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# The Weekly Mirror,

Is Printed and Published every Friday, BY H. W. BLACKADAR.

At his Office, nearly opposite Bauer's wharf, and adjoining north of Mr. Allan M'Donald's. WHERE

All kinds of Job Printing will be executed at a cheap rate.

Torms of the Mirror Five Shillings per annum payable in advance.

### NATURAL HISTORY.

### SILK WORM.

This insect is said to have come foriginally from the nothern parts of China, and by degrees, the cultivation Not it has extended to Europe and America. It feeds upon the leaves of a the black or white mulberry for about six weeks, during which period it changes its skin four times. It then ceases to feed, and begins to form an envelope, or cocoon, of silken libres in some convenient spot, producing minute threads, till it has formed an oval yellow case, about the size of a pigeon's egg. In this case, it changes into a chrysalis, and in about fitteen days, the moth is produced, which is very short-lived. The cocoons are generally exposed to great heat, in order to kill the insect before the moth is produced, as it discharges a colored fluid which injures the quality of the silk. The length of the thread is from three to five hundred yards, composed of two united filaments glued together manufacture of silk goods has been known from the earliest times.

# BIOGRAPHY. HENRY ALDRICH.

Henry Aldrich, was born in Westminster in 1647. From Westminster school he went to Christchurch, Oxford where he was elected student. In 1681 he was installed canon of Shristchurch, and in the same year took the degree of D. D. He wrote, in the reign of James II. two able tracts, "On the Eucharist." At the Revolu-

and every year published a Greak | classic, or part of one, by way of present to the students of the college. He was one of the persons entrusted with the publication of lord Clarendon's Ilistory: he had a great knowledge of architecture and music, as appears by Peckwatersquare, in oxford, the chapel of Trinity college, and the church of All Saints, designed by him; and the extended not. numerous church services and anthems which he composed. The dean was also the composer of two catches, viz "Hark the bonny Christ-church belis," and the other, "A smoking Catch." He held the rectory of Wem, in Shropshire, and in the convocation of 1702 he sat as prolocutor. He died in 1710. Besides the above works he printed "Artis Logicæ Compendium," and the Elements of Architecture, in Latin

### THE ORPHAN OF BATTERSEA

OR, THE JUDGEMENT OF SIR THOMA . MORE.

In the pleasant helds of Battersea, near the river side, on a spot which is now covered with houses, dwell, three hundred and ten years ago, the blind widow, Annice Collie, and her orphan grandchild, Dorothy. These two were alone in the world, and yet they might scarcely be said to feel their lonelmess; for they were all the world to each other.

Annice Collie had seen better days; for she was the daughter of a substantial yeoman, and her husband, Reuben Collie, had been a gardener in the service of good Queen Catherine, the first wife of King Henry the Eighth; and Annice had been a happy wife, a joyful mother, and a liberal housekeeper, having wherewithal to bestow on the wayfarer and stranger at their need. It was, however, the will of God that these blessings should be taken from her. The Queen tell into adversity, and being removed from her favorite palace at Greenwich, to give place to her newly exalted rival, Anne Boleyn, her faithful servants were all discharged; and, among them, Reuben

o ived of their situations in the royal gardens.

This misfirtune, though heavy, appeared light, in comparison with the buter reverses that had befallen their r val mistress; for the means of obtaining an honest livelihood were still in the power of the industrious little amily; and beyond that their ambition

Reuben Collie, who had spent hisyouth in the Low Countries, had acquired a very considerable knowledge of the art an assenture, an art at that time so little practised in England, that the salads and vegetables with whichthe tables of the great were supplied, were all brought, at a great expense,. from Holland, and were, of course, never eaten in perfection. Reuben-Collie, however, whose observations on the soil and climate had convinced him that these costly exotics might be raised in England, produced seeds, of various kinds, from a friend of his inc. the service of the Duke of Cleves, and was so fortunate as to rear a few plants of cabbages, savoys, brocoli, lettuces, artichokes, and cucumbers, to the unopeakable surprise of all the gardeners in London and its environs; and honest Reuben narrowly e-caped being arraigned as a wizard, in consequence, of their envy at the success of his experiment. He had hired, on a long lease, a cottage, with a small field adjoining, at a reasonable rent, of Master Bartholemew Barker, the rich tanner of Battersen; and this, he and his son, Arthur, had, with great care and toil, converted into a garden and nursery-ground, for rearing fruit trees. vegetables, costly flowers, and herbs of grace; and this spot he flattered himself would, one day, prove a mine of wealth to himself, and his son after him. That golden season never arrived; for Arthur, who had, during a leisure time, obtained work in amobleman's garden at Chelsea, for the sake of bringing home a few additional groats, to assist in the maintenance of his wife, Margaret, and his little daughter, Dorothy, tion he was made dean of Christ church, Collie and his son, Arthur, were de- who lived with the old people, was

unfortunately killed by the fall of an old wall, over which he was training a fig-tree.

