

relatives will lament her decease; and humanity will long remember her virtues. Let me explain, and endeavour justly to applaud the talents and virtues of Elvira. She was the daughter of a man who opposed the torrent of adversity, with industry and fortitude. He struggled for his family with success, and experienced from them in his age that affection and duty, which enable us to endure the woes of age, with tranquility and resignation. Often did he snatch her, with parental ardour, from the bosom of her affectionate mother, and as often was she reconveyed to that source of nourishment and comfort, by maternal solicitude.

As she advanced in years, her education was attended to with affection, under the guidance of reason. Every degree of instruction was bestowed on her, which the country, in which she was born, could afford. Possessed of the greatest endowments her mind anticipated the lessons of her teachers; and at the age of fifteen, she was acknowledged to be both beautiful in person, and accomplished in mind. Pride acknowledged her acquisitions, and even envy confessed the graces and merits of Elvira.

But at this period her trials commenced. In the space of three days she was deprived of both her parents. How calamitous was her situation! how extreme was her grief! The truly filial heart alone can entertain an adequate idea of her anguish. She had attended them with solicitude, during their sickness, wept over their coffins with true piety, and still venerated their memory with the most ardent affection. She was not then conscious, that the public office which was occupied by her father, had hitherto administered support to the family. Without the levity, but with the hopes, which are natural to youth, she had looked forward to competency, and occasionally to affluence. From the bosom of an affectionate mother, she had imbibed delicacy; and on the knee of her father, she had been taught to exult in a prospect of wealth.

How distressing, for a period, were the

feelings of the maiden! As a daughter she endured extreme anguish; and found herself exposed to all the difficulties of a dependent situation. No relation proffered assistance; and after the sale of her father's effects, (every deduction having been made) her guardian discovered, that only fifty pounds remained. He gave her that counsel which was worthy of the office he had undertaken, and received her into his house. So sweet was the disposition, so mild was the deportment of Elvira, that she conciliated the esteem of all with whom she conversed. She was fully convinced of the narrowness of her circumstances; and therefore founded her expectations on propriety of appearance, docility of mind, and rectitude of heart. But shortly society was deprived of the amiable consort of her guardian. In her she a second time lost a tender mother.

A few weeks after this mournful event her guardian was hurried out of existence by a fever; but before he expired, he requested an interview. She attended his summons. After a short conversation, he sent for Hilario, his nephew. As they sat at his bed-side, he thus addressed them. "But a few days ago I regularly made a will, which entitles you to equal shares of my property. May that property, in this instance, continue undivided." He scarcely had ceased to speak, before he expired. His meaning was understood. After due respect had been paid to his memory, Hilario paid his addresses to Elvira. She was far from being insensible to his merit; and, mindful of the last admonition of her guardian, bestowed her heart and her hand according to the dictates of prudence, and the sentiments of love.

She continued four years to exhibit an illustrious example of conjugal and maternal affection; when the world was deprived of her virtues. Yet her memory must be ever revered, especially when we recollect, that she was not abject in adversity, nor insolent in prosperity; and that she in the most exemplary manner, discharged the duties of the daughter, the wife, the mother, and the christian.

OBSERVATIONS ON RAISING SHEEP.

[Communicated to the Philadelphia Society for promoting Agriculture. By John Reale Bordley, Esq.]

I Usually shear one hundred and thirty sheep, mostly ewes. They pasture through the summer, with little other at-

tention to them, than occasionally counting them. In winter, they also shift for themselves, in fields unfown, without being