

Where there is the greatest flourish of virtue, there oftentimes appeareth the greatest blemish of vanity.

It is better to hear an open foe than a dissembling friend. *Pythagoras.*

He who dwelleth with a cripple will easily learn to halt; and he that is conversant with an hypocrite will soon endeavour to dissemble.

The more conversation is seasoned with fine phrases, the less it favoureth of true meaning.

Craft standeth in need of elegant cloathing, whereas truth is not ashamed to be naked.

Dissembling piety is double iniquity.

He that hath often been deceived by the falsehoods of a dissembler, will not believe him when he bringeth a true tale.

*Plato.*

Dissembling civilities, or French *politesse* are like Circe's charms, which can turn vain-glorious fools into asses; gluttonous fools into swine; merry souls into apes; and proud fools into peacocks.

The flattery of a dissembler is like the melody of the Syrens, who sing not to excite mirth, but to allure to mishap.

The mind of a crafty dissembler is hardened more by practice, than the hands of an artificer by great labour.

*Inopia sub dulci mille venena latent.  
Haredis stetus sub persona risus est.*

### OF COVETOUSNESS.

COVETOUSNESS is a vice of the soul, whereby a man desireth every good thing that another possesseth, which he will spare no pains to obtain, and in the pursuit will make use of any means lawful or unlawful to attain his end. In a limited sense, this vice is confined to an inordinate love of money; the gain whereof with an ill name is truly a great loss. *Aristotle.*

The characteristick of a covetous man is, to live like a beggar all the days of his life, that he may die rich. *Archimedes.*

A covetous man endureth great toil in gathering riches, extreme danger in keeping them, much law in defending them, and great torment in parting from them.

The covetous minded man going to market for riches purchaseth for himself abundant cares, the envy of his neighbours, peril for his person, damnation for his soul, curses for his children and law for his heirs.

Covetousness is a disease which spreadeth through all veins, is rooted in the bow-

els, and being inveterate cannot be removed. *Tully.*

Covetousness in old men is most monstrous: for what can be more foolish than to increase our stores as we approach our journey's end?

Pertinax the Roman general, being raised to the dignity of Emperor by his army, could not lay aside his accustomed meanness, but continued to divide lettuces and artichokes, that one half might be for his dinner and the other for his supper.

Dionysius the elder, Tyrant of Syracuse, being informed of a certain covetous man who had hidden a great sum of money, commanded him upon pain of death to bring it to him; he obeyed only in part, making a reserve with which he fled into another country and purchased an estate; when Dionysius heard of this, he invited him to return home, and sent him the money he had taken from him, saying, now he knew the use of money he might have it.

The covetous man's chariot is drawn by two horses whose names are *Greedy* and *Holdfast*. *Surely* is his coachman whose whip is *Oppression*. Gold is the bait of sin, and the hook of death. It is likewise aptly compared to fire, a little of which is good to warm us, but too much consumeth us.

A covetous man feeleth the want of that which he hath, as much as of that which he hath not.

### OF LIBERALITY.

LIBERALITY is an excellent use of those benefits which God putteth into our hands for the succour of many: this virtue should be united with justice, and ought to be guided by prudence and moderation.

He is properly called a liberal man, who according to his income, giveth freely, when, where, and to whom he should.

He that hath it in his power to give, and giveth not, is an enemy to mankind; and he that promiseth forthwith, but is long before he performs, is a suspicious friend.

Bounty's best honour is to help the poor, and its chief happiness, to live in good men's thoughts. *Aurelius.*

Bounty hath open hands, a zealous heart, constant good will on earth, and a seat prepared in heaven.

Bounty for giving frail and mortal things, received the reward of immortal fame.

Liberality