

Gohn J. Winkley Kan WINTER.



Old Age-The Winter of life.

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The Winter consists of three Months:

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Twelfth, com-First, monly Second, called, February

Cold Winter now is come,
The Summer's gone and past
Ah! think upon the tomb,
Where all must land at last!

THE birds, quite mute, the trees, stripped of their green livery, the shortened days and lengthened nights together with the pierciwinds and pinching frosts, now show us that winter is come: stern Winter, which





resembles Old Age, or the closing scene. Yet, even this season is not void of its beauties and blessings. The new fallen snow caps the mountains, and covers the valleys, with a white and beautiful vesture.

which is thrown into many curious forms, folds, and ridges, by the rude blasts

of the driving winds.

What can exceed the dazzling splendour of a rising sun, on the trees and bushes, after a night of rain and freezing, when every branch appears like a shining chrystal? A prospect grand indeed!

The severe frosts of Winter, with the agitated atmosphere, dispel the sickening fumes which arise from heated and stagnant pools, and decaying vege-

Threshing.



tation. This gives health and vigour to the body, and as it were, a new spring to thought. Who but has observed the lively sensations of body and mind on a clear frosty morning in winter? What a contrast to the languar experienced after a sultry night in summer or in autumn.

Although there are now no fields of corn to hoe or harvest to cut, yet the winter is not a scene of inactivity. It is undoubtedly the will of Heaven, that man should labour.—The constitutions of his body and mind are so formed, as greatly to need it. Moderate labour tends to the health of both.

The woodman, with his axe, engages the sturdy oak, which by his repeated strokes, bows its ancient

Feeding Cows.



and venerable head, and comes tumbling to the ground. It is then cut into suitable lengths, and carted home for the fire.

The grain is now threshed out from the straw, and cleared from the chaff by the wind or a fan. The wheat, rye, and buck wheat, are then carried to the mill, ground into flour, brought home and made into bread, pies, cakes, &c.

Barley is used to make beer, oats to feed horses, and Indian corn for both

man and beast.

Much attention to the poor dumb animals is necessary, who look up to man for protection. The horses, cows, and sheep are to be foddered early and late, and provided with proper shelter.

Sleighing.



The hogs are to be fed and furnished with a bed of straw. The turkeys, seese, and ducks, with the other poultry, will flock round the little boy or girl, who comes with a basket of corn to feed them.

The flax in the winter is broken with a crackle, and then dressed on a swing-ling-board by a long wooden knife: afterwards passed through a hetchel, and then, by the industrion country woman and by daughters, spun into yarn, for the purpose of making linen for our shirts, &c.

In the long winter evenings, how pleasant for a family to sit by a good fire, and hear the cold wind whistling without; when neighbour enjoys the company of neighbour, and treats

By the Fire.



him with a drink of palatable cider, and some good apples; while the little children are agreeably employed in cracking and eating the nuts which they gathered in the fall. Some amuse themselves with riding in the sleigh, while the little boys glide swiftly, in many a curious curve, upon the ice; and, when the weather is foul the little folks can suital exercise themselves within doors at shuttlecock.

Behold the gray branches that stretch from the trees, Nor blossoms nor verdure they

wear!
They rattle and shake to the north-

erly breeze,
And wave their long arms in the

air.

Skating.

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The sun hides his face in a mantle of cloud,

Dark vapours roll over the sky. The wind through the wood hollows hoarsely and loud,

And sea birds across the land fly.

Come in, little Charles, for the snow patters down.

No paths in the garden remain :

The streets and the houses are white in the town, And white are the fields and the

plain.

Come in, little Charles, from the

tempest of snow; 'Tis dark, and the shutters close :

We'll put a fresh fagot to in the fire glow,

Secure from the storms

blows:

But how many wretches athout house or home.

Are wandering naked and pale; Oblig'd on the snow covered common to roam.

And pierc'd by the pitiless gale ! No house for their shelter, no vict-

uals to eat. No beds for their limbs to re-

The Sun.



The bible is the best book in the world; and good little boys and girls should strive to learn, that they may be capable of reading in it, the wonderful account of the creation of the heaven and the earth, and all things therein, both animate and inanimate; and of the fall of man, by disobedience and sin, and his redemption by Christ.

