

Douth's Corner.

THE DOVE AND THE MOUSE.

Near a clear little brook, where the wild flowers grow...

One unfortunate day above all in the year, Our poor little mouse drew nighly near...

He grasped at his prize when he missed his hold, Too late he regretted his being so bold...

A dove, who was resting, fatigued with a flight, On the branch of a tree, with our mouse in her sight...

Was moved with pity, and wished to save Our poor little friend from a watery grave...

So he stealthily crept where he rightly might aim, And counted himself quite secure of his game...

Alas! for the dove, if the mouse had but heard The steps of the boy as he aimed at the bird...

And then sprang at his foot in his flight, Left his own benefactor should fall by his bite...

And thus the poor mouse, so innocent and low, Saved the life of the dove by his bite...

This bite was so sharp, that starting with pain, The boy dashed his bow down, and frightened his game...

Who thus fled securely away, And thus each kind action performed in love...

NO MATTER.

A stranger, on passing Ella Seron, would look back and say, "what a beautiful child!"

One day, she pushed open the parlour-door, in a great hurry, while baby was standing near it on the inside...

At another time, baby was playing with his father's stick; and Ella passing by at the moment...

One day, her mother bid her put the jug with milk in it, in the cup-board; but Ella's arm did not reach high enough...

One day, she borrowed her mother's scissors, to cut out some figures which she had painted and pasted on bonnet-board...

that no one can be certain of Ella's ever becoming a woman; how many little girls have died, no older than Ella is now!

MARCH IN "THE OLD COUNTRY."

The old proverb that "March comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb," though belonging particularly to the month...

The vegetation of this month is not only rapidly assuming the brighter colours of spring, but daily becomes less thin and scattered...

The article proceeds to enumerate the plants which show their vegetation in England during this month: Mezerion, Daphne, Melchire, Whitlow Grass...

And now, as an old poet sings, "palms put forth their braveries," and the early willows are covered with their grey, or yellow catkins...

The hazel (Corylus avellana) is now decked with its hanging tassels, and the wind, as it rushes on, in playful gusts...

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AFRICAN SUPERSTITIONS.

From the Rev. H. Townsend's Journal, April and May 1817; at Abbeokuta, West Coast of Africa.

Oro is a man in masquerade, whose voice is said to be the sound emitted by a flat piece of wood whirled about. This Oro represents the spirit or spirits of the people's deceased forefathers...

The great secret—kept a secret under the penalty of death—seems to be such, that a child, uninformed, could not discover it. I cannot believe that that the greater part of the women of the tribe are allied to the cheat, which they are kept from discovering by the penalty only...

The meeting was held in the open square before the Town Hall, near our house, and was convened to pass a law against kidnapping and all stealing; threatening to inflict death by Oro on those who should offend.

napping and all stealing; threatening to inflict death by Oro on those who should offend. I have been informed, that in their meetings the youngest speaks first, and the senior Chief or the King, if there be one!

We heard that Apparty returned last night from his kidnapping expedition, on which he started nine or ten days since. I understand that this expedition has been an entire failure, about twenty poor people only falling victims to their avarice...

During a heavy rain, with thunder and lightning, about five o'clock this morning (3rd of May) a house was set on fire. On such occasions the worshippers of Shango claim it as their right to plunder all the property in the house, because it becomes sacred to Shango, who has given it to them as their reward.

There is another way by which the ignorant sufferers are still imposed upon. Before the inhabitants of the burnt houses are permitted by the Priests of Shango to take possession of their bare walls again, they are made to pay plenty of money, with some creatures for sacrifice to Shango, previous to their pulling the thunder-stone, with which the house is said to have been struck, from the ground.

But the worshippers of Shango have not always been successful in their expectations of plunder: the enraged owners of the houses on fire sometimes arm themselves, and chase the worshippers of Shango away from their houses, not without wounds and bruises.

Professor Locke (the inventor of the Magnetic Clock) has before made numerous contributions to the stock of natural science, and to improvements in the mechanic arts, and is acquiring a reputation honourable to the country, as well as to himself.

It is now time for us to turn to our own country—to some of our adopted, to others our native land—to all, our home, and the home of our children. I regret that I cannot refer to the history of Upper Canada as an illustration of the triumphs of mechanical science—as an example of its skillful application in every branch of public and manufacturing improvement.

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sums of money which have been borrowed and laid out on our roads and bridges, what have they all amounted to, with a few recent exceptions, but almost absolute losses, for want of the requisite knowledge and skill on the part of managers and engineers?

many enterprises have been wasted in the construction of various of our provincial works from the same cause? How many private individuals in every District in Upper Canada have been reduced to bankruptcy from the same kind of enterprising persons have expended their all in the erection of mills and other kinds of machinery, and have at length found their efforts fruitless and themselves ruined on account of the ignorance of the mechanics on whose supposed knowledge and judgment they relied to execute their plans!

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fort of Moulton, has been disappointed. On the 7th the Citadel had not been taken: it was built, mined, with the object of blowing the counter-escarp into the ditch, and then taking the place by storm.—European Times.

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