

44. THE CYNIC.

THE cynic is one who never sees a good quality in a man, and never fails to see a bad one. He is the human owl, vigilant² in darkness, and blind to light; mousing for vermin,³ and never seeing noble game.⁴ The cynic puts all human actions into only two classes—*openly* bad, and *secretly* bad.

2. All virtue and generosity and disinterestedness⁵ are merely the *appearance* of good, but selfish at the bottom. He holds that no man does a good thing, except for profit. The effect of his conversation upon your feelings is to chill and sear⁶ them; to send you away sour and morose.⁷ His criticisms and innuendoes⁸ fall indiscriminately⁹ upon every lovely thing, like frost upon flowers.

3. "Mr. A," says some one, "is a religious man." He will answer: "Yes; on Sundays." "Mr. B has just joined the church:" "Certainly: the elections are coming on." The minister of the Gōspel is called an example of diligence: "It is his trade." Such a man is generous:—"of other men's money." This man is obliging:—"to lull suspicion and cheat you." That man is upright:—"because he is green."

4. Thus, his eye strains out every good quality, and takes in only the bad. To him, religion is hypocrisy,¹⁰ honesty a preparation for fraud,¹¹ virtue only want of opportunity, and undeniable purity asceticism.¹² The live-lōng day he will sit with sneering lip, uttering sharp speeches in the quietest manner, and in

¹ Cyn'ic, a surly, snarling man. The Cynics were a sect of philosophers in ancient Greece, who affected to despise all the refinements of life. The sect was founded by Antisthenes, and supported by Diogenes. The name is derived from the Greek word for "dog," because they lived more like dogs than men. Hence, any ill-natured person, despising the common courtesies of life, is called a cynic.—² Vig'ilant, watchful.—³ Vēr'min, noxious animals, as rats, mice, worms, &c.—⁴ Gāme, animals that are hunted.—⁵ Dis'in'ter'est ed ness, fairness; not favoring one's self.—⁶ Sēar, burn; harden.—⁷ Mo'rose', sour; peevish.—⁸ In nu'ēn'do, a hint carefully given; a sly suggestion.—⁹ In dis'crim'i nate ly, without distinction.—¹⁰ Hy'pōc'ri sy, the putting on of an appearance of virtue, or goodness, which one does not possess.—¹¹ Frāud, deceit; dishonesty.—¹² As cēt'ic ism, the practice of undue severity and self-denial.

polished phrase transfixing every character which is presented; "His words are softer than oil, yet are they drawn swords."

5. All this, to the young, seems a wonderful knowledge of human nature; they honor a man who appears to have *found out mankind*. They begin to indulge themselves in flippant sneers; and with supercilious³ brow, and impudent tongue, wagging to an empty brain, call to naught the wise, the lōng-tried, and the venerable.

6. I do believe, that man is corrupt enough; but something of good has survived his wreck; something of evil, religion has restrained, and something partially restored; yet, I look upon the human heart as a mountain of fire. I dread its crater.⁴ I tremble when I see its lāva⁵ roll the fiery stream.

7. Therefore, I am the more glad, if upon the old crust of past eruptions,⁶ I can find a single flower springing up. So far from rejecting appearances of virtue in the corrupt heart of a depraved race, I am eager to see their light, as ever mariner was to see a star in a stormy night.

8. Mōss will grow upon gravestones; the ivy will cling to the moldering pile; the mistletoe⁷ springs from the dying branch; and, God be praised, something green, something fair to the sight and grateful to the heart, will yet twine around and grow out of the seams and cracks of the desolate temple of the human heart!

H. W. BEECHER

45. EPITAPH ON A CANDLE.

1. **A** WICKED³ one lies buried here,
Who died in a *decline*;
He never rose in rank, I fear,
Though he was born to *shine*.

¹ Trans'fix'ing, piercing through; stabbing.—² Flipp'ant, smooth easily spoken; pert.—³ Super'cil'ious, scowling; proud; haughty.—⁴ Crā'ter, the cup, mouth, or hollow top of a volcano.—⁵ Lā'va, melted matter from a volcano.—⁶ Erupt'ions, outpourings; burstings out.—⁷ Mistletoe (miz'z'l tō), a plant that grows on trees.—⁸ Wick'ed, having a wick. The reader will notice that every stanza of this piece contains a very happy play on words.

