

when several of them are used for one book, the first word of the tablet following was written at the end of the one preceding it. The writing on the tablets was, of course, done when the clay was soft, and then it was baked to harden it. Then each table or book was numbered and assigned to a place in the library with a corresponding number, so that the librarian could readily find it, just as our own librarians of to-day number the books we read. Among these books are to be found collections of hymns (to the gods), descriptions of animals and birds, stones, and vegetables, as well as history, travels, etc. The Assyrians and Babylonians were great students of astronomy. The method of telling time by the sun, and of marking it by the instrument called a sun-dial, was invented by the latter nation. None of our modern clocks and watches can be compared to the sun-dial in accuracy.—*Industrial News.*

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#### A BEAUTIFUL OLD MAN.

**B**Y far the most interesting figure present was the old Duke of Wellington, who appeared between twelve and one, and slowly glided through the rooms—truly a beautiful old man; I had never seen till now how beautiful, and what an expression of graceful simplicity, veracity, and nobleness is about the old hero when you see him close at hand. His very size had hitherto deceived him. He is a shortish, slightish figure, about five feet eight, of good breadth, however, and all muscle or bone. His legs, I think, must be the short part of him, for certainly on horseback I have always taken him to be tall. Eyes beautiful light blue, full of mild valor, with infinitely more faculty and geniality than I had fancied before; the face wholly gentle, wise, valiant, and venerable. The voice, too, as I again heard, is “aquiline” clear, perfectly equable—uncracked, that is—and perhaps almost musical, but essentially tenor or almost treble voice—eighty-two, I understand. He glided slowly along, slightly saluting this and that other, clear, clean,