

vate match takes place, and the enraged papa or mamma, declares they will not give what they never had to bestow! The poor dupe, in such a case, has no remedy but to take home the wife of his bosom, and make the best he can of his bargain; if he makes a good husband, it argues a generosity of temper, and a regard for his own peace and domestic happiness, which are not often found. Indeed if the girl is as innocent as himself in the affair, none but a brute will consider her answerable for the trick; and if the marriage proves unfortunate, much, very much, has such a parent to answer for.

But, in a more general view, young ladies are too often the dupes of their own, or their parents ambition. If Miss has a tolerable face, and her father can give her five hundred, or a thousand pounds, her first expectations extend at least to a carriage; and on this side thirty, which period she procrastinates as long as she decently can, she turns up her pretty nose at the plain tradesman behind a counter. If her fortune extends to fifteen hundred, or two thousand pounds, she sets her cap at a coronet, and, because some such prizes have now and then turned up in the lottery of matrimony, her expectations seldom descend to a reasonable pitch, until she has no reason to hope for any thing; she has no remedy then in reserve, but to rail at all mankind, and grow grey in protesting against matrimony.

Such, indeed, are the high notions and habits of dissipation that young ladies are ridiculously educated in, which their untutored understanding is seldom able to stem in the hoity toity hey-day of life; so that it is equally dangerous for a sober thinking man, whom they generally undervalue and despise, to take a wife either with, or without money. A tinsel top best suits their eyes, they fly into the arms of such, and hence matrimony comes in to disgrace by their being treated according to their deserts. Hence also arises that celibacy, which (profligates being

out of my view) is very unjustly charged to the account of the men.

Again. A father who can barely live, instead of sending an able girl of a daughter out to service, or putting her in some industrious track of life to maintain herself; if he can raise a silk gown or two for her, with a few ribbons, he too often depends himself, and teaches her to depend, upon ensnaring the affections of some silly boy or other of property, by whom though her clothes are all her portion, she is to be supported in a genteel character, which she has no just claim to. If the scheme fails, I am shocked at representing the consequences! Yes, ye unwise, ye cruel parents, this simulation of female vanity is the grand source of prostitution; more unhappy girls walk the streets from this, as the first cause, than merely from the seduction of worthless men; which if you acted a parental part in giving your daughters a suitable sober education, they would in general be fortified against. But I am tired of a disagreeable subject; unwelcome truth will be construed into intended invective against a sex which I honour, in general, though with which, unhappily from scrutinizing perhaps too narrowly, I have never been able to form a particular attachment; a point which was always in view, without being yet accomplished.

But I have traced my subject further than I first intended, which was only to obviate the accusation which disappointed fair ones are continually bringing against the men for not marrying; this in general terms, they are continually urging us to, but in so gay and luxurious an age, the follies of which women ever take the lead in, they either do not understand, or despite the proper means of effecting. They may chuse the alternative, but either case renders them very unfit helpmates for those who are qualified to make good husbands. This is sound reason, which all the wit and ridicule of a female pen, or tongue, however well pointed, cannot put to shame.

---

#### AN INTERESTING ACCOUNT of the NATIONAL CHARACTER, MANNERS and CUSTOMS of the SWEDES.

[From a Translation, just published, of Mr. Catteau's 'General View of Sweden.']

**T**HOUGH Sweden is covered with rocks, woods, and mountains, its inhabitants are mild and peaceable. Theft, murder, robbery, and atrocious crimes,

in general, are very uncommon among them; and even in war, they do not appear to be sanguinary. Every traveller, who traverses their country, must pay a tribute