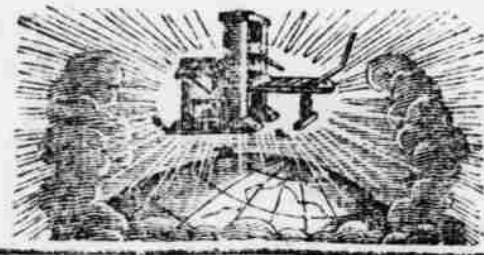


TARBORO' PRESS.



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The Tarborough Press,

BY GEORGE HOWARD.

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Communications.

FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

Reading and the difference of style and character of different kinds of writing and publications.

No. 9.

Why should we make our duty our delight, let pleasure be the motive (and allow that immortality be quite forgot,) where shall we find thro' all the page profane

A sweeter pleasure & a purer source of innocent delight than the fair book of holy truth presents."

I come at last, and in the last paper I intend to trouble the public with at present on this subject, or this collection of subjects, to make a few remarks on that ever remarkable, ever miraculous, hated, dreaded, neglected, yet incomparable volume called the BIBLE—infidelity, superstition, and indifference to the contrary notwithstanding. There it is before us, the most valuable or the most worthless book on earth. Every one may read it, judge of it, and of what I have to say on it for himself; and I am sure that no candid person can object to a few common sense thoughts on a work so directly pointing to and interfering with our every day and vital interests—a work so full of all kinds of information and instruction.

Although the Bible was written in ages very distant from one another, under different circumstances, on different occasions, and by authors differently situated, yet the book has a style peculiar to itself running through it from beginning to end. A style which translation from one language to another, or the different idioms and peculiarities of the different languages do not alter or affect. A style the most theoretical and comprehensive of any, yet the plainest and most practical of any; a style the most pungent and attractive to the indifferent mind, the most transporting and forcible to the most sensitive—a style the most interesting and instructive to the wise and understanding, and what is still more remarkable, it is inimitable or is not susceptible of being employed by any writers at the present day on any occasion or for any purpose whatsoever. One peculiarity of the Old Testament, and one which we will first notice, is that the reader on reading the first sentence or first paragraph of a subject, seems to find himself in the midst of the story and the principal points that are to follow. This may be in part owing to some prominent or the principal point of the subject being selected for the beginning, which without preamble or ceremony if properly treated, never fails to give the understanding mind some knowledge of the path in which it is about to travel. The next and the most prominent and important peculiarity of style, is the unequivocal and unexceptionable language and phraseology pervading every part of the Bible throughout, whether historical, prophetic, proverbial, admonitory, or parabolic. Whatever exceptions others may take who read and discuss the contents of the Bible, or what-

ever apology it may seem to them to need, there is no exception nor any apology to be found in the book itself, although one part is often referred to by another part. Again: in the historical part when the history of an individual or community of people is given, the blackest deeds as well as the brightest and most eminent virtues of individuals and communities, are recorded and treated with the same unreservedness and impartiality. Among the great number whose history is given, it is remarkable that not one individual who was considered as a mere man, is to be found without the record of some egregious fault or error in his life; this is an evidence of the fallibility of mankind, as well as a substantial proof of the correctness of the accounts. Another peculiarity, which however is more applicable to the character of the Bible than to the style of its composition, is this: with those individuals whose history is given at length, the substance of the history is to be found in the writings and sayings of the individuals themselves. As for example, in the history of Moses we see no learned historian portraying the man or magnifying his deeds; but we have the writings and sayings of a man by the name of Moses—to say the least, we have those which have originated from some source or other, and we may as well call the author Moses as any thing else. The five books of Moses exist and they speak for themselves. Examples of the same kind are the histories of Job, David, Solomon and Paul the apostle. The five books of Moses, the book of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the epistles of Paul, which contain these specimens, are unsurpassed in wisdom and purity of style among the literary work of the world. Another peculiarity of character of the Bible, is, the specimens of reproof, rebuke, precept, admonition and moral philosophy are in general such as were given in the most personal and direct manner, in despite of selfish interests, of governors, kings, parasites and clamorous multitudes to the contrary. Witness the second book of Samuel, 12th chapter, Nathan's reproof to David after using a good example to illustrate his crime and make him condemn himself, he says, "Thou art the man." Moral philosophy is taught also without the aid of preamble and theory, or in other words, the theory and all necessary preamble are displayed in the example itself—for instance, the parable of the talents in Matthew, chap. 25. These and many other instances of the kind, all most acknowledged, are peculiar to the Bible, and are superior to any other mode for enlightening the minds of men, curbing their refractory propensities and dispositions.

