



The Weekly Mirror,

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WHERE

All kinds of JOB PRINTING will be executed at a cheap rate.

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NATURAL HISTORY.

Sport of the Otter.—The disposition of the Otter is singular and interesting. Their favorite spot is sliding, and for this purpose, in winter the highest ridge of snow is selected to the top of which the otters scramble, where, laying on the belly, with the fore feet bent backwards, they give themselves an impulse with the hind legs, and swiftly glide head foremost down the declivity, sometimes for the distance of twenty yards. This sport they continue apparently with the keenest enjoyment, until fatigue or hunger induces them to desist. In the summer this amusement is obtained by selecting a spot where the river bank is sloping, has a clayey soil, and the water at its base is of considerable depth. The otters then remove from the surface, for the breadth of several feet, the sticks, roots, stones and other obstructions, and render the surface as level as possible. They climb up the bank at a less precipitous spot, and starting from the top, slip with velocity over the inclining ground, and plump into the water to a depth proportioned, to the weight and rapidity of motion. After a few slides, the surface of the clay becomes very smooth and slippery, and the rapid succession of the sliders show how much these animals are delighted by the sport, as well as how capable they are of performing actions which have no other object than that of pleasure or diversion.

THE SEAS BOTTOM.

The bottom of the basin of the sea seems to have inequalities like those of the surface of the continents. Were it dried up, it would present mountains, valleys, and plains. It is covered almost throughout, by an immense quantity of estaceous animals, or those who have shells, intermixed with sand and grain. The bottom of the Adriatic Sea is composed of a compact bed, of shells,

several hundred feet in thickness. A celebrated diver, employed to descend into the Strait of Messina, saw there, with horror, enormous polypi attached to the rocks, the arms of which, being several feet long, were more than sufficient to strangle a man. In many seas, the eye perceives nothing but a bright, sandy bottom, extending for several hundred miles without an intervening object. But in others, particularly in the Red Sea, it is very different: the whole body of this extensive bed of water is, literally speaking, a forest of submarine plants and corals, formed by insects for their habitation, sometimes branching out to a great extent. Here are seen the madropores, sponges, mosses, sea mushrooms, and various other things, covering every part of the bottom. The bed of many parts of the sea, near America, presents a very different, though a very beautiful appearance. There it is covered with vegetables, which makes it look green as a meadow; and beneath are seen thousands of turtle, and other sea animals, feeding thereon. There are some places of the sea where no bottom has yet been found, still it is not bottomless. The mountains of continents seem to correspond with what are called the the abysses of the sea. The highest mountains do not rise above 25,000 feet: and, allowing for the effects of the elements, some suppose that the sea is not beyond 30,000 feet in depth. Lord Mulgrave used, in the Northern Ocean, a very heavy sounding lead, and gave out along with it cable rope to the length of 4,980 feet, without finding bottom. But the greatest depth ever sounded was by Captain Scoresby, who, in the Greenland Seas, could find no bottom with 12,000 fathoms or 72,000 feet of line. According to Laplace, its mean depth is about two miles, which supposing generally received estimates to be correct, as to the proportion the extent of the water bears to the dry land on the earth's surface, would make about 200 millions of cubic feet of water.

BIOGRAPHY.

JAMES FERGUSON.

James Ferguson, an ingenious philosopher and astronomer, was born in 1710, at Keith a village in the shire of Banff, in Scotland. His parents being poor, he was placed out as a servant to a farmer, who employed him in keeping sheep; in which situation he acquired a surprising knowledge of the stars,