The news of this terrible catastrophe was a deathblow to Reuben Collie. The afflicted mother and wife of Arthur, struggled with their own grief to offer consolation to him; hut it was in vain, for he never smiled again. He no longer took any interest in the garden, which had been before so great a source of pleasure to him: he suffered the weeds to grow up in his borders, and the brambles to take root in his beds. flowers bloomed unheeded by him, and his fruit trees remained unpruned; even his darling exotics, the very pride of his heart and the delight of his eyes, whose progress he had, heretofore, watched with an affection that almost savored of idolatry, were neglected; and, resisting all the offorts which his wife and daughter-in-law could make to rouse him from this sinful state of despair, he fell into a languishing disorder, and died a few months after the calamity that had rendered him childless.

And now the two widows, Annice and Margaret Collie, had no one to work for them, or render them any comfort in their bereavement, save the little Dorothy: nevertheless, they did not abandon themselves to the fruitless indulatance of grief, as poor Reuben had done; but, the day after they had, with tourful eyes, assisted at his humble obsequies, they returned to their accustomed occupations, or, rather, they commenced a course of unwonted labor in the neglected garden, setting little Dorothy to weed the walks and borders, while they prepared the beds to receive crops, or transplanted the early scedlings from the frames. And Dorothy, though so young, was dutifully and industriously disposed, and a great comfort to them both: it was her especial business to gather the strawberries and currants, and to cull the flowers for posies, and carry them out to sell daily; nor was she afraid to venture, even to the great City of London, on such errands, though her only companion and guard was a beautiful Spanish dog, called Constant, which had been given to her, when quite a little puppy, by her royal mistress, good Queen Catherine, who was wont to bestow much notice on the child; and she, in her turn, fondly cherished the dog for the sake of her former benefactress. But Constant was, for his own sake, very deserving of her regard, not only for his extraordinary sagacity and beauty, but for the faithful and courageous attachment which he manifested for her person, no one daring to attack or molest her while he was at her side. Constant was, moreover, very useful in carrying her basket of posies for her, while she was loaded on either arm with those which contained the fruit fraud-so they performed their daily peregrinations, each cheering the

words on the one part, and looks and gestures of mutely eloquent affection on the other. Very fond and faithful friends were this guileless pair: and they were soon so well known, and excited so much interest, in the environs of London, that they were treated and caressed at almost every gentleman's house on the road: and the little girl found no difficulty in disposing of her fruit and flowers, and was as happy as a cheerful performance of her duties could render her. But these pleasant days did not last; the small-pox broke out in the neighbourhood :- Dorothy's mother was attacked with this fatal malady, and after a few days' severe illness, died; and the very night after the melancholy and hurried funeral of her beloved daughter-in-law took place, Annice Collie was laid upon the bed of sickness with the same cruel disease, and Dorothy was roused from the indulgence of the intense sorrow into which she was plunged by the unexpected death of her last surviving parent, to exert all her energies for the succor of her aged and helpless grandmother. "I know not how it was that I was enabled to watch, day and night, beside her bed, without sleep and almost without sustenance," would the weeping orphan say, whenever she referred to that sad period; "but of this I am assured, that the Lord, who feedeth the young ravens when they cry unto him, had compassion upon us both, or I never could have been supported, at my tender years, through trials like those. In the multitude of sorrows that I had in my heart, his comforts refreshed my soul;' and it was through his mercy that my dear grandmother recovered: but she never beheld the light of day again, the cruel disease had destroyed her sight." Yes, in addition to all her other afflictions, Annice Collie was now blind, a widow, childless, and destitute; yet was regining far from her; and, raising her sightless orbs to heaven, when she was informed by the sorrowful Dorothy of the extent of the calamity that had befallen her, in the loss of her daughter-in-law, she meekly said, with pious Lii, "It is the Lord, and shall I complain or fret myself because he hath, in his wisdom, resumed that which, in his bounty, he gave? Blessed be his holy name for all which he hath given, and for all that he hath taken away; though these eyes shall behold his glorious works no more, yet shall my lips continue to praise him who can bring light out of darkness."

