

[To illustrate St. Paul's "I know nothing by myself,"—*I. Cor.*, iv. 4—compare Lord Cobham's Letter to Raleigh ("Life and Times," p. 148), "So God have mercy on my soul, as I know no treason by you!"]

In the English Book of Common Prayer, again, "indifferently," for example, is illustrated by, "Then hear me speak indifferently for all." *Tit. And.*, i. 1. "Amazement" at the close of the Marriage Service, by "Put yourself not into amazement how these things should be." *M. for M.*, iv. 2., etc.

VII.

The Dramas of Shakespeare Stimulant of Good in Man.

"Memoriâ repetatis, oro, quæ cuique vestrum fuerit animi sententia, fabulas istas primâ vice perlegenti. Nonne, cum totius Poematis de cursu, proborum vos ac piorum, si qui erant, partes suscipere meministis; tum præcipue cum ventum erat ad "Plaudite," quasi stimulos virtutis in animo relictos sentire? neque ejus modo virtutis, quæ specie quadam et fervore juvenum corda commovere valeat, verum etiam severioris hujus, castimonix, fidei, industriæ, pietatis? Ut facile quis intelligere possit, quæ aliquando subturpicula intexuntur, partim sæculi esse, non scriptoris; partim, ut ebrios Laconicis pueris, tanquam odiosa ac vitanda proponi. Ergo illum virtuti ex animo favisse non est cur dubitemus: cum præsertim plerique eorum, qui tunc scenicis dabant operam, in alia omnia abire consueverint." Vide Keble: *De Poeticæ Vi Medicâ*. Tom., i. p. 58.

VIII.

The Exquisite Accuracy of Shakespeare in Minute Points of Character.

"Nusquam fermè apud illum ne tria quidem verba profert seu colonus forte astans, sive miles, seu scurra popularis, seu quivis alius, quin propriæ indolis significationem quandam injiciat. Itaque jure quodam singulari tribuitur Shakespeare ea laus, ut humani nihil à se alienum putet: quippe qui in omnium qui ubique extant hominum formas, ingenia, mores transferre se noverit: in hoc Naturæ planè similis, quæ omni curâ fingere solet et ornare non ea tantum loca quæ vulgo olè eximiam quandam pulchritudinem invisuntur, sed et obscuros quosque angulos, nullo neque solis radio neque oculo admirantis facile tangendos. Eadem Natura pari sedulitate, ut ita dicam, proceras ornavit quercus, ac minutissimum quodque seu fungorum sive filicum genus, nascentium forte sub umbrâ regix arboris. Atque in hanc fortasse partem accipiat aliquis non male piam majorum nostrorum diligentiam, qui in sacrosanctis ædibus sollicitè curabant exculpi ac poliri summa etiam laquearia, posticam columnarum partem, cetera quæque à luce et aspectu remota." Keble: *De Poeticæ Vi Medicâ*, ii. 565.

IX.

S. T. Coleridge's Estimate of Shakespeare in 1818.

"O! when I think of the inexhaustible mine of virgin treasure in our Shakespeare,—that I have been almost daily reading him since I was ten years old,—that the thirty intervening years have been unremittingly and not fruitlessly employed in the study of the Greek, Latin, English, Italian, Spanish and German *belle-lettists*, and the last fifteen years in addition, far more intensely in the analysis of the laws of life and reason as they exist in man—and that upon every step I have made forward in taste, in acquisition of facts from history or my own observation, and in knowledge of the different laws of being and their apparent exceptions, from accidental collision of disturbing forces,—that at every new accession of information, after every successful exercise of meditation, and every