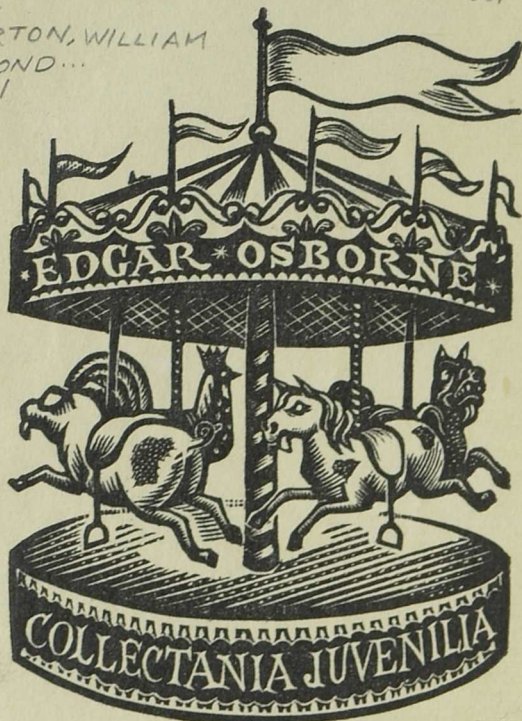


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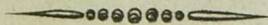
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THE  
SECOND CHAPTER  
OF  
ACCIDENTS  
AND  
Remarkable Events:  
CONTAINING  
CAUTION AND INSTRUCTION  
FOR  
*CHILDREN.*

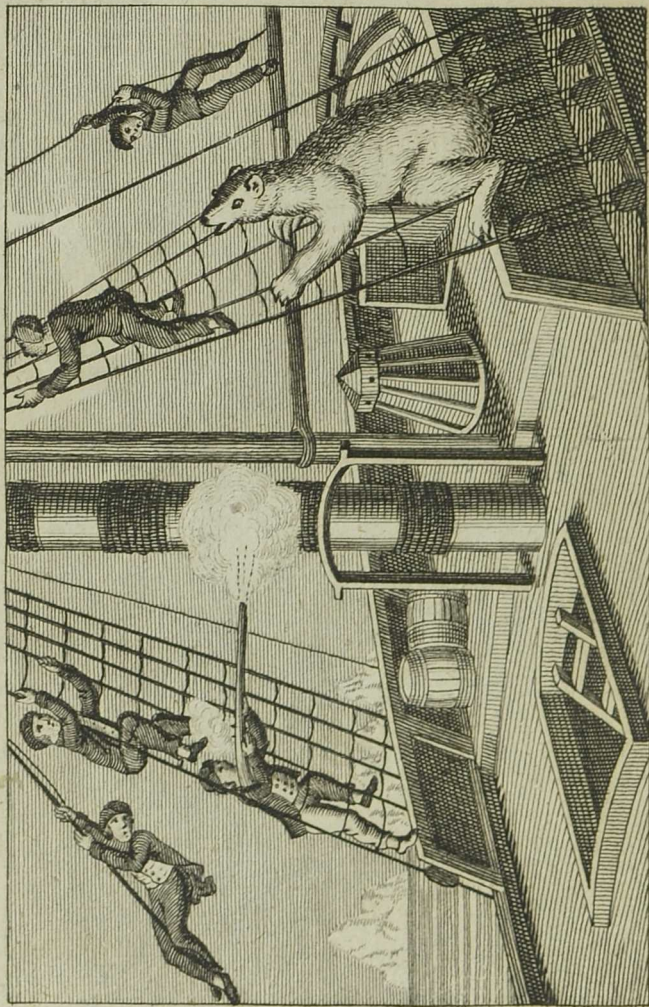


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THE SECOND

*Chapter of Accidents.*



*The enraged Bear.*

A FEW years since, the crew of a ship, in a boat, belonging to the whale fishery, shot at a bear, at a short distance, and wounded it. The animal, greatly enraged, swam towards the boat, and attempted to get on board, by placing its fore foot on the gunnel; being repulsed with a hatchet, it continued to swim after them till

they arrived at the ship, when it immediately ascended the deck: as the crew had fled into the shrouds, it was pursuing them thither, when a shot, from one of them, laid it dead upon the deck.

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*Of the Humming Bird.*

Of all the birds that flutter in the garden, or paint the landscape, the humming bird is the most pleasant to look upon, and the most inoffensive.

