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JUVENILE ENTERTAINER.

"Torquet ab obscænis jam nunc sermonibus aurem."

No. 29.

Pictou, N. S. Wednesday Morning, January 4, 1832.

Vol. 1.

JUVENILE ENTERTAINER

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BIOGRAPHY.

The Progress of Genius

FROM OBSCURE AND LOW SITUATIONS, TO EMI-
NENCE AND CELEBRITY.

It is that gift of God which learning cannot
infer, which no disadvantages of birth or educa-
tion can wholly obscure.

THOMAS EDWARD BOWDICH;

An ingenious and enterprising man; one of the vic-
tims of the attempt to explore the interior of the Afri-
can continent. He was born at Bristol, in June, 1793,
and was sent to Oxford, but was never regularly matricu-
lated. At an early age, he married, and engaged in
business at Bristol. Finding the details of business irks-
ome, he obtained the appointment of writer in the ser-
vice of the African company. In 1816, he arrived at
Coast Castle. It being thought desirable to send an
ambassy to the Negro king of Ashantee, Bowdich was
chosen to conduct it; and he executed with suc-
cess the duties of his situation. After remaining two
years in Africa, he returned home, and soon after pub-
lished his Mission to Ashantee, with a Statistical Ac-
count of that Kingdom. Geographical Notices of other
parts of the Interior of Africa (1819, 4to.) Having
joined the company in whose service he had been
employed, and having therefore no prospect of further
employment, yet wishing ardently to return to Africa
for the purpose of visiting its hitherto unexplored re-
gions, he resolved to make the attempt with such assis-
tance as he could obtain from private individuals. He
never, previously went to Paris, to improve his
acquaintance with physical and mathematical science.
On his return, reception from the French literati was extremely
warm. A public eulogium was pronounced on him
at the meeting of the institute, and an advantageous
allowance was offered him by the French government.
To obtain funds for the prosecution of his favourite
study, Bowdich also published a translation of Mol-
lath's Travels to the Sources of the Senegal and Gam-
bia, and other works; by the sale of which he was en-
abled, with a little assistance from other persons, to
make preparations for his second African expedition.
He sailed from Havre in August, 1822, and arrived in
Senegal in the river Gambia. A disease, occasioned by
the heat and anxiety of mind, here put an end to his
life on the 10th, 1824. Bowdich is said to have been a
good classic and linguist, and excellent mathematician.
He was well versed in most of the physical sciences, in
natural and modern history, and in polite literature.
He was a member of several literary societies in Eng-
land and abroad.

ALEXIS BOYER, Baron.

One of the first surgeons in Europe, clinical
professor in Paris, and *chirurgien en chef* adjoined
at the hospital of charity. Surgery is indebted
to him for many instruments which he has either
invented or approved. He was born in 1760,
at D'Uzerche, in the Limosin, became a pupil
of the celebrated Baisnault, and, as early as 1787,
delivered lectures. He accompanied Napoleon
on his campaigns as chief surgeon. *Traite com-
plet d'Anatomic* (four vols.) has gone through
four editions. His *Traite des Maladies chirur-
gicales et des Operations qui leur conviennent* is
not yet finished. He explains diseases and
their remedies very circumstantially. Without
relating to what others have done, he describes
his own mode of treatment, and the advantages
of it. He was long time fellow-labourer with
Roux and Corvisart in the *Journal de Medicin
Chirurgie et Pharmacie*. He also wrote many
surgical articles for the *Dictionnaire des Scien-
ces medicales*. When the king wished for an of-
ficial statement of the circumstances of the medi-
cal and surgical colleges in the kingdom, in
1815, drawn up by the most learned physicians
and surgeons, Boyer was a member of the com-
mittee of inquiry.

NATURAL HISTORY.

From the New Preceptor.

THE CONGAR.

Of all the animals that infest the new world
the Congar justly excites the greatest degree of
dread; and so much in its disposition does it re-
semble the tiger, that the inhabitants have given
the same name, though the colour is be-
tween a dark brown and red.

