

of an universal object. The error is, to have been led away, by the splendour of a conception, far greater than it was able to realise. It is this ambition, to plan beyond the ability to execute, which has involved in failure and misdirection, so many of the efforts of philanthropy. And they who have so precipitately counted on any general result, that would be at all sensible, from the proceedings of any one Society however magnificent in its scale, and however princely the offerings that were rendered to it have evinced themselves well entitled to the characters of *VISIONAIRES*."

It appears that the mode of generalising ideas is the ruling fashion of the day and that without waiting for the sanction and the lessons of experience; a dazzling scheme is no sooner conceived than it must be tried on an extensive scale. We have more than one example of this in this Country. Our philanthropists and encouragers of paltry instruction to which they give, very improperly the general name of Education, have of late found the means of raising by subscription the immense sum of £150 a £200 Currency. Immediately we have seen the gigantic prospect of erecting schools throughout the whole Province with means not even sufficient to make a fair trial in miniature in the very place wherein these means have been raised. Not discouraged by the ill success of former attempts they persist in taking the cow by the wrong horn and must at last not only throw some ridicule on schemes of that nature but even tend to their total discredit. Had the money spent on these attempts of forcing a gift on people who do not appear as yet to appreciate its value, been bestowed on schools of industry, the earnings of such schools would in a short time have most probably covered the expences, and they would maintain themselves by their own resources. We have a striking example of this in the new Lanark in Scotland, wherein stone we find the education of children of the labouring class go hand in hand with instruction. Next to this establishment which reflects an immortal honour on its founder Mr. Robert Owen, we may offer as models those of the Herrenhutens or Moravian brothers, no less distinguished by the regularity of their morals than by their industry.

The same remarks are no less applicable to our measures for the encouragement of and the improvements in agriculture. The sums already thrown away on that object and which may be said not much better than lost, by their diminutive repartition, might have been much more efficiently employed in establishing experimental farms, which would now support themselves and point out to the meanest perceptions the advantages resulting from a better management and thereby excite the exertions of agricultural industry, its reward being as evident as certain.

Lastly, whatever claims there might have been on our praises and