

many christians. "My bible tells," said he, "when my father and mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." The man could go no farther, for tears choked his utterance, and they both wept together. They had in their pockets, tickets, as rewards for their good conduct, from the school to which they belonged, and thankfulness and humility were visible in all their deportment.

At night these two orphans, bending their knees by the side of their bed, committed themselves to the care of their heavenly Father, to him whose ears are open to the prayers of the poor and destitute; and to him who has said, "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." The next morning, these refreshed little wanderers arose early, dressed themselves for their journey, and set out for the town of Liverpool; and may he who hears the ravens when they cry, hear and answer their petitions, guide them through time, and bless them in eternity.—*English Paper.*

THE MANNER OF OBLIGING.

There is not any benefit so glorious in itself, but it may be exceedingly sweetened, and improved by the manner of conferring it. The virtue, I know, rests in the intent; the profit, in the judicious application of the matter; but the beauty and ornament of an obligation lies in the manner of conferring it, and it is then perfect, when the dignity of the office is accompanied with all the charms and delicacies of humanity, goodness and address; and with despatch too, for he that puts a man off from time to time, was never right at heart.

In the first place, whatsoever we give, let us do it frankly. A kind benefactor makes a man happy as soon as he can, and as much as he can.—There should be, no delay in a benefit but the modesty of the receiver. If we cannot foresee the request, let us however immediately grant it, and by no means suffer the repeating of it. It is so grievous a thing to say I beg; the very word puts a man out of countenance; and it is a double kindness, to do the thing, and save an honest man the confusion of a blush. It is a court humor to keep people upon the tenter; their injuries are quick and sudden, but their benefits are slow.—Great ministers rack men with attendance, and account it an ostentation of their power to hold their suits in hand, and to have many witnesses of their interest. A benefit should be made acceptable by all possible means, even to the end that the receiver who is never to forget it, may bear it in mind with satisfaction. There must be no mixture of sourness, severity, contumely, or reproach, with our obligations, nay, in case there should be any occasion for so much as an admonition, let it be deferred to another time. We are a great deal apter, to remember injuries than

benefits; and 'tis enough to forgive an obligation, that has the nature of an offence.

The manner of saying or of doing any thing goes a great way in the value of the thing. It was well said to him that called a good office that was done harshly and with an ill will, a stony piece of bread; it is necessary for him that is hungry to receive, but it almost chokes the man in the going down. There must be no pride, arrogance of looks, or tremor of words, in the bestowing of benefits; no insolence of behaviour, but a modesty of mind, and a diligent care to catch at occasions and prevent necessities. A pause, an unkind tone, word, look or action, destroys the grace of a courtesy.

We ought always to accompany good deeds with good works, and (say for the purpose) "why should you make such a matter of this? Why did you not come to me sooner? Why would you make use of any body else? I take it ill that you should bring me a recommendation; pray let there be no more of this: but when you have occasion hereafter, come to me on your own account."—"That's the glorious bounty, when the receiver can say to himself, "What a blessed day has this been to me! never was anything done so generously, so tenderly, with so good a grace. What is it I would not do to serve this man! A thousand times as much another way, could not have given me this satisfaction." In such a case let the benefits be ever so considerable, the manner of conferring it is the noblest part. Where there is harshness of language, countenance, or behaviour, a man had better be without it. A flat denial is infinitely before a vexatious delay, as a quick death is a mercy compared with a lingering torment. But to be put to waiting and intercessions, after a promise is past, is cruelty intolerable. 'Tis troublesome to stay long for a benefit, let it be never so great; and he that holds me needlessly in pain loses two precious things—time, and the proof of friendship.

There was a good man that had a friend, who was both poor and sick, and ashamed to own his condition; he privately conveyed a bag of money under his pillow, that he might seem rather to find than receive it. Many a man stands in need of help that has not got a face to confess it. If the discovery may give offence, let it lay concealed. He that gives to be seen, will never relieve a man in the dark. It would be so tedious to run through all the niceties that may occur on this subject. But, in two words, he must be a wise, a friendly, and a well bred man, that perfectly acquits himself in the art and duty of obliging; for all his actions must be squared according to the measures of civility, good nature and discretion.

ERROR.—A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying, in other words, that he is wiser to-day than he was yesterday.

THE DEAF POSTILION.

In the month of January 1804, Joey Duddle, a well-known postilion on the north road, caught a cold through sleeping without his nightcap; deafness was, eventually, the consequence; and, as it will presently appear, a young fortune-hunter lost twenty thousand pounds and a handsome wife, through Joey Duddle's indiscretion, in omitting, on one fatal occasion, to wear his six-penny woolen nightcap.

Joey did not discontinue driving after his misfortune; his eyes and his spurs were, generally speaking, of more utility in his monotonous avocation than his ears. His stage was, invariably, nine miles up the road, or a long fifteen down towards Gretna; and he had repeated his two rides so often that he could have gone over the ground blindfold. People in chaises are rarely given to talking with their postilions. Joey knew, by experience, what were the two or three important questions in posting, and the usual times and places when and where they were asked; and he was always prepared with the proper answers. At those parts of the road where objects of interest to strangers occurred, Joey faced about on his saddle, and if he perceived the eyes of his passengers fixed upon him, their lips in motion, and their fingers pointing towards a gentleman's seat, a fertile valley, a beautiful stream, or a fine wood, he naturally enough presumed that they were in the act of enquiring what the seat, the valley, the stream, or the wood, was called; and he replied according to the fact. The noise of the wheels was a very good excuse for such trifling blunders as Joey occasionally made; and whenever he found himself progressing towards a dilemma, he very dexterously contrived, by means of a sly poke with his spur, to make his hand-horse evidently require the whole of his attention. At the journey's end, when the gentleman he had driven produced a purse, Joey, without looking at his lips, knew that he was asking a question to which it was his duty to reply, 'Nineteen and sixpence,' or 'Two-and-twenty shillings,' according as the job had been the 'short up' or the 'long down.' If any more questions were asked, Joey suddenly recollected something that demanded his immediate attention, begged pardon, promised to be back in a moment, and disappeared, never to return. The natural expression of his features indicated a remarkably taciturn disposition: almost every one with whom he came in contact, was deterred, by his physiognomy, from asking him any, but necessary questions, and as he was experienced enough to answer, or cunning enough to evade these, when he thought fit, but few travellers ever discovered that Joey Duddle was deaf. So blind is man in some cases, even to his bodily defects, that Joey, judging from his general success in giving correct replies to the queries propounded to him al-