

terminated in his admission into the poor-house of the place as a pauper. And in the workhouse he was set to make list-shoes, under the superintendence of the beadle. He was a well-conditioned, docile, diligent little mute, and made on the average about a pair and a-half of shoes per week, for which he received from the manager, in recognition of his well-doing, a premium of a weekly penny,—a very important sum to the poor little deaf pauper. Darker days were, however, yet in store for him : he was not a little teased and persecuted by the idle children in the workhouse, who made sport of his infirmity ; his grandmother, to whom he was devotedly attached, and with whom he had lived previous to his accident, was taken from him by death ; and, to sum up his unhappiness at this time, he was apprenticed by the workhouse to a Plymouth shoemaker,—a brutal and barbarous wretch, who treated him with the most ruthless indignity and cruelty, threw shoes at his head, boxed him on the ears, slapped him on the face, and even struck him with the broad-faced hammer used in the trade. Such of our readers as are acquainted with Crabbe's powerful but revolting picture of Peter Grimes, the ruffian master who murdered his apprentices by his piecemeal cruelties, would scarce fail to find the original of the sketch in this disreputable wretch,—with this aggravation, too, in the actual as set off against the fictitious case, that the apprentices of Peter Grimes were not poor, helpless mutes, already rendered objects of commiseration to all well-regulated minds “through the visitation of God.” And who could anticipate a different end for the sadly-injured and sorely-misused boy, than that which overtook Peter's apprentices as they dropped in succession into the grave ? Were it to be seen, however, that the deaf little fellow, apparently so shut out from the world, could record his sufferings at this time in very admirable English, the hope might arise that there was some other fate in store for one who had mind