

## RELIGIOUS.

## MIRACLES AND MARVELS.

If miracles be caused, yet marvels will never cease. There is no creature in the world wherein we may not see enough to wonder at; for there is no worm in the earth, no spire of grass, no leaf, no twig, wherein we may not see the footsteps of a Deity. The best visible creatures is men; now, what man is he that can make but a hair or a straw, much less any sensitive creature; so as no less than an infinite power is seen in every object that presents itself to our eyes. If, therefore, we look only upon the outside of these bodily substances and do not see God in every thing, we are no better than brutish; making use merely of our sense, without the least improvement of our faith or reason. Contrary, then, to the opinion of those men who hold that a wise man should admire nothing, I say that a man truly wise and good should admire every thing.

## ON THE SABBATH.

Without reference to the divine origin of the Sabbath, the appropriation of one day of the week for religious and moral instruction, for reflection on our duties, our errors, and the means of amendment, for reviewing our condition here, and weighing our hopes hereafter, seems the wisest institution for the promotion of virtue and happiness. It is thus alone that the hard-wrought labourer finds leisure to receive instruction, or to communicate to his children the fruit of his experience—while the eager man of business, as well as the abandoned libertine, meeting with these frequent intervals of religious worship, are led to think of their duties, as well as of their gains or their pleasures. From this spring of instruction and serious reflection, knowledge and good morals naturally flow, and the blessings of a wise and vigorous government become inviolable, because they become thoroughly understood.

Avoid as much as you can the company of all vicious persons whatever; for no vice is alone, and all are infectious.

This liberty in conversation (fiction and exaggeration) defeats its own end; much of the pleasure and all the benefit of conversation depends upon our opinion of the speaker's veracity.

## NATURAL HISTORY.

## FIDELITY AND MATERNAL ATTACHMENT.

A celebrated preacher, named Bucholz, who resided at Hasmark in Hungary, had occasion to go to the village of Eperies, distant about twenty English miles from his own place of abode. He travelled on foot, and took with him a small terrier bitch then in the last week of her pregnancy. After having been detained several days at Eperies by floods, he was compelled to return home without his dog, which in the mean time had brought forth a litter of five puppies. He had not been in the house an hour, when to his surprise the bitch came in bearing a puppy in her mouth, which she carefully placed upon the mat where she ordinarily lay, and immediately rushed out of the house again on the road to Eperies. In the space of twenty-four hours, she went and returned four times more; on each occasion bringing home a puppy in her mouth. It is hardly necessary to state that the puppies were quite dead as the mother brought them into the house. As the poor creature laid the last puppy upon the mat, she could scarcely stand for weariness—she whined and trembled, looking pitifully upon her dead puppies—and after walking once or twice round the mat, she laid herself down beside them, and died in a few minutes. In twenty-four hours the animal had run about 180 miles.

## RANK AMONGST VULTURES.

Many of our readers will have seen in the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park, the magnificent bird of prey called the King Vulture. It is a native of South America. Mr. Wateron, an amusing traveller and naturalist, among many curious remarks respecting this bird, has the following anecdote: He had killed in the forest a large snake, which, becoming putrid, attracted about twenty of the common vultures, who all came and perched on a tree in its neighbourhood. Then the king of the vultures came too; and I observed that none of the common ones seemed inclined to begin breakfast till his majesty had finished. When he had consumed as much snake as nature informed him would do him good, he retired to the top of a high mora-free, and then all the common vultures fell to, and made a hearty meal.