

A few remarks to those who are ambitious of excelling in the art may now be given, showing how they may best proceed in improving themselves therein.

The following rules are worthy of strict attention :—

1. Let your articulation be distinct and deliberate.
2. Let your pronunciation be bold and forcible.
3. Acquire a compass and variety in the height of your voice.
4. Pronounce your words with propriety and elegance.
5. Pronounce every word consisting of more than one syllable with its proper accent.
6. In every sentence distinguish the more significant words by a natural, forcible and varied emphasis.
7. Acquire a just variety of pause and cadence.
8. Accompany the emotions and passions which your words express, by corresponding tones, looks and gestures.

To follow nature is the fundamental rule in oratory, without regard to which, all other rules will only produce affected declamation not just elocution. Learn to speak slowly and deliberately, almost all persons who have not studied the art have a habit of uttering their words too rapidly. It should be borne in mind that the higher degrees of excellence in elocution are to be gained, not by reading much, but by pronouncing what is read with a strict regard to the nature of the subject, the structure of the sentences, the turn of the sentiment, and a correct and judicious application of the rules of the science. It is an essential qualification of a good speaker to be able to alter the height as well as the strength and the tone of his voice as occasion requires, so accustom