

4 At no great distance from him', the grave is opened to receive the rich and proud man'. For', as it is said with emphasis in the parable', "the rich man also died', and was buried'." He also died'. His riches prevented not his sharing the same fate with the poor man'; perhaps', through luxury', they accelerated his doom'. Then', indeed', "the mourners go about the street';" and', while', in all the pomp and magnificence of wo', his funeral is preparing', his heirs', impatient to examine his will', are looking on one another with jealous eyes', and already beginning to dispute about the division of his substance'.

5 One day', we see carried along', the coffin of the smiling infant'; the flower just nipped as it began to blossom in the parent's view'; and the next day', we behold the young man', or young woman', of blooming form and promising hopes', laid in an untimely grave'. While the funeral is attended by a numerous' unconcerned company', who are discoursing to one another about the news of the day', or the ordinary affairs of life', let our thoughts rather follow to the house of mourning', and represent to themselves what is passing there'.

6 There we should see a disconsolate family', sitting in silent grief', thinking of the sad breach that is made in their little society'; and with tears in their eyes', looking to the chamber that is now left vacant', and to every memorial that presents itself of their departed friend'. By such attention to the woes of others', the selfish hardness of our hearts will be gradually softened', and melted down into humanity'.

7 Another day', we follow to the grave', one who', in old age', and after a long career of life', has' in full maturity' sunk at last into rest'. As we are going along to the mansion of the dead', it is natural for us to think', and to discourse', of all the changes which such a person has seen during the course of his life'. He has passed', it is likely', through varieties of fortune'. He has experienced prosperity', and adversity'. He has seen families' and kindreds' rise and fall'. He has seen peace' and war' succeeding in their turns'; the face of his country undergoing many alterations'; and the very city in which he dwelt', rising', in a manner', new around him'.

8 After all he has beheld', his eyes are now closed for ever'. He was becoming a stranger in the midst of a new succession of men'. A race who knew him not' had arisen to fill the earth'. —Thus passes the world away'. Throughout all ranks' and conditions', "one generation passeth', and another generation cometh';" and this great inn is by turns evacuated and replenished', by troops of succeeding pilgrims'.

9 O vain' and inconstant world! O fleeting' and transient