

130. AGE criticised, OLD. *Dr. Samuel Johnson.* He observed: "There is a wicked inclination in most people to suppose an old man decayed in his intellects. If a young or middle-aged man, when leaving a company, does not recollect where he laid his hat, it is nothing; but if the same inattention is discovered in an old man, people will shrug up their shoulders, and say, 'His memory is going.'"—*BOSWELL'S JOHNSON, BOND'S ED., p. 486.*

131. AGE, Excitement in OLD. *Death of Pres. Harrison.* He was inaugurated President on the 4th of March, 1841. . . . Daniel Webster . . . Secretary of State. Everything promised well for the new Whig administration; but before Congress could convene, the venerable President, bending under the weight of sixty-eight years, fell sick, and died just one month after his inauguration.—*RIDPATH'S HIST. OF U. S., ch. 56.*

132. AGE Health in OLD. *Dr. Samuel Johnson.* One of the company mentioned his having seen a noble person driving in his carriage, and looking exceedingly well, notwithstanding his great age. *JOHNSON:* "Ah, sir, that is nothing. Bacon observes that a stout, healthy old man is like a tower undermined."—*BOSWELL'S JOHNSON, p. 517.*

133. AGE, Labor in OLD. *Martin Luther.* Luther had reached his sixty-third year. Frequent attacks of sickness had seriously weakened his bodily frame. Added to this was the anxiety that he felt on account of the course of ecclesiastical affairs, so that at times a weariness of life overcame him. Thus he writes a few months before his death: "I, an aged, used-up, idle, tired, and unimpressive man, write to you. And though I had hoped that they would grant me, decrepit man that I am, a little rest, I am nevertheless overwhelmed with writing and speaking, acting and performing, as if I had never transacted, written, spoken, or done anything."—*REIN'S LUTHER, ch. 25.*

134. — — —. *Herschel.* Sir William Herschel was still pursuing his observations at the age of eighty. . . . He discovered the planet Uranus in 1781. It has been said of him, that "no one individual ever added so much to the facts on which our knowledge of the solar system is founded."—*KNIGHT'S ENG., vol. 8, ch. 7, p. 129.*

135. AGE, Literature in OLD. *John Milton.* The usual explanation of the frigidity of "Paradise Regained" is the suggestion which is nearest at hand—viz., that it is the effect of age. Like Ben Jonson's "New Inn," it betrays the feebleness of senility, and has one of the most certain marks of that stage of authorship, the attempt to imitate himself in those points in which he was once strong.—*PATTISON'S MILTON, ch. 13.*

136. AGE, Success in OLD. *Cæsar.* As a general, Cæsar was probably no less inferior to Pompey than Sulla to Marius. Yet his successes in war, achieved by a man who, in his forty-ninth year, had hardly seen a camp, add to our conviction of his real genius.—*LIDDELL'S ROME, p. 702.*

137. AGE, Vigor in OLD. *Warrior.* Masiussa, King of Numidia, when past ninety years of age, charged like a boy of nineteen at the head

of his wild horsemen against the Carthaginians, and overcame them.—*LIDDELL'S ROME, p. 482.*

138. — — —. *John Wesley.* John Wesley was eighty-six years old before he became conscious of the infirmities of many years. He lived till he was eighty-eight years of age. This unusual vigor he ascribed to the blessing of God, wrought chiefly by his constant exercise, his early rising, and his habit of daily preaching morning and evening. . . . Entering his eightieth year, he says . . . he travels from four to five thousand miles every year; has a perfect command of sleep, night or day, whenever he needs it; he is an early riser at a fixed hour. . . . In his eighty-second year he writes: "It is now eleven years since I felt any such thing as weariness." . . . His associates could not at this time perceive in him any signs of intellectual decay, nor can the critic detect it in his writings. . . . He records beautiful impressions of nature and books more frequently; he compares and criticises Ariosto and Tasso; he indulges occasionally in dramatic reading and criticism. . . . He is described as still fresh in color, with a brilliant eye and vivacious spirits. . . . He was careful of his physical habits; his natural constitution was feeble; he said he never felt lowness of spirits for a quarter of an hour since he was born, and before his seventieth year he never lost a night's sleep. He preached forty-two thousand five hundred sermons.—*STEVENS' METHODISM, Book 5, ch. 12.*

139. — — —. *Cato the Censor.* He retained his bodily strength to a very great age. When he was past eighty years he called one morning upon a man who had formerly been his secretary, and asked him whether he had yet provided a husband for his daughter. "I have not," was the reply; "nor shall I without consulting my best friend." "Why, then," said Cato, "I have found out a very fit husband for her, if she can put up with an old man who, in other respects, is a very good match for her." "I leave the disposal of her," said the father, "entirely to you. She is under your protection, and depends wholly upon your bounty." "Then," said Cato, "I will be your son-in-law." The astonished parent gave his consent, and Cato announced his intention to his son, who was himself a married man. "Why, what have I done," said the son, "that I should have a mother-in-law put upon me?" "I am only desirous," replied Cato, "of having more such sons as you, and leaving more such citizens to my country." By this wife, who was little more than a girl, he actually had a son, who himself became consul of Rome, and was the father of the other famous Cato, the enemy of Cæsar.—*CYCLOPEDIA OF BIOG., p. 423.*

140. — — —. *Lord Palmerston.* When he was past seventy, he thought no more of a thirty-mile gallop of an afternoon than a New York merchant does of walking home from Broad Street to Union Square. Often, when Parliament was expected to sit late, he would dismiss his carriage, and, coming out of the house after midnight, would walk home alone, a distance of two miles, and "do" the distance in thirty minutes. There never was a brisker old gentleman. In the hunting season he usually went into the country, where he