



About Easter Eggs.

WE are often attracted towards Easter-tide by the rows of gaily decorated Easter eggs which are displayed in the shop windows, and which vary in size and colour according to the different purposes to which they are now adapted. The original Easter egg was dyed a deep red colour, and had but one object; that, namely, of calling to mind and symbolising the great truth of the Easter festival. It may, perhaps, be worth while to say a few words on the meaning and history of Easter eggs, at a time when many persons are likely to buy them as a little offering to their friends and relations on Easter Day.

The egg was early looked upon as a sacred emblem, and as having a mystic significance. It was considered by the Egyptians and Grecians, as well as by the people of Gaul and Scythia, to be a type of the universe; and in Georgia and Persia it was used in very ancient times at a feast held in commemoration of the Creation and the Deluge, which was called the Feast of Waters, and lasted for six days. At this Feast, friends gave each other presents of eggs. The Egyptians also saw in the egg a picture of the renewed creation after the Deluge, whilst the Jews still look upon it as a type of the departure of their tribes from the Land of Egypt, and place it upon