

A
SHORT HISTORY
OF
BIRDS AND BEASTS,

FOR THE
Amusement and Instruction
OF
CHILDREN.

ADORNED WITH CUTS.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HOULSTON AND SON,
65, Paternoster-Row;
AND AT WELLINGTON, SALOP.



Price One Penny.

FRONTISPIECE.



THE LION.

The Lion, the King of all Beasts,
How famous for Courage is he !
And you, as the King of Good Boys,
To learn your Book diligent be.

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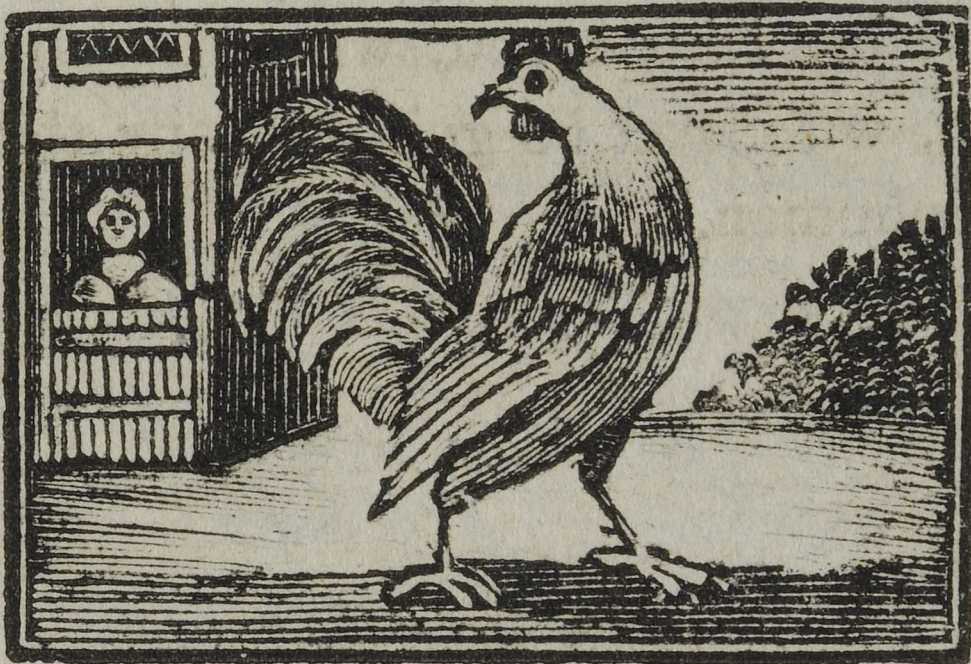
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Adorned with Cuts.  
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WELLINGTON:
Printed by F. Houlston and Son.
—
Price One Penny.



THE COCK.



THE *Cock* doth crow to let you
know,
If you be wise, what time to rise.

There is no bird treated with so
much cruelty as the *Cock*; for he, poor

thing, (without the least offence,) is tied to a stake, and thrown at by a set of idle, wicked, barbarous fellows, till he is beaten in pieces. This is a custom the very heathens would blush at; and therefore I hope you, who are a christian, will never be guilty of any thing so inhuman.



THE PARROT.



THE *Parrot* prates he knows not
what,
For all he says is got by rote.

The *Parrot* is a chattering bird, he talks a great deal, yet knows not what he says; and is therefore not unlike some silly boys, who prate without thinking, and learn their lesson without looking at their book.

THE CUCKOW.



THE *Cuckow* tells a merry tale,
Upon the hill and in the vale.

There's the pretty *Cuckow*! This good-natured bird comes a long journey once every year to see all his friends, and sing them a song. And after he has obliged them with his company about three months, he takes his leave, and returns to his own country again.

THE COW.



EARLY the *milkmaid* to the meadow hies,
And the *red Cow* her empty pail supplies.

This is the good-natured *Cow* to which we are all so much obliged. She comes, poor thing! in the morning, and brings her udder full of milk for

B. B.

our breakfast, and the same at night for our supper. To her we are indebted for our custards, cheesecakes, curds and cream, as well as for our milk, butter, and cheese.



THE NIGHTINGALE.