and his abilities being discovered by some neighbouring gentlemen, one of them took him to his house, where he learnt decimal arithmetic and the rudiments of algebra and geometry from the butler. From a description of the globes in Gordon's grammar, he made one in three weeks sufficiently accurate to enable him to work problems. He afterwards made a wooden clock and a watch, on which he was employed by some of the gentry in repairing and cleaning clocks; and having a taste for drawing, he earned something by drawing patterns for ladies work. He next began to draw portraits with Indian ink, by which he supported himself creditably some years. In 1743 he came to London, where he published some astronomical tables and calculations, and gave lectures in experimental philosophy, which he repeated with success throughout the kingdom. In 1754 he published a brief description of the solar system, with an astronomical account of the year of our Saviour's Crucifixion, 8vo.; also an *Idea of the Material Universe*, deduced from a Survey of the Solar system. But his greatest work is his "Astronomy explained upon Sir Isaac Newton's Principles, and made easy to those who have not studied Mathematics." It first appeared in 1756, 4to. and has been several times reprinted in 8vo. On the accession of the present king, to whom he had read lectures, Mr. Ferguson obtained a pension of fifty pounds a-year. In 1763 he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society, without paying the admission fee, or the annual subscriptions; the same year appeared his *Astronomical Tables and Precepts*, 8vo. In 1767 he published *Tables and Tracts relative to several Arts and sciences*, 8vo. Besides these works he was the author of *Select Mechanical Exercises: the Young Gentleman and Lady's Astronomy; an Easy Introduction to Astronomy; an Introduction to Electricity; the Art of Drawing in Perspective made easy; and several tracts and papers in the Philosophical Transactions*. He died in 1776. Mr. Ferguson was a man of unassuming manners, meek, innocent and religious.

BLANKS.

Bills of Lading, Seamen's Articles, (new form) Outward and Inward Reports, Contents, &c. &c. for sale at this office.

THE BUTTERFLY.

Who has not chased the butterfly,
And crushed its slender legs and wings,
And heaved a sporalizing sigh,
"Alas! How frail are earthly things!"

Where is the young person who does not like to look on Harry-long-legs, as he flies about among the rushes on the brink of a pond? or to watch the green slender-bodied Dragon Fly, with his finely woven wings, darting quickly from one place to another? or to gaze on the buzzing Bee, as he creeps up the tubes of the spotted Foxglove, or tumbles into the yellow buttercup, always buzzing, always busy, always in a bustle? But there is something that a boy or girl loves to look on better than Harry-long-legs, or the Dragon Fly, or the buzzing Bee, and that is a butterfly. There is something so beautiful, so odd, so holiday-like in a butterfly, that every one likes it, every one loves it.

Fluttering it waves its pinions fair,
By turns to rise and fall;
Now on a flower, now in the air,
Now o'er the garden wall.

Bob Hardy, Bill Piper, and Harry Willets were playing together on the common. They had been hopping over each other's hats, skimming flat stones across the pool to make ducks and drakes, and chasing each other round the sawpit, when all at once a beautiful butterfly came fluttering just over their heads. It was not one of the common yellow-winged butterflies, which may be seen every hour on a summer's day, but a fine large one with broad wings, painted, with dark brown, and red blotches; and Bob and Bill, and Harry thought that they had never seen such a butterfly before in all their lives. In one minute Bill started off after it, Bob carried his hat in his hand, to knock it down; and Harry pulled off his jacket flourishing it about in the air. For some time the butterfly fluttered about the banks of the pool, and from one side to the other of the old sawpit, at last it went across the common, and away went Harry Willets, Bill Piper, and Bob Hardy.

Bill took the lead, and left his playmates some distance behind, but, "great haste makes the less speed," and down came Bill over a log of timber. Bob passed by him, and the butterfly just then settled on a thistle. Bob crept softly forward, made a sudden stroke with his hat, and caught—the thistle, for the butterfly was too nimble for him, and fluttered high in the air. Harry came up as the butterfly came down, and flung his jacket in the air to catch it, then kneeling down on the grass he cautiously lifted up one sleeve after the other, and then the tail of his jacket; but he need not have been so careful, for the butterfly was not under his jacket. Bill and Bob continued the chase as eagerly as if running for a golden guinea, till Harry once more overtook them, when making a stroke altogether at the

butterfly, Bill fell to the ground with Bob Hardy under him, and Harry Willets on his back.

"Up again, you young rogues," cried old Hawker, the mole-catcher, who was passing by at the time with Hannah Stokes, the errand woman; "up again, for the Butterfly has got the start of you. Look yonder, he has lighted on a rail, and will soon be o'er the hedge I warrant you."

As old Hawker said, so it was, for, before Bill Piper got to the rail, the butterfly fluttered o'er the hedge. The prize, however, was too precious to be lost sight of, and Bob, Bill, and Harry hustled over the gate into Farmer Bunch's clover field, to pursue the butterfly, while the mole-catcher and Hannah Stokes proceeded together along the common.

