

to the perfecting of any work :

"Nocturna versate manu, versate diurna."

Night and day, he says, should their studies be prosecuted : and although he is then treating on the Art of writing Poetry, his counsel is applicable to every species of mental acquirement. And again he says,—and in this illustration he is followed by the great Apostle Paul, who refers frequently, in a figurative style, to the Isthmian games for the purpose of inculcating the duty of perseverance in previous training and discipline,—

*"Qui studet optatam cursu contingere metam,
Multa tulit fecitque puer."*

It was not without much preparatory labour that the athlete could hope to carry off the Olympian prize.

And so it will be ever found that whether the prize be the simple chaplet of pine or parsley leaves, as of old in classic Greece ; or whether it be the nobler reward, the applause of the great and good among ourselves, attendant upon high achievements as Authors or Orators or military Chieftains ; or whether it be the more material recompense of rank and fortune,—diligence, severe preliminary diligence and study are requisite, more especially in these days of eager competition, in order to achieve it.

And if we duly estimate the value, not only as regards ourselves, but as regards our fellow-creatures, attendant upon "knowledge" when thus laboriously