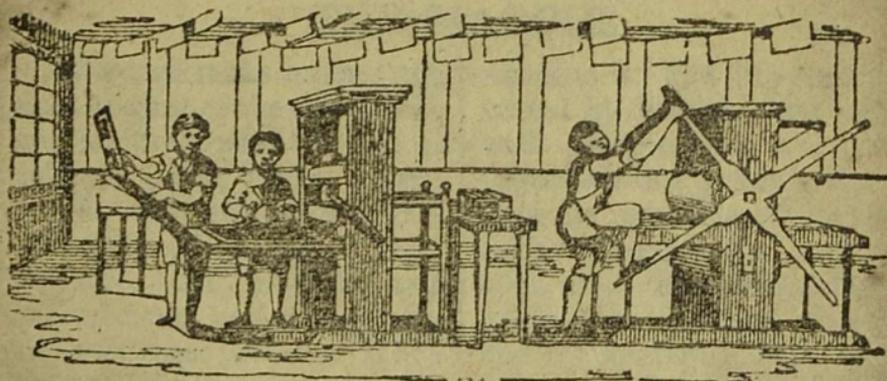


NOVELTY

FOR THE

NEW YEAR.



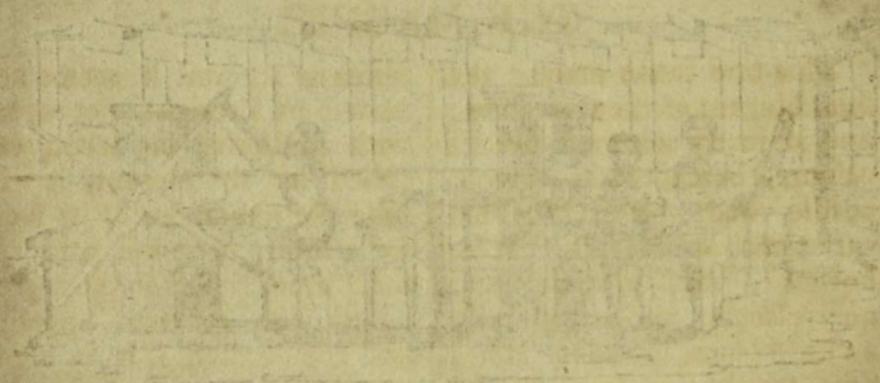
London:

Published by J. FAIRBURN,

NOVELTY

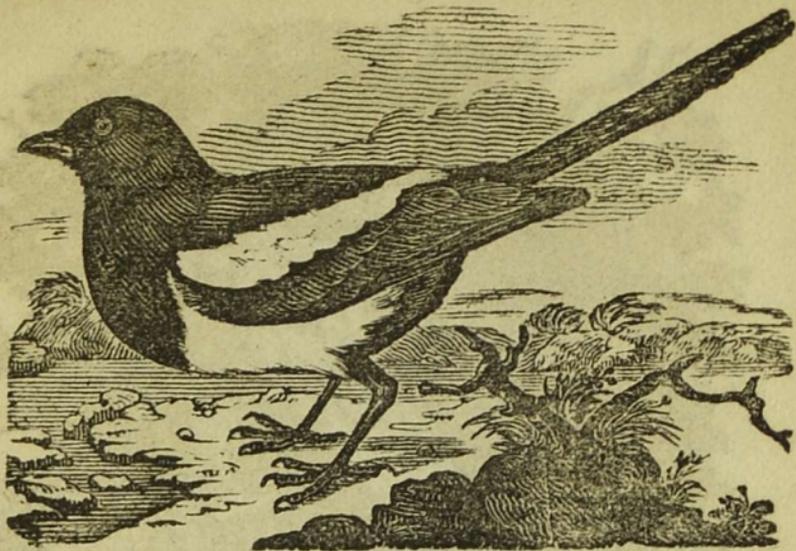
FOR THE

NEW Y. E. A. R.



LONDON:

Published by J. PATERSON,



THE MAGPIE.