"Those lads," said Hawker, "are keeping up the old game. Fifty summers ago I used to chase butterflies on this very common, and many a tumble have I had, and many a disappointment too. I remember a turn that Ben Holt and I had after one on the far side of the common, when Ben rolled into the sawpit; but poor Ben is under the turf now. Ben and I set off together to try our luck on shipboard; we went to South America, where the gold mines are, but we might as well have hunted butterflies here on the common, as any where else, for it turned out to be a butterfly chase after all, and we came back as poor as we went. Some time after that we made another start, and went to the North, having engaged to serve in the whale fishery, but the North was no better than the South. In the one we were half roasted, and in the other half frozen to death, but not a single butterfly did we catch; and I would advise all who leave old England, with the hope of bettering their condition, to think a little what they are doing. To run after riches and comfort out of old England, is just like running after a butterfly."

"I have heard," said Hannah Stokes, that folks who go to those outlandish countries seldom better themselves."

"You may say that," replied the mole-catcher: "many a man who has left old England in a whole shirt, has brought a ragged one back with him, but I was going to tell you another of my pranks: When Ben and I found that so little was to be got at sea, we determined to stick close to the land, so we made the best of our way up to London. I dare say you have heard, as well as we did, that the streets there are paved with gold, and the houses filled with lords and ladies, but we found going to London pretty much like going to the North and to the South. It was at best but a chase after a butterfly. We saw plenty of tall fellows in livery, with white cotton stockings, who seemed to be doing well; but neither Ben nor I were fit to be dressed up in that fashion, so we came back a little

wiser than we went, but not with quite so much money in our pockets. At last we got into service, I was footman to young squire Flash, and Ben was under gardener. The young squire was a fine, dashing young fellow, sure enough; but he that runs the fastest is the soonest tired, and so it was with my master. He ran his racehorses at a strange rate, and for a while carried all before him; but a man must not always expect the sun to shine. If he lost a hundred pounds one day, he bet another to get it back again; and when that was done, he doubled his stakes to win more while his luck lasted. It was all a butterfly chase, his noble came to ninopence, and Ben and I had once more to look out for ourselves.

"If a man gets nothing else by moving about in the world, he is sure to get experience, and they say that that will make a fool wise. Ben and I made our minds to come back to our native place, for the farther of we went, the worse we fared. Perhaps if it had not been for this, we should have run after butterflies all our days.

"Poor Ben sickened and died, and lies buried under the yew tree, near the sundial in the churchyard, but I often call him to mind now. Mole-catching is not the best trade in the world, but, for all that, it is better than running after butterflies.

"My son Jack is as much disposed to ramble as I was, but I say to him, Jack, before you start off after any thing, ask yourself two questions: first, whether it is likely you can catch it? and secondly, whether it is worth running after? for one half of the world are running after butterflies."

Here the mole-catcher and the errand woman parted, the one calling at a farm house, and the other at a cottage; but old Hawker soon after walked back again to the common, where he met Bob Hardy, Bill Piper, and Harry Willets, just returned from the chase; Bill with a scratch across his face, Bob with the crown of his hat hanging down on one side, and Harry with the sleeve of his jacket almost torn off, yet with all their misfortunes they had not caught the butterfly.

If, reader, thou would'st virtue prize
With happiness in view;
Leave, then, the painted Butterflies
To wave their wings mid earth and skies,
And be thou diligent and wise,
And nobler ends pursue!

THE JEWS.

The population of Judea, at the time King Solomon held his reign, is supposed to have been nearly five millions, and yet the present number of Jews now on the face of the globe does not exceed three millions. This remnant of a once powerful people is scattered over nearly the whole world and subject to every variety of treatment, according to the disposition or prejudices of the people among

