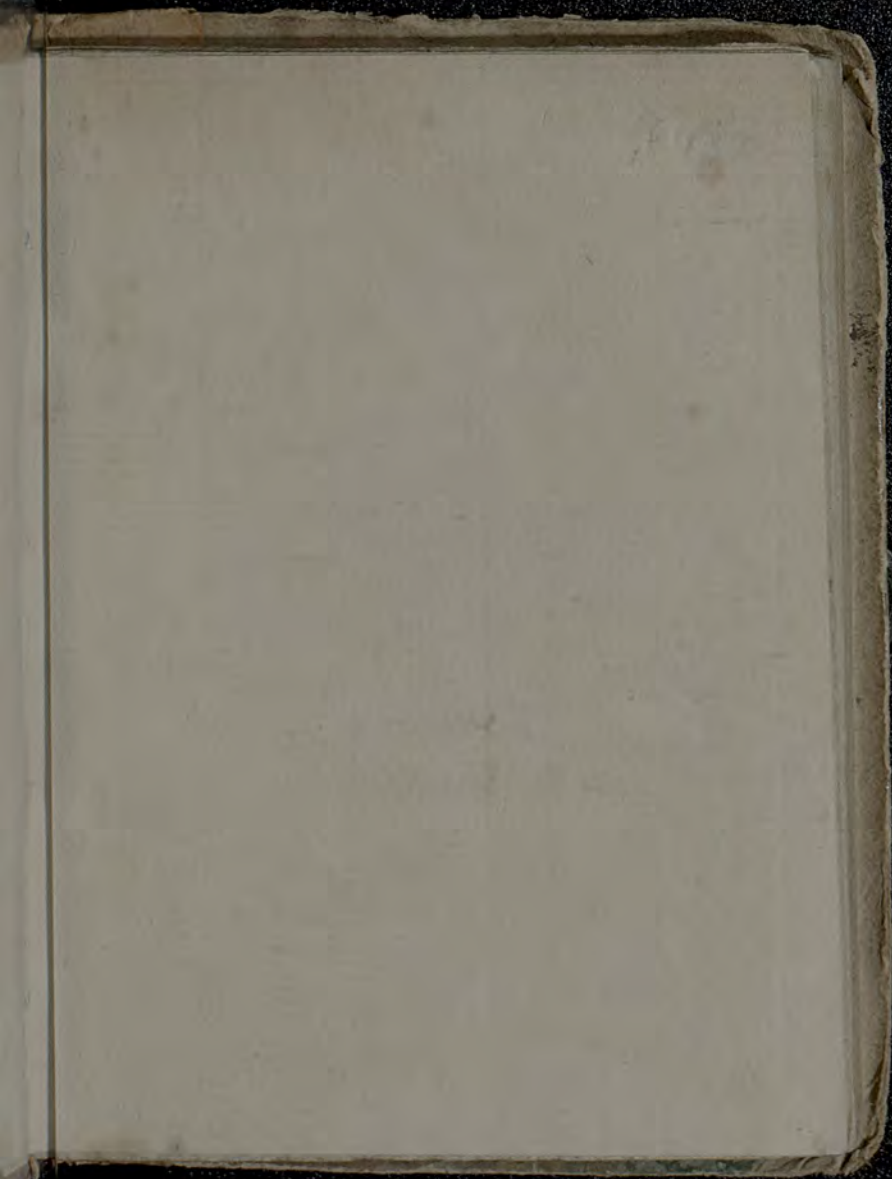




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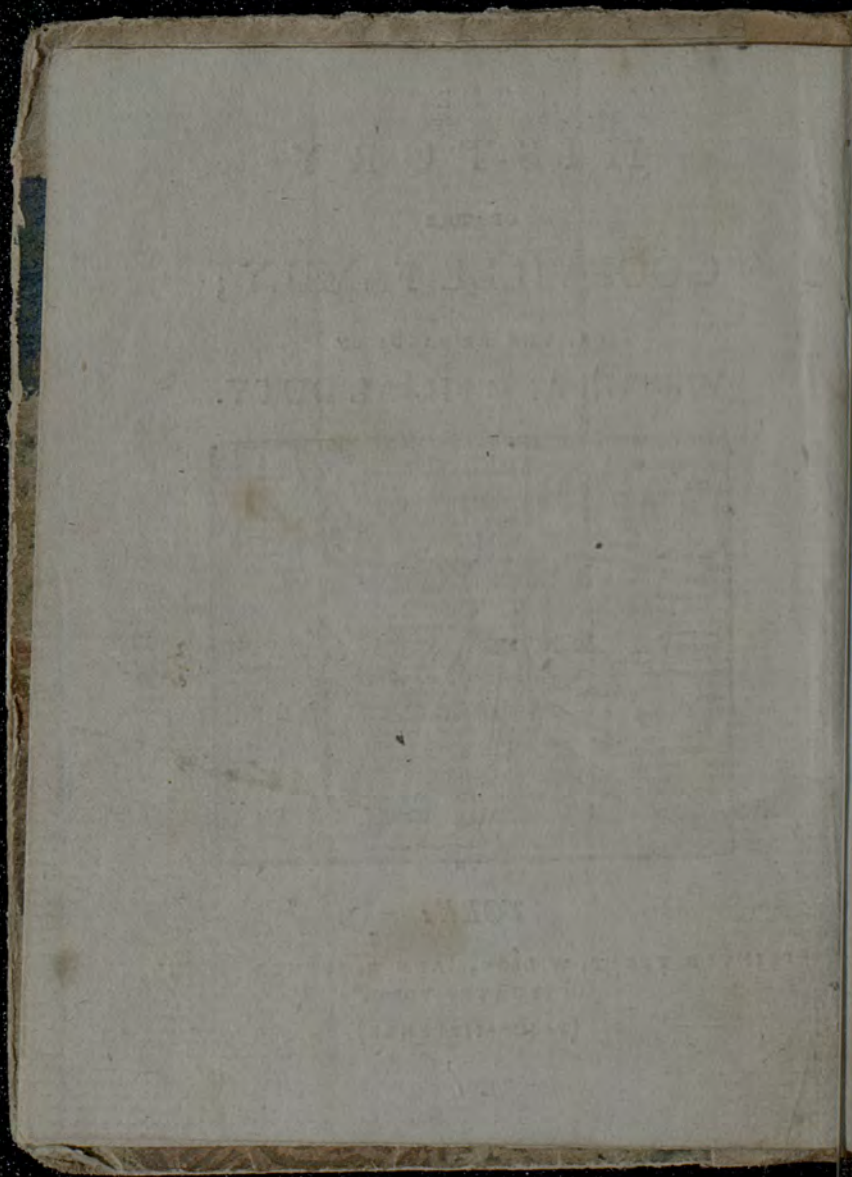
THE
HISTORY
OF THE
GOODVILLE FAMILY;
OR, THE REWARDS OF
VIRTUE AND FILIAL DUTY.



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THE
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GOODVILLE FAMILY.

CHAP. I.

MR. GOODVILLE was a gentleman of handsome fortune, and resided upon his own estate in the country. The education he had received was polite and virtuous, and therefore he resolved that his children should receive the same token of his parental affections: to accomplish this desirable resolution, he relinquished the superfluous gaiety of the world, and contented himself with a domestic life. Mrs. Goodville was an amiable woman, omitted no opportunities which might tend to the advantage and improve-

ment of their offspring, and was well qualified to discharge the duties of a mother.

They lived together in the enjoyment of every blessing that conjugal felicity could afford, and had five children, three boys and two girls. Charles was ten years of age, Edward was seven, and little Frederick was only three: Harriot was nine, and Lucy six. These children were, in general, very good, for they were brought up under the immediate tutorage of their parents.

A description of their persons will be needless, because it is of no signification whether children are little or tall, fair or brown, provided they adorn their features with good nature, for that will always render them agreeable; and as for the disposition of Mr. Goodville's family, the history of their behaviour will best describe that particular.

The greatest pleasure and satisfaction which Mr. and Mrs. Goodville enjoyed was that of being with their children; so that, when the weather permitted, they usually accompanied them in an evening walk, nor was little Frederick left behind. He was a sweet entertaining child, and, when he was

tired, the maid took him in her arms, and carried him. The favourite little dog Juba was also of the party, whose frisking gambols afforded great diversion to his young friends.

