

# FRAGMENTS of KNOWLEDGE FOR LITTLE FOLK



GRIFFITH

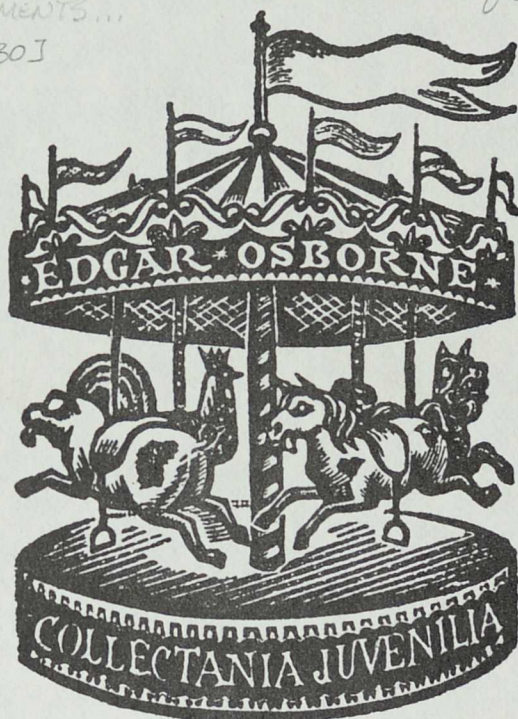
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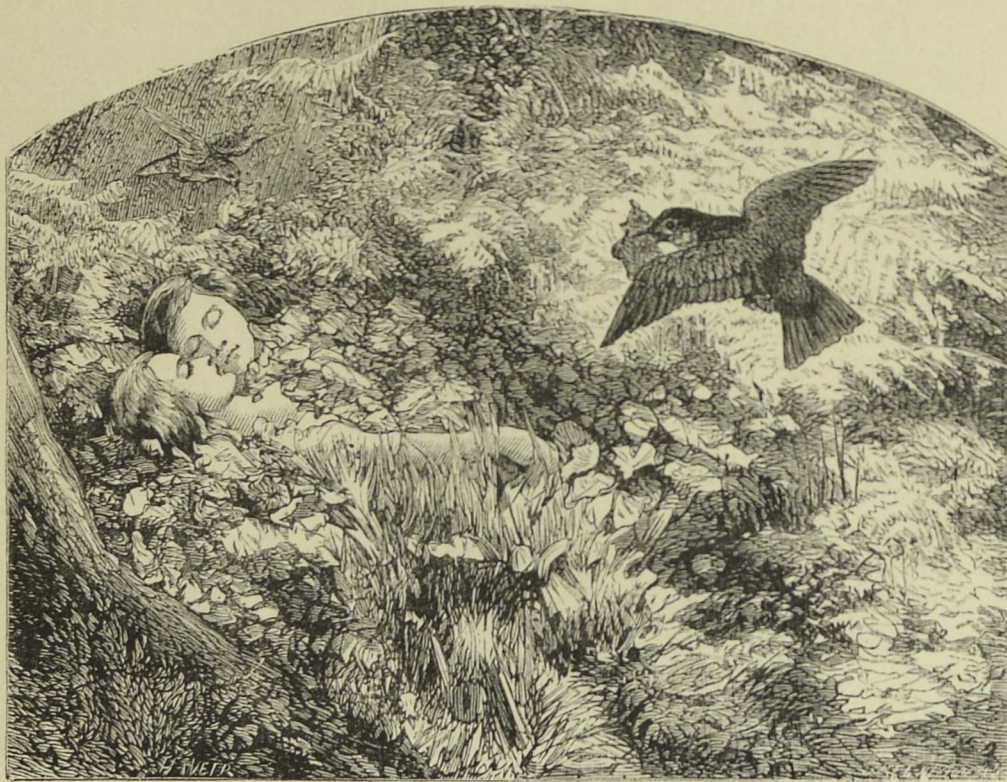








FRAGMENTS OF KNOWLEDGE  
FOR LITTLE FOLK.



GRIFFITH AND FARRAN,  
SUCCESSORS TO NEWBERY AND HARRIS,  
WEST CORNER OF SAINT PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, LONDON.  
E. P. DUTTON AND CO., NEW YORK.







FRAGMENTS OF KNOWLEDGE

*FOR THE LITTLE ONES.*



# THE FOUR SEASONS.

SPRING.



SUMMER.

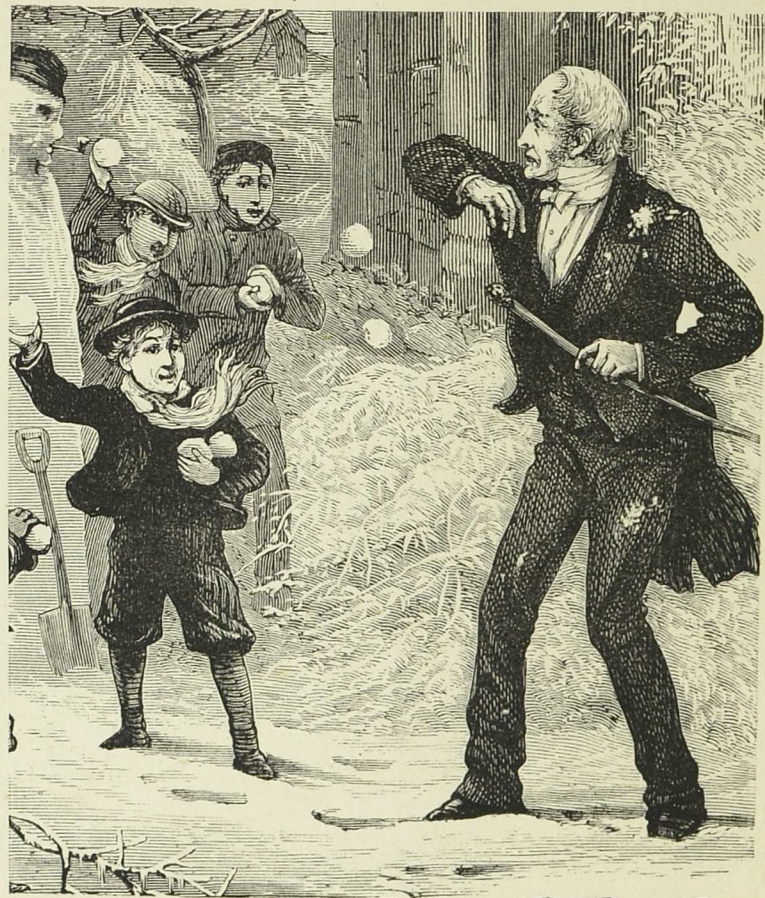


THIRTY days hath September,  
April, June, and November ;  
February has twenty-eight alone ;  
All the rest have thirty-one ;  
Excepting Leap Year, that's the time  
When February's days are twenty-nine.

AUTUMN.



WINTER.





THE MONTHS.

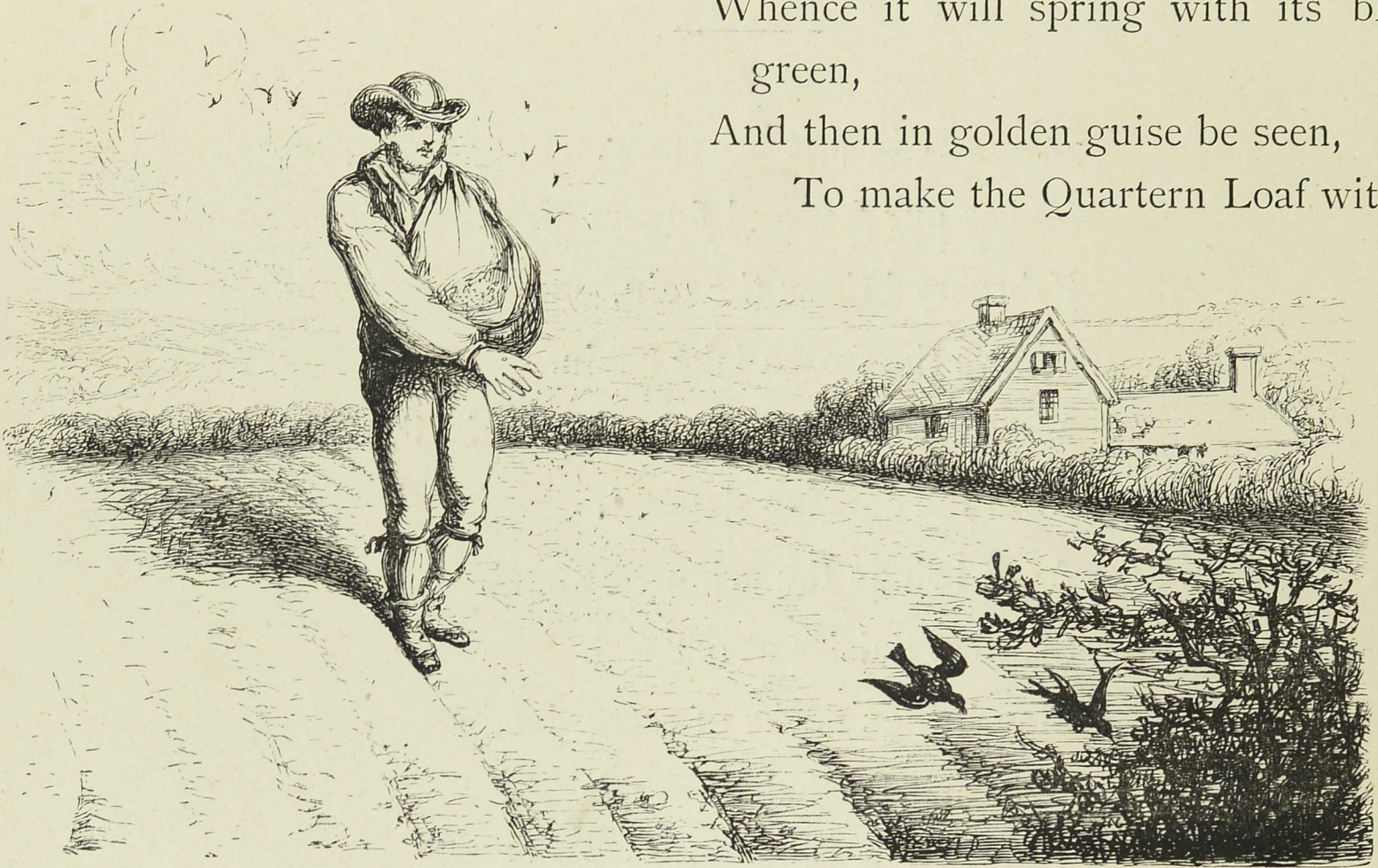
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JANUARY brings the snow,  
Makes our feet and fingers glow.  
February brings the rain,  
Thaws the frozen lake again.  
March brings breezes loud and shrill,  
Stirs the dancing daffodil.  
April brings the primrose sweet,  
Scatters daisies at our feet.  
May brings flocks of pretty lambs  
Skipping by their fleecy dams.  
June brings tulips, lilies, roses,  
Fills the children's hands with posies.  
Hot July brings cooling showers,  
Apricots and gilly-flowers.  
August brings the sheaves of corn,  
When the harvest home is borne.  
Warm September brings the fruit,  
Sportsmen then begin to shoot.  
Fresh October brings the pheasant,  
Then to gather nuts is pleasant.  
Dull November brings the blast,  
Then the leaves are whirling fast.  
Chill December brings the sleet,  
Blazing fire and Christmas heat.



## A QUARTERN LOAF.\*

THIS is the Sower, with outstretch'd hand,  
Casting the seed upon the land,  
Whence it will spring with its blade so  
green,  
And then in golden guise be seen,  
To make the Quartern Loaf with.



