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Vot. I.)

HALIFAX, FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1835.

[No. 9.

NATURAL HISTORY.

THE HARPY BAGLE.

the extremity; the legs are only partially previously to consigning them to its maw. feathered, on the upper part of their anterior portionable length.

The Harpy is so bold, according to Hernandez, that it does not scruple to attack the most ferocious beasts and even man himself; but this attribute is probably as much exaggerated as its docility, when he adds that he may be tamed and trained to hawk as readily as the rest of the accipitrine tribe. He states also that it is quarrelsome, sullen, and fierce, and preys not merely upon birds, but upon hares, and other similar animals. Linneus adds to this account, probably on thereport of the keepers of the Spanish Menagerie, that it is capable of splitting a man's skull with a single blow of its beak. Maudait states that he had been informed by trawellers that it commonly feeds upon the two enecies of sloth which are found in the forests of Guiana, and carries off in its talons fawns and other young quadrupeds. These details are confirmed by Sounini, who describes it as living perfectly solitary in the depth and darkness of the thickest forests, where of course it is seldom disturbed by the prying It is even one of the most common things in eye of curiosity. He himself observed it the world. It is found in the atmosphere at perched upon a lofty tree on the banks of all times, and in all places. the Orassu, where it seemed altogether moit remained for several days, displaying no erals. symptoms of mischievousness, but constantspecimen called by him Aigle Destructeur. in great abundance. Indeed the whole ani- gives it the name of carbonic acid. they had never been seen before.

These scattered notices comprise all that is known of its history in its natural state. times in great abundance. Whenever bread, In captivity there is little to distinguish its yeast, wine, beer, cider molasses or any This noble bird, the most magnificent of manners from those of the other birds of its substance undergoes the least fermentation, the Eagle tribe, is distinguished from the tribe. An individual taken from the nest, the result is an acid in the form of air, which other Eagles by the shortness of its wings, in possession of the elder Jacquin, became so is as extensive and common as the atmosthe extreme robustness of its legs, and the tame as to suffer its head to be handled and pheric air. more than ordinary curvature of its beak and scratched; but unfortunately this specimen talons. Its upper mandible is remarkably was found dead on its passage to Europe, sparkling to bottled cider, beer, soda water, thick at the base, from whence it is continued having fallen a victim, as was supposed, to and many other liquids used as beverages. for some distance in a straight line but sud- the vengeance of the sailors, whose monkeys It is the loss of this acid that renders, beer, dealy curves downwards with a strong arch it had destroyed. These animals in their cider, wine, &c. dead, as it is termed. the wings do not reach when closed beyond their bones, but not without skinning them, the middle of the tail, which is rounded at an operation which it uniformly performed

very best of beef.

Her flesh makes excellent beef; of her good. horns are made combs, knife handles, &c.; of her skin is made leather; and from the acid by pouring oil of vitriol upon pulverized of ways; of her hoofs we make glue.

COMMON THINGS.

No. 3.-ACIDS.

Being nearly twice as heavy as common it by one leg to his boat, in which position rocks, especially limestone, and many min- acid.

Of the Grand Aigle de la Guiana he met mal kingdom are constantly producing it in candles, &c.

Fermentation also produces it, and some-

It is this acid that gives the life and

toward the point, which is extremely sharp; gambols unconsciously approached too near the lower mandible is straight, short and its cage, and were seized by its powerful ing is healthful and invigorating when obtuse; the nostrils are transverse and oval; talons, it devoured all of them with almost all taken into the stomach, it has many times proved fatal to life, when taken into the lungs. Persons descending into wells or other low places, where it has taken possession, have frequently dropt lifeless. In surface, the remaining portion being naked THE Ox.—The ox is about as large as some instances persons have instantly lost and reticulated; and the talons are excessively inverful, the internal and the posterior is more bulky, especially about the vat in a brewery, or distillery, after being the internal and most disproneck and head. The ox is a very useful emptied of the substance fermented, the animal, being employed in most all coun- acid produced in the fermentation still keeptries for draught. In this Province he is ing possession and filling the vat. The used more particularly for drawing carts, burning of coal in a pan, or a common portand for other labor, by the farmers, about able furnace confined in a tight room, has their farms. This animal's flesh makes the frequently produced so much of this acid as to destroy life. It is always produced in THE COW.—The Cow may be placed such quantities in the burning of coal, as to at the head of all quadrupeds for usefulness be hurtful, if not dangerous, to be confined to man. There is no part of the cow but in a room where it is burning, unless the what is of some use. Her milk constitutes room has a chimney or some other ventilaone of the most important articles of food, tion to displace the bad air, and supply the

