

ELIJAH'S INTERVIEW WITH GOD.

Ox Horeb's rock the Prophet stood;
The Lord before him past.
A hurricane in angry mood
Swept by him strong and fast.
The forests fell before its force,
The rocks were shiver'd in its course;
God was not in the blast.
'Twas but the whirlwind of His breath,
Announcing danger, wreck, and death.
It ceased. The air grew mute—a cloud
Came muffling up the sun;
When through the mountains deep and loud
An earthquake thunder'd on.
The frighted eagle sprang in air,
The wolf ran howling from his lair:
God was not in the storm.
'Twas but the rolling of His car,
The tramp of His steeds from far.
'Twas all again, and Nature stood,
As calm'd her ruffled frame;
When swift from Heaven a fiery flood
To earth devouring came.
Down to his depths the ocean fled,
The sickening sun look'd wan and dead;
Yet God fill'd not the flame.
'Twas but the terrors of His eye
That lighten'd through the troubled sky.
At last a voice all still and small
Rose sweetly on the ear,
Yet rose so clear and shrill, that all
In Heaven and earth might hear.
It spoke of peace, it spoke of love,
It spoke as angels speak above,
And God himself was here.
For, oh, it was a Father's voice,
That bade his trembling world rejoice.

Variety.

Mixing together profit and delight.

ANECDOTES OF ELEPHANTS.

In Mr. Gifford's edition of Baron Guvier's *Animal Kingdom*, the question of the mental faculties of brutes is discussed, and the conclusion drawn, that the difference between brute and human reason is not in kind, but in the capability afforded to the former and denied to the latter. In illustration of this opinion, some curious anecdotes are related, from which we extract the following:—

"An Elephant, which a few years ago belonged to Mr. Cross, at Exeter Change, attained to the practice of a curious trick, which, by repetition, might be said to have acquired, if indeed instinct could be acquired, something of an instinctive character; but which, the first time it occurred at least, seems attributable to nothing short of reason. It is the usual part of the performances of an elephant, at a public exhibition, to pick up a piece of coin thrown within his reach for the purpose, with the finger-like appendage at the extremity of the trunk: on one occasion a six-pence was thrown down, which happened to roll a little out of the reach of the animal, not far from the wall: being desired to pick it up, he stretched out his proboscis several times to reach it; he then stood motionless for a few seconds, evidently considering, how to act; he then stretched his proboscis in a straight line as far as he could, a little distance above the coin, and blew with great force against the wall; the angle produced by the opposition of the wall made the current of the air act under the coin as he evidently intended and anticipated it would, and it was curious to observe the six-pence travelling by these means towards the animal till it came within his reach, and he picked it up. This complicated calculation of natural means, at his disposal, was an intellectual effort beyond what a vast number of human beings would ever have thought of, and would be considered as a lucky thought, a clever expedient, under similar circumstances, in any man.

"Some young camels belonging to a much respected friend of the editor, and brother of a very valuable contributor to this work, were travelling with the army, when they had occasion to cross the Jumna in a flat-bottomed boat; the novelty of the thing excited their fears to such a degree, that it seemed impossible to drive or induce them to enter the boat spontaneously; upon which one of the mohauts, or elephant keepers, called to his elephant, and desired him to drive them in; the animal immediately put on a furious appearance, trumpeted with his proboscis, shook his ears, roared, struck the ground to the right & left, and blew the dust in clouds towards them; and so effectually subdued one great fear in the refractory camels by exciting a greater, that they bolted into the boat with the greatest hurry, — where the elephant assumed his composure, and deliberately walked back to

his post. The same elephant was applied to by his mohaut, to remove a branch from a tree which hung too low to raise the tent-pole; the animal looked at the pole as if measuring it with his eye, then at the tree and impending branch; he then turned his rump towards the trunk of the tree, stepped a couple of paces forward, took the branch in his trunk, and felt as if examining where it would split off; finding it easy at this place, he moved a little back to where it was thicker, then taking a firm hold, he gave it three or four successive swings, increasing his force, till, with one very powerful effort, it tore and fell on the ground. Being applied to, to remove a branch still higher, he looked up, stretched his proboscis, and caught only a twig or two and some leaves; he was urged again, he shook his ears and gave a piping sound of displeasure: but the mohaut insisting, after another vain attempt, he caught the bearing pole of a dooly (a kind of palanquin,) and shook it with violence, making a poor sick soldier immediately start out of it; the hint was sufficient—he would not be trifled with.

