## THE TAMING OF THE TONGUE.

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serve his body, the latter to save his soul. Two eyes, that with the one he might see to his own way, with the other pity and commiserate his distressed brethren. Two hands, that with the one he might work for his own living, with the other give and relieve his brother's wants. Two feet, one to walk on common days to his ordinary labour. "Man goes forth in the morning to his labour, and continues till the evening," Psal. civ. 23: the other, on sacred days to visit and frequent the temple and the congregation of saints. But among all, he hath given him but one tongue; which may instruct him to hear twice so much as he speaks ; to work and walk twice as much as he speaks. "I will praise thee (O Lord), for I am fearfully and wonderfully made : marvellous are thy works ; and that my soul knoweth right well," Psal. cxxxix. 14. Stay, and wonder at ' the wonderful wisdom of God !

1. To create so little a piece of flesh, and to put such vigour into it: to give it neither bones nor nerves, yet to make it stronger than arms and legs, and those most able and serviceable parts of the body. So that as Paul saith, "On those members of the body, which we think less honourable, we bestow more abundant honour: and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness," 1 Cor. xii. 23. So on this little weak member hath the Lord conferred the greatest strength; and as feeble as it is, we find it both more necessary and more honourable.

2. Because it is so forcible, therefore hath the most wise God ordained that it shall be but little, that it shall be but one. That so the paruity and singularity may abate the vigour of it. If it were paired, as the arms, legs, hands, feet, it would be much more unruly. For he that cannot tame one tongue, how would he be troubled with twain ! But so hath the Creator provided, that things of the fiercest and fireiest nature should be little, that the malice of them might be somewhat restrained.

· 3. Because it is so unruly, the Lord hath hedged it in, as a man will not trust a wild horse in an open pasture, but prison him in a close pond. A double fence hath the