One evening, after having diverted himself for some time, and consulted his brothers and sisters, I wish, papa, said Charles, you would give us leave to take a walk to-morrow morning before breakfast? That I will most readily, answered Mr. Goodville, but then it must not interfere with the regularity that I choose to have observed. All the children promised that it should not. Will you get up, Harriot? said Edward. Certainly brother; do you doubt it? Her mamma smiled. Do not promise too much, my dear; fondness for bed is the greatest fault you have, and a very great one it is; for it stupifies your senses, weakens your body, and consequently prevents your learning with cheerfulness. It was not good-natured of my brother, however, I think, mamma, said Harriot, to mention any thing that would make you angry with me. I am sorry, sister, said Edward, you should think me capable

of ill-nature. I am sure, whenever papa and mamma are angry with my brothers and sisters, I do nothing but cry, and beg for them till it is made up. So you do, Edward, answered his father, and whatever faults you have, ill-nature is not among them. Let me have no disputes; resume your smiles, Harriot, and kiss your brother. But it is now time to return, for the evening comes on apace, and the dew may perhaps prove prejudicial.



The young family, on their arrival, were much astonished to see preparations made

for supper, and more so when they perceived a nice pie upon the table, and their knives and forks laid in ample order. A smile of delight brightened each countenance. What does this mean? said Mr. Goodville, I did not know we were to have company to-night. Yes, you are, said Lucy, for I am sure we are to sup with you; and that is what mamma was whispering to Fanny about in the forenoon. Well, my dear, we must wait for your mamma, who is gone to see your little brother put to bed; she must explain this preparation. In came the virtuous mother, enjoying the pleasure she was giving her offspring. Will you, my dear Mr. Goodville, receive the guests I have invited? Our children have been extremely good today. You need not doubt my pleasure on this occasion, replied Mr. Goodville; come, let us sit down. Little Frederick, I suppose is asleep. I hope that he is, said Mrs. Goodville, I have just seen him put to bed, and ordered his maid to accompany you in your walk to-morrow, my dears, and take him with you; I hope you will be kind to him, though he is but a baby. Certainly,

my dear mamma, they all replied. Mr. Goodville said grace, and then found sufficient employment in helping his young visitors. When supper was over, he played with them half an hour at puffs in a corner, as he thought the exercise necessary for them after eating a meal they were unaccustomed to. Juba went jumping about all suppertime, in hopes of partaking of the entertainment, as he had of the walk; but here were no bones for him, and besides, the children were not allowed to feed dogs in the parlour; but a servant was ordered to give him his supper in the yard. Mr. Goodville called his family to prayers, and then the young people, after paying their usual respects to their parents, (which they never failed to do each morning and evening) retired to rest.

CHAP. II.

CHARLES awoke the next morning about six o'clock, and perceiving that the sun shone with great brilliancy, he jumped up and dressed himself, at the same time calling his brother Edward. When they had finished dressing, they ran to the door of their sisters room, and soon put an end to Lucy's repose, who began to dress herself with great cheerfulness, and was delighted with the fineness of the weather; but no endeavours or persuasions could rouse Harriot. They tried half an hour in hopes of prevailing over her accustomed drowsiness. Sally having at length attired little Frederick, they left her with regret.

After walking a quarter of a mile, they came to a fine field full of daisies and butter-flowers. Here they begged to stay, to gather some to amuse their little brother Frederick, who enjoyed the excursion as much as any of them.

They ran about in this place till they began to be tired and hungry, and were just

wishing for breakfast, when a milkman, who was going to town with his pail, passed them. We should like some of your milk



master, said Edward. I have no objection, Sir, replied the man, if you can pay me for it. I have not any money in my pocket, said he. Nor I, said his brother. Nor I, said Lucy, with a sigh. The man passed on. Lucy found an unexpected halfpenny in her pocket. Master! master! pray return, I have found a halfpenny. He came back, measured the milk, and she was just

going to put it to her mouth, when hearing a plaintive voice, she turned round quickly, and at her elbow saw a poor beggar woman with one child at her back, and another by the side of her. The beggar's poor children at the sight of the milk began to cry bitterly. Ah! poor woman, said Charles, you and your little ones are hungry, I am afraid. I have no money to give you, I spent all I had yesterday, and so did my brother; but you shall have my share of the milk; and away he ran in an instant, not staying to receive her thanks. You shall have my share also, good woman, said Edward, and I am sorry I have no money for you; then away he scampered after his brother. Little Lucy, though she was very thirsty herself, instantly followed her brothers' example. Poor little children, said she, come and drink, and your mammy must have some too. You shall have it all amongst you, except a little drop which I must save for my brother Frederick. No Miss, said Fanny, Master Frederick is old enough to be taught that he is sometimes to give up what he wishes for; therefore do not deprive the poor creatures of any part of the milk, the whole is but a small quantity.

And you will really be so charitable, my good young lady, said the beggar woman, to give all to me? That I will, very cheerfully, answered Lucy, and I wish it was in my power to give you more. Then Miss, instead of the milk, I would rather have the halfpenny; for that would buy bread for my poor babies breakfast, and water will quench their thirst. Here is the halfpenny for you, poor woman; and if I had more, you should have that and the milk to.

The milkman now began to grumble sadly, because he had been detained, and got nothing by it. For shame, milkman! said Lucy, if you had any humanity you would give the poor creatures some of your milk, and not be so angry when you see how miserable they are. Fanny now interfered, as she saw the man was inclined to be insolent and rude. Come friend, said she, consider whose children are talking to you. You have lost a good customer, I assure you; for I have money enough in my pocket to purchase your whole milk pail; but I chose to be silent, and see how far the goodness of my young gentlemen and ladies would lead

them. Here is another milkman coming, he shall serve us; and I will pay you the halfpenny, as we have stopped you; but you do not deserve to sell any thing to my sweet children, whose behaviour in this instance is highly meritorious. The man, fearful that she would complain of him to her master, whose tenant he was, walked off. She then called the other milkman, collected the children together, and desired him to let the young ladies and gentlemen have some of his milk; but not one would touch any till the poor woman and her infants were first supplied, who went away with grateful hearts, blessing the goodness of their kind benefactors.

Fanny now reminded the young party that it was time to return home, which they did immediately, and found the family just assembling to prayers in their papa's study. After that duty was performed, Come, my dears, said Mrs. Goodville, breakfast is ready; during our repast, you must give us an account of your walk.

CHAP. III.

ONE of the children was conducted to the breakfast parlour by Mr. Goodville, another by mamma, and the rest followed.



Here they all sat down with happy countenances, except poor Harriot, who was just got up; she, conscious of having broke her promise, looked bashful and sorrowful.

Her parents took no notice of her, but directed all their attention to her sister and brothers; even little Frederick was in his high chair, and set at the table; for the joy

of these worthy people could only be complete when they had all their children round them. Harriot knew her papa and mamma were very angry with her indeed: for, being disregarded totally by them, was a certain mark of their anger. Early they taught their little ones to know that they had no pleasure equal to indulging them: but that the way to gain that indulgence, was by obedience to their orders, and attention to their wishes. Mrs. Goodville was not displeas'd with Harriot because she did not take a walk with the rest, but for lying in bed after having had the ill consequences of this idle habit so frequently pointed out to her, and especially after what had been said to her the day before. Charles, Edward, and Lucy chattered as fast as their tongues could run; for they had a great deal to relate. Their behaviour to the poor woman and her children had been told by Fanny, for which they were highly applauded by their parents. You already experience, my dear children, said Mr. Goodville, what pleasure there is in doing good! had you, to gratify your appe-

tites, refused that halfpenny to the beggar, you must have repented it the whole day. Indeed, papa, said Charles, I do not think we could have acted otherwise; for I am sure we learnt to behave so of my mamma and you. I never heard you speak unkindly to poor persons, or refuse to assist them; and it would be very wrong in us to act differently from you.

Mrs. Goodville's eyes glistened at this remark, and turning to her husband, Who, said she, can call it a sacrifice to give up the gaities of life for such pleasures as these?

The sorrowful Harriot could now no longer contain her griefs. The opportunity her brothers and sisters had of showing the goodness of their disposition, and which she had lost through laziness, the indifference her papa and mamma treated her with (for they had not mentioned her fault to her) affected her extremely. She had a heart as tender and charitable as the others; but she had not given a proof of it. Her papa's remark, that doing wrong embitters the succeeding hours, was verified in her. She could not speak for tears; nor had she

word to say that could justify her. Conscious of this, she retired from the parlour; but neither fullness nor envy possessed her young mind. She was ashamed of her conduct, and from that time resolved never to feel so much again, when it depended on herself alone to prevent it; and she determined to regain, as soon as possible, the good opinion of her dear parents, whose frowns she thought the greatest punishment she could know. After this she dried her tears, and knowing that her papa and mamma were solicitous that she should improve in music, as she had a fine finger and a pleasing voice, she sat down to her harpsichord, and continued at it for an hour.

