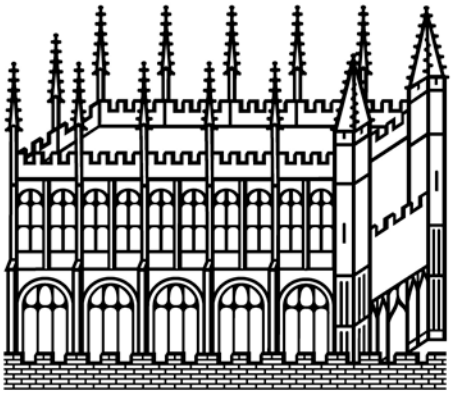

By S. G. Goodrich.

Mary Hannah

Ethel Freeman.

from Mrs. Ethel

Dec^br 21. 1[illegible]

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6 April 1907.

The Devil's Bridge.

PETER PARLEY'S TALES

ABOUT

GREAT BRITAIN.

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PARLEY'S TALES ABOUT GREAT BRITAIN.

CHAPTER I.

Parley begins as usual by telling about himself.

So! here you are, again, my little friends! And, pray, what do you want? More stories—ha! Why, do you think stories are as plentiful as blackberries, that you are always coming to me and begging me to tell you more? What! do you think I have nothing better to do than to sit down and chatter to Tom, Dick and Harry all the day long!

Well! well! it shall be so, and you shall have your way. After all, I am fit for nothing else but to tell stories. My tongue can wag as well as ever, and that is more than I can say of my clumsy old legs. Ever

since I got that tumble in going to the Common th
by Park Street Church, I have had a sad limp. I
never mind that! I am pretty sound after all, a
have reason to thank Heaven, after so long a life, a
so many dangers, that I am still so well and happy.

I compare myself to the hulk of an old ship, t
after many a voyage is snugly moored in the dock, a
which, her masts and rigging being gone, can ne
make another voyage, yet is still sound, and capabl
giving shelter to its former inmates. Thus it is w
me. My limbs are old and stiff, and in attempting
walk about, I make little headway and bad steera
But I am pretty hearty for all that, and as I said
fore, my tongue is as nimble as ever.

So let us now to the work. I promised to tell you
my rambles over Great Britain, which consists of E
land, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. I have alrea
told you about these countries, and said something
my adventures there. But there are many reas
why you should know more about them. England
the land from which most of our forefathers came.
is the country from which we derive our langua
and most of the useful knowledge which we posse

It is, moreover, an exceedingly beautiful country, being filled with fine buildings, highly cultivated lands, excellent roads, canals, and a great variety of other objects which are pleasant to look upon. Wales is also an interesting country of tall mountians, and deep vallies. Scotland is famous for its bright blue lakes, its dashing streams, its healthy hills, and above all, for the curious manners and customs of its people.

Ireland is the home of the Irish, and a bee hive of a place it must be, if we may judge by the swarms of people that emigrate from it to America. Well, I am going to tell you of these several countries, and I doubt not that I shall be able to amuse you, in relating my rambles there.

CHAPTER II.

Preparation for Travelling.

THERE is nothing like a fair start in every undertaking. Before you begin a journey, it is well to know which way you are going, how far, and by what means

you are to travel, and what sort of a country it is y
are to visit.

I suppose that all of you know something of Gr
Britain, but it is well to remind you that it lies far
the east, on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean.
is 3000 miles from Boston. The sun travels very f
but it rises in England fully three hours before it ri
in America.

The British Islands consist of two large ones, an
number of small ones. England occupies the south
part of the larger one. Wales is on the west, a
Scotland at the north. The other large island is Irela

London is the capital of England, and a prodigi
place it is. It is five times as large as New York a
about twenty times as large as Boston.

Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland, is also a la
city, consisting of two parts, one very old, and
other quite new. The old town appears at a distan
like a thousand tall haystacks, packed closely togeth
The new town consists of well built houses of stone a
brick. Dublin is the capital of Ireland, and it is a ve
fine city.

CHAPTER III.

The Voyage. Adventure with a Fishing Smack. Th
Steamboat.

THE Great Western, the Sirus, and the Royal Wil liam, those mighty steamboats that now cross the At lantic, were not in existence when I performed m voyage to Great Britain, and had they been, I woul not have ventured on board either of them. The may be safe enough, but I prefer a ship that depend upon masts, and spars, and sails. A craft of this sor seems to me a natural kind of machine, and appears t fly over the blue element like a hawk. But a stean ship, spouting forth smoke and fire, plunging an ploughing along, whether the wind is ahead, abeam or abaft, appears to me out of nature, and a sort o monster. But this may be only the prejudice of an ol man, who is apt to love that which has been familia to him, and entertains a dislike of new and strange con trivances.

I sailed in one of the regular packets, and aft
voyage of eighteen days, we entered St. Geor
Channel. The captain was now on deck with
spyglass, and he soon discovered the coast of Irela
lying to the left. In a few hours we came up wit
fishing smack. There were two men, and a boy
board. We bought of them several fresh codfish,
the captain paid a round price for them. The fis
men were however dissatisfied, and called upon
captain for some rum. Accordingly a decanter of
liquor was tied to a small rope, and swung over the s
of the vessel to the men in the boat. One of them
ceived it, and after taking a long drink, handed it
the other. After a stout pull at the liquor, this m
gave it the boy, who followed the example of his m
ters. Having finished, he was about to permit
empty decanter to be drawn back into the ship, wh
the master of the smack gave him a smart slap at the s
of the head, saying, " Avast, you nasty fellow, do
you know better than to give the bottle to the gent
man after you have had your dirty mouth upon it
So saying, he stowed the decanter among the fish in

bottom of his boat, cast loose from our ship, and wa soon scudding away before the wind.

Two days after this, we came close to the tall moun tains of Wales, and took a pilot on board. When w had come within about thirty miles of Liverpool, bein detained by a head wind, I got on board a steamboa which was crossing from Ireland to Liverpool. Th steamboat was loaded with cattle and sheep, with abou seventy Irish people, men, women, and children, wh were going over to England to assist in gathering in th harvest. They were wretched looking creatures, i clad, and apparently half starved. They really seeme less happy than the well fed oxen and fat sheep tha were going to be slaughtered at the Liverpool marke

CHAPTER IV.

About Liverpool. The Exchange. The Cemetery, T Asylum. Manchester.

After a run of about five hours in the steamboa we reached Liverpool. The next day, our vessel can up, and was taken into Prince's dock. This is an im

mense inclosure or basin, formed by a heavy wall stone. It is 1500 feet in length, and several hundr large vessels can float in it, at once.

Liverpool is about two thirds as large as N York. It is a great market for cotton, a large part that which is used in Manchester, and other manufa turing towns being received at this place.

I had been at Liverpool before, and therefore d not remain there long. I visited the exchange, whi is a very fine building, and there I saw, spread o upon a long table, the dinner service used by the may and aldermen of the city, at their feasts. It consist of various silver dishes, richly wrought, and some them lined with gold.

I went to see the cemetery, or burial ground, whi is on a hill at the back of the town. It covers a litt bending valley, and is charmingly laid out with ma winding walks. It is a quiet and beautiful spot, a seemed a pleasant resting place for those who ha done with the cares of life.

I went also to see the blind asylum, for I love those institutions where the unfortunate are ma happy. It reminded me of our blind asylum in Bo

ton. The inmates had a look of content, and a little girl told me that she thought it better to be blind and live happily in the asylum, than to have eyesight, and be obliged to go forth amid the noise and bustle of the streets. On the whole, the Liverpool asylum seemed well conducted, but I did not see there any of those curious books and maps which Dr. Howe has contrived for the pupils of Boston asylum, and which they learn to read by tracing out raised lines and letters with their fingers.

From Liverpool I went to Manchester upon the railroad, a distance of 36 miles. This is a large city, filled with manufacturing establishments, which look almost like palaces. They are lighted up at night, and they are so numerous, that at such a time the city seems illuminated.

The cotton which is raised in the southern states is here manufactured into ginghams, calicoes, shirtings, sheetings, and various other fabrics. I suppose several millions of yards are made every day.

From Manchester, I went to Birmingham, a distance of about 80 miles. Of this, I shall tell you in the next chapter.

CHAPTER V.

Parley's tales about Birmingham and its Manufactori

BIRMINGHAM is called the Toy Shop of Europe many fancy articles are made there. It is also fam for hardware, locks, hinges, shovels, tongs, butt and brass work, as well as japanned wares. I w through many of the manufactories. The lock that door, the drawer nobs on that table, and the se fire irons yonder were all make at Birmingham. place was once well known for the buckles of all ki that were made there, but when shoe strings c into fashion, the buckle trade was hardly worth atte ing to.

Birmingham has also an extensive trade in arms, and in time of war the demand is so great, upon one occasion the gunsmiths of Birmingham livered to government fourteen thousand muskets single weeks. Bilboa sword blades used to be m talked of, but I suppose they make blades now q as good at Birmingham. I went to see them m

swords; the method of trying whether they are well tempered is very curious. A man lays hold of a sword and strikes the edge of it with all his might across a strong iron bar; he then strikes the blade flatways on an iron anvil; the sword is, in some cases, bent until the point of it touches the hilt; if the sword will bear this trial, it is supposed to be able to endure all that it will ever be called upon to perform. I went also to see the making of guns; the welding, the boring, and the grinding of the barrels; the forging, the filing, and fitting together of the locks; and the shaping and beautifying of the stocks. Perhaps you never heard how they prove the gun barrels, to prevent accidents afterwards. I will tell you. They lay down a great number of them on a frame, a little distance from each other, inside a building. Every barrel has a ball and a larger charge of powder and wadding put into it, than it is ever likely to be loaded with again. A train of gunpowder is laid all along the touch-holes, and when this is done, every man goes out of the building, and shuts the door. A red hot iron is then thrust through a hole in the wall, and off go the barrels in a roll like thunder. All that are

good are found whole, but all that are bad are bu
in one part or another. Sometimes a good gun s
very high, but the price at which swords have b
sold, especially in the East Indies, would astonish y
I will tell you what some have sold for. A sw
with a straight blade, that had cut off the heads
several buffaloes, belonged to a great man. He
offered ten thousand pounds for it, but he would
take it! Sir Gore Ousely says that another g
man, who was the Nawaub of Oude, gave twenty-
thousand pounds for a scimetar. If I had the
sword in the world, I should be glad to sell it for
tenth part of the money.

I went to see Soho, which is very near Birmingh
It is a very large manufactory, and looks like a l
town of itself. Captital steam engines are made th
as well as medals, buttons, and a hundred other a
cles. I saw every thing belonging to the pl
While at Birmingham I met an old friend, who w
nave me go with him for a short time to Herefordsh
off we set, and I had no reason to repent my jour
You shall hear my story of it.

CHAPTER VI.

Parley goes into Herefordshire.

THE coach set off early in the morning, passed by the Lickey Hills, and soon reached Bromsgrove. I must tell you an odd thing that once happened there.

A waterspout burst on the Lickey Hills, and the water came running down like a river. It swept away every thing along the brook side, and run along the streets till the good people of Bromsgrove were half wild. Cellars were filled with water; the household furniture was carried up stairs, and some thought the world was once more going to be drowned. The lower part of the town was flooded over, to a great depth; hundreds of people, who live there, will never forget the bursting of the waterspout on Bromsgrove Lickey.

The next town we came to was Droitwich, famous for its springs of salt. The quantity of salt made here, by boiling the water in large pans, or furnaces, is very great.

Worcester is a fine city, and is well known for
china works. It has, too, a cathedral, but the co
soon changed horses, leaving us no time to see eit
the cathedral, or the china works.

The prospect in riding over Malvern Hills is v
fine. Many people go to Malvern to drink the wa
there, which is excellent in illnesses of different kin
Boarding houses are built along the bottom of
hills, and parties of well dressed ladies and child
may generally be seen winding up the surpentine a
zig-zag paths a thousand feet high, some on foot, a
some on the backs of donkeys kept for this purpose

Herefordshire is a fine county. It has three h
vests in a year, one of apples, one of hops, and one
corn, for the county is famous for all these thin
When the large orchards are in blossom they look
lightfully, and still more so when laden with gold
fruit. If you were to see a hop yard in the hop-pi
ing season, you would never forget it. The ho
grow upon high poles, and then hang down from
top very gracefully. There are wooden cribs plac
in different parts to pick the hops into; the poles

bent down for that purpose. Groups of women may be seen in all directions picking hops into the cribs, but it is rather dangerous to go near them. I will tell you why. If you do not give them money, they lay hold of you and toss you into the crib, covering you all over with hops; sometimes they toss in one of the hop-pickers too. This might suit you, but it would not suit Peter Parley.

The river Wye is a fine river, but it is only navigable after rains, for the water runs away so rapidly that the river gets too shallow for the barges at other seasons.

We sailed down the river to Ross, celebrated for the man of Ross, as he was called; his name was John Kyrle; he was a good man, and very charitable. We went also to Goodrich Castle. Goodrich Castle is a ruin, but Goodrich Court is newly built, and contains, perhaps, one of the best collections of armour in the world. By and by I will tell you all about Goodrich Court.

We went to Chepstow, where there is another castle, and saw Windcliff and Pearcefield, where the

noble woods, the high rocks, the winding Wye
the Severn, and a distant view of the Bristol Cha
form a fine picture. Tintern Abbey is one of
finest ruins in all England: I could hardly get a
from it.

Herefordshire is a very hospitable county. I fo
it to be so, go where I would. I went to Holm Ho
and a noble house it is. I will tell you a curious
about Holm House. It was undergoing a thorough
pair, and as I had seen it years ago, when the Duk
Norfolk was living there, I wished to see it again,
to judge of its improvements.

While I was gazing on the building, with heaps
lime, mortar and sand around me, and hewn and
hewn stones, a gentleman came up, and we began
talk freely about the improvements.

I gave my opinion without reserve, and I dare
that he thought me a blunt old man. We went o
the whole premises together, and he explained the
provements to me in a very pleasant and satisfact
way. And I was not a little pleased in having fa
in with so pleasant and intelligent a companion.

"Well," said I to him, "the owner of this mansion has much to be thankful for.

Man wants but little here below,
Nor wants that little long.

But the owner of this princely dwelling and beautiful park has a great deal, and if he be a man of grateful and hospitable disposition, blessed with so fair an inheritance, he must be happy."

When I came to part with my conductor, I discovered that he was Sir Edward Stanhope himself, the owner of the noble pile, in which we had spent an hour together. I have not forgotten him, though perhaps he has, no doubt, forgotten me.

I stopped at Fawley Court, and shall never forget the place, nor the people, nor the friends I met there. The willow tree and the horse chesnut tree, by the side of the pond, are no doubt standing there yet.

I went to Hill Eaton and Basham Farms, where they gave me a hearty welcome, and crossed over the ferry by Sellack church. There is a small cottage in the lane near Basham farm. I have something to tell you about it. I love to tell a pleasant tale.

Many years ago, a gentleman and lady came s
denly into the neighbourhood, and made the cou
folks stare, for they had never seen such pe
before.

They had very handsome but very old fashio
clothes. The gentleman wore a coat with broad sk
and large open sleeves, lined with silk; and the b
tons were large and made of gold. His waist
was silk, embroidered all over, stiff with gold l
and the flaps almost reached to his knees.
breeches were of velvet, his stockings of white s
and his knees and his shoes were adorned with gol
buckles.

Every other part of his dress was equally singul
his shirt was of the finest holland with lace ruff
his hair was powdered, and behind, hung down
black silk bag; on his head was placed, with ca
cocked hat.

You would like to know how the lady was dre
too. I will tell you. She wore a dress of the ric
silk and satin, very ancient in its appearance;
shoes were very high in the heels, her head dress

far above her head, and had a small straw hat placed on the top. You may be sure that when they walked abroad the country people stared at them with all their eyes, just as much as if they had fallen from the moon.

Well, they made up their minds to live at Sellack, and I dare say you expect they had a very grand house there; but no! they took the little cottage in the lane near Basham farm, that I spoke of before. There they lived, and there they died.

No one ever knew who they were, nor where they came from, but every body saw at a glance that they were gentlefolks, and had lived in high life.

They were very charitable, and visited all the poor cottagers. They read the bible to them, gave them good advice, and were respected and beloved by the rich and poor. When they died, they were buried in Sellack church yard; a flat stone lies over them with nothing on it but the letters J. H. and A. H. 1818. I sat upon that flat stone; the nettle, and the dock, and the dandelion were growing around it; but that did not matter, for I felt that I was musing over the

resting place of a worthy pair, who had lived a life
christian kindness and piety, and had gone down
the grave in peace.

There is a place called Marcle Hill, not many mi
from Sellack; some years ago, a great part of it m
ed a considerable distance, to the astonishment of
neighbourhood. There is another place called Cap
Wood, at the top of which are the remains of a Rom
camp. Well, a part of Capler Wood gave way, a
sloped down some distance toward the river. I
now called Capler Slip; when I stood upon it, la
trees were growing there as upright as they grew
fore they took this journey down to the river side.
will now tell you of Goodrich Court.

CHAPTER VII.

*Parley goes to Goodrich Court, and Tintern Abbey, a
tells about Bristol, Clifton, and Bath.*

Sir Samuel Rush Meyrick lives at Goodrich Cou
and has got together such a collection of armour th
that the like is not to be seen.

A gentleman wrote a letter to introduce me. "You are such a traveller," said he, "and take so much notice of every thing curious, that Sir Samuel will be more pleased to see you, than he would be to see the duke of Buccleugh."

I set off with a worthy friend that I knew in that part of the country, and we soon arrived at the place.

Goodrich Court is a castle of reddish stone, built in the modern style, on the banks of the river Wye, and is a great deal like a French chateau, but I ought to tell you that chateau is the French word for castle. You would say that it was a pepper box style, for the towers somewhat resemble pepper boxes.

Well, Sir Samuel came to us as soon as he had read the letter I brought, and said he would go through the castle with us himself.

If I had been a lord he could not have paid me more attention; but he saw that I let nothing escape me. I was full of questions, and inquired about every thing.

I will tell you why this is one of the best collections of armour in the world. In most places where armour is kept, the people, who knew nothing about it, tell

foolish tales that have not a word of truth about the
every piece of armour is said, by them, to have belon
to some renowned knight or other. But this is not
case at Goodrich Court. No; care has been taken
get the best information about all the arms and arm
shown there.

I love to see any thing that explains the manners
and customs of those who lived hundreds of years a
Before gunpowder was invented, armour was mu
worn in battle, by those who could afford it, and
some castles, armed knights were always ready
mount their steeds, which were kept bridled and sadd
in the stables.

At one time, armour was made of iron and steel ri
sewed on cloth; then of steel rings altogether; this
called a shirt of mail, or a hauberk; and then ca
plate armour, or armour formed of metal plates.