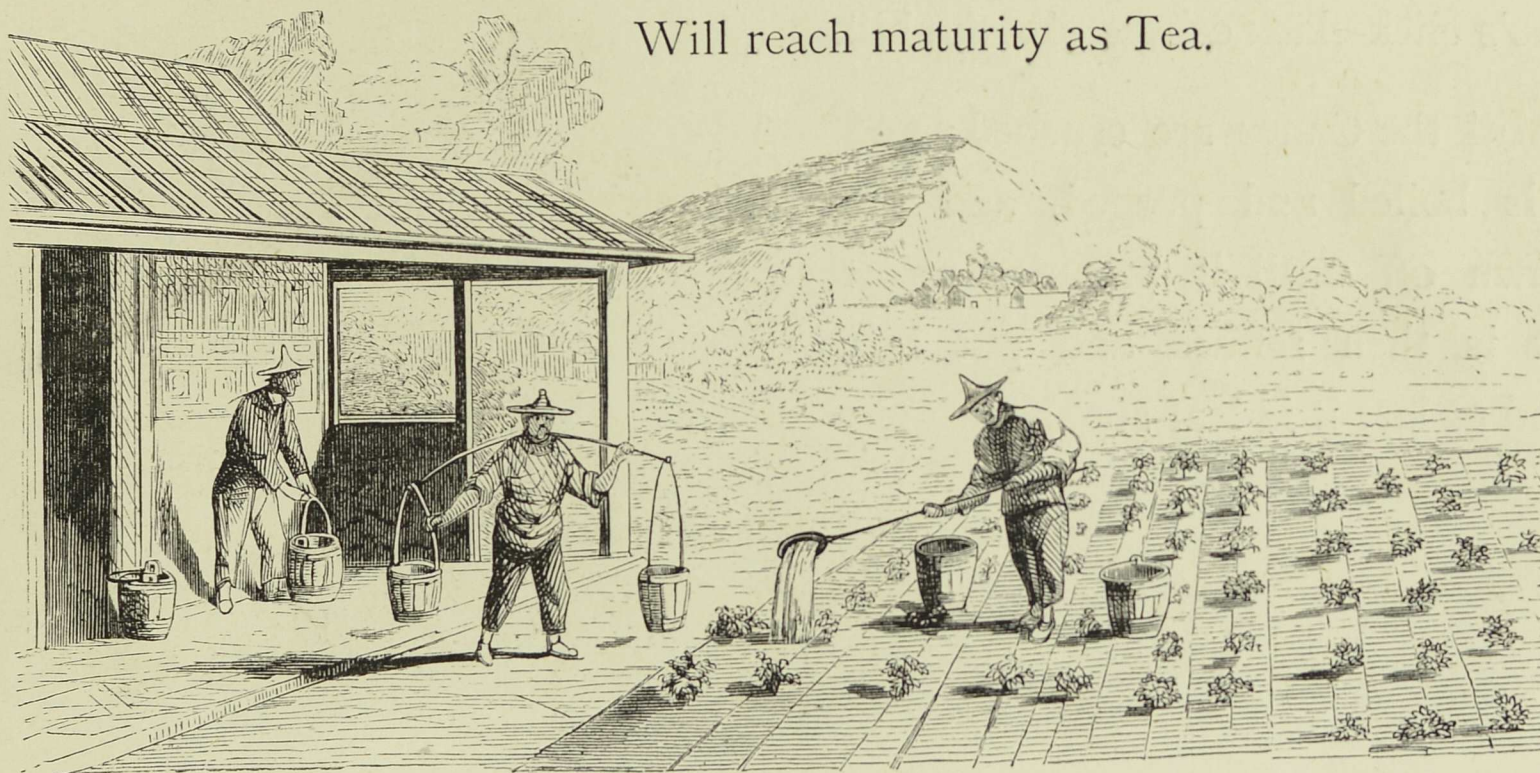
This is the Baker's shop in town,  
With stacks of bread, both white and brown;  
The Quartern Loaf you see is made,  
And forms an article of trade.  
Long may our fields the grain produce,  
And science e'er improve their use.  
May Farmer, Miller, Baker still  
Rewarded be for toil and skill  
By harvests plentiful, not scant,  
And never the ingredients want  
To make the Quartern Loaf with.

\* The Contents of this and the next five pages are taken from a book called "Rhymes and Pictures," which gives full accounts of the processes by which Bread, Tea, Sugar, Coals, Cotton, and Sovereigns are made and brought to our homes.

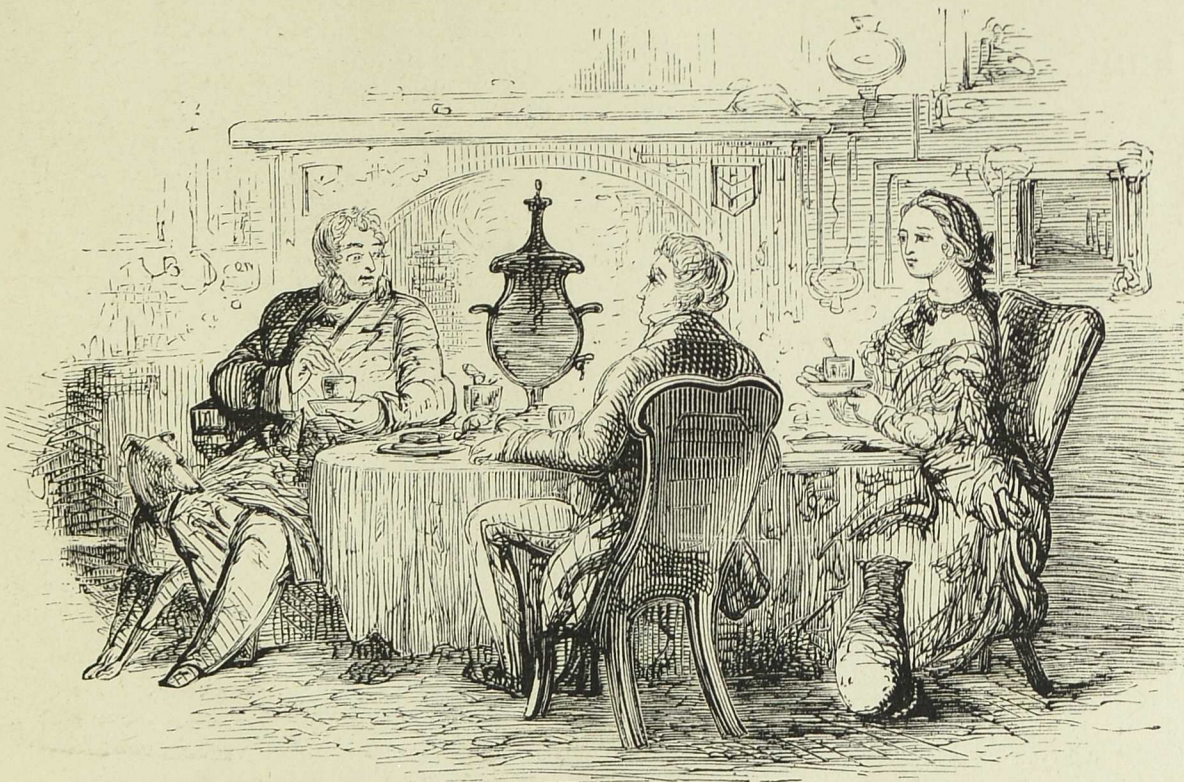


## A CUP OF TEA.

THE Culture of Tea demands great care,  
 Or else the plant will ne'er succeed ;  
 Manuring, watering, sun, and air,  
 And rooting out each rankling weed.  
 Then haply two plants out of three  
 Will reach maturity as Tea.



When the plants grow up, the leaves are carefully picked off with gloved hands ; they are dried, and roasted, and rolled, and then the tea is sorted, to pick out the best qualities.



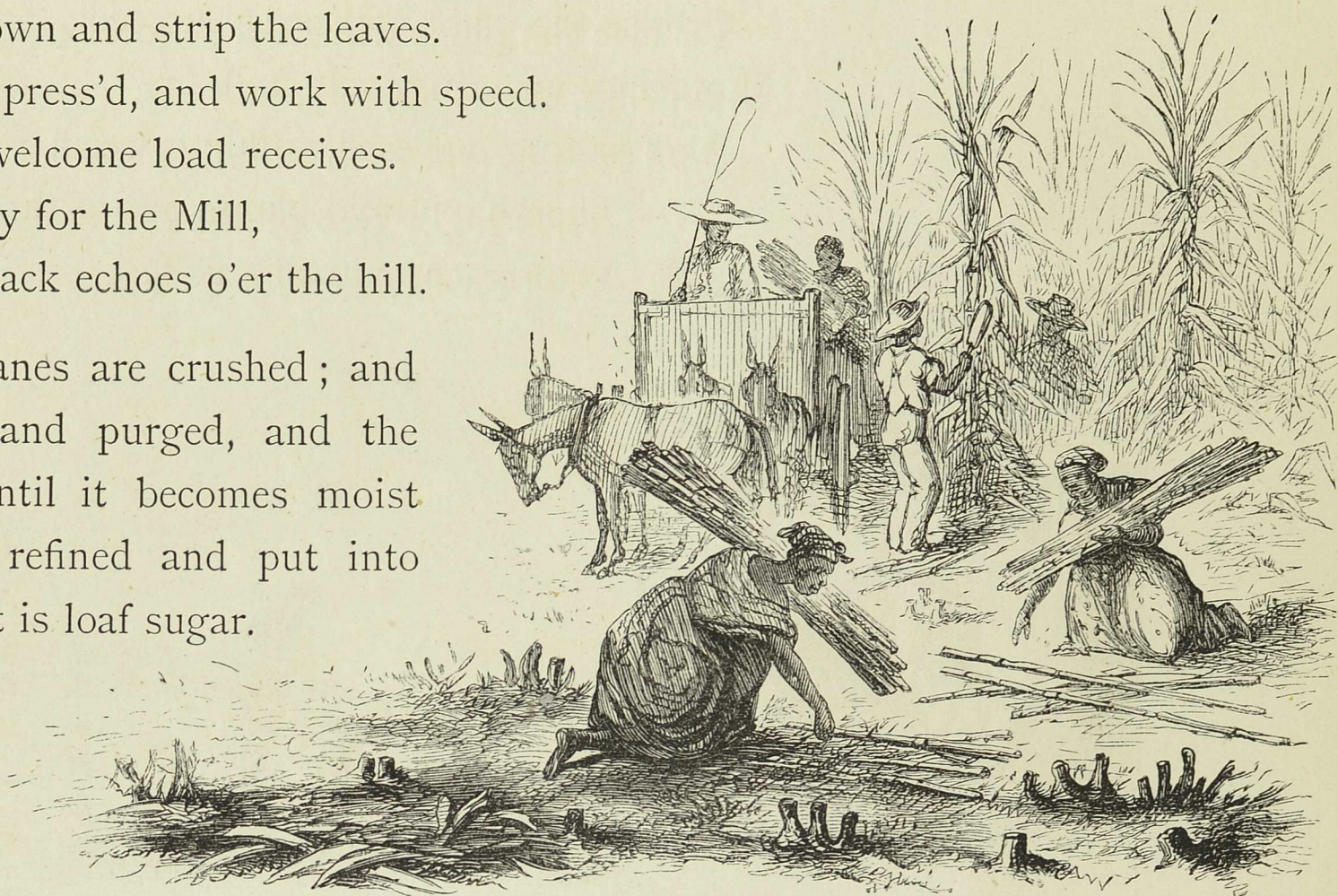
Hurrah ! for now we see it here,  
 Upon our own Tea Table placed ;  
 And soon our spirits it will cheer,  
 From out the Urn that it has  
     graced.  
 Let each and all then grate-  
     ful be  
 And hail a welcome guest  
     in Tea.



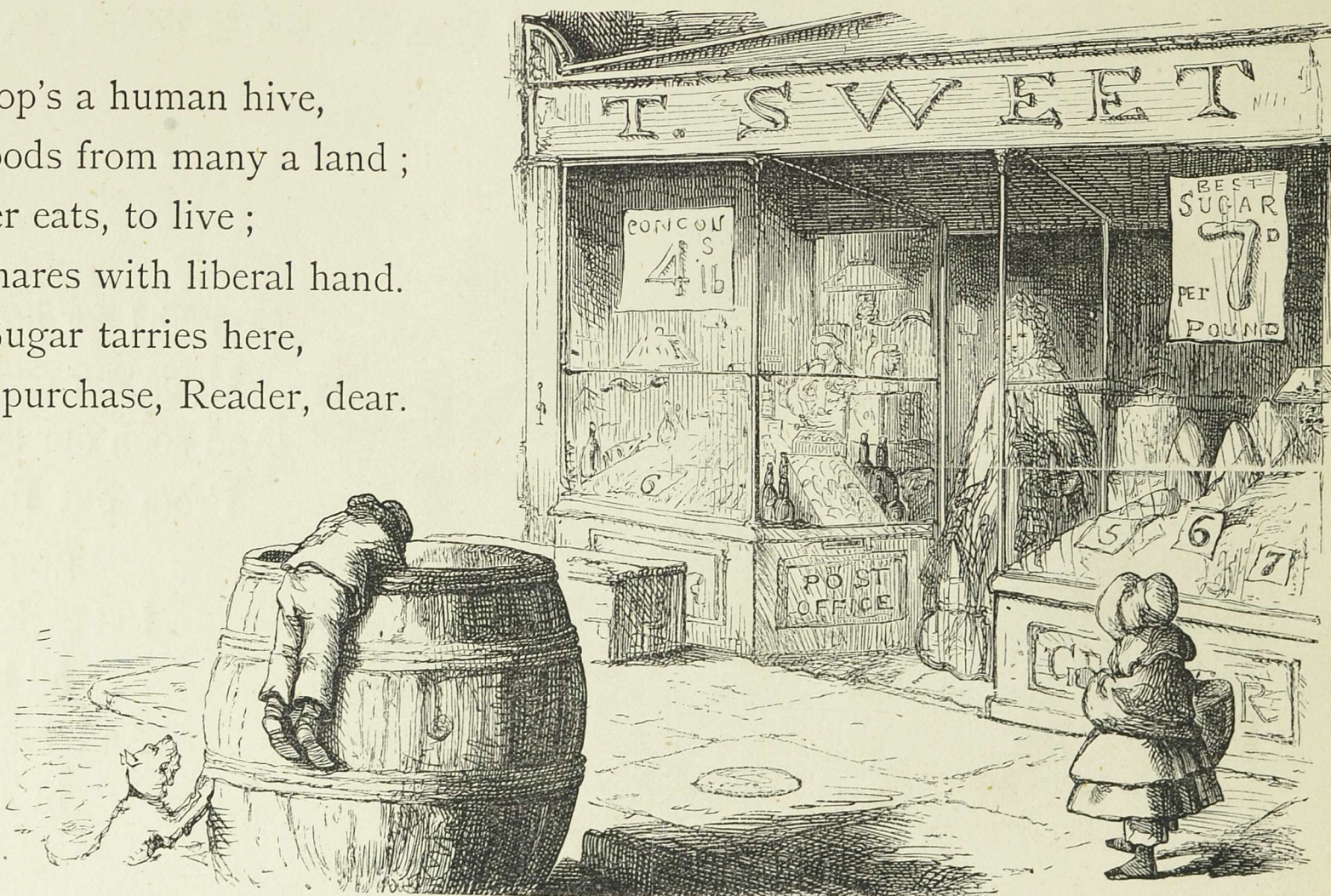
## A POUND OF SUGAR.

THE Sugar-Cane ripe, the men proceed  
 To cut it down and strip the leaves.  
 All hands are press'd, and work with speed.  
 A cart the welcome load receives.  
 It now is ready for the Mill,  
 Who's click-clack echoes o'er the hill.

