

were more beautiful than even in midday sunshine, what would we not give? Rambles with an object go far to bring back the spring of early life.

In conclusion, I will quote the words of Sidney Hibbard, in an Article on the subject of this evening. He says :—

“The Aquarium introduces us to new scenes, hitherto hidden from our view, and makes us acquainted with the economy of creatures of whose very existence, many of us, not altogether unlearned in the history of the world, were previously ignorant. Their habits of feeding, moving, and burrowing, their battles, their change of form, the display of even a strange intelligence working its way by wonderful means to wonderful ends, impress the observer with the idea of the boundlessness, the variety, the adaptations and resources of a world brimming with life, in all manner of strange forms and developments. Here we see them equipped and armed for battle against each other, the strong destroying the weak, yet each contributing its part to the preservation of the whole, just as in all other departments of Nature, the great balance of perfection is sustained by incessant and intestine war ; the struggles of opposing elements and powers and beings, all working mysteriously in a manner independent of isolated circumstances, Nature, the prodigal mother, setting no value upon individuals, but regarding tribes and races as paramount, the whole seeming confusion tending to one end ; the revolution of the mighty wheel on which the creatures are painted as signs and in which ages are but minutes in a revolution which itself is eternity. In the midst of all, everlasting Wisdom watching, loving and sustaining ; happy we to get some glimpses of His method of working through the medium of the strange creatures which leave the mysterious deep to throw a new radiance on our homes.”