

mean who cannot do mischief. Therefore follow peace with all men.

Presentments ought to be genteel; not expensive; They are not valued by generous minds for their own sake, but as marks of love or esteem.

Whoever anticipates troubles, will find he has thrown away a great deal of terror and anguish to no purpose.

Live so as nobody may believe bad reports against you.

Whenever you find you do not care to look into your affairs, you may assure yourself that they will soon not be fit to look into.

Reform yourself first, and then others.

Do what good offices you can: But leave yourself at liberty from promises and engagements.

Let no one overload you with favours: You will find it an unsufferable burden.

There are many doublings in the humane heart: Do not think you can find out the whole of a man's real character at once, unless he is a fool.

Let no pretence of friendship mislead you; he is not your friend, who attempts it.

If you trust a known knave, people will not so much as pity you when you suffer by him.

AN EXCELLENT CUSTOM OF CHINA.

THE historical relations of China mention a ceremony of opening the grounds, which the Emperor performs every year. The design of this public and solemn act is to excite the people to tillage.

Farther, the Emperor is informed every year of the husbandman, who has distinguished himself most in his profession; and he makes him a Mandarin of the eighth order.

Among the ancient Persians, the Kings quitted the grandeur and pomp, on the eighth day of the month called *Chorem ruz*, to eat with the husbandmen. These institutions were well calculated for the encouragement of agriculture.

* Venty, the third Emperor of the third Dynasty, tilled the lands himself, and made the Empress and his wives employ their time in the silk works in his palace. History of China.

