

to us. When morning came, all was calm, but a dismal smoke filled the air, and the smell seemed worse than ever. We were now cooled enough, and shivered as if in an ague fit; so we removed from the water, and went to a burning log, where we warmed ourselves. What was to become of us I did not know. My wife hugged the child to her breast, and wept bitterly; but God had preserved us through the worst of the danger, and the flames had gone past, so I thought it would be both ungrateful to Him, and unmanly to despair now. Hunger once more pressed upon us, but this was easily remedied. Several deer were still standing in the water, up to the head, and I shot one of them. Some of its flesh was soon roasted; and after eating it, we felt wonderfully strengthened. By this time the blaze of the fire was beyond our sight, although the ground was still burning in many places, and it was dangerous to go among the burnt trees. After resting a while and trimming ourselves, we prepared to commence our march. Taking up the child, I led the way over the hot ground and rocks; and after two weary days and nights, during which we shifted in the best manner we could, we at last reached the "hard woods," which had been free of the fire. Soon after, we came to a house, where we were kindly treated for a while."

## INTELLECT.

If mankind, generally, could realize the worth of intellect, and justly appreciate the good that attends its exercise and development, how much happier would be their condition. It is a notable and lamentable fact, that this most valuable gift to man, is held, by the mass of its possessors, in a comparatively low estimation.

The obvious reason is, they never were acquainted with its incomparable worth. When young, they were not taught to prize the fruits of intellectual culture, as a matter of paramount importance, and its utter neglect has been the consequence. And as these persons grow up in life, having never been accustomed to mental exercise and having never tasted its sweets, they deem it a matter totally devoid of interest, if not of utility; and befitting none save those who make it their sole profession. But this is a pernicious error. For what purpose was intellect given us, if not to be exercised?—And

What is man,  
If his chief good, and market of his time,  
Be but to sleep, and feed? a beast, no more.  
Sure he that made us with such large discourse,  
Looking before, and after, gave us not  
That capability and godlike reason  
To rust out unused. [Hamlet.]

True, it is not to be expected that every man's employment can be solely intellectual; this, of course, would be altogether impracticable; but this affords no reason why he should not devote a due portion of his time to intellectual pursuits. Man's faculties are diversified, each has its proper functions, and

if they do not perform their several parts, the individual is the sufferer. It is no reason why the mechanic should not partake of the product of the soil, because he does not cultivate it. Such reasoning would be extravagantly silly—and it is equally so, to say, that, if we cannot be masters of intellect, we should not meddle with it at all. And yet how many there are, who, in their bestial ignorance, decay mental improvement, as improper for the manual laborer. Say they, "It diverts his attention from his business; every one to his trade; let lawyers, ministers and doctors do their studying, that's their peculiar province." To be sure, none but the ignorant and selfish, utter such sentiments, but the world is full of such characters, and they should be taught better views of human life.

I cannot subscribe to the poet's notion, "That a little learning is a dangerous thing;" a smattering of it even, is better than none at all, provided it is mixed with a portion of that precious virtue, called modesty; and if a person learns a very little, and learns it aright, modesty will naturally accompany it. But if an individual skims superficially over the low surface of every thing, in matters of education, for mere show, ("thou art the man," says the reader;) and aims at nothing more than to be a mere literary puppet, why, he had better "taste not, handle not."

It is the business of the leaders of the intellectual world, to prepare the food, for subordinate minds, and not after they have prepared it, devour it all themselves. If the manual laborer has not time nor ability to till the intellectual soil, I see no reason why he should not, if he is so disposed, (and he should be so disposed) partake of what it yields. It is what is adapted to his mind, and what his mind needs as a conservation of its health. But I will merge from my riddle, and speak in plain terms. What I mean by partaking of the products of the intellectual soil, is reading; because we cannot write books, that is no reason why we should not read them. Every laborer should cultivate a taste for reading. He will thereby enlarge his sphere of usefulness, and add to his pleasure in a tenfold degree. He should, after the labor of the day is closed, instead of repairing to the tavern, or some other place of vulgar resort, or of walking the streets, grinding out shoe leather, and exhaling four-pence-half-pennies, in clouds of tobacco smoke, and prating double distilled nonsense, take a book, on some weighty subject, and commune with mind, immortal mind! He will thus learn what it is to be an intellectual being, and bless his Creator for thus constituting him. Parents should look well to this thing; and if they do not design, for their children, a scholastic profession, see that they have some impressions of their intellectuality; they should cultivate in them, a love of letters; they should put books into their hands,

books, in which are blended both amusement and instruction, and thus by care, contract in them, studious habits. And when they attain to maturer years, they will need no stimulants to mental exercise.

*PLEASANT AND USEFUL.*—Some people are in the habit of thinking that nothing can be pleasant, that is of use. This is a very mistaken idea, for to a rightly cultivated mind, the pleasure arising from any object, would bear some proportion to the usefulness of that object. In fine, we should strive to make every thing we engage in, however trivial, whether for relaxation or for the diversion of disagreeable feeling, as beneficial to ourselves as possible. This principle should be acted upon in all our arrangements. If, for instance, trees are to be planted at the road-side to give beauty to the prospect, and shade to the traveller, those trees might be of great use if they were properly chosen. In some places in Europe, thousands of poor people are supported by the culture of silk, the worms being fed from public trees. Now, if our roads were shaded by mulberry trees, the traveller would receive all the benefits that could be derived from trees of any sort, and the condition of hundreds of poor people would be rendered comfortable. By a little attention to this principle, of rendering every thing as useful as possible, our happiness here would be greatly increased. A gentleman who died at Amsterdam a few years since, struck with the correctness of this principle, bequeathed two thousand florins to a benevolent society, on condition, that two fruit trees of full growth, should be planted over his grave, the fruit to be publicly sold by auction every year, in order to prove, that even the receptacles of the dead may be rendered a benefit to the living.—Lyceum.

COMMUNICATED.—Baptist Association.—The Anniversary of this body took place, pursuant to notice, in the course of the last week. Very interesting services preceded the business of the Association on the previous Saturday and Sunday. Sermons were preached also with the usual religious exercises on Monday morning and evening, and on Tuesday evening the 27th and 28th ults, a most cheering spirit of brotherly love and gratitude to God, for his mercies, appeared to pervade the whole. The congregations were large, and the services impressive and solemn.

Besides the usual routine of business, the condition and prospects of the Horton Academy engaged particular attention, and a plan was devised and adopted by the Association to pay off, if possible, the present debt, within a year.

The Association also felt the importance of commencing a weekly paper, combining religious with other useful information, in lieu of the present magazine, and appointed a committee to carry this measure into effect; the magazine will of course, be continued at any events until the end of the year.

Intelligence of the highest interest was received from many of the churches, to which large additions have been made in the course of the past year.—NS.

Seamen's Articles for sale  
at this Office.