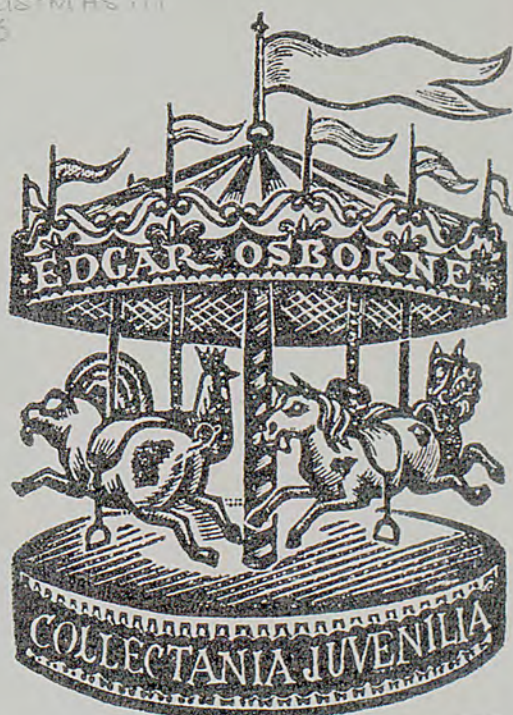


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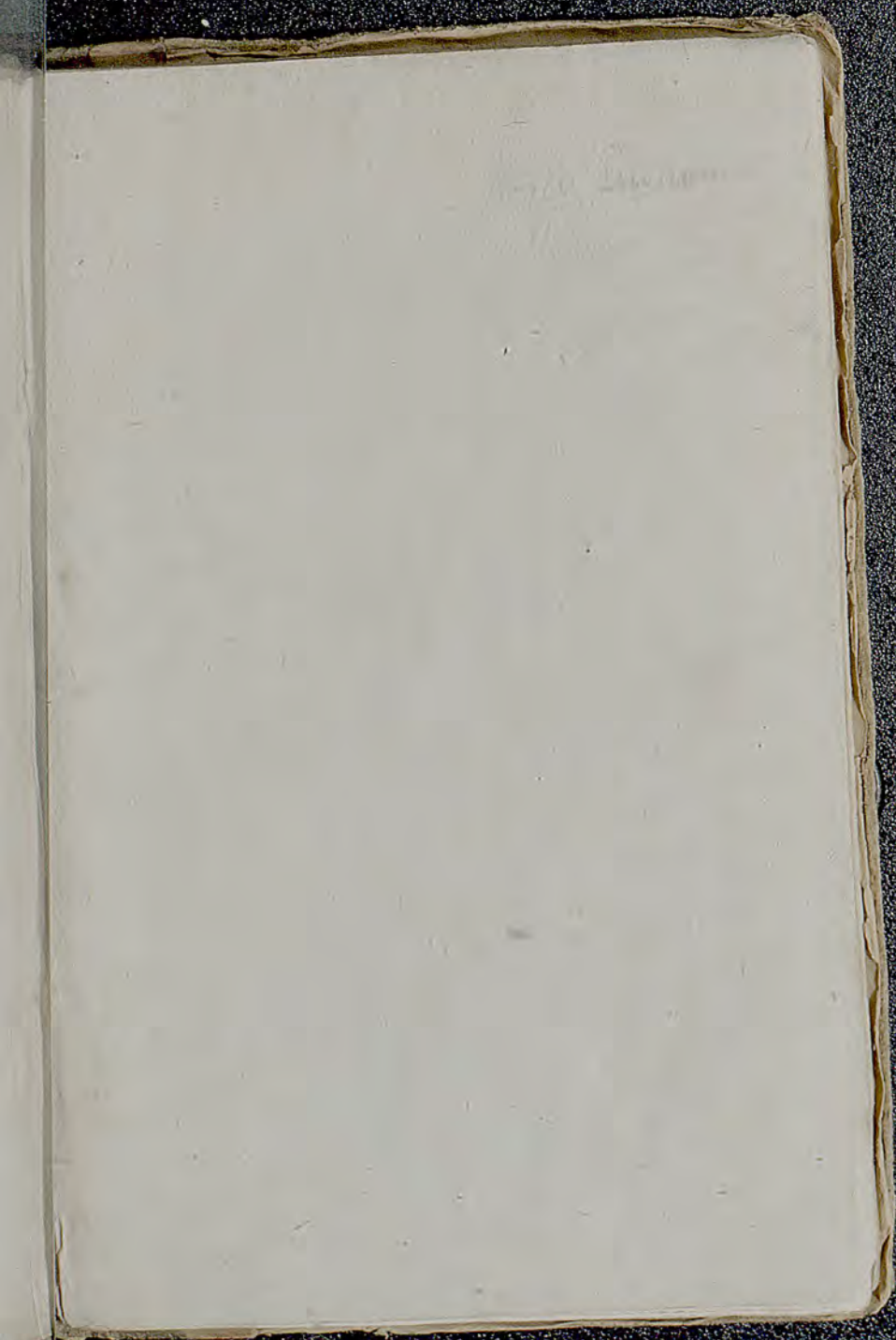
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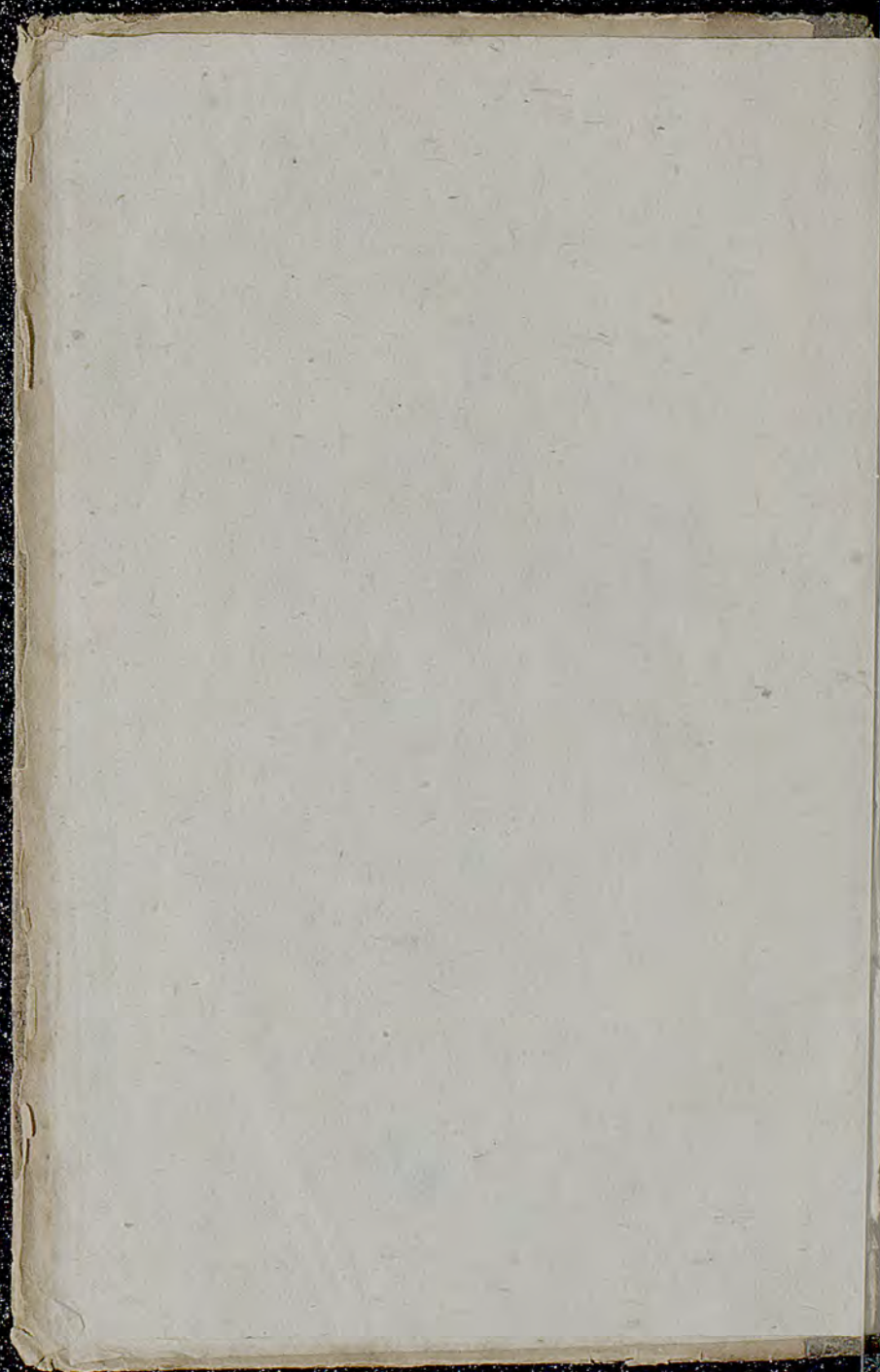
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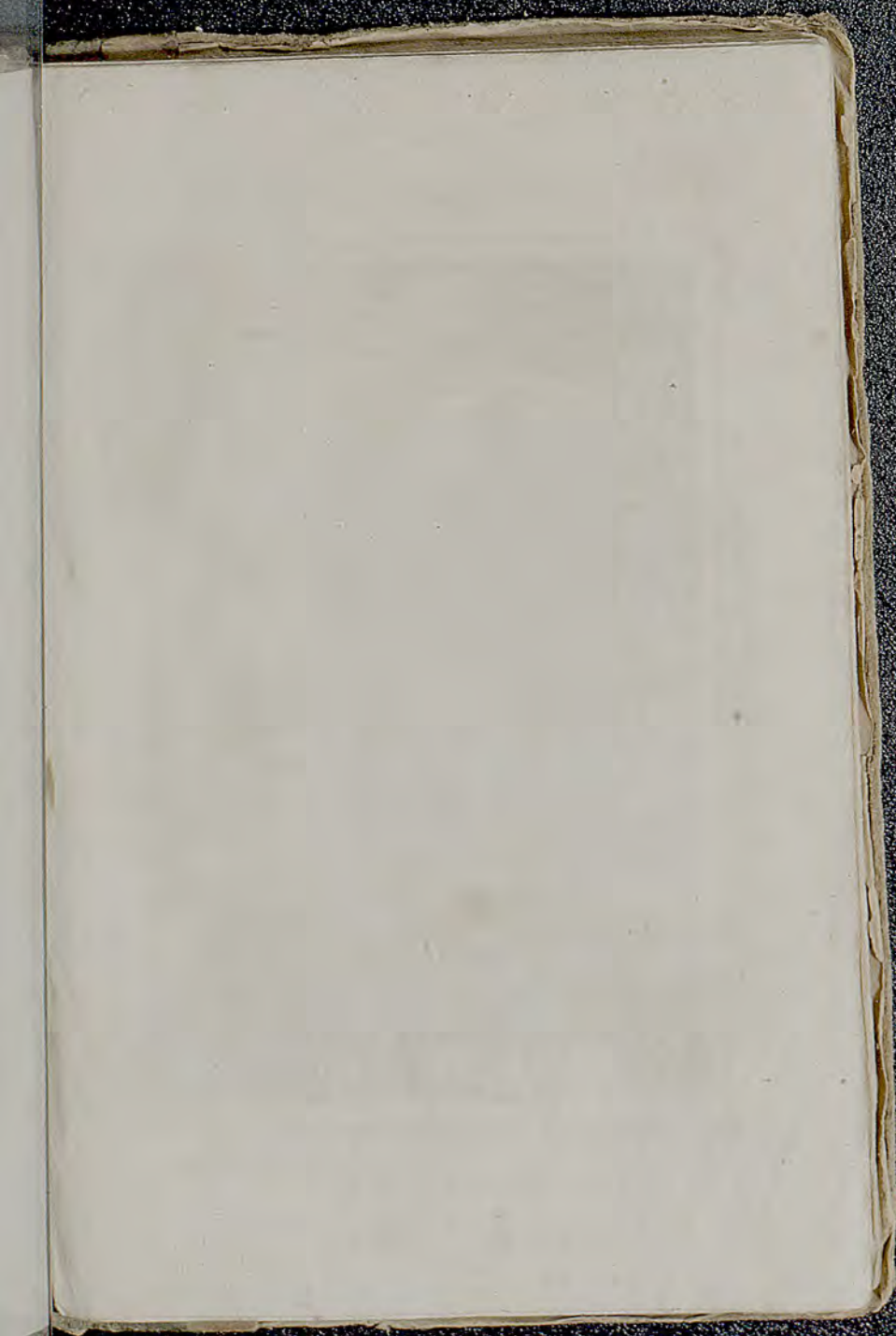