2. He once was *fat*, but now, indeed,
He's thin as any griever;
He died, the doctors all agreed,
Of a most *burning* fever.
3. One thing of him is said with truth,
With which I'm much amused;
It is—that when he stood, forsooth,
A *stick* he always used.
4. Now *winding-sheets*¹ he sometimes made;
But this was not enough,
For, finding it a poorish trade,
He also dealt in *snuff*.
5. If e'er you said, "Go out, I pray,"
He much ill nature show'd;
On such occasions, he would say,
"Vy, if I do, I'm *blow'd*."
6. In this his friends do all agree,
Although you'll think I'm joking,
When *going out*, 'tis said that he
Was vëry fond of *smoking*.
7. Since all religion he despised,
Let these few words suffice,
Before he ever was baptized,
They *dipp'd* him once or twice.

PUNCH.

46. COMPARISON OF WATCHES.

WHEN Griselda thought that her husband had lōng enough enjoyed his new existence, and that there was dānger of his forgëtt'ing the taste of sōrrōw, she changed her tone.—One day, when he had not returned home exactly at the appointed minute,

¹ Wind' ing-sheets, melted tallow, that runs down and hardens around a candle.

she received him with a frown; such as would have made even Mars¹ himself recoil,² if Mars could have beheld such a frown upon the brow of his Venus.³

2. "Dinner has been kept waiting for you this hour, my dear." "I am very sōrry for it; but why did you wait, my dear? I am really very sorry I am so late, but" (looking at his watch) "it is only half-past six by me."

3. "It is seven by me." They presented their watches to each other; he in an apologetical,⁴ she in a reproachful, attitude.⁵

4. "I rather think you are too fast, my dear," said the gentleman. "I am very sure you are too slow, my dear," said the lady.

5. "My watch never loses a minute in the four-and-twenty hours," said he. "Nor mine a second," said she.

6. "I have reason to believe I am right, my love," said the husband, mildly. "Reason!" exclaimed the wife, astonished. "What reason can you possibly have to believe you are right, when I tell you I am mōrally certain you are wrōng, my love?"

7. "My only reason for doubting it is, that I set my watch by the sun to-day." "The sun must be wrōng, then," cried the lady, hastily—"You need not laugh; for I know what I am saying; the variation,⁶ the declination,⁷ must be allowed for, in computing⁸ it with the clock. Now you know perfectly well what I mean, though you will not explain it for me, because you are conscious I am in the right."

8. "Well, my dear, if *you* are conscious of it, that is sufficient. We will not dispute any more about such a trifle. Are they bringing up dinner?" "If they know that you are come in; but I am sure I can not tell whether they do or not.—Pray, my dear Mrs. Nettleby," cried the lady, turning to a female friend, and still holding her watch in hand, "what o'clock is it by you? There is nobody in the world hates disputing about trifles so

¹ Mārs, the god of war.—² Re coil', turn back.—³ Vè' nus, the goddess of love, gracefulness, beauty, and mirth.—⁴ A polo gët' ic, by way of excuse.—⁵ At' ti tūde, posture; position of the body.—⁶ Vāri' á' tion, here means unequal motion.—⁷ Dēc' li nā' tion, the position of the sun at noon, north or south of the equator.—⁸ Com pūt' ing, calculating.

much as I do; but I own I do love to convince people that I am in the right."

9. Mrs. Nettleby's watch had stopped. How provoking! Vexed at having no immediate means of convincing people that she was in the right, our heroine¹ consoled herself by proceeding to criminate² her husband, not in this particular instance, where he pleaded guilty, but upon the general charge of being always late for dinner, which he strenuously³ denied.

10. There is something in the species⁴ of reproach which advances thus triumphantly from particulars to generals, peculiarly offensive to every reasonable and susceptible mind; and there is something in the general charge of being always late for dinner, which the punctuality of man's nature can not easily endure, especially if he be hungry. We should humbly advise our female friends to forbear exposing a husband's patience to this trial, or, at least, to temper it with much fondness, else mischief will infallibly⁵ ensue.