In the Mill the Canes are crushed ; and  
 the juice is boiled and purged, and the  
 treacle drawn off until it becomes moist  
 sugar. It is then refined and put into  
 moulds, and at last it is loaf sugar.



The Grocer's shop's a human hive,  
 Of honey'd goods from many a land ;  
 A part the grocer eats, to live ;  
 The rest he shares with liberal hand.  
 The Pound of Sugar tarries here,  
 And waits your purchase, Reader, dear.





## A SCUTTLE OF COALS.

NEAR to Newcastle you find the Pit's  
mouth,  
With its gables and shingles, north,  
east, west, and south ;  
'Tis here that the Miners each day go  
below,  
And Coal Baskets ceaselessly swing  
to and fro.

This is a Pitman, who with his  
staunch pick,  
Hews out the black Coal, be it ever  
so thick ;  
And when at this work he has long  
enough plied,  
He fills the big Basket that stands  
by his side.

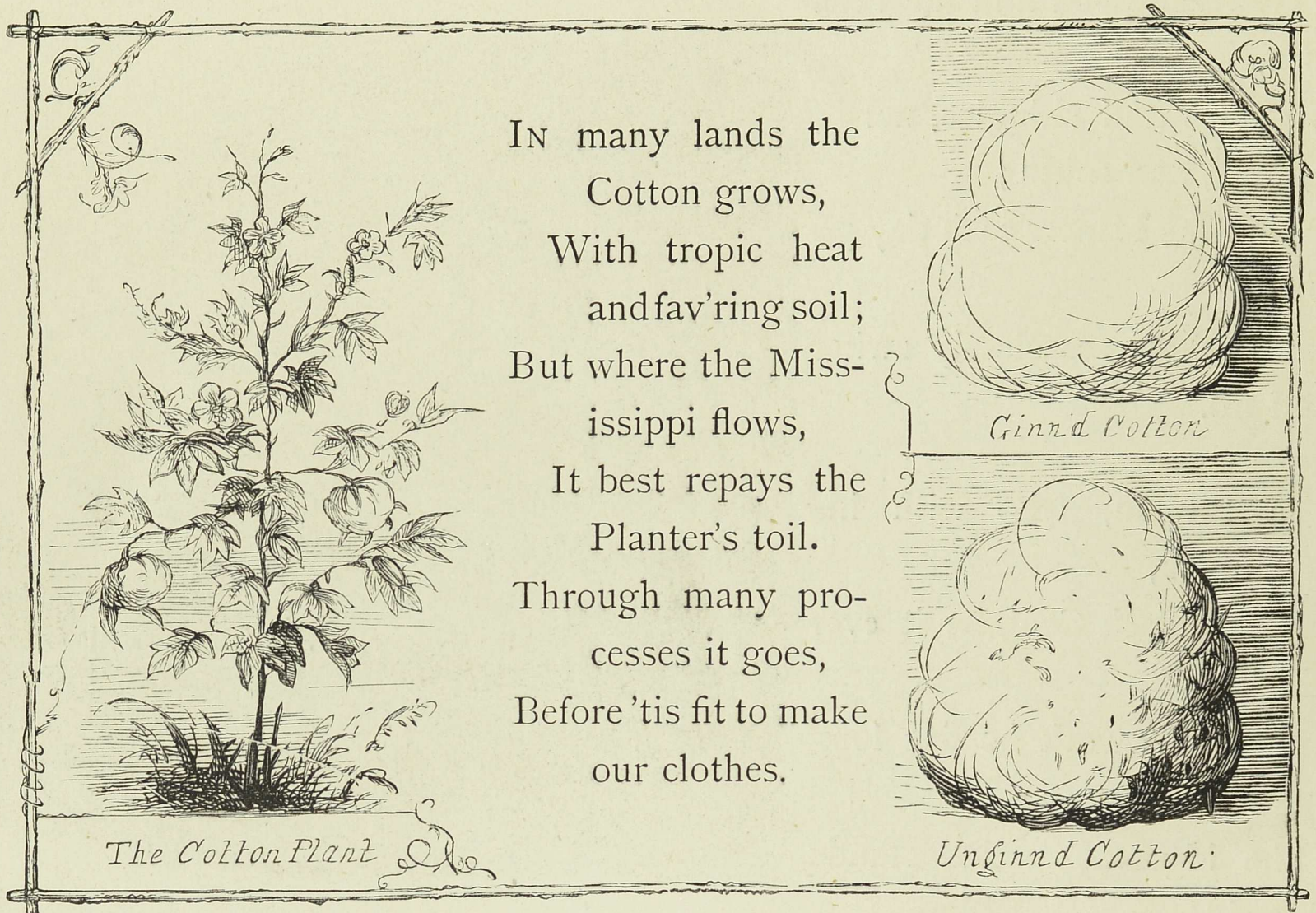


And when Coals arrive at their long destined  
spot,  
Without loss of time in the Cellar they're shot ;  
See, John with the Coal Scuttle near dare not go,  
While the man gives a pitch, and then bellows,  
“ Below ! ”

Soon, soon, in the grate will that Coal make a  
blaze,  
The comfort and joy of the bitter cold days ;  
And when round the fire you in winter time sit,  
Let your thoughts travel back to the Newcastle  
Pit.



## A BALE OF COTTON.



The "Levee" is a wharf or bank,  
Thrown up along the river's side,  
Here Cotton Bales in many a rank,  
Await the ebbing of the tide.  
On "Foreign Orders" ere they float  
Seaward upon the "Georgia" boat.

Then hey for the seas and foreign skies,  
The boat is ready, the bales aboard;  
Now favouring breezes waft the prize,  
Where it may work and food afford  
To willing labourers of our Isle,  
On whom may plenty ever smile.





## A GOLDEN SOVEREIGN.

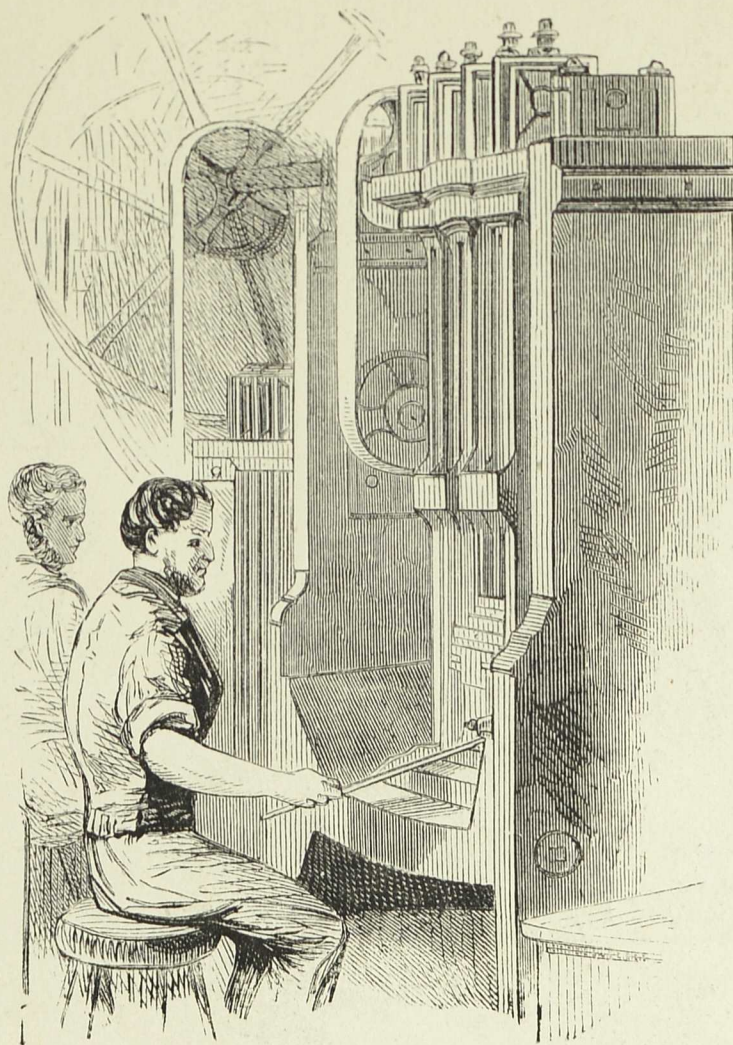
AMID Australia's fertile hills,  
Or on the Californian shore,  
The Miner bold, his pocket fills  
With morsels of the precious ore,  
Which wash'd from soil resplendent shine  
Nuggets—or lumps—or gold-dust fine.



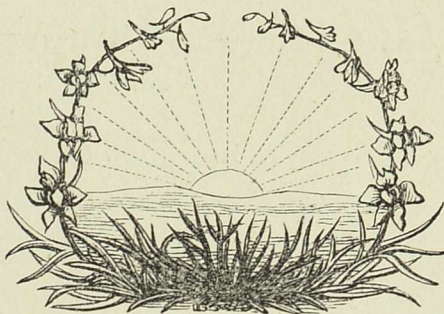
Here workmen sit and cut the Gold,  
In pieces of the proper size,  
For various coins as they are told ;  
No waste's allow'd as you'll surmise,  
And watchmen stand on guard all day,  
Lest pilferers steal the bits away.

And then at the Coining Press you may see  
The Coiners sit and work with glee ;  
As well they may, and pleasure take,  
Since Golden Sovereigns they make.

May we have ever some to spend,  
And some to save or help a friend.







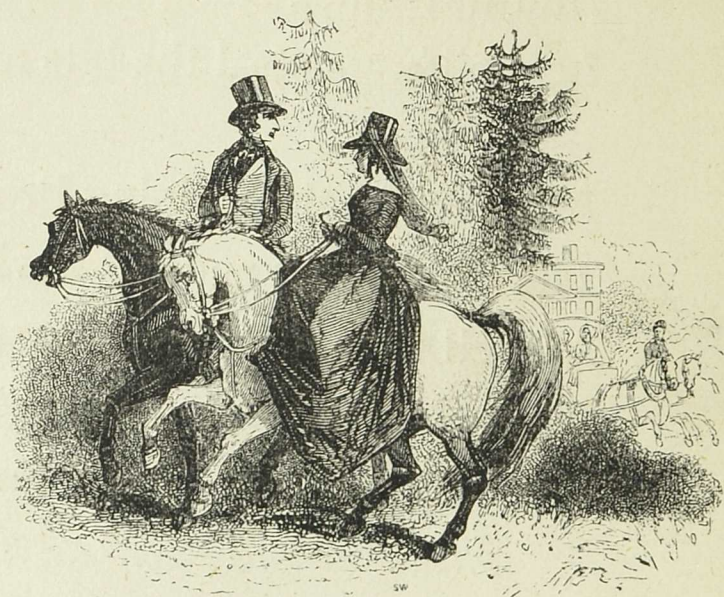
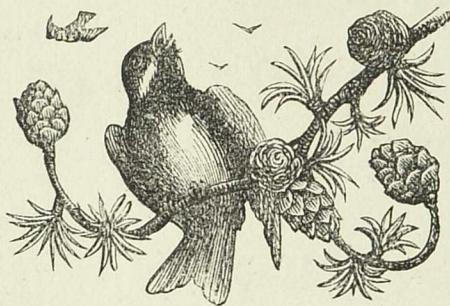
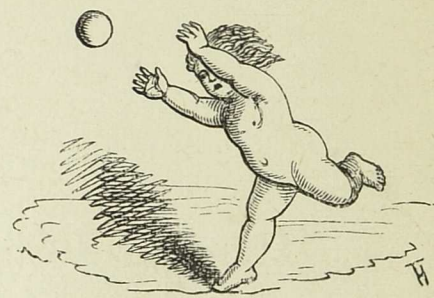
## KINDNESS TO ANIMALS.

LITTLE children, never give  
Pain to things that feel and live :  
Let the gentle Robin come  
For the crumbs you save at home.

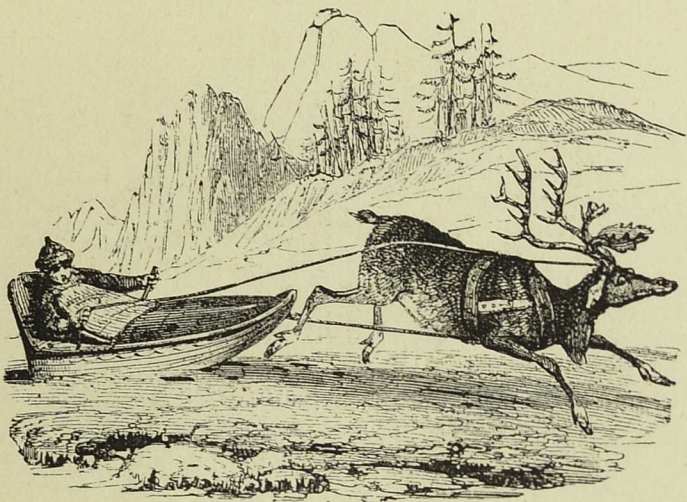
Never hurt the timid hare,  
Peeping from her green grass lair ;  
Let her come and sport and play  
On the lawn at close of day.



The little lark goes soaring high  
To the bright and sunny sky ;  
Oh, let him sing his happy song ;  
Nor do these gentle creatures wrong.







## THE STAR.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are!  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky.