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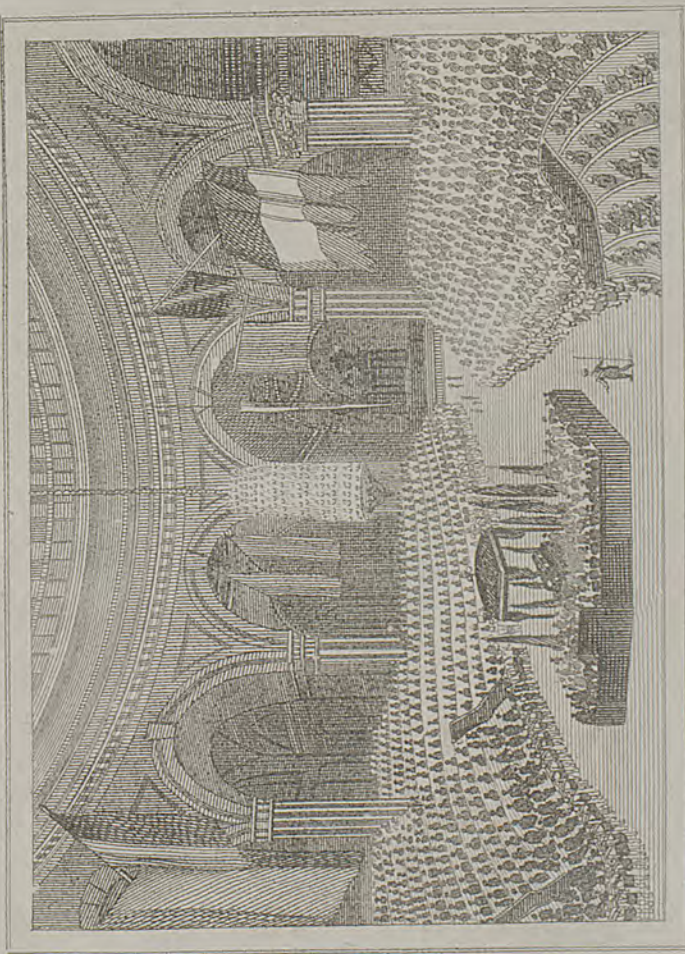






NELSON'S FUNERAL.

Page 73



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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS,
OR THE
YOUNG VISITANTS;
A TALE;
IN WHICH
MANY PLEASANT DESCRIPTIONS
OF THAT
FESTIVE SEASON,
BOTH IN
TOWN AND COUNTRY,
ARE GIVEN FOR THE BENEFIT
OF
THE RISING GENERATION.

LONDON:

Printed for J. HARRIS, (Successor to E. NEWBERRY) Cor-
ner of St. Paul's Church-Yard.

1806.

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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

CHARLES Pierpoint and Edward Rushdale were school-fellows at an academy about ten miles from London; and had contracted a friendship for each other from the similarity of their dispositions, and their mutual attachment to learning. The former was the only son of the Honourable Mr. Pierpoint, a gentleman of great landed property, but

who, having a seat in Parliament, resided generally in London. Edward Rushdale's father was a country gentleman, who farmed a considerable part of his own estate; and, being partial to the sports of the field, never went to London, but when business called him thither.

Mr. Pierpoint was a gentleman of highly polished manners, but possessed of a great deal of family pride, which was visible in all his words and actions; he nevertheless could at times unbend from the stiffness

of

of his manners, and make himself very agreeable; but this was seldom done in any other company than that of his lady and children.

Mr. Rushdale was a very different character; he was as free and open in his manners as the day itself; but had a rough, blunt way of speaking, which was not always pleasing to those who were not intimately acquainted with him; but with his friends he was the cheerful, honest, hospitable, good hearted fellow; and indeed he was very deserving of this

character; for a beggar never came to his door unrelieved; and all his neighbours at times partook of the good cheer which his house ever afforded.

These two gentlemen had arrived at the Rev. Mr. Hargrave's academy a few days before the breaking up for the Christmas holidays; in order to take their sons home with them for the vacation; Mr. Pierpoint in his chariot and four, with two outriders; and Mr. Rushdale in the humbler vehicle of a neat one horse chaise, with a single attendant on horseback.

horseback. The two gentlemen were taking some refreshment in Mr. Hargrave's parlour which their sons had also been indulged with, when Master Pierpoint drawing his papa aside, said he had a very great favour to beg of him, which was that he would ask Mr. Rushdale's permission to let his son Edward accompany him to town for the holidays. Whilst Mr. Pierpoint was musing what answer he should make to this request of his son's; which he did not entirely like, but which from the great affection he bore towards him, he hardly knew

how to refuse Mr. Rushdale had caught something of the like request from the eye of Edward, who had sidled up to his father for the purpose of inducing him to ask Mr. Pierpoint for the favor of Charles's company at their house. This request was no sooner fully understood by Mr. Rushdale, than with his usual frankness of manner, he walked up to Mr. Pierpoint, saying, " My
" son, sir, who seems to entertain a
" great regard for your young gentle-
" man, has engaged me to request
" the favour of you to allow him to
" spend

“ spend the holidays with us at Farm
“ place, where both him and yourself,
“ if you will at any time favour me
“ with a call, will meet with a hearty
“ welcome.”—Mr. Pierpoint was in
his heart as little pleased with this
request made by Mr. Rushdale, as
with that made by his own son; but
said he would enquire of Mr. Har-
grave whether Charles had been
deserving of such an indulgence or
not; and left the room, seemingly for
that purpose, but with the real intent
of enquiring particularly, what were
Mr. Rushdale's pretensions and fami-
ly;

ly; and learning from Mr. Hargrave that he was a gentleman of independent property, that one of his family had been high sheriff of the county, and that Mrs. Rushdale was a baronet's daughter; he condescendingly, on his return into the room, gave his consent: adding, that it was necessary Charles should first pay his duty to his mother, and that he would before the end of the week send the chariot with him to Farm-place. Accordingly, on Christmas morning, just as the family at Farm-place were setting out for church, Master Pierpoint

point made his appearance in the same equipage, and with the same attendants, his father had arrived in when he came to fetch him home from Mr. Hargrave's. Mr. Rushdale, having ordered his housekeeper to make Mr. Pierpoint's servants welcome, proceeded with his family and Master Pierpoint to church; after which they were accompanied home to dinner by the Rev. Dr. Preachwell and his family; and a noble dinner they had, I assure you. In the great hall, the windows and ornaments of which were stuck full of evergreens, or

