

wear and sleepy, and Time purloins my key. But the gems that thou didst give me when life was new—I can account for all—see how bright they are,

While they thus sadly converséd, Hope put forth a wing that she had not worn, folded under her garment, and tried its strength in a heavenward flight.

The old man laid down to die, and when his soul went forth from the body, the angels took it. And Memory walked with it through the open gate of heaven. But Hope lay down at its threshold and gently expired, as a rose giveth out its last odors.

Her parting sigh was like the music of a seraph's harp. She breathed it into a glorious form and said,

Immortal happiness! I bring thee a soul that I have led through the world. It is now thine, Jesus hath redeemed it.—MRS. SICOURNEY.

INFANCY.

What is more beautiful than an infant? Look at its spotless brow—at its soft and ruddy lips—which have never uttered an unkind word, and its laughing eye, as it rests on the breast of its fond mother. See it has stretched out its white hand and is playfully twisting her hair around its tiny fingers. Ah! let us look at an infant. It is endued with life; the very counterpart of love. It requires nothing but the pleasant look of its mother, and her warm kiss upon its lily cheek to make it happy. You may talk to it of sorrow, of misery, or death—but your words are unmeaning. It has never felt the chill of disappointment; it has never withered beneath the pang of affliction—and its guiltless heart knows nothing of the emptiness and heartlessness of the world. Oh, that the cup might be broken ere it be lifted to those lips!

ASTRONOMY.

THE MOON.

(Continued from our last.)

Every particular connected with the disk of the Moon is interesting, and in many respects astonishing. Her mountainous scenery is awfully grand. Huge masses of rock rise perpendicularly from the plains, tower to an immense height and reflect the rays of the Sun as from a steel mirror. These rocks appear perfectly naked, or destitute of any kind of

soil and vegetation. In these stupendous and terrific rocks are discovered rents and ravines, as if split or separated asunder by some tremendous earthquake or volcano; and numberless large fragments of rocks are seen near the base of these frightful eminences, as if they had been detached by some extraordinary shock or convulsion.

The surface of the Moon is admirably calculated to reflect the light of the Sun upon the Earth. If her surface were smooth and level the reflected light would not have been so luminous and diffusive, and the Earth would have been but indifferently supplied with light in the absence of the Sun. But owing to her surface, this inconvenience is prevented. Her stupendous range of mountains, whose summits rise to an immense height; her lofty, rugged, bare, perpendicular, and in some part bold and projecting rocks—her numerous, deep and extensive hollows or cavities, containing insular mountains, whose towering tops receive the first rays of the Sun—her ridges, or rather mountains, encircling these deep hollows or cavities: all contribute to reflect the rays of the Sun to all sides, and to diffuse light to every part of the Earth in the course of every lunation.

The diameter of the Moon is two thousand one hundred and sixty-one miles; and as solid bodies are to each other as the cubes of their diameters, the magnitude of the Moon is to that of the Earth as one to forty-one.

The Moon is twenty-four thousand miles from the centre of the Earth; and moves from any fixed star to the same star, in twenty-seven days, seven hours, forty-three minutes, and eleven seconds. This is called her sidereal revolution.

Her periodical revolution is the time in which she passes through the twelve signs of the zodiac—or from the equinoctial point to her return to the same—This is performed in twenty seven days, seven hours, forty three minutes, and four seconds. The difference between her sidereal and periodical revolution is caused by the precession of the equinoxes.

Her synodical revolution is the time in which she passes through her different changes, or from one conjunction with the Sun to the other. This is performed in twenty-nine days, twelve hours, forty four minutes, and two seconds.