

PETER PARLEY'S

LITTLE READER,



FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS.

PHILADELPHIA:
PUBLISHED BY R. W. POMEROY.

1837.

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THE LITTLE READER.



I. THE NEW BOOK.

1. See! Thomas, I have got a new book! It is called Parley's Little Reader. Is it not pretty?

2. Let me see it, Mary? Yes, it is pretty; it has a good many pictures, and besides that, it is full of stories.

3. Yes, and I like stories. I like to read about animals, and boys, and girls; and I like fables, and poetry Oh! how I like a new book!

4. And I like a new book, too! I had rather have a book for a present than all the toys in Mr. Newman's shop. One very soon gets tired of a rocking-horse, or a gilt watch that wont go, or a gun that you cant shoot, or any of these foolish things.

5. Well, Thomas, I think as you do: a doll, or a wooden tea-set, or a little cradle, soon gets out of order, or soon ceases to please me. But a book is always telling you something new.

6. Yes, you may read it to-day, and to-morrow, and next day: it is like a person who talks to you; who tells you pleasing stories, or gives you good advice. It is very different from a silent toy that has no tongue, and no soul.

7. That is very true, Thomas, and it sounds very wise, for one like you. But there goes Mr. Parley, along the Mall. Let us run and talk to him about this new book.

8. So the two children ran along, and Mr. Parley being pretty lame, they soon overtook him, and here is an account of what they said.

II. A TALK ABOUT BOOKS.

1. Good morning, Mr. Parley! Good morning!
2. Good morning, Thomas! Good morning, Mary!

How bright your eyes are! Pray, what is it makes you look so pleasant?

3. Oh, we have just got one of your new books. It is called the Little Reader! Did you really make it up yourself, Mr. Parley?

4. Yes, I did: and I made it for you, and such as you. It is a little book for you to take to school, and learn to read in.

5. Well, we thank you very much: we like books; and we like pretty books, with pictures, and good print, and white paper, and a neat cover.

6. Indeed! and dont you care whether the reading in the book is pleasant or not?

7. Oh, yes! But a pretty book, is like a person who has a pleasant face, and smiles when he speaks: and an ugly book, is like a person who is cross, and frowns always.

8. Now there is old Mrs. Birchwhip, the school mistress, down at the North-End; she is always cross, and some how or other, whenever I think of her, I think of an old spelling book, on brown paper, with a blue cover and frightful pictures.

9. So you think a disagreeable teacher, is like an old spelling book?

10. Yes; and I had rather not learn to read than learn of Mrs. Birchwhip, who looks like an old book;

or learn in an old book, that looks like Mrs. Birchwhip.

11. This may be all true, my dear friends, but I beg you to consider, that a book is designed to tell you truth, to give you knowledge, to teach you how to be happy: and a brown book may do this, as well as a white one.

12. No, indeed; you are wrong there, Mr. Parley. If I have a pretty book, I love it, and what it says: if I have an ugly one, I feel something in me which says to it, —I don't like you, or what you tell me.

13. Well, we won't quarrel about it. I am glad you like the Little Reader, and I will tell the bookseller to make it a handsome book for your sake. I will also tell him, in all future copies, to put in our conversation on the subject.

14. Before we part, let me say that this book is made up of extracts from various other books; you must not, therefore, thank me for it entirely. Many of the prettiest pieces of poetry were written by Miss Gould; some of the stories are by Mrs. Sigourney, some by other people, who write beautifully for children.

15. You will see that at the bottom of the pages the hard words are explained. I hope this will make the book more useful; and that it may not only teach you to read, but help you to understand what you read.

16. And now, my little friends, I must bid you good morning!

III. TO MY LITTLE BOY.

1. Little boy, with laughing eye,
Bright and blue as yonder sky;
Come, and I will teach you, love,
Who it is that lives above.
2. It is God who made the earth,
God who gave you, dearest, birth;
God who sees each sparrow fall;
God who reigns great king of all.
3. God who sends the pleasant breeze,
Blowing sweet through flowers and trees;
God who gives you every joy,
God who loves you, little boy.
4. He is beautiful and bright,
Living in eternal light;
Would you not, my little love,
Like to live with Him above?
5. Ask Him, then, to show you how
You may please Him here below;
Ask Him grace and help to send;
Ask through Christ, your kindest friend.

6. You must learn to read, and look
Often in His holy book;
There, my darling, you will find,
God is very good and kind.



IV. THE FAITHFUL DOG.

1. There was once a little girl, by the name of Lucy, going to her home. She had to cross a river, at a place called the ferry. A ferry, you know, is where people are carried over the water in a boat.

2. When Lucy came to the river, the ferryman was ready, and she got into the boat. They then set out, and the man rowed the boat into the river. It was very

wide, and they had gone a considerable distance, when they saw a little black puppy swimming in the water. He was very tired and ready to sink, and he drowned.

3. Lucy begged the boatman to go to the little dog, and save him. The boatman refused; but Lucy urged him very hard, and by and by he consented.

4. They got the puppy into the boat; but he was very wet, and almost dead. But Lucy took good care of him, and after she got across the river, she carried him two miles in her arms, to her home.

5. Here she fed him and nursed him, and he soon got well. In a few months he was grown up, and he loved Lucy so well that he used to go with her wherever she went.

6. One day she went to take a walk in the woods. The weather being warm she felt weary, and sat down to rest herself. The dog lay down beside her, and they both went to sleep.

7. Now it happened that a rattlesnake was coiled up under a bush close to little Lucy. While she was asleep, he crawled from his hiding place, and came near to the little girl.

8. He then coiled himself up, and began to shake

Considerable, neither little nor great. *Refused*, did not consent. *Urged*, pressed, solicited. *Consented*, agreed. *Weary*, tired. *Coiled*, wound into a ring.

his tail, making a low rattling sound. He was about to jump at Lucy, when her dog, whose name was Bounce, was waked from his sleep by the serpent's rattle.

9. He instantly sprang upon the snake, seized him in the middle, and began to shake him with all his might. Lucy was waked by the noise, and she saw the brave little dog, shake the huge serpent till he was dead.

10. She now saw that little Bounce had saved her life, and she loved him more than ever.



V. THE PUPPY.

1. Helen Russell, a little girl seven years of age, one day had a puppy given her. It was a droll thing, with a large head and body, and short legs.

Huge, very large. Droll, funny.

2. Helen was very fond of it; she tied a long piece of pink ribbon round its neck, and led it by her side when she walked out, for fear it should run away. She called it Prince.

3. When the dog's teeth began to grow, her father told her, he feared it would gnaw and bite every thing that came in its way, and that until it was older, it had better be tied up in a kennel.

4. He gave her leave to take it out to walk, but if it ran about the house, he said he thought it would do a great deal of mischief.

5. But Helen could not bear to tie the dog up, and said she would take care it should do no harm.

6. One day when she had come in from a walk, the servant told her that Miss Howard was in the parlor with her mama.

7. Now Helen was very fond of Miss Howard, and as she had not seen her for some time, she untied her straw bonnet in great haste, threw it down with her gloves on a chair in the hall, and ran into the parlor, leaving Prince behind her.

8. In about half an hour, she came back to look for him, that she might show him to Miss Howard. Prince was still in the hall, but what do you think he was doing? He was biting Helen's new straw hat to pieces!

Feared, was afraid. Leave, permission. Mischief, hurt. Haste, hurry.

9. The string had hung over the chair; so he pulled at this, till he dragged the hat down, and then bit and gnawed it to pieces, and one of her gloves was so bitten, that it was not fit for her to wear again.

10. 'Oh, you bad Prince, you naughty dog,' cried Helen, 'you have spoiled my nice new bonnet! I wish I had taken papa's advice, and shut you up till you were old enough to know better.'

11. 'It is more my fault than yours; for I suppose you did not know that straw bonnets were not as proper to bite as bones.'

12. 'But you shall be shut up before you do any more mischief, and I must wear my old bonnet. Oh! dear,' said she, holding up the sad remains of her pretty hat; 'I wish I had taken papa's advice!'

13. Thus, you see, Helen did not try to shift the wrong from herself to the puppy, as some children would have done. She took it all to herself; and this is the true way to learn to do better.

14. She had also the sense to see that her father's advice was good, and she no doubt followed it ever after.

Advice, counsel, instruction. *Proper*, fit. *Remains*, what is left
Shift, change.



VI. THE SEASONS.

1. The year is almost passed away. Spring and summer are quite gone, autumn will have left us in two or three weeks, and winter will be come in its place.

2. It was winter, too, when the year began: but there have been many changes since that time; and O how pleasant were they all in their turn!

3. Was not the snow pleasant, as it fell from the sky like very small and delicate feathers, and covered every thing that was ugly from our sight?

4. Was it not pleasant to hear the bluebird singing on the topmost bough of the highest tree, and to fancy he

Delicate, soft, fine. *Topmost*, highest. *Fancy*, imagination.

said, 'Little children, be glad; the spring is coming?'

5. In April the borders in our garden were gay with flowers; and among the low green leaves were colors of blue, and red, and yellow, and orange, and purple.

6. Was not the voice of the robin pleasant in May? and the first sight of the swallow, with her white tippet, and shining black coat, who flew many miles to spend the summer with you?

7. And did not the lilac and laburnum, as they mixed together their lovely blossoms, teach you a pretty lesson in June?

8. Did not July please you with its sweet perfume of young hay, while you played in the sun among the hay-cocks?

9. Was it not pleasant to gather the bright bunches of red and white currants, and fruits of summer?

10. Was not the wheat-field and its golden sheaves a pleasant sight?

11. In October and November, the wind indeed made the yellow leaves fall like showers: but were not pears, and apples, and damsons, strewn with them upon the grass in the orchards?

12. The waves beat against the rocks upon the sea-shore: but is it not pleasant, too, to stand upon a rock

Perfume, smell. *Sheaves*, bundles of the stalks of wheat. *Strewn*, scattered.

where we are safe, and watch the waves as they dash their white foam?

13. And now December is come. The fir-tree, and the pine, and the laurel, and the box, and other pleasant evergreens, are alone left to remind us of spring in winter.

14. But we are looking forward to that happy season, when brothers and sisters shall all meet and sit round their father's table together; and there shall be pleasant smiles, and innocent play.

15. Every season is good in its time, and all the works of God show forth his glory in their way; they praise and magnify him always.

16. The years of the life of a man are often said to be like the seasons.

17. Spring, when every thing is fresh and green, is like the time when we are very young, and have every thing to learn.

18. Summer reminds us of grown-up people, who are strong, and able to make themselves useful by being very industrious and active.

19. Autumn is like that time when we begin to get old, and are able to be most useful in teaching others, instead of working hard ourselves.

Dash, throw with force. *Remind*, cause to remember. *Magnify*, to extol highly.

20. Winter represents old age, when the faculties are numbed, and the blood is chilled. But a second spring shall take its place, and bloom with renewed freshness.



VII. THE BOY AND HOOP.

1. One time I knew a little boy
So very fond of play,
He would not leave a new-seen toy,
For all that nurse could say.
2. One day a hoop, quite new and nice,
Was brought him from the fair;

Represents, pictures. Numbed, deadened, inactive. Renewed, revived.

Away he scampered in a trice,
Forgetting how and where.

3. Now nurse had dressed him very neat;
His shoes quite new, he wore—
His trousers white, his dress complete,
With buckled belt he wore.
4. He struck his hoop, away it went,
He struck it round and round;
To watch the hoop, his eyes were bent,
Nor saw the sloping ground.
5. How lucky for that thoughtless child!
The gardener, near the stream,
Marked how this play his steps beguiled,
And heard his plunging scream.
6. With hasty steps the gardener ran,
And snatched the sinking boy,
Who soon had perished, but the man,
Knew well the treacherous toy.

Scampered, ran fast. Trice, in a very short time. Complete, in order. Buckled, fastened with a buckle. Bent, cast down. Sloping, descending. Lucky, fortunate. Beguiled, amused, deceived. Hasty, quick. Treacherous, not to be trusted.

7. Hoops in their proper time and place,
Are good and fit for play;
But 'tis not safe in any case,
Near watery brink to stray.

A B C

VIII. WHAT A B C HAVE DONE.

1. 'Did you ever think, my dear Jane, what A B C have done, and can do?' 'No, Grandfather; only I know that it makes me very tired to say them over so much at school.'

2. 'But they are very useful little things, my dear: I am sorry you should ever get tired of them.' 'It takes so long to learn them, Grandfather. Besides, I do

Brink, edge. Stray, wander.

not see what good they will ever do me. Pray did you ever learn them?'

3. 'Certainly I did. Have I not told you a great many stories? Do you not remember what I have said to you about Adam and Eve, and the beautiful garden called Eden, in which they lived?'

4. 'And then the story of Abel, and Abraham, and Joseph and his brethren, and the two friends David and Jonathan, and all that. Now I learnt all those stories, and a hundred more, which I have so often told you and Caroline, in this great book that I hold in my hand.'

5. 'And this great book, my dear, in which are so many good stories, is all made up of the letters which you call A B C. I mean the twenty-six letters of the Alphabet. Yes Jane, I had to learn all these letters, before I could read the stories in this book.'

6. 'But Grandpapa, are there only twenty-six letters in that whole book?' 'No, my dear; and there are no more in my whole library, and in your father's library too. You have only to learn these twenty-six, to be able to read not only all the stories in this book, but all the stories in all the books in my library, and in your father's library.'

7. 'Oh, how I do wish, Grandfather, that I knew them

Brethren, brothers.

B

all! I will try more tomorrow. I am sure I like the story of David and Goliath. I love to have you tell it to me; but oh! how I should like to read it myself!

8. 'I hope you will soon be able. Let us talk about it again, when you come home to-morrow evening. You may bring home the book if Miss P. will let you; and then come and sit on my knee, and show me how much you know.'

9. 'I will, Grandpapa. Shall I go to bed now?' If your mother says so, my dear. Ask her.'

IX. THE DOG.

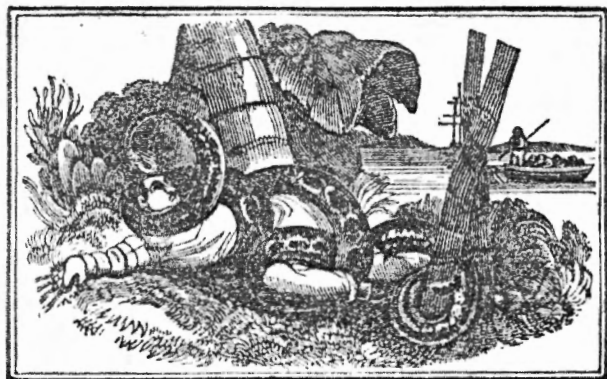
1. 'He will not come,' said the gentle child,
And she patted the poor dog's head,
And she pleasantly called him and fondly smiled,
But he heeded her not in his anguish wild,
Nor arose from his lowly bed.
2. 'T was his master's grave, where he chose to rest,
He guarded it night and day;
The love that glowed in his faithful breast
For the friend who had fed, controlled, cared,
Might never fade away.

