

that our lions will not eat straw till they have first eaten the ox. But what makes me wonder most," she continued, "is this, 'The sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.'" The missionary had translated the cockatrice by the word *shueshuane*, a little deadly biting serpent. "The idea," she replied, "of a man, or a woman, or a child, putting their hand into the hole of the *shueshuane* and living, how can these things be? This is puzzling; I cannot understand it!" He begged her to tell him what she had been thinking about, for he saw she had been thinking. He wished her to state the exercises of her mind, and the conclusions to which she had come. "You will only smile at me," she replied. He said, "I will not smile." "How can you ask me?" she added. "The light shines upon you from this side, and that side, and behind and before—you are surrounded with light; but as for me, it is only the rays of the sun, just rising, which light on me." Ah! you would only smile at my simplicity!" "No, I will not smile. Tell me what were your thoughts." After some hesitation, she said: "Do the leopard, and the lion, and the *shueshuane*, mean men and women of such and such a character; men like lions, who have been changed into the nature of lambs, and put into the Church of Christ?" Pressing her hand to her bosom, the tears trickling over her cheeks, she said, "Was not I like a wolf; did not I possess the very nature of the lion, and the poison of the *shueshuane*, until the gospel changed this heart of mine?"

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