

moment refined, on the more palpable spirit of beauty which the painter gives to his generation.

These remarks lead the mind to a passing notice of persons, who not knowing what they do, profess, nay, glory in, their deadness to those human aspirations after excellence! It requires not the serpent's more deadly slime over the flowers of life, to tell of man's fall—those degrading feelings are sufficient to demonstrate it. Their heaven seems either gross as that of the beast that perisheth; or vague as the Paradise of fools. What is the second Eden to them? they have too much common sense to admire its trees of health, and rivers of life. Will they be weak enough to admire the New Jerusalem, its uncreated light, gates of sapphire, and streets of gold? They despise every approach to its similitude here.—Those who decry the creations of music, poetry, and painting, say more plainly than words can speak,—we are of a very inferior order of rational creatures; we have no perceptions for the best part of God's works; and we admire not the godlike aspirations of our fellow men, who endeavour piously, to find out, to copy after those hidden beauties; and even to call into existence glorious things themselves.

We imagine Heaven to be a place, where every sound is music; every vision an ethereal study, if we may so speak of outline and tint; every thought poetry, for there the common-places of life find no room. And yet the phlegmatic devotee turns indignant from the glimpses of those essences of Heaven, which he may obtain while on earth. The Merchant in his toils to accumulate wealth, sometimes affects to scorn, those delectable and cheap delights; and yet the wealth of either Ind could go no further, when the sordid appetites were satisfied, than to procure its possessor the refined enjoyments, which in civilized life may be tasted by the poorest. The sensualist, who scorns the lights of life, while the spirit of the ape and the swine animates him, needs no answer; but we could scarcely treat of the subject without noticing the pretended wise, who are such ar-