Heeded, noticed. *Guarded*, took care of. *Anguish*, grief.
Glowed, became warm. *Controlled*, governed.

3. And when the long grass rustled near,
Beneath some hasting tread,
He started up with a quivering ear,
For he thought 't was the step of his master dear,
Returning from the dead.
4. But sometimes when a storm drew nigh,
And the clouds were dark and fleet,
He tore the turf with a mournful cry,
As if he would force his way, or die,
To his much loved master's feet.
5. So there, through the summer's heat he lay
Till autumn nights grew bleak,
Till his eye grew dim with his hope's decay,
And he pined and pined, and wasted away,
A skeleton gaunt and weak.
6. And oft, the pitying children brought
Their offerings of meat and bread;
And to coax him away to their homes they sought,
But his buried master he ne'er forgot,
Nor strayed from his lonely bed.

Rustled, shook. *Hasting*, hurried. *Quivering*, moving quickly.
Fleet, fast. *Bleak*, cold. *Skeleton*, the bony frame of the body.
Gaunt, thin. *Coax*, to urge kindly. *Sought*, tried.

7. Cold winter came with an angry sway,
And the snow lay deep and sore,
Then his moaning grew fainter day by day,
Till close where the broken tombstone lay,
He fell to rise no more.
8. And when he struggled with mortal pain,
And death was by his side,
With one loud cry that shook the plain,
He called for his master,—but all in vain,
Then stretched himself, and died.



X. THE CREEPING RIBBON.

1. Little Alice, who was about four years old, had been to walk in a field not far from the house.

Sway, rule. Moaning, a complaining sound.

2. In a little while, she came back almost out of breath, and told her mother she had seen a beautiful creeping ribbon, running along through the grass.

3. She said it was striped with yellow and black, that it had little bright eyes, and a sharp tail.

4. Alice said that when she went toward it, it seemed to be angry, and almost tied itself into a knot, and that it then ran away.

5. Now I suppose you know that this little creature, which Alice called a creeping ribbon, was a striped snake.

6. This kind of serpent never does any harm. He lies in his bed all winter, and does not show himself till the weather is quite warm.

7. He loves to be alone, and will run away if you go near him, as fast as he can.

8. There are other kinds of snakes and some of them bite terribly. The best plan for little children is, when they see a snake, to go away and let him alone.

9. If there is some larger person near, they may ask him to kill the creature, for it is not wicked to kill snakes.

10. In some countries a great way off, there are serpents so large that they can coil round the body of a man, and crush him to death, as you see in the picture.

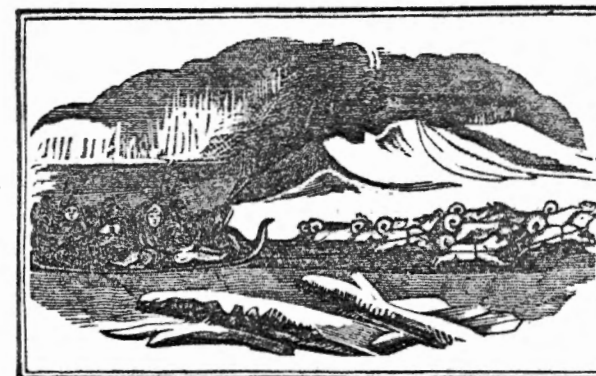
11. They also sometimes kill horses and cows. Happily, we have no such serpents among us.

XI. DIFFERENCE OF COLOR.

1. God gave to Afric's sons
A brow of sable dye,
And spread the country of their birth
Beneath a burning sky,—
And with a cheek of olive, made
The little Hindoo child,
And darkly stained the forest tribes,
That roam our western wild.
2. To me, he gave a form
Of rather whiter clay,—
But am I, therefore in his sight,
Respected more than they?
No! 't is the hue of deeds and thoughts,
He traces in his book,—
'T is the *complexion of the heart*
On which he deigns to look.
3. Not by the tinted cheek
That fades away so fast,
But by the *color of the soul*—
We shall be judged at last,

Sable, black. *Stained*, colored. *Respected*, thought highly of.
Traces, writes. *Tinted*, colored.

The righteous Judge will look at me
With sorrow in His eyes,
If I my brother's darker brow
Should ever dare despise.



XII. THE USEFUL DOGS.

1. The dog is an interesting animal. He is fond of play, but he does not refuse to work.
2. He will go out and hunt with his master, or he will drive out the naughty cattle that get into the field; or if you will harness him to a little waggon, and teach him how to behave, he will draw it along as gently as a horse.
3. Among us, dogs are not often made to work very
Interesting, pleasing. *Gently*, quietly, without giving trouble.
Righteous, just.

hard, and spend a great part of their time in playing about.

4. Sometimes they romp with the children; sometimes they bark at the cat and chase her up a tree, and sometimes they lie down in the warm sun, and take a nap.

5. A great many miles to the north, there is a very cold country:—the ground is covered with snow a great part of the year.

6. The people who live there are Indians; they are called Esquimaux; a word which is pronounced Eskemo. They dress in furs, and live upon fish, deer, and other wild animals.

7. These Indians have a very active, lively and obedient kind of dogs, which they make very useful. They will tie several of them together, and fasten them to a sled, as we harness horses to a carriage.

8. As the snow is hard and smooth, the dogs scamper along very fast, over hill and valley. They seem not to be fatigued, and go on hour after hour, with great patience.

9. Several of the Indians will get on to one of the sleds, and the dogs will easily carry them fifty or sixty miles in a day.

Romp, to play briskly. *Nap*, sleep. *Active*, fond of motion. *Fasten*, to tie. *Scamper*, to run very fast. *Several*, two or three. *Easily*, without labor.

XIII. THE HONEY GUIDE.

1. In some parts of Africa, there is a bird called the honey-guide, which is rather larger than a sparrow. This bird, far from being alarmed at the presence of a human being, seems to court his acquaintance.

2. In the morning and evening, which are its meal times, it flutters about from tree to tree, repeatedly uttering the cry of *cherr, cherr, cherr*, a note of invitation well known to those who live in Africa.

3. A person invited by one of these birds, seldom refuses to follow until it stops; which it always does at some hollow tree containing a wild bees' nest, well stored with wax and honey.

4. The bird is probably led to seek assistance from a knowledge that it is unable to stand the attack of a number of bees, or to break into their nest by itself.

5. When arrived at the spot, it hovers over it, and then alighting on a neighboring tree or bush, sits in silent expectation of its share of the spoil.

6. This is that part of the comb containing the young bees; and this is always carefully left for it: and indeed, the ingenious bird well deserves to be remembered.

Alarmed, frightened. *Uttering*, pronouncing. *Stored*, filled. *Stand*, endure. *Hovers*, hangs. *Spoil*, honey taken. *Ingenious*, full of invention.

3. There is something more noble in renouncing the world for the love of Christ, when the relish for sensible enjoyments is at the highest, than there can be in doing it when the evil days come, in which there is no further pleasure or satisfaction to be had in earthly things.

4. He surely is not so likely to accomplish his journey, who begins it when the sun is going down, as he who sets out at the hour of his rising.

5. Youth, like the morning, is the proper season for every task that requires time and pains. Then, all the powers of body and soul are fresh and vigorous, as those of one awaked from a sound and kindly sleep.

6. Then is the golden opportunity, the sweet hour of prime, when the day is before us. 'The night cometh, when no man can work.'

7. 'I have written unto you, young men,' saith John himself, 'because ye are strong; and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.'

8. Rejoice then, oh young man, in thy youth; not because thou art able to riot in excess as the heathen who know not God; but because thou hast it in thy power to become, like the youthful John, the beloved of thy master, who seeketh such to worship him.

Renouncing, giving up. *Sensible*, that which may be felt. *Accomplish*, complete. *Prime*, the first opening of day, or morning. *Abideth*, stays. *Seeketh*, looks for.



XVI. THE WILD BULL.

1. You know my little reader that some animals are wild, and some are tame. Those which are wild, fly from man, and generally live where there are no houses near.

2. Lions and bears are wild; they do not live in towns, but hide themselves in distant places. Wolves, foxes, and many other animals are also wild. But dogs, sheep and cats are tame.

3. Some of them live about our houses, and others dwell in the fields near us. Cows and oxen are also tame.

4. I must tell you however, that in some countries

Generally, almost always.

there are wild cattle. In South America, there are vast plains covered with herds of them.

5. Some of the people make it a business to catch wild animals with a rope, called a lasso. At the head of this story there is a picture of a man on horseback catching a wild bull.

6. The men who catch these animals have a noose in the end of the rope, which they throw over the horns of the beast they wish to take. The animal is thus easily secured.

7. These wild cattle are so numerous in South America, that they are killed for their hides only. Many of the trunks we see in this country are covered with the skins of the wild cattle of South America.

8. Many of the shoes we wear are also made, in part, from the hides of these wild animals.

XVII. WISHES OF CHILDHOOD.

ANNA.

1. I wish I was a small bird,
Among the leaves to dwell,
To scale the sky in gladness,
Or seek the lonely dell;

Vast, very large. *Herds*, large numbers joined together. *Noose*, a running knot that draws tight. *Scale*, to fly up to.

My matin song should celebrate
The glory of the earth,
And my vesper hymn ring gladly,
With the trill of careless mirth.

ELLEN.

2. I wish I was a flow'ret,
To blossom in the grove;
I'd spread my opening leaflets,
Among the plants I love;
No hand would rudely cull me,
As I looked up to the sky,
I silently should ope to life,
And quietly should die.

MARY.

3. I wish I was a gold-fish,
To seek the sunny wave,
To part the gentle ripple,
And amid its coolness lave;
I would glide through life delighted,
Amidst the glow of day,
And when night came on in softness,
Beneath the star-beam play.

Matin, morning. *Vesper*, evening. *Trill*, warble. *Leaflets*, leaves. *Ope*, open. *Cull*, pluck. *Ripple*, small wave. *Lure*, wash.

MOTHER.

4. Hush! hush! romantic prattlers,
 - You know not what you say,
 When soul, the crown of mortals,
 You would lightly throw away.
 What is the songster's warble
 And the flow'et's blush refined,
 To the noble thought of Deity,
 Within your opening mind!



XVIII. THE FUR CAP.

1. Jane had a nice cap made of gray fur. It kept her ears warm in winter, and she liked it very much.

Romantic, fanciful. Prattlers, talkers. Crown, highest part. Refined, pure.

2. One day her brother asked her where it came from. Jane said it was bought in Boston, of Mr. Rhoades.

3. 'But where did Mr. Rhoades get it?' said James.

4. 'Why, I suppose he made it,' said the little girl.

5. 'But he did not make the fur,' said the boy.

6. The two children then began to wonder where the fur came from; and finally concluded they would ask their father about it.

7. So when he came home, they both ran to him, to ask him about the fur. Accordingly he sat down, and gave them an account of it.

8. 'This skin,' said he, 'of which Jane's cap is made, is taken from a little animal called the chinchilla mouse.'

9. 'It is a beautiful little creature, as big as a very young kitten. It is found in a country far to the south, called Peru.'

10. There is a picture of one of these little animals at the beginning of this lesson. A great deal of the chinchilla fur, is brought to New York and other places, where it is made up into caps, and other articles of dress.

Wonder, to think about with curiosity. Finally, at last. Accordingly, agreeably to the children's wish. Account, narrative, story. Beginning, first part. Articles, things.

XIX. LITTLE MARY.

1. 'I am very glad you are come home again, Mama,' said Mary, when she saw her mother get out of the carriage, which brought her back to her own house; 'you have been gone a very long time—a whole month.'

2. 'And I am very glad to see you again, Mary,' said her Mama; 'where is Harry?'

3. 'Here he is, Mama. Oh! look at Harry; he has got his mask on; does he not look droll!'

4. 'Very droll, indeed; but my dear boy, you must take it off, and give me a kiss; for I had rather kiss your cheek than that ugly mask. Well, Mary, what have you done, while I have been away?'

5. 'A great many things, Mama. I have made my doll a frock; I have read through my book of Little Lessons; and I have kept my garden very neat. Will you come and see my roses?'

6. 'By and by, I will; but tell me first, have you been good, Mary?'

7. 'Not always, Mama; for I would not lend Harry my rake, and I have cried three or four times; but sometimes I have been good all day long. I think Harry has been very good.'

Mask, a face made of paper. Neat, in order.

8. 'I am glad you tell me the truth, Mary, and I like you to speak kindly of your brother. I have brought you a pair of shoes for your doll, and a new book.'

9. 'Thank you, thank you, Mama,—and what have you brought for Harry?'

10. 'A box of bricks with which he can build houses, walls, stairs and bridges.'

11. 'I am sure he will like that very much. But have you not brought a toy for baby?'

12. 'Yes, my dear, a nice, soft ball, which you can roll along the floor, and then she will learn to walk after it. Now, Mary, I will go and see your garden.'

13. 'Look at my rose-bush, Mama; it is quite full of buds; and here is a white rose. I have two pinks in this bed, and a great many other pretty flowers; but I do not know their names yet.'

14. 'There are no weeds you see, Mama: and I have left off making great holes for ponds and high lumps for hills, but Harry says he likes ponds and hills very much.'

15. 'But what is that my dear,—a swing? Who put it up for you?'

16. 'Robert, Mama; one end of the rope is tied to the great elm tree and the other to the oak. Oh! it is so

Kindly, affectionately.

delightful, and we take turns in swinging. That is fair, is it not, Mama?’

17. ‘Yes, my dear, quite fair. I see a bird’s nest upon the oak tree, near where the rope is tied. I hope Robert did not disturb the eggs.’

18. ‘Oh! no, Mama; when he went up to tie the rope, he found the nest with five young birds in it, but they have flown away now.’

19. ‘I thought that birds always lived in their nests as we do in our houses; but I now see that they only live in them while they are young. Where do birds sleep, Mama?’

20. ‘They perch on the branches of trees, Mary, or in thick bushes, in the roofs of barns and houses, or on the ground.’

21. ‘Some birds sleep all day and fly at night, such as owls and bats; others wake as soon as it is light, and go to rest when the sun sets.’

22. ‘And as the sun is down now, I think my dear child that you had better go to bed too.’

23. ‘Good night, Mama: I have not said good night to you for a long time, but I have wished you a good night’s rest, though I could not see you to tell you so. Come Harry.’

Disturb, move, or take away. Perch, to hold on the trees by the claws. Rest, sleep.



