

Poetry.

BY LORD BYRON.

My soul is dark—Oh! quickly string
The harp I yet can brook to hear;
And let thy gentle fingers fling
Its melting murmurs o'er mine ear.
If in this heart a hope be dear,
That sound shall charm it fourth again;
If in these eyes there lurks a tear,
'Twill flow, and cease to burn my brain:
But bid the strain be wild and deep,
Nor let thy notes of joy be first;
I tell thee minstrel, I must weep,
Or else this heavy heart will burst;
For it hath been by sorrow nursed,
And ach'd in sleepless silence long;
And now 'tis doom'd to know the worst,
And break at once—or yield to song.

TRANSLATION OF THE GREEK.

..... CLOSE to the dizzy edge
Of Crissa's cliff, that overhangs its base,
On hands and knees the giddy babe had crept:
LYSTRIS saw—with agony too great
To speak—feeling as mothers feel, she stood
All motionless with grief—what could she dare!
To stir was death, and not to stir—Great God!
Sure 'twas thyself, who did'st into her soul,
Inspire the sudden thought—she bar'd her breast,
Still motionless with hope—the well known feat
Caught the child's eye—LYSTRIS softly stepp'd
And seiz'd her boy.—Still, Nature's softest food!
Thou art a mother's bribe to save her babe.

FOR THE CAMDEN GAZETTE.

On Matrimonial Happiness.

Here love his golden shafts employs, his light
His constant lamp, and waves his purple wings,
Rising here and revels. MILTON.

It has often been wondered at that so many people are unhappy in matrimony; let us endeavour to examine a little into the reasons of it. Reciprocal love is, perhaps, the first necessary ingredient absolutely requisite to our felicity in that state; it covers a multitude of failings on either side, and enables us to dispense with the rest. Dissimulation in cohabitation is to be avoided; we should with honor appear in our proper characters; deceit is here inexcusable. Must we not pity the fair one, who, possessed with every requisite to happiness, marries a disguised brute? How often is her delicacy shocked by his behaviour? Her heart knowing no other love on earth but him, pleads in his favour, while her cooler reason and judgment prompt her to despise the man who dared to deceive in so important a point. Her only remedy patience; her only refuge her God.

Before one of the fair sex engages in so solemn a state, she must divest herself of many things most young ladies are fond of. She must no longer endeavour to excite the love and adoration of the gay part of the other sex; her vanity must give place to her love, and her happiness must be centred in the object of it. It becomes her indispensable duty to be frank and ingenuous; to religiously avoid any excess of vanity, and love of admiration, which too often induces her to sacrifice the ease and tranquility of her admirers.

Her choice should be early made, and her purpose once taken, should be fixed and stable. Candour in this case is the noblest virtue of the soul, and the height of charity and beneficence, is to instantly undeceive the languishing lover, by a firm and resolute statement of her determination.

From assemblies, card playing, and the other pleasures of the beau monde, it would be unreasonable entirely to debar her; yet they must by no means be essential to her ease; they should rather amuse her

in a leisure hour than have any part of her time constantly allotted to them. A woman of prudence cannot behave amiss in the point in question.

In each sex there are qualities essential to happiness, and those almost any person of common reflection is able to attain.

A man should well consider how far it is in his power to contribute to the happiness of the more delicate sex; he must divest himself of each unruly passion; his ambition should be to please the woman he has chosen for his friend. He must in every thing promote her ease; he must share with her his every joy, and with a delicate tenderness let her partake of his griefs: it is a mark of confidence due to her; it eases her mind of suspense, and gives her as it were a melancholy pleasure.

The sex is by nature full of sensibility. The most humane man will sometimes hurt their minds without intending it, or even knowing it: how great then ought to be our continual kindness, to atone for so many breaches of the laws of delicacy?

No happiness on earth can be so great, nor any friendship so tender as the state of matrimony affords, when two congenial souls are united. The mortal and personal love can never be separated: the man all truth, the woman all kindness: he possessed of cheerful solidity, she of rational gaiety; acknowledging him equal in judgment, matured by experience; she complies with all his reasonable desires, whilst he is charmed with such repeated instances of superior love, endeavours to suit his requests to her inclinations.—His home is his heaven upon earth, and she is his good genius, ever ready to receive him with open arms, and a heart dilated with joy. How happy must such a confidence make them.

All then is full, possess'd; and possess'd,
No craving void left aking in the breast;
Ev' a thought meets thought—ere from the lip
It part,
And each warm wish springs mutual from the heart.
This sure is bliss. Pope.

What on earth but the prospect of a virtuous progeny can encrease it? And if they have any pledges of their continued mutual love, they may comfort themselves with the knowledge that their good example will go far beyond any precept they could give. Habituated to walk in the delectable path of virtue, (whose way is the way of pleasantness leading to the temple of peace) to their children it will be as natural as their mother tongue; happy parents! happy offspring!

The wife must look upon her husband as her best earthly friend; her confidence in him must be entire; his breast must be her cabinet; the repose of all her most secret thoughts; his love the key, ever ready to open it for her inspection.
Chesterfield, April 25, 1816.

SELECTIONS

FOR SUPPLEMENTAL READERS.

The advantages of Arithmetic.

How much may be said on a single subject—and how often are the most useful things overlooked, merely because they are thought to be sufficiently obvious! Of all the sciences that engage the study of man, none is so valuable as Arithmetic, or the science of numbers: this is indeed sufficiently cultivated by those whose intended sphere of life is supposed to require an accurate and ready knowledge of its principals—but what is that situation, in which it is not absolute-

ly necessary to be acquainted with its practical uses?

