

store of muskets, powder, and shot in the house, refused so to do; but stood upon their guard, resolving, by God's assistance, to fight it out, rather than to yield themselves to the perfidious cruelty of him and his accursed cavaliers; and thereupon the young gentleman took forth a dozen muskets, taught the women how to charge them, while he and the other men discharged them. Prince Rupert, thus affronted, gave command to his cavaliers to set upon the house and to break open the outmost gates, to come into the yard or court; but as his captains and soldiers entered in, the said Mr. Abbot and his men shot so thick and quick at them, and showed themselves (by God's assistance) such notable marksmen, that at the very first outset they slew one Captain Mayford and Captain Shute, and after that one Captain Steward; and ere they had done, about fifteen more of their soldiers, whereof some were officers in arms, the men within still shooting at them without intermission, and the women, who had amply learned their art, did their work and acted their parts most nimbly and cheerfully; and when their bullets began to fail, they fell to melting all their household pewter, and, having bullet-moulds in the house, speedily made more, and notably supplied that want faster than they could be spent; and thus the business was so pried, and with such dexterity by them all in their appointed ways, God wonderfully enabling them, so that Prince Rupert was sorely put to it; and having seen so many of his men slain, and seeing he could not so easily enter the house as he and his company expected, he fired the barns, stables, and outhouses, which caused a mighty smoke, and began to smother them much in the house, and to hinder their sight from acting as they did before, and now also their store of powder was well nigh all spent; whereupon therefore Mistresse Purfery fell upon her knees, and craved quarter for herself and family only. Whereupon it pleased the Lord to mollify the prince's heart towards her, who asked her what she would desire of him? She answered, 'her own life, and the lives of those that were within.' With her certifying who and what members they were, and that only her son-in-law, Mr. Abbot, and his three servants, were all the men or male kind in the house, which did what was done, which, when Prince Rupert heard and understood for certain of the smallness of their number, and considered their brave valour and resolution, he admired and wondered at it, raised the gentlewoman from her knees, saluted her kindly, and granted her request fully and freely; and notwithstanding the slaughter of so many of his men, and some commanders, as aforesaid, went into the house to see Mr. Abbot and the rest, who had so bravely behaved themselves; whom when that he saw and that it was so indeed, he was much taken with their notable valour, saving their lives and house from plundering, saying to Mr. Abbot that he was worthy to be a chief commander in an army."

Few persons of the present day, we think, will be disposed to acquiesce in the propriety of the vituperative epithets so lavishly bestowed in the above paper upon Prince Rupert, whose conduct on the occasion appears to us to be characterised by great forbearance and generosity. It will be perceived that the name of the mistress of the mansion is spelled in the preceding narrative Purfery, and on the monument Purefoy: the latter is the correct spelling. In the church of Fenny Drayton, Leicestershire, a parish which adjoins Caldecote, there are many monuments erected to the memories of these Purefoys, who were at one time the proprietors of Drayton and other estates in the neighbourhood. The remnant of this family has long been settled in Ireland.

*The Rhinoceros Hunt.*—The people inhabiting the woods in the province of Tshantburi are in the habit of hunting indiscriminately tigers, bears, and rhinoceroses, as well as

stags and wild cows. Their mode of dealing with the rhinoceros is very remarkable. Four or five men will arm themselves with poles made from the bamboo, after taking care to harden the sharp point which they give to one of the ends in the fire. Thus equipped, they sally forth and make for the animal's haunts, calling out and clapping their hands for the purpose of alluring or disturbing him from his covert. As soon as they see the enraged animal approach them (and his rage is expressed by his opening and snapping his huge jaws violently together), they prepare to receive him by holding out the point of the pole in a direct line with his foaming mouth, and upon the favourable moment presenting itself, they drive the pole with astonishing nerve and adroitness not only down his throat, but into his stomach, and then take to their heels right and left. The rhinoceros sets up a frightful howl, falls down on the ground, and in an agony of pain rolls himself about in the dust with hideous howlings and distortions: the hunters in the mean while begin clapping their hands and vociferating their song of triumph, in the midst of which they rush upon the monster as soon as he appears fairly exhausted by loss of blood, and dispatch him without hazard or difficulty.

*The Cotton Manufacture.*—"It is worthy of remark," says Mr. Rickards, "that most of the wonderful discoveries which have raised these manufactures to their present unrivalled superiority, such as roller-spinning, the jenny, the carding-machine, the mule, &c., owe their existence to the natural genius of uneducated men, moving only in the class of common workmen or labourers: this is their proud boast. The improvements through which they have attained their present perfection are all ascribable to the same class; whilst, I believe, it may be safely added, that every one of the great fortunes and immense establishments existing in the manufacturing districts may be traced to the minute savings of common operatives, who, from the smallest of small beginnings, have, by prudence, skill, and unremitting perseverance and industry, raised themselves, with unexampled rapidity, to a pinnacle of wealth and importance which, but for its existence, could scarcely be believed. This then is a state of society, with its magnificent institutions, essentially popular in its origin; its progress and present results owing little to science—nothing to patronage—but all to the unaided efforts of natural genius and practical experience; often obstructed but never encouraged by legislative enactments; and consequently exhibiting a striking example of the benefits of non-interference in matters where nothing is wanting but equal protection and security to ensure splendid success."

*Influence of the Factory System upon the Condition of Women.*—One of the greatest advantages resulting from the progress of manufacturing industry and from severe manual labour being superseded by machinery is its tendency to raise the condition of women. Education only is wanting to place the women of Lancashire higher in the social scale than any part of the world. The great drawback to female happiness among the middle and working classes is their complete dependence and almost helplessness in securing the means of subsistence. The want of other employment than the needle cheapens their labour, in ordinary cases, until it is almost valueless. In Lancashire profitable employment for females is abundant. Domestic servants are in consequence so scarce, that they can only be obtained from the neighbouring counties. A young woman, prudent and careful, and living with her parents from the age of 16 to 25, may in that time, by factory employment, save 100*l.* as a wedding portion. I believe it to be the interest of the community that every young woman should have this in her power. She is not then driven into an early marriage by the necessity of seeking a home; and the consciousness of independence in being able to earn her own living is favourable to the development of her best moral energies.—*Report on the Condition of the Hand-loom Weavers, by W. E. Hickson, Esq.*

\* \* The Office of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge is at 59, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

LONDON: CHARLES KNIGHT & CO., 22, LUDGATE STREET.  
Printed by WILLIAM CLOWES and SONS, Stamford Street.