XX. FOURTH OF JULY.

1. Thomas once asked his father, why people made such a fuss about the fourth of July.

2. ‘In the first place,’ says Thomas, ‘they fire muskets and cannon, and ring the bells, and this they do so early in the morning as to wake every body up, and make it impossible to get to sleep again.’

3. ‘Then, through the day, the soldiers go marching about, and the great guns are fired, and the men have a great dinner, and the girls and boys go about all dressed up, and at night all the people dance.’

4. Thomas’s father told his son the whole story, as follows. ‘Many years ago, the king of England wished to make all the people serve him.’

5. ‘He wished also to get away their money, and the people did not like these things. But the king insisted

upon it, and so there was no way to settle the matter but to go to war.

6. The king sent over his soldiers all dressed up in red coats, with muskets, cannon, and swords, to fight the people of this country.

7. So some of the wise men got together, and declared that they would be free, in spite of the king and all his soldiers.

8. This was done on the fourth of July; and the people were so much delighted with it, that they notice the day, to this time. Even children catch the spirit of the time, and wave their little flags in token of joy, as you see in the picture.

9. It is called independence day, because it was the day, on which the wise men declared that the people of this country would be free.

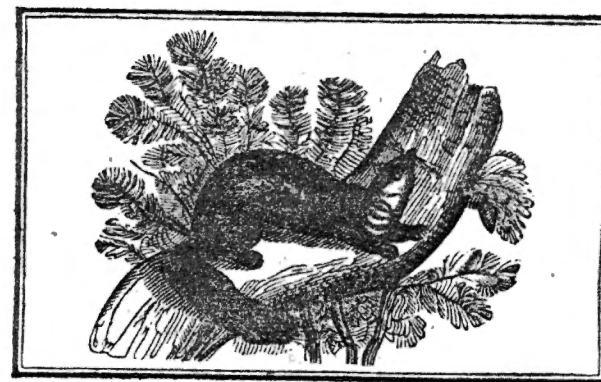
10. But the declaration, was not the best of it. The people fought the red-coat soldiers of the king and drove them away, and they have been free ever since.

XXI. THE SNOW BIRD.

1. When winter comes with raging storms,
And coats with ice the glassy rill;
When all the emerald leaves are dead,
And every summer bird is fled,
The little snow bird cherups still.

Raging, violent. *Glassy*, clear and bright. *Emerald*, green.
Cherups, sings.

2. And when the blast comes loud and fierce,
And naught is left to cheer the eye,
Its song brings back to mind the hours,
We passed among the summer flowers,
Beneath the glowing sky.
3. And when upon the budding bough,
The merry birds begin to play;
And flowers spring from the moistened earth,
And happy insects sport in mirth,
It hies to colder climes away.



XXII. THE MARTEN.

1. Ellen had been a good little girl, and her mother bought her a boa. It was made of soft fur, of a dark brown color.

Fierce, furious. *Cheer*, please, or comfort. *Glowing*, bright.

2 It was very handsome, and Ellen was delighted to wear it round her neck, because she knew it was pretty, and because it was very comfortable.

3. Now, what do you suppose the boa was made of? It was made of the skin of a beautiful little animal, called the Marten.

4. These creatures live in cold countries, far to the north. Their skins are so valuable, that a great many men spend their time in hunting them.

5. The Marten is not more than half as large as a cat; but he is a fierce little fellow. He often kills birds; and sometimes climbs trees, to rob their nests of the eggs.

6. Like boys and girls, he is fond of honey; but he does not eat it with a spoon.

7. He finds where the wild bees have made their hives in some tree of the forest, and there he helps himself.

XXIII. LOVE TO PARENTS.

1. Never, perhaps, was there such an affecting example of love to parents, as that set forth by our Saviour, in his last earthly moments.

2. For though he was in bitter suffering, and, as one would think, might have fairly trusted his dear mother

in the hands of so intimate a friend, and so good a disciple as John was, he did not fail to discover them both in the crowd, and give them the kindest, as well as the most striking directions.

3. To his mother he said, 'Behold thy son!' To John, 'Behold thy mother!' This was enough. A thousand words could have done no more. And we are told the consequences.

4. From that hour, the beloved John took her to live with him, at his own house.



XXIV. POOR OLD PAUL.

1. Poor old Paul! he has lost a foot,
And see how he hobbles along,

Hobbles, walks lame.

With the stump laced up in that clumsy boot
 Before the gathering throng!
 And now, as he has to pass so many,
 And suffer the gaze of all,
 If each would only bestow a penny,
 'T were something for poor old Paul.

2. His cheek is pale and his garb is thin,
 His eye is sunken and dim,
 He looks as if the winter had been
 Making sad work with him!
 While he is trying to hide the tatter,
 Mark how his looks will fall!
 Nobody needs to ask the matter
 With poor, old, hungry Paul!

3. All he has got in his worn-out sack
 Is morsels of bread and meat;
 The refuse, to burden his aged back,
 Which others refused to eat.
 So now, I am sure you will all be willing
 To part with a sum so small,
 As each will spare, who gives up a shilling,
 To comfort him—poor old Paul!

Throng, crowd. *Gaze*, stare. *Bestow*, give. *Garb*, dress.
Tatter, raggedness. *Sack*, bag. *Refuse*, remains. *Burden*, to load.

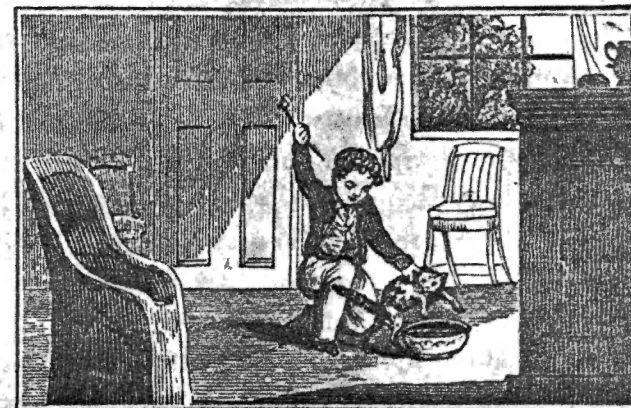
XXV. THE BLUE BIRD'S RETURN.

1. Say, from what sunny retreat of earth
 Hast thou come to tell us of Spring?
 Where hast thou been through the cold winter days,
 Thou bird of the bright blue wing?
2. Say in what bower, or old hollow tree,
 Hast thou kept thy young nestlings so warm;—
 And watched so untiringly through the long days
 To shield the dear creatures from harm?
3. Come tell us, thou harbinger of the glad Spring,
 What vales have reechoed thy notes:—
 'T is long since I've heard the sweet sound of thy
 voice,
 As through the clear ether it floats.
4. But now thou hast come with thy full tide of song,
 With us, through the Summer to dwell;—
 I greet thee with rapture, although where thou'st
 dwelt,
 Through the winter thou never dost tell.

Retreat, hidden spot. *Nestlings*, young birds. *Untiringly*,
 without fatigue. *Shield*, guard. *Harbinger*, forerunner. *Reechoed*,
 echoed back. *Ether*, air. *Tide*, flow. *Greet*, welcome.

5. Come live in our garden; I'll build you a box
High up, where no pussy can reach.
We have plenty of fruit which I think you will like;
We have apple, plum, cherry and peach.
6. And then you can leave your young brood without
fear;
Secure from all danger and harm;
No cat can climb up to your airy retreat,
No school boy your dwelling alarm.
7. And to pay me for all of my trouble and pains,
I shall ask no return but a song;
And that will be pretty cheap payment, I think,
For one who sings all the day long.
8. And when Autumn writes on the forests, decay,
And strews their sear leaves o'er the plain,
Thou'lt leave us till Spring with its soft balmy breath
Shall freshen the valleys again.

*Secure, safe. Alarm, frighten. Decay, turning to dust. Sear, dry.
Balmy, fragrant. Freshen, make green.*



XXVI. THE BROKEN PIPE.

1. Come here, little Willy;—
Why, what is the trouble?
'I've broke my new pipe, Ma,
And can't make a bubble.'
2. Well, don't weep for that, child,
But brighten your face,
And tell how the grievous
Disaster took place.
3. 'Why, puss came along,
And said I, now she'll think
This white frothy water,
Is milk she may drink.

Disaster, misfortune.

4. 'So I set it before her,
And dipped her mouth in;
When up came both paws
And stuck fast in my chin!
5. 'Then I gave her a blow
With my pipe, and it flew
Into four or five pieces;—
And what shall I do?
6. 'I can't make a bubble;
I wish naughty kit
Had been a mile off!
See, there's blood on me yet!
7. I'm sorry, my boy;
Yet, your loss is but just—
You sported with puss
By deception at first.
8. When failing in this,
You compelled her; and hence
Came the wound in your face,
From her just self-defence.

Sported, played. *Failing*, not succeeding. *Compelled*, forced.

9. And when you so cruelly
Beat her, you know,
Your pipe, and yourself
Had the worst of the blow.
10. May this ever teach you,
You never should stoop,
With man or with brute,
But to make him your dupe.
11. That when you have power
It should not be abused,
By oppressing the weaker—
Nor strength be misused;
12. For often will torture
Return whence it came,
And cruelty ever
Be followed by shame.
13. Remember this, William;—
And here end your troubles;
I've one more pipe left—
You may go and make bubbles.

Dupe, one who is cheated. *Misused*, ill-treated.

XXVII. THE GROUNDNUT.

1. 'Mother, I love Groundnuts,' said Frank, as he sat beside her, one day, with his pockets well filled. 'Do they grow in the ground, that they are called Groundnuts?'

2. 'They do not grow in the ground, as you would imagine, Frank; but the fruit is produced in a very curious manner.'

3. 'The stem grows very near the root, and when the flowers are fallen, the stem turns downward, and enters the ground, where the seed ripens; and that seed is the Groundnut.'

4. 'It is a southern plant or fruit, but can be cultivated in the open air in our northern climate.'

5. 'But mother,' said Frank, 'do you say that it grows of its own accord into the ground. I know some animals live under ground; but I should never guess that a flower would burrow like a rabbit. And yet I must believe it, if you tell it to me, mother.'

6. 'Why should you doubt, my dear boy? You cannot have forgotten the Banyan tree, which your sister was reading about last evening.'

7. 'That tree forms a forest of its own down-turned

Produced, yielded. Cultivated, made to grow. Own accord, own will. Burrow, dig. Doubt, to be uncertain.

branches, you see the honeysuckle and the woodbine climbing in their own unassisted beauty.

8. You see the fair flowers folding up their leaves as evening draws on, as though they were preparing to sleep through the dark night.

9. You see these instincts of the flowers. Then why should it seem strange to you that the Groundnut should enter the earth to perfect its fruit?'

10. 'I see it all now, dear mother,' said Frank eagerly. 'It is the instinct of the plant, which you once told me was bestowed by God, just as he gives to every animal an instinct to find its proper food, and its proper place of safety.'

11. 'Yes, God cares for the Groundnuts as much as for the lilies of the valley.'

12. 'Is there not some lesson to be learnt from this humble little plant, Frank?' said his mother? 'You see that it shuns the glare and noise of the world, and retires from notice while it is laboring to perfect its fruit. What does it teach you?'

13. Frank leaned his head on his hand, and sat for some time as silent as a philosopher. He was studying his mother's question.

14. At length, he started up—'Oh! yes mother, it

Unassisted, without help. Perfect, complete. Bestowed, given. Humble, lowly. Glare, bright light. Philosopher, a person deep in knowledge.

teaches me to study my lesson before I go to play: and when the sun shines bright, and the boys are calling me to join them, I will think of the Groundnut, and hide myself till I have learned my lesson. That will be perfecting my fruit: will it not, mother?"

15. 'Yes; and you are a good boy, Frank; and I feel happy to praise you. I hope you will always regard God's creatures, and his flowers, and then you will learn deep truths from the most simple things, and always bear about with you a heart of love and thankfulness.



XXVHL THE DISOBEDIENT SKATERS.

1. Said William to George, 'It is New Year's day,
So on with your cap, and away! away!'

Truths, real facts.

We'll off to the pond and so merry a play
Who ever had before?

Be quick! be quick, if you would not be chid,
For doing what father and mother forbid!
And under your coat let the skates be hid;
We'll over the ice once more!

2. They are off, they are off, and the skates are tied
On their runaway feet;—and away they glide,
Far over the pond, where 't is deep and wide
Unconscious of danger near—
But see! the ice is beginning to bend!
It cracks! it cracks! and their feet descend,
On nothing around can their hopes depend,
And their cheeks are pale with fear.

3. But their flight to the pond had caught the eye
Of a neighboring peasant, who, lingering nigh,
Beholds their danger, and hears their cry,
And hastens to give them aid.
Then home they are brought, all dripping and cold;
To all who the sorrowful sight behold,
And the worst of the tale—with reproach 't is told,—
The parents were disobeyed!

*Chid, scolded. Unconscious, not knowing. Descend, go down.
Depend, rely, trust. Neighboring, near by. Lingering, stopping.
Hastens, goes quick. Dripping, running with water. Reproach, blame.*

XXIX. THE GOLD FISH.

1. In globe of glass, and crystal tide,
A graceful, golden form did glide,
And seemed within its waveless sea
As happy as a fish need be.
2. But all at once, with sluggish pace,
It moped along its watery race,
Searching each tiny nook in vain,
As if in discontent or pain;
3. And though its tide was cool and clear,
And its young guardian held it dear;
Still, with a sad and sullen eye,
Its finny bosom heaved the sigh,—
4. Desiring some companion gay,
With whom to gambol and to play;
Neglecting still to comprehend,
The stranger might not prove a friend.
5. And so its master, ever prone
To make another's wo his own,

Crystal, transparent. *Waveless*, without motion. *Sluggish*, slow, stupid. *Moped*, moved slowly. *Nook*, corner. *Gambol*, frolic. *Comprehend*, understand. *Prone*, ready.

- Indulged the discontented pet
And bought the first gold fish he met.
6. And in his globe so pure and cold
He put the new guest with the old.
But how the sequel can I trace?
And tell how soon that stranger base
 7. Destroyed the rashly trusting fish,
Whose only fault had been a wish,
With some gay guest or thoughtless mate,
Life's narrow sea to navigate!
 8. Then, they who saw its death-closed eye,
Might think they heard a plaintive sigh,
Soft to their heart this moral send,
'Be careful how you choose a friend:—
 9. For one, your friendship may betray;
Another, steal your peace away;
Another, seeking only pelf,
May sacrifice you to himself.

Indulged, granted his wish. *Guest*, visitor. *Sequel*, end. *Trace*, write. *Base*, bad, wicked. *Navigate*, to sail. *Plaintive*, lamenting. *Moral*, lesson. *Pelf*, riches.



