

THE HIDDEN ONES. - PAUL LXXXII. 3. (From "Thoughts in Verse for the Afflicted.")

When all around is gloom, When clouds beset the sky, When thunders roll the doom, When lightning brightly high, Then, dost Thou shelter those, From black impending doom, And forth Thy mantle goss, To hush not our alarm, Thy mercy behest, "Thy hidden ones."

THE UPRIGHT CHANCELLOR. (From "Short Stories from English History: Second Series.")

In the early part of the reign of King Henry VIII, there stood in Chelsea a large, handsome house, surrounded by beautiful gardens, which reached to the river Thames. The highly cultivated and ornamental appearance of these grounds, the neat trim walks, the shade alcoves, the cool fountains, and rare plants, gave evidence of their owner being a person of taste. Indeed, he might often be seen himself superintending the labours of a numerous train of servants, whom the custom of the age obliged persons of his rank to maintain, and who by their idle habits fell into mischief, and led others astray. The gentleman of whom we are speaking, seeing the sad effects of so much idleness, encouraged all the servants in his household, and he had a great number, to employ their time profitably and industriously. Being himself very fond of natural history, and of observing the various instincts of animals, he showed much pleasure when any of his servants discovered the same tastes; and, as he was a most kind and indulgent master, there was a little emulation amongst them as to who should add most to his stock of natural curiosities. This collection, which he had procured with much labour and expense, was disposed in such a manner, that the eye of the guest, on entering the approach to his house, was every where amused with rare birds, quadrupeds, and foreign plants. Hot-houses and green houses were things unknown in England then; and most of the vegetables we now have, potatoes excepted, were brought from Holland and Flanders, so that though the king and court were pretty well supplied, the rest of the people scarcely knew the taste of them.

as she thought necessary, and of which she required a punctual performance. You will almost wonder how they found time for such various employments; how, one hour, they could be construing Latin verses, or engaged with their music, and the next, with equal skill, be mixing the ingredients for a pudding, or preparing medicine for the poor. The secret was this; no part of their day being wasted in idleness or trifling amusements, they found ample time for these occupations. And all was done cheerfully; in each employment there was the same sweetness of temper, and praiseworthy desire to excel. A friend—the learned Erasmus, a native of Holland—who was often visiting at the house, quite captivated with the easy manners, animated conversation, and extraordinary accomplishments of these young ladies, could not help remarking one day to Sir Thomas More, "What a severe calamity it would be, if such clever and amiable beings, whom he had so successfully laboured to improve, should be snatched away by death." "If they are to die," replied their fond parent, "I would rather they should die well informed than ignorant."

during all that period his countenance was never seen clouded, nor his voice altered with anger. If it were necessary to reprove his children or servants, it was done in a tone of kind, though serious admonition. This tranquillity and mildness, diffusing themselves over the whole family, everything was there conducted with gentleness, and the loud language of anger or reproach never heard. As any trifling quarrel which might accidentally arise, was immediately adjusted, by a general interference, none of those little seeds of ill humour, which so often destroy the peace of families, were suffered to spring up there. Though his children had a step-mother, and she had a daughter of her own, and there was besides an orphan girl, generously educated and brought up as one of the family, yet all lived happily and peacefully together. And even when in after years his children married, and the idea of separation to any in that loved home was so painful, that More contrived accommodation for all still to live there, as well as the eleven grand-children whose birth-place in time it became—yet it was still the same—a happy home to all!

imagined wrath, sends the rattle-snake's skin back filled with powder and shot, and adds this furious message, "That if he had shipping at hand, he would endeavour to beat the Indians out of their country." Nor was this the worst result of an intercourse, which began with such violence, that even an occasional interlude of peace only tended to heighten the suspicion and alienation of the parties. "What is the reason," said one of the Sachems to the English, "that when we come to visit you, you hold the mouths of your guns against us?" And the answer, so ominously hypocritical as to make even a barbarian shake his head, was, "Such is the English manner of entertaining friends."

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