Armour was sometimes made very expensive.
Walter Raleigh went to court in a suit of armour ma
of solid silver; so the people said he carried a Span
galleon on his back, meaning that it was worth as mu
as the silver taken as a prize from a Spanish sh
Only think of a solid silver suit of armour!

I tell you of every thing, otherwise I should not have thought of telling you of armour. No doubt you remember the armour mentioned in the bible, worn by the giant Goliath, who was killed by David. His helmet was of brass, he wore a coat of mail, and the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam. When gunpowder was found out, armour became of little use, for the bullets and the cannon balls broke it to pieces.

I have seen fine collections of armour in different parts of the world, but they who keep it deceive you so much that it takes away the pleasure of looking at it, because you cannot believe what they say.

Now, I will tell you of Concy, earl of Ulster, because I think you will like to hear of the feat that he did. He cut through a helmet of steel, with a single stroke of his sword, and buried his weapon so deep in the wooden post on which the helmet was placed, that no one beside himself was able to draw it out again. What do you think of Concy, earl of Ulster?

Knights used in former times to meet together to tilt with each other at a tournament. Tilting is riding at each other with their pointed spears, and trying to knock one another from the horses they are on. I do

not think tilting would suit you, and I am sure would not suit me.

If I could, I would put an end to all fighting. Every nation should be at peace. "The swords should be beat into ploughshares, and the spears into pruning hooks. Nation should not rise against nation, and people should learn war no more."

The most famous tournament that ever I heard of was in France. It was called the Field of the Cloth of Gold. Henry VIII. of England, Cardinal Wolsey and Francis I. of France was there. This tournament was so costly that the expense of it half ruined many who attended it.

None but knights were allowed to fight at a tournament. How do you think they used to serve any one who ventured to fight without being qualified? Why they made him ride bare headed on a rail; his shield and helmet were trodden under foot, his horse was taken away from him, and he was sent away on the back of a mare.

The capital collection of arms at Goodrich Court begins with the rude weapons used by savages, such

as clubs and daggers of wood, flint, stone, and slate. Then comes arms and armour of copper, tin, and steel, spears, battle axes, shirts of mail, and suits of armour complete for man and horse.

You would like to see Goodrich Court, fitted up as it is, and you would almost fancy that the suits of armour arrayed on horseback were worn by living men, who were fighting one with another.

The grand armoury is more than eighty feet long. Only think of between forty and fifty figures clad in complete armour, and ten of them on horseback, surrounded with clubs, maces, hammers, halberts, and battle-axes; swords, spears, cross bows, and shields; sabre, poignards, stilettoes, matchlocks, petronels, and pistols! But I fancy now that you have had enough of arms and armour.

Not far from the banks of the Wye is a beautiful ruin, called Tintern Abbey, and away we set off to see it. It consists of the remains of a building erected many hundred years ago by the Monks.

A great part of the abbey church remains; the walls are still standing, though the roof is fallen, and the

shapes even of the windows are little injured; many of them are filled up and obscured by the which covers a great part of the ruin. There are some remains of the monks' rooms and other apartme

As we made away from Tintern Abbey, my fri told me that he had lately been at Bristol, Clifton Bath, so I asked him what kind of places they wer

"Why," said he, "Bristol is a city, and a seap on the riven Avon. At one time of day, it was, property, trade, and inhabitants, the second cit England, but it is not so now. Clifton is very Bristol. It is built on St. Vincent Rock. The wells there are much visited by the gentry folks. houses of Clifton, being built on a rock, one ab another, have a very singular appearance.

"As to Bath," said he, "it is a very famous and has been so ever since the time of the Rom The hot springs have performed wondrous cu Perhaps there are more nobility and gentry in than in any town or city in England, except Lon There is an elegence about the whole place, that will not find in any other large town, for the hou

are built of white stone, and many of them very costly."

I, however, had so much before me, that I had no time to go and see either the gentry or the fine houses at Bath, so I went back to Ross, which is not far from Goodrich Court. I much wanted to see Coventry, having heard a great deal of the place. It is a long way from Ross to Coventry, perhaps as much as seventy miles, for I passed through Birmingham again to go there.

After sleeping at the Hen and Chickens, Birmingham, the inn where the coach stopped at, I set off for Coventry, and got there in about two hours. You shall have the account of what I saw there.

CHAPTER VIII.

Peter Parley tells about Coventry, Peeping Tom, and other things.

COVENTRY is a very old city, and the houses for the most part are as old fashioned as any I ever saw. One story hangs over another, so that the topmost seems ready to tumble on your head.

This city is a famous place for ribands, and watc
just as Sheffield is for cutlery, and Birmingham
hardware and fancy articles. The riband trade
great trade, and the quantity of silk used in it is
tonishing.

I saw Peeping Tom at Coventry. Can you g
who he is? Peeping Tom is a figure of a man dre
up in fine clothes with a cocked hat on his head;
is looking through a window into the street: bu
you would know more about him, you must ask
people of Coventry.

Warwick is the county town of Warwicksh
There is a strong jail there, and Lady Mary's Ch
is well worth seeing; but there is something elsem
more entertaining than either the jail or the chape
Lady Mary, and that is Warwick Castle. You
be sure that I went there.

The castle, as you look at it from the bridge c
the river Avon, is a noble object. Its thick walls
its massy towers look as if they were intended
stand for ever; but time, that has pulled down
many strong places, will one day lay them in the d

The outside of the castle is grand, but the inside much more so. The rooms are large, beautifully fitted up, some of them with cedar, and the choicest paintings hang on the walls. There are also sculpture, carvings, and inlaid work, as well as curiosities of other kinds. The armoury I could have looked at for a whole day.

In a green house in the garden, is a celebrated vase, large and very ancient. It is reckoned to be of great value. The cedar trees are very graceful, their majestic branches sweeping the very ground.

After going up the great tower, I came to the porter's lodge, and saw what is called the iron porridge pot of the renowned Guy, Earl of Warwick. Half a dozen of you might stand in this porridge pot at once, and yet the porter said that Guy used to have it filled every morning for his breakfast. The porter took up an iron fork three or four feet long; this fork, he said, Guy used to pick his teeth with. He then drew the fork across the edge of the porridge pot, and it gave a deep clanging sound, like the big bell of St. Paul's Cathedral when it is tolled.

Guy, Earl of Warwick, was a great warrior, went abroad in the holy wars, and lived the life o anchorite when he came back again.

After leaving the castle and calling at Guy's C where the Earl of Warwick once lived, I went or Kenilworth Castle. You will like to hear a little this old castle.

It was first built about the year 1120, by Geo de Clinton, a Norman, in the reign of Henry I., an priory was attached to it. In 1279, a great m noble persons assembled at the castle, and that th might be no dispute about one sitting in a more hon able place than another, they formed a round tal at which sat a hundred knights and a hundred lad This custom of a round table is very ancient; I lieve it was first established by the father of K Arthur.

In 1575 a grand festival was given, by the Ear Leicester, to Queen Elizabeth, in the castle a grounds adjoining, for seventeen days.

There was a floating island on the lake, and all m ner of elegant figures. Besides these, there were b

baiting, fire works, Italian tumblers, running at the quintin, and other sports.

I dare say you do not know what running at the quintin means. You shall know directly. It was a game which country people played at in the following manner. A high post was stuck in the ground with an iron pivot at the top: on this pivot a beam was placed to turn round; the figure of a man was then fixed to the upright post, and the cross beam represented his arms. At one end of the beam was a shield with a hole in it, at the other end was a wooden sword or a bag of sand. The country bumpkins, mounted on cart-horses used to ride full tilt at the figure, trying to strike the hole in the shield with a long pole shaped like a lance. If the lance struck the hole, all was well, and the people applauded; but if it missed the hole and struck the beam, the other end of the beam swung round with the wooden sword, or sand bag, at the end of it, and generally knocked the unskilful bumpkin from the back of the cart-horse. This is running at the quintin, and I doubt not you will remember it very well. There were three hundred and

twenty hogsheads of common beer drunk at this
tertainment at Kenilworth. What the nobles
gentry drank I cannot tell.

Kenilworth is now nothing but an old ruin, bu
remains tell what its size and strength must h
been.

I wandered about among its gloomy chambers
mouldering walls for a long time: every thing was s
and I musèd on the uncertain state of earthly grand
All the knights and ladies who had sat at the ro
table,—all the great people who had visited the cas
when the festival was given, were gone—the v
castle itself was fast hastening into decay, and no
but myself was then to be seen among its moulder
walls.

I am a cheerful old man, but when I saw such thi
built archways, and such massy towers crumbling i
ruin, I could not help thinking that it would soon
the same with Peter Parley.

I mused on these things on my way to Oxford.
must tell you a little about this place, for it is a
of great importance.

CHAPTER IX.

Parley tells about Oxford.

THIS is a very handsome city, and famous for its university, which is very ancient, having been founded so early as the reign of Alfred, and its principal buildings were erected between the reign of Henry VI. and that of Queen Elizabeth. Oxford was a place of considerable political importance in the reign of Charles I. Parliaments were summoned to meet there, and it was the last city which that king maintained. Its university is richly endowed, and consists of nineteen or twenty colleges, and four or five halls, containing nearly three thousand students.

If you were to see Oxford, when these students are walking about in their caps and gowns, you would never forget it. The students at one time were much disposed to be thoughtless and wild, breaking out into open riots with the people of the city, but they behave better now.

Besides the cathedral, Oxford has about thirteen

parish churches; there is, too, a noble market-p
and a capital bridge.

I went through University College, the most an
among them all, and Christ Church. Some of
places seemed rather too gloomy to be shut up i
study all day long, but many of the walks were del
ful. The famous Bodleian Library is at Oxfor
should be sorry to be obliged to read a hundreth
of the books it contains.

I must tell you what happened as I travelled a
from Oxford; it will amuse you to know all about

When the coach arrived at Henley on Tham
smart young man with a beautiful spaniel of the
Charles's breed, got up and seated himself opposite
He had a diamond ring on his finger, and a gold c
across his bosom. Gay, thoughtless, and good
moured, he began to talk very fast, and to hand ci
round to his fellow travellers. I told him that I
not smoke. "Not smoke! well then, take a pinc
snuff," handing me a fine silver box. "I never
snuff." "And why do you not smoke and take snu
"Because I can do very well without the one or

other. It is not wise to increase our wants, and make ourselves dependent on such things." "Well, now, there is the difference! I half empty my snuff-box, and smoke half a dozen cigars, and sometimes a pipe or too, every day of my life."

He then told me that he was an Oxford scholar, and had offended the heads of his college, and as he would not beg their pardon they had expelled him. He had been spending the night at Henley to keep up his spirits, but had found it a dismal place. "Why, there is not an inn in the town," said he, "that has not a bible in every bedroom, and that has made me as dismal as an owl."

Poor thoughtless young fellow! He had been sent to Oxford to be educated as a clergyman, that he might direct his fellow creatures the way to heaven, and yet the bible being in his bedroom was a trouble to him. I hoped that he would get wiser as he got older. I had no opportunity of inquiring whether what he said about the bible at Henley was true, but I have no doubt it was, and I dropped a word or two that, coming from an old man, might do him good. He shook

me by the hand when he left the coach at Salt
and seemed not at all out of temper with me on ac
of the little good advice that I had given him.

On went the coach, leaving Windsor Castle a
to the right; we entered London at Hyde
Corner.

The noise of the carts and carriages almost de
ed me; and I was not sorry when the coach put
an inn, that I was able to get a quiet room to my

CHAPTER X.

Description of London. St. Paul's Cathedral. We
ster Abbey.

In the morning I rose betimes, being no lie-a
Now, thinks I, what there is to be seen in Lon
will see; and sure enough I did, though it took
long time.

London is the largest city in Europe, and the
est in the world. It contains nearly a million
half of inhabitants, and is about thirty miles in ci

ference. The river Thames runs through it, and is crossed by several handsome bridges. In the eastern part of the city the merchants transact their business; and in the western part, the rich people have their dwellings.

The streets are crowded with people, houses, and carriages; and you would at first imagine that some great occasion had drawn every body out of their houses; but day after day you would observe the same busy multitude passing and repassing like so many bees.

In ancient times London was not nearly so large as it now is. The houses were, in general, badly built of wood and plaster, and the streets were mean and narrow. There were not, however, wanting several very handsome buildings, both public and private; among the former, the old cathedral of St. Paul held the pre-eminence: its steeple is said to have been five hundred and twenty feet high. But, in the reign of Charles II., a dreadful plague, which swept away one hundred thousand persons, was followed by a fire which destroyed almost all the city, consuming four

hundred streets, thirteen thousand houses, eighty
churches including St. Paul's cathedral, the Guil
the Royal Exchange, and many other buildings
rebuilding, the city was much improved; the s
were widened, and the houses constructed with
instead of wood and plaster.

One of the first places that I visited was St. P
Cathedral, which was rebuilt by Sir Christopher
after the great fire. It is a magnificent structure
with the exception of St. Peter's at Rome, the gra
cathedral in the world. Within it are several
statues in commemoration of generals, statesmen
other celebrated persons who are buried there. I
the dome is a curious gallery, called the whisp
gallery. If a person at one end of this gallery pu
mouth against the wall and whispers ever so fa
any one at the other end will hear him distinctly.
highest part of the building is about three hundre
seventy feet from the ground; and a fine view of
don may be obtained from it, but the people, h
carriages, &c. being seen from such a height, loo
ceedingly small, and have a curious effect. An
building which I visited, would, I think, interes

even more than St. Paul's. I mean Westminster Abbey, which is a very ancient building, having been founded by Edward the Confessor, one of the Saxon kings of England, and rebuilt by Henry III. and his successors, with the exception, however, of the two towers, which were built by Sir Christopher Wren. One part of the abbey is called the Poet's Corner; and there some of the most celebrated poets that England has produced are buried. There I saw the names of Chaucer, Spenser, Shakspeare, Milton, and many others; and there are many beautiful monuments in marble to their memory. But the chief curiosities of Westminster Abbey consist in the chapels at the eastern end of the church, with their tombs. One of these, which stands behind the altar, is dedicated to Edward the Confessor. Here is then his tomb, which was built by Henry III., and contains the ashes of the Confessor. In this chapel are also the tombs of several kings and queens of England. The helmet of Henry V. is preserved, with the saddle on which he rode at the battle of Agincourt; stripped, however, of every thing but the wood and iron. At the eastern

tremity of the church, and opening up to it, is famous chapel of Henry VII. one of the finest sp mens of Gothic architecture in the world. It built at an enormous expense, and Henry's tomb a cost ten thousand pounds, a sum equal to a millio dollars in our time.

In going to Westminster Abbey, I passed thro the old gateway called Temple Bar.

CHAPTER XI.

Parley goes to Westminster Hall. The Houses of Pa ment. St. James's Palace, and the Parks.

I STOPPED a long time in Westminster Abbey, thinks I, it is ten to one if I shall ever see this p again, or any one like it.

Not content with seeing what was to be seen in the abbey, I went up the winding staircase to the of it, but this made my legs and thighs terribly on the morrow.

There is another very interesting building near Westminster Abbey, called Westminster Hall. It was built by William II. and is part of a place which he erected on the site of one occupied by Edward the Confessor. The ceiling is said to be the largest in Europe unsupported by pillars. The parliament used formerly to meet in this hall, and it is now used for state trials, and on some other occasions. Close to this structure, and communicating with it by a passage, are the buildings in which the parliament meets; these contain a variety of apartments connected by passages. Since I was in London a terrible fire has burnt down a great part of these buildings.

In this neighbourhood there is an extensive royal palace called St. James's and another much more splendid, called Buckingham Palace.

There is a large space of ground, laid out in lawns and walks and shrubberies. This is called St. James's Park, and here many people may be seen walking about, or sitting down on chairs under the trees. Besides St. James's Park, there are others equally pleasant; of these, Hyde Park and Regent's Park are the

most extensive. In the former is a fine statu
Achilles; and in the latter, are some gardens called
Zoological Gardens, containing a very fine collecti
animals from different countries. There are thous
of persons who go to see the gardens, the beasts,
birds, and the gay company; and if I lived in Lon
I should go as often as any one, if it were only to
the light hearted boys and girls that flock there in
summer time from morning till night. I should
mentioned that the entrance to the Green Park,
also that of Hyde Park opposite are very grand.

The Surry Zoological Gardens are a few miles
those in the Regent's Park, but you may be sure
I went to see them.

There is a noble collection of birds and beasts th
The large conservatory, under which the lions, tig
panthers, leopards, and other animals are kept, is t
hundred feet in circumference, and all of glass.
whole covering contains more than six thousand
of glass.

The lake is a fine sheet of water with canoes fl
ing on it, and there is a kind of island on which g

large willow trees, that bend over the water. This is one of the sweetest places that can be imagined.

As you walk round the gardens you see all kinds of forest trees, with their names upon them.

In one part there is a very odd, but at the same time a very beautiful pile of stones and old sculpture, adorned with mosses, lichens and creepers. This is for the eagles, and they look as though they were perched up among their native rocks.

There are almost all kinds of animals and birds to be seen here, as there are at the Regent's Park Gardens.

CHAPTER XII.

Parley tells about the Theatres. Vauxhall. The Bazaars The Clarence Vase. The Exhibitions, and the Colosseum Conservatory and African Glen.

There is no want of places of amusement in London What do you think of there being fifteen playhouses Some of them are very grand, and all of them try their best to draw people into them.

Vauxhall is a favourite place of entertainment. T
gardens are laid out fancifully, and illuminated wi
complete blaze of variegated lamps. Then the sh
walks, the overhanging trees, the different entert
ments, and the splendid fireworks, often keep pe
there till two, or three o'clock in the morning. T
would not suit me. I must go to bed early, and
betimes, otherwise I should never be so well as I a

I ought not to forget the Bazaars of London, for t
are all well worth seeing. Not one of them did I le
unvisited. There was the Soho Bazaar, and
Queen's Bazaar, and the King's Bazaar. All th
places are well stocked with useful and fancy arti
for sale, and are fitted up in the most tasty man
You will, perhaps, like me to tell you about the
rence Vase.

It is a large beautiful vase, of a Grecian mo
made of the finest cut glass, ornamented with ena
and gold.

When I went into the room where it is kept, s
of the lamps which surrounded it were put out, mak
the others appear the brighter. Well! the ligh

lamps all shone together upon the glass vase, and made it look as if it was of dazzling gold.

I then went up into a gallery above, that I might see down into the inside of the vase, and a fine sight it was.

They told me that it was worth ten thousand guineas, and I am not much surprised at it, for it took fifteen workmen three years and a half to make it. It weighs about eight tons, and will hold between five and six thousand bottles of wine. There is a vase for you! I stood talking with the owner of it for an hour and had an opportunity of examining it thoroughly. It is a treat to young people and old to see this vase.

