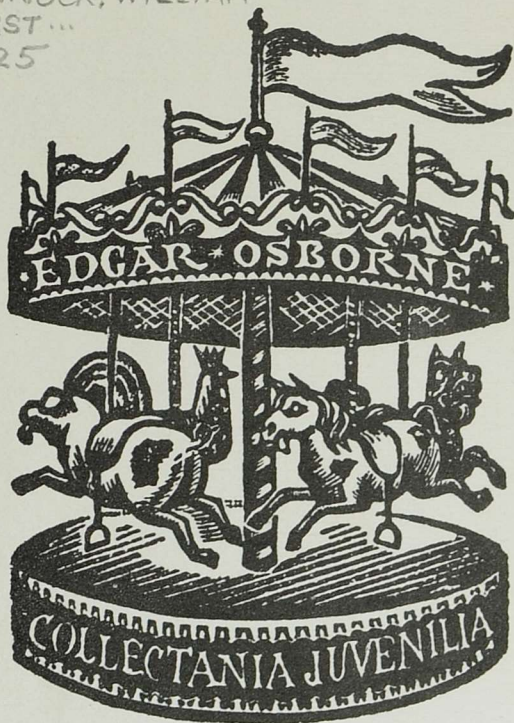




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EXPERIENCE,  
INSTRUCTING YOUTH



PINNOCK'S  
Catechism for Children

*Containing such things as are*

NECESSARY TO BE KNOWN

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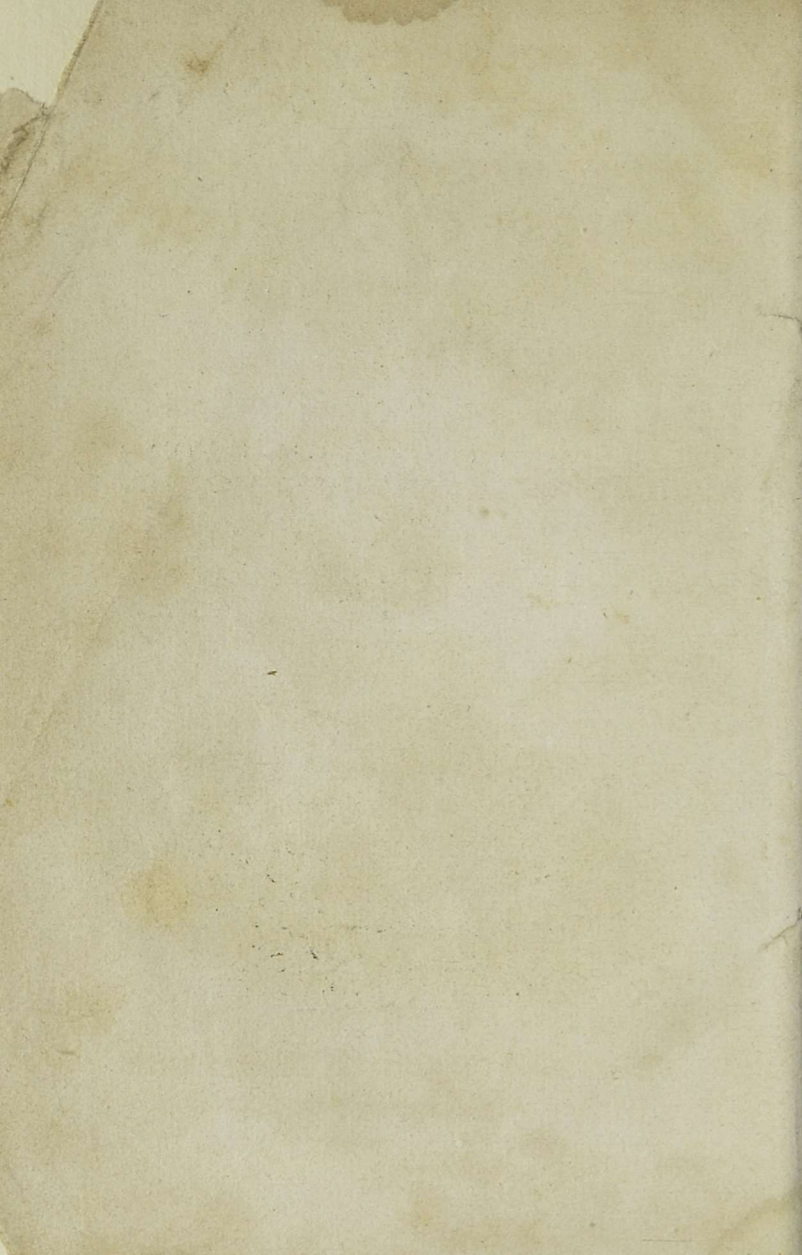
*Early Age*



LONDON;

*Published by G. & W. B. Whitaker, 13 Ave Maria Lane*

1822.



# PINNOCK'S CATECHISMS.

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## THE FIRST CATECHISM

FOR

## CHILDREN,

CONTAINING

SUCH THINGS AS ARE REQUISITE TO BE  
KNOWN AT AN EARLY AGE;