But the illness of herself and her deceased daughter-in-law had consumed the little reserve that poor Annice had made for the payment of their rent; and their landlord, a hard and covetous man, who had, ever since the death of Reuben Collie, cast a greedy eye on the garden, which he and his son had made and planted with such labor harsh words, that, unless she resigned the lease of the garden to him, he would distrain hergoods for the rent she owed him, and turn her and her grand-daughter into the

"It is hard to resign the lease of the garden, which has not yet remunerated us for the sum my poor husband laid out upon it, just as it is becoming productive; but I am in your debt, Master Barker, so you must deal with me according to your conscience," said the blind widow; on which he took the garden into his own hands, and made a merit of leaving the two forlorn ones

in the possession of the cottage.

And now Dorothy betook herself to spinning, for the maintenance of herself and her helpless relative; but it was not much that she could earn in that way, after having been accustomed to active employment in the open air: and then, her grandmother fell sick again of a rheumatic fever, and Dorothy was compelled to sell first one piece of furniture and then another to purchase necessaries for her, till at length nothing was left but the bed on which poor Annice lay; and, when Dorothy looked round the desolate apartment that had formerly been so neat and comfortable, she was almost tempted to rejoice that her grandmother could not behold its present dreary

Winter again appproached with more than ordinary severity: quarter day came, and found the luckless pair unprovided with money to pay the rent; and their cruel landlord turned the blind widow and her orphan grandchild into the street : and, but for the benevelence of a poor laundress, who, out of pity, admitted them into her wretched hovel by the way-side, they would have had no shelter from the inclemency of the night that followed. Aunice, helpless as an infant, sunk down upon the straw, whereon her compassionate neighbor had assisted in placing her, and, having expressed her thanks, turned her face to the wall; for she could not bear that her son's orphan should see the tears which she vainly strove to repress: but she could not hide them from the anxious scrutiny of the weeping girl. Dorothy did not speak, but loomed very earnestly on the pale cheek and sunken features of her venerable grandmother, while she appeared to hold communion with her own heart on some subject of very painful interest. At length she rose up with the air of one who has effected a mighty conquest, and exclaimed, "Yes, dearest grandmother, it shall be made-I will sell Constant."

"Sell Constant!" echoed her grandmother; "can you part with the gift of our royal mistress?"

" Not willingly, believe me," said Dorothy, throwing her arms about the neck of other under their burdens, with kindly and cost, called upon the poor widow on her mute favorite, and bursting into a flood the quarter-day, and told her, with many of tears; "but how can I see you want offered an angel of gold for him by a servant of the Duchess of Suffolk; and this I selfishly refused at that time, saying, I would rather starve than part with my dog. Alas, poor fellow! though I have shared my scanty pittance with him, since your illness he has suffered much for want of food: famine bath touched us all; and I have reason to reproach myself for having retained a creature I can no longer main tain."

The next morning she rose at an early hour, and, accompanied by her faithful Constant, took the road to Westminster, to inquire if the Duchess of Suffolk were still disposed to purchase him at the price she named; but she returned, bathed in tears, and in great distress, having encountered two ruffians, in a lonely part of the road at Knightsbridge, one of whom claimed Constant as his property, violently seized upon him, and, in spite of her tears and remonstances, carried him off, threatening her with very haish usage if she attempted to follow.

Poor Dorothy! this appeared one of the severest trials that had yet befailen her: at any rate it was one of those drops of bitterness which make a brimful cup of misery overflow; and, regardless of the scothings or expostulations of her grandmother, she wept and sobbed all that night, refusing to be comforted.

To be continued.

ORIGIN OF THE MATERIALS OF WRITING.

"The feast of reason, which from reading springs, To reasoning minds the highest colace i rings; "Tis books a lasting pleasure can supply, Charm while we live, and teach us how to die."

The most ancient mode of writing was on bricks and on tables of stone; afterwards on plates made of different materials, on ivory, on the bark of trees, and on their Specimens of most of these modes of writing may be seen at the British Museum, London. There are several copies of the Bible written on palmleaves, still preserved in various collections in Europe. The uncients, doubtless, wrote on any leaves they found best suited to their purpose. Hence we use the word leaf of a book, as well as of a tree.

In the book of Job mention is made of writing on stone, and on sheets of lead. The law of Moses was written on stone. And history informs us of leaden tables, sheets of lead, bronze tables, the walls of houses, and furniture, employed to mark or write upon; and the Arabs used to carve remarkable events on the shoulderbones of sheep, which were tied together and hung up in their houses.

