

## Genius in the Bud.

(See opposite page.)

A splendid bud, truly! Whether the blossom will reveal a dahlia, a sun-flower, or a peony, it certainly gives promise of a fair development—in size at least.

This plate was sent to us from New York, and whether it be intended as a humorous satire upon genius in general, or, seriously, to show “from what small beginnings great actions may flow,” we know not. At any rate, it is a text upon genius, which we may improve with a few brief remarks. To look at the young gentleman represented, and at his work upon the tablet, we would scarcely give him much credit for genius as a limner, for a fellow of his size should have a better idea of the human form than the diagram exhibited; it seems, therefore, quite clear to us, that if he be a genius, the bud will require some time to develop itself. Great mistakes have prevailed upon the subject of genius. It has been supposed that this gift has done every thing great in art. Now without at all intending to discourage boys who have, as it is called, a genius for drawing, painting, mechanics, &c. &c., we may yet assure them that genius without assiduity and perseverance, will accomplish little deserving the praise or excellence. Many of the greatest men the world has produced, were no geniuses in the proper acceptance of the term. Sir Joshua Reynolds labored hard to convince the students of the Royal Academy, of the folly of depending upon the mere force of genius. Close, plodding, and long-continued attention to any pursuit, is almost sure to eventuate in success. Where a love of art and an aptness for some particular branch of it are found, the difficulties will appear less great; but

few, if any, ever surmounted them without much toil. “The hand of the diligent maketh rich.” “Seest thou a man diligent in his business—that man shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.” Many reputed geniuses have been wretchedly poor and miserable—the result of sloth and intermitted application. We commend you Mrs. Hoffland’s little book, “The Son of a Genius,” as the best commentary we know upon this topic.

## Military Chivalry.

“I heard once,” said Father Phil, “a pretty little bit of an anecdote about the way the French behaved to one of our Irish regiments on a retreat in Spain. They were going through a river—they were—and the French, taking advantage of their helpless condition, were peppering away at them hard and fast, until some women ran down, poor creatures, to the shore, and the stream was so deep in the middle that they could scarcely ford it; so some dragoons, who were galloping as fast as they could out of the fire, pulled up on seeing the condition of the womankind, and each horseman took up a woman behind him, though it diminished his own power of flying from the danger. The moment the French saw this act of manly courage, they ceased firing, and gave a cheer for the dragoons; and as long as the women were within gun-shot, not a trigger was pulled in the French line, but volleys of cheers, instead of ball cartridges, were sent after the brigade, till all the women were over.”

Butter was not known to the Greeks; they have no word which gives an idea of it.