BEING AN

INTRODUCTION

TO

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.

~~~~~  
TWELFTH EDITION.  
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LONDON :

PRINTED FOR GEO. B. WHITTAKER,  
AVE-MARIA-LANE.

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1825.

## P R E F A C E.




THE intention of “The First Catechism for Children,” is to awaken the curiosity of young people, and to furnish their tender minds with a stock of useful information.

Its style is clear, simple, and easy, and will be found intelligible to the meanest capacity. This little Work may be put into the hands of a child, as soon as it is capable of reading; and, if the contents be committed to memory, it will greatly facilitate the acquirement of any knowledge which may hereafter be thought necessary.

THE  
FIRST CATECHISM

FOR

CHILDREN.



CHAPTER I.

*Question.* WHAT is the meaning of the word Catechism?

*Answer.* Instruction by question and answer.

Q. What is instruction?

A. The act of teaching, or communicating knowledge.

Q. What is it to be wise?

A. To understand rightly, and to act accordingly.

Q. What is the beginning of wisdom?

A. To fear God.

Q. Who is God?

A. The Maker of all things.

Q. When did God make all things?

A. In the beginning of time.

---

## CHAPTER II.

### *Of the Creation.*

Q. WHAT is the meaning of the word Creation?

A. The act of making a thing out of nothing.

Q. How did God make all things?

A. By the power of his word; for he commanded, and it was done.

Q. How long was God making the world?

A. Six days.

Q. What was His work on the first day?

A. On the first day God created the earth and light.

Q. What did God make on the second day?

A. On the second day God created the firmament, that is, the air and the clouds.

Q. What did God do on the third day?

A. On the third day he separated the earth from the sea, and caused the trees and herbs to grow out of the ground.

Q. What was His work on the fourth day?

A. On the fourth day He made the sun, the moon, and the stars.

Q. What was the work of the fifth day?

A. On the fifth day God created the fowls and fishes of every kind.

Q. What was the work of the sixth day?

A. On the sixth day God created man and beast, and every creeping thing on the face of the earth.

Q. What did God on the seventh day?

A. He rested from his work of creation, and set apart the seventh day for a holy sabbath, or a day of rest.

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### CHAPTER III.

#### *Of the History of Mankind.*

Q. WHO were the first man and woman that God made?

A. Adam and Eve.

Q. In what state did God create them?

A. In his own image or likeness, in a holy and happy state.

Q. Where did God put Adam and Eve?

A. Into the garden of Eden, to keep it and take care of it.

Q. What does the word Eden signify?

A. Pleasure; consequently the garden of Eden means a garden of pleasure.

Q. Is not the garden of Eden sometimes called Paradise?

A. Yes; Paradise signifying also a happy abode or state of bliss.

Q. Why were Adam and Eve expelled from this happy place?

A. Because they disobeyed God's commands.

Q. Who were Adam's sons?

A. Cain and Abel.

Q. Which was his eldest son?

A. Cain was Adam's eldest son.

Q. What was the employment of Cain and Abel?



A. Cain was a tiller of the ground, and Abel was a keeper of sheep.

Q. What dreadful crime did Cain commit?

A. He killed his brother Abel.

Q. Why did Cain kill him?

A. From indulging in envy, because God accepted his brother's offering, and rejected his.

Q. What became of Cain afterwards?

A. He was driven from his family, and became an outcast and wanderer on the earth.



## CHAPTER IV.

### *Of the five Natural Senses.*

Q. WHAT are the five natural senses?

A. Seeing, hearing, smelling, feeling, and tasting.

Q. What is the organ of seeing?

A. The eye.

Q. What is the organ of hearing?

A. The ear.

Q. What is the organ of smelling?

A. The nose.

Q. What is the organ of feeling?

A. The organ of feeling is a sense spread over the whole body, but most eminently placed in the ends of the fingers.

Q. What are the principal qualities discernible by the touch?

A. Hard, soft, smooth, rough, dry, wet, and the like; but the most considerable are heat and cold.

Q. What is the organ of taste?

A. The tongue and palate.

Q. What is the palate?

A. The upper part of the roof of the mouth.

Q. What is meant by the word organ?

A. Any part of the animal body that is capable of performing some perfect act or operation: thus, the eye is the organ of seeing; the ear of hearing; the nose of smelling; the tongue of speaking, &c.

## CHAPTER V.

### *Of Time, and its Parts.*

Q. WHAT is meant by Time?

A. The duration of things.

Q. What are the usual measures or divisions of time?

A. Centuries, years, months, weeks, days, hours, minutes, and seconds.

Q. What is a century?

A. One hundred years.

Q. What is the most complete division of time?

A. The year; being the time in which all the seasons return in succession, and begin anew.

Q. How many seasons are there in a year

A. Four.

Q. What are they called?

A. Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter.

Q. When does Spring begin and end?

A. *Spring* begins about the middle of March, and ends in June.

Q. When does Summer begin and end ?

A. *Summer* begins in June, and ends in September.

Q. When does Autumn begin and end ?

A. *Autumn* begins in August, when the corn is ripe, and ends in October.

Q. When does Winter begin and end ?

A. *Winter* begins in November, and ends in March, when it is again followed by Spring.

---

## CHAPTER VI.

### *Of Time (continued.)*

Q. How many months are there in a year ?

A. Twelve.

Q. What are their names ?

A. January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December.

Q. How many weeks are there in a year ?

A. Fifty-two.

Q. How many days are there in a week?

A. Seven.

Q. What are their names?

A. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Q. How many hours are there in a day?

A. Twenty-four.

Q. How many minutes in an hour?

A. Sixty.

Q. How many seconds in a minute?

A. Sixty.



## CHAPTER VII.

### *Of the seven Days of the Week.*

Q. WHENCE are derived the names of the seven days of the Week?

A. From certain false gods worshipped by the Saxons.

Q. Who were the Saxons?