Christmas-

Christmas-box, was a large blazing fire of billet wood, which shed its cheering influence throughout the whole apartment, and Doctor Preachwell having said grace, they sat down to a dinner consisting of a fine sirloin of roast beef, a turkey and gammon of bacon, a large boiled plum-pudding, and some excellent mince-pies of Mrs. Rushdale's own making. After dinner a fine desert of winter fruits, such as apples, pears, medlars, oranges, almonds and raisins, nuts, stewed pears, &c. made their appearance, with a large bowl of punch, and

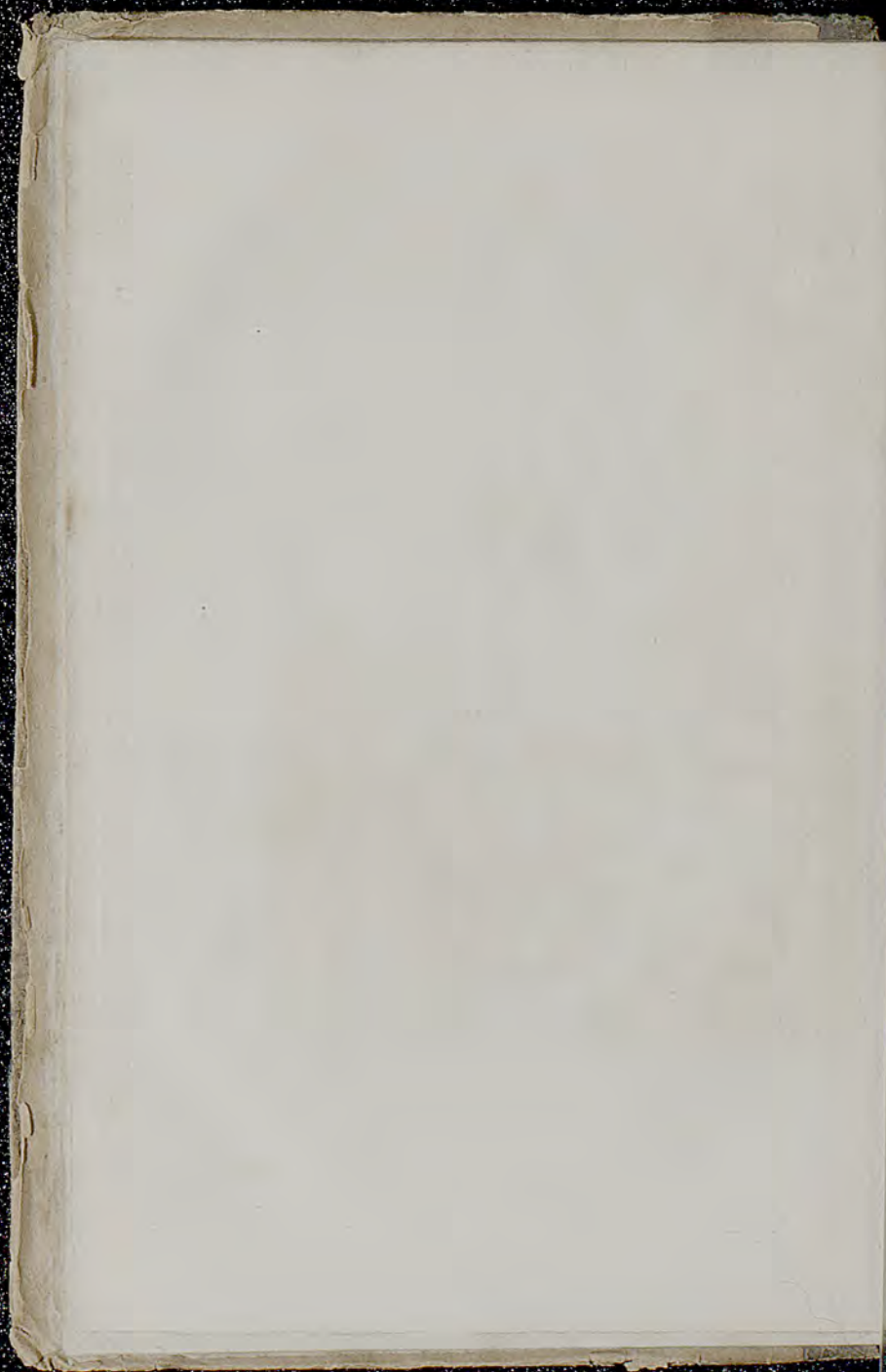
and a tankard of October. The Doctor and Mr. Rushdale, leaving the ladies and our young gentlemen to the enjoyment of their wine and the desert, lighted their pipes, and set themselves in such good earnest to the punch bowl, that their faces soon assumed a colour not much unlike that of the glowing embers before them; and which when gently hinted at by Mrs. Preachwell, they gravely attributed to the effect of the frosty air when returning from church: while Mr. Rushdale calling the footman to him, bade him desire Mrs. Pantry (the housekeeper

housekeeper) to make just such another bowl of punch as that they had then emptied.

In the middle of the second bowl Dr. Preachwell having taken off his wig to wipe his head with a handkerchief, on account of the great warmth of the apartment, chanced to put it on again the hinder part before; the bushy appearance of which over his flushed face set the whole company, but especially the boys, in a roar of laughter, in which the Doctor himself, as soon as he had found



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found the mistake he had committed, heartily joined, saying good-naturedly, "I will read you something of a similar story (for I must be a blockhead to put my wig on in that manner;) which I copied from our newspaper:" so taking a paper from his pocket-book he began to read it, but whether the heat of the room or the fume of his pipe had affected his utterance I know not; but he said he felt a heaviness at his chest which prevented his doing justice to the story, and bade Edward read it for the entertainment of the company.

THE MISTAKE.

A democratic crop, all closely shorn,
Went to a barber's shop one Sunday morn :
'Mid ranks of wigs he took his seat to learn
Some barber's news, and wait his shaving turn.
Up came old Ganges with his flowing wig,
White as a cauliflower, but twice as big :
And peering round, for he was almost blind,
A vacant block-stand for his wig to find,
He chanc'd, sad hap ! his periwig to pop
Upon the nut-brown head of knowing Crop :
Up bounc'd the blade, and swore and flounc'd about ;
" What is't you mean, sir, I'll call ye out."
Quick as light-horseman vaults into his saddle,
Did Ganges' spectacles his nose bestraddle :
For much he star'd to see his old wig walk,

Swear

Swear so, and so undutifully talk ;
But soon as ever the mistake he spied,
The good old man, quite out of breath, replied :
“ Your feelings, sir, I did not mean to shock ;
Indeed, indeed, I took you for a block.”

We will now leave Mr. Rushdale
and the Doctor to themselves, and
accompany our young gentlemen
into the servant's hall, where many
of the good people of the village had
been invited with their families to par-
take of a Christmas dinner ; and where,
while the nut-brown ale was cheer-
fully passing round, a band of mor-
rice dancers were displaying their
G 2 agility,

agility, while the low humour and buffoonery of their clown, drew peals of laughter and applause from the merry hearted company.

Farm-place was one of those large old family mansions which were built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and observable from their spacious chimney places, and windows: it was built by Sir William Rushdale, who was Lord Mayor of London in the reign of that Queen, and knighted by her; and whose
picture