The red tiger, or more properly speaking the
congar, is very common in South America: and
where towns are bordering upon woods and for-
ests, make frequent incursions into them during
night, for the purpose of carrying off fowls, dogs,
and other domestic creatures that may unfor-
tunately be wandering through the streets. They
are, however, weak and contemptible, when
compared to the great tiger, and are capable of
being vanquished by a single man, if properly
armed with a lance and scymitar, which are the
common weapons they use in fight.

Though this animal is seldom victorious in his
combats with the negroes, who provoke him to
action for the sake of his skin, yet he will fre-
quently attack the crocodile, and conquer a
creature of much greater might. When the con-
gar, impelled by a thirst that seems to consume
it, comes down to the river side to drink, the
crocodile, which makes no distinction in its prey,
raises its head above water to secure a perfect
hold; then the congar instantly darts its claws
into its eyes, whilst its adversary plunges be-
neath the waves, where they continue for a
length of time together, though the congar is
frequently known to escape.

This animal is common in Brazil and Para-
guay; likewise in the country of the Amazons,

and in several other parts of South America:
they often climb trees in quest of prey, or to
avoid their pursuers. Like the tiger, they have
an antipathy to fire, which the natives kindle
near their flocks and herds, to deter them from
venturing to approach.

THE PANTHER.

This animal has been mistaken by many na-
turalists for the tiger; and, in fact, it approaches
nearest to it in size, fierceness and beauty, of
any quadrupid that is known. It is distinguish-
ed, however, by one obvious and leading feature,
that of being spotted, not streaked; for in this
particular the tiger differs from the panther,
the leopard, and almost all the inferior ranks of
this mischievous race.

THE LEOPARD.

Next to the panther is an animal which Mr
Buffon terms the leopard; or, as it is sometimes
called the panther of Senegal, where it is chiefly
to be found. The difference between this crea-
ture and the panther, consists in its size, and
the distribution of the spots upon the skin. From
the tip of the panther's nose to the insertion of
its tail, is generally about six feet; but the leo-
pard seldom measures more than four. The
leopard's skin is more bright and shining, and
the spots are disposed in clusters instead of
rings.

LITERATURE.

A FATHER'S ADDRESS TO HIS CHILDREN.

No. 2.

On the Starry Heavens.

You have often been out in the open air af-
ter the sun has been set, and seen multitudes of
what are called, stars, glittering throughout the
sky. These are very distant from us, more dis-
tant perhaps than you have ever imagined. A
million of miles is a long way for you and me;
nay, ourselves are so small, that we can scarce-
ly be seen at little more than the distance of a mile
in the clearest day; but a million of millions is a
short line compared with the distance of some
of the stars from each other, or from us. It is
thus distance which makes these stars appear so
small to us; though many of them are larger
than the earth we live on, by many thousand
times. The sun is reckoned by some, to be at
least a million of times bigger than the earth,
and to be above ninety millions of our miles dis-
tant from it—I fancy, you are surprised, my
dear, but let this vastness of things lead you to
admire the greatness of God. These, though
immensely great, have a bound, a certain com-
pass, which may be measured; but He is un-
bounded, and of his being, in any and every
sense, there is no end.

The study of the heavenly body is called *A-
stronomy*; a Greek word, signifying the law or
order, which God hath given to the stars; and
the people, who study this law or science par-
ticularly, are therefore called *astronomers*.

These studious people tell us, that, in this

magnificent fabric of the heavens, there is a system or order of bright stars, the nearest of any others to us, which form a vast circuit, one within another, like so many rings or circles, and that these are in continual motion round the sun, which is in the centre or middle of the whole. They have named these planets, which word signifies moving or wandering, or balls, because they are always moving in their several orbits or circles, round their centre the sun, from whom they receive all their light, as you know we do upon this world. They call them by their following names. Mercury Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, say nothing of the Georgian Sidus, or of the fixed stars, which are by some supposed to be suns at immense distances, with planets, or globes, too remote to be seen by us, whirling around them continually.

