

Poetry.

HONOUR TO THE PLOUGH.

Though clouds o'ercast our native sky,
 And seem to dim our sun,
 We will not down in languor lie,
 Or deem the day as done,
 The rural arts we loved before,
 No less we'll cherish now;
 And crown the banquet as of yore,
 With Honour to the Plough.

In these fair fields where peaceful spoil
 To faith and hope are given,
 We'll seek the prize with honest toil,
 And leave the rest to Heaven.
 We'll gird us to the work like men
 Who own a holy vow,
 And if in joy we meet again,
 Give Honour to the Plough.

Let Art, arrayed in magic power,
 With labour, hand in hand,
 Go forth; and now, in peril's hour,
 Sustain a sinking land.
 Let never sloth unnerve the arm,
 Or fear the spirit cow;
 These words alone should work a charm—
 All Honour to the Plough.

The heath redress, the meadow drain,
 The latent swamp explore,
 And o'er the long expecting plain
 Diffuse the quickening store!
 Then fearless urge the furrow deep,
 Up to the mountain's brow,
 And when the rich results you reap,
 Give Honour to the Plough.

So still shall health by pastures green
 And nodding harvest roam,
 And still behind her rustic screen
 Shall virtue find a home,
 And while their bowers the Muses build
 Beneath the neighbouring bough,
 Shall many a grateful voice be filled,
 With Honour to the Plough.

—Blackwood's Magazine.

Prosperity makes friends; adversity tries them.
 Prosperity best discovers vice; adversity, virtue.
 Moral rectitude is the accomplishment for heaven.

Good intentions will not justify evil actions.

No monuments of art compare with virtuous actions.

He who swells in prosperity, will shrink in adversity.

Accurate knowledge is the basis of correct opinions.

He who turns his back to the sun must see shadows.

A good way to thrive is to prune off needless wants.

Those who will excel in art must excel in industry.

The farmers are the founders of civilization.—Daniel Webster.

Virtue to become vigorous or useful, must be habitually active.

If we have a free press, there should be no anonymous writers.

All physical evils are so many beacon lights to warn us from vice.

The sympathy of friends in affliction charms away half the woe.

Knowledge may give weight, but accomplishments only give lustre.

Let reason go before every enterprise, and counsel before action.

The more honestly a man has the less he affects the air of a saint.

Write down the advice of him who loves you, though you dislike it at present.

Noble actions are the substance of life; good sayings its ornament and guide.

Application to useful study is a powerful guard, and a crown of glory to youth.

Attention, steady, and continuous, is the corner stone of the intellectual temple.

We ought to submit to the greatest inconvenience rather than commit the least sin.

The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without adversity.

One of the expenses of longevity is the loss of those who have been dear to us in our pilgrimage.

Ambition sacrifices the present to the future, but pleasure sacrifices the future to the present.

Affectation lights a candle to our defects, and though it may gratify ourselves, it disgusts all others.

Our passions are like convulsion fits, which make us stronger for the time, but leave us weaker forever after.

Grandiloquence results not so much from the knowledge of other languages, as from ignorance of our own.

Men make themselves ridiculous, not so much by the qualities they have, as by the affectation of those they have not.

They who mistake the excitement of a reform, for the source of danger, must, we should think, have overlooked all history.

While the faults of others do not touch us, we mildly view them in the abstract; but when they come in contact with our personal feelings and interests, they appear to become so large as to demand our strongest condemnation.

A blacksmith, having been asked why he did not sue his grievous calumniator for damages, pertinently replied, "I can hammer out a better character than the lawyers would give me."

Kiss the hand of him who can renounce what he has publicly taught, when convicted of his error; and who, with heartfelt joy embraces the truth, though in the sacrifice of favorable opinions.—Lavater.

The great comprehensive truths, written in every page of our history, are these: Human happiness has no perfect security but freedom; freedom, none but virtue; virtue none but knowledge; and neither freedom nor virtue has any vigour or immortal hope, except in the principles of the Christian faith, and in the sanctions of the Christian religion.—Quincy.

It seems necessary, in order that the Universe be comprehensible, that we recognize Deity not merely as the Creator, but as the ever-present preserver, sustainer, and efficient cause of all phenomena. In the rain and sunshine, in the soft zephyr, in the cloud, the torrent, and the thunder, in the bursting blossoms and the fading branch, in the revolving season and the falling star, there is the Infinite Essence and the mystic development of His Will.—Prof. Nichol.

The will of man, active and spontaneous, and fluctuating as it appears to be, is an instrument in the hand of God,—he turns it at his pleasure—he brings other instruments to act upon it—he plies it with all its excitements—he measures the force and proportion of each one of them—and every step of every individual receives as determinate a character from the hand of God, as every mile of a planet's orbit, or every gust of wind, or every wave of the sea, or every particle of flying dust.—Chalmers.