

THE WEEKLY MIRROR.



Vol. 2]

HALIFAX, SEPTEMBER 9, 1836.

No. 31.

The Weekly Mirror,

Is Printed and Published every Friday,

BY H. W. BLACKADAR.

At his Office, nearly opposite Bauer's wharf, and adjoining north of Mr. Allan McDonald's.

WHERE

All kinds of JOB PRINTING will be executed at a cheap rate.

Terms of the Mirror Five Shillings per annum payable in advance.

NATURAL HISTORY.

(Continued.)

On comparing different sorts of animals with one another, we find some to be alike in many respects, while in others, they differ. Thus on comparing a pig with a cat, we see each has a head, and each has four feet; yet the head of one is long, the other round; and the feet of one are terminated with hoofs, and of the other, with claws. If we compare a bird with a dog, there is still a resemblance and a difference; they both have legs, and both move; yet one has four legs and is covered with hair, while the other has two legs only, and is dressed in feathers.

It is from such a comparison of animals, that a beautiful system of classification has been devised by the celebrated Linnæus, Baron Cuvier and others. This system collects into groups those animals which are alike, thus exhibiting at one view those which are allied by affinity, at the same time pointing out the differences which separate them. According to this system, the animal creation is divided into *Classes*; these classes into *Orders*; these orders into *Genera*, and these genera into *Species*. Thus, birds generally are a *Class*; the domestic fowls, turkeys, pheasants, partridges and quails are an *Order*; partridges, quails, &c. are a *Genus*: and quails are a *Species*.

You may better conceive of this arrangement and its utility in enabling us to take a clear view of the animal creation, by considering them all as put into one vast enclosure. On entering this, let us suppose that we find all the quadrupeds in one division; all the birds in another; all the fishes in another, and so on. In taking a closer view, suppose that we find subdivisions, not at first noticed, by which all the flesh-eating animals are put together in one class, as bears, lions, foxes, dogs, &c.: and still again, suppose that we discover that all

the bears are by themselves, all the lions by themselves, &c. This illustration will enable you to understand at once this matter of classification. I will now lay it before you; at first it may seem a mere list of hard names, but do not be discouraged: it is like a butternut, with a rough shell, enclosing a most delicious kernel. If you will go through this classification, so that you can tell to what class and order a horse, a cow or a hog belongs, I know it will be the source of great satisfaction to you hereafter.

To be continued.

BIOGRAPHY.

JOHN HOWARD.

John Howard, a philanthropic English gentleman, was born at Hackney in 1726. He was apprenticed to a grocer, but his constitution being delicate, and having an aversion to trade, he purchased his indentures and went abroad. On his return he lodged with a widow lady, whom he afterwards married. After the decease of Mrs. Howard, who lived only about three years, he, in 1756, embarked for Lisbon, but on the passage the ship was taken and carried to France. On his release he went to Italy, and at his return settled in Hampshire. In 1758 he married a second wife, but she died in childbed in 1765, leaving him one son. He was at this time fixed at Cardington, near Bedford, where he purchased an estate. In 1773 he served the office of sheriff, which, as he declared, "brought the distress of the prisoners more immediately under his notice," and led him to form the design of visiting the gaols through England, in order to devise means for alleviating the miseries of the sufferers. In 1774 he was examined before the house of commons on the subject of the prisons, and received the thanks of the house. In 1777 he published the *State of Prisons in England and Wales, with Preliminary Observations, and an Account of some Foreign Prisons*, 4to. In 1780 he published an appendix to it, with an account of his travels in Italy; and in 1784 a new edition appeared, with considerable additions. In 1789 he published an *Account of the principal Lazarettos in Europe*, in 4to. In this work he signified his intention of visiting Russia, Turkey, and of extending his route into the East. He fell a sacrifice to his humanity in 1790. A statue of Mr. Howard has been placed in St. Paul's cathedral, with an inscription.

SEEK IN THE RIGHT PLACE.

My grandfather one night had lost his spectacles, and two or three of us undertook to find them; but, after looking for some time to no purpose, we gave up the search, and my grandfather at last found them on the top of his own wig. We all had a hearty laugh, in which he as heartily joined, and then he began to talk to us on the advantage, when anything was lost, of looking for it in the proper place; and thus he proceeded:

"I cannot find it any where! I have looked high and low, here, there, and every where, and I cannot find it, and there is an end of it!" said Frank Johnson to his mother, who was busy sewing.

"No; no;" replied his mother, "there is not an end of it, for it must be found. I cannot afford to buy books for you, and to have them lost in this manner." "How can I help it, mother?" quickly rejoined Frank: "I am sure that I have looked every where." "Ay!" said his mother, "every where but in the right place;" so getting up, she went to a small book-shelf, and looking over the books carefully, she at last found that which was wanted. "Now Frank," said she, "you see how easy it is for an idle person to say that he has looked for a thing, when, if he has given himself the trouble to look at all, he has not looked in the right place; where should you expect to find a book but on a book-shelf?"

Frank hung down his head, took the book from his mother, and marched off to school.

But do not suppose that Frank Johnson is the only person in the world who has looked for things every where but in the right place; I have known a hundred persons who have done the same thing.

Once I remember losing a crown-piece, and setting a servant to find it. He pulled about the chairs and tables, removed my writing-desk, took up the fender, and rummaged the room thoroughly, making a great bustle, and wondering how it could be that the crown-piece was not to be found. Still he did not find it for me, though he said that he had looked every where; and so he had, every where but in the right place, and that was in his own waistcoat pocket, for there I afterwards understood it was all the time; so that he need not have wondered so very much at his not being able to find it!