NATURE SERIES; FASHION IN DEFORMITY, AS ILLUSTRATED IN THE CUSTOMS OF BARBAROUS & CIVILISED RACES

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WILLIAM HENRY FLOWER

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FASHION IN DEFORMITY



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AS ILLUSTRATED IN THE
CUSTOMS OF BARBAROUS & CIVILISED RACES

BY

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PREFACE.

THE substance of the following essay was delivered as a lecture at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, on the evening of Friday, May 7, 1880, and subsequently published in the Proceedings of that body. Thanks are due to the Secretary and Managers for courteously allowing the use of the illustrations from their journal. Several new figures have now been added, and the text has been considerably augmented.

It was not until it was in the printer's hands in its present form that I became aware, through Professor T. S. Baynes, of the existence of a quaint old book, now very rare, having exactly the same object, and following much the same plan of arrangement. Though more suited by

its method of treatment and its choice of language to the taste of the seventeenth than that of the nineteenth century, the numerous references to ancient or mediæval authorities which it contains will make it useful to any one wishing to make an exhaustive study of the history of the subject, and who is able to discriminate the facts from the fables with which the former are liberally interspersed.

The full title of the work, which is very expressive of its contents and style, is—"Anthropometamorphosis; MAN TRANSFORM'D; or the ARTIFICIAL CHANGELING. Historically Presented in the mad and cruel Gallantry, Foolish Bravery, ridiculous Beauty, Filthy Finenesse, and loathsome Lovelinesse of most Nations, Fashioning and altering their Bodies from the mould intended by Nature. With a Vindication of the Regular Beauty and Honesty of Nature, and An Appendix of the Pedigree of the English Gallant. By

J. B. [John Bulwer], sirnamed the Chirosopher.
London. Printed for J. Hardisty, at the Black spread Eagle in Duck Lane, 1650." 12mo.

An enlarged and illustrated edition, in small 4to, was published in 1653. Copies of both editions are in the British Museum Library.