

the better will he understand the complicated machinery of the human mind, and the more readily will he admit that the fallen nature of man has a tendency to evil, and without some ethereal spark of heavenly fire to elevate the mind to its true dignity, and point it towards its true excellence, mankind would sink lower and lower in degradation and misery. A teacher should know himself, in order that he may guard against his own weakness, and curb those passions which have naturally a tendency to excite and wrangle his bosom; and let him ever bear in mind, that for man to be master of himself, to have every passion subservient to reason, is his highest strength and dignity; for, as internal war in any kingdom weakens the strength of that kingdom, so, when each raving passion of the human mind seeks for predominance, the powers and faculties of the soul are distracted, weakened and paralyzed, and whatever is undertaken or transacted in this state of mental confusion, cannot be done in a manner befitting the proper dignity of man. But there are times when the mind feels master of itself, when every faculty of the soul is properly braced; then it is that it goes forth in intellectual brightness, grappling with every opposing obstacle, conquering still victorious—and when? Why, 'tis when Reason sits majestic on her throne, and beams upon the placid brow of conquered passion, when every nerve vibrates in unison, and the native genius of the soul rising from the dull turmoil to a brighter atmosphere, shakes the dust from his plumes, and with eagle eye scans the bright realms of science, or with gold gill wing flies o'er the fairy world of Fancy's bright domain,—then truth flashes on the mind, bright as electric fire, and the venturous soul drinks of the streams of knowledge; or objects dance in pleasing loveliness before the eye of fancy, and waken bright ideas in the soul. Yes! these are times when the

mind, uplifted to its proper elevation, when conscious of doing right, can smile over the false accusations of men, and feel as happy amidst unjust censure, as when crowned with the laurels of applause. And every teacher who would wish to aim at true nobility, should endeavor to cultivate such a frame of mind as this. Not that I would have a teacher be indifferent to the opinions of his employers; for as soon as a teacher begins to become unpopular, he would do well to look to himself, for, in all probability, there is something wrong, whether he perceives it or not. A teacher should guard against ostentation and vain conceit, and should be more anxious to diffuse knowledge throughout the world, than to display himself, or his qualifications, be he ever so accomplished, or to astonish and bewilder the ignorant with high sounding words of vanity. To see a teacher strut around, the walking image of affectation and conceit, with handkerchief in hand, snuffing and flourishing as he goes, in all the majesty of pedantic foolery, raising on high the standard of his own praise, and calling to the world, "Behold, and wonder!" looking down from that fancied height, to which he has been raised by the breath of his own vanity, saying to his compeers, "Stand aside, you are naught; behold I come! the Alpha and Omega of every great concern," is, in my opinion, most ridiculous and despicable, and does more to sink teachers in the eyes of a reasonable and enlightened community, than aught beside.

True, all this gaudy show may do very well for a time, to impose on the minds of the ignorant, and shed a dazzling glitter of delight on little souls; but the mind that knows itself and human nature, cannot but penetrate the thin covering of airy vanity, and looking beyond is almost led to weep over the frailties of fallen man. Does it become the earth-born sons of clay, whatever their natural talents or attainments