

independent nation, who did not believe them to be invincible or immortal.

Almagro, finding that his soldiers refused to fight again, abandoned the enterprise, and immediately began his march for Peru. He returned by the sea-coast; his dread of the perils of the mountain road being fresh in his mind. On his return to Peru he attempted to secure that government for himself, and for this purpose fought a battle with Pizarro, by whom he was taken, tried and beheaded as a disturber of the public peace.

Thus perished the first invader of Chili. The thirst of riches was the moving spring of his expedition. He was disappointed; he then sought to dispossess *his friend* Pizarro of the share he had obtained in the New World, and by him was put to death; thus showing that there can be no sincere friendships among the wicked.

## The Rhinoceros.

I know not how it may be with others, but I could never see a rhinoceros without laughing. There was one in Boston a few years ago, and he looked to me like an enormous pig with a very muddy coat on. His shape, his aspect, his ways, were all swinish, and his skin seemed entirely too large for him; it was therefore gathered up in folds across his back and sides. He eat hay, though he seemed to prefer sweet apples, corn and potatoes. He was a curiosity indeed.

I believe the rhinoceros to be the only creature that has a horn upon his nose; and I do not see why that is not a good place for one, if the creature wants a horn. This animal finds his convenient for tearing away the trees in his passage through the woods, and perhaps in digging up roots for food; and in his battles with the elephant, he often gives his enemy a terrible scratch with

it under the ribs. So his horn answers at one time as a pickaxe, and at another it is like a warrior's spear: thus it serves the purposes of peace and war; it brings sustenance, and it affords defence. Who then shall find fault with nature for giving the rhinoceros a horn upon the nose?

If one horn upon the nose is a good thing, two must be better; so there are some of these creatures that have two. The African species, which is very powerful and numerous in some parts, has two horns; the Asiatic species, found in India, has but one. This latter kind is seldom more than six or seven feet long, but those of Africa are sometimes twelve feet. They are, therefore, excepting the elephant, the largest of quadrupeds.

In India the hunting of the rhinoceros is famous sport. The people go out mounted upon elephants, and usually find five or six of these animals in a drove. Their hides are so thick that it is difficult to kill them. One will often receive twenty bullets before he falls. The rhinoceros attacks an elephant fearlessly, and endeavors to get his horn under him so as to rip him open. But the elephant, finding what he would be at, turns his tail to the assailant, who gives him a hunch behind, and tumbles his huge enemy upon his knees. Then the men upon the elephant fire their guns and pepper the thick hide of the rhinoceros with their bullets.

Thus goes the fight, and after many adventures, and much danger, and plenty of accidents and hair breadth 'scapes, and a vast waste of gunpowder and lead, the game usually runs away, or perhaps it is left as a trophy of the sportsman's skill and prowess upon the field.

The rhinoceros feeds entirely upon vegetables, always living near water, and taking a frequent wallow in the mud, or a bath in the wave. He is fearful of man, and though dull of sight,

has an acute scent and a sharp ear, which enable him usually to keep out of reach of the being he dreads so much. It is only when hunted and closely pursued, that he turns to fight, and then he is fierce and formidable. In confinement he becomes quiet and stupid, though he sometimes gets into a fury, and then he rends his cage in pieces with ease. It is almost impossible to confine him when his rage is excited.

### Briers and Berries.

'T WAS ON a gloomy, smoky day,  
 (If rightly I the date remember,  
 For certainly I cannot say,  
 About the middle of September,  
 When I, astride my pacing grey,  
 Was plodding on my weary way,  
 To spend the night and preach the word  
 To people who had never heard  
 The gospel; or, to say the least,  
 Had never viewed it as a feast  
 Of fat things full of marrow.

In sadness as I rode along  
 And crossed the silver Uuadilla,  
 The robin sung his plaintive song,  
 And faintly drooped the fading lily:  
 The smoky sky, no longer blue,  
 Assumed a dim and dusky grey;  
 And Autumn, o'er my feelings threw  
 The coloring of its own decay,  
 And filled my heart with sorrow.

I, in my mind, was pondering o'er  
 The miseries that beset the preacher:  
 The persecutions which he bore—  
 (The scoff and scorn of every creature—)  
 His heated brain—his frame worn down,  
 Emaciated and dyspeptic—  
 The hardened bigot's iron frown—  
 The jeers and satire of the skeptic—  
 One mocking revelation's page—  
 The other ridiculing reason—  
 And then the storms we must engage,  
 And all th' inclemencies of season.

In this desponding, gloomy mood,  
 I rode perhaps a mile or two—  
 When lo! beside the way there stood  
 A little girl, with eyes of blue,  
 Light hair, and cheeks as red as cherries;  
 And through the briers, with much ado,  
 She wrought her way to pick the berries.

Quoth I, "My little girl, it seems  
 To me, you buy your berries dear;  
 For down your hand the red blood streams,  
 And down your cheek there rolls a tear."  
 "O, yes," said she, "but then, you know,  
 There will be briers where berries grow."

These words came home with keen rebuke  
 To me, who mourned life's little jostles,  
 And called to mind the things that Luke  
 Has written of the first apostles,  
 Who faced the foe without a fear,  
 And counted even life not dear.

And since, from that good hour to this,  
 Come pleasant or come stormy weather,  
 I still reflect that human bliss  
 And human wo are mixed together:  
 Come smiling friend or frowning foe—  
 'There will be briers where berries grow.'

BROWNE.

### The Crows' Court of Law.

THERE is a kind of crow which is seen in the south of England in flocks about the middle of autumn; it is called the hooded crow. These crows go away towards the north in spring; they are very tame, and will go into the yards of houses to pick up food.

They are not very like the common crows, for their backs are ash-colored, and their heads, throat, wings and tail, are black, and they have two cries; one of them being like the voice of the common crow, and the other something like the crowing of a cock.

It is said that in some places where these birds are found, one or two hundred of them will now and then meet together, as if upon some fixed plan, and at these times a few of them sit with drooping heads, and others look very grave, as if they were judges, and others are very bustling and noisy.

In about an hour the meeting breaks up, when one or two are generally found dead, and it has been supposed that this meeting is a sort of trial of some crows who have behaved ill, and who are punished in this severe way for their bad behavior.