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22.

THE

NEW

RIDDLE BOOK.



EDINBURGH:

PUBLISHED BY JAMES CLARKE AND CO-221, HIGH STREET.

Price One Penny.



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A CAT.



In almost every house I'm seen,
(No wonder then I'm common;)
I'm neither man, nor maid, nor child,
Nor yet a married woman.

I'm pennyless, and poor as Job,
Yet such my pride by nature,
I always wear a kingly robe,
Though a dependent creature.

A DOG.



Places of trust I oft obtain,
I act as shepherd on the plain,
Protect the house from vermin:
In frozen climes a horse I'm seen,
A roasting-jack I too have been:

At fairs I'm shown for learning: Strange it is, but not less true, I eat on four legs—beg on two.

BIRD'S NEST.



My situation is in flowery meads, Or where the thicket oft extends its shades;

Sometimes upon a rising hill I'm found,

And sometimes I am seen on level ground;

Yet care and art doth both combine to place

My wondrous form remote from human race:

Ye prying youths, in mystic lines explore,

What oft in woods and groves you sought before.

WOMAN.



TEN thousand thousands owe their birth to me,

To me twice twenty thousand bow the knee,

By me unhappily some meet with death,

To some I e'en deny the gift of breath, Tho' now I live on earth,—to me

Your being (under God) all that you know.

A HORSE.



To king and subject I assistance lend; In war a firm ally, in peace a friend; To their diversions am a perfect slave, At home submissive, but in battle brave:

To poor and wealthy I give health and ease;

The lady, merchant, and the peasant please;

Nay, of such general use is my employment,

Without me life would scarce be worth enjoyment.

THE OWL.



My patron is wisdom,—if wisdom you prize,

In me put your confidence, borrow my eyes,

Who into a mill-stone can see quite as

As the best of you all, by the light of a star:

In short,—had some wise ones but my penetration,

It had long ago much better fared with the nation.

WATCHMAN.



I sleep by day, and wake at night,
No season gives me rest;
And though I ought to keep the peace,
I rouse some from their nest.
What's sold and bought at every fair,
Does to my place belong;
And often call a stranger, friend,
As he does pass along.
I glory in a moonshine night,
To cheer me on my way;
I often bring bad deeds to light,
Or stop a run-away.

KITF.



No head, nor eyes, nor wings have I,

And yet I mount up far on high;

A tail I have, my flight to guide,

Which is my beauty, boast, and pride.

A prisoner keep me, for, if free,

I'm rarely seen again by thee.

THE DOLL.



Tis true I neither see nor hear,
But yet the human form I bear.
In nicest silks and satins dress'd,
By Miss I'm tenderly caress'd.
Sometimes my parent is a tree,
Sometimes th' industrious honey bee:
Let little Miss my name now tell,
For what it is she knows full well.

FIDDLER.



ME and my partner up all night,
We play'd away with great delight;
Manag'd every move with merit,
Displaying science, skill, and spirit,
Neither lost, and yet both won—
Tell me, friends, how was this done?

A SHIP.



I FLY to many foreign parts,
Assisted by my spreading wings;
My body holds an hundred hearts;
Nay, I will tell you stranger things:
When I am not in haste I ride,
And then I mend my pace anon;
I issue fire out from my side;
Ye British youths this riddle con.

AN ASS.



What being's most despised by man,
Yet does him all the good he can?
Who does oft-times o'er death prevail,
And health restore when doctors fail?

THE END.



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