of this kind in your life; but if you give way to a resentful temper, you will do yourself more harm than all the enemies in the world can do you, for you will be in perpetual agitation, from an idea that every one who does not act in direct conformity with your wishes has a design against you. Therefore restrain your anger, that you may be happy; for, believe me, peace and tranquillity are the most valuable things you can possess.”

At this instant Pecksy came up with a fine fat spider in her mouth, which she laid down at her mother’s feet, and thus addressed her:—

“Accept, my dear parent, the first tribute of gratitude which I have ever been able to offer you. How have I formerly longed to ease those toils which you and my dear father have endured for our sakes! and gladly would I now release you from further fatigue on my account; but I am still a poor creature, and must continue to take shelter under your wing. I will hop, however, as long as I am able, to procure food for the family.”

The eyes of the mother sparkled with delight, and knowing that Pecksy’s love would be disappointed by a refusal, she ate the spider which the dutiful nestling had so affectionately brought her, and then said,—