> The manufacturers of soda water form this cow we get the matter, for kine pock inocu- marble, which is discharged from the lime lation, an excellent preventive of the small or marble in the form of bubbles, which pox. Her blood is used in a great variety chemists call effervescing. They then combine it with water, in which soda has been dissolved, by a forcing pump. The pressure thus created by it is frequently so grea as to burst casks strongly hooped and barred.

Though this is the most common, it is the One acid is more common than any other. weakest among the acids; and hence when vinegar, oil of vitriol, (sulphuric acid,) or almost any other acid, is poured upon lime, pearlash, or saleratus, ashes, and many other substances containing this, it produces tionless, and uttered no cry. His shot air, it settles in low places, such as wells, an effervescence, by which it is discharged, having only broken the wing, he fastened caves, &c. It is also combined with some and gives place to the other and stronger an effervescence, by which it is discharged,

This very common thing, of which we This most common of acids is constantly are speaking, is composed of oxygen, which ly refusing all kinds of food. This was the forming by several processes of nature, and signifies acid maker, and carbon, which

Vinegar, next to carbonic acid, is the with only three individuals in the course of the process of respiration. It is also formed most common among the numerous acids, his journeys in the interior, and was the first wherever combustion is going on, such as and can be formed from any substance capato make them known in the colony, where the burning of the common fire, lamps, ble of being fermented. Wine, cider, molasses, the juice of the sugar cane, and the

used for forming this useful article in domes- to hunt, each of them armed with a well- the horror of being all torn to pieces, run tic economy. Fermentation produces spirit, charged gun in his hand, and a kene-dhu, rather too far without looking back, the or alcohol, before it forms the acid; and or Highland dirk, by his side. They shaped boar had by that oversight got considerably vinegar is always, or nearly always, pro- their course towards a small stream which ahead of him. Donald strained every nerve duced by the destruction of alcohol. Just descends from the mountains to the north- -uttered some piercing cries-and even, for before cider becomes vinegar it is worth most west of the river; on the banks of which all his haste, did not forget to implore asto the distiller, but after that, it is useless they knew there were still a few wild swine sistance from heaven. His prayer was short to him, but much more useful to society, as remaining; and, of all other creatures, they but pithy-"O Lord! puir Mack! puir it then does not deprive men of their senses wished most to meet with one of them; little Mack!" said Donald, in a loud vice, while and make them lower than the brutes, but doubting but that they would overcome even the tears gushed from his eyes. In spite of is highly useful in the family and many of the a pair of them, if chance should direct them all his efforts, the enraged animal reached

or other hard wood, will produce thirtythree pounds of a liquid substance, very
useful in the arts, especially in the manufactory of white lead, for which and some indeed; so, without losing a moment, Donthree purposes it takes the place of vinegar.

It is a powerful preservative of animal matlittlest man, creep you in and durk to done.

Which contained a large the utmost desperation.

Mack, who was all unconscious of what
was going on above ground, wondered why
factory of white lead, for which and some indeed; so, without losing a moment, Donthe came to be involved in utter darkness in
a moment. He waited a little while, thinklittlest man, creep you in and durk to done.

When we have been much used as a substitute called pyroligneous acid.

salt petre, it produces a common and useful fearing tat, man," said Donald. acid. If burnt in pure oxygen, it forms the

larly described hereafter.

MISCELLANEOUS.

