

much inconvenience and injury on employers and employed. How ridiculous, yet calamitous, that the idea has got abroad that a sewing-girl, or milliner, is any better than a cook or house-maid ! The latter are far more indispensable, more in demand, and get better wages. Their work is conducive to health. See how rotund and rubicund they are, compared with the slender, sallow, hollow-chested, round-shouldered devotees of the needle. Why should not young men of respectability seek wives oftener than they do from house-servants ? They would more frequently find healthy mothers for their children, and tidy keepers of their houses, than in any other position in life. We are glad to hear that ladies of rank in England are seeking persons to do their work to whom they may becomingly extend a measure of companionship and consideration. There is no manner of reason why the person who cooks your dinner might not sit down with you to eat it, excepting that the garments in which she does her work might not allow her to be presentable at the table, especially with strangers, or the duties she has to perform, while the meal is being discussed, may generally render it impracticable ; but there is no reason why those in that situation should not be treated with proper consideration in general. If they were so treated, and they themselves would not indulge in the foolish notion that they were degraded by the nature of their position, it would be just as easy to have that position filled as any other. Any person of influence, gentleman or lady, who endeavours to explode the common error on this subject, despite any temporary charge of eccentricity, will be conferring an incalculable boon on society ; and, in the long run, will be regarded as a public benefactor. For if the labouring classes of the community are only careful to cultivate their minds and polish their manners, while they adhere to the honest productive labour to which they have been providentially called, they will be sure in time to elevate their vocations and themselves. Ministers and ministers' families, in my opinion, are bound to lead the way in this salutary and sensible reform. The utterance of this opinion in itself will be sure to earn the brand of "eccentricity," but this humble contributor does not care one rush. And to this opinion he is certain all whose judgment is worth having, all truly enlightened people, will finally come.