The bible informs us, that, in the beginning, God created the

heaven and the earth; and God said, let there be light, and there was light; and he saw that it was good, and divided it from the darkness, calling the light day, and the darkness night. And he called the dry land earth, and the gathering together of the waters seas. And he caused the earth to be fruitful. He made the sun to give light by day, and the moon and stars by night. He created the great whale, and every creature that moveth in the waters, and every winged fowl: and he blessed them, saying, "be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the sea, and let the fowl multiply in the earth." And God made the beasts of the earth, the cattle, and every creeping thing. He formed man out of the

Moon and Stars.



ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. And God gave him dominion over the fish of the sea, the fowls of the air, and the cattle; and over all the earth, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; and God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.

The heavens and the earth being finished, with all the host of

them, in the space of six days, God ended his work and rested on the seventh day, and he blessed and sanctified it. And the Lord God planted a garden eastward, in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed, to dress it, and to keep it. And the Lord God said, "it is not good that the man should be alone;" therefore, he caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof, and of the rib he made a woman, and brought her unto the man : and she became his wife, and he called her name Eve; because she was the mother of all living; and from those two persons, formed by the Almighty, in perfect innocence, have sprung all the nations of men, that are, or have

Fish of the sea.



been, on the earth. But man, so formed, soon lost his state of purity, by the subtilty of the serpent, or devil, who tempted the woman, and, through her, the man, to disobey the command of God, whereby they sinned, and fell, and were cast out of the beautiful and fruitful garden of Eden, to earn their bread by their labour. The dreadful effects of sin soon further manifested itself in their children;

for, their eldest son, Cain, slew his brother, Abel, because Abel was more righteous than he. And as men multiplied on the earth, their wickedness increased to so great a degree, that the Lord swept them all off by a great flood, which drowned every living creature, except righteous Noah, and his family, and those creatures that were preserved with him in the ark, which the Lord had instructed him to make, and which floated upon the waters that drowned the old world. And from Noah and his family, and the creatures with him in the ark, was the world again replenished with inhabitants, after the flood.

In the bible, we read of faithful Abraham; of hard hearted Pharaoh; of meek Moses; of

Birds of the air.



patient Job; of little David, who, with a sling and stone, slew the great Goliath; of wise Solomon; of the strong man Samson; of the wicked children that were destroyed by two bears, for mocking the good prophet Elisha; of Elijah, who was fed by ravens, and at last carried to heaven in a fiery chariot; of holy Daniel, who was cast into the lion's den; of Jonah, who, for

his disobedience, was swallowed up by a fish; of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who, for their piety, were cast into the burning fiery furnace, and came out unhurt -And ever to be remembered, with humble gratitude and admiration, in the New Testament, we read the most admirable account of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who is also called the Son of Man. He came into the world to save mankind from sin and everlasting misery. He was the friend of sinners, but not of sin; for, he was tempted in all things, as we are, but he never committed any sin. He went about doing good. He restored sight to the blind ; caused the lame to walk; cleansed the lepers; unstopped the deafear; raised the dead; and

Beasts of the earth.



preached the gospel to the poor; and, finally, gave his life a ransom for his fallen creature man. And, although Lord of all, yet he lived a meek and lowly life; he was a pattern of self denial; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and had not where to lay his head. It is said, he was never seen to laugh, but often to weep. He even condescended to wash his disciples' feet.

His garments were plain, indeed; his coat was without a seam, woven throughout. Yet even him did wicked men betray and seize; and, after they had bound him, they buffetted him; they spit upon him; they platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head; and then smote him on the head with a reed; and mocking him, said, "hail! king of the Jews." And they gave him to drink, vinegar mixed with gall; and nailed him to the cross; yet this meek lamb of God prayed for them, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." No wonder, nature was shocked and appalled. There was darkness over the earth for the space of three hours, when he cried aloud, and gave up the ghost. At his death, he vail of the temple was rent

Creeping things.



in twain, from the top to the bottom; the earth did quake; the rocks rent; and the graves opened; and many bodies of the saints, which slept, arose and came out of the graves, after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. After his crucifixtion, his body was taken down from the cross, and laid in a new tomb that was he wn in the and on the third deportment.

days, in which space of time, he was seen of many, he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father, making intercession for us, he being the mediator between God and man, as also the Judge of quick and dead.

Ye sons of men, with joy, record, The various wonders of the Lord; And let his power and goodness sound

Through all your tribes the world around.

Let the high heavens your songs invite, Those spacious fields of brilliant

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gave up som pole