

ate noises enough, and often in excellent keeping with the scene ; while in parlour, ball room, or chamber, the senseless interminable gabble of a prouder animal is always annoying. We select the following information for those gardeners who

“ Delight in sweet marjoram, and wild thyme,  
The velvet peppermint, rich marigold,  
And all the savory herbs which bless the field.”

“ Hot and slender herbs should be gathered when Mars and the Sun are Lords of the celestial houses ; moist herbs, when the Moon is Lord ; but you must take heed that you gather them not in the falling houses thereof. These things well observed in gathering plants, will make them very profitable for physical uses.”

If gardeners do not gain much by this information, it is not our fault. The second book treats of peculiarities connected with animals, and except for superlative nonsense, it is less interesting than the first. Take an example—

“ That in the Islands Hebrides, the same *Birds are generated of putrified wood*. If you cast wood into the sea, first after a while there will certain worms breed in it, which by little and little become like ducks, in the head, feet, wings and feathers ; and at length grow to be as big as Geese : and when they are come to their full growth, they flie about in the air, as other birds do.”

This book of “ the Conjurer ” finishes with a paragraph treating “ How to make a bird sociable and familiar with thee.” The third book “ delivereth certain precepts of Husbandry,” and is filled with the most simple and silly receipts concerning fruits and flowers. We furnish a paragraph which well illustrates the mind of our author, and the nature of his composition.

“ And Aristotle writes of an Husband-man that found such an experiment ; though for my own part I never tried it. But Theophrastus writes, that there was Ivy found growing in the Harts horn ; whereas it is impossible to think how any Ivy seed could get in there ; and whereas some alledge, that the Hart might have rubbed his horn against some Ivy roots, and so some part of the horn being soft and ready to putrifie, did receive into it some part of the root, and by this means it might there grow ; this supposal carries no shew of probability or credit with it. But if things be true, as I can say or see nothing to the contrary, then surely no man will deny but that divers kinds of plants may be generated of divers kinds of living Creatures horns.”

Observe his simple acknowledgment “ that for his own part, he never tried the experiment,” his opinion of its improbability ; and again his wise conclusion, that if ivy did grow from the horn of the hart, then no man will deny but that such a thing may happen again. This book at its conclusion, advises that garden seeds, to make them fruitful, should be rubbed with the grease of old goats ; and thus prettily says of the vine, “ You must pare off those twisted curls that are wont to grow upon it ; for so, her pride being taken away from her, the juice will be more delightful, and more pleasant.” The fourth book, “ teacheth things belonging to