

to some dry grass, he flung it into the place. Immediately a flock of bats came flying out. His way was now cleared, and he walked through the passage. But on entering the sacred spot within, the first thing he saw was the great idol fallen from its pedestal, and lying upon the ground covered with filth. As he looked upon that object, in the presence of which so many thousands of poor blinded heathen had trembled and worshipped, he rejoiced greatly, and you may suppose that, as it called to mind the prophecy, "They shall cast their idols to the moles and to the bats," he thanked God that he had seen his word so strikingly fulfilled.

### The Blind Beggar of Jerusalem.

There are a great many blind persons in London. I have heard that there are two thousand blind people in that great city. Many of them are old people, who once could see as well as you can; some are young and have been made blind by the smallpox, or a fever, or an accident; and some were blind when they were born.

There is a city a long way off, called Jerusalem, and there are blind people in that city. A long while ago there was a blind beggar in Jerusalem. He was a young man, but he could not work because of his blindness, so he begged. One day some men passed by; one of these men was the son of God. He was come down from heaven to live in this world for a little while. Why did he come down? It was to save us sinners from hell. At last he was nailed upon a cross of wood and died. But before he died he used to walk about with his twelve friends and cure poor people who were blind and sick. He saw this blind beggar, and he told his friends he would cure him. You will be surprised to hear the strange manner in which he cured him. He made a plaster of the dust of the ground by wetting it with his spittle, and then he put it on the blind man's eyes. You

would have thought, that by this way his eyes could not be made well. Then Jesus told the beggar to go and wash in a pool or pond a little way off. The beggar went and washed, for he could find his way about Jerusalem, as he had lived there a long while. When he had washed, he found he could see.

Every body was very much surprised to see him walking about the streets with his eyes open. Many people wondered whether it was the same man who once sat and begged. Some people were sure it was the same man, and other people thought it could not be the same, but only a man very much like the blind beggar. But when he heard what people said, he answered them, "I am he." Then the people said, "How were thine eyes opened?" Then he told them that a man named Jesus had cured him. He did not know who Jesus was, and he had never seen him, but he knew that he had been very kind to him, and had done a great wonder in giving him sight.

You will be surprisid to hear that the people in Jerusalem did not love Jesus. They hated him, because he told them of their sins; so they were very angry with the blind man for saying that Jesus had cured him. They told him, it was not Jesus who made him see, it was God, and he must praise him; for Jesus was a wicked man. The blind man did not know that Jesus was God as well as man, but he was sure that he was good, and he said so. This made the wicked men more angry than before, and at last they said they would have no more to do with him, and that they would not speak to him or take any notice of him. Was not this very cruel?

Jesus knew that the poor blind beggar was ill-treated, and he went to him. Jesus could easily find him, for he is God, and sees every body by day and by night. I do not know where the poor man was when Jesus found him—whether he was in the house or in the street. When the man saw