MISS EDGEWORTH.

47. TRUE FREEDOM, AND HOW TO GAIN IT.

1. WE want no flag, no flaunting⁶ rag,
For LIBERTY to fight;
We want no blaze of murderous guns,
To struggle for the right.
Our spears and swords are printed words,
The mind our battle-plain;
We've won such victories before,
And so we shall again.
2. We love no triumphs sprung⁷ of force—
They stain her brightest cause:
'Tis not in blood that Liberty
Inscribes her civil laws.

¹ Hēr' o lne, a female hero, or principal character spoken of.—² Crim'-in-âte, accuse.—³ Strên' u ous ly, boldly; firmly.—⁴ Spé' cies, kind; sort class.—⁵ In fâl' li bly, without fail.—⁶ Fläunt' ing, spreading out; gaudy; showy.—⁷ Sprung of force, gained by force.

She writes them on the people's heart
In language clear and plain;
True thoughts have moved the world before,
And so they shall again.

3. We yield to none¹ in earnest love
Of freedom's cause sublime;²
We join the cry, "FRATERNITY!"³
We keep the march of Time.
And yet we grasp nor pike⁴ nor spear,
Our victories to obtain;
We've won without their aid before,
And so we shall again.
4. We want no aid of barricade⁵
To show a front to wrong;
We have a citadel⁶ in truth,
More durable⁷ and strong.
Calm words, great thoughts, unflinching faith,
Have never striven in vain;
They've won our battles many a time,
And so they shall again.
5. Peace, progress, knowledge, brotherhood—
The ignorant may sneer,
The bad deny; but we rely
To see their triumph near.
No widows' groans shall load our cause,
No blood of brethren stain;
We've won without such aid before,
And so we shall again.

CHARLES MACKAY.

¹ None (nân).—² Sublime', high; lofty; excellent.—³ Fratêr' ni ty, brotherhood.—⁴ Pike, a pole with a sharp iron head.—⁵ Bar ri cåde'. a strong fortification made n haste, of earth, stone, trees, wagcns, or any thing that will stop the progress of an enemy.—⁶ Cit' a del, a fortress or castle, in a city or near it.—⁷ Dür' a ble, lasting.

48. THE CAVERN BY THE SEA.

THERE is a cavern in the island of Hoonga, one of the Tonga islands, in the South Pacific Ocean, which can be entered only by diving into the sea, and has no other light than what is reflected from the bottom of the water. A young chief discovered it accidentally while diving after a turtle, and the use which he made of his discovery will probably be sung in more than one Europ^e'an language, so beautifully is it adapted¹ for a tale in verse.

2. There was a tyrannical governor at Vāvaoo, against whom one of the chiefs formed a plan of insurrection;² it was betrayed, and the chief, with all his family and kin,³ was ordered to be destroyed. He had a beautiful daughter, betrothed⁴ to a chief of high rank, and she also was included in the sentence. The youth who had found the cavern, and kept the secret to himself, loved this damsel. He told her of the danger to which she and all of her family were exposed, and persuaded her to place her safety in his hands.

3. With her consent, he placed her in his canoe, and described the place of her proposed retreat, as he skillfully plied the oar in the direction of the cavern. Like the rest of her countrywomen, the maid was an expert swimmer. Having reached the spot, they dived into the water, and entered the cavern, a large and commodious apartment, about fifty feet in length, and nearly the same in height, beautifully ornamented with sparry⁵ incrustations.

4. Here he brought her the choicest food, the finest clothing, mats for her bed, and sandal-wood⁶ oil to perfume⁷ herself; here

¹ A dāpt' ed, fitted.—² In sur rēc' tion, rebellion; an attempt to overthrow a government.—³ Kīn, relations.—⁴ Be trōthed', engaged to be married.—⁵ Spār' ry, made of spar, a substance frequently found in caverns, and formed by water mixed with lime and other substances, which, trickling very slowly from above, presents the appearance of icicles hanging from the roof; and sometimes, dropping also on the floor, seem like inverted icicles, or icicles *upside down*. These are what are called sparry incrustations. When the incrustation hangs from the ceiling, with the sharp point *downward*, it is called a *stalactite*; when it rises from the floor, with the point *upward*, it is called a *stalagmite*.—⁶ Sān' dal-wood, a wood with a very strong and sweet perfume, which grows in the East Indies.

he visited her as often as was consistent with prudence; and here, as may be imagined, this Tonga Leān' der¹ wooed and won the maid, whom, to make the interest complete, he had lōng loved in secret, when he had no hope. Meantime he prepared, with all his dependents, male and female, to emigrate in secret to the Fiji islands.