This bird ranks among the most elegant of the crow kind; and is justly admired for its colours, black, white, green, purple, and the rich gilded variations of its tail. It is, however, vain, restless, and quarrelsome, and is generally an unwelcome intruder. It has been taught to speak, but its articulations are shrill and sharp, and imperfect imitations of the human voice. It delights in mischief, particularly in stealing and hiding spoons, &c. and, on this account, it has been rendered the hero of an entertainment performed at all the theatres, both royal and minor. It lives on insects, and such animals as it is able to conquer. No food comes

amiss to it, and it seems actuated by foresight, not usual with gluttons; for when satisfied for the present, it will hide the remainder of its food for a future occasion, and after a time, return to the secret hoard with renewed appetite and vociferation. It is often domesticated and let to wander about at pleasure. When sure of escaping punishment, it has the insolence to tease large quadrupeds; and often perches itself on the back of a sheep or ox, picking out the insects that lodge there, chattering, and tormenting the animal, and even stretching out its neck in a menacing posture at the poor unoffending sufferer.



THE OWL.

THERE are about twelve species of the Owl, but the white Owl or barn Owl, the horned Owl, the eagle Owl, and the ivy Owl or screech Owl, are the most common. The whole family may be considered as robbers who take advantage of the darkness to execute their schemes of plunder. They are distinguished from all other birds by the quality of more perfect vision in the night than in the day. They are dazzled by a refulgent light, and therefore never commit their depredations till the close of the day. Their note is exceedingly discordant, which the silence of night renders more disagreeable. Though ridiculed, and by some dis-

liked, the barn Owl is frequently domesticated. It is of infinite service in destroying mice; and, as it only preys on what is inimical to human industry, it may be deemed of utility to mankind. The eagle Owl preys on hares and feathered game. The ivy Owl, or screech Owl is the terror of old women, as superstition has ascribed to it the power of foreboding death or some calamity. The ancients believed that it sucked the blood of young children, and hence it has been dreaded and detested in all ages, probably without any just cause. Its screams are alarming, and it generally approaches windows where there is a light in the room.



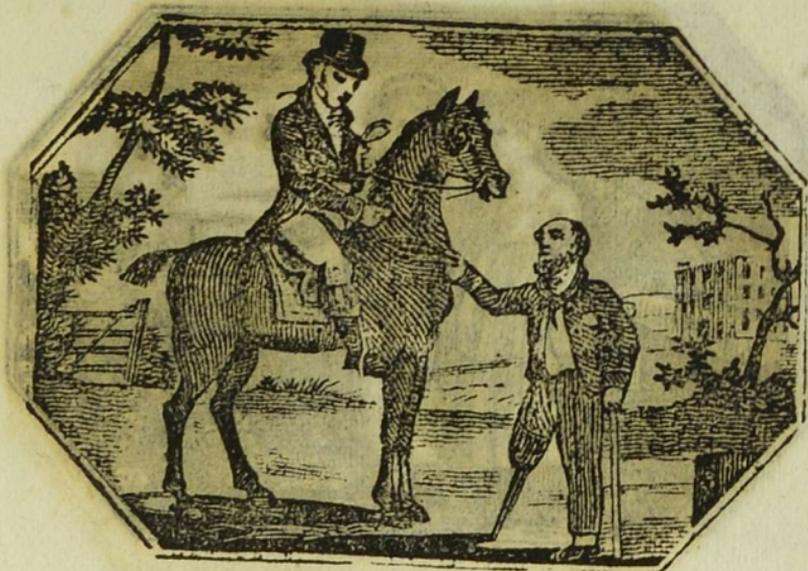
THE LAMBS

These boys are at play with the lamb, and one of them is pointing to the flock a-cross the meadow. "My father," said he, "owns them, and intends to send some up to London, where their harmless lives will be at an end. We ought to be kind to them while they are here, since they must soon die for our support!"



THE TULIP.

This gay flower came out of my brother's garden; but what would be very pretty in a tulip could be wrong in me. How like a moth I should look in such a gaudy dress! Besides, the flower has no smell, and therefore all its charms lie in its dress, which with young folks should not be for pride, but use.



A POOR SAILOR.