Of these amazing works, I have thought it right to give you a hint, that you may see what reason you have to stand in awe of that great God, who made all, and who upholds all, (as the Bible tells us) by the word of his power. I hope you will be able to consider, ere long, that, in a very sublime and important sense also, and according to the philosophy of the Bible, God hath established his truth in the heavens. They were made for signs and for tokens of his invisible glory. When you understand them rightly, you will perceive, that they are not vast collections or monuments of dull matter only, but lively pictures of spiritual things, which convey thoughts to the soul through the outward senses. In the mean time, let me desire you to read the eighth Psalm, with these reflections in your mind; and when you come to the third verse, ask yourself if David had not reason to sing; *When I consider the heavens (O Lord) the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained, What is man, that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man, that thou visitest him?*

I have given you a hint or two concerning the commonly received opinion of the stars or planets, which are nearest to the globe of earth on which we live: But there are others of great size and distance, which the astronomers call fixed stars, because they change their situation very little, or not at all, in our view. and from their twinkling piercing light, [for the planets have a duller and more steady light] are imagined to be suns, like our sun, sending forth rays to some dark worlds about them. Their vast distance is almost unconceivable by man. The nearest of the fixed stars has been computed by some astronomers to be at least an hundred thousand times farther from us than we are from the sun; consequently, this distance must be many hundred thousand millions of miles. If a cannon ball were to set out from the earth, as speedily as from the mouth of a cannon, and to continue on at the same pace in a straight line, it has been calculated, that it would be above six hundred thousand years in its passage to the nearest of these stars.

My dear child, what astonishing grandeur is here! What immensity! What glory! and yet all this is infinite, all hath a bound, and therefore is not so much to the greatness and majesty of God as a small grain of sand to all the stars and all their distances put together. What tongue can utter, what thought can conceive, rightly, of such subjects as these! and how much less of the Maker of them!" should not this teach us humility? Should not what he has done, awe us into

obedience concerning all that he has said? Who by his own searching can find out God? Who can know him, with any possible certainty, but by his own revelation or aid?

Friend of Youth.

THE BOOK OF NATURE LAID OPEN

"Let us read

The LIVING PAGE, whose every character
Delights, and gives us wisdom."

ANIMALS.

In ascending from the VEGETABLE to the ANIMAL KINGDOM, one cannot help his attention being forcibly engaged by the singular construction, and amazing properties of those little wonders, found at the bottom of ditches, and adhering to the underside of the broad-leaves of Aquatic Plants, known by the name of *Fresh-water Polypuses*.*

If the *Sensure Plant*, the *Hedysarum Gyran*, and *Venus' Fly Trap*, may be considered as so many links at which the vegetable creation ends, these *living plants*, if I may use the expression, and *animal flowers* which are found adhering to the rocks, on the sea shore, may, as well as the Oyster, and other shell fish (which form the connection betwixt the animal and the mineral kingdom,) be reckoned among those at which that mysterious and multitudinous order of beings begins, which is continued in such an infinitude of shapes and sizes, shades and differences, and possessed with such a number of dissimilar appetites and instincts, from the lowest gradation amongst the number of these imperfectly formed animals, till it arrives at that most complete piece of nature's workmanship—that capstone of the inferior creation, or link which unites it with superior intelligences—MAN.

The number of animated creatures, is prodigious indeed! The whole creation teems as it were with existence!—The dry-land sends forth its multitudes;—the air hath its swarms;—the sea its numerous shoals;—and the very depositories of corruption produce their myriads! †

Yet notwithstanding these immense numbers!—this amazing diversity of form and bulk, of taste and habit, ALL are conveniently and comfortably lodged,—ALL are fed to their heart's content at the same common table, and in such a manner as not a fragment can be lost; while each pursues that particular path chalked out

* Cut one of these in two, the upper part shoots out a tail, and the under produces a head, cut one in three and the upper and under do the same, while the middle division produces both a head and a tail; cut one down lengthways to the middle, and you have a monster with two heads; divide these, again, as often as you please, and you have a Hydra with many heads; in short, cut the Polypus into ten, or ten hundred parts, the effect will be the same, and you will have as many Polypuses.