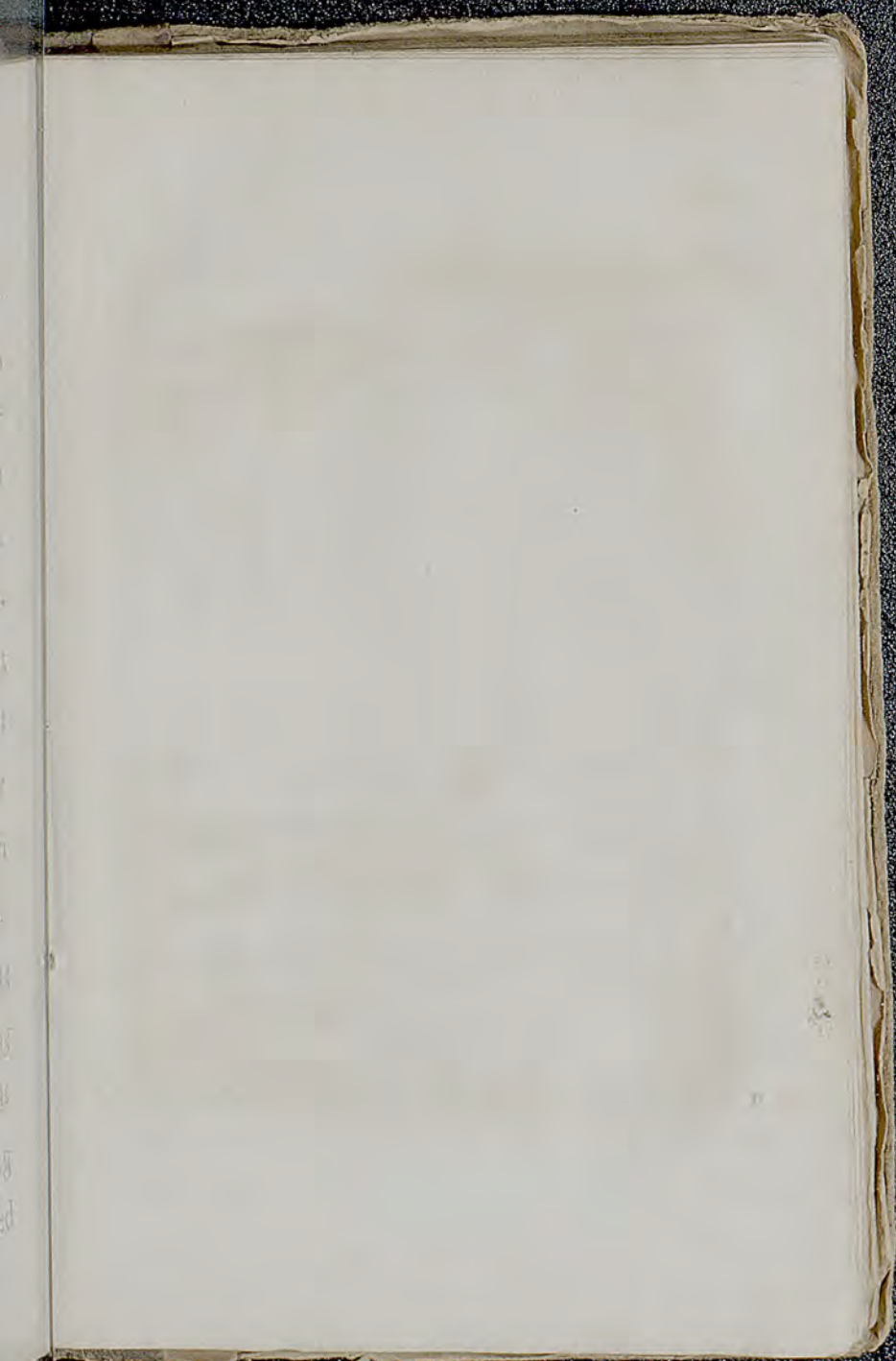
picture in his magisterial robes still ornaments the great parlour.

Early the next morning, as it was fine clear frosty weather, Mr. Rushdale called up our young gentlemen, and asked them if they should like to take a morning sport with him a shooting. As the lads were now near 15 years of age, this was an amusement of which Edward had several times partaken; but Charles had never as yet flashed fire in the pan; and expressed his apprehensions of his unskilfulness and awkwardness

wardness in this pursuit; but Mr. Rushdale having given him some encouraging words, they descended to the breakfast parlour, where they found tea ready made for them, which Mr. Rushdale himself interlarded with several slices of gammon of bacon, and a tankard of ale. They then set off on their morning's excursion, and were much amused with the trepidation which Charles was anxious to conceal, when he first levelled the fatal tube; and at the flash of which he could not help suddenly turning away his face, though he had
resolved

resolved in his own mind to stand prepared for it, and to play the hero. But growing bolder by practice, he at last fired into a whole flock of sparrows that were perched in a thorn-bush, and so good an aim did he take that he actually killed three of them. This success so emboldened him, that he did not doubt in his own mind that he was a shot very little inferior to Mr. Rushdale; and happening afterwards to point his piece at a single pigeon which flew over their heads, he by some means or other brought it down; his vaunting

ing now became almost insufferable, and Mr. Rushdale in order to bring him to his proper level, having picked up a bladder, hung it to the bough of a tree, for him to shoot at; and having placed him at a proper distance, wagered their mince-pies at dinner, that he did not perforate it at ten shots; which Charles eagerly closing with, had the mortification to find that Mr. Rushdale had formed a much better idea of his shooting abilities than himself; for having discharged his piece at it ten different times without a single shot having touched



SHOOTING.

Page 21



Engraved by J. H. Stoddard, from a drawing by J. H. Stoddard, New York.

touched it, Mr Rushdale just stepped up with his piece held at arm's length, fired it off, and blew the bladder in pieces.

This was a kind of practical lecture on self-sufficiency, that had a much better effect than a whole hour's reasoning and moralizing, and seemed to dwell on the mind of Charles by the absence he at several times betrayed till near the evening; when Mrs. Rushdale telling the young men, that she should have company for tea who would bring several
young

young people with them, she had bespoke music, and ordered the great parlour to be cleared for a dance, this immediately roused Charles from his reverie, and the sprightliness of the young gentlemen's countenances shewed how much they felt interested in the pleasure they expected to derive from the amusement of the evening.

The company shortly began to assemble, and our young men having made themselves as smart as possible, endeavoured by their polite attentions
to

to engage the smiles and approbation of their young female visitors ; after tea was over, about ten couple of young people kept up the merry dance till near eleven o'clock ; when they found an elegant supper spread in an adjoining room, at which Edward and his sister were told by Mrs. Rushdale that she and her friends having already supped, she should leave them to do the honours for their young guests, in which Mrs. Pantry would give them every necessary assistance.

After supper, Edward stepped out
for

for a moment to his mamma, and asked her whether it would be agreeable to her, that his friends should amuse themselves for a little time in singing? and Mrs. Rushdale having given her consent, several very pretty airs were sung by the company, which Miss Emily Rushdale accompanied on the piano forte: our friend Charles being at length called on, gave the following

SONG.

Ah me! what means this pain I feel,
That o'er my tortur'd heart does steal:

I feel

I feel the throbbing pulses beat ;
And life is driven from its seat.

Some potent draught of magic charm
Must sure have rais'd this wild alarm :
Else whence could I have prov'd this pain,
Which rends my breast, and fires my brain?

O grant relief, or else I die—

I feel relief in Emma's eye :

When turn'd on me it's power I prove—

Ah me ! the potent draught is love.

The beautiful face of Miss Emily
Rushdale was immediately suffused
with blushes : and Master Pierpoint
noticing the meaning smile which
was exchanged round the little party ;

felt a consciousness which called the colour into his cheeks, tho' perhaps before that moment love was a thing which he had scarcely ever thought on.

As the next morning at breakfast our young people all declared that they had slept soundly after their evening dance; I do not imagine that either Miss Rushdale or Master Pierpoint had tasted very deeply of the potent draught complained of in his elegant little song.

After

After breakfast, our young people were called on by Mrs. Rushdale to accompany her in the carriage to make calls on the families who had favoured her with their company the preceding evening; when several similar entertainments were agreed on for the amusement of the younger branches; and which employed most of the evenings during Charles's and Edward's stay at Farm-place.

The mornings were generally passed in shooting parties, or in accompanying Mr. Rushdale in cours-

ing with his greyhounds; when our young friends had two handsome ponies to ride on: and in this amusement they were frequently joined by Dr. Preachwell, at whose appearance, the risible countenance of our young men shewed they had not forgotten the Rector's rubiconed face and bushy wig.

After a little more than a fortnight's visit at Farm-place, Mr. Pierpoint began to be desirous that his son should return home. And here his family pride involved him in another perplexity;

perplexity; he was fearful that Charles's visit at Mr. Rushdale's would seem to lay him under a kind of obligation to that gentleman, if he did not give Master Rushdale an invitation to spend the remainder of the holidays at Pierpoint house; and was apprehensive that if he did, some awkwardness or other in the young men might betray to his more fashionable and titled visitors the acquaintance he had so much against his own inclination been drawn into with Mr. Rushdale's family. At length, after much perplexity and anxiety on

this important subject, he one morning disclosed the troubles of his mind to a young clergyman, his nephew, who resided with him, requesting him to take the carriage, and proceed to Farm-place; and if he should perceive any thing in the appearance and manners of that family, which would make it improper for him to continue the acquaintance, which Charles, he feared, had so unfortunately commenced, to make his best acknowledgements for Mr. Rushdale's attention to him, and bring him with him to town: resisting every entreaty of

Charles

Charles for Edward's being permitted to accompany him.—But on Mr. Henry Pierpoint's arrival at Farm-place, he was so pleased with the friendly reception given him by Mr. Rushdale, and the polite attention exhibited by Mrs. Rushdale and her amiable daughter, together with the orderly hospitality of their mansion; that he not only resolved on inviting Edward to town with them, but to request the favour of Miss Emily's company also; adding, that if Mr. Rushdale would favour the family at Pierpoint house with his company
when

when he came to town, he would ensure him a cordial reception.

Mr. Henry Pierpoint was much the reverse of his uncle, whose family pride, while it was with regret he beheld it, afforded him a great deal of amusement. He possessed an excellent understanding, had received a liberal education, and had acquired much esteem as a man of letters; indeed his enlivening and instructive conversation very much diminished the austerity and inflexibility of manners, that would have otherwise been disagreeably

disagreeably apparent at Pierpoint house.

Mr. Henry Pierpoint, on introducing Master and Miss Rushdale to his aunt, assured her that she would find them meriting her warmest patronage; and leaving them with her, proceeded to find out his uncle, and communicate to him the pleasure he had experienced at Farm-place, and the steps he had ventured on; before the surprise of seeing the young people at Pierpoint house should call up the flush of proud indignation in his countenance.

countenance. Mr. Pierpoint listened to his nephew with somewhat of a subdued astonishment, but said, if the behaviour of the young people was not perfectly correct, he should certainly attach much blame to him, and leave it to his ingenuity to render their visit as short as possible.

