

THE CHAMELEON.—One of these creatures, which so rarely live in our climate, and which when not alive no longer possess that singularity which constitutes their value, is now exhibited at the house of a baker, in Fleet-street. It is imported from Sierra Leone, and is the only survivor out of a great number who were passengers in the same vessel. It is about nine inches long “from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail,” and is, in all material points, of the lizard form and species. The first peculiarity which strikes the spectator is in the eye. The orb of sight is encased in a spherical socket, moveable in every direction, and projecting so much as to enable the animal to see on all sides; and what adds to this facility is, that one eye has no sympathy with the other; so that one can be shut while the other is open, or one looking forwards while the other is looking backwards. The appearance of the eye is very singular. It so completely resembles a gem surrounded by a slight ring of gold, that it might well be supposed to be really a piece of metal and a precious stone. The variations in the hues over the whole skin are rapid and surprising. On a plant of delicate green the chameleon is scarcely distinguishable from the plant itself; on black it becomes dusky; passing over gray, it assumes again another tinge. It delights in light and heat, and changes in form as well as colour when warmed by the rays of the sun. The claws have considerable power of tenacity, and are capable of being turned round so as to embrace any object presented to them. The tongue is long, and of such strength that the animal can seize with it a fly or other insect at the distance of seven or eight inches. At the end is a division in the manner of a forceps.—*Evening paper.*