

for no purpose? Was it intended by the Creator of these magnificent images, that we should walk about with our eyes fixed on dusty, and dirty streets, ill ventilated and drained, and resort to the dram-shop and the dice-table for sources of amusement? Was it intended with the glorious sun above us, "the vast hills in fluctuation fixed," around us, the lake and the river, and the ever-changing sea, and the fresh fountain, and the graceful many coloured flowers on every side of us, that we should neglect all these pure sources of inexhaustible delight, and spend our time wholly and entirely in money getting, and in pampering these poor bodies till they can hold no more, and in saying foolish things to each other, or vile things of each other, while unnumbered sources of happiness lie at our very feet, waiting to be gathered, offering themselves "without money and without price?" No, surely! For observe, how God bestows these pleasures on all in some degree. It requires a great outlay of money to possess large gardens, and hot houses, and nurseries of flowers, and artificial lakes, and great mansions, and handsome furniture. But it requires no money to see beauty in the sea, and the river, and the crops, and the wild flowers, and to cultivate these pure tastes, and the cultivation of beautiful plants requires pains and labour, rather than money. God has given these things to all men for many uses: 1st, That all may enjoy the greater part of them, and form their tastes on the model of Nature, and refresh themselves with the joyous sight. 2d, That those who are richer than others may find a pleasure, not in heaping money together, and dying worth so many thousand pounds, or in giving it to their children to waste in ridiculous or profligate ways, but may cultivate tastes which are useful to their fellow creatures and gladden the heart of the poor toil worn labourer. Thus a rich man, by imitating the bounty of his Master, may make himself a public benefactor, and win himself a good name for many generations. He may drain a city, and so restore health to thousands; he may build and endow an hospital, and heal thousands; he may erect public gardens, and minister innocent pleasure to thousands; he may erect public baths, and minister to the cleanliness of thousands; he may erect some great public building for ornament and utility; or, if he desire the spiritual welfare of men, he may build and endow a Church, or a Mission. Great riches are not given men for guinea-subscription lists, but that they may make to themselves a lasting monument in the hearts of the people. We desire not monuments of brick and stone on the walls of churches, but great and useful works in which every man is at liberty to consult his own taste, provided it take a wise and judicious direction.

Good Taste will walk abroad into the works of the God of