A. The Saxons were a people who formerly came over from Germany, and having conquered England, they resided in it many years.

Q. Which is the first day of the week?

A. Sunday.

Q. Why is it so called?

A. Because the Saxons worshipped the Sun on this day, and gave it the name of Sun's-day, whence we call it Sunday.

Q. Which is the second day of the week?

A. Monday.

Q. Why is it called Monday?

A. Because the Saxons used to worship the Moon on this day, and gave it the name of Moon's-day, whence we call it Monday.

Q. Which is the third day of the week?

A. Tuesday.

Q. Why is it called Tuesday?

A. From Tuesco, a Saxon idol, whom the Saxons supposed to have been their first father and ruler.

Q. Which is the fourth day of the week?

A. Wednesday.

Q. Why is it called Wednesday?

A. From the Saxon idol Wodin, the god of war, which the Saxons called Wodin's-day, by us Wednesday.

Q. Which is the fifth day of the week ?

A. Thursday.

Q. Why is it called Thursday ?

A. From Thor, the Saxon god of wind and weather.

Q. Which is the sixth day of the week ?

A. Friday.

Q. Why is it called Friday ?

A. From Friga, the Saxon goddess of love, peace, and plenty.

Q. Which is the seventh and last day of the week ?

A. Saturday.

Q. Why is it called Saturday ?

A. From Saeter, the Saxon god of freedom.

Q. Why did the Saxons worship false gods ?

A. Because they were not acquainted with the doctrines of the Old and New Testament.

Q. What are those people called who worship false gods ?

A. Heathens, pagans, or idolaters.

## CHAPTER VIII.

*Of Time (continued).*

Q. WHEN does the year begin?

A. On the first day of January, called New Year's Day.

Q. Which is the last day in the year?

A. The thirty-first of December.

Q. Which is the longest day?

A. The twenty-first of June.

Q. Which is the shortest day?

A. The twenty-first of December.

Q. How many days does each month consist of?

A. Thirty days are in September, April, June, and November;  
February has twenty-eight alone,  
And all the rest have thirty-one.  
But leap-year coming once in four,  
Gives February one day more.



Q. Why is every fourth year called leap-year?

A. Because of its leaping or advancing a day more that year than any other.

Q. How many days are there in a year?

A. Three hundred and sixty-five days, and six hours.

Q. What becomes of the remaining six hours?

A. At the end of every four years, the remainders are added together, making that year to consist of 366 days, and February of 29. This is called leap-year.



## CHAPTER IX.

### *Of the Quarter Days.*

Q. WHEN is the quarter-day called Lady-day?

A. On the 25th of March.

Q. When is the quarter-day called Midsummer-day?

A. On the 24th of June.

Q. When is the quarter-day called Michaelmas-day?

A. On the 29th of September.

Q. When is the quarter-day called Christmas-day?

A. On the 25th of December.

Q. Why is this day called Christmas-day?

A. From its being the great festival of the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Q. For what are the Quarter-Days remarkable?

A. They are generally the days on which houses and lands are hired, and by which many other transactions of life are reckoned.



## CHAPTER X.

### *Of the Divisions of a Day.*

Q. WHAT are the divisions of a day?

A. The day is divided into morning, noon, afternoon, evening, and night.

Q. What is the Morning?

A. The *Morning* is the first part of the day, from the appearance of light till twelve o'clock at *Noon*.

Q. What is Noon?

A. *Noon* is that time of day, when the sun is due south, being exactly twelve o'clock.

Q. What is Afternoon?

A. The *Afternoon* is that space of time from twelve o'clock at noon till the evening, or the going down of the sun.

Q. What is the Evening?

A. The close of the day, beginning a little before, and ending a little after the setting of the sun, is the *Evening*, at which time the light is very faint, and is called *Twilight*.

Q. What is Night?

A. The *Night* is the space of time from the setting of the sun till his appearance in the morning, when the day begins again.

## CHAPTER XI.

*Of Trade, and Figures.*

Q. WHAT is Trade ?

A. The art of buying and selling goods.

Q. What knowledge is the most necessary in trade ?

A. A knowledge of figures ?

Q. What are figures ?

A. Certain signs and characters made use of in reckoning.

Q. What are these signs and characters ?

A. These characters are as follow :

1 One

6 Six

2 Two

7 Seven

3 Three

8 Eight

4 Four

9 Nine

5 Five

0 Cipher.

Q. How do you write ten ?

A. Thus, 10, by putting a cipher on the right hand side of the figure 1.

Q. You say these characters are made

use of in reckoning, therefore let me hear you count from ten to twenty.

A. 11	Eleven	16	Sixteen
12	Twelve	17	Seventeen
13	Thirteen	18	Eighteen
14	Fourteen	19	Nineteen
15	Fifteen	20	Twenty.

Q. Now let me hear you count from twenty to thirty.

A. 21	Twenty-one	26	Twenty-six
22	Twenty-two	27	Twenty-seven
23	Twenty-three	28	Twenty-eight
24	Twenty-four	29	Twenty-nine
25	Twenty-five	30	Thirty.

---

## CHAPTER XII.

### *Of Figures.*

Q. WHAT is the first rule in the art of figures?

A. Addition.

Q. Can you add three to the following sums separately?—4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

A. Yes, thus :

3 added to 4 are 7

3 ..... 5 are 8

3 ..... 6 are 9

3 ..... 7 are 10

3 ..... 8 are 11

3 ..... 9 are 12.

Q. What is the second rule in the art of figures?

A. Subtraction.

Q. Can you subtract 3 from the following sums?—4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

A. Yes, thus :

3 from 4 remains 1

3 from 5 remain 2

3 from 6 remain 3

3 from 7 remain 4

3 from 8 remain 5

3 from 9 remain 6.

Q. What is the third rule in the art of figures?

A. Multiplication.

Q. Can you multiply the following sums, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, by 2?

A. Yes, thus :

Twice 2 are 4

Twice 3 are 6

Twice 4 are 8

Twice 5 are 10

Twice 6 are 12

Twice 7 are 14

Twice 8 are 16

Twice 9 are 18.

Q. What is the fourth rule in the art of figures?

A. Division.

Q. Can you divide the following sums, namely, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, by 2?

A. Yes, thus :

2 in 2 will go once, 1

2 in 4 will go twice, 2

2 in 6 will go three times, 3

2 in 8 will go four times, 4

2 in 10 will go five times, 5

2 in 12 will go six times, 6.