whom their lot may be cast. They are not tolerated in Spain or Portugal, and for some cause, unknown to us, are not to be found in Norway, in the United States they enjoy all the privileges of citizens, but they are by no means numerous. In the Austrian States their privileges are few, and in Great Britain their situation is not deemed very desirable. In Russia the laws respecting them are very rigorous; and in France, Holland, Prussia, Denmark, &c. they are not allowed to hold any public office. Notwithstanding the peculiarities which render them every where a distinct race, yet no inducements have ever been sufficiently strong, since the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans, to bring them together in very great numbers in any one place. A repulsive power—like the workings of an invisible hand—keeps them scattered, notwithstanding the distinctness which marks the character of the race in every clime. One would naturally suppose that, degraded as they are in the old world, and eager as they are for wealth, they would flee at once to this country, where their well known enterprise and industry could scarcely fail of reward, and whose free institutions would place them at least on a level with other citizens of the world around them. Yet though great efforts have from time to time been made by Jews in this country to win their brethren across the water, especially from the Germanic States, those efforts seem to have met with the poorest possible success. Every body remembers the splendid project of Major Noah to build a City of Refuge for them on an island in the Niagara river, and how complete was its failure. The truth is, the Jews even of the present day are strong in the hope of again possessing their father-land—of sitting down under the vines and fig trees of their own Judea—and they are unwilling to turn their backs upon the "land of promise" for the sake of enjoying for a while the land of peace and plenty. The ignis fatuus still dances before their troubled day-dreams, like the eccentric finger of fate, pointing to the golden promise, and teaching them that.

"Despair is never quite despair."

But alas! a frowning Providence is upon them, and is visiting "the iniquities of the father upon his children's children." They must continue to sing "the songs of Zion in a strange land," until brought to acknowledge the sovereignty of Him who was their "Prophet, Priest and King," and to participate in "the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of peace.—BOSTON DAILY TIMES.

WHO DISCOVERED AMERICA.

Notwithstanding Columbus has the honor of being the first discoverer of America, and although his memory is really entitled to much honor as well as gratitude, yet it is not at all probable that he was in reality the first European who set his foot upon

this mighty continent. The Society of Northern Antiquaries at Copenhagen, are about to publish "a collection of the accounts extant in ancient Icelandic and other Scandinavian MS, relative to voyages of discovery to North America, made by the Scandinavians in the 10th and following centuries." These remains never before printed are said to comprise testimony the most authentic, and irrefragable, to the fact, that North America was actually discovered by the Northmen towards the close of the 10th century, visited by them during the 11th and 12th, (some of them even settling there as colonists,) re-discovered towards the close of the 13th, and again repeatedly resorted to in the 15th century. It is considered probable, indeed almost certain, that it was a knowledge of these facts that produced the memorable expedition of Columbus, which terminated in his discovery of the New World—for it is asserted to be a well authenticated fact, that the great navigator visited Iceland in the year 1477, on which occasion he could scarcely fail to obtain some information from its inhabitants, its clerical functionaries, with whom, according to the custom of the times, he probably conversed in Latin respecting the voyages of their ancestors to those regions.

INSUBORDINATION—BAD COMPANY.

Habits of insubordination at home, and the company of bad boys abroad, are the two great sources of evil, which undermine so much of what moral and religious instruction would otherwise effect. The current of paternal interest is setting toward instruction to such an extent, as to overrate altogether its power—and the immense injury which comes in from such sources as bad company and subordination, is overlooked and forgotten. What folly, to think that a boy can play with the profane, impure, passionate hoys which herd in the streets, six days in a week, and have the stains all wiped away by being compelled to learn his Sunday school lesson on the seventh, or that children who make the kitchen or the nursery scenes of riot and noise, from the age of three to eight years, will be prepared for any thing in after life but to carry the spirit of insubordination and riot wherever they may go. No; children should be taught, most certainly, but they must also be taken care of. They must be governed at home, and be kept from contaminating influence from abroad, or they are ruined. If parents ask how we shall make our children obey, we answer in the easiest and pleasantest way you can, but at all events make them obey. If you ask how shall we keep our boys from bad company, we answer, too, in the easiest and pleasantest way you possibly can, but at all events keep them out of the streets. The alternative, it seems to us, is as clear and decided as any which circumstances ever made up for man—you must govern your

children and keep them away from the contamination of vice, or you must expect to spend your old age in mourning over the ruins of your family.—Abbot's Lecture.

