

# JUVENILE ENTERTAINER.

"Torquet ab obscenis jam nunc sermonibus aurem."

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## THE JUVENILE ENTERTAINER

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### CONDITIONS.

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## BIOGRAPHY.

### SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE OF MRS SAVAGE, ELDEST DAUGHTER OF THE REV. PHILIP HENRY, OF BRADDOCK, IN FLINTSHIRE.

This excellent woman was born August 7th, 64. At the early age of seven years she could readily construe a psalm in the Hebrew tongue. The disposition which she manifested to engage in the pursuit of Hebrew literature induced her father to compile an English grammar for her use. He also taught her to write, and ten years old she used to write the sermons which he preached with tolerable exactness. He mentions in her Diary, that she afterwards read these Sermons with great comfort and edification at the distant period of sixty years. She was remarkably happy in her natural temper, which was cheerful, easy, and affectionate. She was piously disposed even from her childhood and very sensible of the religious advantages which she enjoyed in the instruction and example of her excellent parents; and she was careful to profit by them. She continued to write down sermons of the ministers whom she attended, even to old age; and she was in the habit of carefully reading over what she had written, endeavouring to fix on her memory such particulars as related to practice, and frequently reading over them in her closet.

In her sixteenth year she partook, for the first time, of the Lord's Supper, and on that occasion she devoted herself to God with a sincerity and solemnity which proved a source of satisfaction to her in after life. She was accustomed to keep an exact account of her frame and temper, whenever she joined in that ordinance, a circumstance which fully evinced the high value and esteem she entertained for it.

At the age of twenty-three she was married to Mr. John Savage, of Wrenbury-Wood, in the county of Salop. In this relation it was her uniform desire and endeavour to discharge its peculiar duties, as well as to adorn, in all things, the doctrine of God her Saviour. She and her husband made it their constant practice to pray to each other morning and evening, besides

engaging in family and private devotion. Providence continued them long together, no less than forty years, blessings to each other and to all around them, so far as their influence and ability extended.

Mrs Savage was the mother of nine children, many of whom died in their infancy. Four daughters survived her, who rose up to call her blessed. She was remarkable for her care and tenderness towards her children in their infancy, but still more for the concern which she manifested for their souls as they grew up and became capable of receiving instruction. Not only was a considerable part of the sabbath evenings devoted to the important duty of instructing them, but it was her daily endeavour, both by precept and example, to train them in the way wherein they ought to go. She had a happy method of reading religion interesting to young people, by encouraging them to ask questions, and to converse freely on the subject, and she was careful not to represent it in a forbidding light by anything harsh or severe in her manners or temper; and to these means of improving their minds she early added the most affectionate prayers both with them and for them. Many instances might be adduced of her pious care over them, both in the serious advice which she gave them, and in the letters which she wrote to them when abroad. Whenever she saw it needful to give them reproof it was always done in a manner which shewed that she had nothing in view but their real welfare.

Mrs Savage had much pleasure in the company and converse of her friends, and particularly of pious ministers, but her chief delight was in the closet: she was constant in her retirements morning and evening, and in the latter part of her life at noon also, in reading the Scriptures; singing a psalm or hymn and praying; and though these exercises were so frequent and fervent yet she suffered them not to interfere with her domestic duties. She had recourse also to the duty of prayer upon any remarkable tidings, or occurrence, either merciful or afflictive, usually retiring to her closet on such occasions, to pour out her heart before God: and in her old age she was still more abundant in this duty. If left alone at her work she was often found by her family on their return in a praying posture. Her first words when she awoke in the morning consisted generally of some petition or ejaculation, and in the same manner did she close the day. Her love to the Word of God was no less remarkable than her spirit of prayer. She might truly be said "to meditate therein day and night." She had treasured in her memory psalms, hymns, and catechisms which she could repeat to herself with pleasure and profit during the waking hours of night; and by frequent reading of the Book of Psalms, she had learned the greatest part of them by heart. In some of the last years of her life, she usually kept her Bible within her reach while she was at work, that she might readily turn to such texts as were the subjects of her thoughts and

meditations. She also delighted much in reading books of practical divinity, as Bennett's Christian Oratory, Rowe's Devout Exercises, Watts' Sermons, and Baxter's Saint's Rest; but especially her father's Expositions of Scripture, with the reading of which she usually began the day. Biographical accounts of eminently pious persons were likewise a favourite study with her: from these it was her practice to make extracts for the use of herself and her family. Notwithstanding the variety of those occupations which have been already mentioned, she was remarkably diligent in business, carefully reckoning the time, so that those who lived the longest with her think she was scarcely chargeable with the loss of an hour. The pleasure with which she gave alms, or did any kind of office to the poor or afflicted, is not to be described. She willingly employed herself in making garments for them, and she always gratefully acknowledged the goodness of God in giving her ability to supply their wants. She was observed to be most cheerful on those days in which she had most calls upon her charity.

## NATURAL HISTORY.

### EGYPTIAN IBIS.

The Ibis has been recognised under five or six different species, of which we shall notice only the *Ibis Ardea* and the *Ibis Religiosa*. The former of these is as large as a female raven, and is found in great numbers in Lower Egypt during the inundation of the Nile, feeding in those places which the water does not reach, and afterwards on such spots as the water has deserted. Its food consists of insects and small frogs, which abound greatly while the river is at its height; and hence the Ibis is extremely useful to the inhabitants, who might otherwise experience every year one of the most disgusting plagues which afflicted their country in the days of Moses. But the other—the *Ibis Religiosa* of Cuvier, or *Abou Hannes* of Bruce, is the most celebrated. It is a bird of very peculiar aspect though undistinguished by much diversity in the colours of its plumage. It stands rather more than two feet high, and measures in length from the tip of the bill to the extremity of the tail, about two feet six inches. The bill is long and arched, about seven inches long, and considerably thicker and broader towards the base than that of the scarlet Ibis. The head and neck, for more than half a foot below the eyes, are entirely bare of feathers, and present nothing but a black cutaneous (skinny) surface. A small portion of the lower part of the neck, the whole under parts of the body, likewise the back and scapulars or shoulders, the greater and lesser wing coverts, and the tail, are of a dingy or yellowish white. Long funeral-looking plumes, of a purplish black colour, proceeding from beneath the tertiary wing feathers, hang not ungracefully on either side of the tail; and, when the wings are closed, conceal the points of the primary and secondary quills, both of