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WHERE

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NATURAL HISTORY.

THE ANTELOPE.

The Antelope tribe forms the connecting link between the goat and the deer. In the texture of their horns they agree with the former; and in their graceful make and swiftness of flight they resemble and, indeed, surpass the latter. Their horns are smooth, long, and twisted spirally or annulated, and are never cast. Their legs are long and tendinous, and in some of the species are so exceedingly slender and brittle that they will snap with a slight blow. They inhabit hot mountainous countries, and bound from rock to rock with an agility that excites astonishment in a spectator. In Africa and Asia they are very numerous. The general colour is brown on the back, and white under the belly. In the east the Antelope bears the name of Gazelle, and such is the brightness and beauty of its eyes that they furnish similes to the poet, and to call a woman "gazelle-eyed" is to pay her one of the highest compliments.

THE ANT-EATER.

There are several animals distinguished by the common name of Ant-eaters, which differ much in form. They are, however, all distinguished by one characteristic; which is, that as they feed wholly on insects, they have no teeth. The tongue is the only instrument with which they seize their food, and it is long, wormlike, and covered with a glutinous moisture. From the tip of the snout to the end of the tail, the great Ant-eater is sometimes eight or nine feet in length. It is covered with very coarse and shaggy hair. Its motions are slow, but it swims well.

This creature is a native of Brazil and Guiana, and it lives wholly on ants, wood-lice, and wild bees. These it collects by thrusting its tongue into their holes, and having penetrated every part of the nest, withdraws it into its mouth loaded with prey.—Its legs are so strong, that few animals can extricate themselves from its gripe. It is said to be formidable even to the panthers of America; and sometimes fixes itself upon them in such a manner, that both of them fall and perish together; for its ob-

stinacy is so great, that it will not relinquish its hold of an adversary even after it is dead.—It may, however, be tamed. The flesh has a strong disagreeable taste, but is eaten by the Indians.

BIOGRAPHY.

Joseph Addison was born at Milston, in Wilts, May 1, 1672. After receiving the rudiments of education, he was sent to the Charterhouse, where he contracted an intimacy with sir Richard Steele. In 1687, he was admitted at Queen's college, Oxford, but afterwards was elected demy at Magdalen. In 1688, he took his degree of M. A. and at the age of twenty two, addressed some verses to Dryden in English, and not long after published a translation of part of Virgil's fourth Georgic. About this time he wrote the arguments prefixed to the several books of Dryden's Virgil, and composed the essay on the Georgics. In 1696, he addressed a poem to king William, which recommended him to lord Somers. In 1699, he obtained a pension of 300*l.*a-year. He went through France and Italy, improving his mind to the best advantage, as appears from his "Letter to Lord Halifax," reckoned the most elegant of his poetical works, and his "Travels in Italy," which he dedicated at his return to lord Somers. He returned home in 1702, and found his old friends out of place. In 1704, he was introduced by lord Halifax, to lord Godolphin as a fit person to celebrate the victory of Blenheim; on which occasion he produced the Campaign, for which he was rewarded with the place of commissioner of appeals. Next year he went to Hanover with lord Halifax, and soon after was appointed under secretary of state. The rage for Italian operas which then prevailed, induced him to write his "Rosamond," which did not succeed. When the marquis of Wharton went to Ireland as lord lieutenant, Addison accompanied him as secretary, and was made keeper of the records with a salary of 300*l.*a-year. While he was in Ireland, Steele commenced the Tatler, to which Addison liberally contributed. This was followed by the Spectator, which was enriched by the contributions of Addison, whose papers are distinguished by one of the letters of the word CLIO. In 1713, his tragedy of Cato was brought upon the stage, amidst the plaudits of both Whigs and Tories, which was translated into Italian, and performed at Florence, and into Latin at the College of St. Omers. At this time the Guardian appeared, to which Addison contributed, and his papers are marked by a hand. In 1715 he began the Freeholder, and continued it till the middle of the next year, in defence

of the Government. In 1716 he married the Countess Dowager of Warwick, to whose son he had been tutor, but the marriage did not prove happy. In 1717 he became Secretary of State, which place he soon resigned, on a pension of 1500*l.*a-year. In his retirement he planned a tragedy on the death of Socrates, which he abandoned for a work of a more excellent kind, "A Defence of the Christian Religion." He also laid the plan of an English dictionary in the manner since so happily executed by Dr. Johnson. In 1719, he engaged in a political dispute with Steele, on the Peerage-Bill, then brought in to restrain the king from creating any new peers, except in case of the extinction of an old family. Steele's Pamphlet was entitled "The Plebeian," and Addison replied to it in another called "The Old Whig," in which he styled his opponent "little Dicky." He terminated his life, June 17, 1719, in a manner suitable to his character. Hesent for Lord Warwick, and pressing his hand, softly said, "see in what peace a Christian can die!" Dr. Johnson, after drawing his character in a forcible and elegant manner, says, "whoever wishes to attain an English style, familiar but not coarse, and elegant but not ostentatious, must give his days and nights to the volumes of Addison."

THE VILLAGE.

MARTHA VALE.

When a Farmer sows his field, he is mindful of the quality of his seed; and when a gardener plants his trees, he is very particular as to the kind he is going to propagate; because neglect, or a mistake in those things, would occasion great inconvenience and loss. Good grain will grow as luxuriantly as bad grain, and an apple tree will spring up as fresh as a crab tree, without any additional expense or trouble.

Now, if it be necessary for the Farmer to be careful about his seed, and the gardener to be particular about his trees, it is equally necessary for the writer of a book to be careful about the contents of the volume he intends to publish to the world. Grain and fruit are food for the body, and the contents of a book are food for the mind; and as the latter are of good or bad quality, so it will it produce fifty and an hundred fold of good or evil, or bear fruit worthless or valuable.

If I thought that a single sentence of what I am going to put on paper would do injury to the mind of a young person, I would lay aside my pen, remove my inkstand, and fold up my paper in haste; for he is no friend of mankind who dares to run the risk of injuring another merely to gratify himself, but as I think otherwise, and believe that