She was a young practitioner, and this was the first time she had been taught; but she was showed what she was capable of, when pleasing her parents was in view. Her brothers and sisters were miserable to see her neglected by her father and mother. O my dear papa and mamma, do not look so at Harriot, said Charles, she will never lie too long in bed any more; and besides,

she is so tender and so sweet tempered, that your anger will make her sick. Comfort yourself, my dear, answered her mamma, our anger shall never make her, or any of you sick, unless it is your own fault. Harriot knows the means of regaining our favour, and I have no doubt but she will practice them.

Mrs. Goodville constantly assembled her young folk precisely at ten in the morning, for they were all, except Charles, under her tuition. Mr. Goodville instructed him in the rudiments of Latin; but notwithstanding this, he spent the greatest part of the morning with his mamma, as she taught him several things, and saw that he learnt the lessons which his papa set him. Mrs. Goodville kept them very strictly to their separate employments; nor till their tasks were learnt, would she admit of any conversation, for fear of their disturbing each other; but when their tasks were ended, she allowed them to talk.

Harriot's desire to atone for her fault could not pass unnoticed by her mamma; she was indeed so pleased with her behaviour,

(for it was expressive of shame and sorrow) that she called her in the kindest manner from her instrument, praised her attention, and said she set an example worthy of an elder sister, and she doubted not but Lucy would follow it upon every occasion. Lucy was at



this instant inattentive to her mamma's discourse, and continued to be so idle, that she carried her French lesson five times to her mamma without being able to repeat it. Mrs. Goodville thought this too much to

excuse, and wisely judged that it would be an injury to her child to suffer her to trifle thus with her learning. She therefore told her, that if she again attempted to repeat her lesson without being perfect in it, she would punish her as she deserved. Lucy once more brought it. Had you not better look it over a little longer, Lucy? said her mamma. I do not think you can know it already. I dread the idea of being obliged to punish you, yet I certainly shall do so, if you are still imperfect in it. Lucy persisted in desiring to repeat it immediately, and (as Mrs. Goodville feared she would) blundered quite thro' it. You now see the effect of being head strong, and fancying yourself wiser than me. Had you bestowed one quarter of an hour more on your lesson, you would have known it, pleased and obliged me, and saved yourself the shame of being in disgrace. After school-hours you must learn the same again, and as much more, and dine by yourself in this room. Lucy endeavoured to excuse herself, but her mamma silenced her. Say not a word, you deserve double punishment; for had you attended to my admoni-

tion, you would have avoided all blame; however, I hope this will cure you of being conceited again, and teach you that my opinion is superior to your's.

Though young people may sometimes entertain too favourable ideas of themselves, yet if they will only consider the hints which Mrs. Goodville gave to Lucy, they may soon be convinced (as you will see poor Lucy was) that parental advice is not to be slighted.

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CHAP. IV.

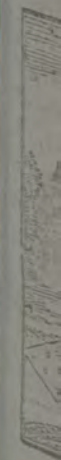
WHENEVER Mr. Goodville came to hear Charles repeat his Latin, he surveyed his children with an attentive eye, and always cast a glance of displeasure on an offending one; for he knew the tender disposition of their mamma, and that she would not be angry without cause. Poor Lucy was afraid to lift up her eyes; she sat deeply engaged at her work, conscious of her impropriety, dreading to have it known, and determining to avoid the like again. Indeed, these children were, in that respect, the best of any I ever knew; for they did not make their faults worse by arguing or obstinacy; but then they were obliged to their papa and mamma for curing them of those faults when they were young, whose steadiness in punishing them, when they deserved it, taught them to know the value of their indulgence; and they soon learnt, that the only way to obtain that was by implicit obedience. Charles and Edward were so good, that they got through their tasks half

an hour sooner than usual, and obtained leave to go to play with their bat and ball. Away they ran, happy and applauded, because they had been good.

Mrs. Goodville gave Harriot leave to go and take a walk, if she liked it; for this good parent studied their health as much as their improvement. But the tender heart of Harriot would not allow her to indulge herself in pleasure while her sister was in distress. Having a poem in her pocket, which she intended to learn by rote, she took this opportunity, and staid with poor Lucy. Mrs. Goodville now retired. As soon as she was gone, Lucy lamented her offence, rendered doubly flagrant by persisting in it against her mamma's better judgment. Do not make yourself so very unhappy, dear sister, said Harriot, you see I am kindly forgiven, and not even reproached for my fault; but I will never act so shamefully again, I am determined. Nor I, replied Lucy; I would rather do any thing whatever than offend dear papa and mamma, for they do look so unhappy when we are naughty, and so cheerful when we are good, that I cannot bear to disobey them; but I

have learnt my new task and my old one too. Do hear me, sister, that I may be quite certain I have it perfect. She said it without missing a word; and her mamma coming into the room soon after, she begged leave to repeat it then, which she did very perfectly. I am glad, my dear child, said Mrs. Goodville, to see you so sensible of your error; and I will not, since you behave with such proper submission, persist in the punishment I threatened. You are forgiven, and may pursue any amusement you like. Thank you, my dear mamma, I will never behave so again, believe me. May we not seek my brothers, mamma? Certainly: you are at liberty for half an hour, by which time you must return o dress for dinner.

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CHAP. V.

CHARLES and Edward were soon found, and they rejoiced at seeing Lucy. How good mamma was to forgive you, sister! you must not offend her any more. I hope I never shall, said she. What shall we play at now, Charles? Any thing my dear sisters



choose, said Edward. You are very polite, brother, said Harriot; let us have a game at nine holes, the exercise will do us good; and

I will be your partner, and Charles can be Lucy's, and then we shall be fairly matched. To this they all agreed, and amused themselves for half an hour, without one quarrel or dispute. At the appointed time they returned to the house to dress, and were ready when Fanny told them dinner was going in.

Pleased and delighted sat down these worthy parents and their good children at table. The latter observed a respectful silence, and waited till they were helped, without asking for any thing. Little Frederick had also learnt to behave as he ought to do, and was as quiet as any of them. After dinner, Mrs. Goodville made one of the young Ladies introduce the Royal Battledore for children, and by the help of that useful publication soon taught him to know the letters.

Pray tell me, Harriot, said Mrs. Goodville, how did you employ yourself while Lucy was learning her talk? I got by rote the pretty poem you gave me the other day, my dear mamma. Well, let me hear you repeat it then, said Mrs. Goodville; which she did as follows:

The NEW YEAR.

THE Lord of earth and sky,
The God of ages praise!
Who reigns enthron'd on high,
Ancient of endless days;
Who lengthens out our trial here,
And spares us yet another year.
Barren and wither'd trees,
We cumber'd long the ground;
No fruit of holiness
On our dead souls was found;
Yet doth he us in mercy spare,
Another, and another year.
When Justice bar'd the sword
To cut the fig-tree down,
The pity of our Lord
Cry'd, " Let it still alone;"
The Father mild inclines his ear,
And spares us yet another year.
Jesus, thy speaking blood
From God obtain'd the grace,
Who therefore hath bestow'd
On us a longer space:
Thou didst in our behalf appear,
And lo! we see another year!

Then dig about our root,
 Break up our fallow ground,
 And let our gracious fruit
 To thy great praise abound;
 O let us all thy praise declare
 And fruit unto perfection bear.

Prettily repeated indeed, said Mrs. Goodville, and I hope you will always remember the great and unspeakable favours of the Almighty with gratitude and veneration. We most assuredly shall, my dear, dear mamma, replied Harriot and Lucy. You are good children, said Mrs. Goodville, I will ever cherish you with my love, and nourish your tender minds with the best instruction in my power to give you.

Contemplate, my dear young readers, one instant on the happiness of this little family. You, no doubt, have frequently experienced the kind indulgence of your parents; but have you always deserved it as well? Is not this picture of obedience very amiable? Copy it, I beg of you, for such conduct will make you happy.

CHAP. VI.

THIS was the day the dancing-master attended; and he was at present the only master they had. The young people were always delighted when he came; so that they were the most tractable scholars he taught. They consequently made a rapid



improvement, having a very genteel carriage and address, and making a good figure at their master's ball. Master Charles and

Miss Harriot danced very gracefully together, although they had learnt only one year. Lucy and Edward began to move in their minuet steps out of hand, and danced cotillions extremely well.

