

Yet the son followed his bent, and has come to be regarded now as one of the first of English hymn-writers. Numberless instances might be given of the same sort of thing—fathers and mothers failing utterly to discover their children's peculiar bent. Kepler, the astronomer, was brought up as a waiter in a German public house; Shakspeare is supposed to have been a wool-comber or a scrivener's clerk; Ben Jonson was a mason and worked at the building of Lincoln's Inn; Lord Clive, one of the greatest warriors and statesmen that England can boast, was a clerk; Inigo Jones, the architect, was a carpenter; Turner, the greatest of English landscape painters, was a barber; Hugh Miller, the geologist, was a bricklayer; Captain Cook, the celebrated navigator, was apprenticed to a haberdasher; Bewick, the father of wood-engraving, was a coal miner; Sir William Herschel, the astronomer, was educated especially for a musician; Faraday, the philosopher, was apprenticed to a bookbinder; Jeremy Taylor, the poetical divine, was a barber, as was also Richard Arkwright, the inventor of the spinning-jenny, and Cowper, the poet, was brought up to the law, but hated the profession with a perfect hatred, and never, when he could help it, opened a book that bore upon it.

THE WEALTH OF JOB.—"This man was greatest of all the men of the East." Job 1: 2. At this distance of time, supposed to be 3,000 years since he existed, it is difficult to estimate Job's wealth; as some items are given it may be attempted, although the relative value of money at the extremes of 3,000 years leaves us at a loss to calculate the precise amount.

1. The extent of land he owned may be found from the support his stock needed: 7,000 sheep would require a range of as many acres; 3,000 camels would need five acres each; 1,000 yoke of oxen an equal range of five acres with the camels; 500 asses about two acres each; and his household, which was "very great," 2,000; in all 30,000 acres. The value of this amount, at \$5 per acre, \$150,000.

2. The cost of Job's cattle—7,000 sheep at \$2 each; 3,000 camels at probably \$50; 1,000 oxen at \$10 each, and

500 asses at the same price. This would equal about \$175,000.

3. To tend such vast herds, according to the customs of the East, the numbers must have been large. Abraham, contemporary with Job, could muster in his own family retinue 318 trained men in arms. As many more must have remained at home to attend his flocks, etc., when the patriarch went in pursuit of the invaders of Lot's territory. Job may have had 300; the pay and support, \$20,000.

4. The necessary houses for living and shelter and the fold could not be less than \$25,000.

The whole value of the above would be \$370,000.

THE MISSION OF SHAKSPEARE.—Most surely Shakspeare is the poet of humanity! The value of his influence rests on the entireness of his power; on the enlargement of soul to be gained from his aptitude; on the judgment to be learned from the diversities of experience into which he carries us; on the candor of opinion to be drawn from his equity; on the tolerance of thought to be cultivated in his calmness; on the charity of heart to be imbibed from the fullness of his humanity.

We are told that there are those who read Shakspeare, who are yet small of soul, rash in judgment and poor in all the charities—those who laugh at his comedy, and weep at his tragedy, who are, notwithstanding, grim in their families and insensible to the misery which they cause. We can only observe, that Shakspeare did not make these people so, that it is a power greater than Shakspeare's which can make them otherwise.

For all such, we will not wish a little more taste; but simply "a little more grace."

BILLIONS AND TRILLIONS.—The ocean (say the Cyclopaedia Britannica) contains 290,000,000 cubic miles of water. Each cubic mile contains 5,431,776,000 cubic yards. Therefore, in round numbers, the ocean contains 5,400x300 billion or 1,620,000 billion cubic yards. Therefore 1,620,000 cubic yards is one-billionth part of the ocean. Now, 162,000x10 yards represents a pond 30 feet deep and about 33 acres in superficial area, or to put it another way,