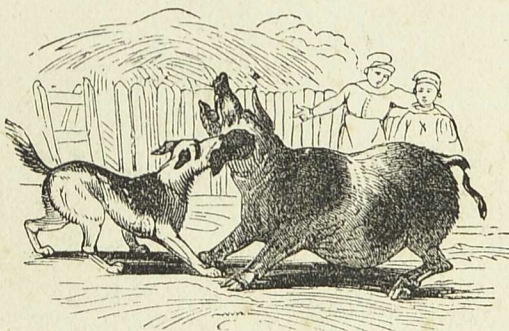
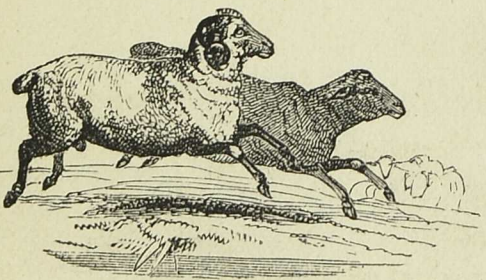
When the blazing sun is gone,  
When he nothing shines upon,  
Then you show your little light,  
Twinkle, twinkle, all the night.

Then the traveller in the dark  
Thanks you for your tiny spark:  
He could not see which way to go,  
If you did not twinkle so.

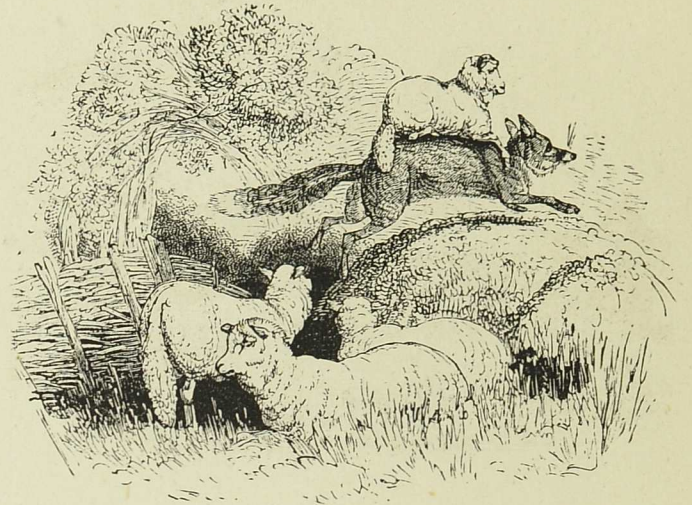
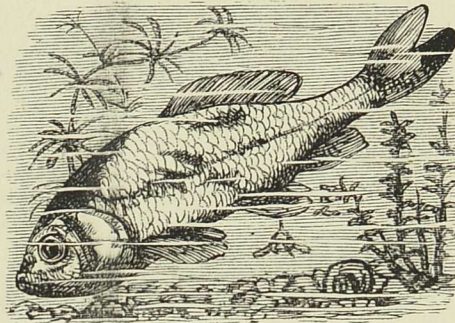
In the dark blue sky you keep,  
And often through my curtains peep,  
For you never shut your eye,  
Till the sun is in the sky.



As your bright and tiny spark  
Lights the traveller in the dark,  
Though I know not what you are,  
Twinkle, twinkle, little star.







## EVERY LITTLE HELPS.

WHAT if a drop of rain should  
plead,

“ So small a drop as I  
Can ne’er refresh the thirsty mead :  
I’ll tarry in the sky ”?

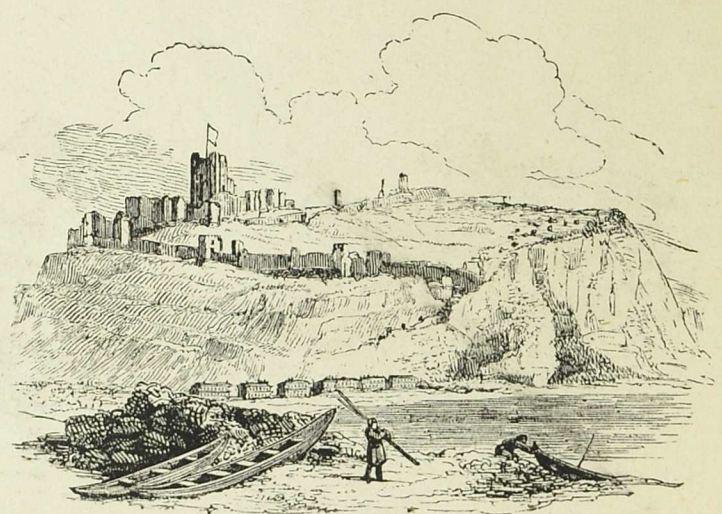
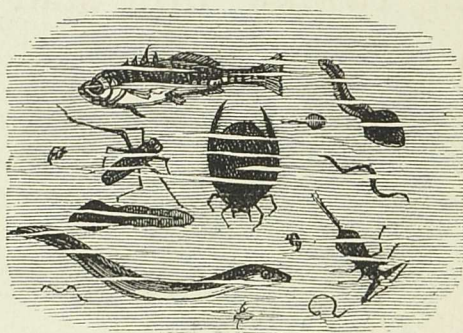
What if the shining beam of noon  
Should in its fountain stay,



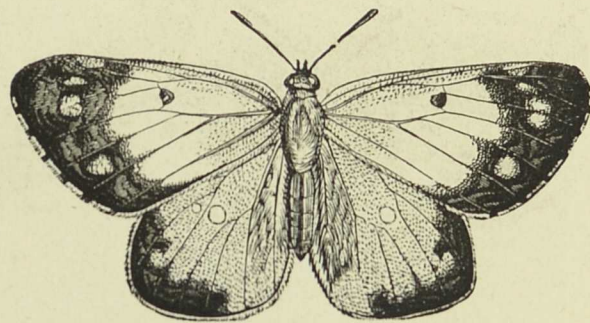
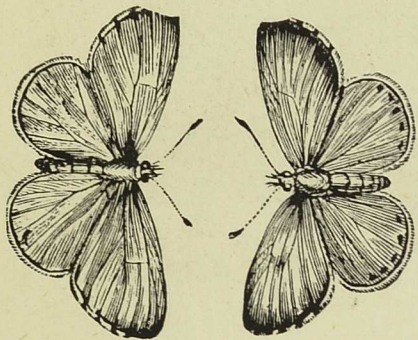
Because its feeble light alone  
Cannot create a day ?

Does not each rain-drop help to  
form

The cool refreshing shower,  
And every ray of light to warm  
And beautify the flower ?



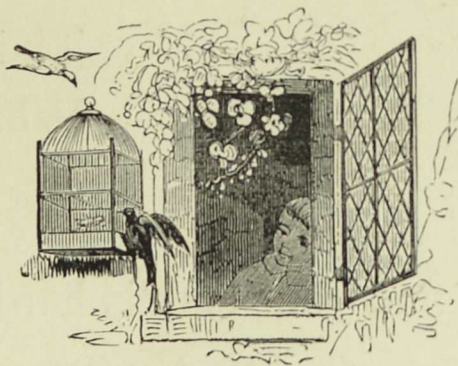




## THE FLOWER AND THE LITTLE GIRL.

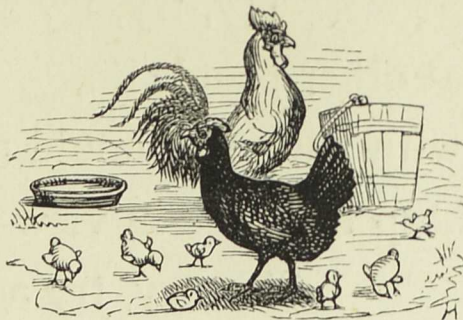
“PRETTY flower, tell me why  
All your leaves you open wide,  
Every morning when on high  
The glorious sun begins to  
ride.”

“This is why, my lady fair,  
If you would the reason know,  
At early morn the fragrant air  
Most refreshingly doth blow;

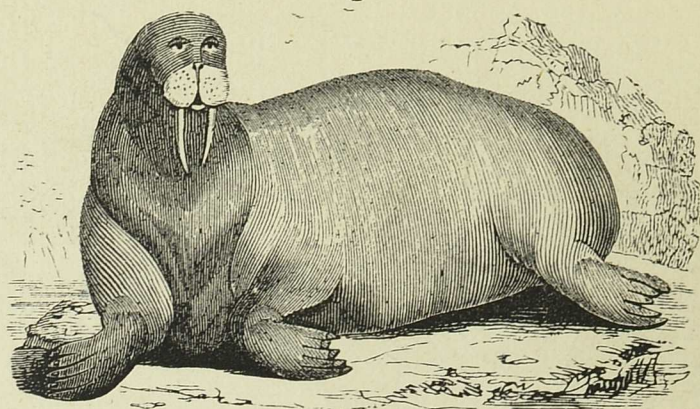
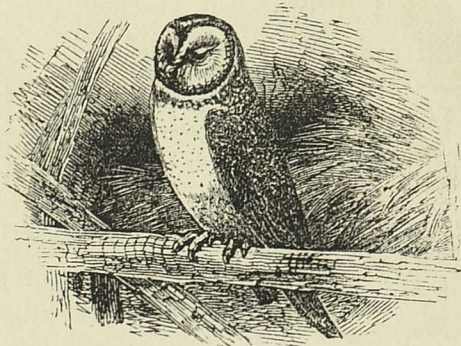
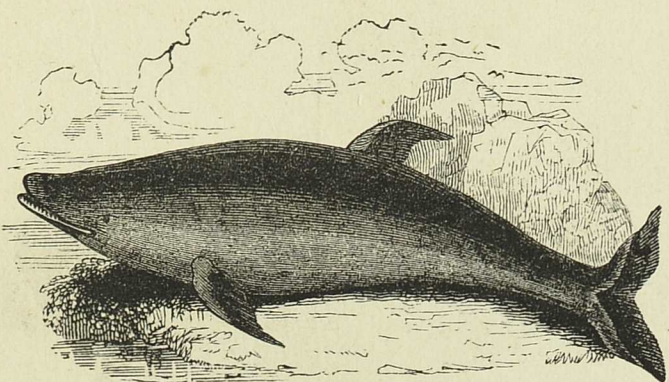


“And the birds on every tree  
Sing a merry, merry tune;  
And the busy honey-bee  
Comes to suck my honey  
soon.”

“This is all the reason why  
I my little leaves undo.  
Rise early, little miss, and try,  
If I have not told you true.”



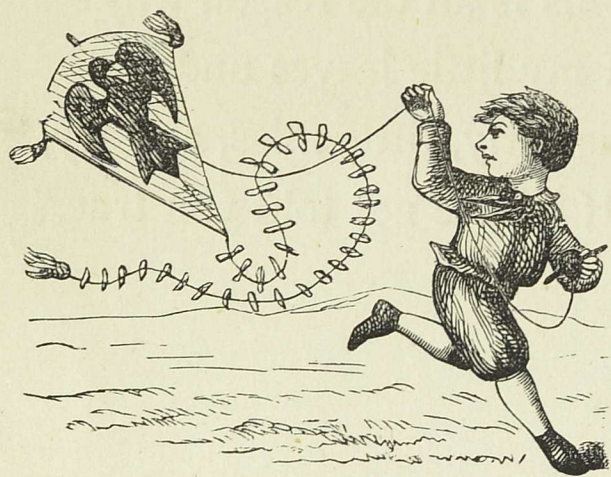




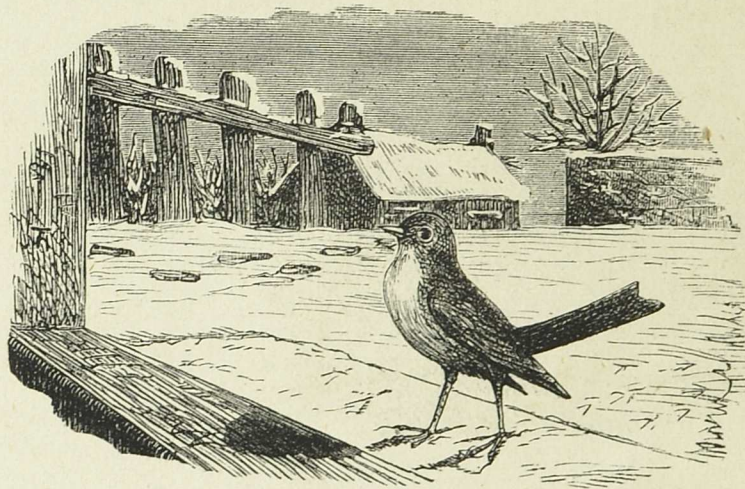
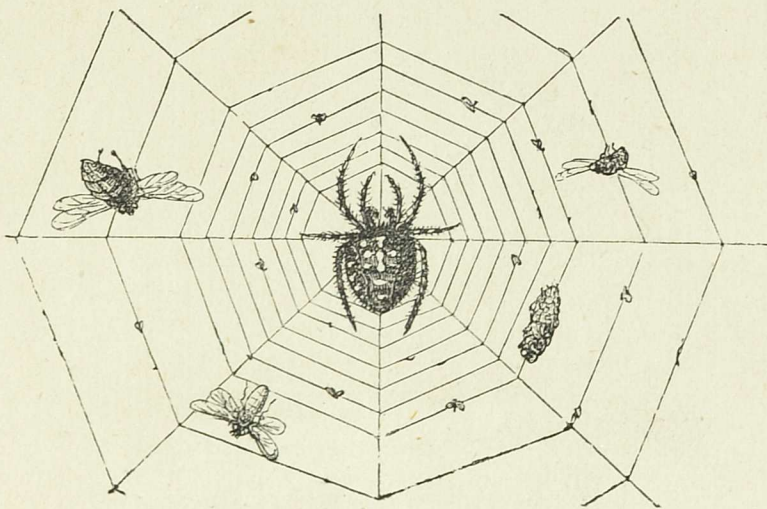
## PERSEVERE; OR, TRY AGAIN.

'Tis a lesson you should heed,  
     Try, try, try again ;  
 If at first you don't succeed,  
     Try, try, try again.  
 Then your courage should appear ;  
 For, if you will persevere,  
 You will conquer, never fear—  
     Try, try, try again.

