

## The Two Offerings.

Knowledge with cautions needful, while we taste  
Nectarious fruits, the grateful relishes,  
By our Great Father graciously prepared.  
How precious all His gifts ! Proceed, my  
children.

Each one in turn : and, Esheol, will you lead ?

*Eshcol.* My sire, as I was standing near a pool  
Watching the little fish that in the shallow  
And pebbled waters, seemed delighting ever  
To glide or rest, with shining scales, and fins  
That noiselessly impel them through the crystal.  
Quick as a flash I saw a bird swoop down  
Plunge in the water and bring up a fish  
In its curved talons dripping.

*Elon.* I, my father,  
Beheld, as I was sitting on a stone  
In an arched pathway, after a long ramble,  
Perhaps 'twas two hours since—hard by I spied  
A serpent coiled, neck vivid ringed, head high  
Advanced and eagerly intent on something  
Lost in the sky. When lo—O very soon,  
A pretty bird came flying round and round,  
In circles ever narrowing, until—  
See ! it alights on that red forked tongue—  
Tis gone—the reptile gorged it at a gulp,  
And stealthily makes off.

*Betah.* I too, dear father,  
Saw something sad, abstruse, inexplicable :