Mr. Manly, the rector of the parish, was a most worthy clergyman. He had a son and daughter, whom he wished to be as much at Mr. Goodville's as was convenient, for he was certain the company of such good children as the Masters and Miss Goodvilles would be of great advantage to his own.— Master Manly was twelve years old, and his sister two years younger, so that they were excellent companions for each other. Master and Miss Manly were also very orderly, sensible, and well behaved, or Mr. and Mrs. Goodville would not have allowed them to be with their children, and learn to dance with them; for they never invited any young people who behaved ill.

After the dancing was finished, Charles and Harriot were generally allowed to invite their young friends to tea, and happy were they in staying. When they sat down to rest, they entertained each other with an ac-

count of their employments; and on this day Harriot played and sung the song she had been practising in the morning. Mrs. Goodville was highly delighted at this, praised her very kindly, and pronounced that she would, if she took equal pains in future, be a very good performer.

When the young people expected tea to be called for, they were surprised at being ordered to get their hats and cloaks. Come, said their mamma, I shall carry you to drink tea with your friend Nelly Truelove. This



was indeed a great happiness, as poor Nelly doated on them all. She was an old servant, and had nursed Mrs. Goodville when she was a little girl. To reward her fidelity, Mr. Goodville placed her in a small cottage, about a mile from his house; she had the charge of his dairy, and was still in many respects very useful to him. Here the young party were regaled with brown bread and butter, and cream in their tea. She had a little garden round her cottage, which was kept in order by Mr. Goodville's gardener, so that she had nice fruit to treat her little guests with.

After passing a happy hour or two, and stopping about the fields near Nelly's house, they returned home, and ran with delight into the parlour, where they beheld a sight that made their spirits forsake them, and brought tears into their eyes. It was a poor little canary bird, of which all the children (but particularly Harriot) were very fond, lying in his cage apparently dead. As soon as Harriot beheld it, she opened the cage and snatched it up. O! my poor dear Dicky, said she, who has been so cruel as to kill you? A general lamentation ensued; on

hearing which, Mrs. Goodville took the little creature from them, and having examined it, rejoiced their hearts by telling them it was not yet dead, and then gave it back to Harriot. It was my cat that did this barbarous deed, said Charles, and hastily catching up poor puss, was going to beat her severely. Stop, Charles, said his papa. never condemn any without being certain they deserve it. Puss is not guilty of what you now lay to her charge; she would certainly have killed him, had she struck her claws through the wires. Let us examine his apartment, and see whether he is well supplied with provisions. On doing so, Mr. Goodville discovered his meat was so low in his drawer that he could not reach it, his cage dirty, and his water very foul. Oh! said he, here are circumstances enough to account for Dicky's condition, without accusing puss. On this, Harriot burst into tears. O! my poor Dicky, cried she, why did I trust you to the care of Charles? His head was so full of his walk, that he forgot to clean and feed you as usual this morning. Fie upon you.

Charles how could you be so cruel? Indeed Harriot, answered Charles, it totally slipped out of my memory, and I am very sorry for the misfortune; but is nobody to blame but me? Yes, said Harriot, recollecting herself, I am to blame, I am to blame, Charles; it is my own Idleness that hinders my having time to look after Dicky myself; but I am determined to be an early riser too. An excellent resolution, said Mr. Goodville. Come,



said Mrs. Goodville, consider, that while you stand talking, poor Dicky may be gone be-

yond recovery. Give him to me, I reckon myself a good bird doctreis. Harriot, on this, gave her darling to her mamma, and perceived, with delight, that her own warm hand had revived it. Mrs. Goodville put it for a few minutes into her bosom, and taking it out, found that the film began to remove from its eyes. She therefore put some saltron into water, and opening its beak, poured a little of that reviving cordial into its throat. In a few minutes it recovered so as to open its eyes, and shortly after was able to eat and drink. Mrs. Goodville, was very careful that it should not eat too much, and undertook the charge of it herself for that night. Master and Miss Manly then took their leave of the little family who soon after retired to rest.

CHAP. VII.

THE young people assembled very early the next morning, and Harriot was prepared to accompany them in their walk. They ran to call Fanny, who soon took up little Frederick, and about six o'clock they set out on their excursion, which was rendered doubly pleasing to them by the company of Master and Miss Manly, who having heard the day before that they had begun a custom of walking before breakfast, obtained their papa's permission to join the party. After expressing mutual satisfaction at the sight of each other, they proceeded on their walk, making observations on the fineness of the morning, and pitying every body who was still in bed. At last they grew fatigued, and proposed sitting under the shade of a tree, and telling each other stories. This was agreed to, and Fanny, with her young charge, was placed near them, amusing the little fellow by gathering flowers, and tying them in bunches. Harriot then began a very amusing story, and after she

had finished, Miss Lucy began one which she had learnt also from her mamma's book.

The church clock struck eight; on which Master Charles said, you know we must be in papa's study within half-an-hour; let us hasten home. This they did immediately; and as they went along, agreed to meet the next morning, and tell some more stories. At their return, they found their papa just ready for them, who praised them for their punctuality and attention.

CHAP. VIII.

WHEN breakfast was over, Mr. Goodville collected his children in his study, as it was writing morning, and he was their master. He set them to their copy-books and cyphering, and attended to their manner of holding their pens. They were all extremely desirous of improving, which lessened their papa's trouble in teaching them, and pleased him excessively.

As soon as Harriot saw her mamma, she enquired very eagerly, Whether poor Dicky was alive? O yes! said Mrs. Goodville, and as merry as ever. I shall resign him into your hands again, Harriot, and I hope it is not necessary to caution you to take care of him. Be assured I will, my dear mamma, replied Harriot: if poor Dicky had died thro' my idleness, I should have been very sorry. I am much obliged to your kindness in nursing him up for me. I will from this day clean his cage myself, and feed him every morning. May I go to look at him? With all my heart, said Mrs. Goodville; so away

tripped Harriot, followed by her brothers and sister, who had also obtained their mamma's permission, and had the happiness of seeing Dicky perfectly recovered.



As soon as their writing was finished, they, as usual, attended their mamma in her dressing-room, where they employed themselves in the different branches of their education, receiving, from their tender mother, kind encouragement to take pains. When the girls began working, and before the boys began to play, she inquired how they had spent

their morning. They then told her, That part of the time they sat under a tree, and told stories. Telling stories, which convey useful instruction, is a very rational amusement, my dear children, said Mrs. Goodville; but I think you rather chose a wrong time for it. I gave you leave to walk in a morning that you might have the benefit of the fresh air, and enjoy the beauties of nature. I wish to accustom you to observe the wonderful works of God, and I will, for the future, walk with you myself: indeed I would have done it before, had I not caught cold the other night. You know in what manner your papa and I amuse ourselves as we walk in the fields. Yes, mamma, said Harriot; but you know the names of every thing you see. I know the names of a many, said Mrs. Goodville, but have not such very extensive knowledge as you attribute to me, Harriot; however, what I am possessed of, I am very ready to communicate to you, or your brothers and sister. Well, said Lucy, I will ask you to tell me what every thing is, next time we take a walk. So you may, my love, replied Mrs. Goodville, I shall never be tired

of answering your questions, if asked in a proper manner; at present I must enjoin your silence, or we shall have no work done; therefore apply yourselves closely to that, while Charles is repeating his book to papa; in the mean-time Frederick shall read a story. Mrs. Goodville selected a very pretty one, which diverted his sisters exceedingly; and just as he had finished it, Charles came in. You have missed a very pretty story, said his mamma, however I have another in reserve for you; he accordingly sat down and immediately began it. It was a very entertaining one, and the whole party were delighted with it; and as it was long, it took up the time till dinner was nearly ready. The young ladies worked very hard indeed, so their mamma gave them leave, as well as their brothers, to amuse themselves as they pleased till six in the evening. The dinner-bell then rang, and they obeyed its summons.

CHAP. IX.

AFTER dinner, Miss Lucy and her sister retired to the nursery to make doll's things, and the young gentlemen made a kite. By the time these were finished, they were called to tea, which was ready earlier than usual, on account of the walk they were to take. Mrs. Goodville had, unknown to them, sent to invite Master and Miss Manly, that her own good children might have the agreeable surprize of finding them in the parlour. Mr. Manly came with them, and readily agreed to join his worthy friends in their evening walk; but begged to have the choice left to him, for a particular reason.

When tea was over, and the young folk were equipped, they all set out, except little Frederick, who being a great deal fatigued with the heat of the weather, Mr. Goodville thought proper to leave him at home, knowing that his maid would be very kind to him.