Q. What are the principal rules in the art of figures?

A. Those I have just repeated, namely, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division.

---

## CHAPTER XIII.

### *Money.*

Q. WHAT are the names of copper money?

A. Farthing, halfpenny and penny. Two farthings are equal to a halfpenny; and four farthings to a penny.

Q. What are the names of the silver money now current in England?

A. Sixpence, shilling, half-crown, and crown.

Q. What is the value of a shilling, a half-crown, and a crown?

A. A shilling is worth twelve pence: a half-crown is worth two shillings and sixpence: and a crown five shillings.

Q. What are the names and value of the gold coins at present in circulation?



A. A half-guinea, worth ten shillings and sixpence; a guinea, worth twenty-one shillings; a sovereign, worth twenty shillings; and a half-sovereign, worth ten shillings.

Q. What are bank notes?

A. Bank notes are representations of money given by the bank, or promises for money placed there, which are payable on presenting them; and for which any article can be bought as well as for gold or silver.

Q. What is the value of a bank note?

A. The value of a bank note is various, according to the sum written upon it; some bank notes are for one pound, value twenty shillings; some for two pounds, some for five, ten, fifty, or a hundred, and some as high as a thousand pounds.



## CHAPTER XIV.

### *Pence Table.*

Q. WHAT do the following characters denote: £. s., d. ?

A. £. denotes pounds; s. shillings; and *d.* pence.

Q. What do the following fractions,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , denote when they are annexed to pence?

A.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , or one quarter, denotes one farthing;  $\frac{1}{2}$ , or two quarters, denote two farthings, or a halfpenny;  $\frac{3}{4}$ , or three quarters, denote three farthings.

Q. Which are the principal tables relating to the art of figures?

A. The pence and shilling tables.

Q. What is the pence table?

	<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
A.	20	are	1	8	80	are	6	8	
	30	are	2	6	90	are	7	6	
	40	are	3	4	100	are	8	4	
	50	are	4	2	110	are	9	2	
	60	are	5	0	120	are	10	0.	
	70	are	5	10					

Q. What is the shillings' table?

	<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>		<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>
A.	24	are	2		60	are	5
	36	are	3		72	are	6
	48	are	4		84	are	7

<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>		<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>
96	are	8		132	are	11
108	are	9		144	are	12.
120	are	10				

## CHAPTER XV.

### *The Earth.*

Q. WHAT is the earth?

A. The world on which we live.

Q. Of what shape is the earth?

A. It is nearly round, resembling an orange in shape.

Q. Upon what does the earth rest?

A. Upon nothing; but appears equally surrounded by the heavens on every side, hanging, as it were, in the open air.

Q. But some power supports it surely?

A. Yes; the power of gravity.

Q. What is gravity?

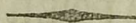
A. The power by which bodies naturally tend towards the centre.

Q. How large is the earth?

A. It is more than twenty-four thousand miles round; and its thickness is about eight thousand.

Q. How far is it from the sun?

A. Ninety-five millions of miles.



## CHAPTER XVI.

### *Of the Surface of the Earth.*

Q. WHAT is the earth composed of?

A. Dry land and water.

Q. What names are usually given to the water?

A. Ponds, lakes, brooks, rivers, seas, and oceans.

Q. What is a pond?

A. A small bed of water in the midst of dry land.

Q. What is a lake?

A. A very large pond: some lakes are many miles round.

Q. What is a brook?

A. A narrow stream of water.

Q. What is a river ?


A. A larger body of water, rising in the land, and afterwards running into the sea, as the Thames.

Q. What is a sea ?

A. A very large body of salt water, separating many countries and kingdoms.

Q. What is an ocean ?

A. A larger collection than the sea, which ships are many weeks crossing over.



## CHAPTER XVII.

### *Of the Division of Dry Land.*

Q. WHAT is the principal division of the Earth ?

A. The Earth is divided into four portions, sometimes called quarters; namely, Europe, Asia, Africa, and America\*.

Q. What is a continent ?

---

\* Modern geographers have added a fifth portion, including the islands in the South Sea, which is called Australasia.

A. A very large tract of land, containing many nations, as Europe.

Q. What is an island?

A. A smaller piece of land, which is entirely surrounded with water, as Great Britain.

Q. Which are the chief nations belonging to Europe.

A. Sweden, Russia, Denmark, Prussia, Holland, the German States, Austria, Turkey, France, Switzerland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

Q. What are the principal nations of Asia?

A. Russia, Turkey, China, Japan, Birman Empire, Siam, Hindostan, Persia, Tartary, and Arabia.

Q. What are the principal nations of North and South America?

A. The United States, the British Possessions, the Spanish Dominions, and the Portuguese Dominions.

Q. What are the principal nations of Africa?

A. Egypt, Abyssinia, Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### *Of the Four Cardinal Points.*

Q. WHAT are the four Cardinal Points?

A. North, East, West, and South.

Q. Why are these points called cardinal?

A. Because they are considered as chief or principal.

Q. Which is the North?

A. That part of the heavens which is opposite the sun, seen at twelve o'clock.

Q. Which is the East?

A. The East is that part in which the sun rises.

Q. Which is the West?

A. That part of the heavens where the sun sets.

Q. Which is the South?

A. The South is that part of the heavens in which the sun is seen at twelve o'clock.

## CHAPTER XIX.

*Of the Four Elements.*

Q. WHAT are the four Elements?

A. Earth, air, fire, and water.

Q. How are the productions of the earth distinguished?

A. They are divided into three classes, namely, the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms.

Q. What constitutes the first class?

A. The animal kingdom comprises every creature that has life and feeling: viz. man, beasts, birds, fishes, and insects.

Q. What is the vegetable kingdom?

A. It comprehends such things as have life, without feeling; as trees, shrubs, flowers, herbs, grass, &c.