These early inventions led to the discovery of tablets of wood, made of the trunks | raised on the page of the volume, the child of trees, and covered over with a thin paste bodkin, called a style, which was sharp at their way along towards a distant home.

bread? It is not long since that I was one end to make the letters with, and blunt at the other to blot them out or efface them, in case of correction, The Romans used a style made of bone; and when they wrote on softer materials, seeds or canes split like our pens, which are still used for writing in the East. By the word pen, in the translation of our Bible, we are always to understand an iron style.

In progress of time, the art of writing consisted in painting with different kinds of ink. This new mode of writing occasioned the invention of materials proper for it. They now choose the thin bark of certain trees and plants; they wrote on linen, and at length they prepared the skins of animals. The first place where skins were dressed for this purpose, was Pergamos in Asia, and these are called parchment.

When the Egyptians employed for writing the bark of a plant or reed, called Papyrus, or Paper-Rush, it was found more convenient than any thing which had been hefore used. And it is this which has given the name to our paper, although our paper is made of linen rags, as we propose to show in a future article

It was in the eighth century that parchmout came to be used instead of papyrus; and paper is also of great antiquity. Our word Book is taken from the Danish name of the beech-tree, which is bog; because beeches, being most plentiful in Denmark, were used to engrave upon. Formerly, instead of folding the bark, parchment, or paper, as we fold ours, it was rolled up as it was written upon, and the Latin name given to these rolls is used by us; hence we say a volume, volumes, although our books are made up in pages, and cut and bound. The books of the ancients were rolled on a pin, and placed upright, the titles being written on the outside in red letters, or subries, and tooked like a number of little pillars ranged on the shelves.

THE BLIND .- " Father," said a young one of a flock to us a few days since, "how does that poor blind man find his way home?"

"He has a cane in his hand," my child, "and feels his way along towards his distant

Shortly afterwards, the following paragraph met the eye of the child:

"LIGHT FOR THE BLIND .- The whole New Testament, in raised characters, for the blind, is completed at Boston, and bound in two volumes. The Massachusetts Bible Society contributed liberally to defray the expense of printing, and the completion of the work has been announced to the Society."

Having ascertained that the letters were significantly observed that this was probably of wax, on which they wrote with an iron another plan by which the blind could feel CHRISTMAS HYMN.

With one cousent let all the earth The praise of God proclaim, Who sent the Saviour, by whose birth, Salvation to us came.

All notions join to magnify The great, the wond'rous love Of Him who left for us the sky, And all the joys abov♣

But vainly thus in songs of praise We bear a joyful part, If, while our voices loud we raise, We liftnot up the heart.

We, by a holy life alone, Our Saviour's laws fulfil; By them his glory best is shown, Who best perform his will.

May we to all his words attend With humble pious care! Then shall our rongs to heav'n ascend, And find acceptance there.

#### MARRIED.

On Sunday evening, by the Rev. W. Jackson, Thomas Nixon, to Elizabeth, fourth daughter of Mr. James Ives, of this town.

On Tuesday the 6th inst. by the Rev. Mr Martin, Mr Robert Jemieson, to Harriet Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Mr. William Townsend.

On Sunday, Mr. John Johnson, Mason of this town, a native of Northumberland, England, in the 50th year of his age.

Wednesday morning, of Consumption, Jane, third daughter of the late Mr. John Forrest, of this town.

Suddenly, Tuesday, Mr. William Bilby, in the 38th year of his age.

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November 4. J. MUNRO.



### THE PRIDE OF WORTH.

BY ROBERT T. CONRAD.

There is a joy in worth -A high, mysterious, soul pervading charm, Which never daunted, ever bright and wacm, Mocks at the shadowy ill of earth, Amid the gloom is bright and placid in the storm.

It asks-it needs no aid : It makes the proud and lofty soul us throne; There, in its self-created heaven, alone -No fear to shake, no no vory to apbraid, It sits a lesser God; life, life is all its own.

The stoic was not wrong : There is no evil to the virtuous brave ; Or in the battle's rift, or on the wave, Worshipp'd or scorn'd, alone or in the throng, He is himself alone--not life's nor fortune's

Power, and wealth, and faine,
Are but as reeds upon the 's troubled tide;
Give me but these-- a spirit tempest tried, A brow unshrinking, and a heart of fiame, The joy of conscious worth, its courage and its pride.

