

we would dismiss them with better reports, and not suffer them to go away empty, or laden with dangerous intelligence. How happy is it, that every hour should convey up not only the message, but the fruits of good, and stay with the Ancient of Days to speak for us before his glorious throne.'

#### CUSTOM OF THE ARYSSINIANS.

In the Galla districts, except those converted to the Mahomedan or the Christian religion, the inhabitants, on the appearance of the small pox, burn their villages, and retire to a place as far off as their districts will allow. As the diseased are burnt with their homes—parents, and the dearest relations, alike fall a sacrifice to this barbarous practice. Horrid as it may appear, the Galla think it a very prudent mode of proceeding, and reproach the Christians for not doing the same, as they say numbers of their brethren are thus preserved by the sacrifice of a few.

#### SIMPLICITY.

The more I see of the world the more I am satisfied that simplicity is inseparably the companion of true greatness. I never yet knew a truly great man—a man who overtopped his fellow men, who did not possess a certain playful, almost infantile simplicity. True greatness never struts on stilts, or plays the king upon the stage. Conscious of its elevation, and knowing in what that elevation consists, it is happy to act its part like common men, in the common amusements and business of mankind. It is not afraid of being undervalued for its humility.

#### EQUALITY.

After all that can be said about the advantage one man has over another, there is still a wonderful equality in human fortunes. If the rich have wealth—if the heiress has booty for her dower, the pennyless have beauty for theirs—if one man has cash, the other has credit—if one boasts of his income, the other can of his influence. No one is so miserable but that his neighbour wants something he possesses; and no one so mighty, but he wants another's aid. There is no fortune so good, but it may be reversed—and none so bad but it may be better. The sun that rises in clouds may set in splendor; and that which rises in splendor may set in gloom.

#### FAME.

I shall be glad of any fame I can get, observes an old writer, and not repine at any. I miss, and as for vanity, I have enough to keep from hanging myself, or even wishing those hanged who would take it away. I expect no favour on account of my youth, business, want of health, or any such idle excuses. A man that can expect but sixty years, may be ashamed to employ thirty in measuring syllables, and bringing sense and rhyme together. We spend our youth in pursuit of riches or fame, in hopes to enjoy them when we are old—and when we are old we find it is too late to enjoy any thing.

#### SLEEP.

Sleep has often been mentioned as the image of death:—'So like it,' says Sir Thomas Brown, 'that I dare not trust it without my prayers.' Their resemblance is indeed striking and apparent—they both, when they seize the body, leave the soul at liberty,—and wise is he that remembers of both, that they can be made safe and happy only by virtue.

#### GREAT MEN.

A great man mostly disappoints those who visit him. They are on the look out for his thundering and lightning, and he speaks about common things much like other people—nay, sometimes he may even be seen rughing. He proportions his exertions to his excitements—having been accustomed to converse with deep and lofty thoughts, it is not to be expected that he will flare or sparkle in ordinary chat. One sees no bubbles glittering at the bottom of the Atlantic.

It is the most excellent rule to avoid gross familiarity even where the connexion is most intimate. The human heart is so constituted as to love respect. It would indeed be unnatural in very intimate friends to behave to each other with stiffness—but there is a delicacy of manner, and a flattering deference which tends to preserve that degree of esteem which is necessary to support affection, and which is lost in contempt when a too great familiarity is allowed. An habitual politeness of manners will prevent even indifference from degenerating to hatred. It will refine, exalt, and perpetuate affection.