Q. What does the mineral kingdom consist of?

A. Such things as have neither feeling nor life, as stones and metals.



## CHAPTER XX.

### *Of Metals.*

Q. How many sorts of metals are there ?

A. Six ; gold, silver, copper, tin, lead, and iron.

Q. Which is the heaviest of these metals ?

A. Gold.

Q. Which is the lightest ?

A. Tin.

Q. Whence have we gold ?

A. From New Mexico, in North America ; from some parts of South America ; and from several places in the East Indies.

Q. Where is silver found ?

A. Chiefly in the mines of Potosi, in South America : but there are several good mines in Norway and Sweden.

Q. Where is copper found ?

A. The best and purest is found in the Swedish mines ; but the largest mine is that upon Paris Mountain in the Isle of Anglesea.

Q. How many kinds of copper are there?

A. Three; the common, the rose copper, and the virgin copper.

Q. What is bell-metal?

A. Copper mixed with a large quantity of tin.

Q. Whence have we iron?

A. Iron is found in most European countries; the best iron mines in England are those of Colebrook-Dale, in Shropshire, and those in the Forest of Dean, in Gloucestershire.

Q. Whence have we lead?

A. Lead abounds most in England; the best mines are in Cornwall, Devonshire, Derbyshire, Northumberland, and Durham.

Q. Whence is found black lead for pencils?

A. The best mine for black lead is in Cumberland.

---

## CHAPTER XXI.

### *Of Metals (continued).*

Q. WHAT is pewter?

A. A composition made of brass, lead, and tin.

Q. What is brass ?

A. A compound metal, made of copper, and the calamine stone ; which renders it yellow and hard.

Q. What kind of substance is calamine ?

A. A kind of stone moderately hard, sometimes of a grey, brown, yellow, or pale red colour ; it is sometimes variously mixed with all these.

Q. Where is it found ?

A. It is found plentifully in England, Germany, and in several other countries, either in distinct mines, or intermixed with other metals.

Q. What are the perfect metals ?

A. Gold and silver.

Q. Why are these called perfect ?

A. Because they lose nothing by the heat of the fire.

Q. What is an imperfect metal ?

A. One that decreases by the heat of the fire, and can easily be dissolved or corroded by acid.

Q. What does the word corrode signify ?

A. To eat away by degrees.

Q. What is an acid?

A. Any thing sour or sharp.



## CHAPTER XXII.

### *Of Metals (continued).*

Q. How many sorts of iron are there?

A. Three; forged iron, cast iron, and steel.

Q. What is forged iron?

A. Iron beaten out with large hammers, when red hot, till it becomes softer and more flexible, or more easily bent.

Q. What is cast iron?

A. Iron cast into bars without being forged.

Q. How is steel made?

A. By heating bars of iron with charcoal ashes, and bone shavings.

Q. For what purpose is this done?

A. To render it whiter, and of a much finer

and closer grain, after which it will bear a high polish.

Q. What is white lead?

A. Common lead, corroded by the steam of vinegar.

Q. By whom is this lead used?

A. By house-painters, to thicken and dry their paints.

Q. Is not the smell of common lead very prejudicial?

A. Yes; being a slow poison.

Q. What is loadstone?

A. A peculiar rich iron ore, found in the iron mines of England, Germany, Arabia, and Bengal.

Q. What are its properties?

A. It is very remarkable for attracting iron, and giving it an inclination towards the north.

Q. What other property has the loadstone, or magnet?

A. The magnet has two poles, one always pointing north, and the other south; hence it is of such great use in navigation.

## *First Catechism*

Q. What is navigation?

A. The art of conducting or directing any vessel by water from one place to another.



## CHAPTER XXIII.

### *Of Tea, Coffee, Chocolate, and the Cocoa Nut.*

Q. WHAT is tea?

A. The dried leaves of a shrub growing in China.

Q. When was tea first introduced into England?

A. In the reign of Charles the Second.

Q. How many kinds of tea are there?

A. There are a great number; the principal are, the green, the imperial, and the bohea.

Q. What is green?

A. Green tea is of several sorts, and of various degrees of goodness, from the common coarse green to the hyson, which is the dearest, and accounted the best of all.

Q. What is the imperial tea, and why so called?

A. The leaves of the imperial tea are larger, of a more pleasant smell and agreeable taste, and is so called because it is chiefly used by the emperor, and other great men, of China.

Q. What is the bohea?

A. The same kind as the green, being the leaves of the same tree; the only difference is, its being higher dried, which gives it a different taste and colour.

Q. What is coffee?

A. The berry of a shrub growing in Arabia and the West Indies, the leaves of which resemble the laurel.

Q. What is chocolate?

A. A composition made from the cocoa-nut.

Q. Whence are cocoa-nuts procured?

A. From the East Indies.

Q. What are the different qualities of the cocoa-nut?

A. It affords oil, a kind of milk, and a delicious fruit; and from the shell are made spoons, cups, and bowls.

—

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### *Of Wine, Ale, &c.*

Q. WHAT is Wine?

A. The fermented juice of grapes.

Q. Whence comes Madeira wine?

A. From the island of Madeira, one of the Canary islands belonging to the Portuguese.

Q. What is Sherry?

A. The same kind of wine as the last-mentioned, but made in and about Xeres\*, in Spain.

Q. Whence comes the Red Port, or Port wine?

A. From Portugal; it is much drank and esteemed in England.

Q. Whence comes Champagne †?

---

\* Xeres, pronounced Zeres.

† Champagne, pronounced th<sup>h</sup> champagne.



A. From France.

Q. Whence do we get the Rhenish wine?

A. From Germany.

Q. What is ale or beer?

A. The fermented extract of barley.

Q. What is cyder?

A. A liquor prepared from apples.

Q. What is perry?

A. A liquor prepared from pears, in the same manner as cyder from apples.

Q. What is vinegar?

A. An agreeable acid made from wine, cyder, or beer.

Q. What is rum?

A. The spirit drawn by distillation from sugar?

Q. What is brandy?

A. A distillation from real wines.

Q. What is gin?

A. A compound liquor drawn from juniper berries, distilled with brandy or malt spirits.

Q. What is the meaning of the word distillation?