The Exhibition of Pictures at Somerset House is only open for a month or two in the year. The paintings are principally done by members of the Royal Academy, and superior artists. The place is crowded with nobility, gentry, and strangers, who visit London in May and June.

The Exhibition of Water-coloured Drawings, and the British Institution, are sufficiently stocked with good pictures to amuse any one for a week, and the

National Gallery has in it some of the finest paintin
in the world.

The Gallery of Practical Science, in the Lowth
Arcade, was a fine treat. There were models of
kinds of improvements, steam-engines, fire-escap
life-boats, rafts, steam-boats; experiments on the loa
stone, and with the diving-bell, and others of differ
kinds. Perkins's steam-gun made me start again.
threw out more than fifty bullets in a few seconds
complete stream of lead: never did I witness the l
before.

There are always panoramas, dioramas, and cosm
ramas, to be seen in London. These are differ
sorts of paintings. The panoramas are circular,
cosmoramas you look at through glasses, and the d
ramas are so managed as to have varied hues, a
shades, thrown upon them, by means of coloured gla

The Colosseum is a very large building, four hu
dred feet round, and contains a grand picture of L
don, painted on almost an acre of canvass. It is c
itally done.

You will wonder how London could ever be pain

so correctly. This is the way it was managed. The artist got on some scaffolding that was put up above the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral, and there he sketched in a morning, before the people lighted their fires. If he had not done so, the smoke would have hindred him sadly. When the sketches were done, another artist painted the picture from them. Now you know the whole history of it.

Besides the great painting, there are other things to be seen. There is a model of the cross of St. Paul's, and the original ball.

There is a large room below filled with statues, and models, and other curiosities; and a beautiful cottage, just like those in Switzerland, with Alpine scenery, and a fine conservatory, and an African Glen, which has in it all manner of stuffed wild animals, looking as if they were alive.

I could talk an hour obout the Colosseum, and the crowds of people that go there, but that would not do. You must hear something about the Tower and other places. Before I give you this account, let me tell you of an odd scheme they have at the Colosseum. Many

people who go there are infirm, or weakly, or do
like to clamber up the high staircase up to the pa
ing. Well! all those that like, go into a snug l
room, and shut the door, when, by a capital cont
ance, up goes the room quietly to the top, and
minute or so the party are gazing on the pain
without any trouble. Now for the Tower.

CHAPTER XIII.

*Parley goes to the Tower. The Monument The Br
Museum. The Thames Tunnel.*

THE Tower is a large collection of fortified build
surrounded by a moat or ditch, containing sev
streets, and covering upwards of twelve acres of l
It was begun by William the Conqueror, and was u
as a a royal palace till the reign of Queen Elizab
It was also used, as it still is, for a state prison,
it was here that the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey
confined and executed I shall notice a few of

most important buildings. The White Tower, which is the most important part of the edifice, is a large square building in the centre of the fortress. On the tops there is a watch tower at each corner; one of these was used as an observatory before the famous one at Greenwich was erected, and it still retains the name. This tower contains, in different apartments, various sorts of arms, and the models of such warlike engines as are presented to government. On the top is a large cistern, which is filled by a water engine from the Thames, to supply the garrison with water. The Sea Armoury which is in the Tower, is furnished with arms for nearly fifty thousand sailors and marines. No wonder you look surprised! The Grand Storehouse is a large, brick building of the time of Willliam III. The ground floor formerly contained part of the royal artillery, among which was one of the earliest invented cannon, formed of bars of iron hammered together and bound with iron hoops. This cannon was moved not on a carriage, but by six rings conveniently placed for that purpose. What a difference between this and the cannon now used! This room is now

used as a store-room for small arms ready packed
sent off any where on the shortest notice. Above
is the Small Armoury, which is reckoned one o
finest rooms of its kind in Europe. It contains
sufficient for one hundred and fifty thousand me
arranged in the most beautiful order.

The Horse Armoury is a modern edifice built ag
the southern side of the white Tower. It conta
curious collection of suits of armour, from the tim
Edward I. to that of James II. arranged in chronolo
order. In the Spanish Armoury there is a collecti
weapons and instruments of torture, said to have
among the spoils of the Spanish Armada; but thi
count has been contradicted. I cannot settle the p
There is also the axe with which the ill-fated
Bullen and Lady Jane Grey were beheaded: I di
much like to look at it. In the Jewel Office are
hibited, the crown which was used at the corona
the crown of state, so called because it is worn b
queen when she goes in state to the House of Lords
crowns of the queens and the prince of Wales,
sceptres of the king and queen, and a number of

articles of value, all of which, on account of their costly nature, are only permitted to be seen through a light iron railing.

After leaving the Tower, which took me a long time to see, I proceeded to visit the Monument, which was erected by Sir Christopher Wren in commemoration of the great fire of London. It is a fine column of Portland stone, situated near the spot on which the fire broke out.

My next visit was to the British Museum, which is so crowded with curiosities that I can only advise you to go and see it, to enable you to form any correct idea of the many valuable and interesting things exhibited at this place.

I have already told you that the river Thames passes through London, and that it is crossed by several fine bridges. But a communication was also needed between the two banks of the river, at a part where it is very broad and deep, and where, besides, it was impossible to have a bridge, on account of the ships with their tall masts which are continually sailing up and down the river, either going to or returning from foreign

countries. It was therefore determined to dig a tu
beneath the river, and thus form a passage from one
to the other.

This work was begun some years ago, and consi
able progress was made in it. But owing to the l
ness of the soil, the river broke in, and although
injury was repaired, other difficulties arising, the
cution of the project was suspended. The tunne
however, kept open for visitors, and many peopl
to see it. It is a wonderful work, and may be
garded as one of the greatest curiosities in Lon
You may be sure that I went to see it, and I am
to hear that it is now likely to be completed after

I next visited the India House. It is a large bu
ing where the directors of the East India Comp
keep their accounts and manage their affairs. T
are large pillars in front of it, and a group of figur
the top. King George the Third, and Britannia,
Liberty, are among them; though I should never
made them out myself. An old man, who stood u
the portico, dressed in a large blue coat and red c
explained them all to me. He said the highest fig

were Britannia, Europe upon a capital horse, and Asia seated on a camel. I could see it was a camel by the great hump on its back.

There is much to be seen at the India House, both to instruct and amuse, such as curiosities taken at the storming of Seringapatam,—Chinese books,—glass cases of birds,—Indian dresses,—Idols, ugly enough in all conscience,—and the Turkish Bible. It is called the Koran, and was written by Mahomet the Impostor. Well, there is a copy of this Koran in the India House, it once belonged to Tippoo Saib, the son of Hyder Ali. I will tell you a little about Tippoo Saib. He was the chief of the Mysore country, in India, and a sad, cruel and treacherous tyrant. Whether the English ever gave him cause for the hatred he bore them I cannot tell, but he did hate them with all his heart, as you will believe when I tell you a little more about him. He employed an artist to make him a machine, in which he took much delight. It was the figure of a British soldier, and a tiger. On turning round a handle, the tiger sprang forward with a terrible growl to tear out the soldier's heart, and the soldier moaned in

a piteous manner. This gave great pleasure to Tip
Saib.

I saw this machine in the India House, and jus
I was turning round the handle to make the t
spring on the soldier, a stranger came up to me,
began to talk about Tippoo Saib. He told me
some years ago there was a grand panorama or paint
of the taking of Seringapatam to be seen in Lon
painted by Sir Robert Kerr Porter. Seringapatan
the capital of the country where Tippoo lived.
place was stormed at three different points at the s
time. Tippoo's soldiers made a desperate defe
and his tiger grenadiers charged furiously from a se
pass, but it was all in vain. A shot broke the ch
of the drawbridge; and the British soldiers and t
allies, the natives, rushed forward. The place
taken, and Tippoo Saib himself was found un
an archway covered with the slain. So much
Sultan Tippoo.

The East India Company is very rich, and
powerful. Thousands of English people have g
over to India, and brought back on their return ple

of money with them: but that has not been all; they have, in too many cases, brought back a ruined constitution too. What is wealth without health? I had rather be Peter Parley, and live in health and peace with God's blessing, in this little brown house of mine than the owner of all India with a diseased liver, and a broken down constitution. Now I will tell of something else.

CHAPTER XIV.

Parley describes the Admiralty, and Telegraph. Also Whitehall, Mansion-house, Bank, Royal Exchange, Guildhall, Mint, and Custom House. Woolwich and Deptford.

The days passed pleasantly along, for I had always something in prospect. One told me to see this, and another advised me to see that.

I am an old seaman, therefore I did not forget to visit the Admiralty, where so much business is done on account of the sea service. It is a fine building with a portico, and two wings. There are offices al

round the hall where business is transacted, and times they have enough to do.

Some of the Lords Commissioners live on the p mises, that no time may be lost when immediate tention is required. The British navy is very la and what with giving orders to different ships, mak new regulations, appointing admirals, captains, li tenants and other officers, arranging court martials, other duties, they have no need to be idle.

At the top of the building are the telegraphs send orders to all parts of the coast, and to rece information. A telegraph consists of a large fra in which half a dozen shutters are so placed as to moved in different positions by ropes.

By these means they have signs for all the letter the alphabet, the ten figures, and words most likel be wanted, so that by having a telegraph put up ab every eight or ten miles, news may be sent at the of a hundred miles in three or four minutes. I warr that is fast enough for any thing.

I will now speak a little about Whitehall. Wh hall is at no great distance from the Admiralty, but

the other side of the street. It is not now the Whitehall that it has been. When the famous Cardinal Wolsey, who was archbishop, lived there, he kept four hundred servants, and many of them had servants under them. Hospitality and pomp were displayed on a broad scale, the cardinal was proud and high-minded, and pride but ill becomes any man, especially a minister of religion. He fell from his greatness, for he lost the king's favour.

In Queen Elizabeth's time, Whitehall was in all its splendour and glory. The banqueting house was erected more than three hundred feet square, lighted with almost three hundred lights of glass.

When this banqueting house was destroyed, that which is now standing was built, and a fine piece of architecture it is. King James gave the famous Rubens three thousand pounds for painting the ceiling.

King Charles the first was beheaded in front of Whitehall. As I stood to look at the place, I thought to myself, Better live in safety and peace in a small house, than in danger and distraction in a large palace.

Oliver Cromwell, and, after him, Charles the Second,

lived at Whitehall. Then James the Second, a
William the Third and his Queen, followed each oth
in possessing it.

The fire that took place about the year 1691 ruin
the place. Only the present banqueting house, n
used as a chapel, and a remnant of the other parts we
left standing.

The Mansion House, the House of the Lord May
was built in 1739. It is a handsome building, thou
many think the portico in front is a great deal heav
than it ought to be. The Lord Mayor is the princi
magistrate of the city, and he sits at the Mansi
House to administer justice. I peeped in, but I cou
not stay long, having so much to see at other places

The Bank of England is, I suppose, the first pla
in the whole world with respect to money matte
What heaps of gold! what piles of bank notes di
see there!

It is very large, and of different kinds of archit
ture, and looks as though it would be no easy mat
to get out any of the gold it contains, against the w
of the owners.

Over the hall is a very curious clock; it has in the different rooms of the Bank sixteen clock faces, and the hands are all moved by brass rods fixed to this one clock.

The name of Abraham Newland is known to most people, as it appears on the Bank of England notes. I must tell you who he was. A picture of him hangs up in one of the rooms.

He was the son of a miller, and being pretty well instructed in figures, became a clerk in the Bank when he was young. Nothing like integrity and perseverance in business. He rose from one situation to another, till, at last, he became the principal cashier; his name then appeared on the notes.

Every year added to his prosperity, so that when he died his property was worth six thousand a year.

One part of the Bank is called the Rotunda, and if ever confusion reigned any where, it seems to reign there—for, what with the bargaining and trafficking of fundholders and stockbrokers, it is one of the last places of the world in which you would look for peace and quietness.

I visited the Royal Exchange, a very exten building, where merchants and others met to tran business. It has since been destroyed by fire, another one is in active progress of building.

I went to Guildhall, a venerable looking pl where a court of justice is held.

The great hall is one hundred and fifty-four long, and more than fifty wide, and the pillars ro it are adorned with shields bearing coats of arms.

There are two figures like giants standing up by sides of the western window, as ugly as you can ima giants can be. People say that the one represent ancient Briton, having a long beard and flowing h and the other a Saxon, with a black bushy beard, wearing a helmet.

I asked for what purpose they were put up in Gu hall, but no one could tell me. I therefore left asking questions; but found out that those giants w called Gog and Magog.

Guildhall contains the portraits of a great m judges, and also some statues. There is one statu

Beckford, twice Lord Mayor of London. The monument of Lord Chatham cost three thousand guineas.

There are also monuments erected to the memory of William Pitt and Lord Nelson.

On the north side is the Lord Mayor's Court. There is also the Court of Common Council Chamber, where the Aldermen meet, and the Lord Mayor sits in his red velvet chair on a platform. It is a sight worth seeing; but I must run away from Guildhall.

The Mint is where all the money is made. It stands by the Tower on Tower Hill. Steam engines are used in making money, and you would be surprised to see how rapidly a piece of misshapen metal is turned into a beautiful coin. When a man dwells in contentment, living in peace with God, and in charity with all mankind, he can do with very little money; and if he does not do this, all the gold and silver in the Mint will not make him happy.

I went to the Custom House. It stands by the side of the river Thames. A deal of business is done here. How much do you think the Custom House brought in

to government a few years ago? why, sixteen mil
and a half of pounds sterling, and, no doubt, it b
in as much now.

As I expected that a letter would be lying fo
at the Post Office, I went there: and now, thinks I,
is just the opportunity to learn all about the estab
ment. You shall know all that I made out.

CHAPTER XV.

Parley tells about the Post Office, the Mail Coaches, an
Roads.

I HAVE seen many a Post Office, but never one
that in London. You would take it at first sigh
the king's palace, and after you were told it w
Post Office, you would wonder why it was built
the size that it is. The principal front of it is
hundred feet long, and when I stood by the high
umns under the portico, I felt as though I was nob

One of the fronts has one hundred and eighty

dows. Think of that—one hundred and eighty windows for only one front of a Post Office!

It would take me an hour to tell you all about the Great Hall, which is a common thoroughfare, and the pillars, and the granite pedestals, and the receiving rooms, and the different offices fitted up with drawers and pigeon holes, and the sorting and stamping tables. Then there is the Foreign Office, the place for foreign letters, and the Twopenny Post Office. Every minute that I stood in the hall, a score or two of persons ran up the stone steps to put in letters, and now and then a foreigner inquired, in broken English, what part of the place he must go to.

A fire would be a terrible thing in this building, for the burning of the letters would occasion much distress, as well as destroy the bills they contained, therefore every care has been taken to make the basement of the building fire proof, by turning arches of brick. The whole edifice is lighted with gas.

You may think that a great many letters go through our Post Office at Boston. So there do, but nothing like the number that go through the Post Office in London. I made particular inquiry about it, an

found that above twenty-three millions of letters
through the post every year, without reckoning t
of the foreign office, and ship letter office, and the
penny post. No wonder that the building is so l
and that so many people are employed there. W
there must be as many as seventy-five thousand le
every day, reckoning those that are received and t
that are sent.

Then, again, look at the newspapers: some
there are twenty-five thousand put in the post,
at times, as many as fifty or sixty thousand; why
newspapers themselves are more than thirteen
lions in a year. All these letters and papers am
to a pretty penny. How much do you think?
about a thousand pounds a day, not reckoning
days, or three hundred thousand pounds a year.

One evening I went to see the mails go off.
actly at eight o'clock, while hundreds of well dre
people were standing opposite the Post Office yard
horns began to blow, the horses' hoofs to clatter,
the coach wheels to rattle along the pavement.
one mail there were four bay horses, to another

black ones, and to a third four fine dappled grays Every guard had a pile of large leathern bags of letter and newspapers before him on the roof of the ma coach. Beside the coaches, there were numbers mail carts rattling along with bags of letters for othe parts of London—so that, what with the new scarl clothes of the coachmen and guards, the prancing the horses, the rattling of the wheels, the blowing the horns, and the company, I had not witnessed more lively scene in London.

The roads in England are for the most part capita they are made so by spreading over them a thick coa ing of hard broken stones. The advantage of a goo road is very great, whether travelling on horseback, by a stage coach.

England is a place famous for ships. Thinks I, I went along Tower Hill, "they must have some f mous docks here, I will be bound for it; so now I w go and see them."—Away I went, and soon entere the London Dock, and was very well pleased with i and with the others too.

CHAPTER XVI.

Parley speaks about the Docks, Bridges, and Markets.

I MUST be very short in my descriptions, otherwi
I shall never get through my account of London. T
London Docks are visited by most strangers. Th
are at Wapping. St. George's Dock will hold four
five hundred ships, being more than twelve hundr
feet long and near seven hundred feet wide. T
other docks are very large.

The warehouses are of great dimensions: those
tobacco are above a thousand feet long, and cover fo
acres of ground. Such a stock of wine as there is
the vaults below you never saw, and are not likely
see unless you go to Old England.

The West India Docks are at the Isle of Dogs; a
the East India Docks at Black Wall.

St. Katherine's Dock is near the Tower of Londo
and famous warehouses it has attached to it. It cove
twenty acres, or more, so that I suppose better than
hundred and twenty ships can find accommodtion.

There is a wharf here for steam packets, so that the place is kept all alive.

I must say a word, or two, about the bridges that cross the Thames.

There was once a timber bridge across the river where London bridge is now. It was built by the priests belonging to a college. A fire burnt a great part of it down, long ago, and then it was rebuilt. No wonder that it was rebuilt, for it was a very great accommodation. There was only a ferry there before

After that, a stone bridge was erected, and people said it was built on woolpacks; the reason was, that a tax was put on wool to raise the money that was wanted to build the bridge with.

There were houses and shops on this bridge, but like the other, it was burnt down. Several others followed in turn. The great fire of London in 1666 burnt the houses on the bridge that was then standing. They were, however, built up again. John Bunyan, who wrote the "Pilgrim's Progress," lived in one, and the celebrated painter Hans Holbein, who painted the Dance of Death, dwelt in another.

What people now call old London bridge was pu
down some time since. The new bridge is a n
structure with five arches. The middle arch is a
dred and fifty feet in the span.

Blackfriars Bridge, so named from a conven
black friars that once stood there, was begun t
built in 1760, and finished in 1771 : it has nine arc

It is said that sixty thousand persons, besides
riages of all kinds, pass over this bridge daily.

Southwark Bridge, to my mind, is a beautiful bri
It is made entirely of iron, and has three arches,
ing on stone piers. The middle arch is two hun
and forty feet in the span. There is an arch for
This bridge cost eight hundred thousand pounds,
I believe the middle arch is wider in the span,
the arch of any other bridge in the world.

