

And further, as if counselling us not to aim too high, he goes on—

"Pride still is aiming at the blest abodes,
Men would be angels, angels would be Gods;
And who but wishes to invert the laws
Of order, sins against the eternal cause."

Is Pope not right? There is a universe within the soul, and how much knowledge is to be derived from the study of self—this wonderful *ego*, the god in us, that is often so selfishly wrapped up in its own joys and sorrows, and yet with such unfathomable capabilities! As Longfellow so beautifully sings—

"We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time."

At first, as we read—

"Two principles in human nature reign—
Self-love, to urge, and reason, to restrain."

we vehemently say, No. There is something nobler than self-love inciting us to action. But wait, that is not all; read on and see that—

"An honest man 's the noblest work of God."

And how beautifully Pope shows—

"That Reason, Passion, answer one great aim;
That true Self-Love and Social are the same;
That Virtue only makes our bliss below;
And all our knowledge is, Ourselves to know."

Of his writings as a whole we can not think of a descriptive expression more applicable than "faultily faultless, icily regular," but would exclude the remainder of the line, "splendidly well." In thinking of his well-nigh perfect productions, we are reminded to follow his own advice to critics:—

"Whoever thinks a faultless piece to see,
Thinks what ne'er was, nor is, nor e'er shall be."

QUEEN VICTORIA is said to have a long memory for persons and faces. Her whole thoughts now seem centered in her soldiers, especially in those who have been wounded in her service, and in looking over paintings of subjects in the recent wars, she knows and remembers the names of all those soldiers—even privates—on whom she has conferred the Victoria Cross or other honors, at once picking them out in the painting and asking after them by name.

Literary Items.

LONGFELLOW was seventy-three years old on the 27th ultimo.

THERE are about 490 newspapers, magazines, etc., in New York City.

THE success of recent numbers of *Scribner* has been so marked that the edition of the February number has been placed at 125,000 copies.

MR. KINGLAKE, the historian, is obliged to leave London because of bronchitis. He is residing at Wilton House, near Lamton, and is convalescing.

It is stated that Lord Beaconsfield intends to write a preface to a biography of the late Lord Derby, which is being written by his son, Colonel Stanley, the Secretary for War.

GOETHE once presented a set of his works to Harvard College library—a fact which has just been brought to light in making a new catalogue of the German literature of the library.

MR. TENNYSON—of whom it has before been stated that he was a Spiritualist—is said to have so firm a conviction as to personal immortality, that he cannot bear the slightest contradiction on that subject.

BARON RAYLEIGH, who has been elected Professor of Experimental Physics at Cambridge, is the first peer who has been a professor in the University. Lord Rayleigh is a man of vigorous intellect, and is the author of the most elaborate treatise on sound in the English language.

THE Pope's new paper, the *Aurora*, sells for twenty centesimi, or four cents, and is printed on whiter paper than any other journal in Italy. The leading articles are written by men of European reputation, and refer chiefly to social and political topics connected with religion.

THE British Museum has acquired about one thousand tablets and fragments of inscribed terra-cotta documents from Babylon. Amongst them is a tablet of Samsu-Trim, a Babylonian monarch hitherto unknown, who probably lived about the time of the Bardes, and was one of the intermediate rulers between Cambyzes and Darius, B. C. 518. Another fragment has a representation of one of the gates of Babylon.