Charles having entered the apartment to make his dutiful respects to his father, was strictly questioned in what manner he had spent the time at Farm-place, and who were Mr. and Mrs. Rushdale's usual visitors; and

on

on his naming Dr. Preachwell, Mr. Pierpoint recollected him as an old college acquaintance. This account given by Charles having proved more satisfactory than his father had expected, he had permission to introduce his friend Edward, whose polite and easy manners gained him a place in Mr. Pierpoint's hardly to be obtained estimation.

If Mr. Pierpoint were pleased with the naturally polite behaviour of Edward, his astonishment was no less excited by the elegant courtesy made him

him by Miss. Emily on Mrs. Pierpoint's introducing her to him. Though I do not know but he would have been better pleased, had the young people evinced a little more care for his person, and had suffered their attention to be more fully engaged by the costly magnificence that surrounded them.

The dinner at Mr. Pierpoint's was served up in a style of sumptuous elegance; and although none but the family that day partook of it, the service was entirely of plate; a servant

vant in livery waited behind each chair. Mr. Pierpoint's valet out of livery attended solely on him; and the butler took his station at the side-board. Not a word of conversation passed during the time of dinner, except what was merely necessary for helping each other to eatables; as Mr. Pierpoint would have deemed it an unpardonable offence, had any pleasantry, which might have escaped him or any of his family, excited a smile on the features of any of his attendants, who performed their duty with

all the exactitude and silence of so many automatons.

The appearance of the desert which was served up in rich Dresden china, with gold bladed knives and forks, and gold spoons; and which consisted not only of every production of the hot-house, but many of the tropical fruits of both the Indies, once more allowed the zest of conversation to take place, in which every one cheerfully joined, excepting Mr. Pierpoint, who never once opened his mouth or moved the starch

starch gravity of his features, farther than sometimes to give an approving nod of assent, or to return a "yes, Madam," or "no, Madam," to some observation made to him by Mrs. Pierpoint.

As Parliament was then sitting, and Mr. Pierpoint's duty to his constituents required he should attend his place in the house that evening, his stay was not very long after dinner; and as soon as it was ascertained that he was clear out of the house, Mrs. Pierpoint, with her little party,

drew their chairs round the fire-place, and engaged in a very entertaining and agreeable chit-chat.

Mrs. Pierpoint was a very amiable, sensible woman, and free from all that ridiculous pride which so strongly tingured the whole behaviour of her husband. But the forms and ceremonies of Pierpoint house had given to her an appearance of haughtiness which was very far from her nature, and which was dissipated the moment you entered into conversation with her. The little bosom of Miss
Rushdale

Rushdale had felt a palpitating sensation on first approaching her : but a most winning smile, accompanied with a kind, endearing expression whilst she took the lovely girl by the hand, set her innocent heart at ease, and caused her to look up to Mrs. Pierpoint with all the affectionate veneration of a daughter.

As Edward Rushdale had never before been in town, and Charles Pierpoint had seen but very little of the great metropolis, Mr. Henry Pierpoint very kindly proposed to

be their conductor, and to introduce them to most of the places worthy observation in London: a favour our young gentlemen felt very grateful for; and the mornings were set apart for these perambulations. Mr. Henry Pierpoint had purposed including Miss Rushdale in these ambulatory excursions, but Mrs. Pierpoint declared she could not consent to part for so long a time with her engaging protégée.

The next morning, therefore, immediately after breakfast, Mr. Henry
Pierpoint

Pierpoint and our young gentlemen, having equipped themselves with great coats and umbrellas, set out from the neighbourhood of Hanover Square, and after taking a look at the handsome portico of St. George's church, passed up Bond-street, and down the Haymarket, through Spring Garden passage into the Park; where they arrived just as the Coldstream regiment of guards had detached the grenadier company for the colours. The martial appearance of this fine body of men, with the inspiring tunes of their noble band, gave an animating

animating expression to the lively features of our young people, who seemed very desirous of accompanying them to relieve guard at St. James's palace; but as Mr. Henry Pierpoint promised them a visit to that place on some future day, they turned their attention to examining the great gun brought from Alexandria. This handsome piece of ordnance, which is upwards of 20 feet in length. is mounted on a carriage with appropriate ornaments; the breech of the gun resting on a sphinx, the emblem of Egypt, views of
the

the pyramids, and the royal arms, and those of the Master General of the Ordnance being carved on it's carriage, and surrounded by a handsome chevaux de frize, and is a noble monument of the prowess of our brave troops in Egypt. Having sufficiently gratified their curiosity with the inspection of this trophy, they were directed by Mr. Pierpoint to turn their attention to the handsome and varied prospect around them ; including the long and regular western front of the Admiralty, the noble structure of the Horse Guards, with
its

its beautiful tower, and the Treasury on one side, which contrasted with the rural appearance of the Park and Canal on the other, left them almost doubtful whether they were in town or the country. The happy disposition of the Queen's Palace at the other end of the canal gave a finishing to this beautiful panorama, which perhaps can no where else be equalled.

Mr. Pierpoint having pointed out to them the several individual beauties of the scene around them, looking

ing towards the Admiralty, said,
“ From this structure are issued the
“ directions given to our brave naval
“ commanders, to sail to every part
“ of the globe, and maintain the ho-
“ nour of the British flag; from
“ hence directions are given for
“ building and equipping those
“ fleets which sweep victorious across
“ the empire of the seas; and secure
“ us in possession of our colonial
“ territories, and protect the unlimit-
“ ed commerce of the island, which
“ though but as a speck on the map
“ of the world, by the wise regula-
tions

“ tions of our constitution and the
“ bravery and industry of her in-
“ habitants, aided by the blessings
“ of Providence, gives bread and
“ freedom to half the globe.”

“ Opposite,” said he, “ you behold
“ the office of the Treasury, where
“ receipts are entered, and disburse-
“ ments applied, of the vast annual
“ revenue of the state, amounting to
“ upwards of 35 millions. Hither
“ the revenue arising from the Cus-
“ toms, the Excise, the Land-tax, and
“ every other branch of taxable pro-
“ perty,

“ perty, after being paid into the Bank
“ of England, is entered on account ;
“ and hence orders for payment are
“ issued to every department of the
“ state, whether naval, military or
“ civil. These orders being taken
“ to the Bank, money from thence
“ is issued (as being a more secure
“ place for the deposit thereof) and
“ an account is kept between the
“ Bank and Treasury, which though
“ amounting to so many millions
“ yearly, is, by the regular and excel-
“ lent method of account kept by

F

“ both,

“ both, brought at the close thereof
“ to tally or agree to a fraction.”

“ The house you behold at the end
“ of the Treasury, within the garden
“ wall, is the residence of that person
“ who, if he does not altogether plan,
“ has the raising and applying of this
“ vast income, and on whom the di-
“ recting the vast concerns of this
“ great empire, which extends to
“ every quarter of the globe, depends.
“ As Chancellor of the Exchequer
“ and First Lord of the Treasury,
“ after submitting his plans to the ap-
“ probation

“probation of His Majesty and his
“council, the putting them into
“force and execution are entrusted
“to him, and his commands and di-
“rections are implicitly to be obey-
“ed by the subordinate officers, and
“departments of the state.”

Passing through the arch-way of
the Horse Guards, Mr. Pierpoint
accompanied them up the staircase of
the building called Whitehall, and
shewed them the beautiful paintings
on the ceiling, done by that great
master of the art Sir James Thorn-

hill: the young people expressed their surprise at seeing the heathen deities pourtrayed in a place appropriated for divine worship; but Mr. Pierpoint informed them that this noble room had formerly been the banqueting apartment, wherein King Charles I. used to dine in state; on which days it was customary for the nobility to attend the court whilst the royal family dined: but after the death of this monarch, who was led to execution through one of the windows of this apartment, it remained for several years shut up; and
was

was afterwards converted into a chapel, by his son King Charles II. This stately apartment is all that remains of a once noble palace built by King Henry VIII. called Whitehall.

Proceeding from thence into Westminster Hall; they were desired to take notice of its vast dimensions, and its roof of Irish oak; this Hall was built by William Rufus about the year 1097, and is almost the only remaining part of the palace of the Kings of England from the Conquest to Henry VIII. here they had used

to keep their Christmas, and other great holidays, entertaining the nobility of the realm, and the attendants of the court ; so that at the Christmas feast of King Richard II. in 1399, there was consumed every day 28 oxen and 300 sheep, besides poultry without number, 10000 people being supplied at the king's expence, and the dishes being served up by 300 servants. As this royal feasting has ceased for some centuries, the Hall is now only used for that purpose at the coronation of our monarchs.

