

BOOK I.

The Passions.

CHAP. I.—HOPE AND FEAR.

THE promises of hope are sweeter than roses in the bud, and far more flattering to expectation; but the threatenings of fear are a terror to the heart.

Nevertheless let not hope allure, nor fear deter thee, from doing that which is right; so shalt thou be prepared to meet all events with an equal mind.

The terrors even of death are no terrors to the good; he that committeth no evil hath nothing to fear.

In all thy undertakings let a reasonable assurance animate thy endeavors; if thou despairst of success thou shalt not succeed.

Terrify not thy soul with vain fears, neither let thine heart sink within thee from the phantoms of imagination.

From fear proceedeth misfortune; but he that hopeth, helpeth himself.

As the ostrich, when pursued, hideth his head, but forgetteth his body; so the fears of a coward expose him to danger.

If thou believest a thing impossible thy despondency shall make it so; but he that persevereth shall overcome all difficulties.

A vain hope flattereth the heart of a fool; but he that is wise pursueth it not.