

suppositions and calculations coincide, he deduced the gravitation of the heavenly bodies, and published to an admiring world the system of the universe. Galileo observed the vibrations of a lamp suspended from the ceiling of a church of Pisa, and from this he reasoned, until the principle of the pendulum, and its application as a measurer of time, was discovered. We might go on multiplying facts almost indefinitely, but our proposition is self evident, namely, that all the great discoveries of the present day had their origin in the close observance of common incidents, in the strong and daring and persevering advances made from those known facts, to others infinitely higher, and which, to man, had remained up to that time altogether unknown. From this, we of the present day should learn, first, that much in every department of knowledge may yet remain to be found out, for the discoveries of former times seemed to their generation as unlikely as any which may yet remain for the daring mind. Secondly, that we ought therefore to give ourselves the invaluable habit of reflecting on passing incidents, and not only gladly receive stores of knowledge gathered by others for our use, but learn to think, reason, and judge for ourselves. Lastly, that the pursuit of knowledge under the difficulties attending the want of a master, should occasion increased zeal, but not at all frighten the lover of learning, for all great discoverers, all those whose names are handed from generation to generation as belonging to beings almost deserving of worship, are persons who have been *self taught*; none having preceded them in their bold investigations.

If the want of a director be no reason why we should not learn wisdom, most assuredly humble station in life should not be. We know that those who move in the higher circles of artificial life have many opportunities of improving the mind, they have leisure for study, they have means whereby they may procure teachers, books, and instruments; they have, or may have, learned companions, they may breathe an atmosphere in which they inhale as common air, many things which would be fragrance to the man of humble station: but they also have pleasures and luxuries to call them from study, and in fact, that study which becomes the almost supreme pleasure to the humble scho-