

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cicero on Books.—"Their study is the nourishment of the mind of youth, and the delight of that of old age. It is the ornament of prosperity, the solace and the refuge of adversity. Book studies are delectable at home, and not burthensome abroad; they gladden us at night, and on our journeys, and in the country." And D'Israeli says, "Amidst all his public occupations and private studies, either of them sufficient to have immortalized one man, we read with astonishment in the Familiar Epistles, of the minute attention he paid to the formation of his library and cabinet." And when sending his small collection (small, relatively, we mean) to any one of his several villas, he calls it "infusing a soul into the body of his house."

Stimulus to Education in China.—It is a remarkable fact, that there exists in China probably greater inducements, and higher prizes, for the successful exertions of her people in their native literature, than in any other part of the world; and the result is, that education is eagerly embraced by all who are not too poor to be enabled to afford the necessary time and expense. The theory of the Chinese Government professes to promote to the offices of state only such natives as shall have obtained a literary degree; and Government Commissioners are periodically sent round the country, to conduct the literary examinations in the several provinces, and to award the degrees. And though China is still groaning under the yoke of a foreign dynasty—the Mantchow Tartars—even the most disappointed of the native scholars allow, that, under this foreign government, literature is the usual road to rewards and honours; for though many high offices in China are given to the Mantchow Tartars, by far the greater part of the offices of the state are filled by Chinese scholars.—*Rev. G. Smith.*

Free Schools.—"It is, on all hands, acknowledged that the best hope of genuine patriotism is the complete instruction

of the whole population; and that the best securities of wise, virtuous, and paternal governments, are the cultivated faculties of the people, enabling them to discriminate between law and oppression, liberty and anarchy, protection and despotism; and, from the condition of mankind in other times and countries, to draw comparisons favorable to the happy condition of their own, while it should never be forgotten that a cultivated mind finds that resource in books and in intellectual pursuits, which constitutes the best security of public and private morals."—*Blair's Universal Preceptor.*

Profane Swearing.—The detestable practice of profane swearing is motiveless and gratuitous wickedness. It is a vice which neither gives any property to the poor man, nor any luxury to the vile one. It degrades even the clown to a lower state of vulgarity; and it would render the presence of even the most polished gentleman offensive and disgusting, if it were ever possible for a gentleman to be guilty of it.—*Hon. Horace Mann.*

When thou dost tell another's jests, therein
Omit the oaths, which true wit cannot need:
Pick out of tales the mirth, but not the sin:
He parcs his apples who will clearly feed.

Power of Kindness.—No man has ever measured it, for it is boundless; no man ever seen its death, for it is eternal. In all ages of the world, in every clime, among every kind, it hath shone out a beautiful star, a beaming glory.

Development of a Bad Education.—Better fling a blazing torch into your neighbour's house, than mutter innuendos against his credit. If it concerns you, inquire into it; and when you have discovered a fact, whether it be for or against him, out with it, for the truth can do no harm. If it does not concern you, leave it to those it does. To repeat a mere surmise, is, in most cases, to take part in the manufacture of a lie, for the gossiping weakness that prompts the repetition, craves, and can seldom deny itself, the