Lucy was a little disappointed that she was prevented asking the questions proposed;

but knowing it would be impolite to interrupt the conversation between her papa, mamma, and Mr. Manly, resolved to gather a number of different flowers and plants to take home with her, and inquire about them the next morning. She mentioned her intention to Harriot, who concurred in her scheme, and communicated it to Miss Manly, who highly approved it; and they examined all the fields and hedges with eager curiosity; by which means they found inexpressible amusement. Look at this beautiful little flower! said Lucy, I declare it is fit for a garden. And so is this, said Miss Manly; Harriot produced another, which she thought still more beautiful: thus by degrees they collected a very elegant nosegay, and so beguiled the time that they were not sensible of the ground they walked. In the mean while, the young gentlemen amused themselves with leaping, running, and flinging stones; nor at each other, but merely to try their skill and agility. Mr. Goodville, however, apprehending that pride in their dexterity might lead them to exert it improperly, cautioned them to take particular care never

to throw stones where there was the least danger of hurting any person. You can never make any one amends, my dears, said he, for knocking out an eye, or fracturing a skull, which is very likely to happen by a blow from a stone. It is surprising to me, said Mrs Goodville, that some children should have such a propensity to do mischief, but it is really true that many are diverted in proportion as they injure others. Very true, replied Mr. Manly; but, thank God! ours have better sentiments, and I hope will always think there is no happiness in this world equal to the consciousness of a benevolent mind. The scene I am going to, would, if they could be admitted to it, give them a striking proof of this. I was invited to dine to-day with Lady Graceful; but the arrival of an old friend, with whom I had particular business, prevented my having that honour. I must, however, go and make my excuses, and take a view of her pensioners, which was my motive for choosing the walk: I will soon return to you.

They were now at the gate of the court belonging to the good Lady's mansion, which

was called the manor-house. Mr. Manly took his leave, and his friends promised to wait for him. They accordingly sat down on a bench which Lady Graceful had, from the



hospitality of her disposition, caused to be made round a large chefnut-tree, for the accommodation of passengers; and here the young folk ate some fruit which their kind friends had put into their pockets for their refreshment. Mr. Manly returned with an invitation from Lady Graceful: they were not dressed as they would have been, had they

expected this honour; however, as Mrs. Goodville always made it a rule to be neatly and genteely dressed herself, and kept the children the same; and as she had been used to keep good company, she was not at all disconcerted at this circumstance, but cheerfully followed Mr. Manly, attended by her worthy husband, her beloved children, and their young friends. They were introduced into a large drawing-room, which looked upon a beautiful lawn, part of an extensive garden, laid out in beautiful taste, and adorned with a great variety of flowers and shrubs. The good Lady received her new guests with the utmost politeness. I am happy to see you here, Mr. and Mrs. Goodville, said she, I have heard much of the extraordinary care you bestow on your young family, whose amiable appearance tells me that it meets with its deserved reward of dutiful attention. From henceforth let us be good neighbours. Your Ladyship does us great honour, replied Mrs. Goodville. Mr. Goodville answered by a respectful bow, expressive of the sense he entertained of Lady Graceful's kind condescension.

The good Lady then noticed each of the young party, encouraging them by her engaging address to throw off all restraint, and they answered her questions without any appearance of aukward bashfulness; but, at the same time, with that respect which good-breeding teaches all persons to observe towards those in superior stations.

There was a table covered with a variety of delicious fruits and cakes, jellies, syllabubs, &c. of which Lady Graceful invited them to partake. They looked at their friends for leave to do so, who understanding the meaning of their looks, permitted them to follow their own inclinations. They accordingly made choice of what was most agreeable to them, observing the utmost moderation; remembering what their parents had frequently told them, that eating of several sorts of things, particularly pastry and confectionary, was very likely to disagree with them. When they had finished, I have, said Lady Graceful, a new treat for you, my little guests; you shall see my boys and girls. She then desired her servant to tell the chil-

dren: they might come upon the lawn, and take their leave as soon as they pleased. In a few minutes the sound of a violin was heard. On this, the company in the parlour, which consisted of some particular friends of Lady Graceful, and Mr. Manly's party, went to the window, from whence they beheld the agreeable sight which we shall describe in the next chapter.

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CHAP X.

YOU must be informed, that the good Lady Graceful was a widow. She had a very large fortune, and no relations but what were amply provided for. Her own children died in their infancy; she therefore determined to be a mother to the poor, which she truly was; for she furnished them with the means of getting a decent livelihood by honest industry; employed numbers of them on her estate; supported them when sick and unable to work; and established two schools for the education of their children; at one, boys were taught to read, write, and cypher; at the other, girls were instructed in needlework, and reading. Every Sunday, some of the poor neighbours were invited to dine at her house with their children; and they were divided into parties, so that all of them came in turn, once in two months. At these times, Lady Graceful carefully examined into the improvement made by the children; and if it answered her wishes, she rewarded them.

with the present of a bible, a prayer-book, or something proper for them to have.



On her birth-day, Lady Graceful gave a general invitation to all her poor neighbours, who stayed till eight o'clock, as it was a high pleasure to Lady Graceful to see their hearts enlivened by her good cheer.

The school-master of the village was very fond of writing poetry; and his son could play on the violin. The school-master therefore composed some verses for the joyful festival, and adapted them to one of his son's tunes;

and having given the young people an intimation of his design, desired them to assemble at his house in the forenoon, dressed in their new apparel, which they accordingly did. His wife, who was the school-mistress, made herself as neat as possible, and away they all went in procession to the manor-house. First went the young man with his violin; then followed the boys and girls, of whom there were at this time an equal number, in pairs; the former in suits of blue clothes, with grey stockings, and new hats; the latter in green camblet gowns, with white aprons, round-eared caps nicely plaited, and straw hats tied under their chins.

They made a most pleasing appearance, and walked in perfect order. Then came the fathers and mothers, carrying or leading the little children who were not able to walk. Every woman who had been a good wife and mother, had a new gown sent to her for the occasion; and every man when he had bought a new coat contrived to wear it first on Lady Graceful's birth-day, and kept it very clean for that purpose afterwards. Last of all fol-

lowed the ancient men and women, dressed in warm grey-clothes, with good shoes and stockings, all the gifts of the Lady of the Manor. The procession was admitted on the lawn; and as soon as the good Lady appeared, the fiddler began to play, and one of the children sang the following roundelay. The church bells were rung as soon as the procession began.

SONG.

WELCOME, vernal summer, here,
Nought but mirth shall now appear;
Music, dance, and song, and play,
Wake the morn, and crown the day.

Britain! now with rapture smile,
See, what charms adorn thy isle!
Ceres' gifts are scatter'd round,
Flora decks th' enamell'd ground.

Hark! the birds on ev'ry spray,
How they chaunt their am'rous lay!
Pleasure fills each warbling grove,
Ev'ry breath's the breath of love.

Azure summer's gaily drest,
Waving fields with plenty blest;
All conspire to give us joy,
Let us then the gifts employ.

Lady Graceful was so pleased with this little attempt to divert her, that she praised the school master's poetry, and commended the fiddler. She also kindly encouraged the children, and desired they would amuse themselves in the adjoining meadows, which they did, and had a happy day.

It would be too long a story to relate all that was said and done at Lady Graceful's; I will therefore only add, that every one was made happy. The good old Lady found that the children had made such a progress in their learning as she wished them to do, and that some of them had learnt as much as was necessary: she therefore resolved to take those from school, and either put them apprentices, or get places for them. She told them she must hear their song in the evening, and it was for this purpose she desired the servant to bid them attend; by which means

our young friends had the pleasure of hearing it also.

As soon as the song was concluded, the fiddler played a merry tune, when the young men and maidens danced a country dance, and the boys and girls capered about as you have seen children do in their gambols on May-day. They made their best bows and courtesies, and, in the same order they came, followed the fiddler home.

During the song, the old people were placed on benches at the sides of the lawn, and it would have delighted you to have seen their happy looks. When the children were gone, they got up, and with lifted hands implored blessings on their kind benefactress. — 'Thank you! thank you! my good friends, said Lady Graceful, do not stay any longer, lest you should catch cold. So away they went, as fast as they could totter along; some with sticks, and some with crutches, and, a few of the very heartiest of them, without any support.

When they were gone, How happy, Madam, must your Ladyship be, said Mr Manly, in having the power of doing so much

good! I am, indeed, said Lady Graceful; and it shall be my endeavour to perpetuate these blessings; but I now grow old; however, I will provide for them in my will. Mr. and Mrs. Goodville now made polite acknowledgments for the honour and pleasure conferred on them, and respectfully took their leave, and returned home with the worthy clergyman and the young party.