5. The intention was so well concealed, that they embarked in safety, and his people asked him, at the point of their departure, if he would not take with him a Tonga wife; and accordingly, to their great astonishment, having steered close to a rock, he desired them to wait while he went into the sea to fetch her, jumped overboard, and, just as they were beginning to be seriously alarmed at his lōng disappearance, he rose with his mistress from the water. This story is not deficient in that which all such stories should have to be perfectly delightful,—a fortunate conclusion. The party remained at the Fijis till the oppressor died, and then returned to Vāvaoo, where they enjoyed a lōng and happy life. This is related as an authentic tradition.

QUARTERLY REVIEW.

49. THE HIPPOPOTAMUS.

THE British consul² at Cairo³ had frequently intimated⁴ to his Highness, the Pasha⁵ of Egypt, that a live hippopotamus⁶ would be regarded as a v^ery in'teresting and valuable present in England. Now, there were sundry⁷ difficulties of a serious nature involved in this business. In the first place, the favorite resort of the hippopotami is a thousand or fifteen hundred miles distant from Cairo; in the second place, the hippopotamus being

¹ Le ān' der, a youth of Abydos, who swam nightly across the Hellespont, to visit his mistress, Hero. He was at last drowned one stormy night, as he was making his accustomed visit. The Hellespont is what is now called the Dardanelles, a narrow strait between Europe and Asiatic Turkey.—² Cōn' sul, an officer appointed by a government to protect its citizens in a foreign country.—³ Cairo (kī' ro), the capital city of Egypt.—⁴ In' ti māt ed, suggested; told in a modest or del'cate way.—⁵ Pashā', the governor.—⁶ Hip po pōt' a mus, literally means a river-horse, but it will be seen from the following description that the animal has no point of resemblance to a horse.—⁷ Sūn' dry, various.

amphibious,¹ is not easily approached; when he is en'v'roned, he is a tremendous antagonist,² by reason of his great strength, enormous weight, his wrathfulness when excited, and, we may add, his prodigious mouth, with its huge tusks. We are speaking of the *male* hippopotamus. He is often slain by a number of rifle-balls (he only makes a comic grin of scorn at a few), and laid low from a distance; but as to being taken alive, that is a triumph which has scarcely ever been permitted to mortal man of modern times.

2. "So, Consul," said the Pasha, abruptly, one day, when Mr Murray was dining with him, "so, you want a hippopotamus?" "Very much, your Highness." "And you think that such an animal would be an acceptable present to your queen and country?"

3. "He would be accounted a great rarity,"³ said the consul; "our naturalists would receive him with open arms—figuratively speaking—and the public would crowd to pay their respects to him." Abbas Pasha laughed at this pleasantry of the consul. "Well," said he, "we will inquire about this matter." He half turned his head over one shoulder to his attendants: "Send here the governor of Nubia!" The attendants thus ordered made their salam⁴ and retired.

4. Anybody, not previously aware of the easy habits of a despotic sovereign,⁵ would naturally conclude that the governor of Nubia was, at this time, in Cairo, and at no great distance from the royal abode. But it was not so. The governor of Nubia was simply there—at home—smoking his pipe in Nubia. This brief and unadorned order, therefore, involved a post-haste messenger on a dromedary⁷ across the desert, with a boat up the Nile, and then more dromedaries, and then another boat, and again a dromedary, till the Pasha's mandate was delivered.

¹ Amphib'ious, living both on land and in water.—² En vi'roned, surrounded.—³ An tag'onist, one who combats another; enemy; foe.—Râr'ity, a thing very uncommon.—⁴ Sa lâm', a kind of bow, or mark of respect, practiced in Eastern countries. The head is bowed down and both arms raised above the head, with the hands brought together.—⁵ Sovereign (sûv'erin), one who possesses the highest authority; a despotic sovereign is one who has absolute or entire authority.—⁶ Dromedary (drûm'edary), a camel with one bunch.

