

lope,—bounding along the acclivitous glades of the woods, and running with great speed over the turf, with most graceful and fascinating motion.

Through the centre of a valley flowed a large branching river, abounding in islands and water birds; mountains and lakes, and craters of extinct volcanoes, were numerous. Dr Herschel classified not less than thirty-eight species of forest trees, and nearly twice this number of plants, found in one tract alone. Of animals, he classified nine species of mammalia, and five of oviparia. Among the former is a small kind of reindeer, the elk, moose, the horned bear, and the biped beaver. But time would fail us, if we were to describe a twentieth part of the wonders, and we pass on to the great discovery—the probable *mankind* of the moon.

They averaged four feet in height, were covered, except on the face, with short and glossy copper-colored hair, and had wings composed of a thin membrane, without hair, lying snugly upon their backs, from the top of the shoulders to the calves of the legs. The face, which was of a yellowish flesh color, was a slight improvement upon that of the large orang outang, being more open and intelligent in its expression, and having a much greater expansion of forehead. The mouth, however, was very prominent, though somewhat relieved by a thick beard upon the lower jaw, and by lips far more human than those of any species of the simiagenus. In general symmetry of body and limbs, they were infinitely superior to the orang outang. The hair on the head was a darker color than that of the body, closely curled, but apparently not woolly, and arranged in two curious semi-circles over the temple of the forehead. Their feet could only be seen as they were alternately lifted in walking, but they appeared thin, and very protuberant at the heel. These creatures were evidently engaged in conversation; their gesticulation, more particularly the varied action of their hands and arms, appeared impassioned and emphatic.

Such are some of the marvellous discoveries, the wonderful facts, brought to light by Sir John Herschel's telescope—according to the *New-York Sun*, and the supplement to the *Edinburgh Journal of Science*.

Divisibility of Matter.—The following are interesting particulars in the arts or in nature, helping the mind to conceive how minute the ultimate atoms of matter must be.

Goldbeaters, by hammering, reduce gold to leaves so thin, that 280,000 must be laid upon each other to produce the thickness of an inch. They are so thin, that if formed into a book, 1,500 would occupy only the space of a single leaf of common paper; and an octavo volume of an inch thick would have about as many pages as the books of a well-stocked ordinary library

containing 1,500 volumes of 400 pages in each; yet these leaves are perfect, or without holes, so that one of them laid upon any surface, as gilding, gives the appearance of solid gold.

Still thinner than this is the coating of gold, upon the silver wire of what is called gold lace, and we are not sure that such coating is of only one atom thick.

Platinum and silver can be drawn into wire much finer than human hair.

A grain of blue vitriol, or carmine, will tinge a gallon of water, so that in every drop the color may be perceived.

A grain of musk will scent a room for twenty years, and will have lost but little of its weight.

The carrion crow smells its food at a distance of many miles.

The thread of the silk-worm is so small, that many folds are twisted together to form our finest sewing-thread; but that of the spider is smaller still, for two drachms of it by weight, would reach from London to Edinburgh, or 40 miles.

In the milt of a codfish, or in water in which certain vegetables have been infused, the microscope discovers animalcules, of which many thousands together do not equal in bulk a grain of sand: yet, these have their blood and other subordinate parts like larger animals; and indeed nature, with a singular prodigality, has supplied many of them with organs as complex as those of the whale or elephant. Now the body of an animalcule consists of the same substances or ultimate atoms, as the body of man himself. In a single pound of matter, it thus appears, there may be more living creatures than of human beings on the face of the globe. What a scene has the microscope laid open to the admiration of the philosophic inquirer!

Water, mercury, sulphur, or, in general, any substance, when sufficiently heated, rises as invisible vapor or gas; in other words, is made to assume the aeriform state. Great heat, therefore, would cause the whole of the material universe to disappear, the most solid bodies becoming as invisible and impalpable as the air we breathe. Utter annihilation would seem but one stage beyond this.

Gypsies.—Gypsies are wandering tribes who live, in general, in the most extreme state of wretchedness, and seem to hold in contempt every thing that has any tendency to raise human beings above the state of absolute barbarism. They are very numerous on the continent; in England much less so; and in Scotland they are now extremely few.—Their origin, although generally supposed to be Egyptian, is involved in great obscurity. In this country, as well as on the Continent, their general profession is that of working in iron and brass, which is only a sort of cover for the manner

in which they obtain their living. It is, however, but justice to state, that at present many of them, particularly in the midland counties of England, are regularly licensed hawkers, who although they still keep themselves distinct in society, exhibit many proofs of industry, and in the winter season reside in the towns, and send their children to school; from which circumstances it may rationally be expected that they will gradually become incorporated with civilized society.

Have no taste for Study.—Have no taste for study? Cannot study?—Who are they? Are they in some dark corner of the universe—shut out from all the beautiful things of God's creation—dragging out a brutish existence, with no hope of ever being ameliorated from their gloomy condition? Or are they in a glorious creation, without an understanding to perceive, and a heart to feel, the divine influences every where diffused around them? One or the other of these must be case—if we may make deductions from their own language. If they have the noble faculties of mind, and their own words are correct, they cannot be where a brilliant sun is gleaming down upon them—and where the stars of heaven are glimmering in their diamond radiance. They cannot be standing upon one of the beautiful globes in the eternal space of Jehovah. They can see no giant mountains towering to the clouds—no green vallies spangled with the flowers of earth smiling around them. They can hear no sound rolling away from the sublime depths of the ocean. They can see no lightnings flashing in the broad expanse above them; nor hear the sound of the artillery of heaven thundering over the wide firmament, as if it would shake the pillars of the universe. If they could see and hear all this,—they would inquire about the earth they tread upon; the beautiful things scattered in such profusion around them; and the sun, and the everlasting stars above them. But it is a fact, that they do possess this inexhaustible mind; and they do dwell in the grand universe of God; and they are obliged to alter their very nature, in order to descend into their deplorable situation. The fact is, the hours of their lives which might be devoted to the pursuit of knowledge, are wasted in practices, the effect of which is to render the mind insensible to the sublimity of the universe in which they dwell.—*Lyceum*.

There is no book no print so cheap as a newspaper—none so interesting, because it consists of a variety, measured out in suitable proportions as to time and quantity. Being new every week or day it invites to a habit of reading, and affords an easy and agreeable mode of acquiring knowledge so essential to the welfare of the individual and community.