Of this there are six or seven varieties, from a small wren down to that of a humble bee. A bird not so big as

the end of one's little finger, would probably be supposed but a creature of fancy, were it not seen in infinite numbers, and as frequent as butterflies in a summer's day, sporting in the fields of America, from flower to flower.

Soon as the sun has risen, they are seen fluttering about the flowers, without ever lighting upon them. Their wings are in such rapid motion, that their colours are not discerned but by their glittering; this motion causes a humming sound, from whence they are named. Furnished with a forky



tongue, that enters the cup of the flower, they draw forth its sweets, and on this alone they exist.

The nests of these birds are not less curious than themselves; they are suspended in the air, at the points of the twigs of an orange, a pomegranate, or a citron tree.

A traveller, in America, found the nest of a humming bird, at a time when the young ones were about two weeks old; he placed them in a cage at the chamber window, where too the old ones came and fed their brood every hour in the

day. By these means they themselves grew so tame, that they seldom quitted the chamber, living with the young ones.

All four have frequently come to perch upon their master's hand, chirruping as if they had been at liberty; he fed them with a paste made of wine, biscuit, and sugar. In this manner they lived with him about six months, flying in and out as they thought proper; but, one night, forgetting to tie up their cage to the ceiling, they were destroyed by the rats.

*Of the Vulture.*

This bird is of singular service in Egypt, so that no person is permitted to destroy them at Grand Cairo. The service they render the inhabitants is, the devouring the carion and filth of that great city, which might otherwise corrupt the air. With the wild dogs of that country, they are often to be seen eating a carcase very deliberately; this odd association produces no quarrels, the beasts and birds live amicably together. This is more to be admired, as both are very rapacious, lean, and bony.





King William the Second was one day hunting in the New Forest of Hampshire, when he was shot by an arrow, that Sir Walter Tyrrel, his great favourite, discharged at a deer: the arrow glanced from a tree, struck the king to the heart, and he dropped down dead instantly.

neously. The innocent author of his death was so terrified at the accident, that he put spurs to his horse, made all the haste he could to the sea-shore, and embarked for France.

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*Little George.*

A tradesman in London, who had a numerous family of children, was much at a loss for a proper place for them to play in: he, however, permitted them some times to play in a large court adjoining to his house, giving them a strict charge not to go out of it. The youngest boy, George, near four years old, had

been newly clothed in breeches, and the alteration in his dress gave him no small pleasure: desirous of shewing himself to all his little friends, he left the court. In his haste, he ran against a chimney-sweeper, and, in striving to avoid the footy lad, he fell into the kennel. The sweeper was a lad of compassion, and soon helped him up, begged he would not cry, and began to hug and embrace him to keep him quiet. All this time George thought nothing about his new clothes being daubed: but no sooner had his black friend left him, than he found himself not





only dirty by his fall in the ken-  
nel, but very much sooted by  
the embraces of the sweeper.

This was in consequence of  
leaving the place assigned him  
to play in: but so pitiful was his  
countenance, and so sensibly did

he seem to feel the effects of his situation, that his parents could not, in reason, beat him, believing he was sincerely sorry for what had happened.

At night, however, George did not forget the actions of the day: when he laid himself down to sleep he remembered the sweeper, and, in about an hour after, the family were alarmed by his calling out, when, upon going to see what was the matter with him, he was sitting up in bed, saying, "I thought the little black boy was here."



*The Boy and the Bucket.*

In a country village, some few years since, there was a well upon the common, for the use of the inhabitants: a little boy, on a visit to his friends there, and to whom a well was a new thing, went with his sister to see it: the bucket, at that time, hap-



pened to be drawn up to the top of the well, and he ventured to stand up in it; the weight of his body soon set the bucket in motion, and he very gradually descended to the bottom of the well, holding by the rope. A farmer's man, at some distance, perceiving the handle of the winch to turn round, and seeing no person near to it, he came to examine into the cause, when, hearing the cries of the little boy in the well, he wound up the bucket and saved the child from a watery grave.

*Of the Scallop, &c.*

“The scallop is a shell fish of the oyster kind, and remarkable for its method of moving itself. When deserted by the tide, it first gapes with its shell as widely as it can, the edges being often an inch asunder, then it shuts them with a jerk, and by this the whole animal rises five or six inches from the ground; thus it tumbles forward, renewing the effort till it reaches the water. When there, it supports itself on the surface, and by opening and shutting its shells, it tumbles forward at ease.