XXX. THE GOAT IN THE WELL.

1. One fine evening, after a hot summer's day, a goat left his shed, where he had been put up for the night. He wished to take a walk, and enjoy the delicious coolness after sun set.

2. The moon was shining bright, and there was not a cloud in the sky. The goat rambled through several fields, leaping over the hedges and ditches with great pleasure, till he came to a farm-yard.

3. In the middle of the farm-yard was a well. The lid of it was off. The goat came close up to the edge of the well, and looked down.

4 He saw something round and bright in the water,

Rambled, wandered about.

at the bottom. It was the reflection of the moon that was shining in the sky. But this the goat did not know.

5. 'What a curious bright thing that is at the bottom of this hole,' thought he. 'What can it be? I should like very much to know what it is.'

6. So he walked round the edge of the well, trying to discover which would be the best way to get down the hole, and so reach the wonder.

7. At one side of the well stood the bucket that was used for the purpose of drawing up the water.

8. The goat was charmed. He thought this bucket would make a fine carriage, and he pushed it off the ground. He saw the rope by which it was held begin to unwind, and the bucket itself begin to go down.

9. 'Ah,' thought he, 'this is just the thing. I will jump in, and go down, and satisfy myself as to what that bright thing is.'

10. Silly goat! In his eagerness to gratify his curiosity, he never thought of the way in which, when once down, he should get up again. So in he sprang, and down, down, down, went the bucket, and then splash it went into cold water.

11. The sudden dash into the water quite frightened

Reflection, light thrown back. Eagerness, strong desire. Gratify, indulge. Splash, to fall suddenly in water.

him. The bucket was in a moment half full of water, and the goat found himself wet and cold.

12. He began to 'na-an, na-an,' piteously. The bright, round thing that he had come after was gone; and all that he had got as a reward for his curiosity was a seat in a narrow bucket, half filled with cold water.

13. What could he do? He could not get the bucket up again. He was cold, wet and hungry. Bitterly did he repent his imprudent curiosity. He could only bleat 'na-an, na-an,' as loud as possible.

14. Presently, a cow, which was in the farm-yard, hearing such a continued noise, came to the side of the well, and looked down.

15. She saw at the bottom of the well, a pair of large horns, two bright eyes, and a long beard hanging from beneath a chin.

16. 'Na-an, na-an,' bleated the unhappy goat.

17. 'Moo, moo,' lowed the cow; and then she walked away.

18. Next came the cock, to see what was the matter. He too could only see the horns, and eyes, and beard, just above the bucket. He looked a minute, and then with a loud 'cock-a-doodle-do,' strutted off.

Piteously, sorrowfully. Continued, without stopping.

XXXI. THE GOAT IN THE WELL.—CONTINUED.

1. Poor Goat! he was quite in despair, when he saw a sheep peeping down at him. She answered his bleating by a loud 'ba-a.'

2. But the sheep could no more help the goat, than the cock or the cow could—so she walked away also.

3. The goat was for a long time in the well; and was visited by a horse, a pig, and a donkey. They could only neigh, grunt, and bray; none could help him.

4. The noise in the farm-yard at last roused the house-dog, who, shaking himself up from the straw he was sleeping on, ran to the well.

5. He looked down, and saw the two horns, the bright eyes, and the long beard; and he heard the sad 'na-an,' of the miserable goat.

6. He barked, 'bow-wow, bow-wow,' and away he went full speed to the kitchen, where his master was sitting, eating his supper. He barked loud, and pulled his master's coat with his teeth.

7. 'Down, Spring, down,' cried the man.

8. 'Bow-wow-wow,' barked the dog, tugging at his master's coat harder than ever.

Despair, without hope. Roused, waked up. Miserable, unhappy.

9. 'What is the matter, old fellow?' said his master.

10. Spring whined, ran to the door, came back, pulled the coat, and plainly made his master understand that he wanted him to go into the farm-yard for some purpose.

11. 'There must be something the matter,' said the man, 'to make the dog so uneasy; I will go and see.' So up he rose, and the dog showed his pleasure by jumping and barking, and led his master straight to the well.

12. The man looked down, and saw the horns, the eyes, and the beard of the goat—'What brought you here, you silly goat?' said he, taking hold of the handle of the windlass, and beginning to wind up the bucket.

13. Round, round, round went the rope, till the bucket came up to the top, and out leaped the shivering goat.

14. Away he ran, as fast as his legs could carry him, never again to venture into a well. Indeed, it is to be hoped, that, after so much fright and danger, he never would venture into any place, until he was certain that he should be able to find his way out again.

15. The man praised the dog, and patted him, and gave him a bone for his trouble. The dog returned quite happy to his kennel. We hope this fable may teach our young readers not to engage in any business till they have considered how it will come out.

Whined, made a plaintive noise. *Plainly*, without mistake.
Uneasy, troubled, disturbed. *Windlass*, a machine. *Venture*, dare.
Kennel, dog's house.

XXXII. THE INTELLIGENT DOG.

1. A man who was one day walking in a town, saw a poor dog who had hurt his leg, and was very lame.

2. The man was compassionate, and took the dog home in his arms, tied up his leg, and kept him in his house for two days, till his leg was a little better.

3. He then sent the dog away, that he might find his master; for it was not his own dog, and he had therefore no right to keep him.

4. The dog went away, but returned every day to his kind friend, to have his leg dressed; and this he did till it was quite well.

5. In a few weeks, the dog came back again, bringing with him a dog who was lame. Looking at the man full in the face, and then turning to the lame dog, he seemed to say, 'You made my lame leg well; now pray do the same for this poor dog who has come with me.'

6. This would seem to show that a dog has a good deal of sense; and there are many other stories, which go to prove the same thing.

7. This tale also affords a good example. The little dog showed kindness to his unfortunate friend; and this may fairly warn us to be kind to those who are in trouble.

Compassionate, full of pity. *Dressed*, bandaged. *Full*, strongly.



XXXIII. THE BLIND GIRL TO HER MOTHER.

1. Mother, they say the stars are bright,
And the broad Heavens are blue,—
I dream of them by day and night,
And think them all like you.
2. I cannot touch the distant skies,
The stars ne'er speak to me,—
Yet their sweet images arise,
And blend with thoughts of thee.
3. I know not why, but oft I dream
Of the far land of bliss;
And when I hear thy voice, I deem,
That heaven is like to this.

Distant, far off. Images, Pictures. Blend, mix. Bliss, happiness.

4. When my sad heart to thine is pressed,
My follies all forgiven,
Sweet pleasure warms my beating breast,
And this I say is Heaven.
5. O mother, will the God above,
Forgive my faults like thee?
Will he bestow such care and love
On a blind thing like me?
6. Dear mother, leave me not alone!
Go with me, when I die—
Lead thy blind daughter to the throne,
And stay in yonder sky.

XXXIV. A SILENT COMPANION.

1. Two passengers set out from their inn in London, early on a December morning. It was dark as pitch; and one of the travellers not feeling very sleepy, and being disposed to talk a little, endeavored to enter into conversation with his neighbor.
2. He accordingly began: 'A very dark morning, sir.' 'Shocking cold weather for travelling.' 'Slow going in these heavy roads, sir.'

Bestow, give. Blind, without sight. Inn, tavern. Disposed, ready, willing. Endeavored, tried.

3. None of these remarks producing a word of answer, the sociable man made one more effort. He stretched out his hand, and feeling of the other's great coat, said—'What a very comfortable coat, sir, you have got to travel in!'

4. No answer was made, and the inquirer fatigued and disgusted with his silent companion, fell into a sound nap, and did not wake until the bright rays of a winter's sun roused him from his slumber.

5. What do you suppose he then saw? It was no more than a great bear, sitting by his side! The creature had a chain over his mouth, so that he could not have talked, even if he had wished to.

6. He was probably a tame bear, and was put into the coach by his owner, who, by some mistake, had remained behind.

7. Bruin's fellow-traveller readily pardoned his silent companion for not having opened his mouth. He likewise expressed no further astonishment at 'the very comfortable coat,' which he had on.

8. This may have been very amusing, but in general, a bear in a stage coach would not be a very pleasant companion.

Sociable, talkative. *Disgusted*, offended. *Roused*, awoke. *Owner*, one who owns, master. *Pardoned*, forgave. *Astonishment*, surprise. *Bruin*, a bear.



XXXV. THE ST. BERNARD DOGS.

1. Let us set round the fire this cold night, and I will tell you a true tale of a dog.

2. A long way from this place, in a land where there is a great deal of cold, and where much snow falls; and where the hills are so large and so high, that their tops seem to touch the sky, there live some good men, whose joy it is to help people who pass by the hills.

3. These poor creatures sometimes sink in the snow, and the cold makes them so weak and faint, that they sleep till the cold and frost kill them.

4. Great cold makes a person sleepy; and those who lie down and sleep in the snow, are sure to die.

5. Well, these good men, who live in a house in the

Seem, appear. *Sink*, go down.

midst of the high hills, keep some large dogs, and they teach them to go out and seek for those who may be lost in the snow-drifts.

6. Snow-drifts are large heaps of snow; blown together by the wind. Sometimes, they are very deep.

7. The dogs I am telling you of, have so fine a scent or smell, that they can find people by means of it when it is too dark to see; or when those they go to seek, lie deep within the snow-drifts.

8. When they have found a man, they bark till they bring some of the good men to them; and then these men with the aid of the dogs, take the poor man out of the snow, and help him to their house, when they give him food to eat, and fire to warm himself with.

9. One sad, cold night, when the snow fell fast, and the wind blew loud and shrill, and it was quite dark, and not a star to be seen in the sky, these good men sent out a dog to seek for those who might want help.

10. In an hour or two, the dog was heard to bark at the gate; and when the men went to look out, they saw the dog there with a boy on his back.

11. The poor child was stiff with cold, and could hardly keep hold of the dog's back.

12. The men took the boy in, and when he was warm,

Midst, in the middle. *Heaps*, piles. *Seek*, to try to find. *Within*, inside. *Aid*, help. *Hardly*, with difficulty.

and had had some food, he told them that he had lain a long time in the snow, and was very weak and faint, when he felt something pull him by the coat, and heard the bark of a dog close beside him.

13. The boy then put out his hand, and felt the dog's hair, who gave him another pull by the sleeve.

14. This gave the child some hope, and he took hold of the dog, and drew himself out of the snow; but he felt that he could neither walk, nor stand.

15. So he got upon the dog's back, who assisted him all he knew how to do; and putting his arms round the faithful animal's neck, he held on as firmly as he could.

16. The dog then began to move slowly and carefully along the snow, as if he knew that the child was weak; and by and by brought him safely to the good men's house. Here he staid till he had quite recovered, and then they sent him to his own house.

17. And though he never saw the dog again, yet the little boy never forgot that he had saved him from perishing in the snow.

18. There are many other interesting stories of these St. Bernard Dogs. They have often saved the perishing traveller from death, by their sagacity, and it is very pleasant to hear accounts of such things.

Beside, near. *Assisted*, helped. *Faithful*, true to another. *Perishing*, dying.

XXXVI. ANECDOTE OF DR. BEATTIE.

1. It is told of Dr. Beattie, that, wishing to teach his son that the world and every thing in it, could not be made by chance, he sowed some mustard and cress seed in his garden, in the form of the letters of his little boy's name.

2. Soon after it was come up, the child went into the garden, and was very much surprised to see his own name growing there; and he ran to his papa, and told him what he had found, and asked him how it happened that his name was growing in the garden.

3. His papa said, he supposed the seeds had come up by chance in that shape.

4. 'No, papa,' answered the little child, 'that is impossible; somebody must have done it!'

5. 'Then,' said his father, 'if the mustard and cress could not have come up by chance in the shape of your name, how could this world and all that is in it, the bright sun, the beautiful moon, and the distant stars that twinkle in the sky, have been made without a God?'

6. This satisfied the boy; and the thing is so plain, that it seems truly wonderful that any one can doubt that God exists, and that he made the world, and rules over it.

Chance, accident. Form, shape. Happened, took place. Twinkle, shine brightly.



XXXVII. ON MONEY.

1. What a useful thing is money! If there were no such thing as money, we should be at a loss to get many things that we might want.

2. The shoemaker, for instance, who might want bread and meat, and clothes for his family, would have nothing to give in exchange but shoes.

3. He would then be obliged to give the baker a pair of shoes, for as much bread as they were worth; and he must exchange in the same way, if he went to the butcher for meat, or to the merchant for cloth, to make clothes for his family.

4. But the baker might not want shoes just then; yet

For instance, for an example.

he might stand in need of a hat. Then the shoemaker would be obliged to find out some hatter who wanted shoes, and get a hat from him, and then exchange the hat with the baker for bread.

5. All this would be very troublesome. But by the use of money, this trouble is saved. Any one who has money, may get for it just what he may chance to want.

6. The baker is always willing to part with his bread for money, because he knows that he can exchange it for shoes, or a hat, or wood, or any thing that he is in want of.

7. You see the poor beggar in the picture! he does not ask for shoes, or a hat, or a coat, or bread. He knows he can get any, or all of them, if the lady and her son will give him money.

8. What time and trouble it must have cost men to exchange one thing for another, before money was in use!

XXXVIII. THE TERRIFIED SAILORS.

1. Some young sailors on board a ship at sea were once ordered to go up the mast to furl the sails.

2. When the first got up, he heard a strange voice

Stand in need of, to be in want. *Chance*, happen. *Willing*, ready. *Exchange*, to give one thing for another. *Ordered*, commanded. *Furl*, to draw up, to make smaller.

saying 'It blows hard.' The lad waited for no more. He was down in a trice and telling his adventure.

3. A second immediately ascended, laughing at the folly of his companion, but returned even more quickly than the former, declaring that he was quite sure that a voice not of this world had cried in his ear, 'It blows hard.'

4. Another went, and another; but each came back with the same story. At length the mate, having sent up all the sailors, ran up the shrouds himself, and when he reached the haunted spot he heard the dreadful words distinctly uttered in his ears, 'It blows hard.'

5. 'Ay, ay; but blow it ever so hard, we must do our duty for all that,' replied the mate fearlessly; and looking round, he spied a parrot perched on one of the ropes, who had been the cause of all this alarm.

6. The bird had probably escaped from some other vessel, and had alighted on the mast of this.

7. This story may teach us the advantage of courage; if the mate had not gone up, the ship might have been lost through the idle fears of the sailors.

Adventure, something that has happened. *Ascended*, went up. *Former*, first. *Shrouds*, the ropes for climbing up the ship. *Haunted*, visited. *Spied*, saw. *Alighted*, to come down.



