

in his controversial correspondence with statesmen and others on great questions of the day, he wielded a pen which could prove itself sufficiently trenchant whenever there was a necessity. On the perusal of these productions, the reader familiar with Plutarch will be reminded not unfrequently of the policy of the elder Cato, who, we are told, "in engagements would strike boldly, without flinching; stand firm to his ground; fix a bold countenance upon his enemies, and with a harsh, threatening voice accost them; justly thinking himself, and telling others, that such a rugged kind of behaviour sometimes terrifies the enemy more than the sword itself." Doubtless on other occasions also, the same old Roman character will again and again have been recalled; "for with reason," the world-famous biographer declares, "everybody admired Cato, when they saw others sink under labours, and grow effeminate by pleasures, and yet beheld him unconquered by either; and that not only when he was young and desirous of honor, but also when old and grey-headed, after a consulship and triumph; like some famous victor in the games, persevering in his exercise and maintaining his character to the very last."—*Clough's Plutarch*, vol. ii. pp. 317, 321.

As a specimen in this connexion, we give an extract from a communication to the London *Times*, in 1841, which appended to it an editorial commendatory of its contents. Mr. Hawes and Mr. Joseph Hume had attempted, in their places in the House of Commons, to neutralize his influence by some groundless allegations. "I am not aware," the bishop observes, "what degree of influence may be exercised by Mr. Hawes over public opinion in England; and I cannot, therefore, estimate the force of the blow which he allowed himself to aim at the character of an absent man. This cannot be said of Mr. Hume; for, from my knowledge of his public career, I derive the consolation that no man's good name is likely to suffer much from any attack which he may be pleased to make upon it. They both, however, professed to speak only in reference to a despatch which His Excellency the Governor-General [Poulett Thomson] had written to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the 2nd of May, 1840, which, with the inclosures it