The razor shell has a very different kind of motion, having only the power of sinking, or rising, in soft sand. The shape of this animal resembles nothing so much as the haft of a razor, and it was never known to leave the spot where it was first planted. From time to time it rises about half way out of its hole, but, if disturbed, sinks down again. Over the place where it lies there is a small hole, through which the animal breathes, or imbibes the sea water; these holes are known to the fishermen, at low water, who entice the razor up



by sprinkling a little salt therein; this melting, and reaching the razor below, it rises instantly, and shews half its length above the surface. This appearance is for a very short time, and if the fisher does not seize it soon, it buries itself to its former depth. There it continues secure; no salt can allure it a second time; but it remains unmolested, unless the fisher will be at the trouble of digging it out, sometimes two feet below the surface.

Even oysters have the power of moving themselves occasionally; for, if they be thrown

irregularly into a vessel of water, they will, in a while, turn themselves till the smooth shell becomes uppermost, otherwise they would hold no water in the concave shell to subsist on. Muscles have been seen to walk on the ground, as water-snails do."

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*Cautions to Walkers in the Streets  
of London.*

When the wall is at one's right hand *take it*; when our left is nearest the wall *give it*. Never take the wall of a loaded porter; some persons have had their heads bruised, and many

narrowly escaped being hurt. Endeavour to pass on the left hand of every person you meet, this practice renders walking in London more easy than heretofore; for when it was the custom to give the wall to *our* *bettors*, or take the wall of *our* *inferiors*, it was very troublesome walking. But never drive any person rudely from the wall; yet such as are fond of keeping by the side of it, will find a great convenience in keeping on that side of the street which has the *wall on their right hand*.





Never turn hastily round the corner of a street, by this some have been greatly hurt. One young woman, in so doing, ran against a porter's load, and nearly lost one of her eyes by the blow she received: but this was partly owing to the porter not being in his proper place, for

he was *close* to the wall, when he should have been the *farthest* from it.

Avoid a crowd as much as may be; yet, when accidents occur, endeavour to assist the afflicted, if practicable;—when not so, retire.

Never look backward and continue walking forward; some persons have received violent blows by so doing.

Strangers should enquire at houses, or shop-keepers, for any place they may want to find, and not of persons in the street.

*The playful Tiger.*

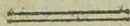
A young tiger was brought over, a few years since, in the Pitt East India ship, which admitted every kind of play to be used by the men and boys on board. It sometimes slept in the hammocs with the sailors, and would allow two or three of them to repose their heads upon its back, whilst it lay stretched out to sleep on the deck. It would climb about the ship like a cat, and play with a dog, that was on board the ship, in a diverting manner. When the ship came into the river Thames, a poor woman





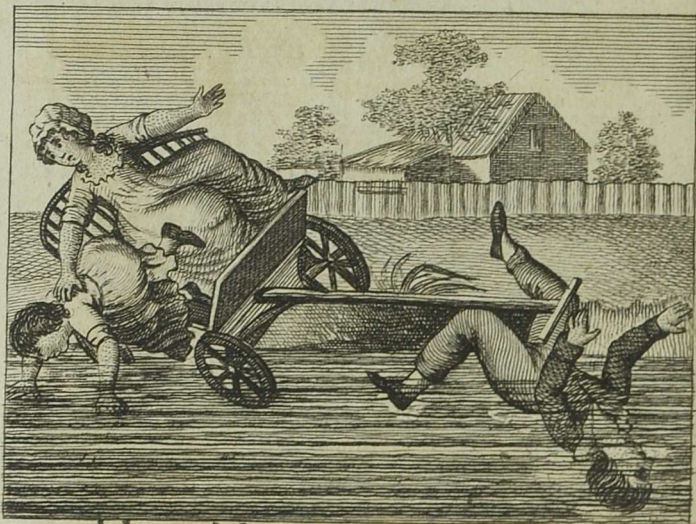
went on board to sell gingerbread and cakes: the smell of these things brought the tiger to the spot, and he jumped on her shoulders, like a cat, took some of the cakes, and retired without hurting the woman,

though she was greatly frightened. Not long after, some of the sailors had bought a piece of fresh beef, one of whom was for stewing it, whilst others were for roasting it; but before the dispute was settled, the tiger had taken it away and eaten it.