5. We next behold the governor of Nubia, in full official trim,¹ proceeding post-haste with his suite² across the desert, and down the Nile, traveling day and night, until finally he is announced to the Pasha, and admitted to his presence. "Governor," says the Pasha, "have you hippopotami in your country?" "We have, your Highness." Abbas Pasha reflected a moment, then said—"Send to me the commander³ of the Nubian army. Now go!"

6. This was the whole dialogue. The governor made his salam, and retired. With the same haste and ceremony, so far as the two things can be combined, he returned to Nubia by boat, and dromedary, and horse, and covered litter;⁴ and the same hour found the commander of the army of Nubia galloping across the desert with his attendants, in obedience to the royal mandate.

7. The Pasha, knowing that all means of speed will be used, and what those means will be, together with the nature of the route, is able to calculate to a day when the commander ought to arrive, and, therefore, *must* arrive,—at his peril, otherwise. The British consul is invited to dine with his Highness on this day.

8. Duly, as expected, the commander of the Nubian army arrives, and is announced, just as the repast⁵ is concluded. He is forthwith ushered into the presence of the sublime beard and turban. Coffee and pipes are served. The commander makes his grand salam, shutting his eyes before the royal pipe.

9. "Commander," says the Pasha, without taking his pipe from his mouth, "I hear that you have hippopotami in your country." "It is true, your Highness; but—" "Bring me a live hippopotamus—a young one. Now go!"

10. This was actually the dialogue which took place on the occasion—and the whole of it. The commander of the Nubian forces made his grand salam; retired, and returned as he came "big" with the importance of his errand, but also not without considerable anxiety for its result.

¹ Official (ôffish'al) trim, in the dress of his office.—² Suite (swêt), a train of followers; company.—³ Com mând'er.—⁴ Lit'ter, a sort of couch resting on poles, carried by men or horses.—⁵ Re pâst', meal; feast.

11. Arriving at Dongola,¹ the commander summoned his chief officers and captains of the Nubian hosts to a council of war on the subject of the hippopotamus hunt, on the result of which, he intimated, several heads were at stake, besides his own. A similar communication was speedily forwarded to the chief officers of the right wing of the army, quartered in their tents at Sennaar.² The picked men of all the forces having been selected, the two parties met in boats at an appointed village on the banks of the Nile, and there concerted their measures for the expedition.

50. THE HIPPOPOTAMUS—CONTINUED.

THE commander divided the chosen body into several parties, and away they sped up the Nile. They followed the course of the river, beyond the point where it branches off into the Blue Nile and the White Nile. Good fortune at length befell one of the parties; but this cost much time, and many unsuccessful efforts—now pursuing a huge savage river-horse, with rifle-balls and flying darts; now pursued by him in turn, with foaming jaws and gnashing tusks—all of which may readily be conjectured, from the fact that they did not fall in with their prize till they had reached a distance, up the White Nile, of one thousand five hundred miles above Cairo. In the doublings and redoublings of attack and retreat, of pursuit and flight, and renewed assault, they must, of course, have traversed in all at least two thousand miles.

2. Something pathetic³ attaches to the death of the mother of "our hero," something which touches our common nature. A large female hippopotamus being wounded, was in full flight up the river; but presently a ball or two reached a mortal part, and then the maternal instinct made the animal pause. She fled no more, but turned aside, and made toward a heap of brushwood and water-bushes that grew on the banks of the

¹ Dongola (đông'go lả), a province of Upper Nubia.—² Sennaar (sên-nâr'), a State in northeast Africa, forming a part of Nubia.—³ Pa thết'-ic, feeling; compassionate.

river, in order, as the event showed, to die beside her young one. She was unable to proceed so far, and sank dying beneath the water.

