

serves to depreciate the character of the main thought, it must be read faster.

The metaphor takes the place of the leading literal thought. It is that thought ornamented with the hues of the imagination, and hence it is in no degree subordinate, like the simile; and from the importance which the coloring of the imagination attaches to it, it may be often read in slower time. The following passage illustrates these two figures. It is a prolonged metaphor, the solemn rehearsal of a wasted life. The second line is a simile expressive of the folly of such a life, and it should be read in a *higher* pitch and faster than the metaphor. But the metaphor should be read very slowly.

I have ventured,  
(Like little wanton boys that swim on bladders)  
This many summers in a sea of glory;  
But far beyond my depth: my high-blown pride  
At length broke under me; and now has left me  
Weary and old with service, to the mercy  
Of a rude stream that must for ever hide me.

—Henry VIII.

### Narrative and Dialogue.

A clear distinction must be made in the reading of mixed narrative and dialogue. Even when that narrative is only "He said," and like phrases, the distinction must be observed. Narrative is marked by less inflection and quicker movement. The dialogue or quotation, is inflected more strongly in proportion to the fervor of passion expressed by it, and faster or slower than the mere narrative, according to the exalted or depreciatory tone of the sentiment. In the passage, "And Nathan said unto David, *Thou art the man*," the solemnity of the accusation suggests slower movement in its delivery than the narrative. Let the reader observe the distinction (1) between the narrative and the dialogue, and (2) render the dialogue with the time due to its importance and nature, and the proper dramatic effect will be secured.

### Emphasis, p. 81.

The methods of Emphasis have been explained—par. 214-219. But the Emphasis of Feeling, or Arbitrary Emphasis, depends on the mental state of the speaker, and therefore on the conception formed of that mental state by the reader. This conception can-