

is a channel worn between them by the gushing of the water. The Arabs still reverence this rock, and stuff shrubs into the holes, that when any of their camels are sick they may eat of them and recover. Two of the holes at this time were filled with reeds for this purpose, and they believed it to be endowed with a peculiar virtue. The rock is of a beautiful granite, and is about five yards long, five in height and four yards wide.

“This narrow valley soon opened into a plain, capable of containing a large number of people, where they probably stood, as well as around the rock and in the valley, to receive the water that poured down.”

#### MOUNT PARAN.

“Being all mounted on camels, we set off; towards evening we proceeded at a brisk trot, and entered the wilderness of Paran. The sun was setting, and we passed, at no great distance, Mount Paran. Its form was most singular, yet indescribably grand; it had three sharp and pointed summits, and its side toward the wilderness was formed of perpendicular precipices of rock; between its three summits, which rose like towers, were cast the declining beams of the sun. It brought to mind the fine passage in the prophet, ‘The glory of God shined from mount Paran,’” &c.

### BIOGRAPHY.

#### SIR ISAAC NEWTON—(CONTINUED.)

The social character of Sir Isaac Newton was such as might have been expected from his intellectual attainments. He was modest, candid, and affable, and without any of the eccentricities of genius, suiting himself to every company, and speaking of himself and others in such a manner that he was never even suspected of vanity.

The modesty of Sir Isaac Newton, in reference to his great discoveries, was not found on any indifference to the fame which they conferred, or upon any erroneous judgment of their importance to science. The whole of

his life proves that he knew his place as a philosopher, and was determined to assert and vindicate his rights. His modesty arose from the depth and extent of his knowledge, which showed him that a small portion he had been able to examine, and how much remained to be explored in the same field in which he had himself laboured. In the magnitude of the comparison he recognised his own littleness; and a short time before his death he uttered this memorable sentiment: ‘I do not know what I may appear to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the sea-shore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.’ What a lesson to the vanity and presumption of philosophers—to those who especially have never even found the smoother pebble or the prettier shell!—What a preparation for the latest inquiries, and the last views of the decaying spirit, for those inspired doctrines which alone can throw a light over the dark ocean of undiscovered truth!

The habits of deep meditation which Sir Isaac Newton had acquired, though they did not show themselves in his intercourse with society, exercised their full influence over his mind when in the midst of his own family. Absorbed in thought, he would often sit down on his bed side after he rose, and remain there for hours without dressing himself, occupied with some interesting investigation which had fixed his attention. Owing to the same absence of mind, he neglected to take the requisite quantity of nourishment, and it was, therefore, often necessary to remind him of his meals.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### WHO IS A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN?

Female beauty, in the limited sense of the word, is that outward form and proportion which corresponds with the theories of poets and the rules of artists...of which every nation