All, I believe, whether infidels or believers, who have perused the Bible, acknowledge it to be the most talented and greatest literary work ever compiled. The book itself, setting aside the momentous subjects on which it treats of a spiritual nature, as a philosophical and historical work is indeed superior to any thing of the kind that can be produced. It is a glorious standard by which to measure every principle of morality and philosophy, every thought and every imagination of the mind. And now in conclusion permit me to say, if the base doctrine, that "There is no God and death is an eternal sleep," were true, I would cling to that book as the greatest and most valuable treasure ever possessed by men.

COMMON SENSE.

Fifty-nine tons of Bibles have been shipped from England to Antigua & Jamaica, for the use

of the emancipated blacks. "Do you make good use of your bible, Coffee?" said one of the class leaders. "O, very good use, massa—I trop my razor on em." Religion is like liberty—it cannot be conferred on those incapable of appreciating its value. Upwards of £20,000 sterling has been raised in England to educate the negroes of the West India Islands. Every thing for their souls—nothing for their bodies. Instead of being taught the mechanic arts, the use of the plough and harrow, the plane and adze, the awl or needle, the anvil and lap stone—instead of practical industry, temperance and integrity, they are taught to read their bible and sing hymns. They all begin at the wrong end—they attempt to finish the superstructure before they have laid the foundation. But the movers in this grand religious scheme feel strong in the faith—they are sure that God is with them. They raise \$100,000 to teach the negroes religion, while thousands of their own poor Ireland are perishing with hunger, actually dying with want—they must die in a land of plenty, because it is deemed more charitable to look after the souls of the blacks, than to feed the hungry and clothe the naked whites of their own soil, and this is called religion. It is delusion—it is fanaticism. The great atonement for sin on earth, is to relieve the wants and distresses of our fellow beings.—N. Y. Star.

Bank and Stock Frauds.—Two events created considerable excitement yesterday in Wall street. Mr. Bartow, cashier of the Albany Commercial Bank, was missing, and defalcations to an immense amount were discovered. It is supposed that speculations in stocks, the temptation to many men connected with banks, have been the cause of this event, which has forever ruined the hitherto fair character of the individual and destroyed the hopes and prospects of his family. The absence of Mr. Bartow has probably given to the transaction a worse aspect than it may in all probability merit. The second was an open bare-faced fraud, perpetrated by a very young fellow by the name of Wilding, who purchased \$41,000 of stocks of two brokers, gave his checks, sold the stocks, pocketed the spoils, and ran off. The brokers at an expense of \$1000, caught the delinquent and recovered the money.—ib.

A Profitable Customer.—A gentleman, calling himself S. S. Green, dropped in at the American House, early last month, lived at his ease a few days, broke a gig, and, taking French leave—removed to the Exchange.—Here he booked as Seth S. Green, staid a fortnight, drank wine copiously, and made an unceremonious adjournment, without day. Several trunks were broken in the house during his residence, and if any charitable person is disposed to pay his bill, he will find it unaccepted. On the 25th, he walked into the Broomfield House—where he staid three days, as Mr. George C. Green, and forgot to settle his bill. In the interim four trunks were broken open and \$20 stolen; and some people have been so scandalous as to suspect Mr. Green. Then removing to Kilburn's—and entering himself as George C. Wyman; the same unlucky trunk-breaking disposition was manifested in the house: eight trunks were opened, and two watches and \$43 in money were abstracted. Here he was arrested, examined, and bound over in the sum of \$1,000 to take his trial at the Municipal Court. Boston Atlas.

