



THE STUDY, NO 6, TRINITY SQUARE.

ments—a corkscrew, button-hook, gimlet, turn-screw, tweezers, pincers, fleam or lancet, etc. Don Quixote, when a copy was secured, of course became a favorite, especially for the sake of the utterances of his garrulous companion. Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* and even Robinson Crusoe came to be especially valued for the sake of the many aphorisms contained therein. Solomon's Book of Proverbs was easily accessible and became more and more appreciated, as also were the many sententious conclusions to be observed in Ecclesiastes, the Psalms and other books of the Bible. Even the apocryphal books began to be examined for the sake of the sayings of the wise son of Sirach. In point of fact, the whole Bible had assumed more or less of a sententious appearance since the days of the famous French printer, Robert Stephens, to whom is due, since 1556, the modern familiar divisions of chapter and verse. From every line of Scripture, whether embracing an aphorism or not,

the commentator, Matthew Henry, could draw pious conclusions. To him, happily, the familiar words of the psalm were a reality:

"The judgments of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether."

"More to be desired are they than gold, yea than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey and the honey comb."

"Moreover, by them is thy servant taught, and in keeping of them there is great reward."

"But it was from the Proverbs of Solomon that Matthew Henry's deductions always seemed especially inviting and instructive, rendering the contemplation of the whole character of Solomon and his comprehensive grasp of all things most interesting. It was not only in the area of Palestine but throughout all the regions of the east that Solomon's fame as an author of sententious wisdom prevailed in the olden time as well as in the present day. Solomon's wisdom, we are told (I. Kings iv. 30), excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.