When they came into the house, Lucy recollected she had left her nosegay behind her. Dear me! said she, there is an end of all my questions. Never mind, said Harriot, the fields will supply us with plenty of flowers; and we shall soon walk out again, I make no doubt: I am really tired, and shall be glad to go to bed. Even the young gentlemen confessed rest would be agreeable to them. So Master and Miss Manly took their leave; and all parties soon found in bed that sweet repose which is the peculiar blessing of innocence and virtue.

CHAP. XI.

HARRIOT awakened first the next morning, and called her brothers and sister. It was, however, past six o'clock; and they did not go a-walking, because their papa wished them to learn the lessons they had omitted the day before, and was afraid they would get a habit of rambling; and therefore rather preferred evening walks, as their morning excursions unsettled them for business. When he saw Harriot, he praised her very much; and she assured him, she would never give way to habits of laziness any more. I do not think you will, answered Mr. Goodville; and as you grow older, the advantages of early rising will increase, and consequently your fondness for it. Harriot declared she felt herself remarkably happy that day, and verily believed getting up early in the morning gave people spirits. That it certainly does, and strength too, answered her papa. He then told her, he hoped both she, and her brothers, and sister would be very attentive to their different employments,

both morning and afternoon. Harriot said, she could answer for her brothers and sister, as well as for herself, that his commands should be cheerfully obeyed. I will only go and feed my Canary bird, papa, and then I will learn my French task directly. Do so, my good girl, said Mr. Goodville; and she departed with a smile of delight, to find herself happy in the affections of so good a parent. Charles and Edward did a little to their kite, that it might be ready to fly in



the evening; and Lucy walked round the garden, to see if she could find there any flowers

like those she gathered in the fields the evening before; and though she did not at this time, was highly gratified with the discovery of beauties in every plant and leaf which had before escaped her notice. Lucy was contented to admire the flowers or the shrubs; she did not gather any, knowing that her mamma would be displeas'd if she took that liberty without her permission. When Harriot had done with her bird, she came to remind her sister of her French talk, who instantly accompanied her to their room; and they both applied so assiduously that they learnt their lessons perfectly before breakfast. At the usual hour they assembled in the dressing room, and pursued their various employments with the utmost alacrity. Harriot's English lesson consisted of a very pretty story, but too long to insert here. Lucy read the following hymn:

H Y M N.

THY daily mercies, O my God,
 My waking thoughts employ,
 And while I meditate on thee,
 My heart is fill'd with joy,

Thou giv'st me rest upon my bed,
Soft slumber to my eyes;
Thy goodness is again renew'd
When in the morn I rise.

Throughout the business of the day
Thine arm does me uphold,
Amidst the terrors of the night,
Thy presence makes me bold.

Whether in sickness or in health,
Thy grace doth me sustain:
Let me, O Lord, thy favour have,
And I shall ne'er complain.

Aided by thee, I need not fear
The frowns of rich or great:
Their pomp and wealth I covet not,
Nor envy all their state.

Although the fig-tree blossom not,
Nor vineyard yield increase,
In thee, my Saviour and my God,
To joy I will not cease.

Yea, tho' the world by storms be tost
And crumbled into dust,
Yet still in thee, my only hope,
I will securely trust.

It was now time for Charles to repeat his Latin to his papa; therefore he went into the study. Edward stood up and read an instructive dialogue from a very pretty book that his papa had lately bought him, with which he was greatly delighted. I am afraid our little readers will begin to think it is time for these gay young gentlemen and ladies to be dismissed from their tasks; but I can assure them they were not at all tired. When the clock struck one, Miss Harriot declared she thought it had been no more than twelve. Mrs Goodville now gave them leave to go; but told the young ladies they must write in the afternoon, and do as much business as they could; because their aunt had sent to invite them to pass the next day with her, and would send the coach for them early in the morning.

At this intelligence the boys jumped for joy, and the ladies were extremely pleased. Cannot Master and Miss Manly go with us, mamma? said Harriot. By all means, my dear, replied Mrs. Goodville, I will undertake to introduce them to your aunt; she is

very fond of good young people, and I am sure will be glad to see them.

After dinner, every one applied to the tasks allotted them, and retired to rest early in the evening, that they might be equipped betimes in the morning. Little Frederick had been kept in the nursery all day, on account of a slight indisposition, but at bed-time was quite recovered.



CHAP XII.

LUCY awaked very early, and soon called up the little travellers. Master and Miss Manly were there before they were quite dressed. Mrs. Goodville had bespoken a post-chaise for the day; and Mrs. Allworth's coach arriv'd by eight o'clock. Every one drank a little new milk from the cow, and ate a piece of bread, and then, with



merry hearts, got into the carriage. Mr. and Mrs. Goodville, with little Frederick,

went in the post chaise, and the young party in the coach. Their parents were sure that they might be trusted by themselves, as they knew better than to play mischievous tricks, and were too good-natured to quarrel. After a very pleasant ride, they arrived at their aunt's, who was a Lady of considerable fortune, and as she had no family, she regarded the children of her brother, Mr. Goodville, as her own.

When Mrs. Allworth heard how good they all had been, and that they were deserving of her kind regard, she kissed them with extreme affection; and taking Harriot by the hand, said, I have provided rewards for you all, and am happy in the opportunity of bestowing them. However, before I do so, it is necessary for you to take some refreshment. She then conducted them into the parlour, where a nice cake was prepared for them. When they had been there some time, she took them into a summer-house in the garden, where her intended presents were deposited. This, my dear girls, said she, is a baby-house jointly for you: I furnished it

myself; indeed every part of the furniture is the work of my own hands, except what the cabinet-maker did; and I hope to see you do as much when you are older. To Edward she gave a noble kite; and a rocking-horse to little Frederick. They all thanked her in the most affectionate terms for her kind attention to them; nor was Charles backward in applauding her goodness, though he was the only one who had not benefited by it; but his brothers and sisters had, and that was enough for him. You do not, my dear nephew, said she, appear surpris'd that you alone are excluded on this occasion. I should be sorry, dear Madam, answered he, to repine because others are more fortunate than myself. I am afraid you do not think me so deserving as they are, and that gives me uneasiness. My noble boy, replied his aunt, I will keep such goodness no longer in suspense. Then ringing a bell, the man-servant appeared. Take this young gentleman with you, Thomas, said she, and show him what I have provided for him. It was a beautiful little bay poney, saddled and bridled, all new and complete. Charles was delighted.

Here, cried he, is a present worth accepting. The company followed, to see what he had got: as soon as they came up to him, O! my dear aunt! said he, how shall I deserve this goodness? It is easy, my dear, answered she, to merit it; let me continue to have the same good accounts of you that your papa now brings, and my bounty shall not stop here to any of you. Looking round her, I did not know this young gentleman and lady were to favour me with their company, or I should have provided something worthy their acceptance; however, I have some books which I must insist on presenting them with. She then took them into her closet, and gave Miss Manly Mrs. Rowe's Letters, and her brother an abridged History of France. After this, she left them, to give them time to examine their separate acquisitions. Charles ran after her, to know if he might ride his horse in the pleasure grounds. To this she consented; and ordered a footman to attend and take care of him. His little horse was very gentle; and Edward being desirous to ride also, Charles got down and let him be

lifted up; even Frederick asked to ride; and the man held him on, that every one might partake of the same pleasure: but he soon preferred his own rocking-horse; and therefore Mrs. Allworth assisted him in mounting that, and making it move.



While the young gentlemen were thus employed, for Master Manly also took his turn, the young ladies were delighted with examining the baby-house, which consisted of a kitchen, parlour, drawing-room, and bed-chamber, all completely furnished: The

carpets were worsted work, the sofas, chairs, and screens, beautiful embroidery; and the papers were ornamented with drawings. How kind was this worthy relation, to bestow so much time to give pleasure to her nieces, and yet how amply was she rewarded in finding they deserved it! When called to dinner, they were surpris'd to find it was so late; for they had hardly time to examine every part. Their happiness was so great that they could not express it, nor find language to declare their fixed resolve to be ever good, and follow the instructions of their friends, by which means they hoped to deserve the continuance of their favour and approbation.

They were now seated round their aunt's table, who looked as happy as any of the party; for she loved them as if they had been her own. When dinner was ended, they returned into the garden, and were most agreeably surpris'd, in the afternoon, to have a tea-board brought into the summer-house, and a maid to attend them. This was a great regale; and Harriot, for the first time, made tea. This repast over, they walked

round their aunt's garden; then, it being time to go home, they returned into the house; and after thanking their aunt for her goodness, were placed in the coach in the same manner as when they came.