A. Distillation is the act of separating or extracting the virtues of any thing by means of a still.

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## CHAPTER XXV.

### *Of Fruits.*

Q. WHAT is the orange?

A. The fruit of the orange tree, growing mostly in Spain and Portugal.

Q. Whence come the China oranges?

A. They originally came from China, but are now produced in Spain, Portugal, the West Indies, and several other countries.

Q. What is meant by the Seville orange?

A. That it is an orange growing in and about the city of Seville, in Spain.

Q. What is the citron?

A. The fruit of the citron is seldom made use of by us; they are of the same quality with lemons; except that their juice is less acid.

Q. What kind of tree is the citron?

A. The citron is an evergreen tree, of the

same kind as the orange and lemon; it was first brought from Assyria into Greece, and thence into the southern parts of Europe, where it is now cultivated.

Q. What is the lemon?

A. A well-known fruit growing in Spain, Portugal, and Italy, in great abundance.

Q. For what are the citron, lemon, and orange, particularly valuable?

A. For their very agreeable acid juices.

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## CHAPTER XXVI.

### *Of Aromatic Spices, &c.*

Q. WHAT is the meaning of the word aromatic?

A. Any thing that is fragrant or sweet to the smell, and pungent or hot to the taste.

Q. What is the meaning of the word spice?

A. This name includes every kind of fruit that has fragrant and pungent qualities, such as pepper, nutmeg, ginger, cinnamon and cloves.

Q. What is pepper?

A. Pepper is the fruit of a shrub growing in several parts of the East Indies, chiefly Java, Sumatra, Malacca\*, and the coast of Malabar.

Q. What is nutmeg?

A. The kernel of a large fruit like a peach, separated from the mace which surrounds it, growing in the East Indies.

Q. What are cloves?

A. Aromatic fruit, brought from the East Indies, growing on a tree twenty feet high, whose leaves resemble those of the bay tree.

Q. What is ginger?

A. Ginger is an aromatic, of a yellow colour, of a very hot and pungent taste, used in cookery as a spice, and by apothecaries as a medicine.

Q. What is cinnamon?

A. The bark of an aromatic tree, growing in Ceylon.

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\* This country is sometimes called *Malaya*; and the inhabitants are called *Malays*.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### *Of Gems and Precious Stones.*

Q. WHAT is the meaning of the word gem?

A. A common name for all precious stones or jewels.

Q. What is the diamond?

A. A precious stone, being the most valuable and the hardest of all gems.

Q. Where are diamonds found?

A. Diamonds are found only in the East Indies and Brazils.

Q. What is crystal?

A. A transparent stone, white like the diamond, but much inferior in lustre and hardness, principally found in the island of Madagascar?

Q. What is a ruby?

A. A red sparkling gem, of the first rate among precious stones. These stones are found in the East Indies, and in Hungary.

Q. What is an emerald ?

A. A very bright and polished stone, always of a beautiful green, mostly found in the East Indies.

Q. What is a topaz ?

A. The third order of the gems after the diamond, very transparent, and of a beautiful yellow. It is to be found in the Indies, Arabia, and Peru.

Q. What is a crysalite ?

A. A precious stone, of a dusky green colour, with a cast of yellow.

Q. What is the sapphire ?

A. A precious stone of a beautiful sky colour, transparent, and very hard ; those of Peru are the most esteemed.

Q. What is the garnet ?

A. A precious stone of a high red colour, found in the East Indies.

Q. What is the amethyst ?

A. A precious stone of a violet colour, bordering on the purple.

Q. What is the beryl ?

A. A transparent stone, brought from India, of a light green colour.

Q. What is a cornelian ?

A. A precious stone, of which there are three sorts ; namely, red, yellow, and white ; the finest cornelians are those brought from near Babylon.



## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### *Of Hops and Barley.*

Q. WHAT are hops ?

A. The flower of a curious plant which grows to a great height, twining round long poles.

Q. Where are hops chiefly cultivated ?

A. In Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and Hampshire, flourishing mostly in a rich soil.

Q. Of what use are hops ?

A. Hops are chiefly used as a bitter in brewing, to keep beer from turning sour.

Q. What is malt?

A. Malt is made of barley, steeped in water, and fermented, and afterwards dried in a kiln.

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## CHAPTER XXIX.

### *Of Flax and Hemp.*

Q. WHAT is flax?

A. A beautiful plant, cultivated only in rich ground, with slender stalks, small leaves, and blue blossoms.

Q. In what manner is it cultivated?

A. It is sown the same as other seeds, generally in April, but one sowing will produce two or three crops before it needs to be renewed.

Q. Has the seed of flax any peculiar property?

A. Yes, it has several considerable properties; it is used in divers medicines, yields



an excellent oil, called linseed oil, and the fibres of its stalks are manufactured into linen.

Q. Why is the seed of flax called linseed?

A. The Latin of flax is *Linum*, hence we have the name of lin, which joined to seed, make linseed.

Q. What is hemp?

A. A very useful plant, resembling the common nettle, being much like flax, both in respect of form, culture, and use.

Q. What is tow?

A. The refuse of hemp after it has been dressed.

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## CHAPTER XXX.

### *Of Ivory.*

Q. WHAT is ivory?

A. The teeth of elephants.

Q. Whence have we the best?

A. From Ceylon.

Q. Where is Ceylon?

A. In the East Indies.

Q. Why is this the best?

A. Because it never turns yellow.

Q. Have the shavings of ivory any peculiar property?

A. Yes; the shavings of ivory boiled to a jelly, will have the same restorative effect as those of hartshorn.



## CHAPTER XXXI.

### *Of Paper.*

Q. WHAT is paper?

A. A substance made from linen rags.

Q. How is paper made?

A. The rags are first taken to the mill, then sorted, and put into an engine placed in a large trough filled with water.

Q. What is the next process?