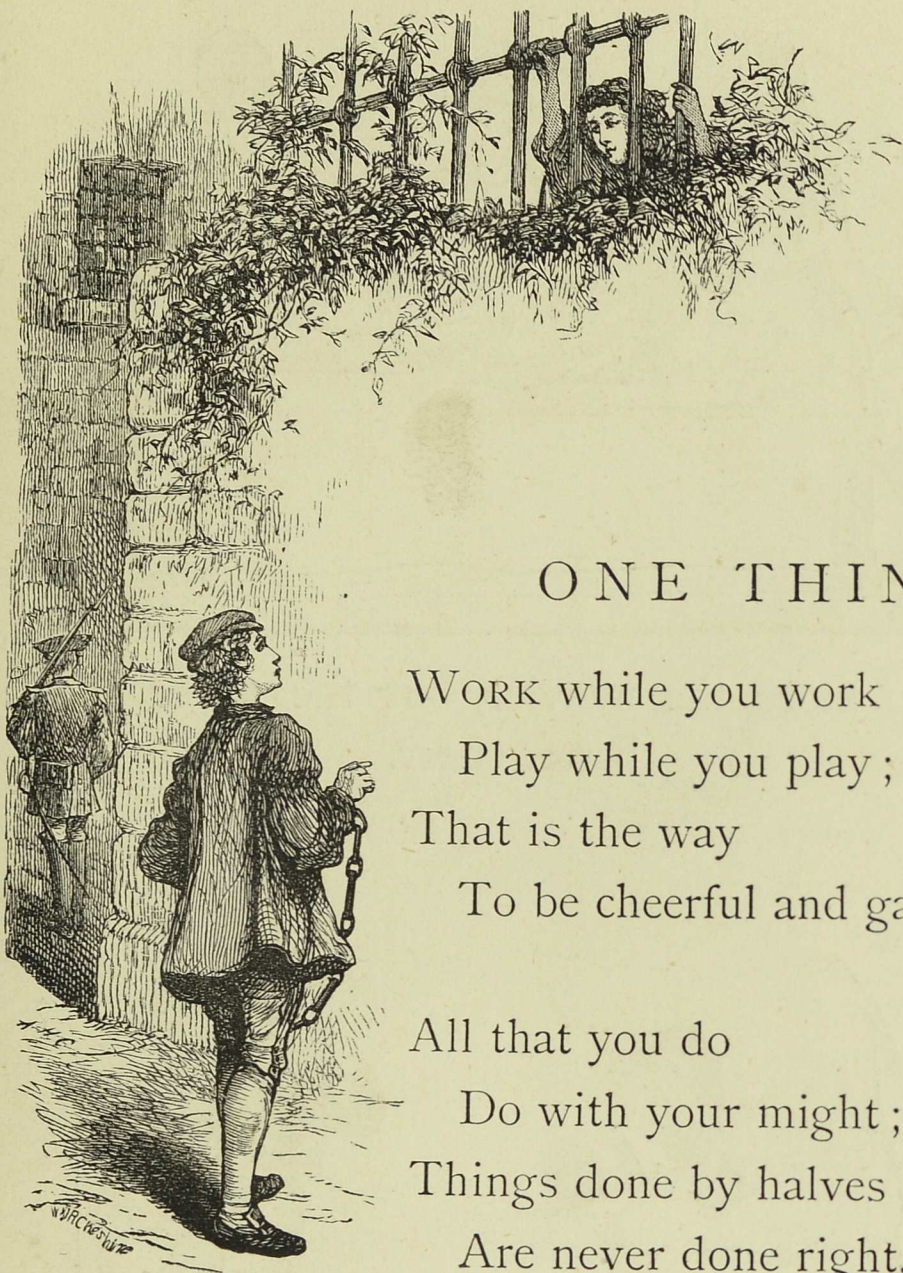
Once or twice though you may fail,  
     Try, try, try again.  
 If at last you would prevail,  
     Try, try, try again.  
 If we strive, 'tis no disgrace  
 Though we may not win the race ;  
 What should we do in that case ?  
     Try, try, try again.



If you find your task is hard,  
     Try, try, try again ;  
 Time will bring you your reward,  
     Try, try, try again.  
 All that other people do,  
 Why with patience should not you ?  
 Only keep this rule in view—  
     Try, try, try again.







## ONE THING AT A TIME.

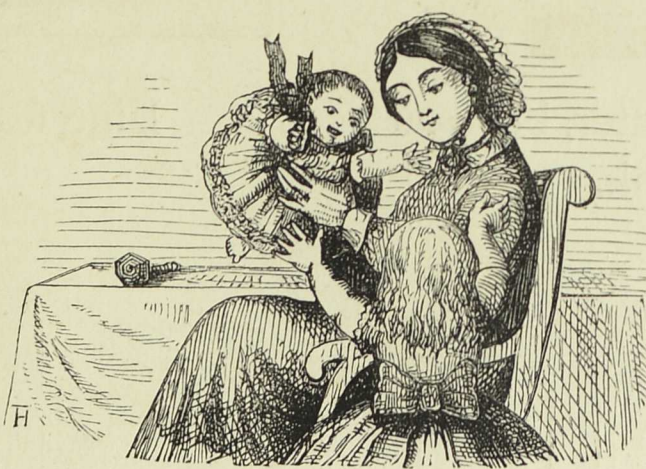
Work while you work  
Play while you play ;  
That is the way  
To be cheerful and gay.

All that you do  
Do with your might ;  
Things done by halves  
Are never done right.

One thing each time,  
And that done well,  
Is a very good rule,  
As many can tell.

Moments are useless  
Trifled away ;  
So work while you work,  
And play while you play.

M. A. STODART.







A stitch in time saves nine.



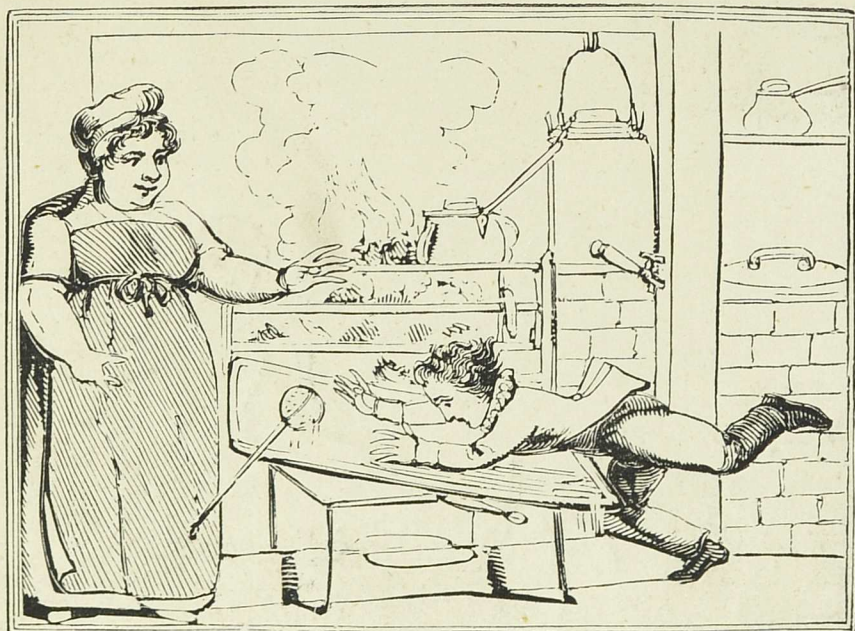
The more the merrier, but the fewer the better cheer.



You may lead a horse to the water, but you cannot make him drink.



Fine feathers make fine birds.



The more haste the less speed.



Lazy persons take the most pains.





Procrastination is the thief of time.



All that glitters is not gold.



A live dog is better than a dead lion.

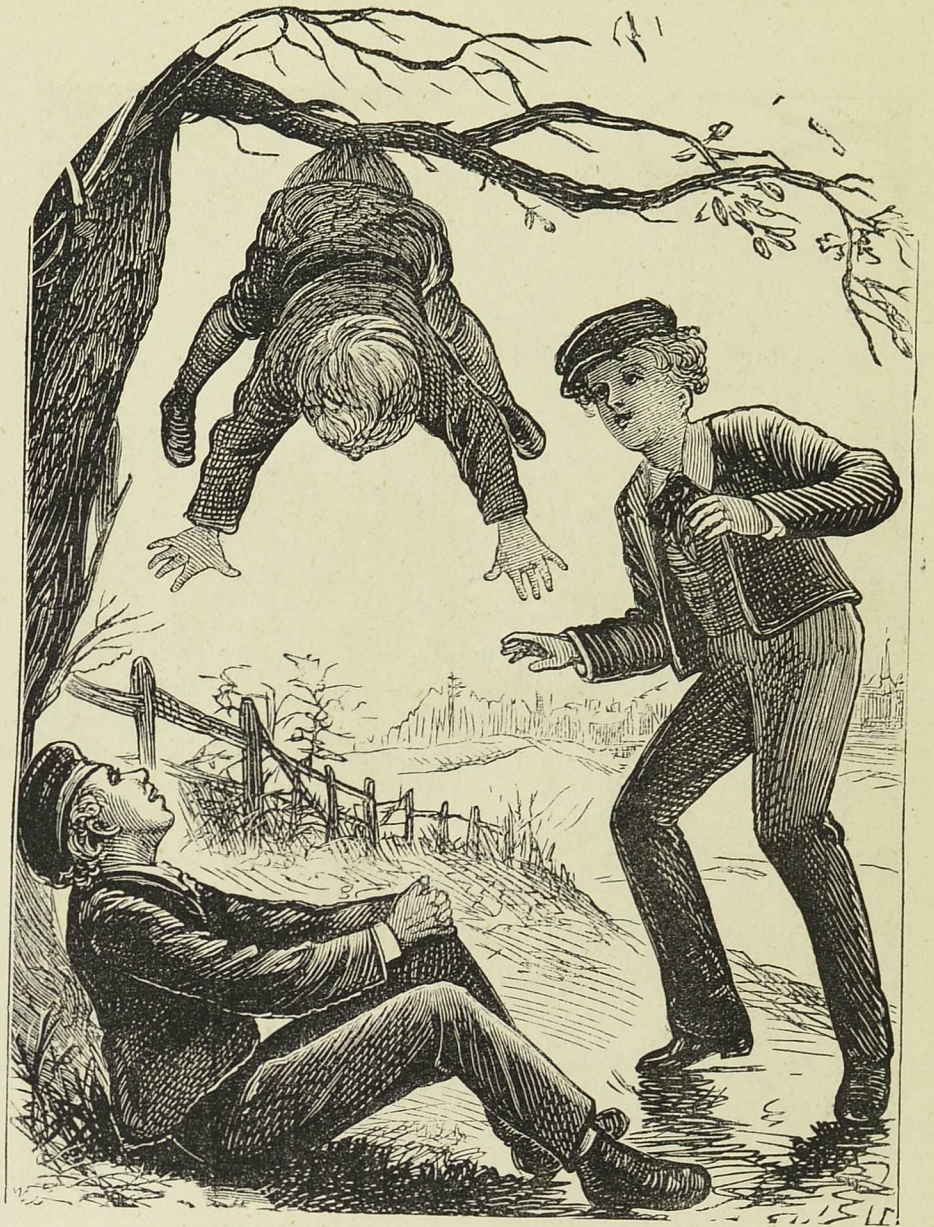


Pride must have a fall.

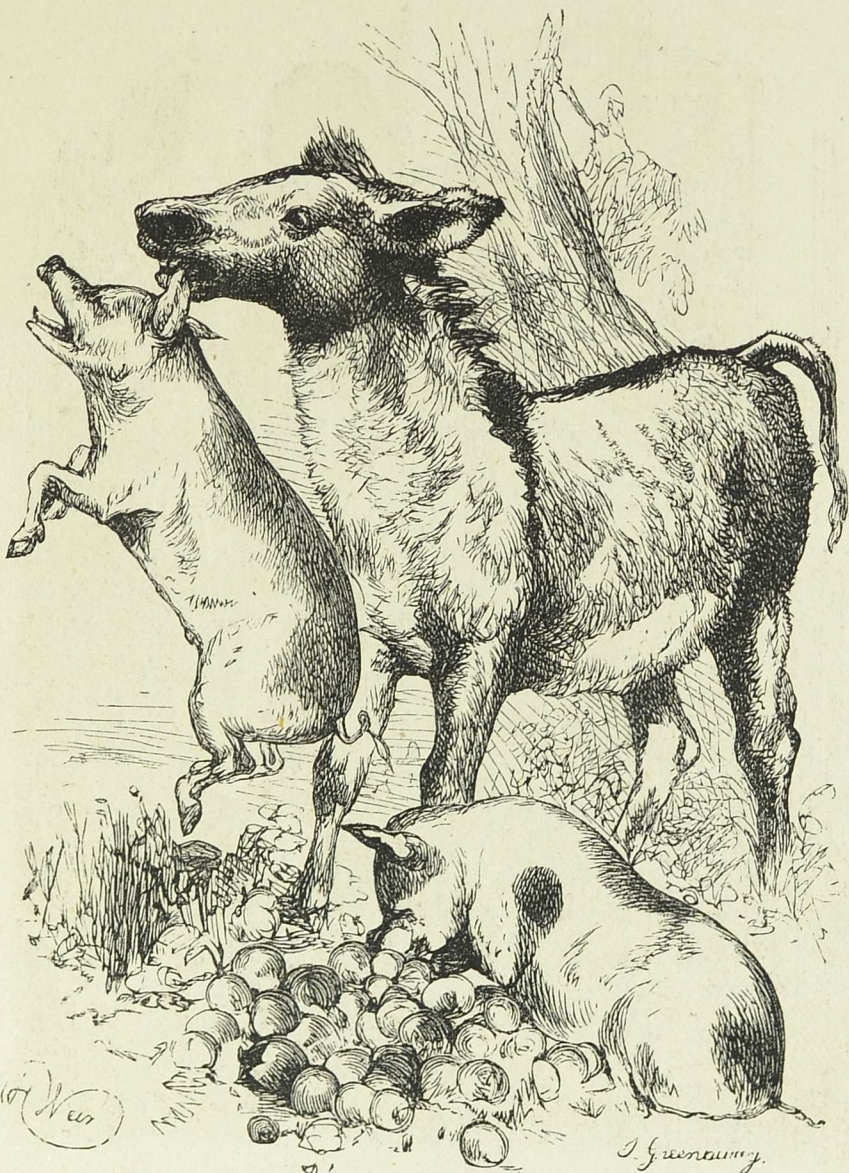




None but the brave deserve the fair.