*All in the Water.*

A little boy, who was very fond of drawing his two sisters in a chaise, was one day running, at a great rate, on a gravel walk in the garden, when, going rather too near the side of a fish-pond, he found himself



unable, with all his endeavours, to stop the chaise time enough to prevent its falling into the water, and, being on a declivity and losing his balance, they all fell in. The pond was not very deep, and they got out unhurt, though very much wetted.





*The Escape.*

William Hewet, a cloth-worker of London, lived on London Bridge in the year 1530, and as his maid servant was diverting his child on the edge of an open window, it slipped out of her hands and fell into the Thames! His apprentice,

whose name was Osborn, immediately jumped out of the shop-window into the river after the child; and to the great joy of many spectators brought it safe on shore. Her father became rich, was knighted, and afterwards chosen lord mayor of London. When his daughter arrived at the age of maturity she had many suitors, among whom was the Earl of Shrewsbury; but her father rejected every offer, and gratefully betrothed her to Osborn, who had saved her life at the hazard of his own; he was the ancestor of the Duke of Leeds.



*Cruelty punished.*

All animals seem to know their enemies, and to avoid them at the same time. Instinct, indeed, may teach the mouse to run from the cat, but what is the principle that teaches the dog



to attack the *dog-butcher* wherever he finds him? Dr. Goldsmith says, "I have seen a poor fellow, who made a practice of stealing dogs for their skins, pursued by all the bolder dogs of the village, whilst the weaker flew from him with affright."

Dr. Percival, in his moral tales, says, "A pack of hounds were kept long without sufficient food, to render them more eager for the chace, and were frequently lashed by their keeper, who one day entering the kennel without his whip, they all flew upon him and tore him to pieces."

*“The Penrith Dog, Feb. 13, 1775.*

“As the son of Mr. Boustead, of Great Salkeld, was shepherding upon Great Salkeld common, he had the misfortune to fall and break his leg; he was then three miles from home, no person within call, and evening approaching. At a moment when distraction was most likely to overcome the powers of reason and reflection, he folded one of his gloves in his handkerchief, which he tied round the neck of the dog, and ordered him home.

“The dogs which are train-



ed to an attendance on the flock, are known to be under admirable subjection to the commands of their masters. The animal set off, and when arrived at the house, scratched at the door for admittance. The young man's parents were alarmed at his appearance, and



more especially when they took off and unfolded the handkerchief. Concluding, beyond a doubt, that some accident had befallen their son, they instantly went in search of him. The dog needed no invitation. Apparently sensible that the chief part of his duty was yet to be performed, he led the way, and conducted the anxious parents to the spot where their son lay. Happily this was effected before night came on! the young man was brought home, and the necessary aid being procured, he is in a fair way of recovery."—*New Annual Register.*

*The Animal Flower.*

On the north side of the Island of Barbadoes, which is in the West Indies, there is a cave in a rocky cliff, which contains a bason of water. In the midst of this bason is a rock, always covered with water, on the sides of which, and a few inches below the surface, are seen, at all seasons of the year, issuing out of little holes, what have the appearance of finely radicated flowers, in size, colour, and shape like a marigold. Whoever attempts to pluck one of these will find,

that when their fingers come within two or three inches of it, it contracts, closes up its border, and shrinks back into the hole of the rock; but if left undisturbed for a few minutes, it issues again, and soon appears in full bloom. This might induce one to believe, that it was no other than an aquatic sensitive plant; but, on a close inspection, four dark-coloured filaments may be discerned rising from the centre, moving with a quick and spontaneous motion, and frequently closing to seize its prey, much like the claws of a lobster, so



that the seeming flower is really an animal; and its body, which appeared to be the stalk of the flower, is black, and about the size of a raven's quill. It seems that the vivid yellow colour of its feelers is necessary to procure its food. The water, in the cave, having no motion, cannot bring any food to them. Therefore, the Creator has endued this creature with a quality which may allure its prey; for bright colours invite many aquatic animals, as the flame of a candle does moths or flies.