Crossing

Crossing Palace Yard, they directed their steps towards Westminster Abbey; and having viewed the north porch, and admired the beautiful effect of the west end with its two noble towers, they entered the Abbey, taking their station just under the centre of the great western window, from whence they had a perspective view of the whole church; the tall and slender columns of which, with its high arched roof, have a grand and awe-inspiring effect, and led them to admire the architectural abilities that could plan and
build

build such vast structures, and the piety of those who so liberally contributed the means of completing them. They then proceeded down to the entrance of the choir, with the neat and elegant appearance of which they were much pleased, as well as with the beautiful stained glass in the great western window, which from this situation is seen with the two corresponding ones at the end of the north and south aisles to good effect. They were then led to inspect the magnificent monument erected to the memory of the brave
Captain

Captain Montague, who was slain in the naval action of the first of June 1794, with that erected to the memory of Captains Hutt and Harvey, who died of the wounds they received in the same action ; and which, it is to be lamented serves only as a foil, by its inferiority of execution, to display more forcibly the unrivalled beauty and grandeur of design so strongly and pleasingly exhibited in the other.

Mr. Pierpoint, after making his young friends take notice of the monument of that great philosopher and
good

good man Sir Isaac Newton, conducted them along the south aisle to the transept commonly called Poets corner. Here he pointed out to them the monuments of Milton, Dryden, Pope, Gay, and other of our eminent poets ; with that of the great master of the British stage, Shakspeare, and that of the inimitable actor Garrick. Nor did they neglect observing the one erected to the memory of Handel, *the master of immortal sounds*. Thence noticing the various monuments in the several chapels on the south side the church, they were shewn that of
Queen

Queen Elizabeth ; with the one erected to the memory of Mary Queen of Scots, beheaded at Fotheringay Castle.

The noble chapel erected by Henry VII and called by his name, next engaged their attention ; the fretwork roof of which they could not sufficiently admire, nor the beautiful brass frame surrounding his tomb. The banners and achievements of the Knights of the Bath which decorate their stalls give a finishing to this truly noble chapel, that renders it uncommonly

uncommonly grand and magnificent in its appearance, and it was with some difficulty that Mr. Pierpoint could prevail on the young gentlemen to quit a place that exhibited so many interesting subjects for their admiration.

As it began to grow rather late in the day, and the evenings close at an early hour at this season of the year; they took a hasty survey of the wax-work figures of Queen Ann, Charles II. King William and Queen Mary, and the great earl of Chatham, and
likewise

likewise of the coronation chairs, and the rest of the monuments in the north aisle and transept, not excepting those of Mrs. Nightingale, General Wolfe, Lord Chatham, that of the captains Bayne, Blair, and Lord Robert Manners, slain in the naval action of the 12th of April, 1782, under Sir George Bridges Rodney in the West Indies, and that truly elegant one erected to the memory of Lord Chief Justice Earl Mansfield.

Our young gentlemen could not help observing that the effect
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would have been much better, had the monuments been fewer and not so much crowded; and if all those placed between the pillars that separate the naves from the side aisles had been designed in the manner of Captain Montague's and Earl Mansfield's; and were not a little surprised that no monuments had been erected to the memory of any of our later sovereigns, or any of the present branch of the Royal Family.

It was so late when they came home that they had scarcely time to
dress

dress for dinner: after which, (for not a word, you know, more than was absolutely necessary was allowed to be spoken at Mr. Pierpoint's table) Mr. Pierpoint himself condescended to enquire what they had been doing with themselves all the morning? Charles gave his father a pretty concise account of what they had seen, and said he should like to have witnessed some of the splendid doings of ancient times. "Aye," said Mr. Pierpoint, "those indeed were times worth living in; a gentleman then met with the respect due to his

“rank and family, whereas now
“every upstart worthless fellow vied
“in appearance with, and formed a
“welcome reception among the most
“ancient and noble families in the
“kingdom. For his part he heartily
“wished that every nobleman was
“degraded from his rank, that consor-
“ted with any man who could not
“shew noble blood flowing in his
“veins.” And turning to Charles,
said, “I fear”—but suddenly checked
himself. Mr. Henry Pierpoint said,
“With submission to his uncle, he
“allowed that some of our nobility
“degraded

“ degraded themselves by the low
“ company they patronised, and in
“ some degree associated with; but
“ thought it was carrying the point
“ rather too far for a nobleman to re-
“ strict his friendships to those of his
“ own rank in life; for that there were
“ many brave and learned, and he
“ might say many worthy men, who
“ although they might not be enti-
“ tled to those distinguishing epithets
“ he had just mentioned, and could
“ not boast a drop of noble blood in
“ their veins, were nevertheless pos-
“ sessed of qualities and virtues that

“ rendered them fit associates for the
“ greatest nobleman in the land ; and
“ added, he did not doubt but that
“ many a nobleman might improve
“ both his manners and understanding
“ in the company of several men who
“ were greatly his inferiors in their
“ station in life.”

As Mrs. Pierpoint perceived this doctrine was not altogether palatable to Mr. Pierpoint, she called Henry and our young gentlemen aside, to look at some purchases she and Miss Emily had made in the city in the
course

course of the morning, and which turned the conversation on other subjects, in which the party took a more general share.

The next morning Mr. Henry Pierpoint wishing to show our young people the remarkably neat and elegant church of St. Margaret's, near the Abbey, took them thither: this is certainly the most beautiful place of divine worship in London, and perhaps in the whole kingdom; and is well worthy the inspection of every person who is sensible of the happy effects

effects which may be produced where simplicity and elegance are combined. The beautiful window of stained glass over the altar piece particularly engaged their attention.

They then proceeded over Westminster and Blackfriars bridges into the city, and visited the cathedral church of St. Paul: Edward expressed his astonishment at the magnitude of the fabric, and particularly the dome, as soon as he obtained a full view of the west end; and the height and thickness of the fluted columns of
the

the portico excited his admiration; but it is impossible to express his surprise, on looking up at the painted dome, whence hung suspended the French and Spanish colours taken in the glorious and never to be forgotten battle of Trafalgar, by the immortal Nelson; whose ashes repose under the centre of this magnificent canopy.

This impressive and affecting spectacle naturally introduced the subject of the hero's funeral, which Mr. Pierpoint described as one of the grandest pageants that had ever been seen in the British empire.—

“ The

“ The body of this illustrious warrior,” said he, “ was deposited in a most superb coffin, covered with crimson velvet, and ornamented with ten thousand gilt nails, besides a variety of elegant plates, and emblematical devices. After lying in state three days at Greenwich Hospital, on the 8th of January, 1806, the corpse was conveyed, by water, to the Admiralty, where the great hall, called the Captain’s room, was hung with black cloth and lighted with wax candles: and on the following day about noon the grand procession

set

set out for this cathedral. The coffin was placed on a funeral car, or open hearse, decorated with a carved imitation of the head and stern of his Majesty's ship, the Victory, surrounded with escutcheons and adorned with appropriate mottoes and devices; under an elevated canopy supported by four columns, representing palm trees, with wreaths of natural laurel and cypress entwining the shafts; with six sable plumes, and the coronet of a viscount in the centre: the whole upon a four wheeled carriage, drawn by six led horses most superbly caparisoned,

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The streets, from the Admiralty to the cathedral, were lined with the several volunteer corps of London and Westminster, the militia, and many other military bodies, both of cavalry and infantry; the greatest order prevailed throughout the metropolis during the whole of the ceremony; and as the remains of the lamented hero proceeded along, every possible testimony of sorrow and respect was exhibited by an immense concourse of spectators.

The interior of this cathedral was
fitted

fitted up in the most appropriate style for the occasion, and the whole of the funeral service was performed in a manner equally solemn and impressive. After the interment (the troops being drawn up in Moorfields,) the artillery fired their guns, and the infantry gave volleys by corps, three times repeated.

“Such were the honours,” continued Mr. Pierpoint, “paid by a grateful King and Nation to the heroic Nelson, whose gallant achievements and brilliant victories shall

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never

never be forgotten by the sons of Britain, nor obliterated from the brightest annals of fame."

They then proceeded to the whispering gallery which runs round the dome; and Mr. Pierpoint explained to them that a person whispering on the opposite part of the gallery, being audibly heard by them, and the shutting of the door of the gallery producing a sound like thunder, was occasioned merely by the circular form of the edifice. They afterwards ascended to the gallery under the cross, whence,

whence, it being a clear frosty morning, they had a full view of all the buildings in the cities of London and Westminster, and the circumjacent villages, with the windings of the river Thames, and the shipping below London Bridge; the houses appearing an immense distance below them, and the people in the streets no bigger than children, they being upwards of 500 feet above the level of the ground. On coming down into the church they inspected the new monuments, arranged in such an orderly manner as to give the best effect to

their disposition and the whole appearance of the church; these are erected to the memories of Dr. Johnson, Mr. Howard, Sir William Jones, Captain Burgess, Captain Faulkner, General and Sir Ralph Abercrombie. They then took particular notice of the iron pallisade surrounding the church-yard, the weight of which amounted, as they were told, to upwards of two hundred tons.

The large and handsome appearance of the shops in the city, with
the

the taste and regularity displayed by the citizens in dressing their windows, so as to give a happy and pleasing effect to the goods exposed to sale, could not fail of engaging the attention, and exciting the surprise of our young people; but when they were told that the greatest part of the business carried on in London was done in houses that were situated in bye and narrow streets, and which made no show of their goods; and which indeed a stranger would take to be private dwelling houses, their astonishment at the vast trade which must be

carried on in the metropolis rose to the highest pitch ; especially when Mr. Pierpoint told them, that most of the proprietors of these wholesale houses of trade, as well as many of the shopkeepers, had elegant country houses, and kept their carriages.