Mulish.—Some time last year we recorded the remarkable fact of a female mule belonging to John T. Kilby, Esq. of Suffolk, having brought forth a colt, which was doubted by many, as it was deemed a point settled that mules were incapable of propagating their species or even producing a cross breed—in short that they were obstinate anti-amalgamationists by nature. The fact, however was true as Davy Crockett's rifle, and has lately been placed beyond dispute by a repetition of the Phenomenon by the same agents. Mr. Kilby informs us, that the same mule bore a colt on the 13th of last month, by the same horse, and that it is now by the side of its dam in the pasture where it may be seen by every body. It is well formed and partakes more of the horse than the mule, of course. We should like to hear the opinion of the learned in such matters on this extraordinary, probably unique case. The mule is 11 or 12 years old.—Norfolk Herald.

It was our province on Saturday last, to witness one of the most horrible and revolting scenes, that human atrocity ever devised. A woman and two children, lying upon the floor of a single room, all murdered by one hand—and that the hand of the husband and father. The horrid deed was perpetrated by a monster in human shape, by the name of John McCowen, a cabinetmaker, who lived on Walnut near Columbia street. There are various reports and opinions, with regard to the circumstances attending this unprecedented and unnatural murder. But there is but one opinion as to the foulness and atrocity of the deed. The annals of crime do not contain a more cold-blooded and black-hearted murder. The woman, when we first saw her, was writhing in the last agonies of death, the blood gushing from the throat and mouth, at every heave of the chest. Her head and face were most shockingly mutilated; one side of her head was completely crushed in. From the number of gashes upon her, it would seem that she had made resistance. The inanimate corpses of the children, one about 4, and the other 2 years, as they lay stretched out upon the cold floor, steeped in their young and innocent blood, formed one of the most heart-rending and heart-sickening spectacles we ever witnessed.

The following particulars of the temporary escape, and subsequent detection of the wretched man, are from last Saturday's Evening Post.

"The murderer instantly fled, and had proceeded over Mill creek bridge, about three and a half miles from the scene of his crime, when he was overtaken by the officers and conducted to the jail, followed by an immense crowd, who were so exasperated that they would no doubt have lynched him, had he not been hurried off on horseback to the prison. On his arrest he stated that he had murdered his wife, and he knew he should be hung for it, and he killed his children, because he was determined to leave no offspring to be disgraced by his crime."—Cincinnati (O) Rep.

We are exceedingly pained to state, that Mr. James Rowe, the partner of Mr. R. Russell, in the management of the New Orleans, Nashville, Louisville and Cincinnati Theatres, put a period to his existence, in Nashville, a few days since by shooting himself with a pistol. The rash act was committed on Friday evening the 2d inst. The ball penetrated his breast, and he lingered until Saturday evening when he died.

Mr. Rowe was a highly respect-

table and estimable man, and has left behind several children and a large circle of friends to lament his melancholy death.

As Mr. Rowe was doing a prosperous business, and in very independent circumstances, no cause for the horrible deed can be assigned, unless it be attributed to his affliction in the death of his accomplished wife, a few months since, in New Orleans. Since that event, he has appeared miserable, dejected, and, at times, so melancholy as to border on derangement. We had ourself a letter from him, written but a few days before his death, which gives evident marks of his mind having been in an unsettled state. Cincinnati Whig.

We regret to hear that the jail at Halifax Court House (Va.) together with a quantity of muskets, swords, &c. deposited in the upper story, for safe keeping, were consumed by fire on Saturday night last. There were only two prisoners, a black and a white man, neither of whom escaped. It is supposed that the fire was the work of an incendiary, though suspicion has fixed upon no particular individual. Efforts were making, however, to discover the incendiary.—Lynchburg Virg.