Singular fact.—A pigeon was recently observed sitting upon a fence at Flatbush, Long Island. The observer approached it, and through seeming fatigue, the bird permitted itself to be taken up. On examination it was found to be a carrier pigeon, and bore fastened under one of its wings, a scrap of English paper, containing the London sale of Stocks, &c. It is surmised that the bird was sent with despatch intended for Antwerp, but that it was either pursued by some bird of prey, or driven out of its course by heavy winds, and alighted on Long Island, after the long and fatiguing flight of 3000 miles.

CHARITY.—Mrs. Halp. in her last annual report of the managers of the Seamen's Aid Society, lays down the following as the only true principle on which charity should be extended to the poor, viz. to find employment for them—paying them a just price for their labor: "which, she adds, is the only charity that will permanently improve their condition, and benefit society."

We should prefer to say, one of the true principles of charity, There are persons unable to work, who must not be excluded from our charity.

A NEW INVENTION.—Fishes rise to the surface by means of a bladder filled with air at pleasure. On the same principle, a method has been discovered, which will effectually prevent the foundering of ships at sea. It is by having air vessels between the timbers and elsewhere, which will render vessels buoyant under any circumstances.

DIED:

At Amherst, on the 20th inst. Mrs. Kinnear, relict of the late Mr. Thomas Kinnear, of this Town.—The death of this very worthy Individual was occasioned by her being accidentally thrown from a Gig; in which she was riding with her Son—she was severely injured, and expired a few days after.

GRANVILLE STREET CHAPEL.

The Rev. F. N. Miles, Principal of the New Brunswick Baptist Academy at Fredericton, is expected to preach in the Granville Street Chapel next Lord's day morning. The Rev. E. Manning of Cornwallis, and the Rev. W. Burton of Yarmouth, will conduct the services in the afternoon; and the Rev. A. Drinkwater, messenger to the Associations of Nova-Scotia and New Brunswick, from the Convention of the Associations of Maine, will preach in the evening; services commencing at the usual hour.

July 1.

Job Printing in all its variety performed at this Office, at a cheap rate.



ALL HOLLOW, HOLLOW, HOLLOW !

BY J. W. LAKE.

I stood beneath a hollow tree—
The blast it hollow blow ;
I mused upon the hollow world,
And all its hollow crew :
Ambition and its hollow schemes—
The hollow hopes we follow :
Imagination's hollow dreams—
All hollow, hollow, hollow !

The hollow vows to woman-kind—
The hollow fools who make them—
But show the hollow human mind,
Full prone to make and break them.
The hollow smile, the hollow glance,
Which mortals so oft follow,
Are like the dreamings of a trance—
All hollow, hollow, hollow !

A crown, it is a hollow thing !
And hollow heads oft wear it :
The hollow title of a king,
What hollow hearts oft bear it !
No hollow wiles, no hollow smiles,
No hollow hopes I follow,
Since great and small are hollow all—
All hollow, hollow, hollow !

The hollow patriot but betrays
The hollow dupes who heed him ;
The hollow courtier vendors his praise
To hollow fools who feed him ;
The hollow friend may grasp your hand,
The hollow crowd may follow,
But hollow still is human will—
All hollow, hollow, hollow !

VARIETIES.

GREEK ANTIQUITIES IN AMERICA.—

A recent discovery seems to afford strong evidence that the soil of America was once trodden by one of Alexander's subjects. A few years since there was found, near Monte Video, in South America, a stone, with the following words in Greek written on it. "During the reign of Alexander, the son of Phillip King of Macedon, in the 63d Olympiad, Ptlomey"—the remainder of the inscription could not be deciphered. This stone covered an excavation, which contained two very ancient swords, a helmet, a shield, and several earthen amphoræ of large capacity. On the handle of one of the swords was the portrait of a man, and on the helmet there was sculptured work representing Achilles dragging the corpse of Hector round the walls of Troy. This was a favorite Picture among the Greeks. Probably this Ptlomey was overtaken by a storm in the Great Ocean, as the ancients termed the Atlantic, and driven on the coast of South America.—The silence of Greek writers in relation to this event, may easily be accounted for by supposing that on attempting to return to Greece, he was lost together with his crew, and thus no account of his discovery ever reached them.—*United Service Journal.*

Books are noble companions—History makes men wise.—Poetry, witty—Mathematics, subtle ; Natural Philosophy, deep, moral, grave—Logic, and Rhetoric, able to contend.