† In the class of INSECTS alone there are a greater number of species than there are kinds of Plants on the surface of the earth. In a little rain water after standing some days, Mr. LEWENHOEK discovered innumerable animalcules, many thousand of times less than a grain of sand, and in proportion to a mite as a bee is to a horse! Having examined the melt of a cod he concluded that it contained more living animalcules than there were people living in the world; and by a method he made use of in order to ascertain their comparative size with the thickness of breadth of a hair of his head, it was found that 216,000 of these minute creatures are but equal to a globe whose diameter is the breadth of a hair.—How amazing the wonders of Omnipotence!

for him by nature, without repining or envying the lot of his neighbour.

The unwieldy Whales in the Greenland sea, the numerous herds of Elephants which graze the extensive regions betwixt the river Senegal and the Cape of Good Hope; and the gigantic Ostrich of the sandy borders of Egypt and Palestine, room as much at large as the winged insect that flits from flower to flower, or the invisible Animalcule which swims in the liquid drop.—The Polar Bear of the Arctic Circle, wrapt up in his shaggy covering, the Ermine of Siberia in its furry mantle, and the Water Fowl with her thick set only feathers, no doubt feel as comfortable as the Barbary Cow, almost naked, the Ruminator, sheltered from the tropical heats by his coat of mail, or the monstrous Hippopotamus (the Behemoth of Job) when he retires to cool himself at the bottom of the African rivers—These abhorred insects which feed upon ordure, or still more loathsome that rot in putrefaction, we have reason to believe, feed as deliciously as the Raccoon on his West-Indian sweets, or pampered Lapdog from the hand of its mistress—And if the foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests, we have no reason to suppose but the former feel as happy when they have formed their habitations at a convenient distance, from the hen roost, and the latter, when from their lofty situation they can behold the fowler at a distance, as the flocks and herds which graze our fields, or the domestic fowls which partake of our care and bounty. By this wise and happy arrangement, the harmony of the Universe is preserved, and the prodigious multitude of Earth's numerous tenants able to exist without disorder or confusion.

But if we attend to the internal structure of these wonderfully complicated and intricately woven machines, called ANIMALS, we will still find more reason to admire and adore that incomprehensible BEING, whose omnipotent fist brought them all into existence. No wonder that GALILEO, at the sight of a human skeleton, should relinquish his former scholastic thoughts, and that the Psalmist, on the contemplation of his material structure, should exclaim: "I am fearfully and wonderfully made;" but the greater surprise is, that so many skeletons of animals and animated wonders can be beheld with so much indifference by that creature to whom God has given reflection for the wisest of purposes, for to what purpose can the thoughts of man be better applied than to the contemplation of the DEITY through the medium of his works!—

"What variety of springs, what forces, and what mechanical motions (says BURTON) are enclosed in this small part of matter which composes the body of an animal!—What properties, what harmony, and what correspondence between the various parts! How many combinations, arrangements, causes, effects and principles, conspire to complete one end;—and as the writer observes: "In the single ounce of matter which composes the body of a Sparrow we see all the instruments necessary for eating, for digestion, for respiration, for seeing, for hearing, for smelling, for flying, for the performance of every animal function, and of every motion. All the parts of the complicated machine are perfectly appropriated, completely adapted to their respective use; and all disposed with the most exact organization." All this is very in-

It would not be wonder had been still more augmented, had the specimen been taken from among those little curiosities of the Western Hemisphere, called Humming-birds; with the addition, that its beak is pointed like a needle, its claws not thicker than a common pin; that its beak is about half an inch deep, its egg about the size of a small pea; and that, nevertheless, this diminutive bird is adorned with a plumage of the richest hues, and covered with a down that makes it resemble a velvet flower: But indeed, the structure of the smallest insect, or the minutest animal, in the creation of God, carries along with it the most indisputable evidence of Divine originality; namely, that it is beyond the possibility of art to imitate, or the utmost stretch of human ingenuity to comprehend!