Westminster Bridge was built in 1735. It ha
teen arches, though two of them are but small.
piers are of solid Portland stone.

Waterloo Bridge is perhaps one of the most pe
in the world. There is no other stone bridge in Eu
of so great a length. It is for the most part bu

granite. Every arch, and there are nine of them, is a hundred and twenty feet, and the whole bridge is as level as a line can be drawn. It is called Waterloo Bridge, on account of the great battle fought on the fields of Waterloo.

At Hammersmith, there is a Suspension Bridge of great beauty. Double chains of an enormous size are hung over the river, being made fast to a high and handsome stone pier at each end. There are rods of iron fixed to the large chains, and these support the ironwork, the woodwork, and the gravel over which the carriages and passengers pass.

The bridge is as level, and as firm, as one could desire, and the footpath is separate from the carriage road.

You may be sure that London is not without plenty of markets. I went to Covent Garden Market very early in the morning, for that is the time to see the fruit and vegetables come in. Carts and waggons, piled up with different kinds of vegetables, kept pouring in till I wondered where the stuff was all to be stowed.

If you are in London and want fish, you must set

off to Billingsgate or Hungerford Market, where will find plenty.

There are more than fourteen thousand boats o fish sold in Billingsgate Market in a year, wit reckoning mackerel. The salmon is brought fresh cool. I will tell you how they mange it. It is pac up, not in warm straw, but in cold ice in boxes. this way it is brought from Berwick and the fish in the north, and finds a ready sale in London.

There are other markets, particularly that for c in Mark Lane; but I must go on with my acco If I did not pass over a great deal that is worth sp ing about, you might sit here for a month, and, then, I should not have finished my story.

One day as I walked on the banks of the Tha looking about me, an old man in a red coat passed but I soon overtook him again, and began to talk him: he told me that he was a Chelsea pensio Understanding that Chelsea Hospital was but a l way off, I went to see it. You will like to hea about it.

CHAPTER XVII.

Parley goes to Richmond, to Chelsea, and Greenwich Hospital, and Greenwich Fair.

I HAD a delightful sail in a boat to Richmond. There is one of the most delightful views there that can be found in England.

There are a great many things worth looking at on the banks of the river Thames, and among them is Chelsea Hospital, not so much on account of the building as the use it is put to. You will like to know what they use the hospital for: I will tell you all about it.

There are between four and five hundred old soldiers there, who, after fighting their country's battles, (and many of them are sorely maimed,) find a comfortable home for the rest of their days.

These old fellows, dressed in red turned up with blue, pass their lives very comfortably. They walk about, go and see their friends, smoke their pipes, and ffght their battles over and over again, as they sit chatting together.

You must not think that these are all the old sold
supported by Chelsea Hospital. O, no, there are s
thousands of out pensioners too. I went all over
hospital, and talked with a score of people, but I co
not find any that had been at the battle of Bunk
Hill.

The first stone of the building was laid by K
Charles, who, it is said, was persuaded to do so
Nell Gwyn, of whom he was very fond.

I must not tell you what is done for soldiers, w
out telling you what is done for sailors too. I am
old sailor myself, and I shall never forget my m
mates of the blue jacket.

There is a grand Hospital at Greenwich for seam
ne of the finest buildings in the world. I only w
we had such a place for Americans; if it was not q
o grand it would do very well. I went to see
Hospital

Here you may see a thousand old tars walking ab
ound the building and in the park, or sitting on
stone benches in the sun. They are dressed in bl
with brass buttons, and many of them wear coc

hats. Some are blind, some lame, some have lost an arm, and some a leg. The hall has a fine painted ceiling, and the walls are hung with sea-fights, and portraits of admirals. Many who go to see Greenwich expect to find the old pensioners fierce looking fellows, because they have been the thunderbolts of war in days gone by, but instead of that, the most of them look as meek as lambs. Old age fetches the fire out of a man. It is time now for them to be looking for peace, for most of them have hair on their heads as gray as mine.

There is a wake or fair held in the parks at Greenwich, and thousands and thousands of lads and lasses go there from London, to dance on the grass, to climb up and run down the hills, and to play at different games and enjoy themselves; but I am afraid that this fair, like most others of the kind, does a deal of mischief one way or other.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Parley speaks about prisons. Newgate. King's B
London University, and King's College.

I WISH you to know something about everythi
have seen. London has a great many good peop
it, but it has many bad people too, and I cannot
what could be done without prisons. It is an
thing to get into a prison, but oftentimes a hard
ter to get out again. Prisons used to be very diff
places to what they are now: men and women,
and girls were confined there all together, and
were often so crowded, and so dirty, that fevers
distempers of different kinds used to break out ar
them. At the present, they are managed in a b
manner, being kept clean. The men and boys a
one part, and the women and girls in another.
Howard was a man famous for visiting prisons, a
great deal of good he did, not only in England, b
other countries; but he caught an infection at la
visiting one, and died, I think, in Russia. A Qu

lady, too, of the name of Fry has done much among the prisoners.

Newgate prison is very strong; it is called Newgate on account of one of the gates of the city of London which stood near the place. The old building was made a prison in the reign of King John. It was rebuilt soon after the death of Henry V., and enlarged after the great fire of London. A jail fever once broke out within the walls, and the dead bodies of those who died were taken away by cart loads. Fifty thousand pounds were then granted to build a new prison, and that prison is the Newgate now standing. The walls are raised fifty feet, the cells for the condemned are above the ground and dry, and there is a chapel that will hold between three and four hundred people. The persons are allowed a candle at night till a certain time, and they have a prayer book and a bible to read; so that you see, bad as they may be, they are not neglected. There is another thing, too, that I ought not to forget, and that is, that fetters are not used except when the prisoners are very unruly.

There is a prison called the Queen's Bench. You

will like to know something about it. It is a pl
where people are confined for debt, and I expecte
find every one within the high and gloomy walls v
sorrowful, but how surprised was I to find it just
contrary! In one place men were drinking and s
king, in another amusing themselves at different gan
laughing as loud and joking each other as if their he
were light as a feather. In the large yard they w
playing at rackets, a game which consists in strikin
ball against a high wall with bats like battle-do
and very clever at it they were. Well, thinks I, th
folks, for all that I see, are as happy in prison as ot
folks are out of it, but a moment's reflection made
alter my opinion. To be happy, a man must
uprightly and usefully employed, and that was
the case at the Queen's Bench prison.

There are many other prisons, and at some of th
the men work at the treadmill. This is a large wh
turned round by treading on the broad cogs:
prisoners look just as if they were trying to climb
it. They also pick oakum, and if any works are go
on in the prison they lend a helping hand. The wor

and girls work a treadmill of their own, besides which, they wash, make and mend, and knit coarse stockings for the use of the prisoners. It is better to be honest than to get into a jail; coarse food, hard work, and heavy irons are unpleasant things. But there is a worse thing than the coarse food, or the hard work, or the heavy irons either. What can that be? you will say. I will tell you. They have formed a plan, lately, in some prisons to keep all the prisoners silent: not one word will they let them speak to one another, either by day or by night. This is the way they manage it. They give some of the prisoners more food, and let them sit or walk about without working, that they may watch over the rest; the turnkeys watch too; and if any prisoner speaks a word, in a few minutes after he is shut up in a cell by himself. It would never do to put me there, I could not live long without talking. Before this silent plan was found out, there was plenty of cursing and swearing, and many prisoners came out of jail worse than than they went in, for they learned from their fellow prisoners to be more wicked than ever. It is not so now, and thieves and pickpockets will

dread going to jail worse than ever. Now you kn
something about the prisons of London.

The London University was founded to supply
increasing demand for education, and afford coll
advantage to desenters as well as those of the chu
of England. I went to see it. It is a fine build
and has some excellent museums. The professors
learned men in their several departments, and
medical school is a very admirable one.

King's College forms a part, as it were, of Some
House. It was founded for the same purpose as
London University, but religious instruction, confor
ble with the principles of the church of England, fo
part of the education given. This is not the cas
the London University.

In going about so continually, I saw many cur
places; I will tell you about some of them.

CHAPTER XIX.

Parley tells about Crosby Hall. Old House in Bishopsgate Street. The highest spot in London. St. Saviour's Church, and the Lady Chapel. St. John's Gate.

I AM very fond of old buildings. They make me think of other times, when the customs of the world were different to what they are now.

I remember going to see Crosby Hall. This is, perhaps, the finest remains of the domestic arcitecture of old times, of any to be found in London.

It is cooped up in an odd looking place called Crosby Square, on the east side of Bishopsgate Street, just to the south of Great St. Helen's.

The great fire of London swept away most of the ancient domestic buildings, and the changes and improvements of the city have removed almost all the remainder, but in the midst of these changes Crosby Hall is still left standing.

A great part of it was burnt down about the seventeenth century. The hall was afterwards used as a

meeting house, and then as a warehouse. Wha
it will be put to, when thoroughly repaired, I c
tell. When I first caught sight of Crosby Ha
presented an odd appearance. In one part where i
been repaired, quite in the olden style, the stone
appeared new, and the fine gothic windows
beautifully formed. In another part the roof se
falling in, and the old fashioned window frames
bling down on one side, while the broken glass, th
lead hanging down in strips, the windows stoppe
with old boards and shutters, and the ruinous st
the walls, altogether, cut a deplorable figure. I sh
not have liked to leave London without peepi
Crosby Hall.

Within a short distance of Crosby Hall, a littl
low Bishopsgate Church, is an old house that
most imposing appearance. I will describe it t
as well as I can.

It is three stories high, and was, when I sa
occupied as a public house, or spirit shop. The
dow of the second story is circular, projecting a
way out. Underneath it is ornamented with g

and leaves, carved in wood. The window itself is divided into thirty-four compartments, the lowermost are filled up with coats of arms, the other with glass, or carved work.

The third story agrees with the second, only the window is not quite so large. The top of the house falls back, and is decorated with a scollop ornament and points rising up. The whole front of the house is painted in so fanciful a way with red, green, yellow, brown, and light clay colour, that it catches the attention of almost every passer by.

While I stood looking at it, several persons did the same. The date of this old house I do not know.

I had heard a great deal of St. Saviour's Church, over London Bridge, so I made the best of my way there, but having occasion to go to the Post Office first, I passed from that building to go to Paternoster Row, by a narrow passage.

Well! there I saw the figure of a boy cut in stone in the wall, and underneath was graven the words,

"When I have sought the city round,
Yet still this is the highest ground."

I soon found my way to St. Saviour's Church, a fine building I found it to be. It was not, howe the Church, but the Lady Chapel at the east end that principally engaged my attention.

The body of the church is supposed to have b built about the year 1106 by Bishop Gifford. It twenty-six massy pillars, thirteen on each side, to port the roof.

These pillars are of different kinds, round, octa and clustered. At the west end, the tomb of Go the father of English poetry, once stood.

But I must now tell you why it was that I wante much to see the Lady Chapel. It was in that chapel that the cruel Bishops, Bonner and Gardi tried many of those who afterwards perished at stake. The good and pious Hooper, and Bradf and Ferror, and many other such men were t there.

I almost shuddered on entering the chapel to th of the cruel deeds of those iron-hearted and ungo men, Bonner and Gardiner, in condemning so man be burned alive. If the great Judge of all should

half as severe to them as they were merciless to their fellow creatures, it will fare ill with them.

St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, must be noticed. I will tell you something about this gate in a few words. About seven or eight hundred years ago, the poor Christians, who visited Jerusalem to offer up their devotions at the sepulchre of our Saviour, and the church of John the Baptist, were sadly harassed by the Turks. Well! an abbot and some benedictine monks were supported there, that they might receive and entertain all Christian pilgrims and travellers, in the hospital where they dwelt. They were called Hospitallers. In the year 1099, many Christian princes joined together and besieged Jerusalem, and these hospitallers fought so bravely on the side of the Christians that the Holy Land was taken.

From that time, these hospitallers became a military order under the name of "The Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem." They made themselves famous by the services they rendered Christian princes, and spread into different nations, until, though they at first professed willingly to remain poor, they possessed nineteen thousand manors in Christendom.

The order was suppressed, and restored again, than once. And their church and religious h were destroyed, and again rebuilt. This has be long ago, that it is no great wonder that so remains of any part of their buildings should no seen.

I went to see the old gateway of St. John's Pr in Clerkenwell. One part of it is now used as a p house called "The Old St. John of Jerusalem." lower part of the western tower is used as the p watch-house.

CHAPTER XX.

Government of England. The Monarch. Lords and mons. Nobility. Laws.

Great Britain is governed by a monarch and Parliament. The present sovereign is Queen Vict who inherits the crown and the right to rule, as inherits land from his father.

The parliament consists of the House of Lords, and the House of Commons, two bodies of men which I shall describe separately: the same names are given to the rooms in which they meet. The House of Commons consists of about six hundred and fifty members, who are elected from among the people.

The House of Lords consists of peers, or persons possessing certain titles. They are not chosen by the people, but have a right to sit in the house, on account of their titles which they inherit like their estates. These lords, with their families, constitute what is called the nobility. All the English peers, amounting to above four hundred, have the right of sitting in the House of Lords; but only sixteen Scottish, and thirty-two Irish, peers, chosen from among the rest by vote, have this privilege. You know that we have no peers in America.

The House of Lords and Commons together form the Parliament.

Any member of either house has the right of proposing a new law, after first obtaining leave of the house. This is called *bringing in a bill*, and it is

then read over at three different times, and carefu
discussed. The members then divide, and give th
votes as to whether the bill shall become law or n
If there are most votes against it, it is rejected; if
it, it is said to have *passed the house*, and it is s
into the other house. If it passes this also, it is s
up to receive the signiture of the queen. If the qu
refuse to sign it, it does not become law; but this
very rarely done; and when she has signed it
becomes a law, and the people are obliged to obey
These laws are in force over the whole country,
the people of Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, are
much obliged to obey them, as those of England.

CHAPTER XXI.

Extent and population of the British Isles. Fore
possessions. Armies. Navy. Commerce.

Great Britain possesses extensive colonies in alm
every part of world, so that the sovereigns of Engl
reigns not only over the twenty-four millions of peop

the British Isles, but over other millions in Asia Africa and America. Nearly the whole of America north of the United States, with Newfoundland, and the West Indian Islands, belongs to this country.

There are also English colonies on the western coast of Africa, and the Cape of Good Hope; and the whole of the vast territory of India is in the possession of the British. Various islands in the Pacific, the Mediterranean, and the Indian Ocean, also obey the British sceptre. Besides these, England possesses the island of New Holland, which alone is equal to half Europe. Thus, the British Empire exceeds every nation in the world, but Russia, in the extent of its dominions; is more populous than any other, excepting China; and far surpasses the most powerful empires of antiquity. The armies of England are not very numerous, but the courage of her soldiers, and the skill of their generals have enabled them to achieve victories in all parts of the world. Her fleets are numerous and powerful.

Nor is the commerce of England less extensive than her dominions. Her trading vessels carry her manufactures of cotton, woollen, and metal goods, to all

parts of the world, and return laden with the prod
of the various countries. They bring dried fruit f
the Greek islands, carpets from Turkey, tea from Ch
pearls, spices and rich shawls, from the East Ind
gold ivory and ostrich feathers, from Africa, silver
precious stones, from South America, and cotton, su
coffee and tobacco, from the West Indies and N
America; rice is imported from various parts, bot
the eastern and western continents.

CHAPTER XXII.

Parley gives an account of the Charities of London

I COULD not leave London without knowing so
thing about the charities of the place. I will tell
a great deal about them in a few words. English
ple have the credit of being among the most charit
in the world, and I should think they deserve it;
you shall hear and judge for yourselves. There ar
London hospitals for the lunatic, the maimed, the s

the blind, the deaf and dumb, and almost all other afflicted people. There are almshouses for the old, asylums for the young, places of refuge for the destitute, and societies for the relief of almost all kinds of distress. Then besides these, there are other societies for the spread of the bible, and religion in the world. To tell you about them all would be impossible, as they amount to some hundreds, to say nothing of the schools and visiting societies that belong to the different places of worship. However, you shall have a few of them. I ought, when speaking of the hospitals, to have mentioned St. Bartholmew's, St. George's, and others.

The Royal Humane Society has been very useful, in recovering people taken out of the water, to all appearance dead. It provides proper machines to search the water with, for persons supposed to be drowned. It uses the best means to restore such as are found, and gives rewards to all who save the lives of their fellow creatures.

Christ's Church Hospital is a famous school, that educates more than a thousand boys; but if ever lads wore ugly clothes, these boys do. Long blue gowns

with a leathern strap for a girdle, yellow petticoats yellow stockings, with a little cap stuck on one of the head. You never saw such frights.

Greenwich and Chelsea Hospitals are capital charit but I have already spoken of them.

There is the London Society for the Improvem and Encouragement of Female Servants. A cap institution, that is not so much encouraged as it ou to be. It gives money and books to good serva who live for a certain time with a master or mistr and finds places for them, and helps them in sickn and makes them a present if they marry. The c fort of families depends much upon the good cond of servants, and therefore such a society ought to well supported.

There is plenty of work to do in London to clear streets of beggars and deceivers, who go about gett money, pretending to be sea captains, and sailors, so on ; and the Society for the Suppression of Mer city undertakes to do this. Thousands of impost have been found out, and great numbers punish When the society first set to work, it made stra

work among the beggars, for soldiers who had been seen, with only one arm, begging, were taken off to prison, with two arms as good as yours; and sailors, who had for a long time hobbled about on one leg, found another leg to scamper off with, when afraid of a jail: but enough about the beggars.

There is a society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Animal's Friend Society; you would hardly believe the cruelty that is practised towards poor brutes, by butchers, drovers, and other hard-hearted people: they ought to know better; and the society has taught many of them better. Never be cruel; a cruel child will make a cruel man, and a cruel man ought to be shunned by all.

The British and Foreign Bible Society is one of the first charities in the world, for it sends the word of God abroad into all nations. You may think me joking when I tell you that it has scattered already more than eight millions of bibles and testaments abroad, printed in more than a hundred and fifty languages; but it is as true as that I am now talking to you.

There would, however, be but little use in sending

bibles, unless somebody went with them to teach
poor ignorant heathen folks how to read; and a g
many people are sent for this purpose, and to pre
the gospel. Let me see! there are so many Missio
Societies, that I shall never recollect them. Ther
the London Missionary, the Moravian Missionary,
Church Missionary, the Wesleyan Missionary, and
Baptist Missionary, besides Home Missionaries.
these societies are employed in teaching men to
God and to keep his commandments. I will tell
where the money comes from that enables them to
so much good. They have a public meeting ev
year, and hundreds and thousands of people get
gether to hear what good has been done, and what
doing, and the speeches that are made warm the p
ple's hearts, so that they are ready to support the
cieties. Then, there are sermons preached,
collections and subscriptions made for the society;
this is the way that the money is got together.

