

HOME.

To ensure, as far as possible, the society of her husband, at his own fire side, let the wife be "a keeper at home," and do all in her power to render that fire side as attractive as good temper, neatness, and cheerful affectionate conversations can make it; let her strive to make his own home the soft green on which his heart loves to repose in the sunshine of domestic enjoyment. We can easily imagine that even in paradise, when man had no apparition of guilt, no visions of crime, no spectral voice from a troubled conscience, to make him dread solitude, and flee from it, that even then Adam liked not, on his return from the labour of dressing the garden, to find Eve absent from their bower, but wanted the smile of her countenance to light up his own, and the music of her own voice to be the melody of his soul. Think, then, how much more in his fallen estate, with guilt upon his conscience and care pressing upon his heart, does man now, on coming from the scenes of anxious toil, need the aid of woman's companionship, to drive away the swarm of buzzing cares that light upon the heart to sting it; the bosom agitated with passion; and at once to reprove and comfort the mind that has in some measure yielded to temptation. O, woman! thou knowest the hour when "the good man of the house" will return, at mid-day, while the sun is, yet bowing down the labourer with the fierceness of her beams, or at evening, when the heat and the burden of the day are past; do not let him, at such a time, when he is weary with exertion, and faint with discouragement, find, upon his coming to his habitation, that the foot, which should hasten to meet him, is wandering at a distance; that the soft hand which should wipe away the sweat from his brow, is knocking at the door of other houses; nor let him find a wilderness, where he should enter a garden, confusion, where he ought to see order; or filth that disgusts where he might hope to behold neatness, that delights and attracts. If this be the case, who can wonder, that in the anguish of disappointment, and

in the bitterness of a neglected & heart-stricken husband, he turns away from his door, for that comfort which he wished to enjoy at home and that society which he hoped to find in his wife, and puts up with the substitutes for both, which he finds in the houses of other men, or in the company of other women.

United to be associates, then, let man and wife be as much in each other's society as possible, and there must be something wrong in domestic life, when they need the aid of balls, routs, plays, card parties, to relieve them from the tedium produced by home pursuits. I thank God, I am a stranger to that taste, which leads a man to flee from his own comfortable parlour and the society of his wife, from the instruction and recreation contained in a well stored library, or the evening rural walk, when the business of the day is over, to scenes of public amusement for enjoyment; to my judgment the pleasures of home, and of home society, when home and home society are all that could be desired, are such as never cloy, and need no change, but from one kindred scene to another. I am sighing and longing, perhaps in vain, for a period when society shall be so elevated, and so purified; when the love of knowledge will be so intense, and the habits of life will be so simple; when religion and morality will be so generally diffused, that men's homes will be the seat and circle of their pleasures; when in the society of an affectionate and intelligent wife, and of well educated children, each will find his greatest earthly delight; and when it will be felt to be no more necessary to happiness to quit their own fire side for the ball room or the concert, than it is to go from the well spread table to the public feasts, to satisfy the cravings of a healthy appetite; then will it be no longer imposed upon us to prove, that public amusements are improper, for they will be found to be unnecessary.

The affection of woman is the most wonderful thing in the world. It tires not, faints not; dreads not, cools not.