He then accompanied them to the Bank, and conducted them through the various offices of this spacious and handsome building ; explaining to them the method of transferring and buying stock, and payment of dividends : and being personally known
to

to one of the Cashiers, he obtained permission to see the ingots of gold and silver, and vast quantity of specie deposited in iron chests in the vaults beneath. This was a favour which is but very seldom obtained, and never without some one of the company being well known to one of the confidential officers of the house.

They then noticed the Mansion House, the residence of the Lord Mayor of London; and afterwards walked round the interior of the Royal Exchange; over which are
the

the statues of the kings of England from Edward the First to his present Majesty. They then proceeded down Gracechurch-street, and took a view of the Monument; but as the young gentlemen had already enjoyed the prospect that was to be seen from its gallery, from the top of St. Paul's, they declined ascending the staircase. They could not however but express their regret that this lofty and noble column had not been placed in a more elevated and open situation. As they were so near London Bridge, Mr. Pierpoint took them as far as the
centre

centre arch, to look at the numerous vessels which covered the surface of the river; but told them, that to form any idea of the extensive commerce carried on by the city of London, it would be necessary to make an excursion by water down to Greenwich; and pay a visit to the London and West India Docks, which he proposed doing some future morning.

On their return homewards, Mr. Pierpoint took his young friends into Guildhall, just to show them the

two

two gigantic figures which support the dial, and are commonly called Gog and Magog, but which with more reason are supposed to represent an ancient Briton and a Pict, but of this there is no certain foundation; they are, however, astonishing pieces of carving, and have a tolerable good effect in the large hall in which they are placed.

As they still had sufficient time before dinner to view that noble pile of building, Somerset-house, Mr. Pierpoint took them on the
grand

grand terrace next the river, from whence there is a beautiful view of Blackfriars and Westminster Bridges, St. Paul's Cathedral, and Westminster Abbey, and down the river as far as the Tower: the magnificent front of the vast edifice, which is appropriated to the public business of the nation, also appears from hence to great advantage.

On their return home, they found Mrs. Pierpoint and Emily very much engaged in some scheme that seemed to afford them a great deal of apparent

rent pleasure ; but which all the entreaties of our young men could not procure them a possible guess at, till dinner was over ; when Mr. Pierpoint observed, that the servants' new liveries were come home, and that the carriage would be ready for Mrs. Pierpoint to go to St. James's at two o'clock ; but said, she could not with propriety think of taking Miss Rushdale to court till the ball in the evening. Mr. Henry Pierpoint then recollected that the next was the Queen's birth-day ; he therefore, with his usual politeness, proposed

posed to take his young friends and Miss Emily into the Guard Chamber, to see the nobility pass through in their gala dresses to the drawing-room, in the fore part of the day. And Mrs. Pierpoint said, she would take Emily to see the ball at court in the evening. Accordingly the next day Mr. Henry Pierpoint procured them a convenient situation in the Guard Chamber, from whence they saw the whole of the Royal family, whose persons, with those of the most distinguished courtiers and ladies, Mr. Pierpoint pointed out to them

as they passed by. In the evening, Mrs. Pierpoint took her young friend to the ball elegantly dressed, where she had the satisfaction of seeing a great part of the younger female nobility, none of whom surpassed the accomplished Emily either in beauty of person or elegance of manners: indeed, Mrs. Pierpoint had the satisfaction of seeing that the engaging appearance of her fair protégée had attracted the notice of the first gentleman in the kingdom, who communicated his observation to his sisters, and who seemed to admit the justness of their brother's

brother's discriminating sense of beauty.

The next evening the whole family, excepting the elder Mr. Pierpoint, who thought the business of the nation would have been at a stand, if he had not punctually attended his place in the House of Commons, went to Drury-lane Theatre, where most of the nobility appeared in the dresses they wore the preceding day at court. Such a display of beauty and fashion is seldom but at such a time to be witnessed together;

and the circular disposition of the boxes, with the strong light thrown from the numerous lustres, render this perhaps the gayest and most elegant scene in the world. The play was the favourite comedy of the "Provoked Husband, or a Journey to London," with the laughable burlesque tragedy of "Tom Thumb." The audience appeared perfectly pleased with the performances, and the actors were in the highest spirits: and the ludicrous incidents of the after-piece furnished much merriment

to our young people the next morning at breakfast.

Mr. Henry Pierpoint having an engagement to spend a few days with a friend in the country, our young people during his absence accompanied Mrs. Pierpoint in her carriage in several drives through the neighbouring villages; and one morning, when the weather threatened to be unfavourable, she took them to see the British Museum at Montague House: this grand national depository of books, manuscripts, scarce

and valuable portraits; assemblage of rare curiosities valuable for their worth, or the eminent personages to whom they belonged; collection of antiquities, stuffed animals, and birds, insects, butterflies, ores, shells and fossils, afforded great delight to our young visitors: and Mr. Pierpoint having obtained an order for seeing the rare and valuable collection of gold and silver coins and medals, their visit was protracted till the shades of evening warned them that their dinner would be waiting for them.

On

On Mr. Henry Pierpoint's return from the country, he proceeded to put into effect the promise he had made our young gentlemen to take them down the river to Greenwich, to see the Royal Hospital there, and view the wet docks, belonging to the London West-India Dock companies. Having therefore taken a boat at Whitehall stairs, they passed through Blackfriars and London Bridges, and landing at the Dock stairs, Wapping. Having procured an order for admission, they inspected the noble pile of stately warehouses belonging to the
London

London Dock Company, and the vast floating bason of 40 acres, which was nearly covered with shipping laden with all kinds of merchandise, to be stored in the immense warehouses, till disposed of on behalf of the owners. Notwithstanding the vast number of large vessels which found accommodation in this spacious harbour, and in that belonging to the West-India merchants, they found the river so full of shipping down to Limehouse (a distance of nearly 3 miles from London Bridge) that it was not without apprehensions

sions of difficulty that they made their way through them. Having viewed the expensive work begun and completed by the West-India Dock Company in the course of only six years, at the immense expence of 600,000*l.* they found the same cause for admiration which they experienced at the London Docks, and were strongly impressed with the extent and advantages of commerce, that enabled the merchant to attempt and bring to perfection such immense and princely undertakings.

[Having gratified their curiosity
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in inspecting these vast undertakings, and Mr. Pierpoint having, as they proceeded in their boat towards Greenwich, explained to them the advantage accruing to the merchant in erecting them, they soon landed again near the Royal Hospital, the appearance of which from the water induced them to conceive it could not possibly be applied to any other purpose than that of a Royal residence. But Mr. Pierpoint having given them the history of the building, and telling them it was the boast of our brave seamen, *that the English*
sailors

sailors were better lodged than their Monarch, proceeded to show them the great hall, the ceiling of which is painted in a very superior style, and where the Pensioners were all decently and comfortably seated at their dinner: they then proceeded to the opposite wing of this stately edifice, to view the chapel lately re-edified at an expence of 26,000 l. and decorated with paintings in chiaro-scuro by Rubens, and other eminent masters in that art.

The grandeur and regularity of
this

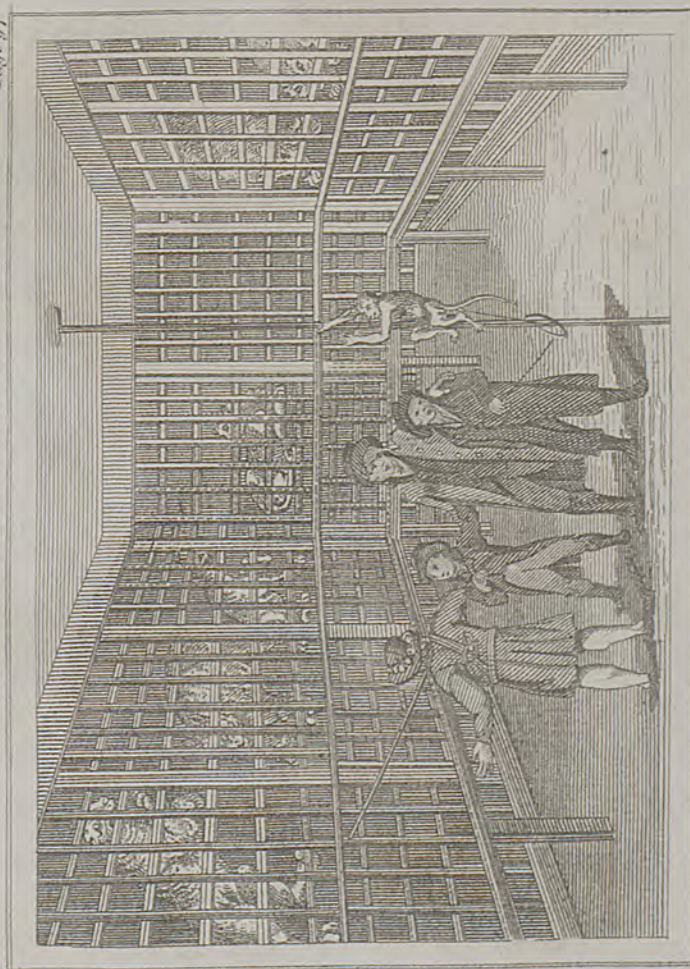
this building, which entirely consists of freestone, with its two beautiful domes, and extensive colonnades, together with the very neat state in which it is always kept, render a visit to it as desirable and pleasing an excursion as any in the vicinity of London; nor is this magnificent edifice surpassed by any building in Europe.