Look before you leap.



Take the wrong sow by the ear.



It is more blessed to give than to receive.



# TALKS ABOUT SOME BIRDS AND BEASTS.

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## THE LION.

THE home of the Lion is in Africa, Arabia, India, and other parts of Asia. The beautiful mane which covers its head and neck is coloured yellow when the lion is young, black when he is of full age, which he attains at five years, and when he is old it becomes grizzly; the lioness has not any.

The tail of the Lion is very handsome, and has a thick tuft at the end. The fore-legs of the Lion are much more powerful than the hind-legs, and with them he seizes his prey; his long and sharp claws forming the most terrific weapons. These, however, when not used are drawn back into a sheath. The under part of the foot is furnished with a cushion, and a smaller one lies under each toe, so that their step is noiseless. Besides their terrible claws, they have large, sharp teeth, which tear the flesh of their victims. Their tongue is beset with small, horny projections, which enable them to lick bones clean. These prevent them from having an acute taste; nevertheless they will not eat putrid flesh. Their long whiskers give them a delicate sense of feeling, and their smell and hearing are highly developed. They go forth at night to feed and drink, and sleep in their lairs by day.





## THE BROWN BEAR.



THE hairy, massive-looking animals called Bears, walk firmly upon their feet, setting every part of them to the ground, have great facility in walking on their hind-feet only, and climb rocks and trees with considerable agility. They have large, thick limbs, and enormous claws, which serve them for digging in search of roots. They eat everything, and show a strong preference for honey, with great sagacity finding out the trees where it has been deposited. They live in Europe, Asia, and America.

The manner in which Bears hug their victims to death with their fore-paws is well known, and they also tear them with their great claws. They swim well; and when excited will proceed at a tolerably rapid pace. Their strength is so great, that they will carry away dead horses. Their fondness for their cubs and their defence of them is something remarkable, even when compared with other animals who also love their offspring.

Bear's flesh is very good to eat, and their skins afford valuable furs.

## THE REIN-DEER.

BOTH the male and female Rein-deer have horns, and their muzzle is covered with hair; their heads are large, and not handsome; their neck is short and thick, and their legs look misshapen. Their horns are peculiarly formed, and large in size; a portion of the branches hangs over their forehead, the rest rises to a considerable height backwards, and curves upwards. Their feet are so much divided, that they spread when they are set upon the ground, and rise up again with a snapping noise.

Rein-deer live in the north of all the countries which are situated in the frozen zone, and some frequent the Ural mountains, and go as far south as those of Caucasus. They chiefly live on lichens of various kinds, some of which grow on the soil, and others on trees, from which they hang in large masses; they also eat the young twigs of trees. They draw sledges weighing, with their burden, two hundred and seventy pounds, and go for many hours at the rate of ten miles an hour. Their flesh is excellent to eat, their tongues are dainties, their milk is delicious, and they are docile and affectionate.





## THE SLOTH.



THE Sloth lives entirely on trees. They have no teeth in the front of their jaws; their toes are joined together by the skin; and the only way by which the feet are seen to be divided is by an enormous nail, which proceeds from the end of each toe. These powerful nails bend towards the sole of the foot when the animal is at rest, and in time the bones grow together, and each foot forms a large and powerful hook. Their fore-legs are much longer than those behind, so that, if by any chance they should be forced to crawl upon the ground, they drag themselves upon their elbows; they, however, never do crawl if they can help it, and remain upon a tree till they have devoured all its foliage. Their young ones cling to the mother from the moment of their birth till they are able to be independent of her, accompanying her everywhere in her slow progress. Their long hair often looks like faded grass hanging all over them; and when they sleep, they roll themselves into a ball, and hide their faces in it, to protect themselves from innumerable insects.

The strength which lies in the fore-paws of Sloths is immense, and they have been known to strangle a dog when holding him at arm's length. They grapple with large snakes in the same manner, and with the same success. They seldom drink; and their cry is melancholy, very like a human being in distress. They inhabit the warmer parts of the world.

## THE HIPPOPOTAMUS.

THE Hippopotamus comes from Africa. They live in rivers, and delight to wallow in the mud and reeds; are as broad as elephants, though not so tall, and their skin is even thicker. Under it lies a mass of fat, which, when salted, is reckoned a delicacy. Their legs are thick, and so short that their body almost touches the ground when they walk. Their mouth is wide, and their thick lips cover their enormous teeth. Their eyes are small, and their ears also; and they can only remain five or six minutes in the water without coming to the surface to breathe: they walk at the bottom, and look very formidable; for, if a boat should happen to touch or to alarm them, they attack it with great fury, tear it to pieces with their teeth, and would do the same with the crew if they could. Their food is entirely vegetable matter.





## THE TIGER.

TIGERS have all the strength of the lion, but have greater suppleness and length in their body. They have equally formidable claws and teeth, their fore-paws are equally strong, their tail is longer, and has no tuft at the end ; and, take them altogether, they are more destructive than lions, for they are cunning and stealthy, and prowl by day as well as night.

Tigers have been often tamed, and have evinced great attachment to their owners and keepers.

The colour of Tigers is tawny or orange-yellow, fading into white on the under parts of the body, with broad black stripes, which become rings on the tail. They are entirely confined to the continent of Asia ; those which are called tigers in Africa being leopards or panthers,



## HUMMING-BIRDS.

SOMETIMES Humming-Birds wear a diadem upon their heads ; at others, tufts of feathered jewels seem to proceed from their ears ; their breasts, their throats, their backs, glitter with varied hues, which flash in the sun till they look like flying gems. They exclusively inhabit the western part of the globe, abound in the hottest of the West Indian islands and South America, are found at great heights upon the snowy peaks of the Andes, and have been seen in the rigorous climate of Patagonia.

The nests of Humming-birds are models of beautiful workmanship, and the eggs laid in them look like so many little white peas. They cannot bear confinement, although they have been kept in a large room, and have been taught to sip sugar and water, and even to take it from the mouth of those who have been endeavouring to tame them. They are to a remarkable degree fond of fighting, like many other little creatures, and fly into the most terrible passions. They eat a great many insects ; and are to be seen hovering over flowers, into the large blossoms of which they creep and hide themselves.





## THE STORK.

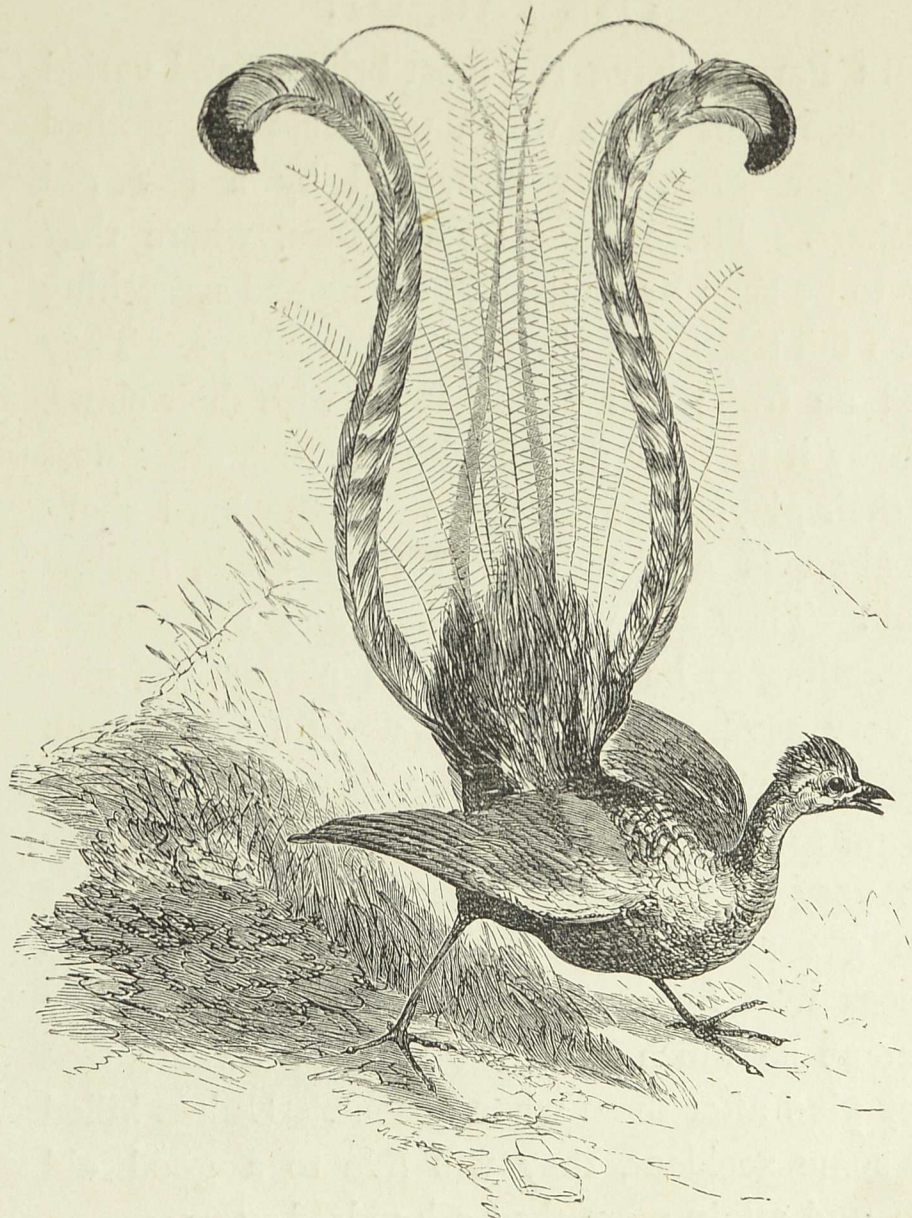


THE Stork frequents marshes and shallow waters, where it eats frogs, lizards, and other reptiles. On land they devour worms, insects, moles, and various small quadrupeds. Their feet are not entirely webbed, and their proportions are very elegant: their legs are long and slender; their wings are also long; but when flying their legs look very awkward. They are very voracious, and in cities are very useful in devouring refuse food, vermin, &c. They constantly fly about in large numbers, and are perfectly silent, unless something should occur to alarm them, when they clap their long, straight, pointed beaks together with a tremendous noise.

Storks are very seldom seen in English marshes, but they abound in Holland and Germany; they are also very numerous in Turkey; and they are very much loved and respected, as if they brought good fortune to the family on whose house they build their nest. The same birds return to the spot they have once frequented, year after year; and should they absent themselves, some misfortune is apprehended. They leave Northern countries about September, and return in March or April.

## THE LYRE-BIRD.

THE very remarkable tails of these birds have given them their name; for the outer feather on each side (grey and brown in colour) is shaped like the framework of an ancient lyre; while a number of finely-bearded feathers between them, not inaptly represent the strings. It is only the male birds, however, who can boast of these beautiful appendages, and that for only a part of the year. They begin to shoot out in February or March, and the decorations fall in October. Their legs and toes are very long, and they not only run very fast, but take enormous leaps, as much as ten feet; they, however, very seldom take wing. They are shy, and the least noise alarms them, even the dropping of a pebble; so that it is very difficult to catch them, or even to get near enough to shoot them. They eat insects, are particularly fond of centipedes and beetles; besides which, snails deprived of their shells have been found inside them.



