

they attacked him, in a cowardly manner, on his weak side, and by arguments, the sophism of which it might be easy enough to unravel and expose, prevailed on him to quit the primeval position, and, whether fairly or not, they coaxed him to stand upon his hind legs. How far any good is to be expected from a reformation founded on such principles, the reader must judge for himself. By the account with which the authors of it have furnished us thus much is certain, that nothing can be more unnatural, and yet, say these philosophers, at other times, "whatever you do, follow nature;" a precept which, in general, mankind seem very well disposed to practice, to the best of their abilities. A child naturally goes on all four; and we all know how difficult a matter it is to set him on end and to keep him so. He has not even the stability of a nine-pin, which will stand till it is bowled down. For my part, I never see a child's forehead with a great bump upon it, or swathed up in an enormous black-pudding lest it should receive one, but I am irresistably impelled to bewail this supposed reformation as a most notorious and melancholy defection from our primitive condition. When the two children brought up to man's estate, apart from all human beings by the command of a king of Egypt, who imagined that the language which they should speak, must necessarily be the original language of the world, — when these children, I say, had the honour to be introduced at court, amidst a circle of all the learned, and wise, and noble personages, of that celebrated country, history bears testimony that they proceeded up the drawing-room and made their way to the royal presence upon all four. I am aware that some have thought that they threw themselves into that attitude from the dread and awe