Charles's little horse was led home that night, and the rest of the gifts their aunt promised to send on Wednesday morning. Talking over the pleasure of the day beguiled the time, as well as story-telling. At nine o'clock they got home, and bidding their young friends good night, went into the parlour. Come, my dears then, said Mr. Goodville, we will say our prayers, and then you shall retire, as you must be fatigued; for even pleasure will tire. He then gave them his benediction, and sent them to sleep, with minds truly serene and contented.

The next day the young people found themselves inclined to indulge half an hour later than usual in bed; but took care to rise sufficiently early to be washed and dressed perfectly neat by the hour of prayers. On a Sunday morning, Mr. Goodville generally added a short discourse to his usual service, as introductory to the duty of the day, teach-

ing them the propriety of the service of the church, and of passing their Sabbaths in a manner acceptable to the ALMIGHTY.—Happy children! to be thus early taught the fear and love of GOD, to reverence his holy name, and to hisp, even with their earliest breath, praises and thanksgivings for his gracious mercies towards them. At eleven, Mr. and Mrs. Goodville, followed by all the family, but little Frederick and his maid, went to church, where their behaviour set a worthy example. On their return home, they accompanied them into the garden.

They dined very early that day, that they might attend divine service in the afternoon. After tea they took a walk; and Charles was indulged in riding an hour on his pretty horse, attended by a careful servant. At night they all assembled again; and before prayers Mr. Goodville read a section in a book intitled Family Devotions. The whole family then kneeled down, and joined in grateful thanksgivings for the mercies of the week past, imploring the Divine blessing for the future, and then retired to rest.

CHAP. XIII.

THEY rose very early the next morning, in hopes of a walk; but Mr. Goodville told them he had studies to pursue, and their mamma many domestic affairs to attend to, which made it inconvenient to take walks frequently at those hours: he therefore rather wished them to find amusement in their own garden. They cheerfully



acquiesced; and their papa allotted each of them a little piece of ground to cultivate.

He presented the young gentlemen with a spade, a rake and a hook. Even little Frederick had wooden ones, telling them they must dig for their sisters as well as for themselves, because it was not proper work for girls. To Harriot and Lucy he gave watering-pots, and spaddles to root up weeds with. All were exceedingly delighted with their papa's kind attention; and whilst Harriot went to feed her Canary-bird, Lucy looked round the garden, by her papa's permission, to see what flowers she should like to have in her own. There were many rose-trees that had suckers, or young plants to them; some of these she resolved to ask for; she likewise remarked that Pinks, Sweet William, and others, had many little roots that could be separated, and therefore fixed upon some of them. She could not easily determine on which was prettiest for a border, thurst, daisies, or box, but resolved to consult with her brothers and sister on this important matter.

Whilst she was thus deliberating, she received a summons to breakfast, which she instantly obeyed; and the young gentlemen put their tools carefully by, then washed their

hands, combed out their hair, and with rosy countenances, improved by the manly exercise they had been employed in, sat down to a plain, wholesome meal of bread and milk.

Before they had quiet finished breakfast, they heard a coach drive into the yard. What carriage can that be at this early hour? said Mrs. Goodville. Master Charles, who had emptied his basin, flew to the window; and the rest stopped their spoons as they were lifting them to their mouths, and cried out at once. Who is it? My aunt! my good aunt, said he; and there is Thomas, with a little horse like mine. This was an agreeable surprize to the whole company. How kind is my dear sister! said Mr. Goodville, to give us the pleasure of her company so soon. As he was hastening to the door to receive her, Mrs. Allworth entered the room. Here I am, my dear brother, said she, an unexpected guest, I am sure! But not an unwelcome one, said Mrs. Goodville; your company, Madam, is always acceptable. The children's eyes showed the joy of their hearts at the sight of their aunt; but they forbore to intrude themselves on her

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notice till their parents had paid their respects to her: but as soon as she turned towards them, they flew to receive her kind careffes, and testify their fatisfaction at this unlooked-for pleasure. Mrs. Allworth then told them the servant was bringing a little cart with the presents she had made them on Friday; and that, having a high character of Master and Miss Manly, she had also brought some for them. The nephew and niece returned her many thanks for her kind attention to their friends as well as themselves, and declared it should be the study of their lives to deserve it. I am a friend, said she, to all good children; but to obstinate, disobedient, and perverse ones, I am totally indifferent. They never come near my house; nor do I even speak to such at their own. I must, said she, now make a request to you, brother, addressing Mr. Goodville; it is to give the dear children a holiday, that they may have time to examine their presents, and also to invite Master and Miss Manly; I shall be happy too to see the worthy rector. That I will most readily, answered Mr. Goodville. Then add to the favour by let-

ting Charles ride on his little horse, to carry the invitation: my Thomas shall go with him, to take care of him, and at the same time lead another little horse, which he has led here as a present for Master Manly.

This was joyful news indeed for Charles, for he had wished, ever since his aunt gave him his, that his friend George Manly had one also. As soon, therefore, as he received his papa's permission, he mounted his nag,



and away he rode with the servant to the parsonage house. Master Manly was stand-

ing at the parlour window, and seeing them at some distance, wondered who the young gentleman on horseback could be. How great was his surprize to discover it was Charles Goodville! He made all possible haste to receive him at the door, when his young friend presented him, in his aunt's name, with the little horse designed for him. I need not say he was exceedingly rejoiced, and very impatient to mount him; but there was a message to deliver first, and papa's leave to obtain. This business was very expeditiously and successfully despatched, and the young gentleman returned completely mounted, and carried Mr. Manly's and his daughter's compliments, and that they would wait on Mrs. Goodville and Mrs. Allworth as soon as possible.

When they arrived; Mrs. Allworth presented Miss Manly with a very nice wax doll, so all parties were completely happy. I must describe the doll to you; it had pretty blue eyes, and fair curling hair, without a cap; the dress, fine India dimitty, plaited like a robe, with sleeves to the wrists, and blue ribbons round its waist; the stays, petticoats, &c.

were all answerable, and extremely fine and neat of their kind; which, with a straw hat, and white muslin tippet, completed the ornaments.

After passing a great part of the morning in admiring that and their baby-house, in which they observed several things, that had before escaped their notice, they sat down to make a more common dress for the doll; but they could not work much, for little Frederick was in the room with them, and rather troublesome in wanting to be lifted on and off his rocking-horse; but though he disturbed them from their favourite employment, and was indeed teasing, they never murmured about it, but very cheerfully left their work to assist him, considering how young he was, and that he did not know any better.

After dinner, they stayed in the parlour with the rest of the company; for, as their aunt was very subject to the rheumatism, and very seldom came to see them, they wished to be as much with her as possible. They had the advantage of having some very improving conversation. Mrs. Allworth promised to

send them another present very soon, which should consist of a real little book-case, filled with books, some for the young ladies' use, and some for the young gentlemen's. When she ordered her coach away, every one was greatly concerned to part with her; but she told them, That if they were good and industrious, she would often send her coach to fetch them. She then took an affectionate leave of them, and returned home, happy to think she had placed her love on objects so truly deserving of it.

We must now conclude the History of this amiable Family, which, we doubt not, has afforded you the highest satisfaction. However, we must add, that Mr. Goodville's offspring never swerved from the paths of piety and obedience, by which means they lived in the greatest esteem and respect. Learn then to copy their example, and always remember that implicit obedience to your parents and friends is absolutely necessary to make you beloved, and to preserve you from dangers; but that an opposite conduct will lead you into vice and impropriety, and subject you to

many bitter pangs, which you will severely experience, when you are old enough to know that disobedience is the baneful source from which every calamity takes its rise.

END OF THE HISTORY.

✍ We have subjoined a few ENTERTAINING LETTERS, which we hope will merit the approbation of our obliging YOUNG FRIENDS.

LETTERS

FOR THE

AMUSEMENT AND INSTRUCTION

OF

YOUTH.

LETTERS

TO

AMUSEMENT AND INSTRUCTION

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LETTERS

FOR THE

AMUSEMENT and INSTRUCTION.

LETTER I.

From Master JACKY CURIOUS, in *London*,
to his MAMMA in the *Country*; describing
the Tower, the Monument, and St. Paul's.

Honoured Madam,

AT my departure, I remember you ordered me to send you accounts of every thing I saw remarkable in London. I will obey your commands as well as I can; but pray excuse my defects, and let my will plead for my inability to entertain my absent friends.

