

on which he climbed; and was thus enabled to reach the summit with sufficient strength to throw his body over, though his legs were still hanging down the side of the cliff. Here he regained strength to place himself out of danger, and to return thanks to the Almighty for his wonderful preservation.

He was found some time after by a man, crawling on the ground, with his feet and hands completely doubled under from the injuries they had received; he was placed on an ass, and conveyed to the house of Mr. Jones, where there is every reason to hope that he will do well.

Numbers of persons have been to see the cliff where this wonderful, if not incredible, escape took place; and no one who has seen it but says, that he would not have deemed it possible that any human being could get either up or down without a rope. Three of the crew, consisting of the mate, a man, and a boy, perished—all natives of Carnarvon.

THE MERMAID.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Dr. Philip, Representative of the London Missionary Society, at Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope.

I HAVE today seen a Mermaid, now exhibiting in this town. I have always treated the existence of this creature as fabulous; but my scepticism is now removed. As it is probable that no description of this extraordinary creature has yet reached England, the following particulars respecting it may gratify your curiosity, and amuse you:—

The head is about the size of that of a baboon. It is thinly covered with black hair, hanging down, and not inclined to frizzle. On the upper lip, and on the chin, there are a few hairs, resembling those upon the head. The *ossa malarum*, or cheek bones, prominent. The forehead is low, but, except in this particular, the features are much better proportioned, and bear a more decided resemblance to the human countenance than those of any of the baboon tribes. The head is turned back, and the countenance has an expression of terror, which gives it an appearance of a caricature of the human face; but I am disposed to think that both these circumstances are accidental, and have arisen from the manner in which the creature met its death. It bears the appearance of having died in great agony.

The ear, nose, lips, chin, breasts, and nipples, fingers and nails, resemble those of the human figure.

The spinous process of the vertebræ are very prominent, and apparently arranged as in the human body.

From the position of the arms, and the manner in which they are placed, and from such an examination as could be made in the circumstances in which I was placed at the time I saw it, I can have no doubt that it has clavicles; an appendage belonging to the human subject which baboons are without.

The appearance of the teeth affords sufficient evidence that it is full grown: the incisors being worn on the upper surface.—There are eight incisors, four canine, and eight molars. The canine teeth resemble those of a full grown dog; all the others resemble those of a human subject.

The length of the animal is three feet; but not having been well preserved, it has shrunk considerably, and must have been both longer and thicker when alive than it is now.—Its resemblance to the human species ceases immediately under the *mamma*.

On the line of separation, and directly under the breast, are two fins. From the point where the human figure ceases, which is about twelve inches below the vertex of the head, it resembles a large fish of the salmon species. It is covered with scales all over. On the lower part of the animal the scales resemble those of a fish; but on that part of the animal which resembles the human form, they are much less, and scarcely perceptible, except on a near inspection. On the lower part of the body it has six fins, one dorsal, two ventral, two pectoral, and the tail.

The pectoral fins are very remarkable; they are horizontal, and evidently formed as an apparatus to support the creature when in an erect posture, like that in which it has been represented combing its hair.

The figure of the tail is exactly that which is given in the usual representation of the mermaid.

The proprietor of this extraordinary animal is Captain Edes, of Boston, in the United States of America. Since writing the above description, he has called upon me, and I have learned from him the following particulars:—

It was caught somewhere on the north of China, by a fisherman, who sold it for a trifle; after which it was brought to Batavia. Here it was purchased by Capt. Edes for 5,000 Spanish dollars; and he has since been offered 10,000 Spanish dollars for it, but refused to part with it for that sum. Capt. Edes is a passenger on board the American ship *Lion*, now in Table Bay. He leaves this port in about a fortnight, and the *Lion* visits the Thames on her passage to America—so that it will probably be exhibited in London.—*Portland Tribune*.

A DAUGHTER'S LOVE.

DEAR father, how I love to gaze upon thee.—Time hath slightly bleached thy locks, but still thou art the same. Thy kind benignant eye—thy lovely smile—thy noble mien and bearing—still bespeak thy perfect manhood. Oh, how am I enwrapped in thy pure honour—a stain upon thee would wither all the joys that now so gaily play round my young and blithesome heart. 'Tis true, I have left thy home to be another's, thro' the joys and perils of a fleeting life. But I have not lost my love for thee. When thou didst step within my door, did I not clasp thy neck within my heart's embrace, and kiss thee then as warmly as when around thy knees I used to play at thy own hearth at home?—My soul still floats upon my loved and loving father.

See here, these little buds, fresh from life's great fountain. How do they wind their tender cords of love about our hearts—the vine and its branches. They, like me, do claim thee too. Indeed, I do recall what I have said before—for I do love thee more than when I quitted home—because of these dear pledges. They are young grafts upon the parent stock, and must live or die beneath its shade. In time, you'll see how they will copy thee, and in your warm heart you'll find for them a place just beside the spot, if not the very spot, where thou wert wont to keep my own young love.

A BEAUTIFUL EXTRACT.