XXXIX. THE THREE BEARS.

1. A traveller came one day to a spot where four roads met, and in this place there were a great many people gathered together to see a bear dance; and while he danced, there was music played on a small barrel-organ.

2. The traveller who was walking, stood still to see; and he laughed and seemed pleased; and when the music had stopped, he began to ask questions about the way he should go, for he did not know which of the three roads before him he should take.

3. The nearest person to him was a little boy very nicely dressed, who was sitting upon a gate or stile, which

Traveller, a person going from place to place. *Gathered*, collected. *Stile*, a set of steps to go from one field to another.

led from a park or field, full of fine oak trees, to the road.

4. So the traveller said to the young gentleman, 'I shall be much obliged to you, sir, to tell me which of these three roads leads to the town of ———, for I cannot read what is written upon the finger-post.'

5. This young gentleman was sitting at the top of the stile, holding the sidepost of the stile with each hand; and he was staring at what was going on before him: but he did not look much pleased, or as if he was thinking about any thing particular.

6. So when the traveller spoke to him in a very civil voice, with his hat in his hand, he fixed his eyes upon him without moving his head, and looked him up and down; and, without any kind of smile, or any civil look, he answered in a gruff voice, 'Don't know.'

7. Now if the young gentleman had just got down off the stile and walked a few steps, he might have read what was written upon the finger-post.

8. So the traveller knew that the reason he did not give him an answer was, that he did not like taking a little trouble.

9. Then the traveller went on a few steps, and asked a tall dirty-looking boy who was lying under a hedge, the same question as he had done the young gentleman.

Park, a piece of ground filled with deer, or other wild animals. *Finger-post*, a piece of wood with the names of towns written upon it, to direct travellers. *Civil*, kind, polite. *Hedge*, a fence made of shrubs.

XL. THE THREE BEARS.—CONTINUED.

1. The great boy raised his head, and looked up at the traveller, and in a very loud voice he called out, 'You may ask yonder bear, for I am sure I don't know.' Then he burst into a loud laugh, and several great boys near him laughed too.

2. The young gentleman on the stile looked at them, but took no notice. So the traveller walked on a few steps till he came to the poor bear, who was sitting still after his dance, covered with his fine dark fur, and his poor nose and mouth muzzled up quite safe.

3. The traveller was a man who loved a joke; so he made a low bow before the bear, and took off his hat; and he said in a loud voice, 'Mr. Bear, I shall be much obliged to you to inform me which of these three roads leads to the town of ———?'

4. 'I have asked two of your brothers to tell me and they could not, and I thought perhaps, as you seem very willing to make yourself agreeable, that you would direct me.'

5. The bear did not know what to make of the man's behaviour, and was rather offended, and growled; so the traveller got no answer from the third bear.

Took no notice, paid no attention. *Muzzled*, bound up. *Joke*, a jest. *Inform*, tell. *Direct*, show the way. *Offended*, displeased.

6. But a great many persons who were standing by, and who had seen how the young gentleman on the park-stile and the boy under the hedge had behaved, were very much entertained by what the traveller said.

7. They laughed loudly and stared so much at the two boys, that the young gentleman was glad to walk down the park-stile on the other side, and the boy under the hedge slunk away, while a good-natured little boy showed the traveller the way he wished to go, and answered all his questions.

8. I hope, my dear little children, that you are not like any one of these three bears. I know, indeed, that you have not four legs and fur on your back: but do you growl and look fierce when people speak to you, as the dancing-bear did to the traveller?

9. Or do you turn them into joke, like the boy under the hedge? or are you careless whether you please or displease, oblige or disoblige them, like the boy on the park-stile?

10. The Bible tells us to be courteous; and by courteous is meant being civil, and obliging, and respectful to every body, as far as we can; and we should be so in little things as well as great ones.

Entertained, amused. *Slunk*, went away slyly. *Fierce*, cross, angry. *Careless*, not careful.

LI. THE BUTTERFLY.

1. Young Rudolph came running out of the garden in wild joy, and exclaimed, 'What a beautiful bird I have found! It sat on a flower, and its wings shone like pure gold and silver, and lovelier still.

2. 'And I approached softly, and put my hand on it, and caught it! Now I will preserve it carefully, and it shall not escape, and I will give it bread and milk to eat.'

3. Thus spake young Rudolph. And the father said, 'Come, Rudolph, let us also admire your captive!'

4. Then the boy put his hand quickly into his bosom, and brought out a beautiful butterfly.

5. But behold! the wings of the bird had lost their splendor, and the colored dust adhered to the fingers of the boy, and its tender wings were very much torn.

6. And the boy sighed heavily, and said, 'O, how has the beautiful thing become so disfigured! It does not resemble any longer the bird that sat on the lily! Fy! if they are so fragile!' Thus spake the boy, and impatiently threw his bird upon the ground.

Wild, great. Shone, looked bright. Approached, came near.
Preserve, keep. Captive, thing caught. Adhered, stuck to. Dis-
figured, spoiled. Resemble, look like. Fragile, easily broken, or
injured.

7. But the father answered and said, 'Why are you angry? Is it the fault of the little creature that you called a bird, that he has been so tenderly formed?

8. 'You seized it with a rude hand: therefore the splendor of its wings and its summer life have faded away.'



XLII. MAY-DAY.

1. 'Twas May-day morn; and never hath
 A fairer morn been seen!
 I walked along the church yard path
 Towards the village green.

2. A little maiden sat alone,
 (The rest were at their play,)

Tenderly, delicately. Rude, rough, hasty. Path, little walk.

She sat upon a church yard stone
And this I heard her say.

3. 'The fields are green—the sweet winds blow,
My playmates—they are glad!
I love to hear them shouting so;—
And yet it makes me sad.

4. 'My brother William played with me,
Last May-day on the green;
And two such merry ones as we,
Were nowhere to be seen.

5. 'The sweetest flowers that he could find
He always brought to me,
I never knew a boy so kind,
As Willy used to be !

6. 'I well remember how he cried,
As though his heart would break,
Last winter when my Robin died;—
He loved it for my sake.

7. 'One year ago, I little thought
That e'er there passed another,

Shouting, speaking or laughing loud. Merry, gay and playful.
E'er, ever.

He to the church yard would be brought,
My little happy brother.

8. 'More love for this gray stone I have,
Than all the village green,
I'd rather sit on William's grave
Than be their May-day queen.'

9. The tears were standing in her eyes,
I left her there alone:—
Since then I've heard that Ellen lies
Beneath the church yard stone.

XLIII. SNOW.

1. What is this falling from the sky like very small
and delicate feathers? It makes no noise, yet see how
quickly it covers the ground, and the roofs of the
houses, and the branches of the trees; the trees are
quite bent down with it.

2. It is snow ! Nothing is so white as snow. It has
covered and hid every thing that is ugly from our sight.

3. Snow and hail are made of rain which is frozen in
the clouds before it falls down; but hail is frozen harder
than snow.

Beneath, under. Delicate, fine.

4. Snow is very useful in winter; it wraps up the buds, and covers the roots with a nice warm great coat, so that, when the sharp frost comes, it may not hurt them.

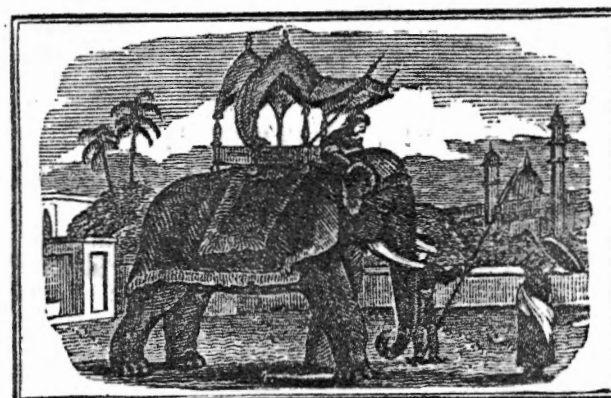
5. But what can the Robin do in the snow? He cannot find any seeds or insects in the ground now it is quite covered up.

6. Poor little bird! you must shake the snow off the cedars and the mountain ash, with your beak.

7. Then you must make your breakfast upon the berries which grow upon them; and you must go to the windows of the houses—you must sing a pleasant song, to ask little boys and girls not to waste the crumbs that fall from their bread, but to throw them out before their doors and windows, for you to eat.

8. If this do not please you, you had better fly away to the south, where there is no snow; where the fields are always green, and where the trees are always in bloom.

9. When you have been there two or three months, you may then come back again. The snow will be gone from the hills, and the ice from the rivers. You may then build your nests, and be happy amid our green fields.



XLIV. SAGACITY OF ELEPHANTS.

1. Elephants are employed in every kind of way. They will carry very great loads on their backs, necks, and tusks; and help to load themselves.

2. This they do, by twisting their trunk round any thing that is to be moved, and putting it carefully in its proper place on their backs.

3. They will draw coaches, ploughs, waggons, and large cannon, or push any thing forward; and one will do as much work as six horses, and draw a piece of timber which it would take twenty men to move.

4. When they are drawing or carrying loads, if any thing is out of its place, or a strap or buckle is broken or loose, they will stop, and not be satisfied or go on till all is put right.

Twisting, winding. Satisfied contented.

5. When an elephant has to cross any place,—a bridge, a new road, or even water,—he will never trust himself to it or move forward till he is sure that what he has to tread upon is strong enough to bear his immense weight. This he does by feeling and trying it with his trunk.

6. The keeper who guides and manages him is called a *mohout* in India. The elephant kneels down to let him mount, and he sits upon a large cloth, or housing, spread over the elephant's neck.

7. The driver has a short iron rod, with a hook or bodkin at the end, with which he pricks the head or sides of the animal, to turn him or make him go forward.

8. But elephants, if they are managed properly and kindly, will do what is wanted with a word or a sign.

9. If they are treated cruelly, they will sometimes in a rage kill their keeper, and after they have done so will be very sorry, and even die of grief.

10. They do not like to have their regular habits broken through; and if any thing which has been promised is not given them, and they are teased or used ill, they are almost sure to resent it.

11. An elephant was once employed in carrying the

Trust, be confident. *Immense*, very great. *Guides*, directs. *Housing*, cloths for ornamenting saddles. *Resent*, to be angry.

baggage of some soldiers on their march. Having more put on him than he liked to carry, he kept pulling part of the load off his back. This made the quarter-master angry; and at last he threw a tent-pin at the elephant's head.

12. A few days afterwards, the animal was going from the camp to water, and overtook the quarter-master: he seized him with his trunk, lifted him up into a large tamarind-tree which hung over the road, and left him hanging on the boughs to get down as well as he could.

13. An officer who was several years in India says, 'I have seen the wife of a *mohout* (that is, the driver) leave her baby in the care of an elephant who was chained by the leg to a pin driven into the ground, while she went away on some business.

14. 'The child did not like to lie still in one place, and began crawling about: sometimes it got among the elephant's legs, sometimes it was entangled in the branches of the trees on which the animal was browsing; and then the elephant, in the most gentle manner, would lift the baby out of the way with its trunk, or push aside the boughs.

15. 'If the child crawled too far, and seemed likely to

Baggage, trunks, clothes, &c. *Tent-pin*, a pointed stick of wood. *Entangled*, mingled. *Browsing*, eating.

get beyond the reach of the elephant, it would stretch out its trunk, lay hold of the baby, and bring it back again as tenderly as its own mother could have done.'

16. Once an elephant formed such an affection for a very young child, that he was never happy but when it was near him. The nurse used very frequently to take the baby in its cradle, and put it between the elephant's feet.

17. He was so used to this, at last, that he would never eat his food except the baby was with him. When the child was asleep, he would drive off the flies with his trunk; and when it cried, he would move the cradle backward and forward, and rock it to sleep again:

XLV. THE TWO SCYTHES.—A FABLE.

1. It happened once, that a couple of mower's Scythes were hung up together in the same barn. One was sharp, bright, and in good order, and was often put in use by its master.

2. In the fine summer days, it was carried into the fields, and made to cut whole acres of grass.

3. The other was old, rusty, without a handle, and was thrown by as entirely useless.

Stretch, to put out far. *Tenderly*, with care. *Affection*, love. *Frequently*, often. *Couple*, two. *Rusty*, covered with rust, tarnished.

4. 'Friend,' said the rusty Scythe one day, in a lazy drawling tone to his neighbor, 'my good friend, I really think you are very much to be pitied.'

5. 'You labor continually for the good of others, and yet are every day or two fretted on that shocking whet-stone.'

6. 'You are scoured and worked there, till you even strike fire, while I repose in perfect ease and quiet, with nothing to do or to suffer.'

7. 'That may all seem very fine to you,' replied his bright neighbor, 'but permit me to say a word or two on the difference of our conditions.'

8. 'I confess that I am obliged to labor; but then I am rewarded in the reflection that it is for the benefit of thousands.'

9. 'This gives me my importance. The whet-stone is not very pleasant; but by being thus sharpened, I am able to become more useful.'

10. 'That is all very fine,' thought the rusty Scythe; 'but it is all very silly too, in my opinion.'

11. 'Now,' continued his bright brother, 'what is your situation? You are helpless, insignificant and useless; the victim of your pride and idleness.'

Drawling, slow. *Fretted*, worn away. *Scoured*, cleaned. *Condition*, state, situation. *Reflection*, thought. *Benefit*, advantage. *Importance*, value. *Insignificant*, worthless.

12. 'In the end, you fall a victim to devouring rust, unpitied and unknown.'

13. This fable may teach us that the idle are always unhappy and without value or importance in society; they are indeed no better than burthens on the earth.



XLVI. THE TREE.

1. A father went over the sea into a distant country. But before he departed, he called all his children together. He carried a tree in his hand, and they assisted in planting it.

2. And the father said, 'Whenever you look at this tree, think of your absent parent. Before it blooms

Victim, sacrifice. *Burthens*, useless loads. *Distant*, far off.
Assisted, helped.

thrice, I hope to be with you again, if it be the will of God!'

3. Thus he spake and departed; and the blossoming of the tree was beautiful and lovely the first year.

4. But as the father was going over the sea, there arose a mighty tempest, and the ship foundered on the rocks, and the father was buried in the waves.

5. Then his children wept and mourned for many months; and especially when the buds of the tree expanded and bloomed, they stood around and wept.

6. And a friend to the ship-wrecked father, came to the children and said: 'Behold, the tree can no longer advance the object for which it was planted, and is only a source of affliction to you; therefore let me remove it, and plant another in its place, that its appearance may no longer grieve you!'

7. But the children unanimously answered and said, 'Oh no, suffer us to keep the tree! If joy does not blossom on it, but only tears and grief, they are the tears of love and the griefs of filial longing. Oh no, do not take the tree from us! If it grieves, it also consoles us.'

