

But as, amongst all this ' progress of society,' there is an universal cry in the land of want of money among the men, and want of husbands among the ladies, and of other necessaries of life among all classes, it is evident that something must be wrong, after all, which wise men (if there be any) would do well to look into. Upon this subject, I confess I have my own opinion, which nobody perhaps would thank me for expressing ; but, in the mean time, I shall proceed with a few more of those old proverbs which used to form the floating literature of former days, merely to remind young ladies and others, that once on a time there *did* exist such a personage as common sense, whose directing assistance, notwithstanding all their fine accomplishments they may yet come sorely to need. Not that I would discourage young ladies from being well accomplished, as it is called, in certain matters, under certain circumstances ; for, although I could wish that every one of them were able to dance like Taglioni, or play pianos as brilliantly as Monsieur Jiggfaltero (I forget his name,) the Frenchman, or work as many wonders as Monsieur Katterfelto, the conjurer—yet, as the real duties of life neither consist primarily in dancing quadrilles and boleros, nor in playing Italian wonderments on stringed instruments, I am only desirous that the one should not be entirely lost sight of for the other, and that in giving young ladies what is called *education*, we should not entirely forget that they are rational beings. In all this, it may be seen that I blame more the parents than the children. How can I help this unless I should deny the truth of the proverb, that

“ The church stands in the church-yard.”

which it was never a sin to assert, when it is visible before our eyes. But parents, as well as children, are very apt to be carried away with a fashion ; and now the fashion is in, to spend all a daughter's dowry in teaching her to perform a dozen things like a professor, and all in order to decoy a high husband. This is very well known to sensible mothers ; and