3. The action, however, had been so evidently caused by some strong impulse and attraction in that direction, that the party instantly proceeded to the clump of water-bushes. Nobody moved—not a green flag stirred; not a sprig trembled; but directly they entered, out burst a burly young hippopotamus-calf, and plunged head-foremost down the river-banks. He had all but escaped, when, amid the excitement and confusion of the picked men, one of them, who had "more character" than the rest, made a blow at the slippery prize with his boat-hook, and literally brought him up by burying the hook in his fat black flank. Two other hunters, next to him in presence of mind and energy, threw their arms around the great barrel-bellied infant, and hoisted him into the boat, which nearly capsized⁴ with the weight and struggle.

4. In this one circumstance of a hippopotamus being ordered by his Highness Abbas Pasha, has been pleasantly shown the ease and brevity with which matters are managed by a despotic⁵ government. We complain at home—and with how much reason everybody knows too well—of the injurious and provoking slowness of all good legislative acts; but here we have a beautiful little instance, or series of little instances, of going rather too fast. Things are settled instantly in the East by a royal mandate,⁶ from the strangling of a whole seraglio,⁷ to the suckling of a young hippopotamus.

5. Returning down the Nile with their unwieldy prize, for whose wounded flank⁸ the best surgical⁹ attendance the country afforded was of course procured, it soon became a matter of immense importance and profound consultation as to how and on what the innocent young monster should be fed. He would not

⁴ Cap sized', upset.—⁵ Des pôt'ic, absolute; supreme; without control.—⁶ Mân' date, command.—⁷ Seraglio (se râl' yô), the palace of the Sultan in which are kept the females of his household; here means the women that occupy the seraglio.—⁸ Flânk, the fleshy or muscular part of the side of an animal.—⁹ Surgical (sêr' ji kal), relating to a surgeon, a part of whose business is the curing of wounds. A physician gives medicine; a surgeon attends to outward remedies.

touch flesh of any kind; he did not seem to relish fruit; and he evidently did not, at present, understand grass. A live fish was put into his mouth, but he instantly gave a great gape, and allowed it to flap its way out again, and fall into the water.

6. Before long, however, the party reached a village. The commander of the army saw what to do. He ordered his men to seize all the cows in the village, and milk them. This was found very acceptable to their interesting charge, who presently dispatched a quantity that alarmed them, lest they should be unable to keep up the due balance of supply and demand. The surplus¹ milk, however, they carried away in gourds and earthen vessels. But they found it would not keep: it became sour butter, and melted into oil. They were, therefore, compelled, after a milking, to carry off with them one of the best cows.

7. In this way, they returned fifteen hundred miles down the Nile, stopping at every village on their way—seizing all the cows and milking them dry. By these means, they managed to supply the “table” of the illustrious captive, whose capacities in disposing of the beverage appeared to increase daily.

51. THE HIPPOPOTAMUS—CONCLUDED.

THE hunting division of the army, headed by the commander-in-chief, arrived at Cairo with their prize on the 14th of November, 1849. The journey down the Nile, from the place where he was captured, viz., the White Nile, had occupied between five and six months. This, therefore, with a few additional days, may be regarded as the age of our hippopotamus on reaching Cairo. The color of his skin, at that time, was for the most part a dull reddish tone, very like that (to compare great things with small) of a naked, new-born mouse.

2. The commander hastened to the palace to report his arrival with the prize to his royal master, into the charge of whose officers he most gladly resigned it. His Highness, having been informed of the little affair of the succession of “cows,” deter-

¹Surplus (sēr' plūs), what is not wanted, or used.

mined to place the vivacious,¹ unweaned “infant prodigy”² in the hands of the British consul without a moment's delay. The announcement was accordingly made with oriental³ formality by the chief officer of Abbas Pasha's palace, to whom the Honorable Mr. Murray made a suitable present in return for the good tidings.

3. A lieutenant of the Nubian army, with a party of soldiers, arrived shortly after, bringing with them the animal, whose renown had already filled the whole city. He excited full as much curiosity in Cairo, as he has since done here, being quite as great a rarity. This will be easily intelligible when the difficulties of the capture and the immense distance of the journey are taken into consideration, with all the contingencies⁴ of men, boats, provisions, cows, and other necessary expenses.

