

graces drest." Having given uniform attention to their instructors, these young ladies are exceedingly well informed. Truth has made "the Kingdom of God and his righteousness" the primary object of their pursuit. She bids them be industrious, for time is heavy only to the slothful. She exhorts them to ask a blessing upon every undertaking. "Be patient in difficulties, temperate and moderate in your expectations, and the disappointments you may experience will appear comparatively trifling." The following day I was assured by this excellent parent, that she would accept me as her son-in-law, provided I obtained the free consent of her daughter, "I shall not attempt to bias her judgment" she said, "I know she will never decide unworthily—an alliance with your family will be pleasing to me, and I shall willingly resign my dear and amiable child to one who knows how to appreciate her merits." "You have been her instructress," said I; "and, under the guidance of Truth, Simplicity must be doubly estimable." "I am indifferent" continued she, "to the opinion of the world in general, but by no means insensible to the approbation of those I esteem; therefore I am pleased with yours. To your relative Discrimination I am indebted for the good opinion of many sensible persons. It is possible that I may be partial in my opinion of my daughters, but that opinion would not have been made known to you under other than the present circumstances; Simplicity is an elegant and an amiable child. The seeds of every grace and virtue have been planted in her mind, which, like a fertile garden, gives the fairest tints to the blossoms it produces; from unaffected modesty, that sweetest charm in youth, her merits, like the beauties of an embryo flower, lie half concealed from the eyes of a casual observer—with exquisite sensibility towards the afflicted, she is thankful to her Maker for an ability to relieve them; her pleasures are the refined pleasures of a well regulated mind: and her piety, that which inspires composure of spirits, mildness and benignity. Whenever she "beholds the mote that is in her brother's eye," she remembers "the beam within her own;" by no means anxious to expose the frailties of others, she judges of them according to the principles by which she wishes them to judge of her. She has a resource for every leisure moment, and so well does she estimate the value of time, she engages it in some useful and honorable employment. Her temper, which is naturally even, she regulates by the maxims of Christianity. Possibly you imagine this character too exalted for Simplicity, but it is by no means exaggerated, and though the integrity of her own bosom might render her the dupe of the designing, as like the charity of Scripture "she thinketh no evil," she has by no means that passive tameness of spirit, which would allow her to commit right or wrong at the instigation of another, and the dignity of rectitude is visible in her countenance." "With a skilful hand," said I, "you have trained the plant, and the Sun of Righteousness reveals its rare perfections to the view." Simplicity became my wife, and not a day escapes but I have reason to acknowledge "how much the wife is dearer than the bride." My home is made pleasant to me and delight in being there; my friends are welcomed with hospitality and cheerfulness; no affected display of costliness is observed; no appearance of being inconvenienced by the unexpected entrance of a guest, whom I may think proper to invite; no tales of the ill conduct of servants ever entertain me or my visitors; the knowledge of domestic unpleasantness, not in my power to remedy, is confined within her own bosom; contradiction is never heard, nor a public preference to her opinion given at the expense of my credit; for she is conscious that diffidence is ornamental in a woman, and that nothing makes her appear so contemptible to the discerning eye as usurping authority over her husband, whom, if she loves, she will not wish to make appear ridiculous, which must be the case if she exhibits superiority, for

- Angry, coarse and harsh expression.
- Shows Love to be a mere profession;
- Proves that the heart is none of his,
- Or soon expels him if it is.

In her house: in her dress; at her table; the correctness of her taste is discernible; her furniture is neat and commodious, yet elegant and unostentatious; she dresses well and according

to the prevailing mode, yet always avoiding extremes; our table is plentifully though not profusely supplied; plentifully, because our means will allow it to be so; frugally, because by that means we have more to bestow on the children of Poverty. Simplicity gave birth to a son, whom, in the tenderness of her affection, she named Happiness. What schemes, what plans for his education and for his well doing in the world. But, alas! Death snatched our darling from us, and the mother, heart-broken, became a prey to the most corroding sorrow! No consolation could reach her heart, therefore I resolved to call in the assistance of two amiable relatives—Piety and Resignation, Sisters who, in imitation of the Saviour, "bind up and heal the broken heart," and continually "go about doing good." "You are wrong my love," said Piety, "thus to suffer grief to destroy your health, which it is the duty of every one to preserve, as well for the sake of others as for his own comfort, and to give as little trouble as possible. Had you applied to me sooner, your sufferings would have been alleviated; remember you alone are not the sufferer, your husband feels not less than you this stroke which it has pleased the Almighty to inflict; but you forget his feelings in the indulgence of your own grief, for such a loss is natural—the tribute of tears allowable; and unfeeling must be the heart which could withhold such a tribute to the memory of an object tenderly beloved; but grief, when to excess indulged, becomes criminal, and is like rebelling against the will of Heaven, who has certainly a right to take away the blessings which he gives. If properly considered, these deprivations will prove the means of drawing us nearer to God; for you know that "whom he loveth he chasteneth,"—this is only a trial of thy faith, which has never before been put to so severe a test; of that Faith which should make thee know thy little darling is better provided for than he could have been had he remained on Earth. I am sensible that excess of anguish sometimes prevents our considering these things as we ought, but you have too much affection for your relatives to give them the pain of seeing your health decline, and too just a sense of Religion to murmur against the decrees of Providence. Remember, that, although one blessing is withdrawn many yet remain, for which thou shouldst be thankful, and in thy grief for the departed forget not, thy duty to the living. Adieu, my child, I leave with thee my sister Resignation; her gentle accents will administer comfort to thy drooping spirits, and teach thee, from thy very sorrows, to derive a source of comfort and of trust in God—"our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of Glory." Simplicity, grateful for the consolation of her friend, listened to the voice of Resignation, and though when she imagined herself unobserved, I have seen the tear bedew her eye, and steal down her beautiful cheek; yet, lest she should occasion a moment's uneasiness to others on her account, she never, under any dispensation of Providence, yields to violent grief, to which she now applies the name of Impiety.

Several years have since elapsed and her time is principally employed in superintending the education of three daughters; still, under the guidance of Truth, whom she implicitly obeys, she is in return respected and affectionately beloved by her own children. They know on what authority she grounds her lessons. All the time that I can spare from the duties of my profession I devote to their instruction. From me they receive their knowledge of History, Geography, Botany, and other Sciences, and the salutary influence their mother exercises over them, prevents their being vain of their acquisitions. Their duty to God and the gratification of their parents, are the ends to which all their pursuits are directed; and with them, as it ought to be with other young persons, "nothing is a trifle which the desires of a parent exact." Many a lesson is learned, many a duty, irksome in itself, is performed by them with alacrity, because they know the performance is pleasing to us. To every feeling mind, I am sure the neglect of duty causes more uneasiness than the trouble of doing it. According to the propensities which we observed in the disposition of our girls, we have named them, good-humour, wit, sensibility. The defects of temper have been carefully studied and as carefully eradicated; and their different agreements so ingeniously blended by their excellent mother, that the character of the one is now almost a facsimile of the other. In good-humour little alteration was re-