THE *Nightingale* doth sweetly sing,
To welcome in the cheerful
spring.

What a pretty bird the *Nightingale*
is! How sweetly she sings! I could
wish 'twas summer all the year for the
sake of her good company.

THE LAMB.



THE little *Lamb* doth skip and
play,
Always merry, always gay.

See the little *Lamb* ! how innocent
he looks ! he never did any harm, and
therefore is beloved by every body : but
the fox and the wolf, who are always in
mischief, are hated and despised.

THE LION.



THE *Lion* ranges round the wood,
And makes the lesser beasts his
food:

Thus tyrants on their subjects prey,
And rule with arbitrary sway.

Though the *Lion* is such a strong
devouring creature, yet *Daniel* was
thrown into a den among several of

them, and received no harm. For he was punished on account of his religion and virtue, he prayed unto God, and the Lord delivered him.



THE WHALE.



THE *Whale's* the monarch of the
main,
(As is the lion of the plain):
He keeps the lesser fish in awe,
And, tyrant-like, his will's his law.

When the prophet *Jonah* attempted
to fly over sea from the presence of
the Lord there arose a great storm, and

he being cast into the deep, was swallowed by this great fish, in whose belly he repented sincerely, and prayed unto God; wherefore the Lord commanded the fish, and he swam to shore, and cast him upon dry land.



THE BUTTERFLY.

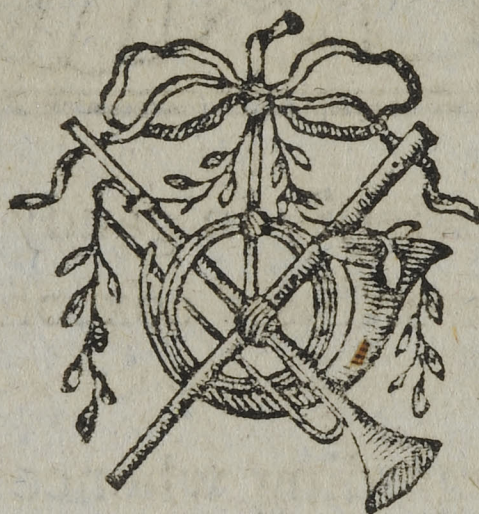


THE *Butterfly* in gaudy dress,
The worthless coxcomb doth ex-
press,

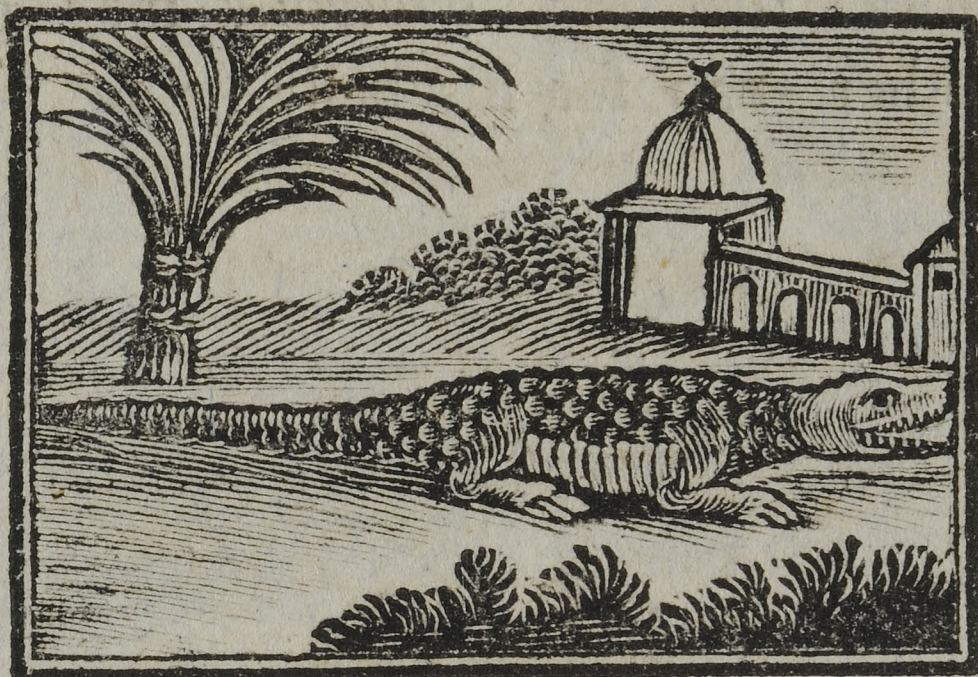
Who not regarding whence he rose,
Is proud of what?—of his fine clothes.

