

[For the Maple Leaf.

## THE PARROT'S LESSON.

A cage of golden wires,  
Haste, bring me for my bird,  
In forest glades its wilder notes  
Shall never more be heard.

But in my casement, twined  
With honeysuckles fair,  
I'll place it, and it long shall prove  
A faithful maiden's care.

Yes, and with patient art  
I'll teach it many a word,  
And all that go and come shall stay  
To praise my charming bird.

The words that I shall teach,—  
And these I always meant,  
Should find an echo in my heart,—  
"Be humble and content."

A simple sentence 'twas,  
Upon my sampler wrought,—  
I wove it deep within my heart,  
My soul its spirit caught.

Now if I sit and sing,  
Or if by sorrow spent,  
I still shall hear the magic words,  
"Be humble and content."

And wiser heads than mine  
Might not of this repent,  
To teach their proud repining hearts,  
"Be humble and content."

S. O.

Osnabruck, Jan. 6th, 1854.



CONVERSATION.—I would establish but one great general rule in conversation, which is this, that men should not talk to please themselves, but those that hear them. This would make them consider whether what they speak be worth hearing; whether there be either wit or sense in what they are about to say; and whether it be adapted to the time when, the place where, and the person to whom, it is spoken.—*Steele*.