"At the siege of Bhurtপুর, in the year 1805, an affair occurred between two elephants, which displays at once the character and mental capability, the passions, cunning, and resources of these curious animals. The British army, with its countless host of followers and attendants and thousands of cattle, had been for a long time before the city, when on the approach of the hot season, and of the dry hot winds, the supply of water in the neighborhood of the camp necessary for the supply of so many beings began to fail; the ponds or tanks had dried up, and no more water was left than the immense wells of the country could furnish. The multitude of men and cattle that were incessantly at the wells, particularly the largest, occasioned no inconsiderable struggle for the priority in procuring the supply for which each were there to seek and the consequent confusion on the spot was frequently very considerable. On one occasion, two elephant drivers, each with an elephant, the one remarkably large and strong, and the other comparatively small and weak, were at the well together: the small elephant had been provided by his master with a bucket for the occasion, which he carried at the end of his proboscis, but the larger animal being destitute of this necessary vessel, either spontaneously, or by desire of his keeper, seized the bucket, and easily wrested it away from his less powerful fellow-servant: the latter was too sensible of his inferiority openly to resent the insult, though it was obvious that he felt it; but great squabbling and abuse ensued between the keepers. At length the weaker animal watched the opportunity when the other was standing with his side to the well, retired backwards a few paces, in a very quiet, unsuspecting manner, and then rushing forward with all his might, drove his head against the side of the other, and fairly pushed him into the well. An inquiry might naturally be made here, whether these animals were, in the case in question, possessed of any thing like a moral sense? We should certainly have no inclination to refer a moral sense, strictly speaking, in any case to the lower animals; its existence, independently of education and habit in man, may be problematical; but there seems little doubt that the animals in question had acquired a principle not far, if at all removed from a partial knowledge of right and wrong: being constantly fed by parties or messes, it may be easily supposed that it attained a knowledge of *meum & tuum*, and such a knowledge, however limited in its beginning, might, from the constant intercourse of these creatures with man, be in some degree improved (of which instinct is altogether incapable,) and more largely applied.—This notion, however, presupposed a limited degree of reason in the animal. It may easily be imagined that great inconvenience was immediately experienced; and serious apprehensions quickly followed that the water in the well, on which the existence of so many in a great measure depended, would be spoiled, or at least injured, by the unwieldy brute which was precipitated into it; and as the surface of the water was nearly 20 feet below the common level, there did not appear to be any means that could be adopted to get the animal out by main force, or at least without injuring him; there were many feet of water below the elephant, who floated with ease on its surface, and, experiencing considerable pleasure from the cool retreat, evinced but little inclination even to exert what means he might possess in himself of escape. A vast number of fascines had been employed by the army in conducting the siege, and at length it occurred to the elephant keeper, that a

sufficient number of these (which may be compared to bundles of wood) might be lowered into the well to make a pile, which might be raised to the top, if the animal could be instructed as to the necessary means of laying them in regular succession under his feet.

Permission having been obtained from the engineer officers to use the fascines, which were at the time put away in several piles of very considerable height, the keeper had to teach this elephant the lesson, which by means of that extraordinary ascendancy those men attain over the elephants, joined with the intellectual resources of the animal itself, he was enabled to do; and the elephant began quickly to place each fascine, as it was lowered to him, successively under him, until in a little time he was enabled to stand upon them: by this time, however, the cunning brute, enjoying the cool pleasure of this situation after the heat and partial privation of water to which he had been lately exposed, (they are observed in their natural state to frequent rivers, and swim very often,) was unwilling to work any longer, and all attempts of his keeper could not induce him to place another fascine. The master then opposed cunning to cunning, and began to coax and praise the elephant, and what he could not effect by these means he was enabled to do by the repeated promise of plenty of rack. Incited by this, the animal again went to work, raised himself considerably higher until by a partial removal of the masonry round the top of the well, he was enabled to step out: the whole affair occupied about 14 hours. This affair involves a series of intellectual operations which it seems very difficult to separate from reason."

From Bernier's Travels.

