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REVIEW OF POLLOK'S "COURSE OF TIME."

Chapter 2.

"The world at dawn and mid-day."

In our first chapter we examined the outline of the Poem under consideration ; and gave a few extracts from its first book. We now proceed in our notice of the remaining books, giving the narrative in brief, and selecting beautiful specimens of our author's power, as we pass along. Pollok seems a writer of not well balanced powers ; in many passages his poem is drawling, monotonous, and vulgarly drivelling—while in others, and those thickly interspersed, and much broken by common places, he converses in that eloquent hidden language of nature, which none but her favorites ever attained to. Like pearls set clumsily, and in a coarse material, though the gems have all the brilliancy which characterise such productions, yet they lose much of their due effect by their repulsive accompaniments. Let our pleasing task be, to select such of those valuable specimens as may suit our taste and space, connecting them with language more brief if not better, than that of the poet's inferior passages.

The ancient Bard of Earth, who is represented as sitting in heaven, attended by three celestial auditors, commences his song of Man's History ; and addressing the lately arrived visitor, thus beautifully reminds him of the distant appearance of his own native planet.

"Perhaps
Thou noticed on thy way a little orb,
Attended by one moon, her lamp by night,
With her fair sisterhood of planets seven,
Revolving round their central sun ; she third
In place, in magnitude the fourth."

What a perfect picture those few placid touches present to the imagination ! They convey us beyond "this dim diurnal sphere," and poising us in space, or resting us on one of the distant stars, display the solar system to our enraptured gaze. The bard continues, and expresses sentiments, in sweet unison with the earthly feelings which naturally blend with our longings after heaven. He says that the beatified sons of Adam, still visit their