A. This engine has long spikes of iron fixed in it, and, by moving round with great swiftness, it soon tears the rags every way, and reduces them to a pulp.

Q. What is done then?

A. Moulds are then used, the size of a sheet of paper, which are dipped into this pulp, and shaken about till it becomes the substance the makers wish it to be, then it is turned out, one upon another, with a piece of felt between each.

Q. What is the next process?

A. After a considerable quantity is taken out of the trough, and placed one sheet upon another, &c. it is put into a press, and after it is well pressed, it is hung up to dry.

Q. What follows?

A. As soon as it is dry, it is taken from the lines, rubbed smooth, and then sized.

Q. What is size?

A. Size is made of parchment and vellum shavings.

Q. Are there not several kinds of paper?

A. Yes; the kind just described; the Egyptian paper, made of the rush, papyrus; bark paper, made of the inner rind of several trees; cotton paper; coarse brown paper, manufactured from old ropes, &c. &c.



## CHAPTER XXXII.

### *Of Titles and Distinctions.*

Q. WHAT is a title?

A. An appellation of honour.

Q. What is an emperor?

A. A title given to the supreme ruler of a large extent of country, standing in pre-eminence above kings.

Q. What is a sultan?

A. A title given to the emperor of the Turks.

Q. What is a czar?

A. A title assumed by the emperor of Rus-

sia, pronounced by them zar ; being a corruption of Cæsar, on account of some fancied relation to the Roman emperors.

Q. What is a dey ?

A. The title of the sovereign of Algiers.

Q. What is a bey ?

A. The governor of a country, or town, in the Turkish empire.



## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### *Of the Nobility of England.*

Q. WHAT is the nobility of England called?

A. The peerage of England.

Q. How many degrees of nobility are there?

A. Five? namely, a duke, marquis, earl, viscount, and baron.

Q. What is a duke ?

A. The title of honour next below a prince.

Q. What is a marquis ?

A. The title of honour next below a duke.

Q. What degree of honour is an earl?

A. That degree next below a marquis, and above a viscount.

Q. What degree is a viscount?

A. The next below an earl, and above a baron.

Q. What is a baron?

A. A degree of nobility next below that of viscount, and above that of knight, or baronet.

Q. What is a lord?

A. A title of honour given to all the sons of a duke or marquis, and to the eldest son of an earl, &c.

Q. What is a knight?

A. A title given to a person by the king, for some eminent act, being a degree above that of a gentleman.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### *Of Accent and Emphasis.*

Q. WHAT is meant by accent?

A. By accent is meant the giving every word its proper sound, by laying a greater stress on one syllable than on another; as in the word al'phabet, where the accent is on the first syllable *al*; but if I remove it, it will be alpha'bet, or alphabe't, giving quite another pronunciation; by which means I shall not be understood.

Q. What is meant by the double accent?

A. The double accent is made use of, to shew that the consonant which is joined to the second or third syllable, &c. is to be pronounced also with the one preceding; thus, a''-cid is pronounced as-sid.

Q. What is meant by emphasis?

A. As the accent belongs to every word, so does the emphasis to every sentence; and is the laying a greater stress on one word

than on another, to make the sense of the expression better understood.

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## CHAPTER XXXV.

*Of the Points and Stops which are made use of in Reading.*

Q. How many points and stops are there ?

A. The principal are six, viz.

A comma marked .....thus ,

A semicolon .....thus ;

A colon .....thus :

A period, or full stop ....thus .

A note of interrogation ..thus ?

A note of admiration ....thus !

Q. What time must you stop at each of these points ?

A. At a comma, while I can count one ;

At the semicolon, while two ;

At the colon, while three ;

At the period, while four ;

At the note of interrogation, while four ;

At the note of admiration, while four.



**Q.** What other points or marks are made use of in writing?

**A.** A parenthesis is marked ..thus ( )

An apostrophe .....thus ’

A caret .....thus ^

An hyphen .....thus -

A paragraph .....thus ¶

A quotation .....thus “ ”

An index, or hand .....thus ☞

A section .....thus §

An asterisk, or star.....thus \*

An obelisk, or dagger.....thus †

Parallels .....thus ∥.

**Q.** Of what use are these several points?

**A.** The period, marks a whole or complete sentence.

\* The colon, is the chief member of a complete sentence.

‡ The semicolon, is a half member.

The comma, is a subdivided half member.

The note of interrogation, is the sign of a question

The note of admiration shews a sudden emotion of the mind.

Q. Of what use are the other points or marks?

A. The parenthesis is used to inclose words of little import.

The apostrophe is used to abbreviate a word.

The caret is used where a word is left out in writing.

The hyphen is used to join words together.

The paragraph is placed at the beginning of a new discourse.

The quotation is used to signify that the words so marked are borrowed from other writings.

The index shews something very remarkable.

The section is to divide a discourse into less parts or portions.

The asterisk, the obelisk, and parallels, refer to something in the margin.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

*Miscellanies.*

Q. WHAT is Rhubarb ?

A. The root of a tree growing in Turkey ; it is found of great service in medical purposes.

Q. What is Peruvian bark ?

A. The bark of the quinquina tree, growing in and about Peru, in South America ; it was first discovered by the Jesuits, a religious society of Spain, whence it is frequently called the Jesuit's bark.

Q. What is gum Arabic ?

A. A kind of white gum brought from Turkey and Arabia.

Q. What is castor oil ?

A. Castor oil is extracted from a tree, called by the Americans palma-christi, growing in the West Indies.

Q. What is fuller's earth ?

A. A kind of marl, of great use in cleansing

and preparing wool; it abounds chiefly in Bedfordshire, Worcestershire, and Shropshire.

Q. What is sponge?

