

revision of all words and phrases quoted by them very necessary for accuracy and elegance.

The Dedication is not directed to a royal personage this time, but to the eminent physician, Dr. Robert Mead. Ainsworth calls him the *Mæcenas* of the period, the universal patron of every project, literary and scientific. "*Ad te tanquam ad commune aliquod perfugium et unum hodie Mæcenatem, cujus ope et favore adjuventur et protegantur, undique se conferant.*" He enumerates some of the important books which had been already dedicated to Mead, and the publication of which in England he had promoted—the whole works of Bacon, Chishull's *Asiatic Inscriptions*, and Thuanus. Like *Asclepiades*, the friend and medical adviser of Cicero, Mead, Ainsworth says, was a devotee of both *Apollon*, the literary and oratorical, and the medical. He therefore desires to put his *Thesaurus* under his guardianship. There is no accession to the good fortune of his patron that he can implore. Riches? he has them already, conferred on him by the benign *Hygieia*. The favour of nobles or of the august King? He has it now. Glory and a deathless name? These are secured to him by

the gratitude of the world. All he can do is simply to pray God that he may be preserved to his fellow-men in life and health, so that he may continue to enjoy his felicity as long as possible. Mead had a European reputation as a scientific medical man, and was the author of many scientific works, some of them written in a fine Latin style. The great physician Boerhaave was a life-long friend and correspondent of his. His house, we are told, was the noble receptacle at once of genius and talent, and of every thing beautiful, precious and rare. His curiosities, whether books or coins or pictures, were laid open to the public, and the enterprising student and experienced antiquary alike found amusement and a courteous reception. After his death his collection of books, pictures and coins sold for over £16,000. As for Ainsworth, he died in 1743, æt 83, and was buried at Poplar, near London. The following is part of the inscription on his memorial stone, prepared by himself, "*Rob. Ainsworth, et Uxor ejus, admodum senes, dormituri vestem detritam hic exuerunt; novam primo manè surgentes induturi. Dum fas, mortalis, sapias et respice finem.*"

DR. NUSSBAUM, in detailing his examination of children at different hours of a long school day, says that a child who will easily take in a lesson at the first hour, and make excellent answers while his powers are fresh, is stupefied at the eighth hour, and finds it hard to apprehend what he could easily have understood earlier. He is especially strong in his condemnation of the

system of home lessons. "It is an error to suppose," he adds, "that an ordinary child really acquires much more knowledge in eight hours than in four hours." When the powers, are fresh, active, and unrestrained, the process of learning goes on successfully; but, when they are worn, limp, and overtaxed, next to nothing can be satisfactorily acquired and assimilated by the learner.