4. The overjoyed consul had already made all his preparations for receiving the illustrious stranger. He had, in the first place, secured the services of Hamet Safi Cannana, well known for his experience and skill in the care and management of animals. A commodious apartment had then been fitted up in the court-yard of the consul's house, with one door leading out to a bath. As the winter would have to be passed in Cairo, proper means were employed for making this a tepid or warm bath. Here then our hippopotamus lived, “the observed of all observers,” drinking so many gallons of milk a day (never less than twenty or thirty quarts) that he soon produced a scarcity of that article in Cairo.

5. Meanwhile active preparations were making for his arrival in Alexandria, to be shipped on board the Ripon steamer. The vessel was furnished with a house on the main-deck, opening by steps down into a tank⁵ in the hold, containing four hundred gallons of water. It had been built and fitted up at Southampton from a plan furnished by Mr. Mitchell, Secretary of the Zoölogical⁶ Gardens in the Regent's Park, to whose energies and

¹Vivacious, full of life.—²Prodigy, something very remarkable and uncommon.—³Oriental, eastern.—⁴Contingencies, events that happen or are about to happen.—⁵Tank, a large basin or cistern for holding water.—⁶Zoölogical Gardens, are those in which all kinds of curious and rare animals are kept.

foresight we are indebted for the safe possession of this grotesque, good-tempered, and unique¹ monster. The tank, by various arrangements, they contrived to fill with *fresh* water every other day. A large quantity was taken on board in casks; a fresh supply at Malta; and, besides this, which was by no means enough, they made use of the condensed² water of the engines, which amounted to upward of three hundred gallons per day.

6. As there are some hippopotami who enjoy the sea on certain coasts of the world, it is not improbable but our friend would soon have become used to sea-water; but Mr. Mitchell was determined to run no risks, prudently considering that, in the first place, the strength of the salt water, to one whose mother had been accustomed, and her ancestors for generations, to the mild streams of Nilus, might disagree with "young pickle;" and secondly, if he chanced to like it amazingly, how would he bear the change when he arrived at his mansion in the Regent's Park. Fresh water, therefore, was provided for his bath every other day throughout the voyage.

7. The British consul began to prepare for the departure of his noble guest at the end of April; and in the early part of May, the consul took an affectionate leave of him, and would have embraced him, but that the extraordinary girth of his body rendered such a demonstra'tion impossible.

8. During the voyage, "our fat friend" attached himself strongly to his attendant and interpreter, Hamet; indeed, the devotion to his person which this assiduous⁴ and thoughtful person had manifested from his first promotion to the office, had been of a kind to secure such a result from any one at all accessible to kindly affections. Hamet had commenced by sleeping side by side with his charge in the house at Cairo, and adopted the same arrangement for the night during the first week of the voyage to England.

9. Finding, however, as the weather grew warmer, and the hippopotamus bigger and bigger, that this was attended with some inconvenience, Hamet had a hammock slung from the

¹Grotesque (gro tĕsk'), singular, or odd in shape.—²Unique (yu nèk), the only one of its kind; unequaled.—³Condensed', made thick or close. Steam may be condensed into water by cold.—⁴Assid' uous, constant faithful.

beams immediately over the place where he used to sleep—in fact, just over his side of the bed—by which means he was raised two or three feet above his usual position. Into this hammock got Hamet, and having assured the hippopotamus, both by his voice, and by extending one arm over the side so as to touch him, that he was there as usual at his side, and "all was right," he presently fell asleep.

10. How long he slept, Hamet does not know, but he was awoke by the sensation of a jerk and a hoist, and found himself lying on the bed in his old place, close beside our fat friend. Hamet tried the experiment once more; but the same thing again occurred. No sooner was he asleep than the hippopotamus got up—raised his broad nose beneath the heaviest part of the hammock that swung lowest, and by an easy and adroit¹ toss, pitched Hamet clean out. After this, Hamet, acting on his rule of never thwarting² his charge in any thing reasonable, abandoned the attempt of a separate bed, and took up his nightly quarters by his side as before.

11. As for the voyage, it was passed pleasantly enough by the most important of the illustrious strangers on board. Two cows and ten goats had been taken on board for his sole use and service; these, however, not being found sufficient for a "growing youth," the ship's cow was confiscated³ for the use of his table; and this addition, together with we forget how many dozen sacks of Indian corn-meal, enabled him to reach our shores in excellent health and spirits.

