

they watched his eyes and motions, and I observed they never failed to run altogether toward the spot, to which his looks were directed.

'I often took him a shooting with me. What gambols, what expressions of joy would he manifest, on seeing me prepare to depart! He would leap up and caress me, seeming by his looks and actions to entreat me to hasten my departure, and expressing his gratitude for admitting him to be of the party.

'During our journey, he would amuse himself with climbing the trees to search for gum, which he was very fond of; sometimes he discovered honey in the crevices of a rock, or in hollow trees; but when he happened not to find any thing of this sort, and his appetite sharpened by fatigue and exercise, urged him more forcibly to seek a supply, a scene commenced, which to me was extremely entertaining,

'In those emergencies he would dig for roots, which, when found, were presently demolished. He seemed particularly fond of a kind, which, unluckily for him, I found also extremely good and refreshing, and ever obstinately persisted in partaking with him.

'Kees was artful, and if he happened to find any of this root, when I was at a distance from him, in order to prevent my coming in for my share, would eat it up with the greatest eagerness, fixing, at the same time, his eyes ardently on me, and seeming to calculate, by the distance I was at, the time I should be getting to him.

'I observed his haste was ever in proportion to the danger he supposed he run of losing a part of his prize; and, in general, he was too quick for me; but sometimes, having found more than he had time to make away with, he would endeavour to conceal it on my coming up with him. On these occasions, I usually favoured him with a good box on the ear, which never failed to make him give up the residue: when he was obliged to content himself with the part I chose to allot him,