

Gibbon congratulates himself on the happy effect of his wit, and promises himself much pleasure in the few hours that he is about to spend in the Voltairian court, with Voltaire himself. But, alas! the philosopher did not, indeed, take seriously the pleasantry of Gibbon, which he had provoked by one of those caprices which were so common to him; but as the conduct of the Englishman had offended him, he was not willing to allow a full victory to his antagonist. He did not show himself during any part of the day, and did not even come to dinner. Gibbon, however, consoled himself about that.

When the time for the dinner was come, he ate enough for four persons, drank in like proportion, and appeared very jovial towards all the countiers and when the meat was finished, he took a leaf from his pocket-book, and wrote the following impious lines, which he sent to his host: "M. de Voltaire is like the god of the Roman Catholics—he allows himself to be eaten & drunk, but does not let himself be seen." He then took his travelling stick and returned to Geneva by the same conveyance which brought him to Ferney, and the same week he left Geneva for London. A few months afterwards he published his *History of the Helvetic Republic*, which sealed his literary reputation.

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The Accomplished Lady.

For the Calliopean.

CONCLUDED.

These ladies of modern refinement, as I said before, are perfect strangers to domestic economy, domestic enjoyment, and to all those delights and pleasures, which are always to be found in a well regulated domestic circle. Ask them to descend with you for a little from their refined elevation, to survey and enjoy these delights and pleasures, and they will tell you at once, that it is not at all compatible with the station in which they move, and that they would not for worlds be seen thus degrading themselves; and if you ever were so fortunate as to possess a share in their estimation, you will now be totally discarded, for you have given such a shock to their refinement as has rendered them incapable of any longer enduring your society. They have cantoned out to themselves a sphere in which they intend to move, and all who are not confined within these bounds must necessarily fall under their contempt. But why is it thus? are the ladies of the present age possessed of a higher sensibility and genuine refinement than they were centuries ago, that they should be thus affected by the mention of the kitchen and of manual labour? for then even princesses were taught all the mysteries of the distaff. No, but *Fashion* that tyrant mistress, into whose service they have entered has produced the change. Fashion, that enslaver of the human mind, has gained an unbounded influence over them, by which she keeps them constantly bowing before her shrine.

Mistress Fashion, upon whose banner is emblazoned the motto "as well out of the world as out of the fashion," has touched them with her magic wand and metamorphosed them into birds of Paradise, beings too ethereal for the every day matters of earth. All scientific and domestic pursuits having been excluded from their refined vocabulary of accomplishments, it is in vain to attempt conversation with them, for they will immediately ascend into the upper regions of modern accomplishments, and these are things wholly above your comprehension. But do these accomplishments so called, form any part of that noble, and at the same time, modest and humble bearing which ought to be the leading characteristic of every Lady? The wiser part of the community will answer, no. To a sensible and elevated mind, nothing can appear more ridiculous and contemptible than the airs which are sometimes assumed by young persons on leaving school, and in making their entry into the world of fashion. Far be it from us, however, to condemn music and other accomplishments; we have only been speaking of their abuse. We would say, in the language of another, "let these take their proper rank; they are pleasant, as interludes in the great drama of life's duties." If an actor in an inferior part should fancy himself the hero, and snuff the candles, or perform any trifling ser-

vice, as though it were an affair of importance, the beholders would consider it ludicrous; so to a reflecting mind must appear the manner of those who seem to think the singing of a song, or playing a piece of music, an occasion of the deepest interest."

Many, in consequence of the servility with which some bow at the shrine of fashion, would deprive woman of all title to intellectual capacity, and consign her wholly to the sphere of passion and affection. But such conclusions are certainly uncharitable and without foundation, inasmuch as many females have attained to eminence in science and literature. It is not, however, our present object to advocate woman's claim to the character of an intellectual being; still it must be acknowledged by all, that that kind of education which seems to regard the life of woman as consisting of one universal holiday, and that the only contest, in which she shall be best enabled to excel in the sports and games which are to be celebrated, is radically defective and merits reprobation.

Females have been taught by the noble minded and well educated of their own sex, as well as by the word of God, that their Maker has assigned them places in society for higher and holier purposes, than to sparkle for a few hours like the dew-drops in the morning sun-beam, and then vanish away as a thing of nought. They have been taught, that to be truly accomplished is to have the mind stored with useful knowledge, to be able to converse intelligently, as well as pleasingly, to be usefully employed in domestic life, or in acts of charity and benevolence. Such was the character of a Hannah Moore, and of innumerable other Females whose names will be mentioned with respect and veneration, even to the latest generation. Nor can those acquisitions and qualities, above mentioned, alone constitute the truly accomplished Lady. To these must be super-added, piety to God. This is the brightest gem that can eradicate the brow of female beauty; the foundation of all true excellence. Such is the accomplished Lady. Her great aim is to make others happy; so to make them happy as to win them over to a full perception of the loveliness of those Christian virtues, which her own life and conduct consistently show forth.

Place one of the butterflies of fashion beside that holy, self-denying Missionary, Ann Judson, and then say which is the accomplished Lady?

We repeat that piety is the greatest ornament of the Female character; without it all accomplishments will be like the gilding of a picture-frame, which for a time adds to its beauty, but by degrees becomes tarnished and, finally, only mars what would otherwise be really beautiful. Nothing, indeed, can compensate for the want of this "Pearl of great price." Though she descend into the dark recesses of nature and explore her hidden mysteries, or though she ascend Parnassus' rugged height and become familiar with the Muses, and bind the wreaths Parnassian laurels yield upon her brow, or though she soar from this our lower world, and become acquainted with the magic of the starry heavens; if her life is not one of piety she cannot be called, strictly speaking, an accomplished Lady. ADELINE.

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The First Steamboat.

In 1806, Mr. Fulton returned to America, having procured a steam engine, which was constructed according to his directions, by Messrs. Watt and Bolton, of England. He immediately commenced the building of his first steamboat at New York. In the spring of 1807, she was launched from the shipyard of Mr. Charles Brown; the engine from England was put on board, and, in August, she moved, by the aid of her machinery, from her birth-place to the Jersey shore,

Great interest had been excited in the public mind in relation to the new experiment, and the wharves were crowded with spectators, assembled to witness the first trial. Ridicule and jeers were freely poured forth upon the boat and its projectors, until, at length, as she moved from the wharf, and increased her speed, the silence of astonishment which, at first enthralled the immense assemblage, was broken by one universal shout of acclamation and applause. The triumph of genius was complete, and the