This gaudy *Butterfly* owes its being
to a poor worm, and has nothing to boast
of but his fine wings, which perhaps will

be lost the first frosty day: and then his case will be much like the coxcomb's, who having lost his fine hat and bag wig, has nothing to support him but a head full of emptiness.



THE CROCODILE.



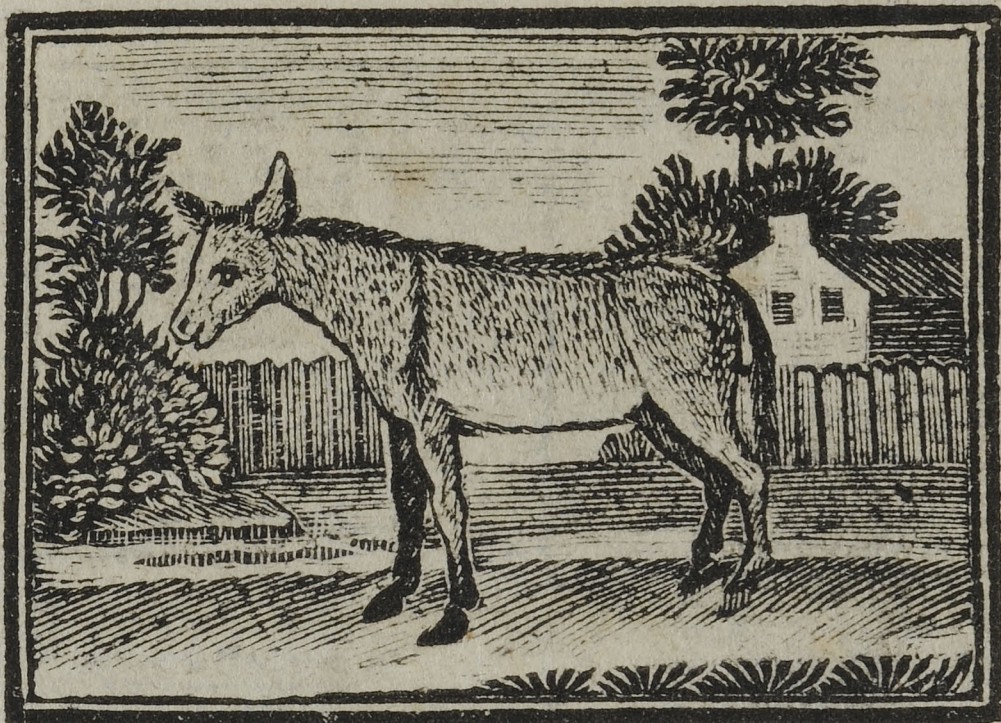
THE *Crocodile*, with watery eyes,
O'er man and every creature cries,
Then feeds with pleasure on his prey;
So hypocrites their friends betray.

This terrible creature is said to weep
over his prey before he devours it, as if
he was unwilling to destroy any thing;
but in truth, that whining is only to

bring other creatures to see what's the matter, that Mr. *Crocodile* may get another snap for his belly.



THE ASS.



THE *Ass*, tho' mean, will by his bray
Oblige your *horse* to run away.

Though this animal makes such a mean figure, yet *Sampson*, with the jawbone of an *Ass*, slew a thousand men. But then the Lord was with him, and God Almighty can do any thing.

THE ANT.



THE little *Ant* no labour spares,
Wisely preventing future cares;
For ere the hoary frost comes on,
Her stock's laid up, and business done.

This little creature was a great favourite with the wise king *Solomon*, who much admired her industry and care-

fulness, and recommends her to the consideration of every idle person.

‘ Arise thou sluggard, go to the *Ant*, consider her ways, and be wise.’



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