STORY OF TWO HIGHLANDERS.

in which mankind differ more, than in a his gun, he took his aim; but, that the shot kept him, until he got an opportunity of prompt readiness either to act or answer to might prove the more certain death, he suf- giving him some deadly stabs with his skenethe point, in the most imminent and sudden fered the boar to come within a few paces of thu behind the short rib, which soon termidangers and difficulties; of which the fol- him before he ventured to fire. He at last nated his existence. lowing is a most pleasant instance.

ceedingly rich and fertile, yet the winter him only for a short space, for having heard and as often applauded and laughed at. being so long and severe, these people do the cries of his suffering young ones, as he not labour too incessantly in agriculture, passed the mouth of the den, he hasted back but depend for the most part upon their to their rescue. Most men would have given a kill in hunting and fishing for their subsis- all up for lost: it was not so with Donald— us by a good mimic, excited our risibility in both game and fish.

Its uses are very numerous and very im- the work of death. He was scarcely well tat'll aye pe stopping te light?" bellowed portant, but they cannot be specified now. begun, when Donald perceived a monstrous Mack. "Should te tail break, you'll fin' This with other acids will be more particu- wild boar advancing upon him, roaring, and tat," said Donald. grinding his tusks, while the fire of rage drew the fatal trigger, expecting to blow

sap of the maple and some other trees, are went out one day into these boundless woods in his turn; but having, before this, from to their lurking places, though they were the mouth of the den before him, and enter-When vinegar is combined with lead, it reported to be so remarkable both for their ed! It was, however, too narrow for him forms sugar of lead, more properly acetate strength and ferocity. They were not at to walk in on all-fours; he was obliged to of lead. With copper it forms verdigris, all successful, having neglected the common drag himself in as Mack had done before; or acetate of copper, much used for paints, game in searching for these animals; and a and, of course, his hind feet lost their hold It has other combinations which are useful. little before sunset they returned home- of the ground. At this important crisis, A very useful acid resembling vinegar is ward, without shooting any thing save one Donald overtook him—laid hold of his large, formed from the distillation of wood. One wild turkey. But when they least expected long tail—wrapped it around both his hands hundred pounds of seasoned maple, beach, it, to their infinite joy they discovered a set his feet to the bank, and held back in

ter, and has been much used as a substitute sows, and I'll be keeping vatch at te door," upon him; but the most profound obscurity for smoke in preserving hams and other meat. Mack complied without hesitation—gave still continuing, he at length bawled out. The bodies of persons dying at a distance his gun to Donald—unsheathed his skene- "Tonald man; Tonald! phat is it tat'll aye from home have frequently been preserved dhu—and crept into the cave, head fore- pe stopping te light?" Donald was too in it while they were returned to their friends. most; but after he was all out of sight, much engaged, and too breathless, to think It is useful for numerous purposes, and is save the brogues, he stopped short, and of making any reply to Mack's question, lled pyroligneous acid. called back, "But Tonald, pe shoor to till the latter, having waited in vain a conIf sulphur be burned, when mixed with keep out te old wons." "Ton't you pe siderable time for an answer repeated it in a louder cry. Donald's famous laconic The cave was deep, but there was abund- answer, which perhaps never was, nor ever same acid. It is frequently called the oil of ance of room in the further end, where Mack, will be equalled, has often been heard ofvitriol, but more properly sulphuric acid. with his sharp skene-dhu, now commenced "Tonald man; Tonald !- I say plat is it

Donald continued the struggle, and soon gleamed from his eyes. Donald said not a began to entertain hopes of ultimate success. word, for fear of alarming his friend; besides. When the boar pulled to get in, Donald the savage was so hard upon him ere he was held back; and when he struggled to get aware, that he scarcely had time for any back again, Donald set his shoulders to him. There is, perhaps, no quality of the mind thing: so setting himself firm, and cocking and pushed him in: and in this position

Our two young friends by this adventure On the banks of the Albany River, out his eyes, brains and all. Merciful realized a valuable prize, and secured so which falls into Hudson's Bay, there is, Heaven! the gun missed fire, or flashed in much excellent food, that it took them seveamongst others, a small colony settled, which the pan, I am not sure which. There was ral days to get it conveyed home. During is mostly made up of emigrants from the no time to lose. Donald dashed the piece the long winter nights, while the family were Highlands of Scotland .- Though the soil in the animal's face, turned his back and regaling themselves on the hams of the great of the valleys contiguous to the river is ex- fled with precipitation. The boar pursued wild boar, often was the above tale related,