Thrice, three times. *Departed*, went away. *Foundered*, sunk.
Especially, particularly. *Expanded*, spread out. *Advance*, bring forward. *Source*, cause. *Remove*, take away. *Unanimously*, every one. *Filial*, belonging to children.

XLVII. THE BEADS.

1. My little girl was playing one day with a few beads, which seemed to please her very much; her whole soul was taken up with her beads. I said, 'My dear, you have some pretty beads there?'

2. 'Yes, papa.'

3. 'And you seem to be vastly pleased with them?'

4. 'Yes, papa.'

5. 'Well, now, throw them into the fire.'

The tears came into her eyes, and she looked earnestly at me, as if to ask why I ordered her to do such a thing.

6. 'Well, my dear, do as you please; but you know I never told you to do any thing which I did not think would be good for you.'

7. She looked at me for a few minutes, and then she dashed them into the fire.

8. 'Well,' said I, 'there let them lie. You shall hear of them another time: but say no more about them now.'

9. Some days afterwards, I bought her a box full of larger beads, and toys of a similar kind. When I came

Taken up, occupied. Vastly, very much. Earnestly, very steadily. Dashed, threw eagerly. Similar, same.

home, I opened the treasure before her. She burst into tears, with delight

10. 'These, my child,' said I, 'are yours, because you believed me when I told you it would be better for you to throw those two or three paltry beads behind the fire: now your obedience has brought you this treasure.'

11. 'But now, my dear, remember, as long as you live, what faith is. I did all this to teach you the meaning of faith.'

12. 'You threw your beads away, when I bade you, because you had faith in me, that I never advise you but for your good.'

13. 'Put the same confidence in God; believe every thing that he says in his word; have faith in Him, that he always means you good.'

14. 'This faith will lead you not only to do what you find he commands, and avoid what he forbids, but it will lead you to do so willingly.'

15. 'Thus obedience to him will become easy and pleasant; even when he requires you to give up something that seems good, you will not find it hard to relinquish it.'

16. 'When your faith in God has made you thus obedient, and taught you to take pleasure in obedience, you will be happy.'

Treasure, thing of value. Paltry, worth nothing. Faith, trust, confidence. Bade, told. Advise, counsel.



XLVIII. THE HORSE.

1. Here is a boy riding on a little horse. The animal is quite gentle, and carries the boy safely along.

2. One of the most useful and valuable animals which Providence has given to man is the horse. Horses are now found in every part of the world, and are used for many purposes.

3. They are naturally wild in Asia, Africa, and Europe. But the horses of South America were at first carried there by the Spaniards.

4. Horses, if kindly treated and well managed, are gentle, teachable, patient, yet very swift and strong. They know the step and voice of their master, or of those who take care of them, and show great affection.

Valuable, worth having. *Teachable*, capable of being taught.

5. The best and most beautiful are the Arabian horses: they run exceedingly fast, are capable of bearing a great deal of labor, and are stronger than other horses in proportion to their size.

6. What are called *blood* horses, are bred from the Arabian stock. The Arabs are exceedingly fond of their horses, and take the greatest care of them.

7. The poorest Arabian has his horse or horses; and the tent in which he himself lives, serves as a stable for his horse as well as a house for himself.

8. The mare and her colt, the father and mother and their children, all live together; and the little children will sleep on the body and neck of the mare and colt, and play with them, without ever being hurt by them.

9. There was once a poor Arab of the Desert who had one mare, which must have been a beautiful and valuable creature, as the French consul at Said wanted to buy her to send as a present to the king his master, Louis XIV.

10. The Arab was very unwilling to part with his horse, but at last consented to sell it for a large sum of money. When he brought his horse to the consul, he was so poor that his clothes were all in rags.

11. He dismounted, and looked first at the tempting

Labor, work. *Tent*, house made of poles and cloth. *Colt*, young horse. *Unwilling*, not inclined. *Dismounted*, got off his horse.

gold, and then fixing his eyes upon his favorite, his heart began to fail him; he heaved a deep sigh, and cried out, 'To whom am I going to give thee up? To those who will tie thee up, beat thee, and make thee miserable!

12. 'Return with me, my beauty! my jewel! and rejoice the heart of my children.' Then, springing on the back of the animal, he was out of sight in a moment.

13. The shape of the horse's mouth and lips plainly show that the horse was intended to be guided by the bit of the bridle. There are no teeth in that part of his mouth where the bit is put, and there seems a particular sense in it, which makes him know in a moment what his rider wants him to do.

14. As St. James says, 'We put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us, and we turn about their whole body.' Horses, too, breathe only through their nostrils, and not through their mouths. Their backs are fitted to carry a saddle.

15. These things show that they were made for the use of man. Other animals are stronger, but none are at the same time so strong and swift.

16. Some horses have been really swifter than the wind. A famous English race horse, called Flying Childers, was known to have run nearly a mile in a minute;

Tempting, enticing. Fail, languish, sink. Sense, feeling. Swifter, faster.

and another, called Eclipse, was stronger, and could gallop as fast if not faster.

17. Suppose horses could keep up that pace, and met with nothing to hinder them, they could gallop all round the world in eighteen days.

18. Horses are best broke in and made tame and fit for use, by being treated very gently and kindly; and though they should be begun to be broke in, when they are a few months old, it is cruel to make them work hard before they are grown up.

19. This happens at five years old, when they lose their first teeth. They will live thirty years, and even more. They change their coats twice a year; that is in the Spring and Autumn.

XLIX. THE FRIENDLY CAGE.

1. Near Waterloo Bridge, in London, there might have been seen lately a cage about five feet square, and in it there lived a cat, and a rat, and a mouse, and a hawk, and a rabbit, a guinea-pig, an owl, a pigeon, a starling, and a sparrow.

2. Now, though these little creatures would naturally quarrel and destroy one another, yet they all lived to-

Pace, step. Coats, hair. Lately, not long ago. Naturally, according to their natures.

gether in peace, without being afraid of each other, or wishing to hurt each other.

3. The rabbit and the pigeon would play together for a bit of hay to make up their nests; the sparrow sometimes perched on the head of the cat, and sometimes on that of the owl; and the mouse played about without any fear of puss.

4. The person who took care of these animals had made them so tame by using them to each other, and by giving them always enough to eat.

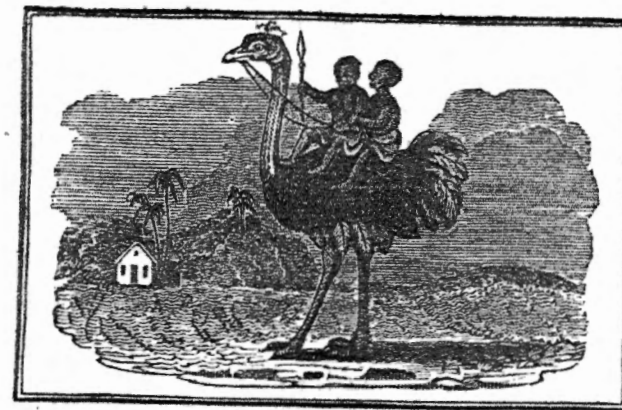
5. May not children learn a pretty lesson from this, and try to live at peace with all their companions, like the animals in the cage?

6. If the cat and the rat can live together, and play about in kindness, shall not boys and girls, brothers and sisters?

7. If the pigeon and the owl can be friends, shall children quarrel with each other? How much happier were these birds in the cage, than if they had quarrelled with one another!

8. And how much happier will children be, who are kind, gentle and peaceable, than those who are surly and cross!

Destroy, kill. Using, accustoming.



L. THE OSTRICH.

1. The Ostrich is a bird, but in some things it is like a quadruped. If you look at a cat watching a bird, you may see her spring at it and try to catch it, and the bird flies away out of the cat's reach.

2. The cat jumps, and the bird flies, and nothing can be more unlike than these two creatures.

3. Yet there are some animals that fly, which are not birds, and there are some birds that cannot fly. There is the flying squirrel, the flying dragon, and the flying fish; and the bat, which is like a mouse with wings.

4. The Ostrich cannot fly; it is one of the largest and heaviest of birds, and weighs about eighty pounds; its height, from the top of its head to the ground, is

Quadruped, an animal with four legs.

from seven to nine feet; and its length about the same.

5. When it is walking it looks as tall as a man on horseback. Its feathers are not made like the feathers of other birds, but are more like hair, as soft as down, and its wings will not beat the air and enable it to fly.

6. The head, the upper part of the neck, the sides and thighs, are covered with a white kind of hair instead of feathers, and the hair on the head looks something like hog's bristles.

7. Its legs and feet are like those of a goat; it has two stomachs; one of these and other parts of its inside, are more like the insides of other animals than of birds. It is very greedy and voracious.

8. It can neither taste nor smell, and it swallows every thing that comes in its way; sometimes even what is poisonous.

9. When its body is opened, there is generally found in it vegetables, grain, flesh, and even stones, glass and iron.

10. The Ostrich lays from forty to fifty eggs, as big as a little baby's head: she lays them in a heap of sand, which she scratches together with her feet, and leaves them to be hatched by the heat of the sun, or only sits upon them at night for a very little while, when they are just ready to be hatched.

Down, very soft feathers. *Enable*, make it able. *Voracious*, greedy, ravenous. *Hatched*, produced from a shell.

11. The sun, however, soon hatches them, because Ostriches only live in Africa, and the parts of Asia very near to it, which are the hottest countries in the world.

12. They live in large flocks, and they love those mountains and parched deserts, where no rains falls,—and it is said they never drink.

13. Although Ostriches cannot fly, they are very strong and very swift, and can run faster than the best race-horses. The way the Arabs catch the Ostriches, is by chasing them on horseback till they are quite spent out and can run no longer.

14. When one huntsman is tired, another comes up behind, and follows the poor bird for two or three days together, so that it can neither get food nor sleep, till at last it can run no further, and is easily taken.

15. It is said, when the Ostrich finds he cannot get away, he hides his head in the sand, and thinks that nobody can see any part of him.

16. The Ostrich has always been considered a foolish bird; we read of him in Job xxxix,—‘The Ostrich leaveth her eggs in the earth, and warmeth them in the dust; and forgetteth that the foot may crush them, or that the wild beast may break them.

Parched, dried up. *Spent*, tired, exhausted. *Crush*, tread upon.

17 'She is hardened against her young ones, as though they were not her's; her labor is in vain without fear. Because God has deprived her of wisdom, neither hath he imparted to her understanding. What time she lifteth up herself on high, she scorneth the horse and his rider.'

18. The long feathers in the wings and tail of the Ostrich are very beautiful; the ancient warriors used to wear them in their helmets.

19. In Turkey they are thought to make the finest head-dress both for men and women. They are still used by ladies in most countries.

LI. A QUESTION AND REPLY.

1. 'Oh! tell me, tell me, little bird,
Of what, of what you 're singing,
While through the fragrant summer air
Your bright way you are winging?

2. 'I listen with attentive ear
To every thrilling note,
That pours so very sweetly from
Your tiny, tiny throat!

Hardened against, does not care for. *Deprived*, taken from. *Imparted*, taught. *Scorneth*, disdains. *Ancient*, long past, old. *Helmet* cap for the head. *Fragrant*, smelling sweet. *Thrilling*, piercing. *Tiny*, very small.

3. 'I look at you, gay little bird!
And long, and long to know
What glorious theme thus ever makes
You warble, warble so.

4. 'Then tell, oh tell me little bird!
Gay creature, fair and bright,
For I would learn what causes you
So much, so much delight.'

5. 'Young child, I'll gladly answer all
That thou dost ask of me:
I sing the praise of Him who made
Both thee and thine, and me.

6. 'God gave me all my merry notes
And every shining feather;
And His hand shelters me through all
The changing wintry weather!

7. 'For this, I thank Him in my song,
With joy, with joy increasing;
And join with all the universe
In praise, in praise unceasing!'

Theme, subject, story. *Delight*, joy, pleasure. *Shelters*, guards. *Increasing*, growing. *Unceasing*, without stopping.

8. 'God made me too! sweet little bird,
And shall not, shall not I
Do as thou dost, and lift my voice
To Him, to Him on high!'



LII. THE LION.

1. The noblest of all the cat tribe is the lion. He is often called the king of beasts; and is one of the strongest of all. He shows a great deal of dignity and majesty in his behavior, is very calm and composed, and not easily teased or provoked.

2. The lion is commonly about six feet long, and three feet tall. The color of his coat is pale tawny, or orange; he has a long tuft of rather black hair at the

Dignity, nobleness and greatness.

end of his tail, and an enormous mane hangs over his neck. The lioness has no mane.

3. The roar of the lion is very dreadful, like thunder; and his paw is so hard and strong that he can crush the skull of a horse by a single stroke. He is able to seize upon a man, or even a larger creature, and carry him away in his mouth, as a cat does a rat.

4. Lions are mostly found wild in Africa and the south of India. Lions do not like the light and seldom move about in the daytime, but sleep during the heat.

5. They are afraid of fire, and of fire-arms, or guns; but seem to take delight in a storm of thunder and lightning by night and are then more than usually bold and active.

6. You have heard many stories of the gratitude and generosity of lions to men who have been kind to them: and though, perhaps, some of these are not quite true, yet almost all animals love those who treat them well; and certainly lions often show great pity to smaller and weaker animals.

7. Some years ago a spaniel was put into the cage of a lion in the Tower of London for him to eat. The lion spared the dog; and they lived for a long time very happily together in the same den.

Enormous, very large. Gratitude, remembrance of kind actions and favors. Weaker, not strong. Spared, did not kill.

8. Sometimes the dog had the impudence to growl at the lion, and quarrel about the meat that was thrown to them; but the noble beast would not hurt the little creature, and often let him help himself first.

LIII. THE LION.—CONTINUED.

1. It may be useful to tell you about one or two curious escapes from lions. A Hottentot saw a lion following him, and, thinking the lion was only waiting till it was dark to seize upon him, looked about to see how he could best save himself.

2. Seeing a bank that was very steep on one side, he sat down on the top of it; and when he stopped, to his great joy the lion stopped also.

3. As soon as it grew dark, the man slipped down a little below the edge of the bank, and held up his cloak and hat on the top of his stick, moving it backwards and forwards.

4. The lion mistook the hat and cloak for the man, and made a spring at them, and tumbled down headlong over the precipice; and by this means the poor man was saved from the lion's jaws.

5. Another Hottentot was driving the cattle to water,

Seize, lay hold. Headlong, suddenly, hastily.

and saw a huge lion in the middle of the pool, who seemed to have his eyes fixed upon him.

6. He instantly took to his heels, and ran through the cattle, thinking the lion would be satisfied with taking one of them. In this he was mistaken: the lion broke through the herd, and followed, as if resolved to have nothing but the man for his supper.

