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# THE WEEK

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When the wisest poets seek  
In all their liveliest colours to set forth  
A picture of heroic worth,  
(The pious Trojan or the prudent Greek),  
They choose some comely prince of hea-  
venly birth,—  
They feed him not with nectar and the  
meat  
That cannot without joy be eat ;  
But in the cold of want and storm of alien  
chance,  
They harden his young virtue by degrees.  
The beauteous drop first into ice doth  
freeze,  
And into solid crystal next advance.

*Cowley.*