

bad humour from a discontented mind. Learn, reader, to be contented whatever be your standing in life, and the interesting rays of cheerfulness will illumine every object around you.

Mr. Addison calls melancholy the *demon of society*. However, bad humour is infinitely more destructive to happiness. They are evidently dissimilar: the one arises from the reign of the malevolent passions of the soul, and the other often springs from the purest benevolence. Therefore, I shall prepare for your next number a few short remarks on MELANCHOLY. J.B.

Toronto, April 22, 1836.

To the Editor of the Youth's Monitor.

ON TRAVELLING.

As the season for travelling is now approaching, I think it not amiss to send you the following remarks on that subject. Other topics, probably, more suitable to the nature of your magazine than the one in question could be found, but as I am in a mood for travel, and love to behold the varied works of nature and art, and to converse with those

"Who many towns and change of manners saw,"

I cannot allow my mind at present to be otherwise occupied.

Visiting countries, examining the different products of nature, viewing places celebrated in history, observing the dissimilar customs of the various inhabitants of the globe, are pleasures which the human mind is highly capable of appreciating.

The principle of inquisitiveness, which is so abundant in our nature, must be the cause of this—a principle which, as Dr. Johnson says, is one of the most certain and permanent characteristics of a vigorous intellect. Another celebrated author also observes, that the love of novelty is implanted in us by our Maker,

that he might encourage us in the pursuit after knowledge, and engage us to search into the wonders of his creation: what, then, can gratify this inclination better than travelling?

The ancients travelled; but more especially the learned—those who studied philosophy and enquired deeply into human nature. The most of the philosophers of Greece travelled to Egypt, and very many of them went into India, in search of knowledge, the consequence of which was, that they excelled their countrymen in learning.

The moderns, however, have far surpassed the ancients in their visits to the different sections of the world: the ancients, from the imperfect state of their navigation, had a much smaller world to traverse in; but the moderns, from their extraordinary improvements in naval architecture, and their superior knowledge of the virtues of the magnet, have made the ocean the high-way of communication with all the inhabitants of the globe.

Communicating with distant places is not, however, a universal practice. It is only those nations who are highly civilized, having their curiosity awakened in consequence, that undergo the inconveniences of hazardous journeys to acquire knowledge. And it is a refutation of the boasted wisdom of the populous nations of the east, the fact of their never travelling westward to visit the polished nations of Europe. These latter thus shew their pre-eminence over the rest of the world, by amassing curious and valuable information, occasioned solely through their voyages and travels.

It is therefore, obvious, that the disposition to travel is advantageous. The traveller, by examining the several opinions, and observing the different customs and manners of nations, not only gratifies his curiosity, but improves his knowledge of mankind; a knowledge only attainable by actually conversing with them. Travelling, besides, will do away with all surprise attendant on