MOTION is one distinguishing characteristic of an Animal from the Vegetable Kingdom of nature, and this peculiarity will be found to be absolutely necessary; for if the food or nutriment of animals is not brought to them as to plants, by means of roots or other conductors, they must needs go in search of it; and how wisely are they furnished with instruments for the purpose, some in the form of limbs, some of wings, some of scales, and some of the reptile tribe are enabled to move by the disposition of the muscles and veins of their bodies; but what would this power of motion and means of performing it have signified, had these creatures been left to grope in the dark, without ability to distinguish the good from the bad;

"To shun their poison, and to choose their food." Might they not as well have remained perpetually at the spot which gave them birth, as to have ranged only to get their frames shattered by every intervening obstacle; or the vital spark extinguished by mistaking the baneful plant for the wholesome herb. To remedy such evils, however, Nature, or rather the God of Nature, or in this sense I wish always to be understood), has not only provided them with senses, but has taken the utmost precaution to guard them from external injury these wonderful pieces of exquisite skill, as well as that seat of all sensation, whence the ramifications of the nerves take their rise.

Without breathing, to put the wheel in motion of the cistern, no animal could exist, and how admirably situated and guarded also are the organs of respiration, and that mysterious movement that faints not, neither is weary," but by night and by day, asleep or awake, in motion or at rest, pulsations, with greater regularity than a watch, in the breast of some animals for 60, in some 70, and in others upwards of 100 years. I might also notice the admirable structure and wise disposition of the other organs in the animal country, but this would be inconsistent with my present limits and design; must, however, observe on the whole, that each will be found most conveniently situated to its respective uses, and formed in the wisest manner for its various purposes;—that while nothing is wanting to render the structure complete, there is nothing superfluous or made in vain. The feeler's of the Butterfly are no less essential to her well-being, than the prospect of the Elephant; and the leg of the Fly can no more say to its wing, than the eye of the Human Body to its hand, "I have no need of thee." But if the right consideration of the structure of animals as well as the wise provision made

for their lodgment and subsistence, must convince the most sceptical that all are the doings of a Being infinite in power, and fearful in working, and inspire the religious philosopher with such sentiments as DAVID expressed when contemplating the formation of the human frame, must we not also adopt such language as he made use of on another occasion, and say, when reflecting on the manner in which these creatures are reproduced, and the wonders of that procreative power by which a continued succession is kept up, *Thine eyes saw them when they were made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lower places of the earth.* Whether they come into the world in the shape of animals completely formed or through the medium of eggs, still the business of generation must remain a mystery, and be reckoned amongst the number of the dark things of God!

The provision for keeping the number of creatures within due limits, is no less remarkable than that for bringing them into being.—The most formidable monsters are thinly scattered, or confined to particular spots. Long lived animals are observed to have few young at a time, while those of the greatest utility, or such as are used for animal food, abound in every climate, and the short in duration are uncommonly prolific!

The instinct displayed by many of the irrational creation for the preservation of their young, is also astonishing, and in some instances has been referred to as example of the strongest proofs of affection. "How often," says our Saviour, "would I have gathered the children together as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"—but there are some of this order who stand not long in need of parental protection and instruction, for the newly calved Hippopotamus on the death of his dam, will, at the sight of danger, betake himself to a place of safety in his natural element at the bottom of the river. This might bring me to speak more fully of those particular instincts by which animals are distinguished; but as I shall have occasion to notice a few of these in considering some peculiarities in the different orders as I go along I shall here drop my general survey, and proceed in next number to that of Quadrupeds.

POETRY.

From the Cheap Magazine.
THE DISTINCTION OF AGES.

The seven first years of life, (man's break of day)
Gleams of short sense, a dawn of thought display;
When fourteen springs have bloom'd his downy cheek,
His soft and blushful meanings learn to speak:
From twenty-one proud manhood takes its date,
Yet is not strength complete till twenty-eight;
Thence to his five-and-thirtieth, life's gay fire
Sparkles, burns loud, and flames in fierce desire;
At forty-two his eyes grave wisdom wear,
And the dark future dims him o'er with care;
On to the nine-and-forty, coils increase,
And busy hopes and fears disturb his peace;
At fifty-six, cool reason reigns entire,
Then life burns steady, and with temp'rate fire;
But sixty-three unbinds the body's strength,
Ere th' unwearied mind has run her length;
And when from seven'y Age surveys her last,
Tir'd she stops short—and wishes all were past.

Hall.

THE ACCOMPLISHED YOUTH.

EXPERIENCE TO BE ANTICIPATED BY REFLECTION.

