

He seeth at the bottom: he bringeth them up and sheweth them as pearls, and with the applause of his brethren delighteth he himself.

He boasteth of attainment in things that are of no worth; but where it is a shame to be ignorant, there he hath no understanding.

Even in the paths of wisdom he toileth after folly; shame and disappointment are the reward of his labor.

But the wise man cultivates his mind with knowledge; the improvements of arts is his delight, and their utility to the public crowneth him with honour.

Nevertheless, the attainment of virtue he accounteth as the highest learning, and the science of happiness is the study of his life.

CHAP. II.—RICH AND POOR.

The man to whom God hath given riches, and blessed with a mind to enjoy them aright, is peculiarly favoured and highly distinguished.

He looketh on his wealth with pleasure, because it affordeth him the means to do good.

He protecteth the poor that are injured, he suffereth not the mighty to oppress the weak.

He seeketh out objects of compassion, he inquireth into their wants, he relieveth them with judgment and without ostentation.

He assisteth and rewardeth merit, he encourageth ingenuity, and liberally promoteth every useful design.

He carrieth on great works, his country is enriched, and the labourer is employed; he formeth new schemes, and the arts receive improvement.