

my Lord," exclaimed Jack, springing into the midst of the circle. "I knew your noble Lordship the moment I seen you; but I remembered your Honour's humour too well to spoil your sport by saluting, when you thought fit to hoist foreign colours."

"Jack, you are an honest fellow, and here's a sovereign to drink my health, for we have weathored many a hard gale together, and here's another for keeping my secret, old heart of oak. And now, gentlemen," continued Lord A—B—, "if you are not yet satisfied that the letter belongs to me, here are, I trust, sufficient proofs." As he spoke he produced from his pocket-book a bundle of letters, bearing the same superscription.

The Postmaster immediately handed him the letter, and began a string of elaborate apologies, which his Lordship did not stop to listen to, but walked back to the Golden Lion, leaving the assembled population of T. mute with consternation.

That afternoon, the whole corporation, sensible too late of their error, waited in a body on Lord A—B— to apologize for their mistake, and to entreat him to honour the town with his presence during the remainder of the season.

He was busily employed in tying up his bundle when the deputation entered, and he continued to adjust it all the time they were speaking. When they concluded, having tightened the last knot, he replied as follows:—

"Gentlemen, I entered your town with every intention of thinking well of its inhabitants. But I came in a shabby coat, carrying my own bundle, and took up my quarters at a paltry ale-house, the only place where you would give me admittance. Your reception of me would have been very different had I arrived in my carriage. But, gentlemen, I am an odd fellow, as you see, and sometimes try whether I can obtain it without these adventitious distinctions; and the manner in which you treated me, while I appeared among you in the light of a poor and inoffensive stranger, has convinced me of my error in looking for liberality here. And I must inform you that I estimate your polite attention at the same value that I did your contempt, and that I would not spend an-

other night in your town if you would give it to me; and so good-morning."

As his Lordship concluded, he attached his red bundle to the end of his bludgeon, and shouldering it, with a droll look at the discomfited corporation, he trudged out of the town with the same air of sturdy independence that he had trudged in.—*Belgravia.*

FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS.

VELOCITIES.

VELOCITIES OF THE FORCES OF NATURE.

CHAPTER I.

In former times, when a man would speak of the rapidity with which light traverses space, most of his hearers thought it to be a scientific exaggeration or a myth. At present, however, when daily opportunity is afforded to admire, for example, the velocity of the electric current in the electro-magnetic telegraph, every one is well convinced of the fact, that there are forces in nature which traverse space with almost inconceivable velocity.

A wire a mile in length, if electrified at one end, becomes in the very instant electrified at the other end. This and similar things every one may observe for himself; then, even the greatest sceptic among you will clearly see, that the change—or "electric force"—which an electrified wire undergoes at one end, is conveyed the length of a mile in a twinkling, verily as if a mile were but an inch.

But we learn more yet from this observation. The velocity with which the electric force travels is so great, that if a telegraphic wire, extending from Montreal to Washington and back again, is electrified at one end, the electric current will manifest itself at the other end in the same manner. From this it follows, that the electric force travels with such speed as to make a thousand miles in a space of time scarcely perceptible. Or, in other words, it travels a thousand miles in the same imperceptible fraction of a moment that it does a single mile.

And experience has taught us even