7. Seeing this, the man scrambled up an aloe tree, and just got out of reach when the lion made a spring at him.

8. The lion walked round the tree, as if he was sulky and disappointed at missing him, while the man hid himself behind a cluster of birds' nests.

9. Having stayed quiet for some time, the poor Hottentot peeped out over the side of the nests, hoping the lion was gone; but to his great terror his eyes met the lion's eyes, which flashed fire at him.

10. There the lion lay at the foot of the tree for twenty-four hours.

11. At last he went to a spring at some distance to drink, and the Hottentot then ran away as fast as he could, and got home safely.

Satisfied, contented. Scrambled, got up hastily. Missing, not finding. Distance, some way off.

LIV. A SAIL IN A BOAT.

1. Let us walk by the sea-side and look at the sea, and see the waves roll up to our feet. What is that I see a long way off?

2. It is like a bird; but no, it is too big for a bird. It is a ship, with one, two, and more than two sails. Here is one close by, it is near the land.

3. No, that is not a ship, that is a boat. A boat is not so big as a ship. Look! a man gets out of the boat, and drags it up on the shore.

4. What is that long bit of wood in his hand?

5. That is an oar. He dips the oar into the sea and pulls, which makes the boat move.

6. What is the use of a sail?

7. A sail makes the boat move too, by the help of the wind.

8. The sails of a ship are not like the sails of a wind mill, I see.

9. No, they are not, but the wind moves the sails of a mill, as well as the sails of a boat.

10. May I go in the boat?

11. Yes, if you wish to go out to sea with that man, you may; but you must ask him to row you, and you must sit still.

Sail, a sheet which catches the wind. *Wind Mill*, a machine for grinding. *Row*, to move with oars.

12. Pray, may I go out in your boat?

13. Yes sir, jump in, and I will row you out a few miles. Here you are—now sit still; my boy will come to row with me.

14. He will be wet; he runs into the sea to push off the boat. Now we go. Good bye, Mama.

15. How we go up and down on the waves; first we rise up and then we sink down, and my face is wet with the spray of the sea. Now we do not rise up and sink down. Why is this?

16. The waves, sir, rise up high near the shore at all times, and when the wind blows hard, all the waves in the sea are high; but it is calm to-day, so that the boat does not rock now that we come from the shore.

17. When we go back, it will rise and sink as it did just now. How small the town looks, and the hill, and the trees; I can but just see them!

18. Now, I am going to put up the sail. Put up the mast, Jack, and give me the rope. How fast we move with the sail up! I like to be at sea.

19. Now I can see no land at all. I do not like this, now. I wish to go home; I wish to see my Mama. I do not like to be at sea, when I cannot see the land.

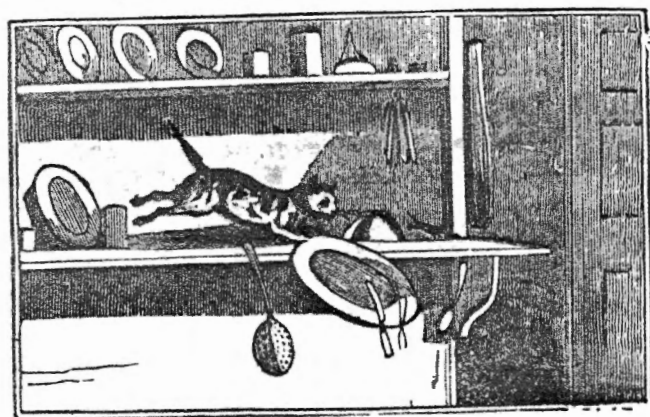
20. Well, sir, we will turn the bow of the boat, and go home. We will take down the sail and row, for the

Spray, small drops. *Mast*, a post to fix the sails upon.

wind blows us from shore, and we want to go on shore.

21. Now, I see land once more. How glad I am!
Now I see the town, and I am sure I see Mama, as she
walks on the beach. Yes, she looks this way; she sees
us, and waves her hand to me.

22. Take off your cap and wave it to her, sir. Now
Jack, my boy, jump out, and pull us on the land. Here
sir, get on my back, and I will put you safe on the
shore.



LV. THE TWO THIEVES.

1. A lady, they called her Miss Mouse,
In a slate-colored dress, like a Quaker,
Once lived in a strong little house,
Of which she herself was the maker.

Beach, shore, strand. *Wave*, to move back and forth.

2. There lived in another close by,
A dame, whom they called Lady Kitty!
But, that she was stationed so nigh,
Miss Mouse often thought it a pity.
3. For she, tho' so soberly clad,
And never inclined to ill-speaking,
Had often a fancy to gad,
And more than her own might be seeking.
4. She then did not like to be scanned,
Or questioned respecting her duty,
When some little theft she had planned—
Nor watched coming home with her booty.
5. So modest she was, and so shy,
Altho' an inveterate sinner,
She 'd sip out her part of the pie,
Before it was brought on for dinner.
6. She held that 't was folly to ask,
For what her own wits would allow her,

Stationed, placed. *Soberly*, not gay and gaudy. *Ill speaking*,
ill-natured talking. *Gad*, run about from place to place. *Scanned*,
examined. *Booty*, things taken or stolen. *Inveterate*, incurable.
Wits, sense, cunning.

And making her way through the cask,
Would help herself well to the flour.

7. The candles she scraped to the wicks,
And full of mischievous invention,
Would do many more naughty tricks,
Which I, as her friend, cannot mention.
8. Kit, too, had her living to make,
And yet, she was so above toiling,
She 'd sooner attack the beef steak,
When the cook had prepared it for broiling.
9. The puss, near a dish of warm toast,
Has often most patiently lingered,
To seize her first chance, yet could boast,
That none ever called her light-fingered.
10. But mending, or minding herself,
She thought would be quite too much labor,
And so peeped about on the shelf,
To smell out the faults of her neighbor.
11. For Mouse loved to meditate there,
While Kit would crouch close to waylay her,

Invention, something new. *Living*, food, support. *Tbiling*, working hard. *Prepared*, got ready. *Lingered*, waited. *Peeped*, looked about slyly. *Meditate*, to think. *Crouch*, to keep down close. *Waylay*, to seize.

And once, in the midst of her fare
Up! bounces Miss Kitty to slay her!

LVI. THE TWO THIEVES.—CONTINUED.

1. But this was as luckless a jump,
As ever Kit made with the clatter
Of knife, skimmer, spoon, and a thump
Which she got as she threw down the platter.
2. While Mouse gliding under a dish,
Escaped from the fatal disaster,
Miss Kitty turned off to the fish,
The breakfast elect, for her master.
3. Said she to herself 'tis clear gain,
This rarity fresh from the water,
'Twill save my white mittens a stain,
And me from the trouble of slaughter.
4. But her racket, she found to her cost,
The plot had most fatally thickened;

Bounces, jumps up quick. *Luckless*, unfortunate. *Clatter*, noise. *Gliding*, moving quietly. *Disaster*, misfortune. *Elect*, chosen. *Rarity*, something seldom got. *Slaughter*, killing, murder. *Racket*, noise. *Plot*, plan, design.

And all hope of mercy was lost,
When Jack's coming footstep was quickened.

5. He seized her, and binding her fast,
Declared he would never forgive her,
So Kitty was sentenced, and cast
With a stone at her neck, in the river!
6. But Mouse still continued to thief;
And oft when alone in her dwelling,
She'd silently laugh in her sleeve,
At the scene in the tale I've been telling.
7. Till once, by a fatal mishap,
The little unfortunate rover,
Perceived herself fast in a trap,
And felt that her race was now over.
8. She knew she must leave all behind;
And thus in the midst of her terrors,
As every thing rushed to her mind,
Began her confession of errors.

Sentenced, condemned. *Thieve*, to steal. *Mishap*, misfortune.
Rover, one who rambles about.

LVII. THE TWO THIEVES.—CONCLUDED.

1. ' You 'll find on the word of a mouse,
Whom hope has forever forsaken,
The following things in my house,
Which I have unlawfully taken.
2. ' A cork that was steeped in the beer,
Which I nibbled until I was merry—
Some kernels of corn from the ear,
The skin and the stone of a cherry;
3. ' Some hempseed I took from the bird,
And found most deliciously tasted,
While safe under covert I heard
Its owner complain that 't was wasted.
4. ' You 'll find a few cucumber seeds
Which I thought, if they could but be hollowed,
Would answer to string up for beads,
And so the contents I have swallowed.—
5. ' A few crumbs of biscuit and cheese,
Which I thought might a long time supply me,

Forsaken, left. *Unlawfully*, against the law, and the right. *Steeped*, soaked. *Nibbled*, eaten daintily. *Covert*, a hiding place.
Answer, be of use. *Contents*, inside.

With luncheons—some rice and split peas,
Which seemed well prepared to keep by me.

6. 'A cluster of curls which I stole,
At night from a young lady's toilet,
And made me a bed of it whole,
As tearing it open would spoil it.
7. 'And as, in a long summer's day,
I'd time both for reading and spelling,
I gnawed up the whole of a play,
And carried it home to my dwelling.
8. 'I wish you 'd set fire to my place,
And pray you at once to despatch me,
That none of my enemy's race
In the form of miss Kitty, may catch me.'
9. And thus will disgrace follow vice,
Altho' for a while it be hidden,
When children, or kittens, or mice
Will do what they know is forbidden.

Cluster, a bunch. *Toilet*, dressing-table. *Gnawed*, ate. *Despatch* kill. *Disgrace*, punishment.

LVIII. THE FIRST GRIEF.

1. 'O call my brother back to me!
I cannot play alone:
The Summer comes with flower and bee,—
Where is my brother gone?
2. 'The butterfly is glancing bright
Across the sunbeam's track;
I care not now to chase its flight,—
O call my brother back!
3. 'The flowers run wild—the flowers we sowed
Around our garden-tree;
Our vine is drooping with its load,—
O call him back to me!
4. 'He would not hear my voice, fair child!
He may not come to thee:
The face that once like spring-time smil'd,
On earth no more thou'lt see.
5. 'A rose's brief bright life of joy,
Such unto him was given:
Go, thou must play alone, my boy,
Thy brother is in heaven.'

Glancing, moving quickly. *Track*, path, way. *Chase*, run after.
Drooping, hanging down. *Brief*, short.

6. 'And has he left the birds and flowers?
And must I call in vain?
And through the long, long summer hours
Will he not come again?
7. 'And by the brook, and in the glade,
Are all our wanderings o'er?
O, while my brother with me played,
Would I had loved him more!



LIX. PIGEONS.

1. Pigeons feed on grain, and drink a great deal; they do not sip like other birds, but take what they want at a draught. Their shape is elegant and beautiful;

In vain, without any use. *Wanderings*, playing around. *Sip*, to drink a small quantity.

their bill is straight and slender, and the legs of most are red.

2. In one set of these birds the tail is long and shaped like a wedge; in another, it is shorter and even; their voice is particularly soft and mournful, but very delightful,—it is called cooing.

3. Their manners are lively and gentle; they are constant and affectionate to one another, and very fond of society.

4. Some wild Pigeons build their nests in holes of rocks, hollow trees, and old towers. In the Winter they migrate to warmer countries in large flocks from more northern and colder ones, and fly to the beechwoods to feed on the nuts or seeds of the beech; they go back again in the Spring.

5. Some persons think the house Pigeon is the same species as the stock dove of Europe; and it is said the house Pigeon will sometimes leave the dove cots to fly into the woods and become wild again.

6. There was once a Pigeon which belonged to a gentleman in Cheshire, England, whose daughter played very well on the harpsichord.

7. Whenever she played one particular song of

Slender, small round. *Wedge*, a body thick at one end, and sharp at the other. *Mournful*, sad. *Society*, company. *Migrate*, remove. *Species*, kind. *Cots*, houses.

Handel's, the Pigeon used to fly down from the dove house, to the room window, and listen to the music, and appear very much pleased with it. As soon as the song was finished, it flew away again.

8. A lady had a tame Pigeon that was very much delighted with hearing her play, and hurried to the harpsichord whenever she began; but if she played a wrong note, the creature seemed very much displeased, and if she did it often, it lost all temper and tore her hands.

9. There are above twenty varieties of the common Pigeons. Of these, the Carrier Pigeon is the most remarkable, and is so called because it is used to carry letters from one place to another.

10. The Carrier is taken from its home to the place from which the news is to be sent, a little note or letter is tied under its wings, and it is then let loose; it immediately rises up into the sky, to a great height, and then flies directly home.

11. A Carrier Pigeon was once taken from London to St. Edmond's Bury to try how fast it could fly.

12. It was let loose exactly as the clock struck nine, and it flew into the house it was taken from, just at half-past eleven o'clock: so that it had travelled seventy-two miles in two hours and a half.

Hurried, went fast. Displeased, not pleased. Varieties, kinds. Exactly, precisely.

LX. COURAGE AND COWARDICE.

1. Robert Brown, and Henry Lee, were walking home from school, when on turning the corner of a street Robert called out, 'A fight! a fight! let us go and see.'

2. No,' said Henry, 'let us go quietly home, and not muddle with strife—we have nothing to do with the quarrel, and may get into mischief.'

3. You are a coward, and afraid to go,' said Bob; and off he ran.

4. Henry proceeded straight home, and in the afternoon, went to school as usual. But Bob had told all the boys that Henry Lee was a coward, and they laughed at him a great deal.

5. Now Henry had learned that true courage was shown most in enduring reproach when it is undeserved, and that he ought to be afraid of nothing but sin.

6. A few days after, Robert was bathing with some other school-fellows, and got out of his depth. He struggled and screamed for help, but all in vain. The boys who had called Henry a coward got out of the water, and could not assist him.

7. Robert was sinking, when Henry threw off his

Medd, have to do. Proceeded, went forward. Enduring, bearing. Undeserved, not deserved.

clothes, and springing into the water, by great exertion brought him to the shore, and thus saved his life.

8. Robert Brown and his school-fellows, were now ashamed of having called Henry a coward, and confessed that he had more courage than any of them.

9. Little boys should never be ashamed to do good, but always dread the commission of evil.



LXI. THE USE OF BIRDS.

1. Of all living creatures, birds, and especially land birds, are the most beautiful and pleasing to us.

2. It is true, that birds are sometimes troublesome,

Exertion, labor. *Confessed*, acknowledged. *Commisna*, doing of.

and rob our fields and gardens, and are so bold as almost to take the cherries out of our mouths.

3 But then they do us services in many ways, and are lively and pleasant companions when we are sitting in our shady gardens, or walking in the fields and woods.

4 They teach us many wise lessons if we are willing to learn them, and they feed us with several kinds of delicate food.

5 The birds of prey, such as the eagle, the carrion-crow, and the swallow, which live on flesh, appear to be less useful and less agreeable than others.