It has been observed, and I believe with great truth, that no one was ever undone, who kept an exact account of his income and his expenditure. Unforeseen and unavoidable calamities may, indeed, surprise the most vigilant, and overturn the most regular; but few are the persons who fail in life from such imperious causes, compared to the vast numbers of those, who may date their misfortunes from negligence in adjusting their accounts: and who are ruined before they perceive that they are in danger.

Let me, therefore, recommend it to you, my dear young readers, as you value peace of mind, independence, and fortune, to acquire an early facility in numbers, and a fixed habit of rendering them subservient to those purposes, which will secure you from the imposition of the cunning, or from the delusion of spending more than your circumstances will allow.

Whatever your income may be, apportion it, with scrupulous exactitude, to your weekly, monthly, or yearly expenses. It is impossible to live in society, according to one uniformly invariable tenor; but the extravagance of one day should be compensated by the economy of the next,—and nothing short of absolute necessity should induce you to interfere with the general arrangements, which a prudent regard to your circumstances impose.

It is almost impossible for any thinking mind to run the heedless career of constant dissipation, who, by referring to his pocket-book, should his rank require no other books to be kept, sees, on one side of a weekly page, his income or allowance, which he is to husband—and, on the opposite, his disposal of it. Keeping such a statement is not only a guard against profusion—but also a security against imposition. What has been once paid may be easily authenticated; and what has been improvident may be remedied in future.

All the attention and knowledge that this will require, is so trifling, that no persons but the most illiterate, and the most indolent, can offer any excuse for their neglect. Indolence, indeed, is no excuse for any omission of duty to our selves or society; and the very lowest classes of mankind, whose misfortune it may be, to be debarred from any opportunities of improvement in learning, seldom can acquire so much credit as will injure others, or have so much to waste as may affect themselves. No situation, however—not even the lowest—but will find a comfort and benefit in apportioning its pittance to its expenditure; and thus learning to find resources in honest industry, frugality, and prudence.—But it is chiefly on those who are removed from real want—on those who are rich, or relatively so, that I wish to impress the observance of regular accounts. The father of a family, if he is negligent in this respect, is unworthy of the station he fills—the mistress of a house, who pays no regard to domestic expenditure, is entailing want on the children she caresses, and can never be the object of love or esteem.

The name of book-keeping, as this will be called, may possibly frighten the gay and the young. It may be supposed, that it requires deep attention, and previous knowledge: but on what does it hinge? on the four simple rules of arith-

metic—Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division. The Rule of Three or Proportion is also of very considerable use, but it is only a particular application of the rules already enumerated: and its principles may be acquired in a moment.

Can any one then be justified, when his credit begins to fail, and the clamours of those he has injured surround him, by alledging, that he did not know he had exceeded his income? Should even want stare him in his face, where is his apology? He sees from what has been said, how easily he might have known what was his interest and his duty to know; and if he has failed through inattention, he neither deserves the pity of his friends, nor can he enjoy the conscientious reflection of having done what he ought.

It is a Dutch maxim, and a good one, "that the man who has spent his whole income, has that year lived in vain;" but the man who has lived beyond his income, has not only been useless but criminal—he has involved himself in difficulties, and without circumspection, he must defraud the public. By some attention to numbers alone, can he learn in time how the case stands: I will therefore venture to affirm, that tho' all other sciences may be in some measure useful or ornamental, an acquaintance with Arithmetic is an indispensable obligation.

REMARK.

A man should never disclose all his thoughts and intentions; but so far as he thinks convenient to communicate his mind, he should do it with truth and sincerity.

THE USE OF COFFEE.

A physician observed to Fontenelle, that Coffee kills by a slow poison. "Yes, very slow indeed," answered the philosopher, smiling; "for I have taken it for fourscore years past, and am alive still."

REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

A Court Martial is ordered to be held at Camden, on the third day of May next, to try all officers of the 35th Regiment of South-Carolina Militia, who were delinquent at the Regimental Muster of the 2d April inst. at Camden. The following Officers will compose the Court.

Lieut. Col. ENGLISH, President.
Capt. JAMES LAFB,
Capt. DRAKFORD,
Capt. DUBB,
Lieut. JAMES DAVIDSON, } Members.
Lieut. EVERARD CURTIS,
Lieut. ELIJAH SELL,
Major CRIGHTON, } Supernumeraries.
Capt. JAMES BALLARD, }
Capt. CHAPMAN LEVY, Judge Advocate.
By order of
Col. A. M'Willie,
CHARLES HUNTER, Adjutant.
Camden, 2d April, 1816.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

A Court Martial for the trial of all Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, who were delinquent in attendance or equipment, at the Regimental Muster of the 35th Regiment of the Militia of the state of South-Carolina, at Camden, on the 2d. of April inst. is ordered to convene and be held at Camden, on the third day of May next, and to adjourn from day to day, until all the business which shall be produced before the said court shall be finished.

The Court shall be composed of the following Officers:
Capt. BLAIR, President.
Lieut. JOSEPH ENGLISH, } Members.
Lieut. PARSON,
Lieut. THOMAS P. EVANS, Judge Adv.
By order of
Col. A. M'Willie,
CHARLES HUNTER, Adjutant.
Camden, 2d April, 1816.

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