I am just come from seeing the Tower, the Monument, and St. Paul's Cathedral, (places which I remember to have heard much talk-

ed of in the country) and which scarce any body that comes to London omits seeing. The Tower, which stands by the Thames, is a large strong building, surrounded with a high wall, about a mile in compass and a broad ditch supplied with water out of the river Thames. Round the outward wall are guns planted, which on extraordinary occasions are fired. At the entrance, the first thing we saw was a collection of wild beasts, viz. lions, panthers, tygers, &c. also eagles and vultures: these are of no sort of use, but kept only for curiosity and show. We next went to the Mint, (which is in the Tower, observe) where we saw the manner of coining money, which is past my art, especially in the compass of a letter, to describe. From thence we went to the Jewel Room, and saw the Crown of England, and other regalia, which are well worth seeing, and gave me a great deal of pleasure. The next is the horse armory, a grand sight indeed; here are fifteen of our English Monarchs on horseback, all dressed in rich armour, and attended by their guards; but I think it not so beautiful as the next thing we saw, which

was the small armory: this consists of pikes, muskets, swords, halberts, and pistols, sufficient, as they told, us for three-score thousand men; and are all placed in such beautiful order, and in such different figures, representing the sun, star and garter, half moons, and such like, that I was greatly delighted with it; and they being all kept clean and scoured, made a most brilliant appearance. Hence we went and saw the train of artillery, in the grand store-house, as they call it, which is filled with cannon and mortars, all extremely fine: here is likewise a diving-bell, with other curiosities too tedious to mention; which having examined, we came away; and went to the Monument, which was built in remembrance of the fire of London: it is a curious lofty pillar, 200 feet high, and on the top a gallery, to which we went by tedious winding stairs in the inside; from this gallery we had a survey of the whole city: and here having feasted our eyes with the tops of houses, ships, and a multitude of boats on the river Thames, we came down and went to St. Paul's Cathedral,

which is a most magnificent pile, and stands on high ground near the centre of the city. This noble building struck me with surprise, and is admired by the whole world, as well for its beautiful architecture as height and magnitude: it has a grand awful choir, chapel, a dome finely painted by that masterly hand Sir James Thornhill, a whispering gallery, and other curiosities, with which I conclude my first letter, and am,

Madam,
Your ever dutiful son,
JOHN CURIOUS.

LETTER II.

Honoured Madam,

I NOW proceed to acquaint you with my next excursion, in search of the curiosities of this famous city; which was to Westminster-Abbey. This is really a magnificent ancient building; but what most surpris'd me, was the vast number of beautiful monuments and figures with which the

inside is adorned. Among such as were pointed out to me as being remarkable either for their coittlinefs or beauty, I remember were thofe of the Duke of Newcastle, a magnificent and expenfive piece, Sir Ifaac Newton, General Stanhope, and that exquisite ftatute of Shakspeare, which, I am told, is inimitable. When I had for fome time enjoyed the pleafure of gazing at thefe, I was conducted into that part of the church where the royal monuments were placed. Thefe, I thought, were exceedingly grand. But nothing furprifed and delighted me fo much as King Henry the VIIth's chapel, which for beauty and magnificence, I am told, far furpaffes any thing of that kind in Europe. Here too, I faw the chair in which the Kings of England are crowned, which, I believe, is more regarded for its antiquity, and the honourable ufe it is affigned to, than, for any great beauty it has, at leaft that I could difcover.

The next fight that entertained me, was the effigies of King William and Queen Mary in wax, as large as life, ftanding in

their coronation robes; they are said to be very well done, and to bear a great resemblance to the life. Queen Anne, the Duchess of Richmond, the Duke of Buckingham, &c all of the same composition, and richly dressed, are there also. In short, there are so many curiosities contained in this venerable repository, that to describe one half of them would as far exceed the compass of a letter, as of my abilities to do justice to them: However, I shall just mention some which appeared to me most worthy notice. But these must be the subject of a future letter from,

Honoured Madam,
Your's, &c.

LETTER III.

Honoured Madam,

AS I have the pleasure to find that my letters, however mean in themselves, are agreeable to my dear mamma, I shall

continue my account of some of those many curiosities that I saw in Westminster-Abbey. Among the monuments of our ancient Kings is that of Henry V. whose effigy has lost its head, which, being of silver, I am told was stolen in the civil wars.

Here are two coffins covered with velvet, in which are said to be the bodies of two Ambassadors, detained here for debt; but what were their names, or what princes they served, I could not learn.

Our guide next showed us the body of King Henry Vth's Queen, Catherine, in an open coffin, who is said to have been a very beautiful princess; but whose shrivelled skin, much resembling discolour'd parchment, may now serve as a powerful antidote to that vanity with which frail beauty is apt to inspire its possessors.

Among the waxen effigies, I had almost forgot to mention King Charles II. and his faithful servant General Monk, whose furious aspect has something terrible in it.

Not far from these is the figure of a Lady, one of the Maids of Honour to Queen Elizabeth, who is said to have bled to death,

by the small accident of only pricking her finger with a needle.

I must now return to those monuments which are in the open part of the church, and free to every one's sight; for those I have been last speaking of are inclosed, and not to be seen without a small gratuity to the conductor.

Amongst these then, on the north side, stands a magnificent monument erected to Lady Carteret, for whose death some reports assign a cause something odd, viz. the late French King Lewis the XIVth's saying that a Lady (whom one of his Nobles compared to Lady Carteret) was handsomer than she.

Near this stands a grand monument of Lord Courcy, with an inscription, signifying that one of his ancestors had obtained a privilege of wearing his hat before the King.

Next these follow a group of Statesmen, Warriors, Musicians, &c. among whom is Colonel Bingfield, who lost his head by a cannon ball, as he was remounting the Duke of Marlborough, whose horse had been shot under him.

The famous musicians Purcell, Gibbons, Blow, and Crofts, have here their respective monuments and inscriptions; as has also that eminent painter Sir Godfrey Kneller, with an elegant epitaph by Mr. Pope. As you enter the west door of the church, on the right hand, stands a monument with a curious figure of Secretary Craggs, on whom likewise Mr. Pope has bestowed a beautiful epitaph. On the south side is a costly monument, erected by Queen Anne to the memory of that brave Admiral Sir Cloudsley Shovel, who was shipwrecked on the rocks of Scilly. In the same aisle, and nearly opposite to this, is a beautiful monument of white marble, to the memory of Thomas Thynne, of Long Leat, in the county of Wilts, Esq. who was shot in his coach, on Saturday the 12th of February, 1682: in the front is cut the figure of him in his coach; with those of the three assassins who murdered him. At the end of this aisle, and on one side of what is called the Poets' Row, lies, covered with a handsome monument, and his effigy as large as the life, the very famous Dr. Busby, Master of Westminster School,

whose strict discipline and severity are very where so much talked of.

I must now take notice of the poets, whose monuments stand mostly contiguous. Here are the ancient monuments of Chaucer and Spencer, with those of Ben Johnson, Drayton, Milton, and Butler; also the great Dryden, the ingenious Phillips, the divine Cowley, the harmonious Prior, and the inimitable Shakspeare, of whose curious effigy I have spoken before; nor must I omit the gentle Mr. John Gay, to whose memory his Grace the Duke of Queensberry has erected a noble monument, which Mr. Pope has adorned with a very elegant inscription in verse. I must here end my remarks, but cannot take leave of this venerable place without observing, that it has many curious painted windows, a noble choir, a fine organ, and a magnificent altar-piece. I am,

Honoured Madam, &c.

LETTER IV.

Honoured Madam,

I NOW fit down to write to you the last epistle which I shall send during my stay in the Metropolis. My relations have accompanied me to all the public places, and during my stay, have behaved with great attention and respect. Indeed, Madam, London has its share of vice as well as virtue; for my last excursions have convinced me that imminent dangers await those who devote too much of their time to gaiety and pleasure. 'Tis true that every thing is conducted in a polite manner; but then who would not be *complaisant*, when *interest* is *essentially* concerned. So far no merit is due, because he who has a shilling to spend need not be afraid of accommodation so long as it lasts. I confess, Madam, that I am, upon the whole, well satisfied with my journey, but as I have now seen the most inviting curiosities, shall be well pleased to revisit my country habitation. I hope all friends in the

village have continued in good health, since I had the pleasure of seeing them. I suppose they expect great news when I return, and truly I shall have a budget for *them*, though you are acquainted with the whole already. I imagine they apprehend that (as some have whimsically said) the streets of London are paved with gold, but I shall undeceive them, and prove the contrary.

There are certainly a number of magnificent buildings, which are well worthy the attention of a stranger, and to take a general survey of them, would require more time than is allotted for my stay. However, Madam, when I have the happiness of seeing you again, which, if God permits, will be in two or three days, I will give you every description in my power, and convince you that no absence can alienate the affections of

Yours &c.

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