You have heard of the Religious Tract Society,
it has found its way into every place. Here is one
their tracts, you can read it another time. The so

ety has spread abroad two hundred millions of tracts and books. Yes, two hundred millions! and if they were to be laid down on the ground, singly, as close as you could put them together, they would reach all round the world. A great deal of good is done by these books and tracts.

The Temperance Societies enable many a poor woman to put something in the pot for her family, that, before, was half starving. A drunken man is a heavy tax on himself and all belonging to him. One of the Temperance Societies persuades people to leave off ardent spirits only, and the other one advocates the entire disuse of all intoxicating liquors. They both do much good.

The British and Foreign Sailor's Society, is established to encrease religion among sailors of all nations; the Sailor's Home, to afford comfortable lodgings for seamen while they are on shore, and to prevent them from getting into bad company and squandering their money; and the Destitute Sailor's Asylum, to receive and relieve them when in distress. I was glad to see that the English did not forget sailors. The Sunday

School Union, and the Society for the Support
Encouragement of Sunday Schools, are among the v
best in all London. Millions of young folks have b
taught in them to remember their Creator in the d
of their youth.

I ought not to forget the General District Visit
Society, and the Society for Promoting Christian
struction in London and the Neighbourhood, for t
are both very excellent charities.

The London Society for Promoting Christian
among the Jews, is a proof that Christians have
forgotten that they are indebted to the Jews for
Holy Scriptures. The Irish Society of London,
London Hibernian Society, and the Scripture Read
Society, for Ireland, have done much for Irish peo
in teaching them to read, giving them bibles and g
books, and preaching the gospel. Did you ever h
of so many societies before? I could go on for anot
hour, and find societies enough to tell you of,
London is full of them: but though I have said qu
enough for once on the subject of charities, I must
forget to tell you that there are many Saving's Ba
in England.

I could have stopped in London a month longer, and found good entertainment, but that would not have been wise, having so many other places to see. It took me but a short time to pack up my portmanteau, and soon I mounted the coach that called at the White Horse Cellar, in Piccadilly. Away we went, the coachman driving four capital gray horses, and the guard blowing his horn.

CHAPTER XXIII.

Parley speaks of Dover Castle, and other matters.

After leaving London I proceeded in a southwesterly direction, for I thought it would never do not to see the mines of Cornwall. On the top of the coach was a man dressed in a thick shaggy coat, who appeared, by his conversation, to have been in every county in England. He told me that he had just come up to London from Dover, and was going then to Salisbury.

I listened while he gave an account of Dover Castle

to a young man who sat beside me. "Dover Cas
said he, "is worth going a hundred miles to see.
is very large, and stands upon a high rock, rugged
steep as it can well be. This rock, on the sea si
it, rises up to an extraordinary height. At one
Dover Castle was so well fortified, that it was c
dered the strongest old fortification in the w
Altogether it takes up somewhat about thirty acr
ground. To stand up on the high crag, and
down at the ships, so far below, requires a steady h
The last time I was there, I was obliged to qui
edge of the rock, for all of a sudden a dizziness
over me, and I seemed to be turning round li
pegtop. Why, the ships down below me seeme
bigger than boats, and as for the sailors, and
fishermen on the beach, they were like so many
and mice. There are several curiosities to be
there, and one is a brass cannon. They call this Q
Elizabeth's pocket pistol. I don't know, for my
what sort of pockets Queen Bess used to wear,
they must have been somewhat large if ever that
gun was in them, for it was two and twenty feet l

I was amused, and so was the young man, with this account.—Well! on we went till, at last, we crossed a very extensive tract of barren country, called Salisbury Plain. It is perfectly destitute of trees, and as far as the eye can reach, exhibits a succession of waving hills, covered with low grass, which affords pasturage to large flocks of sheep. These are attended by shepherds, who spend the whole day in taking care of them. They are assisted by dogs, who are very active, and know almost as much about taking care of the sheep, as the shepherds themselves.

There are no towns or buildings upon this great plain, except the cottages of the shepherds, which are made of rough stones, and thatched with straw. You would expect to find nothing but poverty in such houses, but if you were to enter one of them, you would see bright faced, happy children, and a general appearance of comfort and contentment.

In one part of Salisbury Plain there is a curious monument of antiquity, which is known by the name of Stone Henge. It consists of a number of immense stones set upright, with others laid across on the top.

Some of these are nearly thirty feet in length, an
enormous weight. They must have been bro
from a great distance, as there is no stone of the s
kind within many miles; and the labor of brin
such huge blocks, and placing them in the requ
situation, must have been prodigious. Many of
stones have fallen from their original positions,
others have entirely disappeared, but from those
remain they appear to have been arranged in cir
one within the other.

The whole work was enclosed by a double di
and had three entrances. There are differenc
opinion as to the origin and use of this structure
many persons suppose it to have been a templ
which the Druids performed their religious ceremo

The Druids were the priests of the ancient Brit
and also exercised the offices of physicians and ma
trates.

The Druids taught the people to worship the
moon, and stars, and sacrifice animals, and even
man beings, to them. Other remains, similar to t

of Stonehenge, are found in different parts of th country.

After crossing Salisbury Plain the road led throug several towns and villages, and among the most beau tiful scenery, till we came to Exeter, the chief city i Devonshire. Here I stopped one day, to visit the an cient cathedral, the organ of which is said to be on of the finest in England.

I once more mounted the coach. Smack went th whip, whirl went the wheels, and very soon I foun myself in Cornwall. This is the most south-westerl county of England, and is about ninety miles in length gradually narrowing in breadth from forty-three t four miles.

The largest town in Cornwall has only about four o five thousand inhabitants—while Exeter, in the nex county, has more than twenty-three thousand.

The greater part of Cornwall is barren and rocky its chief wealth consisting in its mines, which ar chiefly of copper and tin, but lead, silver, and othe minerals, have also been worked. The southern ex tremity of Cornwall is a narrow strip of land projectin into the sea, and the whole coast is rocky, and danger

ous for ships. Sometimes a storm throws a ship up the rocks, and I am sorry to say, that many of the i habitants of the coast, instead of helping the po sailors, subsist, in great part, by plundering the wreck and the bodies which are cast ashore: these men a called wreckers.

On the eastern coast, not far from the shore, is famous lighthouse, called Edystone Lighthouse.

In one part of Cornwall there is a curious ston called the logan, or rocking-stone, which is so nice balanced, that a very slight effort will move it bac wards and forwards, while the greatest exertion w not displace it. There are several stones of this kin in Great Britain, some of which are natural, and othe artificial; the latter are supposed to be monumen raised by the Druids.

As I wished to go to Newcastle, I got on board steam vessel and sailed along the British Chann We passed by the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, Brighto Beechy Head, Dover, South Foreland, Harwich, Ya mouth, Flamborough Head, as well as Scarboroug Whitby, and Sunderland, and at last we arrived North Shields.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Parley describes the Coal Mines, and other things.

THE consumption of coal, in England, is very great; much greater than in many other countries, where wood is the principal fuel used; for, besides warming most of the houses, it is used in the immense furnaces for melting iron, glass, &c. So that if the supply were not very large, it would soon be exhausted. But, happily, no part of the world seems better supplied with coal than England; in various parts of the country there are inexhaustible mines of it, and thousands of people are constantly employed in digging it out. Among the most celebrated coal mines are those of Newcastle, a large town in the north of England, situated on the river Tyne, and not far from the sea. There are twenty, or thirty, coal mines in this neighbourhood, some of which are six or seven hundred feet deep, and the quantity of coal obtained from them is enormous. Some of these mines are worked by shafts, such as I have described in the tin mines; in others the descent

is slanting, and the coal is drawn out upon little wa
gons, that convey the coal from place to place;
seem more like an under-ground town than any thi
else.

The mines of Cumberland, especially the lead min
were visited by me, as well as the beautiful lakes.
went also into Yorkshire: you must be told of t
Dropping Well there. This is a curious spring, ne
Knaresborough, in which the water trickles very fa
in thirty or forty places, over the edge of a roc
This water has the power of petrifying the things up
which it falls, that is, of apparently turning them in
stone. This is effected in the following manner: t
water contains particles of stone, so small as to be i
visible; these particles are deposited by the water u
on the substance on which it falls, and forms
incrustation over it, which gives it the appearance
being turned to stone. Here are to be seen bird
nests, baskets of eggs, and even old wigs, and oth
objects, which have been petrified in this manne
There are several other petrifying springs in differe
parts of England, the most famous of which are
Matlock, in Derbyshire.

In one part of Lancashire there is another very curious spring, the water of which takes fire, and burns like oil, on a lighted candle being applied to its surface. There is a great deal of coal in the neighborhood of this spring, and it is supposed that the flame is caused by the same gas, which, under the name of fire-damp, occasions such dreadful explosions in coal mines.

CHAPTER XXV.

Parley tells of English Customs. Christmas. Twelfth Night. April Fool Day. Good Friday. May Day Lord Mayor's Day.

I WAS always fond of knowing the different customs of different countries, and have been accustomed to make every inquiry about them: I will tell you of a few that are observed in England. Christmas is a merry time there; friends meet, who seldom see each other, and

good cheer and smiling faces abound, and, for days a
weeks, friends and relations assemble at each othe
houses in many a pleasant family group. Roast b
and plum pudding are the old fashioned Christm
dinner, and many people would scarcely think Chri
mas was really come, if they did not make mi
pies.

Twelfth Day is the twelfth day after Christmas d
and used to be kept as a feast more than it is no
In towns, the confectioners pile up their windows w
rich cakes, covered over with iced sugar; these ca
are ornamented with figures, flowers, and fruit, a
one, generally, is bought to put before parties. P
tures of different characters are drawn on paper, su
as kings, queens, soldiers, sailors, milkmaids, farme
and so on, and the young people draw for the
Whatever character any one draws, he or she m
act the part of that character till the party breaks u
this occasions a great deal of diversion.

April Fool Day will, no doubt, be kept up ma
years to come, but I never could find out what
custom sprung from that is practised on that day.

have heard that prayers used to be offered on that day for all of weak understanding, such as lunatics, and silly people, and perhaps it was the case. No sooner do young persons, and many grown people, too, rise up in a morning, on the first day of April, than they begin to put some joke or other upon those around them, sending them on fruitless errands, or calling them to look at something, when there is nothing to look at.

On Good Friday, buns, made rather sweet, with caraway seeds in them, are much eaten; they have a cross, no doubt in remembrance of the cross of Calvary, upon them, and as they are usually eaten hot, so they are called hot cross buns. Thousands and thousands of them are sold on Good Friday.

At an early hour on the First of May, different parties of chimney-sweeps set off to go round the neighborhood, kicking up a strange clatter, and dancing at every house. Their faces are painted in an odd way, and their clothes are odder still. They are dressed up in strips of paper, and shreds of linen, of all colors of the rainbow, with caps of the same kind on their heads. One carries a dust pan and brush, which he knocks

together. Another shakes and rattles two hard
bones between his finger, and makes noise enoug
be heard half a mile off. A third gingles a s
triangle. A fourth, dressed like a woman, has a
box and a wooded spoon; and what with the clatte
of the spoon and the box lid, you hardly know ho
bear the noise. But the oddest figure of all is wh
called Jack in the Green; this is a boy or man in
very middle of large boughs of laurel, who whirls ro
and round like a top. Well! all these keep hopp
and jumping, and turning round together, makin
much noise as they can, and then handing a ladle
a long handle, to the windows and doors for money
pretty penny they get in the course of the day, I as
you, and glad enough are they at night to get to
after their hard day's dancing.

There is a gay day in London, called Lord May
Day: I will tell you why it is so called. On that
the lord mayor takes upon himself the honours and
ties of his high situation. Off he sets in a grand ba
attended by the liveries of several of the city compa
to go to the barons at Westminster. Well! after b

presented there, he take the oaths of office. O, if you were to see the river Thames on that day you would not forget it! There sail along the splendid barges, while the flags are floating in the air; the music playing, and the people in boats, or crowding together on the bridges, waving their hats and handkerchiefs, or shouting, just as they please. At Black Friar's Bridge, the whole party leave the water and get again into their grand carriages, in order that they may dine at Guild-hall. The sheriff's carriage is very grand, but the state carriage of the lord mayor is much more gay. Fancy that you see this splendid carriage, and a great number of others with the richest liveries; the city companies in procession; men in armour on horses, with bands of music, and flags flying; fancy these things, and that all London is collected together, crushing, cramming, shouting, laughing, and squealing, and then you will be able to form some notion of Lord Mayor's Day.

I have told you some strange things, but have others to tell you of yet.

CHAPTER XXVI.

Parley tells of the fifth of November. Of Guy Fawkes, of Gunpowder Plot.

Of all the nights of the year, the night of the fift November is, perhaps, one that is most enjoyed young people in England, but I must speak of the before the night. In almost every town, early in morning, boys are heard laughing and huzzaing. H a group is seen going one way, and there a party tru ing another. Every party has a figure called Fawkes, dressed up in an odd way with a mask f face. This figure is usually seated on a chair carried from house to house, the boys rapping at doors and bidding the good people remember the of November, for that gunpowder plot should neve forgot. Thus they collect money, and are enable buy fire-works to let off at night at their bonfires.

Throughout the day, boys are employed going ab in all directions to pick up sticks and wood, and to

coal to make their bonfires. On these occasions they are often very mischievous, and think but little of breaking off branches of trees, pulling sticks out of the hedges, and running off, when they can, with an old rail or broken pallisade.

All the fuel that they can get is heaped up ready, and, in the evening, look whichever way you will, smoke ascends, and flames burst forth from their bonfires.

When it gets dark they begin to let off their fireworks, and what with the smoke, and the flame, and the sparks from the blazing wood, the report of guns and pistols, the squibs and the crackers, hissing and bouncing about you, and the huzzaing of the throng, it forms one of the liveliest scenes in the world. The figure of Guy Fawkes is sometimes put upon the flames and burnt. As the fire burns lower, some stand round it to warm themselves; some roast chestnuts or potatoes in the hot ashes, while others run about with blazing sticks, turning them round and round in the air. At last, when the squibs and crackers are all let off, the chesnuts and potatoes roasted, and the fire is got quite

low, the red ashes are kicked about, and the y
people, by degrees, walk away to their several ho

The next thing that I shall tell you will be
Guy Fawkes and gunpowder plot: it is in rememb
of gunpowder plot that Guy Fawkes is carried abo
the morning, and burnt at night in the bonfires
are made.

Several Roman Catholics, in the reign of Jame
First, met together and formed the plot of blowi
the parliament house with gunpowder, when the
the queen, the king's eldest son, the nobles, an
members were all present. This was what is c
gunpowder plot. Did you ever hear of any thing
terrible?

One Catesby first thought of this plan, thinki
possible to place a sufficient quantity of gunpo
under the parliament house, to blow the who
together. Great secrecy was observed, as you
suppose, and a house adjoining the parliament
was hired, that they might bore a hole through it
the other. The wall was three yards thick, but
got through it, one way or another, and then

that the parliament house had vaults under it, whi
contained a quantity of coal. These vaults were
let; so they hired them, and placed there, secretl
thirty six barrels of gunpowder, which had be
bought in Holland.

When the gunpowder was placed in the vaults, t
barrels were covered over with coals and faggots, a
as the door of the vaults was left open for people to
in and out, no one was likely to suspect the plot. W
not this a cunning contrivance? Cunning, howeve
as it was, it did not succeed.

Among the conspirators was one Sir Henry Perc
who, not liking to blow up a friend of his, Lord Moun
eagle, with the rest, wrote him a letter to put him
his guard. I dare say you would like to know what
said in the letter. I will tell you; as near as I ca
remember the words were these:

"My Lord, stay away from this parliament, for G
and man have concurred to punish the wickedness
the times. And think not slightly of this advertis
ment, but retire yourself into your country, where y
may expect the event in safety. For though there

no appearance of any stir, yet I say they will receiv terrible blow this parliament, and yet they shall n see who hurts them. This counsel is not to condemned, because it may do you good, and can you no harm, for the danger is passed as soon as y have burned this letter."

Well, what do you think of the letter? Was it n enough to frighten Lord Mounteagle?

At first he thought it was only intended to ala him, but afterwards he took it to Lord Salisbury, t secretary of state, who laid it before the king in counc The letter puzzled the council, as much as it h puzzled Lord Mounteagle, and King James hims was the first to suspect that there was some plan blow them up with gunpowder. The vaults under t parliament house were searched, and there they foun not only the barrels of gunpowder, but Guy Fawk himself, one of the conspirators, wrapped up in a loo cloak, with boots on, and a dark lantern in his han Thus was the plot discovered, and that dread explosion prevented, which would not only ha destroyed king, lords, and the members of parliame

but also have plunged the nation into confusion, and perhaps into a civil war. Did you ever hear of a plot half so terrible as gunpowder plot, and are you not heartily glad that it was found out before Guy Fawkes set fire to the train of gunpowder?

CHAPTER XXVII.

Parley tells about Wales. Inhabitants. Mountains. Rivers. Ancient Castles.

Being fond of mountainous places, I was very glad to find myself in Wales. It is very different from England, for it consists, almost altogether, of mountains with deep valleys between. The peaks have no trees upon them, and they have a ragged, bare and desolate appearance. Torrents and rivulets come leaping down their sides; sometimes shining in the light like silver, and sometimes darkened by the shadows of overhanging rocks and precipices.

Yet these wild regions are traversed by good roads, and in passing through the country, a traveller is fre-

quently delighted with the appearance of green vall
white cottages, and quiet towns. The people ha
peculiar dress. The men wear blue coats, breec
and stockings, with red waiscoats, and their shirts
of blue or red flannel.

The women wear a jacket made tight to the sh
and a petticoat of dark brown or striped linsey-wool
bound with different colours. They usually wear
like those of the men, and as they are very industri
it is common to see them knitting, while they
walking from one house to another.

Wales is divided into North and South Wales.
principal mountains are in the former. Its valleys
deeper and narrower, and its scenery more wild
rugged. In South Wales, on the contrary, the val
are broader, more fertile, and full of towns and villa
they often spread even to wide plains encircled
mountains.

There are many rivers in Wales, and though
of them are large, several are very beautiful.
most celebrated, in North Wales, are the Sev
Conway, Dee, and Clwyd; those in South Wales
the Towey, Usk, and Wye.

This last is the largest river in Wales, and is ver famous for the fine scenery along its banks. Some times, it winds between grassy meadows, and some times the steep cliffs overhang its surface. Man ancient castles, now falling into ruins, stand upon it margin; some of these are celebrated in history.

