

FAMILY CIRCLE.

COMPLAINTS are the weapons of the weak.

HE knows not his own strength, who has not met adversity.

NATURE is a rag merchant, who works up every shred and odd and end into new creation.

INCULCATE habits of self-denial and contentment, and teach good doctrines of enlarged benevolence.

THE man, whatever be his fame, or fortune, or intelligence, who can treat lightly another's woe, deserves to be, aye, and is, and will be, despised by God and man.

BE frugal, not mean ; patient, not subtle ; active in business, not a slave to it. There are also four other habits which are essentially necessary to a happy management of temporal concerns ; these are punctuality, accuracy, steadiness and dispatch.

AN old writer says :—" Read not books alone, but men also, and amongst them chiefly thyself. If thou find anything questionable there, use the commentary of a severe friend, rather than the gloss of a sweet-lipped flatterer ; there is more profit in distasteful truth than in deceitful sweetness.

CONVERSATION with the world is enough to polish our outward behaviour ; but there must be a good deal of fine natural delicacy to form politeness of mind ; where this quality is not inherent, a person of penetrating observation, can readily see through the exterior tinsel. Genuine politeness must spring from the heart.

WHEN God speaks to us, and we choose rather to listen to the father of lies ; when instead of the beautitudes of the Gospel, we value and pursue only those forms of prosperity which it disdains and teaches us to dread ; when, instead of desiring that God's will may be done, we strive passionately to do our own—our instincts may be genuine, but they are perverted.

THE worst opinion gotten for doing well should delight us.

PERFECT politeness forbids us to display our talents or acquirements with assurance.

THE virtues of a man ought to be measured, not by his extraordinary exertions, but by his every day conduct.

THERE are several degrees of politeness. Some carry it to a very high and perfect point. It distinguishes itself in their movements, in their conversation, and even in their silence.

HARDLY has the flower of sentiment germinated within us before we seek in the companions of our youth sympathies which sieze upon our hearts, and, too often, estrange us from the love which we owe to God.

REPROVE not for slight matters, for such faults or defects as proceed from natural frailty, from inadvertency, from mistakes in matters of small consequences ; for it is hard to be just in such reproof, or so to temper it as not to exceed the measure of blame due to such faults.

POLITENESS is the art of reconciling agreeably what we owe to others and what we owe to ourselves ; for these duties have their bounds, which if politeness exceeds, it becomes flattery on the part of those who employ it, and pride on the part of those who receive it by making undue exactions.

WHAT makes it so difficult to do justice to others is that we are hardly sensible of merit unless it falls in with our own views and line of pursuits ; and where this is the case, it generally interferes with our own selfish interests and excites our jealousy. To be forward to praise others implies either great eminence of soul, that can afford to part with applause ; or great quickness of discernment, with confidence in our own judgment ; or great sincerity and love of truth, which overcomes all selfishness.