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ON PRIDE.

"Pride was not made for Man."

THIS excellent precept from holy writ, might alone have taught man humility. But, so prone are we grown to ambition, so eager to value ourselves upon our worldly acquisitions, that even the words of omnipotence are not sufficient to controul our pride. Man is a creature of nature, was left, after the fall of our first parents, to hunt his daily subsistence in the distant forests. Water, and not gold, quenched his thirst, and the "stricken deer" furnished his social board. Then, was blooming health and vigour the prerogative of man; no foreign luxuries contaminated his body—no sensual appetites preyed upon his mind.

I cannot so well elucidate this subject, as by presenting a few anecdotes of the pride of man in the iron age in which we live.

Philip the third, King of Spain being gravely seated, as Spaniards generally are, by a chimney where the fire-maker of the court had kindled so great a quantity of wood that the monarch was nearly suffocated with heat, his grandeur would not suffer him to rise from the chair; and the domestics could not presume to enter the apartment, because it was against the *Etiquette*. At length, the Marquis De Potat appeared, and the King ordered him to damp the fire: but he excused himself, alledging, that he was forbidden by *Etiquette* to perform such a function, for which the Duke D'Uffeda ought to be called, as it was his business. The Duke was gone out; the fire burnt fiercer; and the King endured it, rather than derogate from his dignity. But his blood was heated to such a degree that an erysipelas broke out in his head the next day; which, being succeeded by a violent fever, carried him off in at the age of twenty four.

The palace was once on fire; when a soldier, who knew the King's sister must inevitably have been consumed in a few moments by the flames, at the risk of his life, rushed in, and brought her highness safe out in his arms. But the Spanish *Etiquette* was here woefully broken into! The loyal soldier was brought to trial; and, as it was impossible to deny that he had entered her apartment, he was condemned to die!

Swift, in his celebrated burlesque novel, had his Hero Gulliver impeached for high treason; and one of the articles of the impeachment is, for extinguishing the fire which threatened the destruction of the King of Lilliputs Palace, by a discharge of his own urine. If the Author, had the latter anecdote in view when he wrote that work, it was jesting with a melancholy instance of the unbounded pride of Tyranny. From such instances, it would appear that this disgraceful passion, is but little checked in crowned heads since the days of Bajazet Emperor of the Turks; who, bound in chains, say to Tameline his Conqueror, "Oh had I been master but of

yesterday,
The world—the world had felt me—and for thee,
I would have used thee as thou art to me—a Dog,
The object of my scorn, and mortal hatred;
I would have taught thy neck to know my weight,
And mounted from that foot-stool to my saddle:
Then, when thy daily servile task was done,
I would have caged thee, for the scorn of slaves,
Till you hadst begg'd to die, and e'en that mercy I had deny'd thee."

Horrid reflection—that man should render up, to mortal pride, that life, which belongs to God alone!

View mankind in their various situations in life, and we find but few divested of pride. In most instances, envy, its near relation, is the companion of pride. In politics, in trade, in mechanics; what envy—what pride may be found.

"If there be any thing which makes human nature appear ridiculous, to beings of superior faculties, it must be pride. They know so well the vanity of those imaginary perfections that swell the heart of man, and of those little supernumerary advantages, whether in birth, fortune, or title, which one man enjoys above another that it must certainly very much astonish, if it does not very much divert them, when they see a mortal puffed up, and valuing himself above his neighbours on any of these accounts, at the same time that he is obnoxious to all the common calamities of the species."

Nor are the female sex free from this imputation of pride; & though it may in the present day be chiefly confined to dress and the change of fashion; yet, have we in them, many instances of a tincture of ambition, envy, and even cruelty.

In the characters of Mary and Elizabeth, Queens of England, are to be found a combination of these excesses. In the latter, the execution of the Queen of the Scots, and the Earl of Essex, are indelible stains—while the bloody havoc of the former in favour of Popery will forever be regarded with horror.

That pride is attendant on high rank, history hath numberless instances. I shall, however, here suffer one of recent date to suffice.

The Princess Amelia, Aunt to the present King of England, being engaged in a party at Whitt, an officer of rank, who stood behind her chair, seeing her snuff-box on the table, imprudently took a pinch. The Princess, enraged at the liberty taken by a subject, imperiously called one of her attendants, and ordered him to throw the remainder of the snuff into the fire. The officer, in the utmost confusion was glad to leave the room.