Just mark the contrast between these two persons. One of them has but one leg, and is ten miles from home; the other has four legs to carry him, and is riding about his park. You see he is giving honest Jack a penny who will speak well of him when he cannot speak for himself, and at a time when gold is of no value



THE BEES.

“ I was stung the o-ther day by these bu-sy crea-tures,” said Nan-cy; “ and they should ra-ther have wound-ed Henry, for it was he who teaz-ed them.” “ The bees are as harm-less as they are use-ful,” said Tom-my; “ the fault was not in the bees, but in your be-ing in rude com-pa-ny. They were at work; you were both i-dle.”



FIGHTING DOGS.

It is a pity that these dogs, who went out to take a pleasant walk with their young master and his sister, could not return as good friends as when they set out. One found a bone, and the other wished to have it. The little boy sees the attack is unjust, and means to prevent the stronger dog from robbing the weaker.



BROTHERLY LOVE.

Charles was ve-ry fond of his sis-ters, and thought they were more cle-ver than him-self. He was the first to run for them, and the last to think it a trouble. He is here pre-sent-ing to them a nest of young larks, with a kind wish that they may have as much plea-sure in their tune-ful notes as he had dan-ger in tak-ing them.



THE RICH ROSE.

No soon-er was the beg-gar gone, than the young pair ran in doors, to give an ae-count of their con-duct; but scarce-ly had got in, when they were fol-low-ed by a small bas-ket of peach-es and pears, for, you must know, their aunt had seen all that had pass-ed from her din-ing room win-dow. Who would not have been

pleas-ed at find-ing nuts and ap-
ples chang-ed in-to peach-es and
pears? Not long af-ter, Hen-ry was
told to go to the bow-er, and ga-
ther one of the fi-nest ro-ses next
the cher-ry tree. He gave it to
lit-tle Anne, who put it in-to her
bo-som, and ran in to show it to
her aunt. “Be not vain,” said this
good la-dy, “of an or-na-ment
that blooms to-day, and fades to-
morrow. One good deed will
make you more lo-ved than ten
neck-laces. Now you shall see
what fruit a good ac-tion bears.
Shake that rose?” Anne did as
she was bid, and, to her sur-prise,
down fell two sil-ver pen-nies.



THE HARE.

THIS is a poor timid animal, but it has sufficient cause for apprehension, being the prey both of men and animals for its flesh. It is persecuted in the chase by dogs for diversion, and if it should escape the multiplied dangers to which it is exposed, it seldom lives more than seven or eight years. Nature has provided it with very long ears, which, like tubes, convey remote sounds; and with prominent eyes, which receive the rays of light on every side; thus, this little delicate creature is prepared for the most distant approaches of nature. It is also remarkable for swiftness, and has the peculiar advantage of ascending hills, on account of

its hind legs being longer than the fore, with more facility than its pursuers are capable of. Besides every species of dog, the cat, and the weazel tribe are its chief enemies.