### ON THE REVERENCE DUE TO THE WORD OF GOD.

Christians ought to be particularly on their guard against tan pering in any argree with the Word of God. We should never forget, that when we are explaining any expression of Scripture, we are treating of what are the very words of the Holy Chost. as much as if they had been speace to us by a voice from heaven. The profane rashness of many critics is much empellened by the circumstance that men have been employed in communicating revelation. A sort of modified inspiration only is granted to the Scriptures, and they are often practically treated as the words mercy of those who were employed to write them .- When God tis thus kept out of sight, little veremony is sused in treating the words of the Apostles with the utmost freedom. The profound reverence and awe with which the Scripiures ought to be read and handled, is, in many instances, too little exemplified. The poor man's Bible is the Word of God, in which he has no suspicion that there is any thing but perfection. The Bible of the projoundly erudite scholar, is often a book that is not so necessary to instruct him, as one that needs his hand for alteration, or amendment, or conformation. Learning may be usefully employed; but if learning ever forgets that it must constantly sit at the feet of Jesus, it will be a curse instead of a blessing. It will raise clouds and darkness, instead of communicating light to the world. Haldane-Extracted from the Church of England Magazine.

WANT OF RESOLUTION .- How many evils may be traced to this single cause.

u nick they form in their more soher moments, they would less frequently have to regret the results whi invariably follow the commission of evil actions. There are few, ever among the most depraved, who have not had their moments of remorse, and made firm proposes of amendment. But, alas, they was retended those sudden impulses which harry a into transgressions— which, if of first firmly opposed, grow weater and weaker; but if yielded to, become stre for and more unemquerable by every relapse.

A Provs Reason .- It is said that a lady in England, of the name of Johnston, left the established church and went to the Metholist chapel. Being asked the reason for her dissent from the church of her fathers, sae replied, "That it was on ar over of her pie being exactly ready when the Metaodisi c'apel came out; whereas, r she attended the church, it was always overden ." Mrs Johnston indulged herself on Sundans with a pie, which she put into the oven when she went to church, and as the morning service of the Church of Englind is rather long, she found that her pie was always too much done when she came out, and not so juicy as she could have wished. The Methodist service was rather shorter, and her pie was done to a T. This pic decided Mrs Johnston's religion.

ADVANTAGE OF LAUGHING. - Beware of studying, reading, or straining the head Laughter is one of the while at table. greatest helps to digestion; and the custom, it at table by jesters and buffoons, was founded on true medical principles. Endeavour to have cherrful and merry companions at your meals. What nourishment one receives amidst mirth and jollity will certainly produce good and light blood.

SILEAT COMPANION .- Two passengers set out from their Inn in London, early on a December morning. It was dark as pitch ; and one of the travellers not feeling very sleepy, and being disposed to talk a little endeavored to enter into conversation with his neighbor, He accordingly began: " A very dark morning sir." "Shocking cold weather for travelling." " Slow going in these heavy roads, sir; none of these remarks producing a word of answer, the sociable man made one more effort. He stretched out his hand, and feeling of the other's great coat said -" What a very comfortable coat, sir, you have got to travel in!" No answer was made, and the inquiver, favigued and disgusted with his silent companion, fell into a sound nap, and did not wake until the bright rays of a winters sun roused him from his slumber. What do you suppose he then saw? It was no more ther a great bear, sitting by his side ! The

mer would only live up to the resolutions creature had a chain over his mouth, so that he could not have spoken, even if he had wished to.

> One of the wonders which the Frascrs of Lovat, who were lords of the manor, used to show their guests, was a voluntarily cooked salmon at the falls of Kilmorac. For this purpose, a kettle was placed on the flat rock on the south side of the fall, close by the edge of the water, and kept full and boiling. There is a considerable extent of the rock. where tents were creeted, and the whole was under a canopy of overshadowing trees. There the company are said to have waited until a salmon fell into the hettle, and was boiled in their presence.

The importance to young men engaged in either mechanical or mercantile pursuits of some knowledge of the higher branches of science is incalculable. Their situation, unfavorable as it may be esteemed in regard to intellectual attainments does not exclude them from the paths of knowledge-Gifford is not a solitary instance in point. We see also a Milnor, a Baxter, a Heyne, a Herder, stand forth with a host of others, conspicious examples of the power of almost unaided effort in the attainment of knowledge.

The young nanshould realize that he has mind, "scarcely less than anyelic in its powers and capacities for enjoyment," and while wealth and worldly honor attract his aim, let him not forget nor undervalue theriches of mind, nor lightly escene that true konor which belongs to the proper cultivation of the intellectual and moral faculties. A prevalent among our forefathers, of exciting man of intelligence and moral worth is ever a man of respectability.

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