6 But still their use is very great; their Maker has given them the most piercing eyes, the quickest sense of smell, and very strong wings.

By means of these, some of them while flying ever so quickly, or ever so high through the air, can see the smallest fly or insect, and can seize them, and thus they clear the air of thousands and thousands of insects which would be very hurtful to us.

Others can see or smell any dead carcass, or any putrid thing, when they are so far off as to be quite out of our sight; and then they can dart upon it with the greatest swiftness and certainty.

Rob, steal from. *Piercing*, sharp, penetrating. *Sense*, perception. *Clear*, to free. *Putrid*, rotten. *Dart*, to fly quick.

9. And so they do their part to save us from disease and pestilence, and keep the air and the earth healthy.

10. Some of the water-birds too, as the stork, at up toads, frogs, lizards, and serpents, which, in place like Egypt and Holland, where there is much water, would soon fill and poison the whole country.

11. Other birds follow the plough, or watch the gardener as he is digging, and pick up the grubs and caterpillars which would eat the roots and seeds of the corn, and other vegetables.

12. Though these birds are not good to eat, yet the flesh of none of them is poisonous, and the eggs of all are wholesome; as sailors, and those persons who travel in foreign countries well know.

13. The birds which live on grain and seeds are very useful too.

14. Some of them eat up so many seeds in feeding themselves and their young ones, that they help to keep the ground clear of useless and hurtful plants.

15. Others carry the seeds of trees and flowers and fruits from one place to another, and in these ways birds are our most active and industrious servants, though many of them may be very small and weak; and as a

Pestilence, disease that is contagious. *Poison*, to corrupt or taint with venom. *Wholesome*, good for food. *Foreign*, far from home.

very great help to us in cleaning and dressing the ground, and filling the earth with beauty and fruitfulness.

16. You can tell yourselves that the different kinds of poultry and game are also valuable and necessary to us; the softest and warmest beds are made of their down and feathers.

17. Their eggs and their flesh are the most pleasant and nourishing food, and many persons find an innocent and healthy amusement in following them, and catching them for these necessary uses.

18. Besides all this, some birds are our most faithful and entertaining companions; they never forsake us, they love to be near us, whether they stay at home or go abroad.

19. When we visit the farm-yard, or climb the mountains, or wander in the fields and woods, the beautiful colors and graceful motions of birds please our eyes, and from the first breaking of the morning till midnight, they cheer us with a thousand lively notes and tunes.

LXII. ON THE LOVE AND FEAR OF GOD.

1. Mama, you tell me that there is a God who made all things, and who takes care of us by night and by day;

Dressing, preparing it. *Game*, birds hunted in the fields.
Nourishing, strengthening. *Breaking*, beginning.

that he is a good God, and that I must love and fear Him.

2. But I do not see God. I see you and Papa, and you are good, and take care of me; but I do not see God—Mama, have you seen God?

3. No, my dear, I have not seen God, nor can we see Him, as we see men; but I will tell you how we see Him.

4. We see all that God has made—the earth, the sea, the sky, the sun, the moon and stars, with all that lives, and moves, and grows.

5. All these things seem to be made for us; for they are all of use to us, or serve to make us glad.

6. In these things, then, we see how great, how wise, how good God is. We do not need to see his form, since we see God in his works. If we are sad, it is because we are bad, and make a bad use of the things God has made, and which he made to bless us.

7. If we do wrong, we cannot have a glad heart. Then it seems to us that God looks at us, through these, his works, with a frown.

8. And then it is we dread the wrath of God. We fear he will not love us, and take care of us, and bless us.

9. But when we have done no wrong, when we have

Fear, to be afraid. *Form*, body, figure. *Works*, actions, deeds. *Dread*, fear. *Wrath*, fear.

been good and kind to all, at all times, how gay we feel when we look at the earth, the sea, and the sky; and the sight of them seems to make us more glad; for we feel that we have done no ill.

10. Then it seems to us that God looks at us through these, His works, with a smile; and then it is we love God, and are sure that He loves us; for we feel we are good, and may hope for His love.

11. It is true that we still fear Him, for we must think on His great name, and view His great works with awe.

12. But the fear I now speak of, is not like the dread we feel of His wrath for our ill deeds; it is a fear which makes us shun what is wrong, and look up to Him to shield us and keep us in the right way.

13. Thus, then, though you do not see the form of God as you see me, you see as much as is good for you to know.

14. If you think of this as you ought to think, and do to all men, as you would have all men do to you, you need not fear but that God will love and bless you, both in your youth and your old age.

Ill, wrong. *Awe*, reverence. *Shun*, avoid. *Shield*, guard.

LXIII. THE FLY IN THE ASTRAL LAMP.

1. Ah! thou lost unwary thing,
Fluttering with a tortured wing,
With thy little, little feet,
Scorched amid surrounding heat;
Poor, unhappy, suffering fly,
What a painful death to die!
2. Since so rashly thou hast strayed,
'Twixt the tunnel and the shade
In the fiery prison lost
Now thy life must pay the cost,
Of thy venturing near the glare
Dazzling to allure thee there.
3. Oh! it fills my heart with pain,
Thus to see thee strive in vain,
To escape; for I alas!
Am too small to lift the glass;
Mother says I must not take,
Things my little hands might break.
4. Here she comes, but 'tis too late,
Thou poor thing! hast met thy fate!

Unwary, hasty or imprudent. *Tortured*, pained, or in agony.
Strayed, wandered. *Glare*, bright light. *Allure*, to entice. *Strive*,
try. *Escape*, to get out. *Fate*, death.

Motion ceases, life has fled,
Dropping on the table dead,
Now I see thee, silly fly,—
What a foolish death to die!

5. 'Yes, my child, in careless play,
Thus his life is thrown away,
For a thing that pleased the eye,
He rushed onward but to die—
Yet remember, there was none
Warning him the blaze to shun.
6. 'If thou think'st the untaught flies
For their errors are unwise,
Let this insect's fall be hence,
From temptation, thy defence!
On thy heart the picture stamp
Of the fly about the lamp!'

LXIV. NATURAL PIETY.

1. A little boy in thoughtful mood,
Alone, a woodland path pursued,
Beneath the evening's tranquil sky,
He thought not where, he knew not why.

Warning, giving notice. *Untaught*, not taught. *Errors*, faults.
Defence, guard. *Stamp*, to make an impression. *Mood*, state of
mind.

2. He watched the sunset fade away,
Leaving the hills with summits gray;
He saw the first faint stars appear,
And the far river's sound came near.
3. The birds were hushed, the flowers were closed,
The kine along the ground reposed;
All active life, to gentle rest
Sank down, as on a mother's breast.
4. All sounds, all sights of earth and sky,
Came to his ear, and to his eye,
But he, absorbed, perceived them not,
And all around him was forgot.
5. Though from his home and friends apart,
No sense of fear disturbed his heart;
Though round him were dark shadows thrown,
He did not feel himself alone.
6. Touched by an influence and a power
He never felt until that hour,
The language of his eyes was meek,
And the warm tears were on his cheek.

Summits, tops. *Hushed*, still. *Kine*, cows. *Reposed*, slept.
Absorbed, swallowed up. *Sense*, feeling. *Influence*, control.

7. He did not kneel; he did not pray,
No thought through utterance found its way;
His feelings could no language find—
For God was present in his mind.



LXV. VELVET SLIPPERS.

1. Who is it that goes about the house so softly that you cannot hear her foot touch the ground? She is standing at the door of a room, and waiting quietly till some one opens it.
2. She walks gently in, and sits down upon the rug by the fire; she washes her dress of Persian fur or beautiful tortoise-shell; and she purrs, to tell us she is pleased. You see it is Puss!

Utterance, speech. *Present*, in view.

3. There is a sick person lying on the sofa near the fire, but he is not disturbed by Mrs. Puss, because she came into the room in slippers like velvet, and her gentle purring does not disturb him.

4. Pretty Puss, teach thoughtless giddy children what they should do in a house where there are sick people!

5. Little children, who seldom feel a headache, and can sleep sound all night, do not know how much distress and trouble they sometimes give to those who are not well, by their noise.

6. Perhaps a sick person has been kept awake all night with very bad pain, or he is very weak, (and when people are weak every noise sounds very loud,) and he is just trying to go to sleep, and a little boy or girl shut their room-door with a loud slam, or they run and stamp on the stairs as if they had shoes like those of a horse, or they talk loud under the windows of the sick person.

7. Then the sick person starts and wakes, and cannot go to sleep again for many hours, and is often hindered in this way from getting well so soon as he otherwise would.

8. And yet, perhaps, my little children, this sick person is your own Papa or Mama, that teaches you or works for you, or your brother or sister that plays with you, or a servant that waits upon you when he is well.

9. And is it not a very selfish thing to forget them quite, and to give yourself no thought or trouble to be quiet, when you know how much pain your noise gives them?

10. Learn to be like Pussy: if you are allowed to go into a room where there is a sick person, try to be quiet and pleasant there.

11. You can be better than Pussy too, for she cannot watch sick persons, or feed them, or read to them, which I have known some little children do; and at all times when any one is sick, go about the house like Pussy, as if you had velvet slippers on.

12. Pussy, perhaps, does not know why she is quiet; but she is so because if she made a noise it would frighten away the mice, and she would not be able to catch one for her supper.

13. But you, my little children, will learn to be quiet for better reasons.

LXVI. LAYING UP FOR HEAVEN.

1. In the freshness of youth,
In childhood's first morn,
While we gather life's roses,
But see not the thorn;

Freshness, newness, fairness.

THE OLD YEAR'S PRAYER.

While the sun shines so brightly,
No clouds intervene,
With storms of misfortune,
To darken the scene.

2. We 'll lay up our treasures
In mansions of light;
Where time ne'er destroys them,
Where change cannot blight;
There our hearts shall be also
And there, when I die,
May my soul live for ever
With Jesus on high.

LXVII. THE OLD YEAR'S PRAYER.

1. With a hoary head,
And with pinions spread
Forever to take his flight,
In pensive mood,
As the old year stood,
Leave your beds last night.—

THE OLD YEAR'S PRAYER.

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Watch till my hour is o'er;
For when the hand
Of the clock shall stand
At twelve, I must be no more.

3. 'But I will not break
Their repose to take
My leave of the race of man;
But I'll breathe a prayer
On the midnight air—
And 't was thus his prayer began.
- 4 'Author of time and eternity,
Reader of every secret thought,
Thou, who metest the bound to me,
Giver of all which the year has brought!
5. 'May the children that slumber here,
Sweetly wrapped in their midnight dreams,
Waken to hail the blest New Year
With hearts as pure as the morning beams.
6. 'Should they remember an hour or day
Of me, which they've vainly spent, may all
Be forgiven by thee, I pray,
For the loss of time which is past recall!

7. 'And by that loss may they learn to prize
The precious time that may hence be given,
Regarding every hour that flies,
As a winged messenger sent from heaven!
8. 'Some useful lesson, or guiltless joy,
Or work of virtue, which each may bring,
For the smiling girl and the happy boy,
To snatch for their own from his fleeting wing.
9. 'Now thy commanding voice I hear
Summon me hence, and my hour is past!
The clock struck twelve; and the poor old year
With its dying sound, had breathed its last.

LXVIII. THE BETTER LAND

1. 'I hear thee speak of the better land,
Thou callest its children a happy band:
Mother: oh! where is that radiant shore?
Shall we not seek it, and weep no more?
Is it where the flower of the orange blows,
And the fire-flies dance through the myrtle boughs?
Not there—not there, my child!

Prize, to value. *Regarding*, looking upon. *Guiltless*, free from guilt. *Fleeting*, passing away. *Summon*, call. *Band*, a number together. *Radiant*, bright, shining.

2. 'Is it where the feathery palm-trees rise,
And the date grows ripe under sunny skies:
Or, midst the green islands of glittering seas,
Where fragrant forests perfume the breeze;
And strange bright birds on their starry wings
Bear the rich hues of all glorious things?
Not there—not there, my child!
3. 'Is it far away in some region old,
Where the rivers wander o'er sands of gold?
Where the burning rays of the ruby shine,
And the diamond lights up the secret mine,
And the pearl gleams forth from the coral strand,
Is it there, sweet mother—that better land?
Not there—not there, my child!
4. 'Eye hath not seen it, my gentle boy!
Ear hath not heard its deep songs of joy;
Dreams cannot picture a world so fair—
Sorrow and death may not enter there;
Time doth not breathe on its fadeless bloom;
For beyond the clouds, and beyond the tomb,
It is there—it is there, my child!

Perfume, give odor. *Starry*, bright like the stars. *Hues*, colors. *Region*, country. *Secret*, hidden. *Gleams*, shines. *Strand*, shore. *Picture*, represents. *Fadeless*, unfading, always bright.

obeyed God. Before this, they were happy, and God used to come into the garden and talk with them; but now they were afraid to see God, and went and tried to hide themselves.

9. 'But no persons can hide themselves from the presence of God; he sees in the dark as well as in the light: he called them, and they were obliged to answer. God cannot tell a story or deceive; therefore, what he had said, came to pass. He told them they should have many troubles and sorrows in this life, and at last die. He sent his angel to drive them out of the garden of Paradise, where they were happy, into a land where they would meet with trials and dangers.'

10. 'Still, though Adam and Eve had been so wicked and ungrateful to God, he was too merciful to let him, and his descendants be miserable for ever; therefore, he promised, if we would try to be good, and love him, and keep his commandments, he would give us a better place after death. Now, what do you think of this story of Adam and Eve?

11. 'That it was very wicked of them, indeed,' said the little girls all at once.

12. 'And yet, my dear children,' continued their sister, 'you constantly commit the same kind of sin. How often do you disobey the desires of your parents and friends, and by so doing, displease God? for he has

placed you under the care of them, and they can and will teach you what is right. He has commanded you to obey him: therefore, you are committing the same sin of disobedience to God, whenever you do what is wrong, after you know what is right.

13. 'Whilst you are children, nothing more is required of you than to obey those who have the charge of you: neither had Adam and Eve but to do as they were commanded; and they lost the happiness they enjoyed in Paradise, because they were disobedient.

14. 'You think you would not have disobeyed God, if you had been them: but reflect a moment, and you will see that you do really commit the same kind of fault that they did, every day; and can you suppose that God will not punish you, if you continue to disobey him? I hope you will try to remember this, whenever you feel disposed to do otherwise than you have been desired.'

15. They all said they would, and were very much pleased with what their sister had told them.

16. 'Now, my dears,' she added, 'you may go and play; but do not forget that you are as much called upon by God to be obedient, as Adam and Eve were, and then you will always feel happy, because God will love you.'

17. They all promised to think about this pretty story; and away they ran to their dolls and play-house.