Two young men belonging to one of our neighbouring cities, who were very popular throughout a large circle of acquaintance, not long since took leave of their friends, for the purpose of travelling through the Southern States. While they were sailing down the Mississippi river, a serious accident occurred, which occasioned the instant death of them both. Soon after the news of their unhappy fate had reached their native city, one of the ministers of the place closed a discourse, the object of which was to impress the minds of the people with the importance of more personal piety, with the following impressive allusion to the two unfortunate young men:—

"What low and melancholy moan of unwonted sadness is that stealing on our ears. It comes from far—from the turbid Mississippi—and is like the mingled voices of two sinking beneath its gurgling waves. Miller! Garthwait! your last farewell still lingered in our ear; and so soon, so suddenly ye wave to us from the shores of eternity. O ye two—so young, so bright, so buoyant—companions in death—ye speak to us, and bid us work while it is day!"

EFFECT OF HABIT ON THE INFANT MIND.

"I TRUST every thing to habit—habit, upon which, in all ages, the lawgiver, as well as the schoolmaster, has mainly placed his reliance—habit, which makes every thing easy, and casts all difficulties upon the deviation from the wonted course. Make sobriety a habit, and intemperance will be hateful and hard. Make prudence a habit, and reckless profligacy will be as contrary to the nature of the child, as the most atrocious crimes are to any of your lordships. Give a child the habit of sacredly regarding the truth—of carefully respecting the property of others—of scrupulously abstaining from all acts of improvidence which can involve him in distress, and he will just as little think of lying, or cheating, or stealing, as of rushing into an element in which he cannot breathe."—*Brougham*.

CONSIDER him your greatest enemy, who labours to turn you from the precepts of Christianity.

CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY.

THE WORKS OF GOD DISPLAYED.

THE SUN.

IN the sun, we have an instance of the all-wise Director of every event, concentrating in one object numberless blessings and benefits.

Without the sun there could be no vegetation, no cheerful light, no pleasing warmth, and no beauty. Men and beasts and vegetables, the inhabitants of the earth, air, and water; all derive their support from him. Such blessings we are apt to overlook, and this illustrious monument of the divine power and greatness, seldom produces in us that attention and gratitude that the object requires; but suppose the sun to be withdrawn from this world, and all would instantly terminate in darkness, in horror, and in death.

Let the atheist come and attentively fix his thoughts on this object, and try to deny the great First Cause.

But this evidence will gather strength when we regard the wisdom with which all these blessings are dispensed.

This great body of light and heat is distributed in such just proportions, as manifests the goodness of the Creator, regulated by the most perfect wisdom. The lengthening and shortening of the days introduces to us the most pleasing variety; and the total withdrawing of his beams and the succession of darkness, invites all animals to that quiet and repose, so necessary for the refreshment of their wearied powers. Were he to be fixed immovably in a constant vertical position, pouring down his perpendicular rays on men and beasts and the fruits of the earth, the ardour of his beams would be intolerable, and the violence of his heat would consume all life and vegetation; but in dispensing gradually his invigorating heat, and in just proportion, he is not only more friendly to the fruits of the earth, but more pleasing and beneficial to man.

In different parts of the earth we are highly varied and different effects. In the climates between the tropics, under the fervours of the torrid zone, the sun seems to put forth all his strength and splendour, and there we see trees of the richest foliage, flowers of the most exquisite beauty, and fruits of the most delicate and luxuriant kind. Here also we find inhabitants formed for the climate, and capable of enduring and enjoying these high degrees of heat. This heat appears also congenial to the most savage and formidable animals, the majestic lion, and the fierce tiger; and in these hot tropical regions, we find the magnificent elephant, and the camel, fitted by Providence to travel through the sandy deserts, and the parched regions of the south.

But these excessive heats are much moderated by various circumstances wisely appointed by Providence. The sea-breezes in the hot islands, often follow the course of the sun, and greatly mitigate the fierceness of his rays. The frequent peals of the bursting thunder purify and disperse these noxious vapours, which the excessive heat raises; and the deluges of rain that follow the thunder, greatly cool and refresh the grass, the vegetables, and the different productions of the earth. And even the volcanoes, the earthquakes, and the awful sweep of the tempest, are all wise appointments for the benefit of the earth and of animal life.

In the torrid zone we see mountains and rivers also upon a more magnificent scale. These likewise help to mitigate the heat of the climates, and to furnish proper retreats for man and beast. The towering grandeur of the Andes, which, even under the equator, have their tops covered with everlasting snow; and the sublime sweep of the river of the Amazons rolling its wide majestic stream like an enlarged sea, into the waters of the ocean, have nothing corresponding to them in milder climates.

But the same sun, which manifests such astonishing powers in these hotter regions, comes forth all mild and beneficent to the temperate climates. Though here we meet not with a perpetual verdure, or the rich fruits of the tropical climates, yet here we have a pleasing variety of different seasons, from the extremity of heat to almost the extremity of cold. We have the deadness and barrenness of winter, the beauty and