

timed corrections made in that letter by his friend. Had the original been forwarded to his commanding officer, he must have left the army, and England have been deprived of the services of a gallant and noble soldier.

C. HAYWARD

Ravenscourt, August, 1853.



THINGS USEFUL AND AGREEABLE.

[SELECTED.]

Oh ! who can say that religion is the heavy chain that fetters us to gloom and everlasting sadness ; that in chastening the pleasures of earth, it offers no substantial good in return ? True piety, opening the heart by its sweet, refreshing influence, causes us to enjoy every earthly blessing with a zest, the heart in which the love of God is not an inmate, will seek in vain to know. It is piety that strengthens, purifies affection. Piety that looks on happiness vouchsafed us here, as harbingers of a state where felicity will be eternal. Piety that, in lifting up the grateful soul to God, heightens our joys, and renders that pure and lasting which would otherwise be evanescent and fleeting. Piety, whose soft and mildly-burning torch continues to enlighten life long, long after the lustre of worldly pleasures has passed away.

One of the greatest errors in education at the present time, is the desire and ambition, at single lessons, to teach complex truths, whole systems, doctrines, theorems, which years of analysis are scarcely sufficient to unfold ; instead of commencing with *simple elements*, and then rising by gradations to combined results.

These minds consist of various powers and faculties, by which they are adapted to the various necessities, relations, and duties of life. Some of them were given for self-preservation. The object of these is, ourselves, our own existence, our own sustenance, our own exemption from pain, and protection against danger and loss. Other powers are social in their nature ; such as the celestial zone of affection, that binds brothers and sisters into one. We have also moral and religious sentiments, which may be exalted into a solemn feeling of duty towards man and towards God. It is the responsible part of the teacher's duty to superintend the growth of these manifold powers—to repress some, to cherish others, and to fashion the whole into beauty and loveliness as they grow. A child should be saved from being so selfish as to disregard the rights of others, or, on the other hand, from being a spendthrift of his own. He should be saved from being so proud as to disdain the world, or so vain as to go through the world beseeching everybody to praise him. He should be guarded alike against being so devoted to his own family as to be deaf and dead to all social claims, and against being so social as to run to the ends of the earth to bestow the boun-