tence; there being commonly abundance of Mack's life was at stake. As soon as he a high degree, occurred some time ago at a observed the monster return from pursuing circuit court of justiciary in Scotland, and Two young kinsmen, both Macdonalds, him, Donald faced about, and pursued him in the presence of a Judge whose peculiariamiable qualities. Their Lordships and suite up I say, sir, if it should be to the day of had just met, and were proceeding to inves- judgment!" (perhaps his Lordship meant tigate rather an interesting case, when their the hour of indgment.)-It is almost needdeliberations were interrupted by a con-less to add, that these successive interruptinued knocking at the outer court door .- tions threw the audience into a roar of laugh-Again and again the shrill tongued macer ter, and that the incorrigible man, while ejaculated, "Silence! silence there!" to held in durance on the window-sole, had fur little or no purpose; but when the Judge ex- more eyes turned upon him than either the claimed, "What's the meaning of all that prisoners or witnesses at the barnoise? Macers-officers, what are you about, that you don't put an end to that constant shuffle-shuffling ?"-Officer. "It's a man, my Lord." "A man! what man, sir? Who, where is he, and what does he want?" "He's at the outside, please your Lordship, and wants to get in." "Well, keep him out; keep him out I say, sir !"-The officer bowed or nodded assent, and the business of the court proceeded. By and bye, however, an individual possessing the right of entree walked into the hall of justice, and "the man," watching his opportunity, slipped in at the same time. By a levity and restlessness, however, by no means uncommon, he had not been well in till he wished to get out again-applying, perhaps, to a court of law what Chancer presumptuously says of found it recessary sometimes to work till the blessed state of matrimony—

midwight, to make up for the hours. I lest " Marriage is like a rabble rout-Those that are out would fain be in, And those that are in would fain be out." With this he began to justle every body mouth to the key hole of the door, and with near him; a proceeding which not only a shrill pipe called out, "Shoemaker, shoe-created a new hub-bub, but drew forth a maker, work by night, and run about by fresh rebuke.—Judge. "What's all this day." "And what did you do," inquired now? Even if my ears were as sharp as the friend, "pursue the boy with your stirthose of Dionysius, and the room in which rup, to chastise him for his insolence?"—I sit as well contrived as the celebrated vault "No, no," replied Mr. Drew, "had a pisin which he kept his prisoners, it would be tol been fired off at my ear, I could not have impossible for me to hear one word that the heen more dismayed or confounded. I dropwitness is saying."—Officer. "It's the man, ped my work, saying to myself, true, true, my Lord." "What! the same man?"— but you shall never have that to say of me want now?"-" He'wants to get out, please I recollect any thing, I never shall. your Lordship."-" Wants to get out! then = keep him in; keep him in I say, sir."-The obedient officer did as he was directed: but the persevering man was not to be so easily driven from his purpose. Watching an opportunity, therefore, and elbowing his way to an open window, he mounted on what is called the sole, and appeared, contrary to all rule, to be meditating his escape in that direction; but the vigilant officer again caught the tartar, and again interiering, a fresh tumult ensued. His Lordship appeared angry (a: well he might), and a third time exclaimed, "What's the matter now? is there to be no end to this?' Officer. "It's, the man, my Lord."-"What! the same man again? Shew me the fellow and I'll man him."—The officer here pointed to a respectable enough looking individual, who, as he said, "had cruppen

up on the mindow-sole, and wanted to get

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ties of temper and manner were more than down again,"-Judge. "Up on the wincommensated by his many excellent and dow sole! Well, keep him up; keep him

A WARNING WELL TAKEN.

When I began business I was a great polltician. My muster's shophad been a chosen place for political discussion; and there, I suppose, I acquired my fondness for such debates. For the first year, I had too much to do and to think about to indulge my propensity for politics; but after getting a little ahead in the world, i began to dip into these matters again. Very soon I entered as deeply into newspaper argument as if my livelihood depended on it, my shop was often filled with loungers, who came to canvass public measures; and now and then I went into my neighbor's houses on a similar errand. This encroached only time, and I midnight, to make up for the hours I lost. One night after my shutters were closed, and I was busily employed, some little died almost immediately. archin who was passing the street, put his "The verra same."-"Well, what does he again." I have never forgotten it; and while

For the Mirror.