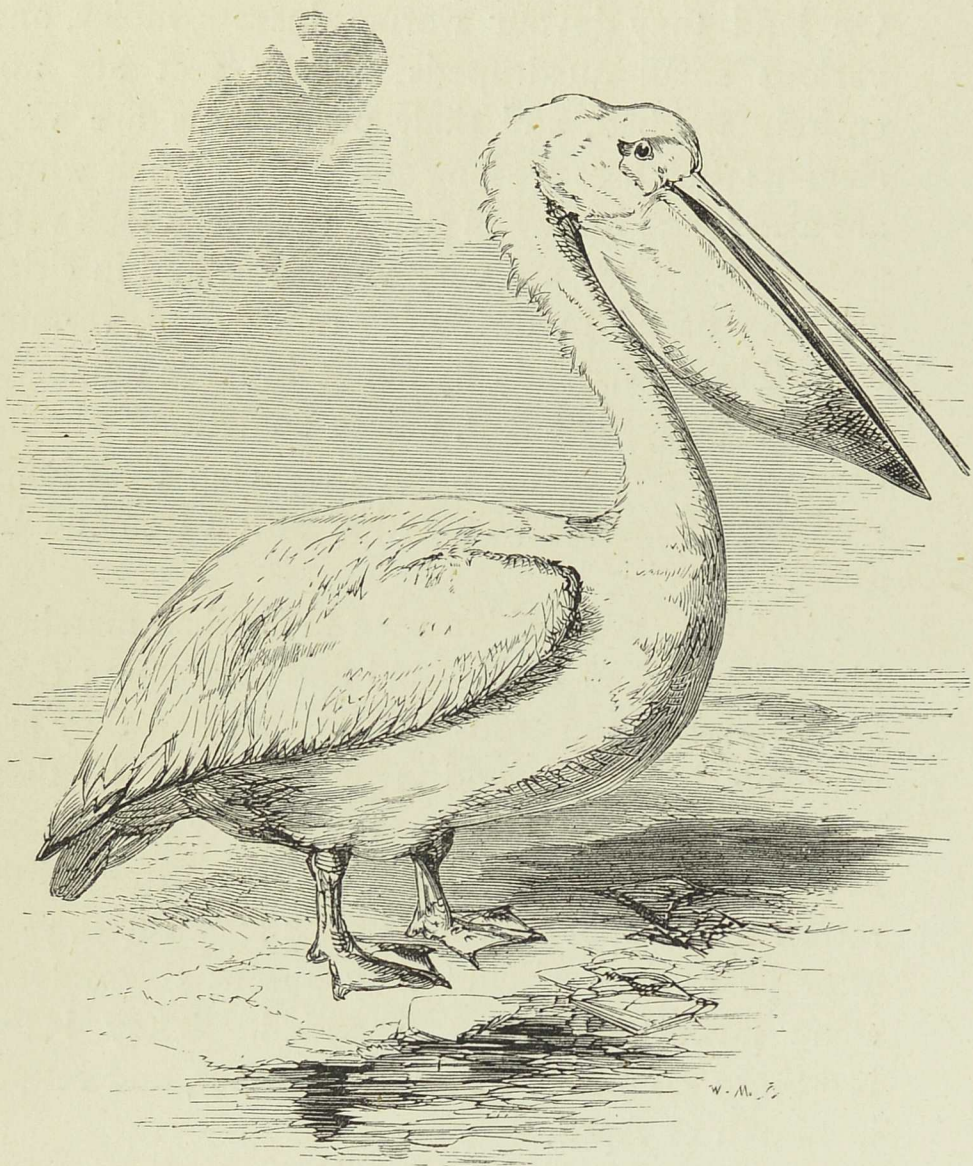


## THE PELICAN.

PELICANS frequent the shores of lakes, rivers, ponds, &c., and live upon fishes. Their feet have a piece of skin between the toes, which connects them into one broad foot; yet they are able to perch upon trees. They live in Africa, Asia, and the south-eastern countries of Europe. Their wings are very long, and they fly majestically, and to great distances. Their beaks are long and large, and the upper part has a hook at the end; the lower is formed of two pieces, joined at the tip; and from these hang a very large skin pouch, which they have the power of wrinkling up, so as not to be seen when it is empty, but when full it will hold two gallons of water.

These handsome birds stand by the borders of the water, watching for their prey, and suddenly darting in their long beaks, seldom miss their aim; the beak is then closed, and the fish slips into the pouch. When the pouch is filled the Pelicans fly away to their nests to feed their young: these nests are generally on the ground, but are sometimes built on high trees. They press their pouch against their breast, and so make the fish slip into the mouth of the young birds; and it is this which has given rise to the fable, that the Pelican nourishes her children by plucking her own breast.

The colour of these birds is generally white when full grown; when young they are tinged with a delicate rose tint. The beak and pouch are yellow.



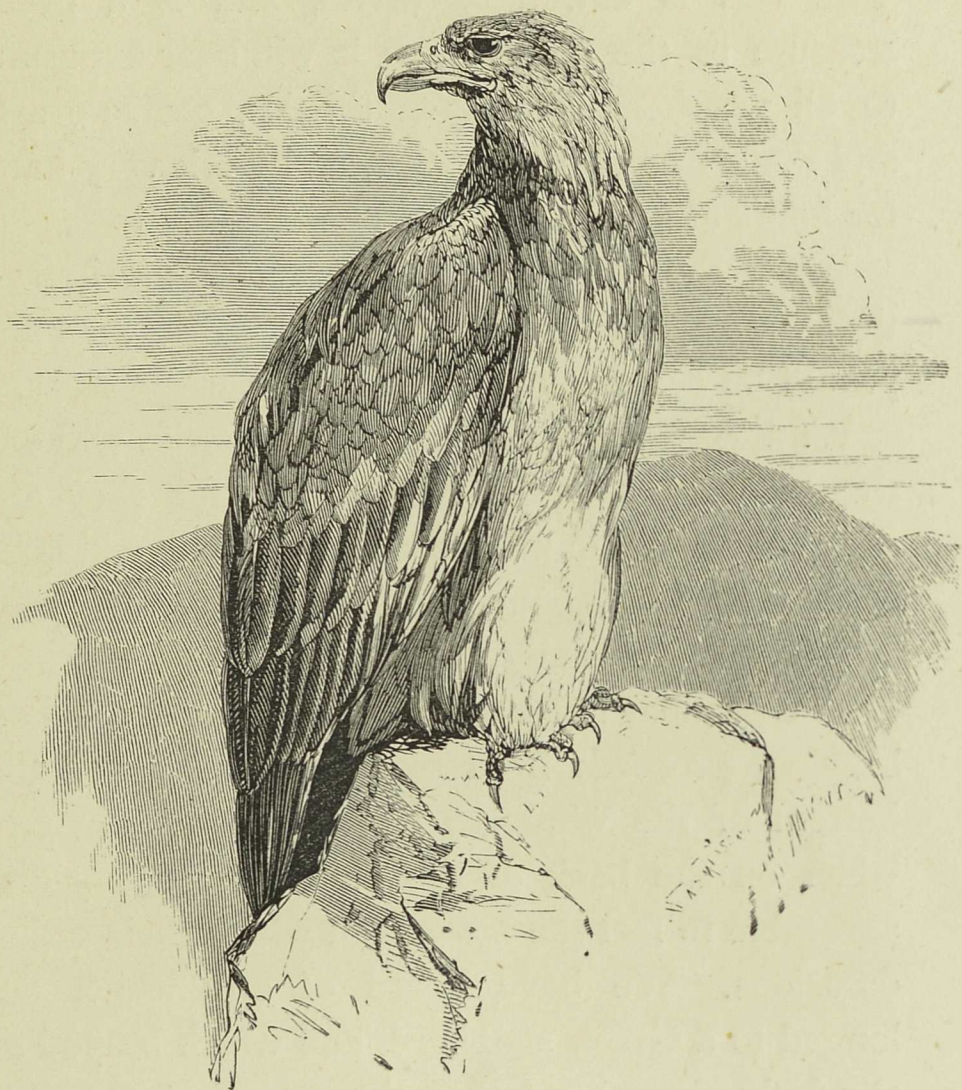
## THE PARROT.

SOME Parrots have the most brilliant and varied plumage; but those which talk best are clothed in sober grey, only enlivened by a few red feathers. These come from Africa, where they are to be seen by thousands, sitting and screeching upon tall trees, and playing with monkeys. They feed on fruit; and taking it up with their claws, convey it to their mouth with as much cleverness as their playfellows do, and crack the hard shells of almonds and nuts with their thick, hooked beak. They are very cunning, and often, when pretending to be very fond of a person, will give a very severe bite. They whistle tunes with great accuracy, even imitate voices, and are soon taught to play a number of amusing tricks. They are very jealous in their dispositions, and if they can get at the object of their spite, tear it to pieces with fury; while, on the other hand, they become so much attached to their owners, that they pine after them when absent. Unless killed by some accident, they will live to a good old age, and attain more than a hundred years.





## THE EAGLE.



THE large size, the powerful and rapid flight, the immense height attained, the majestic wheeling round in wide circles, the murderous swoop, the brilliancy and quickness of the restless eye, the large hooked beak, and the force of the immense talons, cause the Eagle to be justly called the king of birds. All the feathered race, even vultures, seem to pay him the respect of subjects to their sovereign, and never interfere with his meals; but he is, under all these marks of superiority, still the bird of prey, and eats till he becomes heavy and stupid.

Feeding upon flesh, and extremely voracious in their appetites, these sanguinary birds pursue their prey with great daring and sagacity; but their pursuit of hares, rabbits, lambs, and the smaller quadrupeds, is not as remarkable as the mode in which they secure larger animals. They fasten themselves between the horns of a deer, and flap their wings over its eyes, till the poor bewildered beast rushes on at random, till it tumbles down a precipice, or into a deep ditch, whence it cannot extricate itself. When once it falls it is to rise no more, and it becomes an easy prey to its merciless pursuer.

## THE CAT.

BESIDES having long ears, Cats have long whiskers, or rather moustaches, which give them a very delicate sense of touch, and are particularly useful in the dark, which is the time at which they chiefly seek their prey, their eyes being so made that they see in the dark much better than most animals do. Their fore-paws are larger and stronger than those behind, which is the case with most of those animals which spring upon their prey; their fur is thick and long, and when they are angry they set it up, make their tails twice their usual size, and draw their backs up into an arch.

Cats are said to be treacherous, and while they are playing with you, will scratch and bite; but this does not arise from deceit; it is only the excitement of the moment, which makes them forget how sharp their teeth and claws may be, and that they wound when they would only caress. They like animal food best, and are very fond of birds, still more so of fishes; but, like many other tamed beasts, they will eat most things. A great many go to the woods and become half-wild; but there are some in Scotland which have never been tamed.





## THE ASS.

THE Ass is extremely useful, and is a great treasure to the cottager, as it will bear exposure to all weathers, live upon thistles, coarse grass, and the refuse of the garden, and work very hard for hours at a time.

When the Jews were not allowed to use horses they rode upon Asses, and their great men appeared on occasions of ceremony on white asses.

Wild Asses are very strong and swift, and extremely difficult to tame and train, for they are very self-willed in all conditions. They will bear a great deal of labour, and sometimes show great attachment, especially to children.

The peculiar noise made by the Donkey, called braying, proceeds from two hollow places at the bottom of the windpipe which fill with air; and when on the back of the animal, it is very disagreeable to feel the movement which their action occasions. We have heard of one which belonged to a Greek shepherd, and which brayed so regularly every hour, that the return of the time could be told with accuracy.



## THE SQUIRREL.

SQUIRRELS are beautiful little animals, with their long fur, their pretty shape, their bright, quick eyes, pointed ears, and bushy tail, the hair of which spreads out on each side like a feather. This tail is most important to them, for it helps to sustain and guide them when they take the enormous leaps for which they are famous. They belong to a set of animals which all gnaw their food. For this action their front teeth are peculiarly adapted, as they grow at the bottom, and as fast as the tops are worn off, the teeth are pushed up by the new matter which is formed at the under part. Their jaws only move backwards and forwards, and not from side to side. Some can convey their food to their mouths with their fore-paws as cleverly as monkeys do. They live principally in trees, and look very pretty as they go from branch to branch. Should they ever be surprised on the ground, they climb a tree with lightning-like rapidity. They live all over the world, except Australia, and lay up stores for a winter season, if it exists in the climate which they inhabit.

Flying Squirrels are so called because there is a fold of skin, covered with hair, which extends from the fore to the hind-legs, and which sustains them in the air for the purpose of leaping to a great distance; but they do not really fly.





## THE OTTER.



THE Otter has a long body and short legs, and they glide through the water, in which element they chiefly live, with the most elegant movements, and a rapidity which makes it difficult to overtake them. They occasionally rise to the surface for a moment, when the bubbles which they cause in breathing frequently betray their presence. They conceal themselves in the banks of rivers and lakes, among the roots of trees, and generally come out at night.

Otters have the reputation of destroying a great number of fishes. The old ones, when this sort of prey is plentiful, bite off the head and a piece of the upper part of the body, and leave the remainder on shore. This does not injure the rest of the fish; and the poorer classes of people in the vicinity are thus enabled to have a meal without offending the owner of the water, who generally claims everything which lives there.

Otters are very affectionate towards their young, and defend them vigorously, so that a great struggle and fight ensues when they are attacked. When fishes are scarce, they will eat frogs and water-rats, and also come on land, when they steal into the poultry-yard, and attack fowls, sucking-pigs, and lambs. If they should be surprised on shore, they instantly lie flat upon the ground; and soon finding out, with their little bright eyes, when they are seen, scud away as fast as they can.

## THE HARE.

HARES lie upon the open ground; and the spot where they rest is called a form. The inside of their mouth and the under part of their feet are all covered with fur; and in northern climates they turn quite white. They abound all over Europe, but are more esteemed for the table in England than elsewhere, and are in season from September to March; after which the game-laws prohibit them from being destroyed. They run very swiftly, doubling, or running back over the same ground, when pursued; and are hunted with harriers, a sort of hound smaller than those used for foxes.

Although generally so wild, Hares have often been tamed, and have shown much affection for their owners. Our artist has figured the jack, or male Hare, which is larger than the female. The Irish species is also larger, and its fur not equal to that of English Hares, as it is wholly wanting in the long, silken, black hairs which lie on the surface of the latter. They live entirely on vegetable food, are fond of the bark of trees, and those in the far north eat lichens and the seeds of fir-cones.





## THE GOAT.

GOATS are very affectionate and playful; their milk is particularly rich and nourishing, and as they will live in countries and places where cows will not thrive, they are often very valuable. Their flesh is coarser and harder than that of the sheep, but a young kid affords delicious fare.

One of the finest fabrics in the world for lightness, warmth, and softness, is manufactured from the under wool of the Goats which live in Thibet; and those who have worn what are called Indian shawls, can scarcely be contented with any others. Attempts have been made to naturalize these Goats in Europe; but although the animals live very well, the climate much injures the quality of the wool. The latter has therefore been brought over, and has been successful in improving the texture of our shawls.



