

MISCELLANY.

HUGH, THE HUNCHBACK.

From the Pilgrim. BY MARY IRVING. 'Shame! for shame!' 'To what a deformed child so!

'Who is it?—what is it?' inquired one and another. 'It's Joe Patterson's little hunchbacked Hugh,' answered the man; and it's a pity they couldn't have kept him out of the crowd.

'Bring him here, sir!' exclaimed an elegantly dressed lady, whose carriage had been driven just outside of the ring which encircled the crowd.

'Oh, mamma! he is dead! the poor boy!' cried the youngest of her children, with tears in her pitying blue eyes.

'Just as well as if he were,' said another lady in the carriage. 'It is cruel kindness to let such a deformed child live to grow up.'

'Hush! sister,' returned the first lady, 'he is coming to. Remember, the child probably has a mother to love him, if he is hunchbacked.'

'Lilla glanced at the boy, whose lips and eyelids trembled, though he lay still on the cushions. Hugh had heard all; but it was nothing new to the poor deformed child to hear ridicule and scorn heaped upon him.

'You are a most unaccountable girl, Lilla! Winstan! But, good evening!—I must not stand fooling any longer.'

'She would indeed be honored, Sarah, by any mark of esteem from one who of her opinion is worth something,' replied the blue-eyed girl proudly arching her graceful neck.

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