THE ORPHAN'S PRAYER.

Father of mercies, God of heav'n, To thee on earth be glory giv'n; To thee may ev'ry tongue give praise, Each roice extol thy wond'rous ways. Thou who dost rule the earth and sea. And dwell'st in dark eternity; God of the day, and God of night, Prescient, --- holy, --- God of light, In pity listen to my prayer, A child of woe, an orphan spare. Without a friend to hear my batef, Without a hand to give relief, I wander sally and alone, From ev'ry earthly tic far-thrown, But the' I'am thus on earth bereft, I feel that still there is one left

To listen to my plaintive wail; To soothe me tho' all friends do fail 'Fis God in whom my trust I place, Oh may I e'er deserve his grace.

X.

WEEKLY MIRROR.

HALTFAX, MARCH 13, 1835.

The Governor has appoined W. Q. Sawers, Esq. to be Custos Rotalorum, in the place of James Foreman, Esq. resigned, and L. Hartshorne, L. Johnston, E. Cunard, E. Wallace, M. B. Almon, W. A. Black, J. Williamson, H. Bell, J. McNab, S. Story, S. N. Binney, and T. Hosterman, Esquires, to be Justices of the Peace.-W. Q. Sawers, J. Liddell, and J. L. Starr, Esqrs. are appointed Police Magistrates for the town of Halifax.—R. Fairbanks, M. Richardson, W. H. Roach, J. H. Tid-marsh, J. N. Shannon, and Joseph Starr, Esgrs. have resigned.

Caution .- A melancholy accident lately has pened at Lunenburgh. Two of Mr. Oxner's sons, with several other boys, were amusing themselves with a fowling piece,which was loaded, when shocking to relate, it exploded, and the contents passed through the neck of one of the young Oxners, who

The public should be on their guard, against being imposed upon, by counterfeit Mexican Dollars—several of them were in circulation last week. The Police have traced them to a soldier of the 83d Regf. who has been arrested.

FOREIGN.

The small pox is very prevalent in New York, several families have been afflicted with it, and twelve deaths occurred in a week .- Boston papers of the 3d inst. state that additional despatches had be mreceived at Washington, from Mr. Livingston, the American Minister at Paris. The French Chamber of Deputies had come to no decision rpon the Bill of indemnity, submitted to it. It is not probable, that any thing farther will be done by the American Government. at present. M. Serrurier, had taken leave of President Jackson, and had reached Philadelphia on his way to New York, where a French sloop of war was waiting for him.

Erratum.-Instead of 3d line, of 6th verse of Poetr,, on last page, read, "Laugh as you did, o'er childish toys,"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS. We must decline submitting Precocity's effusion to the public, as we fear that some of our readers would be inclined to give us a rap, if we did so. We acknowledge that he is a shrewd chap, and if he were a little more anglicised, there would be no coming up to him .--- A word to the wise, &c.

A "Minor" is received.

POETRY.

THE LITTLE BOAT BUILDERS.

Beside the sea-shore Charles and Ben Sat down one summer day, To build their little boats—and then To watch them sail away.

" Hurrah " the boats have left the shore, And side by side they sail; The pleasant sunshine all before, Bekind the summer gale.

But all too rough the sunny sea:-One boat upsets -- and then They clap their hands and shout with glee; "Hurrah! she's up again."

But on the wave it _annot live : It sinks:-and now the other! And now a louder shout they give, " Hurrah! we'll build another!"

Let's make ourselves a little seu-· The ocean is to large! This tub will do for you and me To sail our little barge.'

Dear children ' thus through life your joys May vanish ' Will you then Still laugh while o'er your childish toys, And think they'll rise again?

And when life's ocean seems too wide Your quiet course to trace; Say, will you wisely turn aside, And choose a humbler place!

And will you as your joys decay, First one and then the other. Shout oh, as one hope sinks away, "Hurrah ' I'll build another!

Blography.