It is to be observed, that the young and the ignorant are always the most violent in pursuit. The knowledge which is forced upon them by longer acquaintance with the world, moderates their impetuosity. Study, then, to anticipate, by reflection, that knowledge which experience often purchases at too dear a price. Inure yourselves to frequent consideration of the emptiness of those pleasures which excite so much strife and commotion among mankind. Think how much more of the true enjoyment is lost by the violence of passion, than by the want of those things which give occasion to that passion. Persuade yourselves that the favour of God and the possession of virtue, form the chief happiness of the rational nature. Let a contented mind and a peaceful life, hold the next place in your estimation. These are the conclusions which the wise and thinking part of mankind have always formed. To these conclusions, after having run the race of passion, you will probably come at the last. By forming them betimes, you will make a seasonable escape from that tempestuous region, through which none can pass without suffering misery, contracting guilt, and undergoing severe remorse.

Blair.

DAWN OF GENIUS.

FERGUSON—This eminent practical philosopher and astronomer, was born in a humble station at Keith, a small village in Scotland, in the year 1710. He learned to read by merely listening to the instructions which his father communicated to an elder brother. He was afterwards sent for about three months to the grammar school at Keith; and this was all the scholastic education he ever received. His taste for mechanics appeared when he was only about seven or eight years of age; by means of a turning lathe and a knife, he constructed machines, that served to illustrate the properties of the lever, the wheel, and the axle. Of these machines, and the mode of their application, he made rough drawings with a pen, and wrote a brief description of them. Unable to subsist without some employment, he was placed with a neighbouring farmer, and occupied for some years in the care of his sheep. In this situation he commenced the study of astronomy, devoting a great part of the night to the contemplation of the heavens, while he amused himself in the day time with making models of spinning wheels, and other machines which he had an opportunity of observing. By another farmer, in whose service he was afterwards engaged, he was much encouraged in his astronomical studies, and enabled by the assistance that was afforded him in his necessary labour, to reserve a part of the day for making fair copies of the observations which he roughly sketched out in the night. In making these observations, he lay down on his back, with a blanket about him, and by means of a thread strung with small beads, and stretched at arm's length between his eye and the stars, he marked their positions and distances. The master who thus kindly favoured his search after knowledge, recommended him to some neighbouring gentlemen, one of whom took him into his house, where he was instructed by the butler in decimal arithmetic, algebra, and the elements of geometry. Being afterwards deprived of the assistance of his preceptor, he returned to his father's house, and availing himself of the information derived from Gordon's Geographical Grammar, he constructed a globe of wood, covered it with paper, and delineated upon it a Map of the World; he also added the meridian ring, and horizon, which he graduated; and by means of this instrument, which was the first he had ever seen, he came to solve all the problems in Gordon.

Being obliged to labour for his subsistence, he exceeded his strength, and was laid by through illness; before he was able to return to work, he made a wooden clock, and after that a watch, after having but once seen the mechanism: these excited so much attention, as to lead to employments, that furnished better support and laid the foundation of his future fame.

MISCELLANEOUS.

JEWISH MANUFACTURES.

The Reader is recommended to refer to the Texts

There is very little mention in the Bible of the arts and manufactures among the Jews. They had smiths, Isa. 44:12, and 54:16; and carpenters, Isa. 41:2, 44:18, Zech. 1:20; and other trades necessary in a country where the inhabitants chiefly live by tilling the soil. The enemies who invaded the land, as the Philistines, 1 Sam. 13:19; and the Babylonians, Jer. 24:1, carried these craftsmen away as captives. Thus they did, both to distress the Israelites and because men skilled in handicraft trades were reckoned the most valuable captives or slaves, as they are at the present day. It is plain that there must be craftsmanship of this description in every land which is at all civilized. We read of "the valley of craftsmen," 1 Chron. 4:14. Here we may remark, that Joseph, the reputed father of our Lord after the flesh, was a carpenter, Matt. 13:55, Mark 6:3. And from the texts, Luke 2:51, Mark 6:3, some persons have supposed that Christ himself assisted Joseph, while "subject unto him, and his mother Mary," before he went forth to do the will of his heavenly father, and therefore he was called "the carpenter." Whether this is correct or not, the circumstance of our Lord being willing to be considered "a carpenter," may well make those amongst us, who are engaged in handicraft trades, content with their lot. Shall we desire to be united to him spiritually, and yet be unwilling to follow his example, as to our earthly actions? In whatever state we are placed, let us be therewith content. Phil. 4:11.

