

bright eyes of Hipparata long followed the compass of Euclid, while her lips solved with a smile the problem, which had cost many an aching brow its premature furrow to comprehend. Leontium was painted by the artist Theodorus, meditating the temperate doctrines of Epicurus, which she afterwards expounded in such Greek as excited the envy and admiration of Cicero, who considered her style a model. Even the women of the people, who had not learnt to read, affected a purism in their dialect, worthy of the academy: and from the critical acumen of the Athenian apple-women, there was no appeal. The arts, too, stood no less indebted to female taste for patronage, than to female grace for inspiration. The noblest work of Praxiteles was purchased by the most beautiful of his models, and that with the generous intention of adorning her own native city! Corinth owed the most splendid of her architectural edifices to the liberality of one woman: and Thebes, ruined by Alexander, might have been rebuilt by another, but that her pride dictated an epigram, which the jealousy of man considered, and rejected, as an epigram.

"But who were these gifted and powerful women, these priestesses of a religion of sentiment, these destinies of free states, (whose smiles and frowns decided the fate of despot empires,) these adored companions of heroes, these trusted friends of legislators, these disciples of philosophers, and associates of sages, these models of wit and themes of poetry, these professors of abstruse sciences, and enlightened lovers of all the refined arts, which tend to soften and cheer society, and to convert man from barbarism to civilization?"

"Were they the honest mothers and virtuous wives of the free and noble citizens of the Greek states? the women of the Demos of Athens, or of the soldier patriots of Sparta? Was their knowledge acquired, were their talents developed, under institutions peculiarly favourable to the cultivation of female intellect? Were such accomplishments united to those moral qualities which gave to wise maternity the character and influence of a wholesome legislation?"

"Gifted as such women must have been by nature, gifted as they notoriously were with that personal beauty peculiar to their climes and races, and with those fine perceptions of the beautiful and the true in works of art and literature—were they themselves ennobled by that sense of rights to be enjoyed, and of duties to be performed, which creates the crowning perfection of all characters in either sex?"

"No; these women, whose names are linked with those of the greatest and wisest men of antiquity, were the outcasts of society—its admiration, its pride and its shame—the agents of its refined civilization, the instruments of its rapid moral corruption.

"Born in slavery, or sold to it, infant captives taken in war, or of a class too lowly to be recognized as citizens by the state, these victims of civil combination foredoomed by the accidents of their birth, or of their lives, to an inevitable social degradation, had one privilege incidental to their singular lot; and of that they availed themselves, to the triumph of mind over station, and of usurping acquirement over established ignorance. They were not under the ban of that intellectual proscription, which was reserved by the law for the virtuous and the chaste. Chartered libertines, of their minds as of their actions, they were left free to pursue the bent of their natural talents, to sip at the fountain of every science, to cull the flowers of rhetoric, to rifle the whole hive of knowledge, and to possess themselves of the treasures of philosophy.

"Thus gifted, they obtained a mastery over all that was eminent in the male population; and possessing the hearts of statesmen, orators, and philosophers, became influential on the destinies of the people."

One half only of the work is yet published—two volumes additional are promised. If equal to the two now before the public, the work will be one of the most deservedly popular of the day.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THOUGH the present number of the *Garland*, is, as many preceding ones have been, "entirely original," we are happy to say that the fountains from which our contributors draw, become only more vigorous as their waters are spread over the earth. We have on hand many articles of great excellence, which we are compelled to postpone. Among these we may mention a valuable paper on the "Laws of Canada," and one upon its "Literature and Literary Men," which were partially in type for publication in this number.

Many other articles, several excellent tales, and some poetical sketches, have been necessarily left over—many of which we shall endeavour to furnish to our readers in our next number.

The very numerous applications which have been made, and are daily making, for the first volume of the *Garland*, place us under the necessity of stating that there is not a single copy now at our disposal—our shelves being completely empty. Flattering and encouraging as this is, we regret it much, causing as it does, disappointment to many, who, having become readers of the second volume, wished to possess themselves of entire sets.