

entertainer in the woods. All the persons present were astonished and delighted with the story, to find that even the fiercest beasts are capable of being softened by gratitude, and moved by humanity; and they unanimously joined to entreat for the pardon of the unhappy man from the governor of the place. This was immediately granted to him; and he was also presented with the lion, who had in this manner twice saved the life of Androcles.

LESSON LIII.

COIN.

peb-bles	sil-ver-smith	neck-lace
fan-cy	or-na-ment	pro-vi-sions
val-ue	ne-groes	con-ve-ni-ent
o-blige	cow-ries	pro-portion

Why should people part with their goods in exchange for little bits of silver, or gold, or copper? If you ask a man why he does so, he will tell you it is because he finds that, when he has these little bits of stamped metal, which are called coins, every one is willing to sell him what he wants for them. The baker will let him have bread for them, or the tailor clothes, and so on with all the rest. Then, if you ask him why the baker and the tailor are willing to do this, he will tell you that it is because they also can buy with the same coins what they want from the shoemaker, the butcher, or any other person.

But how could this use of coin first begin? How could men first agree all of them to be ready to part with food, and cloth, and working tools, and every thing else, in exchange for little bits of gold.