There were not many regular manufactures among the Jews: in 1 Chron. 4:21, we read of the families of the house of them that wrought fine linen, as a single instance of the sort as a trade. In verse 23, we read of potters, and also in Jer. 18:2 and Lam. 4:2.

There are several beautiful allusions to weaving, as Job 7:6, Isaiah 33:12, &c. but this, as well as spinning the thread, was carried on as a family employment, rather than as a regular trade. It is so now among eastern nations; and the loom as well as the instruments for spinning, are of the plainest kind. In the description of the virtuous woman, Prov. 31:10 to the end, we have a full and minute account of the manner in which these family employments were directed by the mistress. Nor was this only in the families of the middle and lower ranks. In the Greek and Roman histories, we read of the wives of kings and generals being thus engaged. Homer, who lived soon after the time of Solomon, describes two queens, Penelope and Helen, as employed at their looms. Dr. Shaw found that the women in Barbary, at the present day, were the only persons who wove the bykes or upper garments, and as those were coarse articles, they did not use shuttles, but pressed the threads of the woof with their fingers.

The plan of spinning thread in families, for their own use, was very common in our own country, till within the last few years; and even now, in many farm-houses, the women sit down to spin in the afternoon. The thread is either sold to dealers, or more generally sent to weavers, who live near, and weave for the different families of the districts.—But the general use of machinery has nearly put an end to this simple mode of proceeding.

It should be observed, that in the instance of Solomon's virtuous woman, the cloth so spun and wove at home was for the use of the families, and it is so usually in these latter cases. The comfort of such clothing is well expressed: "She is not afraid of the snow, for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet;" or (as the margin better expresses it,) with double garments.

As an additional proof that the manufactures among the Jews were not extensive, we may refer to Ezekiel 27. In that chapter the prophet describes, very minutely, all the articles in which the merchants of Tyre dealt; and we do not find that any of them came from

Judea, except wheat, honey, oil, and balm; verse 17; all which were the natural productions of the soil.

Even in the accounts given of many of the articles made for the use of the Tabernacle, Exodus 39:25,26, and for the temple, were made by the Israelites, rather as their work at home, than as made by regular manufacturers: and Solomon had to send to Hiram, king of Tyre, 2 Chron. 2:7,13, for a man skilful enough to direct and order the articles he wished to have made for the temple.

Shoes and clothes were also made at home; this was usual in other countries. Homer describes Eunoos, a very respectable steward of king Ulysses, as employed in making his own shoes. Sometimes these articles might be sold, as Amos 2:6, but there do not appear to have been regular shoemakers or tailors.

In like manner, there were but few butchers or bakers; the country people brought meat or other articles of food to the large towns, as the men of Tyre, Neh. 13:16, did to Jerusalem, and sold them in the market. We read of the sheep market, and other similar places. In the case of the men of Tyre, just mentioned, we see plainly that God has forbidden the purchase and sale of these things on the sabbath. It is very sad to reflect how many in our land constantly break this commandment.

That bakers were not common, we may suppose, from the distress of David, 1 Sam. 21:3. He would hardly have been so urgent with the priests of Nob, to give him the show bread, if he could have bought it. We read, Jer. 37:21, of a baker's street, but this was in later times, and at Jerusalem.

To be continued.

THE GREAT BELL, AND THE LITTLE BELL.

A Fable translated from the Spanish.

In a certain city there was a magnificent cathedral, in which was suspended a bell very remarkable for its weight and tremendous powers of sound. This bell was used only on great occasions—such as the death of a Pope, or the King—but when it did speak, it spoke in *ex cathedra* style, and the windows of the whole city trembled at the sound. The inhabitants, especially the more ignorant, regarded it with superstitious reverence, as a sort of Great Unknown, whose mission it was to declare the mighty events of earth, and the sudden visitations of heaven.

