

tractable, and associate quietly with those, whom, otherwise, they would have been inclined to persecute.

LESSON XI.

SPIDERS.

| | | |
|------------|----------------|---------------|
| com-mon-er | crev-i-ces | con-tri-vance |
| cir-cu-lar | glu-tin-ous | con-ve-ni-ent |
| co-coon | un-for-tu-nate | spe-ci-es |
| cu-ri-ous | sus-pend-ed | ha-bit-a-tion |

No animals are commoner than spiders; we find them everywhere. Some have their dwelling in our houses, some in the fields, some in the crevices of an old wall; some float on their web in the air—some on the surface of the water. It is curious to see them forming their webs, or lying in wait for their prey.

These webs are sometimes composed of dirty-looking threads, either single, or in a confused mass, like those of the house spider, which clean and tidy folks will not suffer to remain in a corner of their room, or suspended to the ceiling. Sometimes we find beautiful circular webs spread out in fine net-work on the grass or hedges, in the early summer or autumn mornings, and all glittering with dew-drops.

But woe to the unfortunate fly, or gnat, or even wasp, who gets entangled in these treacherous snares; he has a poor chance of escape, for the threads he treads on are sticky or glutinous, and the poor insect can seldom get away before the spider pounces upon her prey, and devours, or rolls it up in her web for future use.