## THE RABBIT.

RABBITS are very like small hares, but their ears are never erect; these hang down, and are frequently very long. The flesh of the Rabbit is white, and rather insipid; and that of the wild ones is generally preferred. They are vegetable feeders, live together in large numbers, burrow habitations for themselves in the ground; and these communities are called warrens. They are very destructive to gardens, and particularly fond of nibbling off the tops of young plants or shoots, especially pinks. They thrive well in captivity, though they have a propensity, when in confinement, which seems quite inconsistent with their usually gentle nature; that is, the practice of devouring their young ones, if they are disturbed within a few days after their birth. Their fur is long and soft, and they vary in colour, being black, grey, brown, buff, or white; the latter generally have red eyes. They are affectionate animals, generally speaking, but very timid, and show but little sagacity.





## DUCKS.

BOTH tame and wild ducks possess the same sort of feet, and flat yellow or black bills; the only difference being, that the latter have generally the longest legs. They all differ among themselves in size and plumage, some being pure white, and others black and white, while many have every variety of brown, green, and blue; the two latter chiefly covering the head, neck, and breast, and this mixture, called "drake's neck," is often imitated in silk. The legs of all are set very far back upon the body, which enables them to swim well; but which makes them walk with a most ugly waddle when on land. Their feet are webbed. In common with others which live chiefly in the water, an oily juice is mingled with their plumage, which prevents it from being soaked by the water; and between the quill part or stem of the feathers, lies a very soft down, fitting closely to the skin in all directions, which also defends them from the water. The neck of Ducks is in porportion shorter than that of swans or geese; and they eat fishes, insects, seeds, and aquatic plants. Tame Ducks may be considered as the pigs of the water, for they eat everything, as the nursery story says, which they can "roke out of the gutter;" nevertheless, their flesh is excellent food.

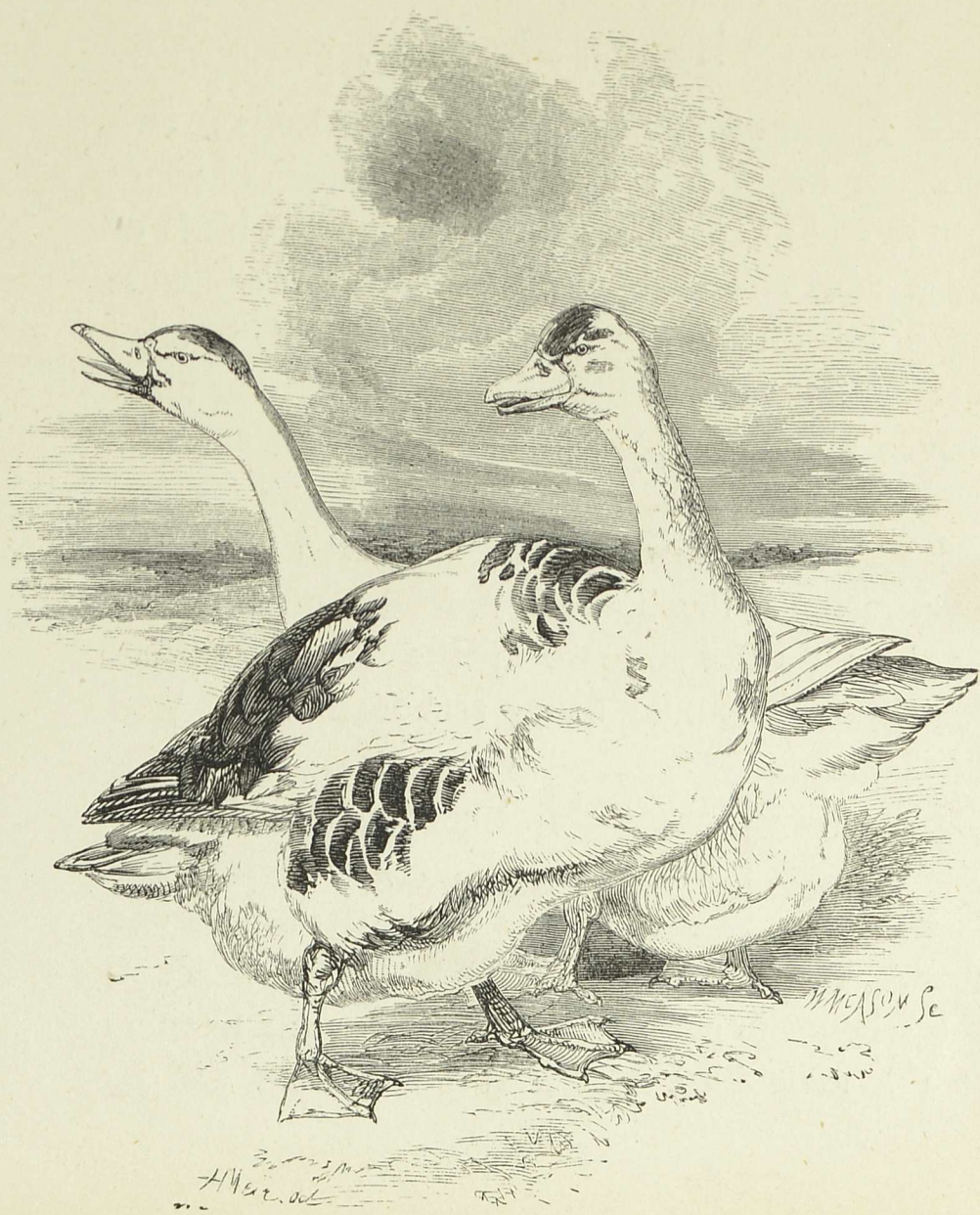


## THE GOOSE.

TAME Geese are white, with red legs; but although they are awkward out of the water, they do not waddle as much as the swan; while in the water the swan is far more handsome in appearance than they are. Their feet are webbed, their tails are particularly short, they make a very disagreeable noise like a croak, and they stretch out their necks and hiss when they are affronted.

Wild Geese are marked with brown and grey; and our plate represents one of these in front, with a tame Goose behind.

The soft beds on which many persons sleep are stuffed with Goose-feathers; and before the invention of metal pens, all writing was performed with pens made from the wing-feathers of Geese; so that multitudes of both bad and good books have been written with the quill of a Goose.



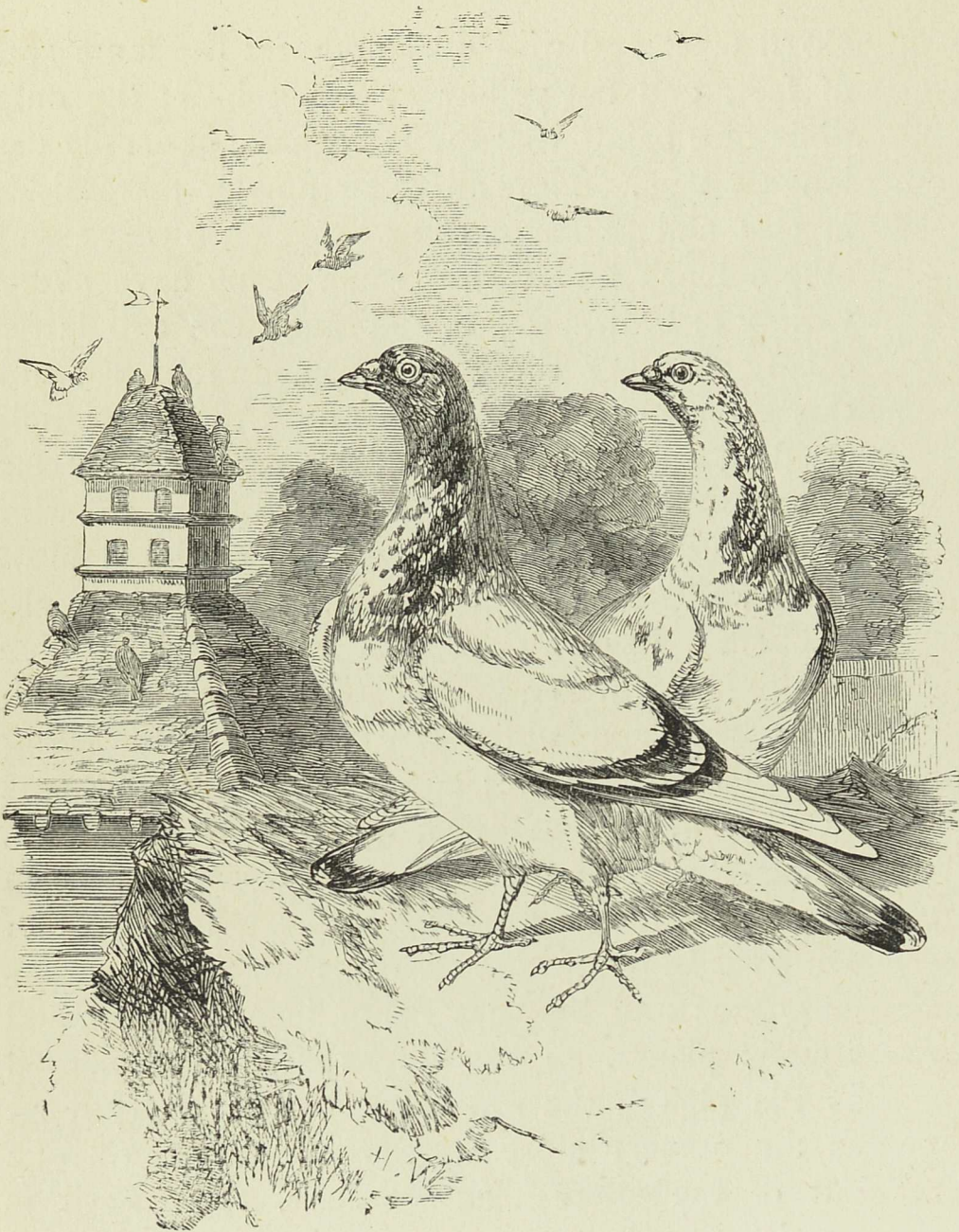


## PIGEONS.

PIGEONS are very handsome birds, of a round, full shape—speckled, brown, grey, and white, very often with green and blue about the neck, and their eyes are beautiful. The ring-dove is of a reddish-grey, with a black ring round its neck. The attachment of these birds to each other is so great as to become a common saying, and it is supposed that the same birds live together for years. They are not, however, quite as gentle as reported, for they frequently fight and quarrel. The noise which they make, called cooing, is almost incessant, and very wearying when they are kept in cages.

A very handsome species in India called the Crown-pigeon, is of a blue colour mixed with slate, and has a magnificent crest on its head. In the same part of the world, golden-green Pigeons, with a white tail, and long feathers hanging from their neck are to be found.

The Pigeons which carry letters are trained for that purpose, bear their despatches fastened under their wings, and fly with wonderful swiftness.



## THE PHEASANT.

THE Pheasant comes to us from India; and although its arrival happened hundreds of years ago, it still retains the delicacy which the birds of warm countries always possess in colder climates. They inhabit long grass, bushes, and woods; occasionally coming out of them and sitting upon hedges and low trees, to enjoy a bright October sun. They eat seeds, leaves, berries, and insects; and when the winter is severe, or even when the temperature is much as usual, food is often placed for them on the ground, in the thickets where they live; chestnuts being reckoned very good for them.

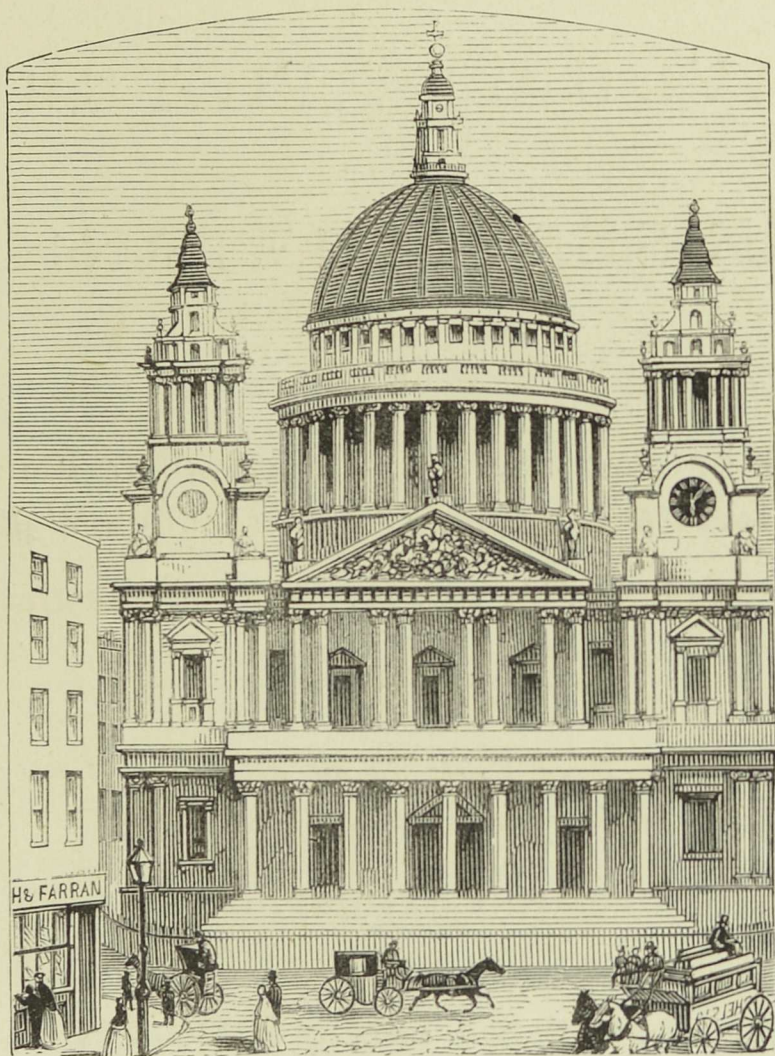
The cock Pheasant of this country is a beautiful creature, with a long brown-and-black tail, and dark blue-and-gold feathers about the breast and head. The plumage of the female is less brilliant; but when she gets old she often has the feathers of the male bird. Both run very fast, and fly rapidly.





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