12. A word as to the title of "river-horse," when taken in conjunction with his personal appearance, his habits, and his diet. The hippopotamus has nothing in common with the horse; he seems to us rather an aquatic⁴ pig, or a four-footed land-porpoise. In fact, he appears to partake of the wild-boar, the bull, and the porpoise—the latter predominating at present; but when he gets his tusks, we much fear there will be an alteration in his manners for the worse. As to his eventual size, the prospect is alarming. He is at present only seven months old, and he will continue growing till he is fifteen years of age.

¹A droit', skillful.—²Thwart'ing, opposing.—³Confis' cat ed, taken away.—⁴A quat'ic, belonging to the water.

52. THE ROTHSCHILDS.

AT the time of the French Revolution,¹ there lived at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, in Germany, a Jewish banker, of limited means, but good reputation, named Moses Rothschild. When the French army invaded Germany, the Prince of Hesse Cassel was obliged to fly from his dominions. As he passed through Frankfort, he requested Moses Rothschild to take charge of a large sum of money and some valuable jewels, which he feared might otherwise fall into the hands of the enemy.

2. The Jew would have declined so great a charge; but the prince was so much at a loss for the means of saving his property, that Moses at length consented. He declined, however, giving a receipt² for it, as in such dangerous circumstances he could not be answerable for its being safely restored.

3. The money and jewels, to the value of several hundred thousand pounds, were conveyed to Frankfort; and just as the French entered the town, Mr. Rothschild had succeeded in burying the treasure in a corner of his garden. He made no attempt to conceal his own property, which amounted only to six thousand pounds. The French accordingly took this, without suspecting that he had any larger sum in his possession.

4. Had he, on the contrary, pretended to have no money, they would have certainly searched, as they did in many other cases, and might have found and taken the whole. When they left the town, Mr. Rothschild dug up the prince's money, and began to make use of a small portion of it. He now thrived in his business, and soon gained much wealth of his own.

5. A few years after, when peace came, the Prince of Hesse Cassel returned to his dominions. He was almost afraid to call on the Frankfort banker, for he readily reflected that, if the French had not got the money and jewels, Moses might pretend they had, and thus keep all to himself.

6. To his great astonishment, Mr. Rothschild informed him

¹Rev o lú' tion, change of government. The French revolution broke out in 1790.—²Re cèipt', a paper acknowledging that money or any valuable property has been received; also, the act of receiving.

that the whole of the property was safe, and now ready to be returned, with five per cent.¹ interest on the money. The banker at the same time related by what means he had saved it, and apologized for breaking upon the money, by representing that, to save it, he had had to sacrifice all his own.

7. The prince was so impressed by the fidelity of Mr. Rothschild under his great trust, that he allowed the money to remain in his hands at a small rate of interest. To mark, also, his gratitude, he recommended the Jew to various European sovereigns as a money-lender. Moses was consequently employed in several great transactions for raising loans, by which he realized a vast profit.

8. In time he became immensely rich, and put his three sons into the same kind of business in the three chief capitals of Europe—London, Paris, and Vienna. All of them prospered. They became the wealthiest private men whom the world has ever known. He who lived in London, left at his death thirty-five millions of dollars. The other two have been created bārōns,² and are perhaps not less wealthy. Thus a family, whose purse has maintained war and brought about peace, owes all its greatness to one act of honesty under trust. ANON.

53. OPPOSITE EXAMPLES.

ASK the young man who is just forming his habits of life, or just beginning to indulge those habitual trains of thought, out of which habits grow, to look around him, and mark the examples whose fortune he would covet,³ or whose fate he would abhor. Even as we walk the streets, we meet with exhibitions of each extreme.⁴

2. Here, behold a pātriarch,⁵ whose stock of vigor⁶ threescore

¹Per cent., by the hundred; for every hundred.—²Bār' ons, the lowest order of nobility.—³Covet (kúv' et), to desire earnestly; to long for.—⁴Ex trême, the end; the last; each extreme, the first and the last.—⁵Pā' tri arch, the head or chief of a family.—⁶Vig' or, strength.