

And honest Hogarth, who the courage had,
 To paint his moral lessons to an age,
 When vice stalked unrebuked in light of day.
 These all in Britons' hearts, as in their halls,
 Stood hierophants to Art, on Albion's shores.
 And thus they nobly lived, and toiled, and died,
Embalmed in memory of all after time,
 Yearning for something beautiful and good,
 Not born of earth.

Art's highest lesson this:—

"*Admire the beautiful and virtuous.*"
 Then with bewildered look she sudden stayed,
 Her earthly mission could no farther go.
 But thou, bright heaven-born queen of light and love,
 Religion, thou it wast who ledst us on,
 Higher! from nature up to nature's God;
 And thou didst teach that, but t'admire was nought;
 'Twas action, battling in the ranks of truth,
 That made us soar above these realms of earth,
 To brighter scenes than here can meet our eyes.
These groves have felt the simoon-breath of sin,
 Which leaves its blight upon each earthly flower;
Those have seen nought but spotless purity,
 Giving each blossom there a holier radiance.
These soon must fade and fall; *those* brighter grow
 In fadeless bloom. This can religion teach.
 Yet art, though with a humbler embassy,
 Is from the same high source and spring divine.
 And but the humblest weed from heavenly fields,
 Surely is worth far more than all the blooms
 Earth's Edens shew! All hail then Art divine,
 And may thy lessons be auxiliary
 To thy more noble sister's. So wilt thou
 And she co-operate, to teach all men
 To love the beautiful and good, and emulate
 In life the lessons ye so nobly give;
 So bless us with your teachings.

COMETS.

[From the Speech of Lord Wrottesley, President of British Association. Oxford, June 1860.]

Of all the phenomena of the heavens, there are none which excite more general interest than comets—those vagrant strangers, the gypsies as they have been termed of our solar system, which often come we know not whence, and at periods when we least expect them; and such is the effect produced by the suddenness and strangeness of their appearance, and the mysterious nature of some of the facts connected with them, that while in ignorant times they excited alarm, they now sometimes seduce men to leave other employments and become

astronomers. Now, though larger and brighter comets naturally excite most public interest, and are really valuable to astronomers, as exhibiting appearances which tend to throw light on the internal structure of these bodies, and the nature of the forces which must be in operation to produce the extraordinary phenomena observed, yet some of the smaller telescopic comets are, perhaps, more interesting in a physical point of view. Thus the six periodical comets, the orbits of which have been determined with tolerable accuracy, and which return