A. A kind of soft porous substance, found sticking to rocks and shells, remarkable for sucking up water.

Q. What is parchment?

A. The skins of sheep and goats, prepared in a peculiar manner.



## CHAPTER XXXVII.

### *Miscellanies (continued.)*

Q. WHAT is cork?

A. The bark of the cork tree; a kind of oak growing in Italy, Spain, and France?

Q. How is sugar produced?

A. From the sugar-cane, which is a beautiful plant, cultivated chiefly in the West Indies.

Q. What is common salt?

A. Sea-water dried.

Q. What is common glue?

A. The sinews and feet of animals boiled  
own to a strong jelly.

Q. How long is it since the earth was  
created?

A. Nearly six thousand years.

Q. How long was it from the creation of  
the world to the Deluge, when all people  
were drowned except Noah and his family.

A. One thousand six hundred and fifty-  
six years.

Q. When and where was our Saviour born?

A. Our Saviour was born on the 25th of  
December, at Bethlehem, in Judea.

Q. How long is it since the birth of our  
Saviour to the present time?

A. We date our years from his birth; and  
therefore whatever date it may be when this  
question is asked, so many years it is since,  
now 1824.

## CHAPTER XXXVIII.

*Bread.*

Q. WHAT is bread?

A. Bread, the chief support of man, is a baked mass of dough, formed from the flour of some grain, such as wheat, rye, and barley, or a mixture of these; but bread in general, and which is the most wholesome, is made of the best wheaten flour, salt, yeast, and water, which is called the common white, or family bread.

Q. How is the common white or family bread made?

A. To half a bushel of wheaten flour are added six or eight ounces of salt, a pint of yeast, and six quarts of water. When mixed together, it is covered up with a blanket, and this operation is technically called *setting the sponge*; flour is then added, and the mass is kneaded till it attains a proper consistency.

Q. What is then done?

A. It must then stand for four or five hours, till properly risen, then made into loaves, and afterwards baked in the oven which has been prepared for that purpose.

Q. How many pounds does a sack of flour contain?

A. About 280 pounds; and will make 80 quartern loaves, allowing three and a half pounds of flour for each.

Q. What does a quartern loaf weigh?

A. Before the quartern loaf goes into the oven, it weighs four pounds fifteen ounces, but loses nine or ten ounces in baking.

Q. What other kinds of bread are there besides the white or family bread?

A. The principal are the *wheaten* and the *household bread*.

Q. How are each of these made?

A. The *wheaten bread* is made of flour with a mixture of the fine bran: and the *household*, with the whole substance of the grain, without either taking out the coarse bran or fine flour.

Q. What is *French bread*?

A. To a half bushel of fine flour are added ten eggs, and a pound and a half of fresh butter, and as much yeast. The whole mass is tempered with new milk, pretty hot; it then lies half an hour to rise, which done, is made into loaves or rolls, and washed over with an egg beaten with milk: but the oven must be of a gentle heat. This is called *French bread*. This and the different breads above-mentioned, are what is called leavened bread.

Q. What is *unleavened bread*?

A. Unleavened bread is made of flour mixed with water. The sea and other biscuits, the Jews' passover cake, the oaten and barley bread of Scotland, a sort of clayey substance made of oatmeal-flour, or pease and oatmeal, are of this nature.



## CHAPTER XXXIX.

### *Butter.*

Q. WHAT is butter?

A. A fat and unctuous or oily substance, made from cream by churning, which separating the thin or watery part from the unctuous particles, and by the frequent and continual motion of the churn, leaves a soft consistent mass, called butter.

Q. How much butter is said to be consumed in London annually?

A. Fifty thousand tons: of which the counties of Suffolk and Cambridge are said to furnish 50,000 firkins, each containing 56lbs.; but the best butter is produced in Essex, known by the name of the *Epping butter*, but not in such great quantities as in the former counties.

## CHAPTER XL.

## Cheese.

Q. FROM what is cheese made?

A. Cheese is made from milk, being the remains after the cream is taken off (for the butter;) which are curdled by means of rennet\*, squeezed dry in a press, and hardened by time.

Q. Which are those that are most esteemed?

A. The cheeses most esteemed are the *Stilton*, *double Gloucester*, and *Cheshire cheese*; but the most celebrated is called the *Stilton*.

Q. Whence does the *Stilton* cheese receive its name?

A. From the small town of *Stilton* in *Huntingdonshire*, which has long been celebrated for its cheese; but the principal part that goes under this name is made at *Melton Mowbray*, in *Leicestershire*; and much is

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\* Rennet is a mixture of aromatics and acids.

made all throughout the counties of Huntingdon, Rutland, and Northamptonshire.

Q. Is that high colour which we see in cheese its natural one, or is it not?

A. No: its natural colour is white: but the high colour which we generally see, is made by putting a little *annatto* with the milk before it is turned. No cheese will look yellow without it, and it is perfectly innocent, but does not add to the goodness of the cheese in the least.



## CHAPTER XLI.

### *Glass.*

Q. WHAT is glass? and how is it produced?

A. Glass is a solid, transparent, brittle substance produced by melting together sand, flint, and alkaline salt\*.

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\* This salt is procured from potash brought from the Levant, and is so called from the Arabian word *kali*, *glasswort*, which having been burnt to ashes, they boil in water, and after evaporation, call the white salt remaining *sal kali* or *alkali*.

Q. How many kinds of glass are there?

A. Five; namely, *crown-glass*, *Newcastle-glass*, the *bottle or green-glass*, the *flint-glass*, and the *plate-glass*.

Q. Which of these is the most valuable?

A. The most valuable of these is the *plate-glass*, and is so called from its being cut in plates or large sheets; and is almost exclusively employed for mirrors or looking-glasses, and for the windows of carriages.

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