There was a miserable village in the neighbourhood of this city, that contained a dirty little box of a church in which was suspended a feeble bell, scarcely too big for a good sized cow. The inhabitants of this village, had heard so much of the fame of the cathedral bell, and were so impressed with awe by the solemn tone heard at such distant intervals, that they were fired with ambition concerning their own little bell. They therefore agreed that their bell should be used only on state occasions, and then should give forth but few sounds. By this sparing use of its feeble powers, the little cow-bell was, in time, regarded with something of the same solemn interest inspired by the great bell of the Cathedral.

MONAL.—Some people of shallow intellect are deemed extremely wise because they seldom speak, and when they do, they say but few words, and say them solemnly.

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ANECDOTES.

"TWA LITTLE BIRDIES."

There were two sutors in the North, who had saved a little property, upon which they lived. When a case was presented to them by a minister, they said that they cut and carved so close, that if the King himself were to come, they should not have any thing to give him. "Oh, but," said the minister, "I do come from the King!" "Well, we canna' gie ye ony thing." "Nae, what not a penny a week!" "A penny a week indeed! why that's just 4s. 4d. a year, nae, we canna do ony sic a thing." The minister was casting his eyes about him, and perceiving two birds hanging up in handsome cages, he said, "What hae ye gotten yonder?" "O, only twa little birdies." "And what might they cost ye, now?" "About half-a-croon a piece." "And do they eat any thing?" "Aye, sure, and indeed they do." "And what does their food cost you?" "Oh, not less than twa bawbees and a half, two-pence halfpenny a week." "Oh, for

shame o' yoursels! for shame o' yoursels! to get twa shillings a year upon twa little birdies that nae lay ony eggs, and ha' naething to gi' to the cause God!" "Well, but now we ha' gotten them, w' would ye ha' us do wi' em?" "Do wi' em—why pen the window and let them fly awa!" "Now, friends, if you have got any little birdies, any thing that would prevent your giving to the cause of God open the windows, and let them go immediately.—J. Edwards, at London Home Miss. Anni.

SIR HUMPHREY DAVY.

The following testimony to the excellency of religion is from the pen of Sir Humphrey Davy, one of the most celebrated philosophers of our age:—"I envy no quality of the mind, or intellect in others; not genius, power, wit, or force; but if I could choose what would be most delightful, and I believe, most useful to me, I should prefer a firm religious belief to every other blessing; for it makes life a discipline of goodness—creates now, hopes, when all earthly hopes vanish, and throws over the decay, the destruction of existence, the most gorgeous of lights; awakens life in death, and from corruption and decay calls up beauty and vivacity; makes an instrument of torture and shame the ladder of ascent to paradise; far above all combinations of early hopes, or the most delightful visions of palms and arbutus, the gardens of the blest, the security everlasting joys, where the sensualist and avaricious ever view gloom, decay, annihilation, and despair!"

AXIOM.

A friendship with a generous stranger, commonly more steady than with the near relation.

POETRY.

From the Friend of Youth.

THE ROSE.

The Rose, the sweetly blooming rose,
Ere from the tree 'tis torn,
Is like the charm which beauty shows
In life's exulting morn.

But oh! how soon its sweets are gone,
How soon it withering lies;
So, when the eve of life comes on,
The loveliest beauty dies.

Then since the fairest form that's made,
Soon withering we shall find,
Let us possess what ne'er will fade,
The beauties of the mind.

THE GLOW-WORM.

Poor insect! while the day is high,
With other worms content to lie,
Nor court our curious sight;
Soon as the sun's last fires decay,
Thou lightest up the little ray,
To cheer us through the night.

'Tis thus, true friendship in the gleam
Of prosperous fortune's golden beam,
Sits unobscured in shade;
But if distress the prospect shroud,
She starts conspicuous from the cloud,
To succour and to aid.

FRIENDSHIP.

And can the sight of envious time
Remove the image of a friend?
Can changing place, or varying clime,
The dear, delightful contract end?
No!—knit in friendship's sacred tie,
Days, months, and years shall vainly roll,
They may demand the passing sigh,
But dare not disunite the soul.