"*Windoo Widows*.—In regard to the women who actually burn themselves, I was present at so many of those shocking exhibitions, that I could not persuade myself to attend any more; nor is it without a feeling of horror that I revert to the subject. I shall endeavor, nevertheless, to describe what passed before my eyes; but I cannot hope to give you an adequate conception of the fortitude displayed by those infatuated victims during the whole of the frightful tragedy; it must be seen to be believed. When travelling from Ahmedabad to Agra, through the territories of Rajahs, and while the caravan waited in a town under the shade, until the cool of the evening, news reached us that a widow was on the point of burning herself with the body of her husband. I ran at once to the spot, and going to the edge of a large and nearly dry reservoir, observed at the bottom a deep pit filled with wood; the body of a dead man extended thereon; a woman seated upon the same pile; four or five brahmins setting fire to it in every part; five middle-aged women, tolerably well dressed, holding one another by the hand, singing and dancing around the pit; and a great number of spectators of both sexes. The pile, whereon large quantities of butter and oil had been thrown, was soon enveloped in flames, and I saw the fire catch the woman's garments, which were impregnated with scented oil mixed with sandarach and saffron powder; but I could not perceive the slightest indication of pain, or even uneasiness in the victim, and it was said that she pronounced with emphasis the words five, two; to signify that this being the fifth time she had burned herself with the same husband, there wanted only two more similar sacrifices to render her perfect according to the doctrine of the transmigration of souls; as if a certain reminiscence, or prophetic spirit, had been imprinted to her at the moment of her dissolution. But this was only the commencement of the infernal tragedy. I thought that the singing and dancing of the five women were nothing more than some unmeaning ceremony; great therefore was my astonishment when I saw that the flames having ignited the clothes of one of these females, she cast herself head foremost into the pit. The horrid example was followed by another woman, as soon as the flames caught her person: the three women who remained then took hold of each other by the hand, resuming the dance with perfect composure; and after a short lapse of time, they also precipitated themselves, one after the other into the fire. I soon learnt the meaning of these multiplied sacrifices. The five women were slaves, and having witnessed the deep affliction of their mistress in consequence of the illness of her husband, whom she promised not to survive, they were so moved with compassion that they entered into an engagement to perish by the same flames that consumed their beloved mistress."

"As I was leaving Surat for Persia, I witnessed the devotion and burning of

another widow: several Englishmen and Dutchmen, and Mr. Chardin, of Paris, were present. She was of the middle age, and by no means uncomely. I do not expect, with my limited powers of expression, to convey a full idea of the brutish boldness, or ferocious gaiety, depicted on this woman's countenance; of her undaunted step; of the freedom from all perturbation with which she conversed, and permitted herself to be washed; of the look of confidence, or rather of insensibility, which she cast upon us; of her easy air, free from dejection; of her lofty carriage, void of embarrassment, when she was examining her little cabin, composed of dry and thick millet straw with an intermixture of small wood; when she entered into that cabin, sat down upon the funeral pile, placed her deceased husband's head in her lap, took up a torch, and with her own hand lighted the fire within, while I know not how many Brahmins were busily engaged in kindling it without. Well, indeed, may I despair of representing this whole scene with proper and genuine feeling, such as I experienced at the spectacle itself, or of painting it in colors sufficiently vivid. My recollection of it, indeed is so vivid, that it seems only a few days since the horrid reality passed before my eyes, and with pain I persuaded myself it was any thing but a frightful dream."

"At Lahore I saw a most beautiful young widow sacrificed, who could not, I think, have been more than twelve years of age. The poor little creature appeared more dead than alive when she approached the dreadful pit. The agony of her mind cannot be described. She trembled, and wept bitterly: but three or four of the Brahmins, assisted by an old woman, who held her under the arm, forced the unwilling victim toward the fatal spot, seated her on the wood, tied her hands and feet, lest she should run away, and in that situation the innocent creature was burnt alive."

Life of Napoleon.—A writer in the *New-York American*, who has read the first and part of the second volume of this forthcoming work of Sir Walter Scott, after expressing a feeling of disappointment with the first part of the work, says, of that relating to the early period of the French Revolution,

"There is one point in which these views of the French Revolution will be most grateful to Americans. Sir Walter is eminently just to Lafayette. Indeed, we are acquainted with no history of these times which exhibits Lafayette in so respectful a light, whether as regards character, influence, or abilities. His motives are represented as pure; his influence as great, and, with but one exception, properly and even generously exercised: he is acknowledged as the leader of his party, and becomes without influence by the diminution of that party; and, lastly, his treacherous imprisonment by the Prussian monarch, is justly and warmly condemned. Some of the characters of the Revolution are admirably sketched. Danton, Robespierre, and Marat, are separately discriminated and marked out by a few striking touches, which convey in brief space excellent outlines of their character. But the description of the more remarkable events—the storming of the Bastille, the attack on the Palace of Versailles, and particularly the massacre of the Swiss Guards, are described with the same inimitable hand, which gives so much interest to the imaginary mob at Edinburgh, in the *Heart of Mid-Lothian*. Indeed, the interest wonderfully thickens as we advance towards the fatal period of the birth of Napoleon, until just before the trial of the king, the work has the enchaining interest of a romance. Its publication may, therefore, be expected with the certainty of the greatest gratification and enjoyment by the reading public."