It is a rapid stride from Courts to the gallows; yet, as the intermediate state is nothing but a repetition of the sin of pride, I shall conclude this number with an instance of it in the moments of a disgraceful passage from this world to eternity.

An Highwayman and a Chimney-Sweeper were going to be hanged at the public place of execution in England. When they came to the fatal tree, the Highwayman pushed the Sweeper out of the way, and bid him keep his distance—The Son on foot with spirit replied "D—n me Sir if I do, I have as good a right to be here as you."

The Carolinian Observer.

An anecdote of two Students at an English University.

A Student of Oxford College having a desire to peruse a Book which was in the possession of another Student, sent his compliments and requested the loan of it: He returned this answer—"my compliments, and inform the gentleman that I never lend a book out, but if he will come to my chamber he may read it there as long as he likes. The Student not thinking this a civil answer did not go.

A fine time afterwards the book holder, having occasion to light a fire in a hurry, sent his compliments to the first mentioned Student, and begg'd he would lend him a pair of bellows, when he returned for answer—"Teli the gentleman I never lend my bellows out, but if he will come to my chamber he may use them at my fire as long as he likes."

The following inimitable portrait of that great and good MAN, whose loss our country still deplores, is drawn by a celebrated European, who knew our fainter countryman by his sublime virtues and glorious deeds.

[Boft. Cent.]

From the BRITISH MERCURY, By Mallet du Pan.

IN the same month (December 1799) and nearly of the same age, died three men * very unlike in talents, character, public qualities and reputation; but who in their dissimilar career, have excited the admiration or engaged the attention of Europe. Two of them were victims of the French revolution, and the third would also have fallen a sacrifice to it, had not his profound wisdom, the energy of the rational part of his countrymen, and local causes, supported him against the intrigues, libels and machinations of the republic of France.

Their words will immediately present to the reader's mind the name of General WASHINGTON. On the 15th of December the United States of America lost this great and virtuous citizen, who died in the 68th year of his age, at his house in Virginia, in consequence of a sudden disorder, which carried him off in 24 hours.

What rank will history assign to this character among the contemporaries whose name are borne the greatest lustre? It may be made a question whether Washington, as a General and statesman, equalled in genius Prince Eugene, Frederick II. or Chatham? But how is it possible with propriety to compare men who are placed in situations no wise analogous?

* Washington, De Steigner and Marmontel.

"Were we allowed to venture an opinion on this subject, we observe that if Washington was inferior to some other illustrious men in extent and boldness of mind, he surpassed them by the union of qualities and talents the most rarely found together, and by a character almost faultless.

"Constitution, soul, and intellect, were in him in constant harmony, and perfectly adopted to his public career. It might be said that Providence had created him for the part he has sustained, for the people he governed, and for the circumstances in which his country stood. At Athens his lot would have been that of Aristides or Phocion; in a republic well constituted and long established, his services would not have been called forth; in a corrupt republic he would have chosen a private station as the post of honour.

"In his military and political life wisdom was the prominent feature of his character. It is given to few men to possess that admirable temperate which marked all the actions of Washington. His courage and his talents for war would have been insufficient and perhaps hurtful, without the patience, coolness and equality of spirits which he displayed in bad as well as good fortune.

"At the head of the republic, he preserved the same uprightness and the same spirit of conduct by which he had been guided in battle. He was indebted to the excellence of his judgment, as well as to the ascendancy of his public and private virtues, for the permanence of the reputation he enjoyed. His speeches, letters, actions, were always marked with the same reason, and that strong good sense which is the highest gift of nature to a public man, and his highest merit: that good sense which alone resists the agitations of the soul, and corrects the wanderings of the understanding.

"The habitual moderation of Washington—his firmness which was ever calm and well timed his prudence, which neither difficulty nor passion, neither hope nor fear could shake—his superiority to all artifice and intrigue, and his artless politics, dictated by a just estimation of times, men and things, have never degenerated for a moment. Placed at the head of an infant republic, he acquired all the dignity usually bestowed on high offices by the force of custom and of age, and he preferred it as if he had ruled America for a century: his administration was better supported by respect and confidence than by laws or armies.

"He has not been charged with a vice or a weakness. No one has raised a doubt of his integrity or his disinterested-