

Their affection unto him begetteth in his breast a love of the public; the security of their happiness is the object of his care.

No murmurs against him arise in their heart; the machinations of his enemies endanger not his state.

His subjects are faithful and firm in his cause; they stand in his defence as a wall of brass; the army of his enemy flieth before them, as chaff before the wind.

Security and peace bless the dwellings of his people, and glory and strength encircle his throne for ever.

BOOK VI.

The Social Duties.

CHAP. I.—BENEVOLENCE.

WHEN thou considerest thy wants, when thou beholdest thy imperfections, acknowledge his goodness, O son of humanity! who honoured thee with reason, endued thee with speech, and placed thee in society to receive and confer reciprocal helps and mutual obligations.

Thy food, thy clothing, thy convenience of habitation, thy protection from the injuries, thy enjoyments of the comforts and pleasures of life: all these thou owest to the assistance of others, and couldst not enjoy but in the bands of society.

It is thy duty therefore to be a friend to mankind, as it is thy interest that man should be friendly to thee.