They once belonged to the warlike chiefs who live among these wild mountains, and spent their time i war and the chase. They were bold and daring men and the story of their deeds is full of strange adventures

The Welch have a language of their own, which i spoken by all the country people; but the Englis language is chiefly used in the towns. The principa manufacture of Wales is flannel, in which it excels al other countries. I have no objection to wear th flannel of the Welch, but I would not undertake t learn their language for a trifle. Every word sound as if it had been split into three or four parts in th throat. No Welch language for me.

Wales abounds in copper, lead, iron, coal, and othe minerals: silver has been found in one part of Cardi ganshire.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Parley Tells of Caermarthen. Caernarvon. Swan
Tenby. Anglesea. Menia Bridge. Holyhead. Co
Mine. Coal Mine. Iron Mine. Slate Quarries.

CAERMARTHEN is the chief city in South Wales. is situated upon the river Towey, and has nine thous inhabitants. It was once surrounded by walls defended by a stone castle. This is now in ruins, cepting one of the gates, which still remains, an used for a prison.

Caermarthen is a well built town, though it rather a strange appearance; many of the houses b in a curious style of architecture. A large part of inhabitants are engaged in making tin plate, an manufacturing iron. The town is not far from Bri and has some commerce by way of the Bristol chan

Caernarvon, situated upon the river Menai, is of the largest towns in North Wales. It is surroun by a wall which is defended by a number of ro

Towers. There is also a castle in the place, in which Edward the Second, one of the Kings of England, and the first Prince of Wales was born.

The town is well built, and has a good harbour. The number of inhabitants is about six thousand, and they carry on a good deal of trade with London, Bristol, Liverpool and Ireland. They manufacture flannels and stockings in great abundance, and obtain a good deal of slate from the quarries, and copper ore from the rivers. They export a great many articles of these various kinds.

The inhabitants, in the neighbourhood of Caernarvon, live in a state of great simplicity. Their dress is very plain, and their food consists chiefly of milk, and cakes made of oatmeal. Encircled by their hills and mountains, these people seem to live in contentment and happiness, satisfied with their own quiet valleys, and careless of the great world around them.

Beside Caermarthen and Caernarvon, there are several other considerable towns in Wales. Swansea is a flourishing sea port. Tenby has a fine port, and is a fashionable place for sea bathing.

There are several quarries of slate in different pa
of Wales. This is chiefly used for the roofs of hous
and is carried to all parts of England, Scotland a
Wales. It is also brought to the United States, thou
in smaller quantities than formerly, because slate is n
found in America.

There is an amazing number of writing slates ma
factured in Wales. All of you have got writing sla
I dare say; well! most likely every one of them
brought from Wales.

The Island of Anglesea, off the coast of North Wa
was anciently the chief resort of the Druids, and
remains of their altars, &c. are more numerous in
island, than in any other part of Britain. Angl
derives its principal importance from a famous cop
mine, in a mountain called Parys. This moun
originally consisted of an entire mass of copper
but the greater part has been extracted, and the n
if not quite so productive as formerly. The inte
so the mountain has been excavated in every direc
and, standing upon the edge, the spectator sees a r
of gloomy caverns and hollows, and the miners bu

employed in obtaining the ore. The mine is worked by blasting the rocks with gunpowder, eight tons of which are supposed to be used there every year. Holyhead, situated upon this island, is the resort of all the packets that sail between Ireland and Wales.

Anglesea is separated from Wales by the Menai Strait, which was formerly crossed by several ferries, and many accidents occurred, till it was determined to build a bridge over from the island to the main land. Owing to the tides and the depth of the channel, it was nearly impossible to build a bridge in the usual manner upon arches; and besides, it was necessary that there should be sufficient space for the ships, which are often passing through the strait. The roadway is therefore suspended from huge chains, fastened into the rock on each side of the river, instead of resting upon arches. There are sixteen chains fastened in this manner, from side to side; from these are hung upright rods to support the road, which is made of three layers of planks, well covered with pitch, and with granite broken very small, spread over the whole.

At Merthyr Tydvil, in Glamorganshire, are some

very extensive iron works, which have raised
place from a mere village, to be the most popu
town in Wales. The neighbourhood abounds
coal and iron, and, owing to the abundance of
the copper dug out of the mines of Anglesea, Corn
and Ireland, is brought here to be smelted.

The view on entering Merthyr Tydvil by nigh
very striking; the columns of flame and smoke iss
from the furnaces, have the appearance of numbe
volcanoes in irruption; and the immense hamm
used in hammering out the iron, and other machin
moved by steam engines or water, add to the stra
ness of the scene.

I must just say a word or two more, particular
the mountains of Wales.

CHAPTER XXIX.

Peter Parley goes to Snowden, and tells about Cader Idri Plintimmon, the Beacons, and other places.

THE highest mountain in Wales is Snowden, in Ca ernarvonshire. It is between three and four thousan feet high. From the top of it you may see a part England, Scotland and Ireland. I always liked to g up to the top of high places, and down to the botto of deep ones, but I am not so limber in my joints as once was.

It is no easy task to get to the top of Snowde The Welch people told me they called it Creigiau Eira, or Snowy Mountain. Try if you can speak th hard word Creigiaur. Well, if you can rememb Snowden better, never mind.

The best way of seeing this mountain in perfectio is to start a little after midnight, so as to get to th top time enough to behold the rising sun. Ah, that a sight worth looking at from Snowden!

I got on the back of a stout, shaggy, Welch pon

and went up the ascent from Dolbadern Castle in th
vale of Llanberis, keeping on the side of the lake, an
then by the cataract Ceunautmawr, to the vale Cwm
Brwynog, but you will not like these Welch word
From the top is a noble view, mountains in abundanc
and between twenty and thirty glassy lakes. No word
of mine could describe the scene.

As I stood on the top ridge, I dropped two stone
one from my right hand and the other from my lef
and away they went, running, bouncing and leapin
till they were soon a thousand feet below me, and
dare say half a mile apart, from the other.

I visited many other mountains, both in North an
South Wales. Cader Idris much pleased me; it
near three thousand feet high. Plinlimmon is tw
thousand four hundred and sixty-three, and Brecknoc
Beacon two thousand eight hundred and sixty-thr
feet. Glorious prospects from them all. Wales is
mountainous a country, that the views are continual
changing as you move along. Those at Cwm Claiv
and Pont Bren, and Castel Dinas Brân, and Gre

Orme's Head were very fine, as well as at Trivaen Llanberis, Criccieth, and Tremadoc.

Then the vale of Llangollen, the lake of Bala, the Black Cataract, the Roman roads, and the old camps, are all worth looking at again and again.

You may travel at little expense in Wales. One day, when I was walking to a place called the Rock and Black Pool, I stepped into a sort of pothouse, the owner of which ferried passengers over the river. I had a big basin of milk as thick as cream could make it, and a slice of bread. What do you think they charged me for my reckoning? Why only one penny, and ferried me across the river into the bargain. O! ho! thought I, when I stepped into the London Tavern, and the hotel at Brighton, for a few minutes, I did not come out again on such easy terms.

I do not suppose that you ever heard of such a place as Devil's Bridge. You shall hear of it now.

CHAPTER XXX.

Peter Parley goes to Devil's Bridge. Monach and Rhyd Rivers.

I HAD heard so much of Devil's Bridge that I w determined to visit the spot. It is one thing to he of a place, and another to see it. I love to see a judge for myself. If I had not seen Devil's Bridge never would have believed it to be half so striking a romantic as it is.

The mountains round about the place rise up, bo ing their way into the very clouds. Devil's Bridge a new arch thrown over an old one, and the dept down to the river rushing below it, is one hundred a fourteen feet.

You never saw such a place: it looks as if the roc had been torn asunder to make room for the river th comes rushing and foaming from the mountains.

The rift is a black, narrow, rugged chasm, so fearfu gloomy and dark, and so deep, that it suits but fe people to look over the bridge.

I had work enough to get down to the water, a when I looked up through the rocks it seemed as i

was in the heart of the earth. The roaring flood at my feet, and the black, massy rocks above me, seemed to humble my heart; I appeared to be of no more consequence in the world than one of the drops of spray that were showering upon me. The wondrous works of creation made me think of God's greatness. Never did I long more in my life for a testament. To have read a chapter would have done my heart good. As I stood in a kind of bewilderment, looking round me in this fearful place, I lifted up my heart to the Almighty maker of all things for his fatherly care, in preserving such an insect as I appeared in my own estimation.

After once more clambering up to the bridge, I went to a point where I could see all the four falls of water at one time. This was the place to see Devil's Bridge in perfection. Here was the river Mynack seen leaping from one precipice to another, foaming and roaring.

The first fall is about forty or fifty yards from the bridges where the rocks confine the rushing flood into a narrow stream, it is about eighteen or twenty feet wide.

The second fall is three times as deep, and a fine fall it is, as clear as crystal. and then the rocks on each

side are so fanciful and beautiful, adorned with tre
different kinds.

The third fall is about twenty feet, and there it m
with massy rocks, and through these forces its wa
the edge of the grandest fall of all: this is a hun
and ten feet, so that the sheet of water is five time
high as this house. Altogether the river falls n
than two hundred feet, to say nothing of the run
pools at the bottom of the falls. The whole perpe
cular depth from the bridge to the place where
river Minach tumbles into the river Rhydal is a
three hundred and twenty feet.

There is a fine sweeping fall of the Rhydal
where it leaps down from the hills to receive the
from Devil's Bridge. I went to it, and crept unde
between the water and the rock, so that I had a
of moving glass curtain hanging before me. Altoget
for wood, rock, and water, foam, roar, and solit
Devil's Bridge is one of the finest places in the wo

If I have pleased you in this account of De
Bridge, I will try to please you in my accoun
castles, and Welch harpers.

CHAPTER XXXI.

Parley tells about Castles, and Welch Harpers, and the Eisteddfod.

WALES has been a famous place for castles, and bravely have these places been defended in former times. Most of them, however, are now in ruins. Castles, with their gray, mouldering stones, and ivy clinging round them, make us think of former days. They were built strong, as though they were to last for ever, but for all that, time is crumbling them to dust. These old castles speak loudly to old men, and among them to me.

I went to Powis Castle, which stands near Newtown, in Montgomeryshire. They say it was built by Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, about seven hundred years since. The Welch call it Castell Coch, or the Red Castle, as the stone of which it is built is red, but it is plastered over now with a red lime much the same color as brick.

It seemed to me to be an odd mixture of new and old, for sash windows agree very ill with an ancient

castle. The furniture, however, is both ancient a handsome, and there is plenty of old faded tapes and antique curiosities, as well as paintings.

Did you ever see any ancient tapestry? It is p all round the inside walls of rooms, and figures a marked on it as large as life. You never saw ugl figures than some that are found on old tapestry.

The castle of Caernarvon stands on a rock. It built of a white hewn stone, with a red edging abo the corners and windows. Edward the First built i

Conway Castle, built also by Edward the Fir stands on a high rock; it has eight round towers, a commands the river.

Dinas Bran Castle, and Dolbadern, and Dolwydd lan, are mere ruins, and so are Howarden, Holt, and score others. They show, however, that the Wel were a warlike people.

In ancient times there used to be a great number bards, or minstrels, in Wales. They animated t warriors in battle, and went from castle to castle, a from hall to hall, playing on the harp, and singing t warlike deeds of the chiefs.

They were highly honored, and sometimes played with chains of gold round their necks, and costly cups, and presents of great value, were at times given to them.

If Edward put the Welch minstrels to death, as they say he did, he was but a cruel king for his pains. What a deal of blood has been shed in first getting, and then keeping, a crown! Having told you of the Welch harpers, I must now tell you of the Eisteddfod.

The Eisteddfod was a meeting together of bards and minstrels, to show their skill and to obtain such prizes as the appointed judges thought proper to give.

At these assemblies permission was given to such of them as showed talent of a high order to play before princes, as well as the nobility and gentry of the land. The Eisteddfods of former days might be attended better than they now are, but I should hardly think the old minstrels played better than the harpers do now. I heard several who had won prizes at the Eisteddfod. They wore a badge of honor, and I never heard such playing on the harp before. I have told you of Welch Castles, Welch Harpers, and the Eisteddfod. Now for a word or two about Cromlechs.

CHAPTER XXXII.

Parley tells about Cromlechs and Cataracts, and relates adventure.

Most likely none of you can tell me what a Crom is? Not one of you know anything about it. W Peter Parley must tell you, if you cannot tell him.

Cromlechs are rude heaps of large stones, placed piled, one upon another. They are supposed to been used as altars for religious worship, but so long since, and writers know so little about ancient Britons, that different opinions are entertai about the matter.

You remember the account I gave you of Sto henge on Salisbury Plain. Well, that is a sort cromlech, only it is so much larger than any other.

Sometimes a cromlech is formed of a number of stones set up endways. Others are made of la stones set up in the same manner with flat sto across them at the top.

I remember a hill on Craig-y-dinas surrounded with a vast heap of stones. On a plain beyond Llyn Urddyn there are two circles with upright columns, several yards apart. Half a mile from these is a great cromlech composed of sloping stones, one placed over the edge of the other, and flat ones put upright.

Cromlechs are generally found in lonely places, and few people can visit them without musing on the past. Though cromlechs are put to no use, yet as they are monuments of olden time, and enable us to form some opinion of the manners of those gone before us, it would be a pity to remove them.

I sat myself down on many of them overgrown with moss and thin grass, and thought that, for all I knew, hundreds of people in former days might have knelt there, and worshipped the sun, moon, and stars.

I thought, too, what a blessing it was to be taught better; to have the Holy Scriptures to instruct us, to believe in God and his Son Jesus Christ, and to look forward to a better world than this, through our blessed Redeemer.

Wales is not only famous for mountains, and castles,

and cromlechs, but also for cataracts. Go which w
you will, and you will soon come to a waterfa
Having told you about the falls at Devil's Bridge,
need say but little about the rest; still you will like
hear of one adventure I met with. I will tell you h
it took place.

It happened that I went with two others to see
place among the mountains of Radnorshire called t
Rock and Black Pool. This place was famous for
waterfall that fell into a deep hole: people said th
the hole had no bottom.

To get to the foot of the fall we had to go down t
sides of a mountain, almost as steep as the sides of th
house, but luckily it had shrubs growing on it all t
way to the bottom, and these helped us capitally.

One of my companions was afraid to go further, so
left him, and went on with the other, who was
Welchman, for my guide.

The deeper we got, the narrower became the spa
between the mountain we descended, and the oppos
rock, so that, at last, it was a dark rift in the eart
with trees bending over it. Against the sides of t

rock we could see the nests of hawks and kites as we went down. When we came to the bottom, the water from the fall almost filled up the rift, so that we had to cling to the side of the rock, as we cautiously picked our way, sometimes jumping from one loose stone to another.

When we came to a ledge of shelving rock, we found it as slippery as glass, for the slime from the water was upon it, and my guide told me that it would be dangerous to go further; but I was not to be frightened, I had set my mind on getting to the foot of the fall.

When my guide saw me going on, he told me that he durst not follow, being well acquainted with the danger; still on I went until my feet slipped from under me, and I began to slide from one ledge of the rock to another towards the black hole, that the folks said had no bottom to it.

The Welchman cried out, but it was too late, for I slided from rock to rock, till one of my legs was fairly in the hole, and had I not caught hold of a rugged part

of the rock I should have gone, at once, over head an ears.

My guide called to know if I could swim, and halloed out yes, so that his mind was set a little at res You would have either pitied or laughed at me, if yo had seen how gently and how cautiously I crept on m hands and knees along the rocks to get away from th black hole.

When I got back to my guide, I felt very thankfu in having escaped so well. He said that strange tale were told about that black hole. Some said a rop had been let down hundreds of yards, but that no bot tom could be found; and others said that a goose, le down with a weight tied to her, came up again wit her feathers singed off her back.

I did not believe these tales, but I did believe tha the Rock and Black Pool was a dangerous place, and shall remember it as long as I live.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

Parley begins his account of Scotland. Highlander Lowlanders. Edinburgh. Old Town. Castle. Ne Town. Arthur's Seat. St. Anthony's Chapel. Holyroo

THOUGH I was well pleased with Wales, I could no always stop there. I wanted to see Scotland, and s off I set. This country is divided into two parts, th Highlands and the Lowlands; the former are in th north, and the latter in the south.

The Highlands are very romantic and interesting and I had some happy days among them. They con sist pretty much of rugged mountains, of narrow valleys and of bright blue lakes.

In ancient times, the inhabitants of these wild region were a bold, warlike race, speaking a language of thei own, and living by hunting, fishing, and plunderin their neighbours. The highlanders used to dress in curious manner, their clothes being made of checke cloth called plaid. The men wore a short petticoa called a kilt; their knees were left bare, and they ha

caps or bonnets on their heads. Some of these peop still dress in the same fashion: but, in general, th now wear clothes like those of the people of Englan There are no large towns in the highlands; and wi the exception of a castle or a country seat here a there, the houses are generally mean and dirty. Ma of them are built of stone filled in with mud, wi roofs of straw and branches of trees. They have oft no chimneys, and the smoke escapes through the do or through a hole in the roof.

The Lowland Scotch resemble the English in th dress and modes of living. They also speak the En lish language, though they use a good many curio words, and pronounce others in a very strange wa If you were to go to Scotland, you would hardly u derstand the common people, their manner of speaki is so singular.

The capital of Scotland is Edinburgh. This consi of two parts, each being situated on a hill. One pa is called the Old Town, and the other is called the N Town. They are divided by a deep narrow val

called the Loch; this was formerly filled with water, but it is now dry.

The Loch is crossed by bridges and mounds of earth, which form communications between the Old and New Towns. The Old Town is built upon the summit and sides of a long, steep ridge; and, with the exception of two streets, it consists chiefly of narrow lanes, or closes, as they are called, some of which are not more than six feet wide. Most of the houses are very old, and some of them are twelve or even fourteen stories in height. One common staircase leads to all the stories, each of which is inhabited by a separate family. People of wealth and rank used to reside in lower floors, while the upper parts of the house were occupied by less opulent; the ground floor being generally used as a shop. But, latterly, the Old Town has been almost entirely deserted by the wealthier inhabitants, who have fixed their residence in the New.

On a craggy rock, two hundred feet high, stands the CASTLE, an ancient and strong fortress, with a drawbridge on the only accessible side. It is garrisoned with soldiers.

The view from the walls of this structure is ex
ingly fine. To the north you can see the Fr
Forth; to the east, are two gigantic rocks a
overhanging the tower, one called Salisbury C
and the other Arthur's Seat; and to the south and
is an undulating country of hills and valleys, d
with country seats. Amethysts, and other pre
stones, are said to be found among Salisbury C
which abound with rich ores, spar, and numb
rock plants.

