

turies the glory of the forest ; if cast upon a rock, or buried in the sand, will decay, and perish, without exhibiting any appearances of vegetative power. Talents, it is probable, are almost equally diffused in every age, and through every rank of life : but the means of cultivation vary, and opportunities are often wanting to call them forth.

Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear ;
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness in the desert air.

It was the happiness of this age and country, that the great man whose removal we now lament, was born in a class of society, and under a political constitution, which afforded genius the fairest scope. Had his lot been cast under a despotic government, perhaps the love of liberty had never animated his breast, and his splendid talents might have been employed in riveting the galling chain of tyranny and oppression. Or, if no external circumstance could have suppressed this generous and sacred