Study and learning refines our minds and manners, makes a young man thinking, attentive, industrious and wary—an old man cheerful and resolved—it is an ornament in prosperity, a refuge in adversity, an entertainment abroad, a companion at home—it moderates in the height of fortune, and consoles the poor in poverty.

Dr. Fisher, in the last number of the Medical and Surgical Journal, recommends to mothers and nurses, when a child is seized with that dangerous disease, the *croup*, to apply immediately and perseveringly, until medical aid can be obtained, to the throat and upper part of the chest, sponges or napkins dipped in water as hot as can be borne and wrung out so that the water may not ooze from them. The remedy was first suggested by a German physician and has been practised with decided and uniform success.

Havana.—A correspondent of the Baltimore Chronicle writes :—

"Havana is, without doubt, the prettiest place we have seen in the West Indies. The streets are very regular, kept clean, and are well paved and lighted. During the winter months, they are enlivened by the presence of a great number of Americans, who come out to get rid of the cold weather, for a short time. Places of amusement are open every evening, and twice on Sunday: a band of music plays in the great square every other evening, and such music was never heard by any one, except those who travel from home. They muster three hundred men.—The great Cathedral contains in an urn, enclosed in a niche, the ashes of the great Columbus ; which, sometime after his death, at Valladolid, were transferred to St. Domingo, and from thence to this place where they are watched and protected with the greatest reverence. As for the internal affairs, they are well administered by General Tacor, formerly minister to our Government, and who has done more for Havana, than any of his predecessors. Gambling is entirely abolished ; assassinations are seldom heard of, although one occurred in the presence of one of our officers on Friday last, between two negroes. One of them I suppose, having a grudge against the other, met him in the street and drove a knife through him, killing him on the spot. A few years since they were of daily occurrence.

An example for Youth.—A little boy in destitute circumstances was put out as an apprentice to a mechanic. For some time he was the youngest apprentice, and of course had to go upon errands for the other apprentices, and not unfrequently to procure

them ardent spirits, of which all except himself partook ;—because, as they said, it did them good. He however used none ; and, in consequence of it, was often the object of severe ridicule from the older apprentices, because, as they said, he had not sufficient manhood to drink rum. And as they were revelling over their insults and cruelty, often reared, and vented his grief in tears. But now, every one of the older apprentices, we are informed, is a drunkard, or in the drunkard's grave ; and this youngest apprentice, at whom they used to scoff, is sober and respectable, and worth a hundred thousand dollars. In his employment are about one hundred men, who do not use ardent spirits ; and he is exerting upon many thousands an influence in the highest degree salutary, which may be transmitted by them to future generations, and be the means, through grace, of preparing multitudes, not only for usefulness and respectability on earth, but for an exceeding and eternal weight of glory in heaven.—

Alexander Wilson, BLACKING MANUFACTURER.

FROM EDINBURGH.

Respectfully announces to the public, that he has taken the store

No. 10, Sackville Street

(near Loveland's corner) where he will manufacture and keep constantly on hand a supply of Liquid and Paste Blacking, which, with the greatest confidence he undertakes to warrant equal in every respect to any ever offered in the Market : he trusts the superiority of the article will ensure that share of patronage he humbly solicits.—Wholesale dealers supplied on liberal terms. Each label is subscribed with the Manufacturers name.

Which is the best ? why mine, will each cry out, That mine's the best there cannot be a doubt, These fellows make but trash.—Thus they deride, I'll silent be, the PUBLIC shall decide.

Bottles wanted.

May 27.

G. HOBSON, Engraver and Copper-Plate Printer,

No. 39, DUKE-STREET.

Maps, Plans, Bills of Exchange, Bill Heads, Address and Visiting Cards, Arms and Crests, Labels, &c. neatly designed, engraved and printed. Metal Seals, Door Plates, Dog Collars, and Dandy Ornaments, neatly engraved.

May 13, 1836.

A middle aged woman wishes a situation as Housekeeper, Nurse, or to do plain sewing.—Good reference as to character can be produced. A line addressed to M. N. and left at this Office, will be attended to,
June 10,