

join which I soon received a cordial invitation. Although I had some miles to ride to my lodgings, yet I could not resist the temptation to accept the invitation so cordially extended. The food was placed upon the table in a few plain dishes, yet they contained the choicest delicacies which the Green Mountains afforded: such as strawberries, fresh cream, new white bread, and most delicious butter. Very soon we were joined by her husband, a plain, though I doubt not an honest and industrious man, yet I could not help thinking him decidedly inferior to his wife.

As we surrounded the table, the good man with great simplicity and devotion, invoked the blessing of God, which soon informed me that they were religious people; and as we continued to converse, I learned that they were Methodists. Although not often permitted to enjoy the public ordinances of religion, yet they were simple hearted and pious.

In their conversation upon many subjects, they betrayed an ignorance sometimes quite amusing, but of the sublime truths of Revelation, their knowledge and intimacy were truly astonishing. The subject was the beginning and end of their contemplations; its greatness had absorbed them, its purity had elevated them, its benignity had softened their hearts; its fulness had satisfied their souls. On this theme they delighted to converse. It spread itself over their thoughts, it was manifested in their actions.

"Compared with this, how poor religious pride,

In all the pomp of method and of art,
When men display to congregations wide
Devotion's every grace except the heart.
The Power incensed the pageant will desert,
The pompous train, the sacerdotal stole,—
But haply in some cottage far apart,
May hear, well pleased, the language of the soul,
And in His book of life the inmates poor enrol."

While conversing with the good woman, a thought occurred to me, which I ventured to express to her, that so far removed from the advantages of education, they must necessarily experience the want of them for their children. To which she replied, "It has ever been my endeavor to learn my children as much as possible. And little Jane who now lies buried under those trees,"—pointing to a mound under the shade of a deep grove, where I looked and saw the spot which paternal fondness had delighted to adorn, and place upon it the rose, and decorate it with many a wild flower of the woods. When I again looked upon the mother, a tear was starting from her eye, and she proceeded. "As I was saying, my dear little Jane, before she died and was laid under those trees, would read as well as any one could wish. Oh yes! and many times, seated in her little chair there in the corner, she has read chapter after chapter from the Bible during the long winter evenings, and since she has been dead, we have let that little chair remain just were

it was before she died; and although I have seen the flowers blossom these three summers upon her grave, yet even now I sometimes look up, fondly expecting that I shall see her in her seat. But no, no. The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, and blessed be the name of the Lord. Sometime before she died, it did seem as if He was preparing her for himself, she loved to read the bible so; and I believe that the Shepherd of Israel, who of old said, suffer little children to come unto me, took also this lamb in his arms and folded it in his bosom.—'Twas in the winter she began to decline. The winds swept around our dwelling, yet little Jane was so meek, she did not even lisp a complaint. It seemed as if the long tedious winter would never be gone; for we tho't if the Spring would come and cover the mountain with green, and deck the valleys with flowers, she would with them be renewed and well. The Spring did come, the mountains were covered with green, the valleys with flowers, and the air was filled with fragrance and the songs of birds. Every thing looked fresh and beautiful except my poor Jane. Her looks grew pale, and her voice grew faint. Often I would take her slender form in my arms and bear her to yonder grove,—and earnestly, oh, how earnestly! did I pray that the lily so drooping, might be revived. One day while there, holding her in my arms, she seemed unusually devout and tender, and looking me earnestly in the face she said, Mother, although I feel some stronger to day, yet I am sure I shall soon go to that bright place among the stars, where you say God lives. And Mother, the way does not look dark. If you will only lay me here under these trees and among the flowers, I am sure my Shepherd whom you have taught me to trust and love, will guide me to heaven, where we shall all meet at last, as you have so often told me; then we shall never part again. After a short but fervent prayer that this might be our happy lot, somewhat exhausted she fell asleep; a sweet smile lingered upon her face, and as she slept she looked so beautiful I leaned over to kiss her brow, but it was cold; her spirit had already ascended to Heaven."

In this artless story there was a natural pathos which was quite irresistible. The sternness of the father was unbent, his little daughter dissolved in tears, the narrator's feelings frequently interrupted her narrative, and even the sympathies of a stranger's heart were deeply excited.

Heavy as this stroke of Divine Providence had been, and deeply as they had felt it, yet religion pure and undefiled, shed over their humble path its hallowed influence, assuaging the griefs of this life, and pointing them to a full fruition above.

With increasing interest I continued to converse with these simple hearted people, and lingered until the deepening twilight

reminded me that I must depart. So after receiving their cordial invitations to visit them again, I mounted my horse and pursued my way, not without regret at taking leave of the Mountain Cottage.

From the Boston Transcript.

MOONSHINE. The gullible portion of the reading community have been hoaxed by an article which appeared, last week, in the New York Sun, purporting to be extracted from a supplement to the Edinburgh Journal of Science, and communicating intelligence of stupendous discoveries in the Moon, made by Sir John Herschel, from his observatory on the Cape of Good Hope—affected by the assistance of a new telescope of immense power. We have not room for the whole article, or scarcely for a small portion of it, or we would gladly translate it to our columns, for the reader's entertainment. We must confine ourself, therefore, to a brief abstract of the *New Lunar Discoveries*.

"The first night of observation commenced, with a series of brilliant discoveries. Basaltic Rock, of a greenish brown color, was first observed, of very perfect formation; next, flowers of a dark red hue, resembling the "papaver Rhoeas, or rose poppy of our sublimary cornfields;" then trees, like the yews of the English churchyard, followed by a forest of mountain firs, at the foot of which was a beautiful lake, bounded by shores, fairer than which angels never coasted, whose waters laved a beach of brilliant white sand, girt with wild castellated rocks, apparently of green marble; varied at chasms, occurring every two or three hundred feet, with grotesque blocks of chalk gypsum, and feathered and festooned at the summits with the clustering foliage of unknown trees. The water was nearly as blue as that of the deep ocean, and broke in large white billows upon the strand. The action of very high tides was quite manifest upon the face of the cliffs, for more than a hundred miles.

The detail of other discoveries in geology and botany—equally interesting—we must pass by, and come to a deep valley in the shade of the woods, on the south eastern side of which were herds of brown quadrupeds, having all the external characteristics of the bison. It had, however, one widely distinctive feature, common to every lunar quadruped discovered, namely, a remarkable fleshy appendage over the eyes, crossing the whole breadth of the forehead, and united to the ears like the upper front outline of the cap known to the ladies as Mary Queen of Scots's cap, lifted and lowered by means of the ears—a providential contrivance to protect the eyes of the animal from the great extremes of light and darkness to which all the animals of our side of the moon are periodically subjected. The next animal discovered resembled an auto-