ALEXANDER MURRAY.

herd, who lived in a very lonely part of Scot- time he actually read Ainsworth's Latin land. His father had forty or fifty sheep dictionary several times through. He still three which constitute vegetables, to form and four cows, and this was all his property. spent his winters in teaching, which now As he was too poor to send his son to school, became more profitable to him. All the he undertook to teach him himself. As he periods of his attendance at school being the blaze in a wood or coal fire, also in the had very few books, and was afraid they added together make only about thirteen candle and lamp? would get spoiled by being handled by a months, and these were scattered over the child, he taught him the alphabet, when he space of eight years. After leaving school, was six years old, by making the letters on Alexander continued to pursue his studies a piece of board with the burnt end of a stick. with increasing ardor, in the mean time sup-In this way Alexander learned at the same porting himself by teaching. Attlength time to read and write. The first book ever through the kindness of a gentleman in Edinput into his hands was the Shorter Cate- burgh, who had heard the fame of his unthe New Testament, of which he read the was then about nineteen years of age .had never before felt.

His father, intending to bring him up to ly nine months, being suddenly called away. eight years of age to the hills with the at the early age of thirty-eightsheep. But he was too fond of reading and dy. When about 12 years of age, he bor- with the blessing of God, can do any thing. rowed a work on Geography and History, which he almost learned by heart. He also learned to copy the maps which it contained, and even made a map of his native glen and its neighbourhood. His father, finding that Alexander was not likely to make a living as a shepherd, sent him to teach the children of two neighbouring farmers during one winter, for which he received only four dollars and his boarding. This books.

During the next three years he was allowed to go to school only about five months. But he made good use of his opportunities. While his schoolmates were at play during room, poring over their books, and storing his mind with useful knowledge. It was about this time that he began to show a oxygen constitute a part? fondness for learning foreign languages .pursuits, that in about eighteen months, he the two is mixed with oxygen in the atmoshad learned the French, Latin, Gree!., and phere? Hebrew languages, almost without assist-Alexander Murray was the son of a shep- learn, it may be mentioned that in his spare getable kingdom? chism, and in a month or two he could read common learning, he procured a free adthe easier part of it. His next book was mission to the classes of the university. He historical parts with delight. He was not Here he continued ten or twelve years in his allowed to touch the large family Bible, favourite study of languages, and in prewhich he felt a great curiosity to read; but paring for the ministry of the Scottish church, finding an old loose-leaved Bible, he took it to which he was at length ordained. Six away a leaf at a time, and pored over its years after this, Dr. Murray was elected interesting stories with a pleasure which he professor of oriental languages in the univer- Curds, Circulars, &c. &c. neatly printed sity of Edinburgh, which office he held on-

his own business, sent him when seven or by death, on the 14th of April, 1813,

The life of this eminent man may give enwriting on his board to become a good shep- couragement to some youth who is strugherd; so that his father often blamed him gling with poverty, and want of an opportufor being lazy and useless. About this nity to get an education, and be fitted for time, an uncle, hearing of his love for learn-usefulness in society. Who would have ing, sent him to school, where he was at thought, to see the little shepherd boy sitting first much laughed at for his strange pro- under a tree poling over his book or board, nunciation of words; but in the course of while his flock was grazing before him that a few months he became head of the Bible- in less than thirty years his name should be class. After being at school one quarter, he known throughout Europe as the most learnwas obliged to leave on account of his health. ed man of his own or perhaps any other age ? The next five years were spent in the oc- Remember the motto of Eliot, the Missioncupation of a shepherd, and in solitary stu- ary to the Indians, " Prayer and pains,

QUESTIONS ON COMMON THINGS, Nos. 1 and 2.

Is any thing in the material world, more. common than air?

What other liquid can be mixed with cold water to render it intensely hot?

Why is iron made hot by handmering?

What becomes of the water which runs. money he laid out in the purchase of useful into the ocean, by the numerous rivers upon the carth?

What are some of the other uses of evaporation, besides furnishing materials for clouds and rain?

What are the two principal ingredients. the middle of the day, he was in the school- in the atmosphere, and which the most interesting?

Of what liquid and solid substances, does.

Which is mixed with oxygen to form. And so eager and diligent was he in these water, nitrogen or hydrogen? and which of

What other substance unites with oxygen. ance. As a proof of his earnest desire to and hydrogen, to form the whole of the ve-

What fourth substance is added to the animal substances?

Is it Carbon or hydrogen which produces:

Which contains the most hydrogen, anthracite, or bituminous coals?

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