78. *The Cat and the Mice.*

Several Mice living together in a house, were very cruelly hunted after by a Cat. They assembled one day in order to consult, by what means they might take shelter against these murderous assaults. Having for a long time considered in vain, a young Mouse got up from her seat and said with an important air: „if you will hear me, I have discovered an easy and sure way; we need but hang a bell about the neck of the Cat, by which we shall immediately hear when she approaches.“ „Very wisely urged indeed,“ an old Mouse retorted, „now the only question remains, who of us is to tie it on.“ The whole assembly was as little able to answer this question, as the blushing counsellor himself and they separated without having effected any thing.

Application.

It is ridiculous, if people will show their sense in a matter, they know not or have not considered thoroughly. Led by a single idea they usually forget the main object and are to be compared with that traveller who well knowing the place where he wants to go to, yet is entirely ignorant of the way, which he necessarily ought to know, in order to get there.

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