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MR. FRANK BUCKLAND.

Francis Trevelyan Buckland was the eldest son of the Very Reverend William Buckland, the founder of the modern school of geology, the author of one of the best known of the Bridgewater Treatises, and Dean of Westminster. He was educated by his uncle, Dr. Buckland, of Laleham, the friend and kinsman of Dr. Arnold, but a most severe and even brutal pedagogue. He was probably a trying pupil to an impatient schoolmaster; yet he contrived to acquire a large share of classical knowledge. He had whole passages of Virgil at his fingers' ends. He used to say, when he could not understand an act of Parliament, that he always turned it into Latin; and within a fortnight of his death he was discussing a passage of a Greek play with one of the accomplished medical men who attended him, interesting himself about the different pro-

nunciation of ancient and modern Greek and the merits of Greek accentuation, Mathematics were not supposed to form a necessary part of a boy's education forty years ago. To the end of his life he always regarded it as a providential circumstance that nature had given him eight fingers and two thumbs, as the arrangement had enabled him to count as far as ten. When he was engaged on long inspections, which involved the expenditure of a good deal of money, he always carried it in a small paper parcel, each containing ten sovereigns; and though he was fond of quoting the figures which his secretary prepared for him in his reports, those who knew him best doubted whether they expressed any clear meaning to him. He liked, for instance, to state the number of eggs which various kinds of fish produced, but he never rounded off the calculations which his secretary made to enable

him to do so. The unit at the end of the sum was, in his eyes, of equal importance to the figure, which represented millions, at the beginning of it.

It was probably no easy task to select a profession for a young man who had already distinguished himself by an eccentric love for animals, which had induced him to keep a bear at Oxford, and a vulture at the Deanery, at Westminster. At his father's wish, Mr. Buckland decided on entering the medical profession. To qualify himself for his duties, he studied in Germany, at Paris, and at St. George's Hospital. He returned to London, and soon afterwards became house-surgeon at St. George's.

In 1854, while he was still engaged at St. George's, he was offered and accepted the post of assistant surgeon in the 2nd Life Guards. Perhaps no army surgeon ever enjoyed so much popularity among his

brother officers. During the nine years through which he served his name had become famous. His contributions to the "Field" newspaper and his "Curiosities of Natural History" had made natural history popular in thousands of households; and the exertions which he had already commenced in the cause of fish culture had marked him as a man with an idea. Thus he left the army a known man, and during the next few years relied on his pen.

A new sphere was, in the meanwhile, preparing for Mr. Buckland's energies. In 1861 Parliament had sanctioned the appointment of two inspectors of fisheries for England and Wales. One of these gentlemen, Mr. Eden, retired in broken health in 1867, and Mr. Buckland was chosen as his successor. He had hardly been appointed when his colleague, Mr. Fennell, died; and another gentleman had to be chosen



DR. BUCKLAND AND HIS PETS.

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