*A Person Speaks without a Tongue.*

“ A child, in Essex, some years ago, had her tongue cut out, by reason of an incurable canker; she was then three years old. Twenty years after, it was reported she was able to speak; to be satisfied thereof, Mr. Benj. Boddington, Turkey merchant, of Ipswich, with two other gentlemen, went to Wickham Market, where the young woman then lived, whose case they thus described: ‘ We have this day been to Wickham Market, to satisfy ourselves concerning Margaret Cutting. We

examined her mouth with the greatest exactness, but found no part of her tongue remaining. Notwithstanding this, she swallowed both solids and fluids as well as we could do, and in the same manner. Yea, and she talked as fluently as other persons do: she pronounced letters and syllables very accurately, even those which seem to need the help of the tongue, as d, l, t, w. She read to us in a book distinctly."

*Wesley on Creation.*





*The Plotter.*

Guy Fawkes was taken in the days of King James the First, with a dark lanthorn in his hand, and matches in his pocket, having placed a great quantity of gunpowder in the vaults under the parliament house, with a design to blow up the king and

parliament, which were to have met there on the next day. This man had a great number of companions, and such of them as were in London fled to Warwickshire, where, being beset on all sides, they resolved (about eighty persons) to fly no farther, but make a stand and defend themselves to the last. But a spark of fire happening to fall among some *gunpowder* that was laid to dry, it blew up, and so maimed the principal conspirators, and the rest, in attempting to escape, were killed or taken prisoners.



Two country lads were one day standing at the corner of an inn, in London, when they perceived a taylor's goose stand at the window of his stall. One of them thought to take away the goose sily, and hide it; but no sooner had he got hold of it, than



he screamed out very loud; and indeed he would have got rid of it sooner than he did, for the iron was too hot for use, and had been seen set out to cool, for it burnt his hand very sorely.

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*Filial Affection.*

“Honour thy father and mother,” is part of that sacred law given to mankind, ever worthy to be remembered. It becomes us to revere, obey, and love those to whom we are so greatly indebted. Disobedience to parents hath been awfully marked with the displeasure of heaven, while affection and attention to them have been eminently sanctioned

as the means of promoting their felicity, and our own honour.

Miltiades, a famous Athenian commander, died in prison, where he had been cast for debt. His son, Cimon, to redeem his father's body for burial, voluntarily submitted himself a prisoner in his room, where he was kept in chains till the debt was paid. A modern writer, in his friendly advice to servants, observes, 'I have seen a daughter willing to wear mean clothes, that her aged mother might have some to wear. I have, also, seen such conduct blessed with distinguished favour.'



In the Blue-coat School, founded by that youthful king, Edward the Sixth, in London and in Hertford, a youth was lately rewarded by the governors, for saving his money and victuals, for an aged parent in distress.

On the contrary, disobedient children have been as frequently



punished in many remarkable ways. Absalom raised an army against his father ; but, on the day of battle, as he rode upon a mule, his hair caught hold of the boughs of an oak, and the mule that was under him went away. In this situation he was killed by Joab, and other soldiers.

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*Of the Stork.*

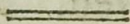
It is said, that this bird never forsakes its parents, when they are old, but tenderly feeds and defends them, as long as they live.

The following adventure of

a tame stork, at the university of Tubingen, seems to shew a degree of understanding, which one would scarce expect in the brute creation. “ This bird lived quietly in the court-yard, till Count Gravenitz, a student there, wantonly shot at a stork’s nest adjacent to the college, and probably wounded the stork then in it. This happened in autumn, when storks usually leave Germany. The next spring, a stork was seen on the top of the college, which, in a day or two, came down into the court. The tame stork went to meet him, with a soft, cheer-

ful note, when the other fell upon him with the utmost fury. The spectators drove him away; but he came again the next day, and during the whole summer, there were continual skirmishes between them. The spring following, instead of one stork four came, and attacked him all at once: a surprising event followed. All the turkeys, ducks, and geese, that had been brought up in the court, ran together, and formed a kind of rampart round him against his fierce pursuers. This secured him for the present; but, in the beginning of the

third spring, about twenty storks suddenly alighted in the court, and, before the poor stork's life-guards could form themselves, or the people come to his assistance, he was killed, which none could impute to any thing but the shot fired, by Count Gravenitz, at the strange stork's nest."



