

Those pongos are seldom or never taken alive, because they are so strong, that ten men cannot hold one of them—but yet they take many of their young ones with poisoned arrows.

Purchas informs us, on the authority of a personal conversation with Battell, that a pongo on one occasion carried off a young negro, who lived for an entire season in the society of these animals—that, on his return, the negro stated they had never injured him, but, on the contrary, were greatly delighted with his company—and not only brought him abundance of nuts and wild fruit, but carefully and courageously defended him from the attacks of serpents and beasts of prey.

It is indeed singular, that when the history of animals inhabiting New-Holland, or the most distant island of the Indian Ocean, are annually receiving so much new and correct illustration, the most remarkable species of the brute creation, inhabiting a comparatively neighbouring country, should have remained for about 2000 years under the shade of an almost fabulous name, and that the 'wild men of the woods,' should express all we yet really know of the African orang-outang in the adult state.

RELIGIOUS.

THE WAYS OF RELIGION.

Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. Prov. iii. 17.

The ways of religion lead from this vale of destruction and land of sorrows, to the region of ineffable delight and empyrean peace and tranquillity.

Though poor and weary pilgrims traveling in them are scorched by the torrid beams of persecution's sun, yet they go on their way, rejoicing in the hope of the gospel with a joy unspeakable and full of glory—and by sipping the consolatory stream of life murmuring near, their strength is regenerated, and they are enabled to travel with redoubled alacrity towards the desired goal.

Though her ways are directly through a waste and howling wilderness, yet the seasons of the Christian's intercourse with his God, like so many verdant spots, lie interspersed here and there, and cheer the prospect and enliven the scenery.

Here, in spontaneous profusion, are the blessings of God showered. Here, too, are

many superb edifices, ambrosial arbours, flowery couches, and heavenly resting places made by the King of Zion for the refreshment of his pilgrims, and with them a stranger intermeddled not.

Fruits grow here uncontaminated by the influence of corruption—and which prove to be, when tasted, not like the pernicious fruits perdition's road engenders, but real substantial food, more to be desired than honey or the honey-comb.

O my soul, seek to have a right to taste these trees of life, to repose on the soft couch of Jesus' love, to be the recipient of his particular and spiritual blessings, and to be cheered with the thought that thou thyself hast no continuing city here, but art seeking one to come.

And, Oh, infinitely holy and ever blessed God, grant that when life is over I may stand in thy presence, crowned with glory and immortality—so will I ascribe all the praise to the indissoluble Trinity throughout eternity. Amen.

PRACTICAL RELIGION.

Suppose poverty come with its train of calamities; or suppose detraction points its barbed arrows against a blameless character; or suppose bereavement cast a withering shade upon the best earthly hopes and joys; or suppose disease, which racks the highest efforts both of friendship and of skill, impress itself upon the countenance and make its lodgment in the very seat of life;—or suppose, if you please, that this whole tribe of evils come marching in fearful array to assail an individual, at once, I am sure that I do not say too much for practical religion, when I declare to you that it will enable its possessor to meet them all in serenity and triumph.

Oh! when I have stood amidst such scenes and witnessed the sweet aspirations of hope, and seen the bright beams of joy irradiate the countenance over which sorrow had thrown her deepest shades, just as the bow casts its brilliant hues upon the dark cloud in the going down of the sun, I have looked upon religion as a bright angel come down from heaven to exercise a sovereign influence over human calamity; and if I have formed a wish or offered a prayer in respect to you at such a moment, it has been that this good angel may be your constant attendant through the vale of tears.