

seem to resume the superiority. The french Revolution had afterwards a great influence on a mind, whose activity did not yield to that of the body; and the subsequent duty imposed upon him, by his becoming the father of a family, who, in consequence of the awful state of public affairs, had no other dependence than upon him for an education suitable to their birth, gave the finish to that *inquiring* turn which has constituted his favourite enjoyment for these thirty years past.

Since that, age has greatly impaired his bodily faculties. His limbs have lost their agility, his eyes require the assistance of glasses, and his hearing is almost bordering on sordity. One of his former choice amusements, (dancing) is out of the question and walking becomes tiresome; serious reading brings on sleep; in company he can no longer join in the general conversation which conveys to his hearing but a confused and indistinct noise.

Thus situated, it would have been, perhaps, fortunate for him, if his mental faculties had progressively decayed together with the physical ones. But unluckily, it seems that the very reverse has happened; for it appears that the former ones keep adding to their primitive stock that share which is successively stolen from the latter, by that bald pated fellow to whose *enquiries* every thing must inevitably yield. But has C. D. E. no occupation then? Had he indeed any profession or daily employment requiring his *whole* and *sole* attention, his thoughts would be fixed and centred on a certain object; but his business demands more activity of the body than intensity of thought; it leaves therefore these unoccupied, and being at liberty to range far and wide, they rest for a while on any object that happens to strike them. *Ideas thus accumulate in his upper story*, where, meeting together, they ferment and amalgamate, hence opinions just or erroneous naturally spring up like mushrooms on a hot bed. These opinions are adopted and nursed with parental affection until their maturity, when they become riotous and threaten to burst open their prison if its doors are closed on them. Now C. D. E. entertains the foolish idea that his head is worth while preserving as long as he can, that therefore, it is better to yield to a rebellious progeny than to expose himself to the danger of losing it by a powerless resistance, added to this the persuasion that their manumission might perchance be conducive of some benefit to society, and as the whole of his life has been constantly devoted to the service of others, often even regardless of his own interest, he hopes by emitting them to evince still that devotion, happy if that hope, like many others, does not prove fallacious and delusive.

C. D. E. will conclude this address to his friends, and to all future questions, cavil, censure, &c. that his present undertaking has already provoked or may provoke hereafter, by again assuring, on the word of an honest man and a gentleman