On their return, they landed at the Iron-gate stairs near the Tower, and having sufficient time for that purpose, went to see this ancient
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WILD BEASTS in the TOWER.

Page 97



Published by T. Harris, corner of St. Paul's Church Yard.

place of defence, with the curiosities usually shown to strangers; and were conducted by one of the wardens or porters habited like the King's Yeomen of the Guard, to see the lions and other wild beasts kept there. They were then shown the stately apartments called the Great and Little Armoury; wherein are whole suits of ancient armour, and various weapons of war used in former times, with several thousand stands of musquets, with pistols and bayonets arranged in the form of crescents, stars, suns, &c. They were also shown the

Horse Armoury, wherein are the effigies of most of the Kings of England mounted on horseback as large as life, and in the very armour and clothing they were when alive. From thence they proceeded to the Jewel Office, where was shown them the Crown Royal and other regalia, used at the coronation of our Monarchs, made of gold, and richly studded with diamonds, pearls, rubies, and other precious stones. Mr. Pierpoint informed them, that the large building called the great White Tower was reported to have been
built

built by Julius Cæsar, but it was probably of no greater antiquity than the time of William the Conqueror. That this place had almost ever since its foundation been used as a prison for state criminals, and much royal and noble blood had been shed here by the hands of the executioner. That here also is kept the Mint for coining the current money of the realm, but that most of the copper money had of late years been coined by the ingenious Mr. Boulton, at his manufactory at Soho near Birmingham.

Thus having, by the kindness of Mr. Henry Pierpoint, been made acquainted with most of the remarkable things worth seeing in London and Westminster, our young gentlemen began to recollect that the termination of their holidays was fast approaching, when it would be necessary for them once more to return to school ; but as they were apt scholars and fond of learning, and had a kind and attentive master in Mr. Hargrave, they looked to the time of their recommencement of their studies, rather with pleasure than otherwise. Mrs.

Pierpoint

Pierpoint had added to the presents already made them by Mr. Henry Pierpoint, a complete set for each in a portable bookcase; and the Honorable Mr. Pierpoint condescended to purchase for them a couple of neat secretaries, or writing desks, with deal boxes lined with green baize to preserve them from injury when not in use.

The elder Mr. Pierpoint having occasion to make some enquiries of Dr. Preachwell respecting an estate he was about to purchase in the Doc-

tor's neighbourhood, had written to him on that account; and mentioned that whenever he came to town he should be happy to see him at Pierpoint House; and begged he would prevail on his friend Mr. Rushdale to accompany him. But as Mr. Pierpoint had not intended any thing further than mere civility in this invitation, and did not expect that the Doctor would either think of calling, or Mr. Rushdale would be prevailed on from such an invitation to accompany him, he was not a little surprised when the servant one morning, before

before Mr. Pierpoint had retired from the breakfast table, announced the names of Dr. Preachwell and Mr. Rushdale. As both Edward and Emily were in the apartment he could not possibly deny himself to them, as he secretly wished to have done; and what tended to render their visit that day less welcome was, that he had invited some noble company to dinner. He however resolved in his mind to get rid of them if possible, without engaging them to spend the day with him, particularly as he thought he had noticed something of great rusticity in
Mr.

Mr. Rushdale the day he had met with him at Mr. Hargrave's: he therefore sat a considerable time after the entrance of those gentlemen in great inquietude as to the manner in which he should behave to them: but as Mr. Rushdale evinced in his conversation and behaviour, that he could on occasion well support the character of the real country gentleman, and both he and the Doctor had come full-dressed in the Doctor's carriage, Mr. Pierpoint began at last to think he might without derogating from the merit he had assumed to himself of
being

being strictly choice in the company he entertained at his own table, invite them to meet the noble company he expected.

Mr. Pierpoint having ventured to give these gentlemen this invitation, although he was still half-doubtful as to the exact propriety of it, began to be pressing on their offering to decline it; and after he had obtained their assent was sorry for what he had done. Mrs. Pierpoint having expressed her obligations for the favour of Miss Emily's visit, and the pleasure she

she derived from it, and which she told Mr. Rushdale she should intreat his permission to prolong; the two gentlemen accompanied by Mr. Henry Pierpoint, and Charles and Edward, took their leave till dinner time, to transact some business which had brought them to town.

After their departure Mr. Pierpoint would gladly have studied some excuse that would have freed him from the mortification of introducing these untitled gentlemen as his acquaintance to his Right Honorable friends: and

and it was fortunate for Charles that he had accompanied them, as there is very little doubt he would have felt the full force of his father's displeasure in a pretty severe lecture at least. And there was a visible appearance of uneasiness in his manner in his reception of his noble guests on this account, which he could by no means get rid of, though he had apologized to them for the necessity he unfortunately lay under of inviting two country gentlemen to dine with them, who had that morning called on him on particular business; till on the
entrance

entrance of the Doctor and his friend, the Earl of Normanton went up to them, and shaking them both heartily by the hands, said he was exceedingly happy in this unexpected pleasure of meeting with two of his highly esteemed friends and neighbours, whom he would intreat Mr. Pierpoint's permission to introduce to the company.

Mr. Pierpoint being now freed entirely from the apprehensions his pride had subjected him to, began to display that ease of manner and brilliancy

liancy of conversation, which he could so readily assume whenever he was honoured with company, or made one in a party of right honourable personages; and the hilarity of spirits he felt extended its benign influence to the two country gentlemen who he now styled his dear friends; saying, he could never prove himself sufficiently grateful to Mr. Rushdale for the pleasure he had received in being favoured with Edward's company.

As Dr. Preachwell had come to

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town

town on very particular business, and Mr. Rushdale had some dividends to receive at the Bank, they thought it would be a proper opportunity to call on Mr. Pierpoint, and bring Edward and Emily home with them; and if they should meet with an invitation to dinner, to accept it. Shortly after dinner they were about to take their leave, but Mr. Pierpoint insisted on their taking beds at Pierpoint House, and sent one of his servants to the inn where Dr. Preachwell's carriage was, with a note from the Doctor to Mrs. Preachwell announcing

nouncing their stay ; with orders to the coachman to take the carriage home, and return next morning for his master and Mr. Rushdale.

According next morning at breakfast, after Mr. Rushdale had made his acknowledgements for the kind attention his young people had experienced from Mr. and Mrs. Pierpoint, and Mr. Henry Pierpoint, he signified his intention, with Mrs. Pierpoint's permission, of taking them home with him. But Mrs. Pierpoint prevailed with him, provided Mrs.

Rushdale had no particular reason to the contrary, that Emily should stay a month longer with her ; and as Charles's birth-day was the beginning of the ensuing week, that Edward should remain at Pierpoint House to partake in a little fete which Mrs. Pierpoint intended giving to his young friends on that occasion. These terms being agreed to by Mr. and Mrs. Rushdale, provided Mr. and Mrs. Pierpoint would promise him the favour of a visit at Farmplace in the course of the Summer, which Mrs. Pierpoint readily consented

sented to do, the Doctor and he took their leave, and returned home to dinner.

Mrs. Pierpoint had distributed cards to her large acquaintance, saying, she hoped to have the pleasure of seeing the younger part of their families, to partake of a masqued ball and supper, on the evening of Charles's birth-day. Accordingly every previous preparation having been made at Pierpoint House to give it all the gay effect and splendour possible, the young visitants, to

the number of nearly a hundred, were ushered up the grand staircase, which was decorated with evergreens and flowering plants, and brilliantly lighted with coloured lamps, into the ball room; where Charles, with Mrs. Pierpoint and his young friends, received the congratulations of their visitors. After parading about for some time in their masquerade dresses, they were summoned to an adjoining drawing-room, where tea and coffee, with fruits and sweetmeats, were served to them. Having deposited in this apartment their fancy dresses, they

they returned to the ball room, where a noble band of music summoned them to the sprightly dance; after which, assuming their masquerade appearance, they sat down to an elegant hot supper, at which all the good things of the hospitable season of the year made their appearance; and at which Mrs. Pierpoint and her nephew presided to do the honours for her son. Charles during the time of masquing wore a plain domino, and Edward appeared in the dress of a young officer of Dragoons. Emily, agreeable to Mrs. Pierpoint's wishes,

was

was attired in the superb dress of a Peruvian princess; though her own inclination would have led her to have preferred that of a shepherdess. The evening, however, passed off with much apparent glee and satisfaction to their youthful visitors; but Charles, after they had departed, taking Edward and Emily by each hand, said, "O my dear friends, I
" have not experienced half the pleasure in the entertainment my mother's kindness has provided for us this evening, that I did in the comfortable little dance and supper,
" which

“ which we so fully enjoyed at Farm-
“ place.”

As Mr. Hargrave's school had already commenced, Mr. Rushdale had sent his carriage for Edward the next morning ; who, taking an affectionate leave of his sister and friend, the latter of whom he said he should anxiously expect to meet when he joined school ; and making his best acknowledgments for the kindness he had experienced from Mr. Henry Pierpoint and the owners of Pierpoint House, drove off, in the pleasing

ing hope of having his young friend to enjoy the pleasures the country would afford at Farm-place in the ensuing Whitsun holidays.

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*E. Hemsted, Printer, Great New Street,
Fetter Lane.*

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