

He censureth not his neighbour, he believeth not their tales of envy and malevolence, neither repeateth he their slanders.

He forgiveth the injuries of men, he wipeth them from his remembrance, revenge and malice have no place in his heart.

For evil he returneth not evil, he hateth not even his enemies, but requiteth their injustice with friendly admonition.

The griefs and anxieties of men excite his compassion; he endeavoureth to alleviate the weight of their misfortunes, and the pleasure of success rewardeth his labour.

He calmeth the fury, he healeth the quarrels of angry men, and preventeth the mischiefs of strife and animosity.

He promoteth in his neighbourhood peace and good will, and his name is repeated with praise and benediction.

CHAP. IV.—GRATITUDE.

As the branches of a tree return their sap to the spot whence it arose, as a river pouring his streams to the sea whence his spring was supplied, so the heart of a grateful man delighteth in returning a benefit received.

He acknowledgeth his obligation with cheerfulness, he looketh on his benefactor with love and esteem.

And if to return it be not in his power, he nourisheth the memory of it in his breast with kindness, he forgetteth it not all the days of his life.