

to prepare supper : my expectations like those of a hungry dog before a baker's oven, were quickly raised, to be, like his, as quickly laid, for in came something less than an ounce of Suffolk cheese, about as much bread rather of the stalest, and a battered tin pint of coloured water representing beer. Whilst regaling on these dainties, I had symptoms of the eel wriggling in a stew-pan over a slow fire, then retired to my chamber, a back attic of small dimensions, furnished with one three-legged chair without a back, minus room or side carpet, wash-hand stand, bason or ewer. Any table? No, but a wideish deal board, glued on two sticks forming the frame and legs, nailed to the wall, served as one. Any thing else? No, except my couch, an old packing case reversed, sustaining an elderly rat-holed hop-bag crammed with hay or Moorfield's horsehair. After a brief survey of these luxuries, with my heart light as a feather? no, a millstone, I crept into said snugery. As there was no business before breakfast, the minors only yet appearing after recess, I took this meal solus, which being the counterpart of my supper, therefore became breakfast and Co. Soon after occupying the schoolroom, Junior A—— entered with a bundle of writing books which, until fog arrived, he hoped I would prepare for an adjacent seminary. I stared—this was respectability and master-ship with a vengeance. Revise and scan girls scribbling books! their emoluments perhaps reaching the enormity of one penny per lesson, saying nothing of the honour! "Delightful task to rear the tender thought, and teach the young idea how to shoot." Fudge! All the harm I wish you Master Thompson, for clapping that simile in such a place is, that you had first clapt yourself there for one short week only, and I'd wager my ears you would then have made a very different kind of flourish about delightful tasks and young ideas. My looks I suppose were withering, certainly my words were few, but to the purpose: he took both as he ought, and gathering up the books, withdrew too soon for me to enlarge on the luxuries of my entertainment or elegancies of my chamber.

Alas! for those ill-fated beings who flee to a tutorship for help and protection! when suffering from a like cause ourselves, we are in a right frame of mind for sympathising with others. In most first rate schools, of which this was an imitator, their assistant masters, always excepting foreigners, agreeably to the folly of our nation, are not received into the domestic circle of the principal, being