

O'er the spot where you see me tread—  
 And the beautiful cluster of lights afar,  
 Ranged in the heavens above my head?

Ah! it is station which swells us all,  
 At once to a size that were else unknown!  
 And now, if ever I hear you call  
 My race an order beneath your own—

I'll tell the world of this comic scene;  
 And how will they laugh to hear that I,  
 All as you think me, can stand between  
 You and your view of the spacious sky!"

H. F. Gould.

A FABLE. By "the Autocrat of the Breakfast Table."—Once on a time a nation was excited, that if all the people in the world would get out at once, it might be heard in the moon. The projectors agreed it should be done in ten years. Some thousand ship loads of locomotives were distributed to the select men and other great folks of all the different nations. A year beforehand, nothing else was talked of, but the awful noise that was to be made on the great occasion. When the time came every body had their ears so wide open, to hear a universal ejaculation of Boo, the word agreed on, that nobody spoke, except a deaf man in one of the Feejee Islands, and a woman in Peking, that the world was never so still since the creation. I was requested to give the moral of the fable. It is too obvious, I observed, to need explanation. The inquirer looked very indelicately.

THE ACCOMPLISHED YOUTH.

BENEVOLENCE AND HUMANITY.

Youth is the proper season of cultivating the benevolent and humane affections. As a great part of your happiness is to depend on the connections which you form with others, it is of high importance that you acquire betimes the temperate manners which will render such connections comfortable. Let a sense of justice be the foundation of all your social qualities. In your early intercourse with the world, and even youthful amusements, let no unfairness be admitted. Engrave on your mind that sacred rule, 'doing all things to others, according as you wish that they should do unto you.' For this, impress yourself with a deep sense of the final and natural equality of men. Whatever advantages of birth or fortune you possess, never display them with an ostentatious superiority. Leave the subordinations of rank, to regulate the intercourse of more advanced years. In the present it becomes you to act among your companions, as man with man. Remember how soon to you are the vicissitudes of the world; how often they, whom ignorant and contemptuous young men once looked down upon with scorn, have risen to be their superiors in a few years. Compassion is an emotion of which you ought never to be ashamed. Grace in youth is the tear of sympathy, and the heart melts at the tale of woe. Let not ease and negligence contract your affections, and wrap you up in selfish enjoyment. Accustom yourselves to think of the distresses of human life; of the solitary cottage, the dying parent, and the orphan. Never sport with pain and tears, in any of your amusements; never treat the meanest insect with wanton cruelty.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A CURIOUS INSTRUMENT.

A gentleman, just returned from a journey to London, was saluted by his children, eager, after the first salutations were over, to hear the news, and still more eager to see the contents of a small portmanteau, which were, one by one, carefully unfolded and displayed to view. After distributing amongst them a few small presents, the father took his seat again, saying, that he must confess he had brought from town, for his own use, something far more curious and valuable than any of the little gifts they had received.—It was, he said, too good to present to any of them; but he would, if they pleased, first give them a brief description of it, and then, perhaps, they might be allowed to inspect it.

The children were accordingly all attention, and the father thus proceeded: "This small instrument displays the most perfect ingenuity of construction, and exquisite nicety and beauty of workmanship; from its extreme delicacy it is so liable to injury, that a sort of light curtain, adorned with a beautiful fringe, is always provided, and so placed as to fall in a moment at the approach of the slightest danger. Its external appearance is always more or less beautiful; yet in this respect there is a great diversity in the different sorts:—but the internal contrivance is the same in all of them, and is so extremely curious, and its powers so truly astonishing, that no one who considers it can suppress his surprise and admiration. By a slight momentary movement, which is easily effected by the person it belongs to, you can ascertain with considerable accuracy the size, colour, shape, weight, and value, of any article whatever. A person possessed of one is thus saved from the necessity of asking a thousand questions, and trying a variety of troublesome experiments, which would otherwise be necessary; and such a slow and laborious process would, after all, not succeed half so well as a single application of this admirable instrument."

George.—"If they are such very useful things, I wonder that every body, that can at all afford it, does not have one."

Father.—"They are not so uncommon as you may suppose: I myself happen to know several individuals who are possessed of one or two of them."

Charles.—"How large is it, Father? could I hold it in my hand?"

Father.—"You might; but I should be very sorry to trust mine with you!"

George.—"You will be obliged to take very great care of it, then?"

Father.—"Indeed I must: I intend every night to enclose it within the small skreen I mentioned; and it must besides occasionally be washed in a certain colourless fluid kept for the purpose: but this is such a delicate operation, that persons, I find, are generally reluctant to perform it. But, notwithstanding the tenderness of this instrument, you will be surprised to hear that it may be darted to a great distance, without the least injury, and without any danger of losing it."

Charles.—"Indeed? and how high can you dart it?"

Father.—"I should be afraid of telling you to what a distance it will reach, lest you should think I am jesting with you."

George.—"Higher than this house, I suppose?"

Father.—"Much higher."

Charles.—"Then how do you get it again?"

Father.—"It is easily cast down by a gentle movement, that does it no injury."

George.—"But who can do this?"

Father.—"The person whose business it is to take care of it."

Charles.—"Well I cannot understand you at all; but do tell us, Father, what it is chiefly used for."

Father.—"Its uses are so various, that I know not which to specify. It has been found very serviceable in decyphering old manuscripts; and, indeed, has its use in modern prints. It will assist us greatly in acquiring all kinds of knowledge; and without it some of the most sublime parts of creation would have been matters of mere conjecture. It must be confessed, however, that very much depends on a proper application of it; being possessed by many persons who appear to have no adequate sense of its value, but who employ it only for the most low and common purposes, without ever thinking, apparently, of the noble uses for which it is designed, or of the exquisite gratifications it is capable of affording. It is, indeed, in order to excite in your minds some higher sense of its value, than you might otherwise have entertained, that I am giving you this previous description."

George.—"Well then, tell us something more about it."

Father.—"It is of a very penetrating quality, and can often discover secrets which could be detected by no other means. It must be owned, however, that it is equally prone to reveal them."

Charles.—"What can it speak then?"

Father.—"It is sometimes said to do so, especially when it happens to meet with one of its own species."

George.—"Of what colour are these instruments?"

Father.—"They vary considerably in this respect."

George.—"What colour is yours?"

Father.—"I believe of a darkish colour: but to confess the truth, I never saw it in my life."

Both.—"Never saw it in my life!"

Father.—"No, nor do I wish; but I have seen a representation of it, which is so exact that my curiosity is quite satisfied."

George.—"But why don't you look at the thing itself?"

Father.—"I should be in great danger of losing it if I did."

Charles.—"Then you could buy another."

Father.—"Nay, I believe I could not prevail upon any body to part with such a thing."

George.—"Then how did you get this one?"

Father.—"I am so fortunate as to be possessed of more than one; but how I got them, I really cannot recollect."

Charles.—"Not recollect! why you said you brought them from London to-night."

Father.—"So I did; I should be sorry if I had left them behind me."

Charles.—"Tell, Father, do tell us the name of the curious instrument."

Father.—"It is called—an EYE."

He that will not hearken to the warnings of Conscience, shall feel the woundings of Conscience.