*Sagacity.*

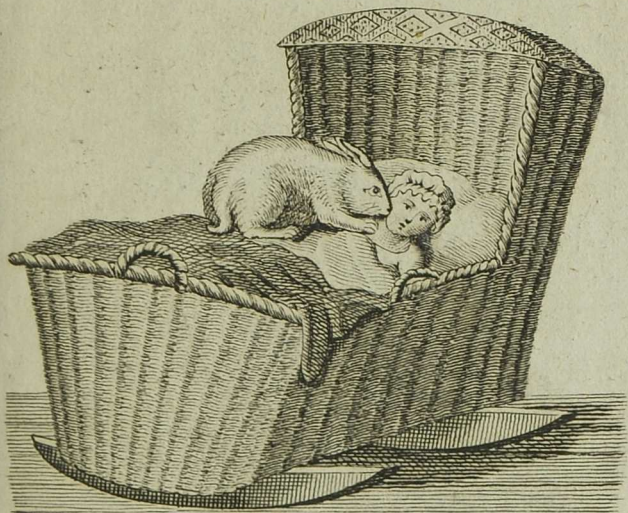
During a severe storm, in 1789, a ship, belonging to Newcastle, was lost near Yarmouth, from which a Newfoundland dog alone escaped, bringing in his mouth the captain's pocket



book. He landed amidst a number of people, several of whom, in vain, endeavoured to take it from him. The sagacious animal, as if sensible of the importance of the charge, which, in all probability, was delivered to him by his perishing master, at length leaped fawningly against the breast of a man who had attracted his notice among the crowd, and delivered the book to him. The dog instantly returned to the sea-side, waited with great attention for every thing that came from the vessel, and endeavoured to bring them to land.

*Child and Rabbit.*

Many a kind parent has been delighted at seeing an infant playing with a kitten, or a puppy; some have even kept lambs, pigs, or rabbits in their houses, for the amusement of their children; and many have had to deplore the accidents that have been occasioned thereby. A bookbinder once kept a rabbit for his child to play with; they were frequently fed at the same time, and at others slept together: but, one day, as the child was asleep, the rabbit got up to its face, and had begun to eat its nose! Alarmed by its

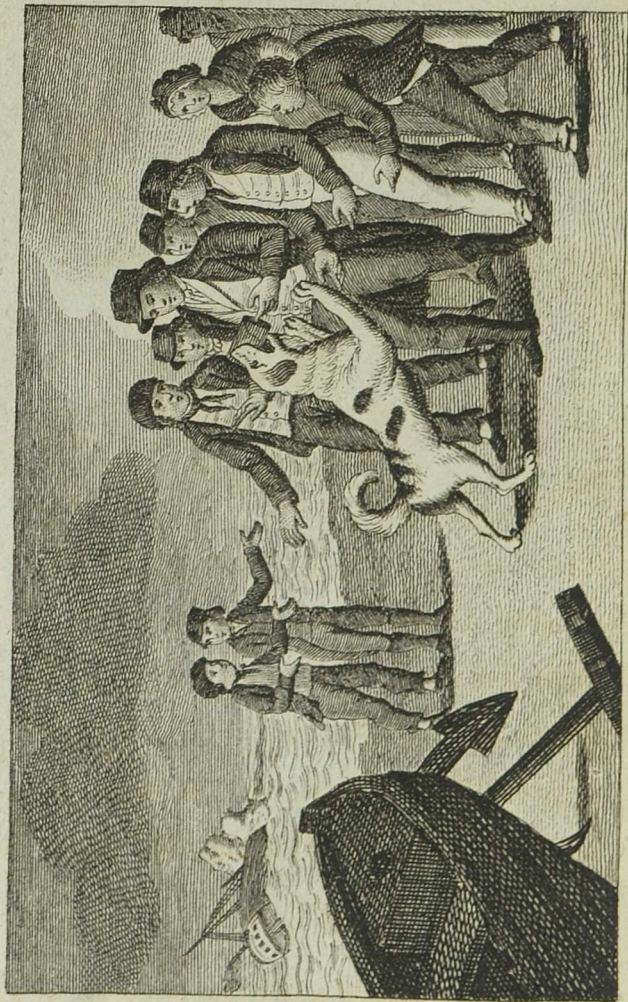


cries, the parents ran to help it and found its face covered with blood. To this day, so great an aversion has the child to a rabbit, that it cannot be prevailed upon to touch one.

F I N I S .

Darton and Harvey, Printers, Gracechurch street, London.





*Darton & Harvey London, June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1851.*





