

ANECDOTES OF THE LATE JOHN ELWES, ESQ.

[Addressed to the Editors of the Literary Magazine.]

I TAKE the liberty to address this letter to you, respecting the biography of the late Mr. Elwes, which you have indulged us with in your polite magazine. Should the following little, though extraordinary incident, be worth while to form an anecdote in any future number, it is at your service.

Mr. Elwes had a steward who lived in Great Portland-street, Marybone, Mr. Conquest Jones, who was parsimonious to a very great degree. Mr. Jones told me, that one morning Mr. Elwes's groom, or some menial servant, came to him at the early hour of seven in the morning, desiring his immediate attendance on his master, who had secreted nails, hammers, &c. &c. and absolutely had shut himself up in an attic chamber, where he had been three days: all efforts to open his voluntary prison were unsuccessful.

Mr. Jones, who also was a man of very large fortune, went down in a postchaise immediately. On his arrival at the mansion of wretchedness, he found every means to break open the door ineffectual, therefore got a ladder, and broke open the window, where they found the meagre object of pity on a poor pallet bed, without food

or any other nourishment.—The first words he said were—Let me die here—for if not, I shall die in a workhouse. This he repeated with painful eagerness. However, Mr. Jones conveyed him from his confinement, and after a day or two, brought him to London, to dissipate the disorder.

I must now mention a circumstance respecting Sir William Elwes, who, when abroad, married a Spanish lady, of great personal and mental accomplishments, aided by a large fortune. Sir William had two sons, who were left with their mother, in a state of insolvency, I think at Hounslow; this lady applied to me, to circumstantiate her distress to the late Mr. Elwes, (the subject of those late memoirs, whether he was a relation or not, I cannot say, they told me that he had sent Lady Elwes once or twice a guinea or two before.) I wrote, however, and the result was, he sent Lady Elwes either ten or twenty pounds, for which I received her thanks; it is fifteen or sixteen years ago. This circumstance was very honourable, and is a foil to some traits of his character.

EXTRAORDINARY AFFECTION OF A YOUNG ELEPHANT.

[By Mr. Bruce.]

THERE now remained but two elephants of those that had been discovered, which were a she one and a calf. The Agageer would willingly have let these alone, as the teeth of the female are very small, and the young one is of no sort of value, even for food, its flesh shrinking much upon drying. The hunters would not be limited in their sport. The people having observed the place of her retreat; thither we eagerly followed. She was very soon found, and as soon lamed by the Agageer; but when they came to wound her with the darts, as every one did in their turn, to our very great surprize, the young one, which had been suffered to escape, unheeded and unpursued, came out from the thicket, apparently in great anger, running upon the horses and men with all the violence it was master of. I was amazed, and as much as ever I was upon such an

occasion, afflicted at seeing the great affection of the little animal defending its wounded mother, heedless of its own life or safety. I therefore cried out to them, for God's sake, to spare the mother, tho' then it was too late, and the calf had made several rude attacks upon me, which I avoided without much difficulty; but I am happy to this day in the reflection that I did not strike it. At last, making one of its attacks upon Aylo Engedan, it hurt him a little upon the leg; upon which he thrust it through with his lance, as others did after, and it then fell dead before its wounded mother, whom it had so affectionately defended. It was about the size of an ass, but round, big belled, and heavily made, and was so furious, and unruly, that it would have broken the leg of either man or horse, could it have overtaken them, and jostled against them properly. Here