The New Town of Edinburgh is laid out on a re
plan like a chess-board. The houses are chiefly
of hewn stone, and are very handsome.

It is a walk of two or three miles from Edinb
to the top of Arthur's Seat; but the magnificent pro
from its summit will repay the labor of the as
The whole city of Edinburgh seems to be near, an
Old Town, dingy with age, and veiled in smoke, s
to lie at your very feet.

You can hear the rattling of the carts in the st
and catch the murmur of the voices that rise on th
You can look into the streets, see Nelson's Monu

watch the busy multitude, and almost peep into the chimneys.

Such is the near view from Arthur's Seat. The distant objects are more grand and beautiful. To the north is the broad bay of the Forth, stretching out and mingling with the ocean. To the east are distant mountains, and to the south and west, a prospect of endless variety.

It is hardly possible in any country to find a spot more interesting than this. A person may here sit on the rocks for hours without fatigue, and muse over the busy scenes exhibited by the city below, or look with delight upon the objects of grandeur and beauty that rise to view in the distance from every side.

After the traveller has been to the top of Arthur's Seat, he will find in his way back to the town an old ruin, called St. Anthony's Chapel. It is very ancient, and a great part of it has crumbled into dust, but portions of the wall remain, and the spot is much visited, for many strange stories are told about the ruin.

Not far from St. Anthony's Chapel, on the skirts of the city, is an old edifice called Holyrood, formerly occupied as a palace by the kings of Scotland. It is

often mentioned in history, for many remarkable e
have occurred within its walls. In the northwest
is shown the room where the beautiful Queen Ma
at supper when Rizzio was dragged from her side
murdered by Ruthven. Such scenes as these
take away the glitter of high life that sometimes da
our eyes. It may be a fine thing to sit at a qu
table in a grand palace, but the dagger after s
makes it fearful, and better for Rizzio had he suppe
mess of pottage in a meaner habitation.

Edinburgh has about one hundred thousand inh
ants, but it has few manufactures. The courts f
whole of Scotland are held there, and consequen
great many lawyers, judges, clerks, and sheriffs,
in the place. Besides these, people of great wealth
in the town, and men of great learning, who spend
time principally in writing books. Leith is the
of Edinburgh. It has spacious docks for ships
nothing else, that I know of, that is remarkab
have heard say that Edinburgh is the place to
books, and London to study men. But I was too
in both these cities to study either men or books

From Edinburgh I went to Glasgow.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Parley describes Glasgow. Paisley. Ayr. Tells about Robert Burns. Sir Walter Scott. Abotsford. Aberdeen. Mountains. Rivers. Iron Mines. Coal Mines Gold. Lead.

GLASGOW is a large manufacturing city, with about one hundred and forty-eight thousand inhabitants. It is generally covered with clouds of coal smoke, rising from the factories. There are some good houses there, but most of the dwellings have a dingy appearance, so that at a little distance you might almost suppose they were painted black.

I fell in with a shrewd Scotchman in Glasgow, from whom I got much information; from what part of Scotland he came he did not say. I will tell you something said by this Scotchman worth remembering. "I never refuse," said he, "to talk with any one who will converse with me, for men have such different dispositions, and see things in such different lights, that I am sure to learn something from them. I con-

sider every man's mind to be a well, and they w
take the trouble to let down a bucket into it, ma
up the water of instruction." "Well done, Scotch
thinks I, "Peter Parley will not forget that rem
long as he lives."

Paisley is another large manufacturing town, a
about sixty thousand inhabitants. Greenock,
Frith of Clyde, is a flourishing seaport, to
American vessels often go for the purposes of tra

Ayr, a smal. town in the south-western p
Scotland, is celebrated as the residence of
Burns. This man was brought up as a farm
had no advantages of education; yet he has
some of the most beautiful poems that wer
penned.

Many of them have been set to music, and th
often sung and always admired wherever the E
language is known.

There has been another very favorite Scottish
since Robert Burns, of the name of Walter Scott.
say he was a plain, gray old man, a little lam
walked with a cane. He was fond of telling tal

am, and desirous to make young people good as well wise. He was kind, and gentle, and quiet, and benevolent. In many things he would have been the very man for me.

Sir Walter, after writing a great number of works in poetry, which charmed readers of all ages, suddenly stopped in his career. Nobody knew what was become of him for some years.

During this time an unknown writer sprung up, and became a kind of wonder in the world. At last this great unknown author proved to be Sir Walter Scott.

He lived at a place called Abbotsford, a very romantic estate on the banks of the river Tweed. You will like to hear about Abbotsford.

At one time of day there was scarcely to be found a spot more unlovely and less interesting than that on which Abbotsford now stands. There was a mean-looking farm house, as well as a kale yard, and a straggling grove of firs, not in a very thriving condition. Nor did a naked moor and a few turnip fields much mend the matter.

Things were in this state when Sir Walter became

the laird of Abbotsford, but a great improvemen
soon observed in the place; he cultivated the gr
he planted trees, and laid out the whole of the
with so much taste and care, that, at last, it assu
different appearance altogether.

There are now beautiful lakes, romantic wat
among the ravines, wide-spread wood-lands,
riding-ways in good repair, and benches or b
placed here and there in the most picturesque situa
where the visitor may sit and admire the fairy
around him.

Among the woods and winding paths you
wander for a week, and find fresh beauties ever
Here Sir Walter used to ramble or to ride on his
with an axe or pruning-knife in his hand, attend
his trees, unbending his mighty mind, and holding
munion with his own reflections, and the beaut
creation so freely spread around him.

But now having told you about the grounds, I
give you a short description of the house, or rath
mansion of Abbotsford. Hundreds, nay, I ma
thousands of people have made a willing pilgrim

the place. The genius of Sir Walter Scott, and the high estimation in which he was held, have given such an interest to Abbotsford, that people are drawn there almost whether they will or not. They feel a strong sympathy for him who is now mouldering in the tomb, and look around on all that was his with a melancholy pleasure.

Abbotsford is on the brink of a hill near the Tweed, and Sir Walter made it what it is, by taking a hint, when he could, from any thing that was excellent in the building way.

He borrowed, as it were, his roof from Roslin; his chimney-piece from Melrose; a gateway from Linlithgow; and a postern from the Heart of Midlothian.

There is no building like it to be seen; and if it be "a thing of shreds and patches," those patches and shreds are put together in so pleasant a way that one would regret to have one of them altered by the first architect in the world.

Soon after turning out of the public road, you come to the Great Gate, a lofty arch rising out of an embattled wall. Next you see an enclosure with high

walls, a trellised walk overhung with roses and hon
suckles, and a screen of open gothic stone arches, v
a net-work of iron, through which are seen the gard
and ornaments of turret, vase, urn, and porch, hig
picturesque.

The gray wall with its little turrets, and the o
elms, birch trees, and hazels, form a kind of am
theatre; the garden loses itself in the forest,
glimpses, here and there, are caught of the Tweed

The mansion itself has a tall tower at each end, v
different from each other, with zig-zagged gab
scallops, parapets, eaves, fantastic waterspouts,
windows of painted glass.

Then it has old-fashioned chimneys, small and g
balconies, carved heraldic stones let into the wall,
a noble projecting gateway, adorned with enorm
petrified staghorns.

It would take me too long to describe the dark l
with its carved oaken walls, black and white ma
floor, and coats of arms; its shields, escutcheons,
scriptions, arms and armour.

The narrower armoury, near the hall, is filled v

smaller armour, swords, firelocks, spears, arrows, darts and daggers. Here are, too, the gun of Rob Roy, the blunderbuss of Hofer, the sword of the great Montrose, the hunting-bottle of bonnie King Jamie, and a pair of pistols which once belonged to the Emperor Buonaparte.

I might tell you of the dining parlor, with its richly carved roof of dark oak, projecting bow window, and crimson walls covered with paintings; of the breakfast room, looking on one side towards the Tweed, and the other towards Yarrow and Ettricke; and of the dim religious looking corridor, but I must draw to a close.

The library is a noble room with a roof of richly carved oak, well filled with books, manuscripts, and a few curiosities; but there is a snugger apartment, "the Lion's own Den," the room where Sir Walter himself sat at his studies, in his plain arm-chair covered with black leather.

In this room are various antique cabinets and busts, with axes and bill hooks for forest service, as well as

Highland claymores. The writing-box of carv
wood, and lined with crimson velvet, is furnished w
silver plate apparatus of a very venerable appearan
it would have suited old Chaucer himself, but I b
lieve it once belonged to an Italian prince, whose ar
are seen on the lid.

Take Abbotsford altogether, both outside and in,
is worth going far to see, and I only wish that
description of its gateway, its towers, its great h
and libraries, its carved roof and sculptured projectio
were more worthy the place.

Nothing can be finer than the lawn of sweet t
upon the bank of the clear stream, fringed with wi
birch woods, with the green hills of Ettricke Fore
for a back-ground.

Aberdeen is remarkable for the fine granite fou
in its neighbourhood, of which twelve thousand to
are shipped annually for London and other places,
be used for bridges, pavements, &c.

Some of the mountains in Scotland are very loft
Ben Nevis is the highest, and its top is four thousa

three hundred and fifty feet above the level of the sea. Its summit is covered with snow during the whole year.

Ben Lomond is three thousand two hundred feet in height, and is often visited for the beautiful prospect it affords. Lake Lomond, or Loch Lomond, is a charming sheet of blue water, washing its base. From the top of the mountain, you look down upon this lake, and many others, scattered among the ridges and cliffs, seeming like magnificent pearls, sparkling among a sea of mountains.

Scotland has several beautiful rivers; the three largest of which are the Forth, which runs by Edinburgh; the Clyde, which runs by Glasgow; and the Tay, which runs by Perth. The Tweed is a smaller stream, but it flows through a pleasant country, and is celebrated for the charming scenery along its banks.

There are several canals in Scotland; one of which passes from Glasgow to Edinburgh, and opens a communication between the Friths of Forth and Clyde.

There are some iron mines in Scotland, the most celebrated of which are at Carron. Here there are

twenty furnaces employed in smelting the ore, a
these consume two hundred tons of coal every wee
About two thousand men are employed at the work
At this place is a celebrated foundry for the making
cannon. Several hundred are cast every year.

The village of Carron has sprung up within a fe
years. Before the discovery of the mine, the spot no
covered with buildings was a desolate heath.

There was formerly a coal mine at Borrowstoness,
the margin of the sea. Great quantities of coal we
taken from it, and deep excavations were made in t
rocks, extending under the very bed of the ocea
But, at length, a storm arose, and the waves ca
rolling in upon the land. By and by, they burst ov
the entrance of the mine, and pouring down the cavi
suddenly drowned all the workmen within.

At Dysart, twelve or fifteen miles north of Edinburg
there are several coal mines, and there are beds of c
which have been on fire for two hundred years. Smo
and flame have sometimes issued from the crevic
and the surface of the earth is so heated, that sno

when it falls, is instantly melted. The same thing has happened in some parts of England.

There are many other mines in Scotland; and in the southern parts of the country, the beds of that mineral appear to be inexhaustible. Gold was once found in Scotland, and a little is still found there, but there is not enough to make it an object to seek for it. There are several lead mines, from which a great deal of lead is procured.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Parley describes the Hebrides. Kelp. Sea Fowl. People. Bird Catchers. St. Kilda. View from the Peak.

The Hebrides are islands lying on the western shore of Scotland. These are almost entirely destitute of trees, and nothing can exceed their dreary and desolate aspect. Their shores are for the most part rocky, and the restless sea keeps up a perpetual roar around them.

There are many thousands of people upon the
who live in miserable huts, and subsist partly by fi
ing, partly by catching birds, and partly by the ma
facture of kelp.

This latter article is the ashes of sea-weed, which
gathered in large quantities, upon the shore, by t
people. The sea-weed is then set on fire, and t
kelp which is thus produced is carried to England, a
is used in making soap, glass, and other things.

The rocky islands of the Hebrides are the resort
multitudes of sea-fowl. These make their nests
the crags and cliffs which overhang the sea; sometim
these are many hundred feet above the water, a
they often hang completely over it.

The number of birds that frequent these places
prodigious. Sometimes they appear almost like a clou
bending and waving over the peaks, and they settle
such numbers upon them, as at a little distance to a
pear like masses of snow.

In these bleak islands, the people can raise but lit
grain, and but few cattle, they therefore are oblig
to search for fish in the sea, and catch what birds th

can; even these are sometimes insufficient to supply them with food, and they are then obliged to eat sea-weed to save themselves from starving.

Under such circumstances, the people are induced to use every art to catch the wild birds, and to get their eggs. They often crawl along the edges of the precipices, and if you were to see them on the lofty cliffs, you would almost fear that the first breath of wind would sweep them down, and plunge them in the waves below.

But the bird catchers resort even to more dangerous means than these. They put ropes around their bodies, and with a small net in hand, they are let down from the top of the rock by their companions, and, descending among the birds, catch them in their nets.

Sometimes they enter the deep hollows in the rocks, and here they find a great many eggs and young birds. The islanders even go to these frightful places in the night with torches, and catch the bewildered birds in their hands as they are sitting on the rocks.

One of the most remarkable islands in the Hebrides is St. Kilda, the most western part of land belonging to

the British islands. It is about three miles in len and has several high peaks, with beautiful little val between them. These are fertile, and about one h dred and fifty people inhabit them. Here they li winter and in summer, cut off from the rest of mank and surrounded by the rolling sea.

It almost makes one shudder to think of livin such a place; yet the inhabitants of St. Kilda ap contented and happy. They venture forth upon water in their little boats, and catch a great n fish; and they climb the steep cliffs and catch a g many birds.

One of the peaks on the island rises to the heigh fifteen hundred feet. A person, standing upon it, look around him to the distance of seventy miles in e direction.

To the east he may see some of the Hebrides, to the north, the west, and the south, nothing is vi but the wide ocean, with here and there some w spouting upon its surface, or some lonely ship purs its way across the Atlantic.

Such is the magnificent view presented in the

tance to him who stands upon the peak of St. Kilda. But if he looks beneath his feet, a terrific sight is before him. Down, far down, in an almost perpendicular line, to the distance of a quarter of a mile, are the tumultuous waves breaking against the rocks, and sending their faint murmurs up to his ear.

Thousands of birds are hovering along the rocks, and skimming over the sea, and those whose wings are six feet in extent, seem diminished to the size of swallows. The harsh scream of the sea-gull is scarcely heard, and the thousand voices of the ducks and geese come upon the ear only at intervals between the roarings of the surge.

It is almost impossible for a person to look down from this cliff, without being dizzy; yet the inhabitants of St. Kilda fearlessly climb along the very edges of the rocks, and swing over them with ropes about their bodies.

Such is their skill, that accidents seldom happen, and the bird catcher, who has been all day exposed on the precipices in search of eggs, or game, generally returns at night to his family in safety.

Sometimes, indeed, it is otherwise. In a few
stances, the rock upon which the climber has pla
his foot has broken away; or a stone has fallen u
him, and swinging downwards through the air, he
been plunged for ever in the tide.

This bird-catching, whether in the Hebrides,
Orkneys, or the Shetland Isles, is a fearful purs
Whenever I think of these people, swinging from
high rocks catching birds, to provide themseves wi
meal, I feel thankful for every bit of food that I put
my mouth. It is good to think of other's dangers
deprivations, that we may be the more grateful for
own safety and abundant comforts. What if I w
obliged to go bird catching for my bread; swinging
an old rope from a rock a thousand feet high! I
not bear to think of it. Let us eat our morsels in pe
and put up our daily prayer, 'Give us this day
daily bread,' with a thankful heart and confiding sp

CHAPTER XXXVI.

Parley gives an account of Staffa. Fingal's Cave. Bending Pillars. People of the Hebrides. Songs. Ossian's Poems. The Orkneys. People. Climate. Shetland Islands. People. Climate. Northern Lights.

THERE is a very remarkable little island among the Hebrides, called Staffa. It is about a mile and a half in circumference, and is celebrated for the basaltic pillars, that is, rocks in the form of columns, which support a great part of the island. The most wonderful specimen of these, is in what is usually called Fingal's Cave. This is a magnificent cavern among the cliffs on the seashore: it is above two hundred feet long, varying in breadth from fifty feet at the entrance to twenty feet at the further end, and in height from one hundred and seventeen to seventy feet. The sides of the cave are composed of ranges of basaltic pillars, and the roof is formed of the tops of such as have been broken away. The floor is at some depth below the water, so that a boat can proceed to the further extrem-

ity of the cavern. There are in the island some
caves of the same kind, though of less importance
in some parts the pillar-like rocks are bent and tw
in a very curious manner.

The people at the Hebrides do not speak the En
language, but a strange rough tongue, called the
or Gaelic, which is the same as that used in the H
lands of Scotland.

They have so little intercourse with the peop
England and other countries, that they live on
year to year, in their black and smoky huts, prese
their ancient language, and their ancient manner
customs. Yet they are by no means destitute
telligence, and they have in their language many
songs, which are thought very beautiful.

Let us now take leave of the Hebrides, and pro
to a group of islands to the north of Scotland, c
the Orkneys. These are about twenty in number
more than half of them are barren, desolate, and
habited, except by flocks of grazing sheep.

The largest are Mainland, Hoy, North Ronald
South Ronaldshay, Sanday, Strousay, Eday and W

ray. These contain about twenty thousand inhabitants, who live by raising cattle, by fishing and by catching sea fowl.

The western shores consist of wild, precipitous rocks; and here, as well as in the Hebrides, the bird hunters exercise the same perilous vocation. There are some rich people in these islands, who have large stone houses, but most of the inhabitants are poor, and live in miserable black huts. They are also very ignorant, and have many strange superstitions. They speak the English language, but in such a manner that you would hardly understand them.

You will bear in mind that the Orkneys are very far north, and are in the same latitude as Hudson's Bay, and a part of Labrador. The regions of North America are very desolate, and a great part of the year are swept by the bitter winds of winter. The climate of the Orkneys is similar, only it is more moist. Storms and tempests are also more frequent; and rocking billows seldom cease to roar around their shores.

The winters are very long, and at noon, the sun is so

near the horizon, that you would scarcely think it m
than an hour high. But the sun is almost consta
hidden by clouds, and during the months of Janu
and February, the tempests bring with them ter
thunder and lightning.

Still further north are the Shetland Isles. Th
are eighty-six in number, and forty of them are in
bited. The largest is Shetland, or Mainland, whic
seventy miles in length, but quite narrow.

These islands are covered with mountains,
deep valleys between them. They are wholly d
tute of trees, and at a little distance you would ima
that they were only a collection of sterile rocks.
twenty thousand people live in these lonely abo
subsisting chiefly by fishing and agriculture. They
however, very poor and ignorant, yet contented.
the people of the Orkneys, they speak the Eng
language.

