

# JUVENILE ENTERTAINER.

"Torquet ab obscænis jam nunc sermonibus aurem."

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## THE JUVENILE ENTERTAINER

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### CONDITIONS.

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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.

#### GEORGE CABOT

Was born in Salem, Massachusetts, in the year 1752, and early manifested distinguished talents. He spent the early part of his life in the employment of a shipmaster. But he did not neglect the improvement of his mind, even amidst the restlessness and danger of a seafaring career. Before he was twenty-six years of age, he was chosen to the provincial congress, which met at Concord, with the visionary project of raising a maximum of prices, in order that commodities might be cheapened by constraining the owners to sell at reduced and fixed rates; and there he first displayed that intimate acquaintance with the true principles of political economy, for which he was thenceforward pre-eminent. Before Adam Smith was known in the U. States, and Say and the other continental writers had formed any correct notions on the subject, Mr. Cabot maintained the present enlightened doctrines, and strenuously contended for the entire liberty of domestic and international commerce. Mr. Cabot was a prominent member of the state convention assembled to deliberate on the adoption of the federal constitution, and, soon after that event took place, was elected a senator of the United States, an office which his sense of public duty caused him to accept, although against his inclinations. In that station, he enjoyed the unlimited confidence, not only of the august body of which he was a member, but also of Washington and Hamilton; and to his commercial knowledge and profound views of finance and political economy, the latter was greatly indebted in the formation of his financial system. With Fisher Ames, also, Mr. Cabot was long linked by ties of the most affectionate friendship. At a recent period, when,

in the late war, the exigencies of the country seemed to him to require his co-operation, he presided over a body of delegates from New England, who, in a season of extreme solicitude, attempted to provide means for averting a dreadful storm of public calamity. Mr. Cabot died at Boston, April 18, 1823, in the 72d year of his age. He was the delight and veneration of all who knew him, and his talents seemed the most extraordinary, his virtues the most bright, to those who had the happiness to see him most familiarly. His mind was capacious and elevated. In public life, he was pure and disinterested, all his exertions tending to one single object—public good; in private, he was endeared to his family and his friends by his kindness, urbanity and benevolence. The study of political economy and the science of government was his favorite pursuit. His eloquence, which was oftener displayed in private than in public, was remarkable for its beauty and simplicity. As a Christian, he was sincere and devout; and the manner of his death suited the exemplary character of his life.

#### Encyclopædia Americana.

#### DR. MATHER BYLES,

Was born in Boston in 1706, and educated at Cambridge. After completing his studies in theology, he was ordained the first pastor of the church in Hollis street, Boston. Byles contributed many essays to the New England Weekly Journal, and several occasional poems, some of which were collected in a volume. He corresponded with Pope, Lansdowne and Watts. In 1776, his connexion with his congregation was dissolved, on account of his toryism, for any disaffection to the cause of the colonies could no longer be tolerated. In 1777, he was denounced, in town-meeting, as an enemy to his country, and afterwards was tried before a special court. The charges against him were, that he remained in the town during the siege, that he prayed for the king, and received the visits of the British officers. He was sentenced to confinement, with his family, on board a guard-ship, and to be sent to England with them. On being brought before the board of war, he was treated with respect, and was ordered to be confined to his own house for a short time. He possessed, in a remarkable degree, a ready and powerful wit, which he sometimes exerted where good nature would have refrained, and left a lasting sting by a transient jest. He exhibited this love of ridicule in various ways. On one occasion, when sentenced, under suspicion of toryism, to be confined to his own house, with a sentinel over him, he persuaded this sentinel to go an errand for him, promising to take his place. The sentinel consented to the arrangement, and, to the great amusement of all who passed, Byles was seen very gravely marching before his own door, the musket on his shoulder, keeping guard over himself. During his confinement in his own house, a guard was placed over him, and then removed. On some further complaint, a sentinel

was again placed over him. He was soon freed, and no further noticed. In speaking of these transactions, he said, "He had been guarded, regarded, and disregarded." Directly opposite to his house there was a very bad slough in wet weather. It happened one day, that two of the select-men, who had the care of the streets, stuck fast in this hole, and were obliged to get out in the mud to extricate their vehicle. Byles came out, and making them a respectful bow, said:—"Gentlemen, I have often complained to you of this nuisance, without any attention being paid to it, and I am very glad to see you stirring in this matter now." A ship from London brought out 300 street lamps for the town of Boston. It chanced that, on the same day, a female neighbor, who was a new light, with a weak mind and a whining manner, called to see him. Wishing to get rid of the visitor, he soon asked, with a tone calculated to excite curiosity, if she had heard the news. "O, no! dear doctor, what news?" "Why, 300 new lights have come over in the ship that arrived this morning from London, and the select men have wisely ordered them to be put in irons immediately." His visitor at once hurried away, in great anxiety, to make further inquiries. Byles lived in retirement the last 12 years of his life, and died July 5, 1788, at the age of 82.—Ibid.

## THE BOOK OF NATURE LAID OPEN.

Flowers are undoubtedly among the most exquisite pieces of nature's workmanship.—What beautiful tints do they display?—What lively colours do they unfold?—What variegated beauties do they discover?—and, what delightful perfumes do they emit! In view of these well might the poet exclaim:

Who can paint

Like Nature? Can imagination boast  
Amid its gay creation, hues like hers?  
Or can it mix them with that matchless skill  
And lose them in each other, as appears  
In every bud that blows?

But the skill of the architect is no less conspicuous in the general contrivance and delicate structure of their several parts, and beautiful harmony of the whole, than in the laying on of the colours by which they are embellished.

The diversity of shape, and form, and complexion, in those of different kinds is not more remarkable than that no two are to be found exactly alike, even of the same species and growing on the same stalk or knot.

Nor should the aromatic fragrance which those beautiful sons and daughters of nature send forth, more excite our gratitude, than that well ordered succession, by which, the pleasures we receive from these transitory visitants are lengthened out and protracted almost all the year round.

Before winter with his cloudy front has taken his departure, the early Snow drop boldly steps