Leather and Frunella.—A writer in the *Merrimac Journal*, has opened a battery against the fashion of wearing cloth shoes by the ladies. He says with great justice:—

"If there is one constant practice that deserves execration, this it is. Examining the many cases of consumption and decline now prevalent throughout our country and it will be found that first of all, the patient by wearing cloth shoes got her feet wet, which caused a slight cold—before the first cold was fairly cured a second one was taken by the same carelessness, and so it continues until consumption is seated—when after lingering a few months, death ends the scene. It is a fact which I presume will not be disputed, that twenty females at least are carried out of the world by consumption where one male is. I believe this cannot be accounted for in any other manner than that men are not a tenth part so careless of their health as ladies are. You can scarcely

to have his feet wet by thin shoes two, name a prudent man who will consent to three times a week; on the contrary, many take a method to have their boots water-proof. If the ladies think that lasting, or Valencia or satin shoes are handsomer than those made of kid or leather, they are sadly mistaken, at least in the opinion of the gentlemen."

It has been the remark of some poet, that the bee draws honey from a flower, while the spider will light upon it and extract poison. It is thus with men; some will go through any trouble—witness the wreck of their property; the loss of their friends; be surrounded by all the ten thousand vexations of human life; yet gather knowledge from their misfortunes, and feel happy that they are no worse. They turn their meditations rather to the blessings than the cares of the world; and when they retire at night to their family, they talk, laugh, amuse themselves and all around them with a flow of pure sport—determined to be happy—and are so. They are so. There are other men who are exactly the reverse. They take a deal of trouble to find out the miseries around them, and brood over every care with a gloomy ill-natured disposition, that marks them for misanthropists.

Items from London Papers to Oct. 20.

We hear that suggestions have been made to Mr. Peel, by some of the liberals in the Cabinet, to curb the alleged licentiousness of the Press, by visiting libellous or seditious remarks with personal punishment or sequestration; but that the Right Hon. Secretary has rejected the proposition. In so doing, he has acted wisely. Even Lord Sidmouth, who carried matters with a higher hand, when recommended a similar course, had the sagacity to decline it; for respectable men and capitalists would, under such circumstances, have nothing to do with the press; and it would face into the hands of such desperadoes as would set all terrors, decencies, and restraints, at defiance.

Having referred to the subject last Sunday, we add the following to our legal collection, from an able and useful work, called the "*Cabinet Lawyer*," just published by Simpkin and Marshall. "*Conspiracy*" is a term of rather undefined application in law. In general, any combination to injure an individual in his person, property, or character, is a conspiracy. There are many cases in which the act itself would not be cognizable by law, if done by a single person, which becomes the subject of indictment when effected by several with joint design. For instance, an agreement between private individuals, to support each other in all undertakings, whether legal or otherwise, is *illegal*; (*IV Chitty's Bl. 136*) the punishment is fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court, according, of course, to the magnitude and malice of the wrong.

Extract of a letter from St. John's, Newfoundland, dated the 18th of September.—"One of our Judges (Mr. M.) has just absconded, having drawn off to an immense amount. The charge against him is for *perjury and swindling*."

"Persons," say the country papers, "may now get from Bristol to Cork by steam, for 1s. 6d." The worst of it is, they may return from Cork to Bristol for the same sum.

We understand from a gentleman lately arrived from St. John's, New Brunswick, that serious complaints, and a very bad feeling exists among our settlers on the American frontiers, in consequence of the aggressions of the American officers, which are said to be sanctioned by their Government.—[*News, this*]

In the midst of the tremendous storm of discontent which is growing about the Ministers on the subject of the Royal Palaces, and the deficiency of the Revenue, one would think that their soles were acting on the system of *Pao-ou-ou*, who being asked how he got through his difficulties, replied by two maxims: 1st. *No one can tell what may happen*; 2d. *Everybody may be right at last*.

James Elmes, a Custom House Officer in a state of intoxication, reeled off the pavement on Wednesday, in [Shored] ch. falling under a cart, was crushed to death.

A poor woman was run over by one of the mail-coaches on Thursday evening by Holland Terrace, Kensington, and killed on the spot. She appears to have been a perfect stranger, as nothing has been discovered as to her name, &c.

On Thursday evening, a drunken female was knocked down by the Gloucester coach, the wheel of which went over her head and killed her on the spot.

The celebrated Russian General, Count Von Beninggen, died on the 3d instant, at his seat at Bantele, Hanover. His ability and valor in the war in Poland, obtained him brilliant rewards.

Two fobs.—Last week a severe pugilistic combat took place in a hop garden, at Pembury, belonging to Mr. Avard, between two old men, one of whom was 71, and the other 72 years of age.

Nothing is talked of in Lorraine but a sleeping beauty, who, it seems, wakes occasionally, and falls asleep again several months.