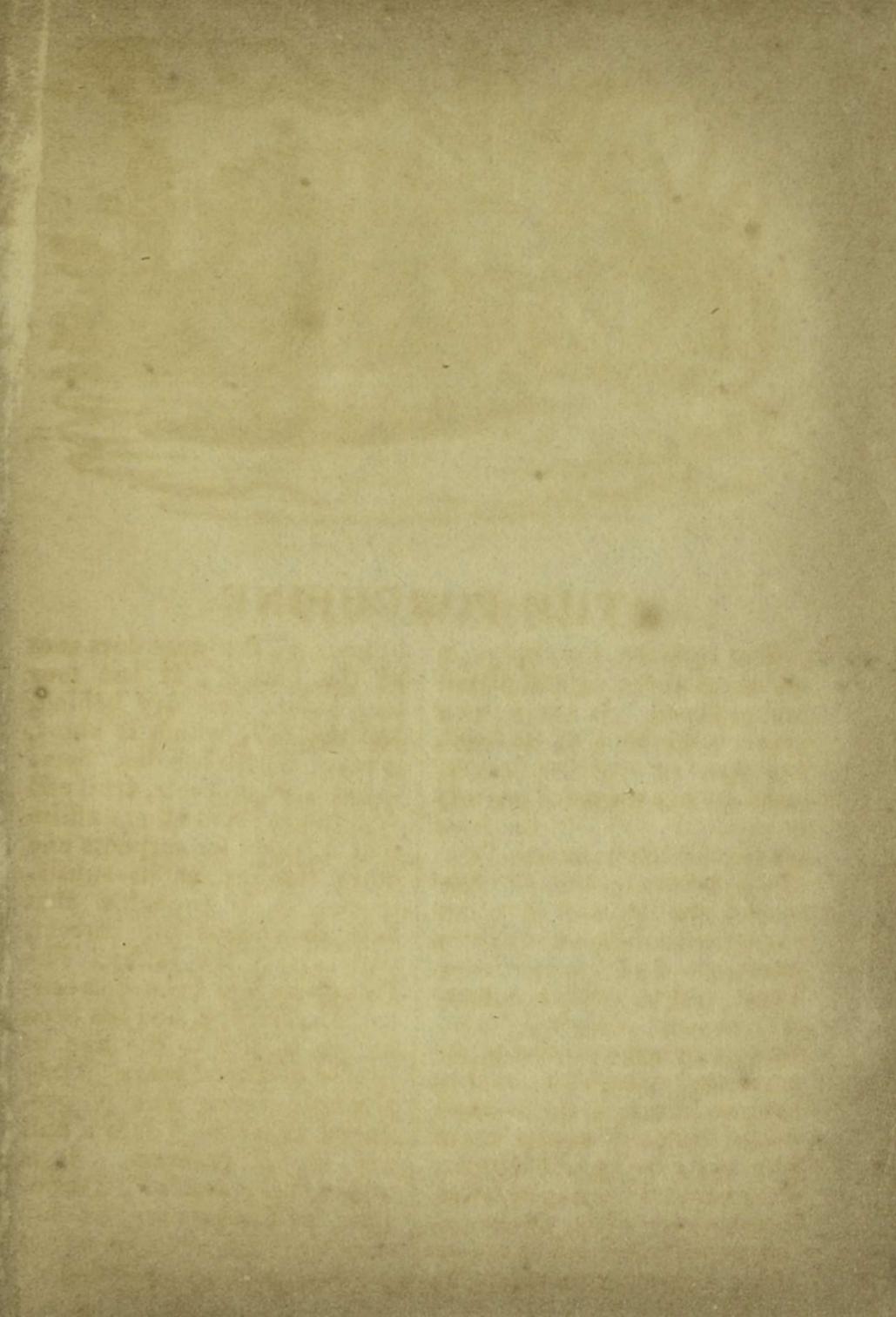
The form of the hare is too well known to need description; it breeds when very young, continues pregnant thirty days, and generally produces three or four, several times every season. In about 20 days the young are able to provide for themselves. Their food is chiefly vegetables; every kind of which, even the bark of trees they eat. The fur of hares is an article of great importance in hat manufactories. Its flesh is considered delicate.



THE PORCUPINE.

THE common Porcupine is about two feet long and fifteen inches broad. It has a long crest on the back of its head, composed of stiff bristles, reclining backwards. The body is covered with quills from ten to fourteen inches long, sharp pointed, and thickest in the middle, and these are varied with black and white, interspersed with a few hairs. These quills, which appear to have been designed by nature for defence instead of annoyance, naturally recline backwards; but the animal, when irritated, erects them. The head, belly and legs are covered with strong bristles, terminated with dusky-coloured hair; the whiskers are long; the ears resemble the

human, as the nose does that of the hare's. It has four toes before and five behind, and the tail, which is short, is covered with bristles. Some say it lives on roots, fruit and vegetables; and others affirm that it hunts for serpents and other reptiles as its subsistence; it is probable that both statements are correct, particularly the latter. The Porcupine has been domesticated in Europe, and has been known to live to the age of twelve or fifteen years. Only a single young one is produced at a time. It is a dull and torpid creature. It is styled the "fretful" Porcupine, by Shakspeare, on account of the erection of its bristles through agitation.



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