The climate is even more severe than that of
Orkneys; the winter is long and dreary, and such
the fierce storms here, that, for several months, no
sel can come to them, or go from them, and the pe

are cut off from all intercourse with the rest of mankind.

During the day, the sun sheds but a dim light, but at night, the moon and stars shine with peculiar lustre. The aurora borealis, or northern lights, is also seen there in much greater brilliancy than with us. I have a few other particulars to mention before I bid farewell to Scotland, for I do not like to do things by halves.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Parley describes some of the Falls, Cairns, and Passes of the Highlands. A terrible tale.

WHOEVER gives a description of the Highlands of Scotland, must, on no account, forget to say something about the falls of water, which meet the eye of the traveller so frequently. I was always fond of waterfalls, and many an hour have I sat on a rock, over-

hanging a glassy fall, gazing on the boiling foam the rising spray.

Time has been when I had as steady a head as firm a foot as any one, but I am obliged to be ful now in dangerous situations.

Not soon shall I forget Aberfeldy. It is a villa a tolerable size, and the stream that passes throu is as picturesque as any that runs in Scotland, o count of the many falls into which it is broken.

The dell, where the falls are, is very confined, about two hundred feet deep. The trees on bank almost meet. There are a number of casc formed by rivulets pouring down the east side of dell, altogether about eighty feet. You then s clear pool, which glides through the narrow chas moistened black rock, and falls at such a distance its soft murmuring is grateful to the ear. The gled spruce firs, straight elms, and leafy beach t make the place beautiful, while the drooping ash t from the opposite bank, dip their taper branches the water. The pointed crags, too, add much to

beauty of the falls, for they are all covered with creeping mosses and hanging fern.

Further on is a series of other falls, a hundred feet in the whole, in all the wildest variety you can conceive. The last cascade is about fifty feet deep, and, here, there is a rude bridge. I do like Aberfeldy!

The falls of Ghivach would almost equal the famous falls of Foyers if the water was not so scanty: the wooded bed of the stream is deep, and narrow, and very romantic.

About five miles from Struy, to the north of Strathglass, a wild torrent comes tumbling down from a glen called Glencannich. This is a fearfully wild region, and many a smuggler has fixed his hut there.

The falls of Kilmorack are not so deep as many are, but they are famous for breadth and their amount of water, as well as for the lofty rocks, smooth green banks, and hanging woods which enclose them. Fish are often caught as they try to fling themselves over some of the lesser falls. It is a dangerous pastime to take them. How do you think they carry it on? Why, by fastening spears, or hooks, to the ends of

long rods; with these they catch the fish. Man
stout Highlander has met his death in spearing
mon.

Now, I will tell you a singular thing. It is
that the old lords Lovat had a particular contriva
in their fishing sport, so that the salmon, in tryin
escape, guided themselves into a kettle of boiling wa
kept ready for the occasion: you never heard of s
a thing as that before.

Near the village of Comrie runs a little stream
wild and turbulent as ever you saw one; it is ca
the Humble-bumble. An odd name, is it not?

At the far end of a long, deep chasm it falls o
the rock. Soon after this, it falls again, and rush
a little slantwise, it leaps headlong into a wide, d
pool, partly arched over by moss-covered rocks.
water is dark enough, and the pool is called
Devil's Caldron.

The falls of Foyers are worth walking a hund
miles to see. The river Foyers enters a deep
narrow ravine, and tumbles over a ledge of ro
thirty feet.

Below the fall, the channel of the river is deep an rocky. The water is lashed into foam, and hurrie forward as if in a rage. It then dashes through narrow gap, and falls ninety feet. The ground trem bles from the shock of the falling water. The bol rocks, and the different kinds of trees, the solitude the thundering din, the glassy fall, the foam and th rising spray, often tinted like a rainbow, all together form one of the finest pictures in the world.

In the Highlands are to be found abundance of ston circles, cromlechs, and cairns. It is difficult, at times to say to what purpose these were applied, but th cairns, at least many of them, are certainly buria places. In some of them have been found urns, sup posed to contain the burnt ashes of human beings In others, skeletons are not unusual. No doubt, how ever, that heaps of stones have been piled up as re membrances of different things, and now it is hard t say which are burial places, and which are not.

The people told me that it was a common mark o respect to say to one another, "I will add a stone t your cairn."

The passes, or narrow defiles, necessary to be p
sed through in going from one part to another, are v
numerous in the Highlands. The pass of Aive is v
magnificent in its scenery. At this place, John of L
tried to withstand Bruce's advance into his dominio
the Argyle men were routed with great slaughter, a
Bruce gained the pass.

The deep and dangerous pass of Slochmuichk, wh
means the Boar's Den, was once the favourite haun
banditti. Here they sallied forth, and infested
only this, but most of the different roads across
Grampian Hills to the low country. This ravine
now more dangerous on account of the snow w
which it is at times blocked up, than on account
robbers.

Killiecrankie is a celebrated pass. The hills rise
from the bed of the river in a perpendicular wal
rock, and both banks, to the height of several hund
feet, are covered with waving birch. It is said t
the last exploit of the "bloody Clavers" took pl
here.

The terrible adventures and encounters that h

taken place in the Highlands are without number. I will tell you of one.

About two hundred years ago, Angus, eldest son of Glengarry, made a foray into the Mackenzies' country. Making a foray is going with a band of armed men to plunder and destroy. Well! as he came back he was met by a few Mackenzies, and slain.

Some time after this, a strong body of Glengarry's men, headed by one Alan Mac Raonuil, went to revenge the death of Angus.

Alan led his men into the parish of Urray, in Ross-shire, on a Sunday morning, and set fire to a chapel called Cillie-Christ, preventing any of the congregation from making their escape, so that men, women and children all perished in the flames. Did you ever hear of anything more shocking?

The flames of the church aroused the neighbourhood, and the Glengarry men were pursued.

Alan made to a place where the burn, or river, rushed through a yawning chasm of great depth and breadth. He took a desperate leap and cleared the chasm. A Mackenzie followed, but though he reached

the opposite side, he was obliged to grasp the bra
of a birch tree which hung over the abyss. Alan, p
ceiving this, turned back, and drawing his swo
lopped off the branch, when down fell the Macken
into the dreadful chasm.

This is bad enough, but this is not all. A banc
the Mackenzies overtook a party of the Glengarry m
who, thinking themselves safe, were regailing the
selves in a public house at Torbreck. The house
surrounded, and set on fire, and thus thirty-seven m
died the same miserable death they had, in the mo
ing, inflicted on others. Such shocking incidents
these frequently occur in the history of the Scott
highlanders.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Parley tells about Freebooters. Black Mail. The Cavern of Robbers. A Terrible Affair. Cattle Lifting. Rob Roy. Old Yew Tree.

You have, perhaps, heard that at one time there were many robbers in Scotland called freebooters. Many persons of property were very glad to pay them sums of money, that these might not rob them. This money was called black mail, and so long as it was paid, the parties were not robbed. Had you lived in Scotland then, and possessed herds of cattle, no doubt you would have been as ready to pay black mail as the best of them.

The cavern of robbers is about two miles south west of Belleville, and on the line of the old road. Many terrible banditti have, at different times, sheltered themselves in this place.

There was once a tribe frequented the place called Clan-Mich Gillie Naaigh. They plundered the country round about, but especially the clan of the Mac-

phersons. The Macphersons could not for a long ti
discover the place where the robbers retreated to ;
last one of them found it: I will tell you how.

He pretended to be weary and ill, and went to
hut of a miserable looking beggar, whom he suspec
had some connection with the robbers.

At first, he was refused admittance, but as
seemed so very ill, he, at length, was allowed to en

Well, what do you think? the hut of this wretc
looking beggar was over the cave where the robb
hid themselves.

When night came on, the Macpherson pretende
be asleep, and, soon after, out came the robbers f
their hiding place. They partook of a good feast,
not only boasted of what they had done, but tal
about their plans for the morrow. The Macpher
however, hindered them from putting their plan
execution, for, stealing out of the hut, he soon ra
his clansmen, whose broadswords put every on
them to death.

I will tell you of another terrible affair, for Scot
is a land that has abounded with adventures.

The castle of Raits was the principal strong hold of the family of the Cumings, Earls of Badenoch.

One of these Earls, jealous of the Laird of Mackintosh, formed the plan of murdering him and his principal friends. For this purpose he invited them to a banquet, and took care that they should not sit by one another, having arranged with his followers that the bringing in a boar's head should be the signal for slaughter.

The Laird of Mackintosh, however, discovered the plot, so that no sooner did the boar's head make its appearance, than every Mackintosh plunged his dirk into the bosom of the Cuming that sat beside him.

I heard a great deal about the way in which cattle were, at times, driven off during the night; this was called lifting cattle.

Some of the wild scenery of Scotland seems exactly suited to the strange relations that are told. Rocky mountains, of blood-red granite, rise up high in sharp pointed cliffs from the edges of the rivers, and throw so deep and dark a shade on the waters, that some of

the small hamlets, on the brinks of the running stre
seldom see the sun.

Every now and then, where the rocks are w
apart, may be seen little patches of cultivated land,
Highland cottages. The mountain slopes, too,
wooded, and the banks of the rivers fringed qui
the water's edge with trees of different kinds, suc
the alder tree, the rowan, and the birch.

It was in the midst of scenery like this, that a
was pointed out to me, through which many a dro
cattle had been hurried by the freebooters of o
times.

Rob Roy was a famous freebooter. At one tim
was taken by a party, headed by the Duke of M
rose, and buckled behind Grahame of Gartnafuor
When they came to some fragments of rocks, in
braes of Balquidder, Rob Roy persuaded Graham
slip the belt. He did so, and the freebooter esca
across the river.

This famous robber frequented the upper en
Lochvail, the latter part of his life. I visited his g

in the Kirkton of Balquhidder. The place was at the lower end of the lake, and two or three miles from the public road.

I must not forget to tell you of a yew tree that I saw in a Scottish churchyard near Loch Tay. A hundred years ago the trunk was single, and measured fifty-six feet round it. It looks now as though it had two trunks; the largest, which is quite hollow, is thirty-two feet in girth. Learned antiquarians say that this yew tree is more than two thousand years old.

I have now told you of a great many things, and will take my leave of Scotland, hoping that you will not forget what you have heard. It may happen that some day you may see Scotland with your own eyes. It is not at all likely that Peter Parley will ever go there again.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

Parley goes to Ireland. Dublin. Cork. Belfast. Bo
of the Boyne. Condition of the Irish Peasan
Manners of the Irish. Mines.

IRELAND is often called "the Emerald Isle," and inhabited by a warm hearted people. I felt kin towards them, when I first put my foot on Irish la and I felt more kindly still when I came away fi the country. Ireland is nearly three hundred m long, and more than two hundred broad. It conta about thirty thousand square miles, and has a popu tion of nearly eight millions.

Dublin is the capital, and it certainly must reckoned, in many respects, the second city in British dominions. The river Liffey, which falls i the bay of Dublin, and has two capital bridges, divi the city into two parts, one much about the same as the other.

It is a place of great antiquity: the Irish cal Drom-choll-coil, which means, "the brow of a h

wood." It was anciently called Baly-lean-cliath, or, "The town on the fishing harbour."

The suburbs are poor enough, consisting, chiefly, of wretched hovels, inhabited by very poor people, ill fed and clothed in rags. Silk, woollen, and cotton manufactories are carried on in the place, as well as other branches of useful traffic.

The Bay of Dublin is one of the finest in the world. In order to improve it, as a harbour, for giving shelter to the ships, a pier three miles in length has been built, composed of enormous blocks of granite, having a lighthouse at the end. Dublin has but little foreign trade, its chief commerce being with England, especially with Liverpool. Three miles below the city is a fortress called the Pigeon House, and a commodious dock.

To my mind, the city is not seen to much advantage from the harbour, though the view of the country is one of the finest I ever gazed on: such a gentle rising to the north and west, and such a bold towering up of the lofty mountains on the south.

The inhabitants of Dublin cannot be short of two

hundred thousand, and hospitality dwells in their
hearts. Many of the back streets, as I said be
are not to be praised, but go into Merrion Squ
Grafton Street, and College-green! Pass thro
Sackville Street, and Westmoreland Street, and
land Square, and you will say that these, and Gardi
Row, and Mountjoy Square, are equal to any th
in the shape of streets, that you ever saw in all
lives.

There are five very handsome squares, and I am
that one of them, Stephen's Green, is a mile roun
It has a statue of George the Second, on horseback
the middle of it.

There is no want of public buildings in Dub
they seemed to me to be not only very numerous,
also noble edifices. The Castle, the Exchange,
Custom House, the Bank of Ireland, and the F
Courts are worth looking at; and the Cathedr
churches, schools, hospitals, and other benevolent
stitutions, cannot be looked on but with interest.

It would take me hours to describe, properly,
venerable cathedral of St. Patrick, with its transe

choir and organ; its walls and panelled gallery fronts, adorned, as they are, with the swords, helmets, and banners of the knights of St. Patrick, and the canopied stalls of carved oak, rich with armorial bearings, and golden characters. The quakers, moravians and methodists have all places of divine worship; and those of the roman catholics are numerous. The chapels in Ann street and Exchange street are very elegant.

The Royal Dublin Society and the colleges ought not to be passed over, for they are among the things which exalt the city in public estimation.

I had a walk in the Phœnix Park, and I could never wish a sweeter place to walk in. I was delighted with the Zoological Gardens. The noble bay, the canals, the Royal and the Grand, and the rail road, add much to the improvement of Dublin and the extension of her commerce.

Very willingly would I have remained longer in Dublin than I did, for the warmth and friendliness of the people made me feel very kindly towards them; but this could not be. I was obliged to hurry on, yet

did I not quit the place without leaving behind me
best wishes for its lasting prosperity.

Cork is the second city in importance. It h
population of one hundred and seven thousand, a
considerable trade in supplying the vessels which
quent its harbour with provisions. Belfast is the
town in the north of Ireland; it has a fine harb
and a considerable trade. Drogheda is an impor
town, situated on the mouth of the Boyne; and a
or two higher up the river, was fought the fa
battle of the Boyne, on the first of July, 1690, w
ended in the total defeat of James the Second,
the establishment of William the Third as ki
Great Britain and Ireland. A beautiful obelisk, a
one hundred and thirty feet high, has been erecte
this spot to commemorate the event. The chief
nufacture of Ireland is linen: it is of very good qua
and a great proportion of what is used by the En
is made in Ireland. The dwellings of the po
Irish are wretched hovels, built of earth and ru
thatched, without any boards, consisting of only
story, and frequently of only one room. Almost e

Irish peasant possesses a pig, which usually shares his cabin and his meals: and upon which greatly depends the payment of the rent, and the support of the family.

A traveller, who was visiting an Irish cabin, expressed his surprise that the pig was treated so much as an equal, when the master replied, "Sure we cannot turn out the gintleman that pays the rint." Fowls, geese, and even a cow also, often have their lodgings with the family. Large numbers of sheep and cattle are bred in different parts of Ireland; and great quantities of geese are kept for the sake of their feathers, which are cruelly plucked from the animals alive. The chief food of the Irish peasantry consists of potatoes, accompanied, when possible, with milk.

The Irish are brave, hospitable, gay and thoughtless; the lower classes are greatly addicted to fighting. They do not fight singly, but in large companies; on receiving an injury they collect their friends, and, armed with sticks and stones, advance to the attack. It has been said that they are never at peace, unless they are at war with one another. Fairs are held annually in

every large town and village in Ireland, and al
always end in a general fight, in which all the
present engage with the utmost willingness and
The Irish have many singular customs, one of whi
their manner of celebrating a funeral. On these
casions they have what is called a wake. Invitin
the neighbours and friends of the deceased, they e
tain them with meat and drink, and engage in dan
and other amusements. They also hire wome
attend the funeral, for the purpose of howling ove
body.

Mines of iron, copper, lead and coal, are worke
different parts of Ireland: gold has also been obtai
but not to any very great amount.

CHAPTER XL.

Peat Bogs. Shaking Bogs. Giant's Causey, or Causeway. Government of Ireland. Union. Conclusion.

AMONG the most curious things in Ireland are the immense peat bogs, which cover a great part of the island. These spot are supposed to have been formerly occupied by large forests, which have long since fallen, and help to form the bogs; and the trunks of trees are often found embedded at different depths below the surface. The peasantry use the peat, or turf, which they dig out of these bogs, for fuel, as it is cheaper than coal. Some of the bogs are what are called moving, or shaking bogs: these are caused by a great quantity of water being collected under the surface of the peat; and they sometimes burst and flood the surrounding country. I saw many a stout Irishman at work in the peat bogs.

On the northern coast of Ireland, is a very great

natural curiosity, known by the name of the Gi
Causey, or Causeway. It is a vast collection o
saltic pillars, similar to those found in the Isle of S
The principal, or grand causey, consists of many
dred thousands of columns, so closely fitted toge
that even the blade of a knife can scarcely be i
duced between them. The greater number o
pillars have five unequal sides, and they are fo
of a black rock, nearly as hard as marble. The colu
are not all in one piece, but divided into lengths o
feet each; these are very curiously joined toge
the end of one piece having a circular hollow,
which the end of the other fits exactly, so that
would scarcely notice the join. Besides the prin
causey, there are several other masses of the
kind, and in the neighbourhood are two remark
caverns. They are of great height and depth,
the bottom being covered with water, boats may
them from the sea.

You must know how Ireland is governed, by
land.

Ireland is governed by a lord lieutenant, who re

in Dublin, with a chancellor and other ministers. Before the year 1800, Ireland had a parliament of its own; but since that year, when it was united to England, it has returned about one hundred members to the English House of Commons.

I have not said so much about Ireland as about Scotland, on account of my visit there being a hurried one. However, I contrived to make the most of it. I should have told you that, beside the Liffey river, and the Boyne, there are in Ireland the Shannon, the Blackwater, the Suir, the Barrow, and the Noir.

There are some fine lakes, too, and I had a capital sail on that of Killarney. I always liked Ireland, and I will tell you why. In my younger days, I had a friend who came from Carrickfergus, a seaport of Antrim county in Ireland. We made a long voyage in the same ship, and many a hard day's toil did we share together. I called him "Forward," because he was so ardent in all he undertook, and he called me "Steady," because I was so persevering. "Forward" and "Steady" suited each other capitally as companions.

Ireland has long known adversity and discord,
I wish from my heart that she may now enjoy
perity and peace. I wish her the blessing of G
truth, wise laws, and considerate rulers.

I have now given you a description of Eng
Wales, Scotland and Ireland; of the manner in w
they are governed, and of the most remarkable t
and places in each country. And now my sto
finished.

W. J. Sears, Printer 3 & 4, Ivy Lane, Paternoster Row.