Villainous.—One of the most unmanly tricks we have heard of lately, is that of a man being unable to beg, borrow, or steal money to buy his accustomed dram, actually cut off his wife's fine head of hair, and sold it—the brute—for about forty cents, spending the whole proceeds in rum. None but a degraded wretch would have thought of so disgraceful a method of raising the wind, and none but a worthless besotted creature could have carried it into execution.—Philadelphia Cour.

The Mississippi lawyers who practice under the Lynch code, have lately adopted a new mode of punishment. They lately caught a fellow named Wm. Earl, and after stripping him naked and laying him on the ground, took a large tom cat by the tail and dragged the animal to and fro on his back. Grimalkin plied his claws with great effect, and "made his mark" with so deep an impression, that the fellow's back will hardly need scratching again for a twelvemonth. Boston Gazette.

It is stated in the Charleston Courier, of the 12th inst. that the British ship Adam Lodge, just arrived at that port, has on board eight full blooded English horses, for Wade Hampton, Esq. purchased at the last King's sale in England, by Dr. Nott, for Mr. Hampton: among them were two brood mares. Col. Richardson received a superior brood mare by the same ship; and Mr. Hampton, some valuable English sheep.

Murder—Robbery,—and immediate execution after arrest!—Mr. George Robinson, a highly respectable citizen of Arkansas, travelling in his wagon between Memphis and Little Rock, was murdered and robbed of \$1000, by a young man with whom he fell in company at Memphis. They left the wagon near Blackfish Lake, with the intention of reaching St. Francis River in advance of it. On the way, the young man murdered Mr. Robinson, threw him behind a log, and covered the corpse with brush. The murderer, James C. Johnson, was apprehended and brought back to the spot where the crime was committed. He here confessed before about 50 persons assembled, and expressed a desire to be executed forthwith, which re-

quest was immediately complied with. After which, his body was flung behind the same log where his victim was found.

The Anniversary of the invention of Printing has been celebrated at Haerlem, in Holland, by Orations, Poems, a public Dinner and Illuminations. A monument to the memory of Lawrence Koster is to be erected. It is now 406 years since printing was invented. The Chinese claim to have invented block printing 500 years before; but Europe knew nothing of it.

Mr. Gurley, the respectable Secretary of the Colonization Society, we are sorry to perceive, calls upon the ladies to assemble this afternoon, at the Masonic Temple, to hear a colored missionary from Africa. These appeals to the women, whether made by Mr. Gurley, or Mr. Thomson, or Mr. any body, are disreputable and ought to be discountenanced by every gentleman.—Women have no business to meddle with the affairs of Liberia, any more than they have with the immediate emancipation of slaves. If the travelling agents of benevolent societies cannot effect their purposes by addressing their importunities directly to men, it would be creditable to them to seek some other employment.—Boston Cour.

Serious Affair.—The Philadelphia Herald says: Chesnut street, between Third and Fourth, was yesterday afternoon thronged with persons attracted by the operations of the Sheriff. It appears that a short time since, Mary McKinley, who has done business in the fancy dry goods line, for some time past as a *feme sole*, upon a pretty large scale, stopped payment for 120,000 to 150,000 dollars. The circumstance created no little surprise, several meetings of her creditors were held in consequence, which resulted in a full conviction that there had been some dishonest dealings on her part. Yesterday it was ascertained that she had hired a large store house in the rear of her store, and suspicion was at once raised that it contained some of the goods that had unaccountably disappeared: the Sheriff was therefore empowered to attach, for the benefit of her creditors, whatever could be found; the doors and windows were well secured, but an entrance was finally effected, and a large amount of valuable goods discovered and taken. The woman, we understand, had made arrangements to go immediately to Ireland, but she will now, most likely, be compelled to postpone her travels until she shall have answered the accusation of fraud and swindling.

The American Baptist Magazine for August, (says the Zion's Herald) contains extracts from the journal of the Rev. Mr. Kincaid, missionary in Burmah. We select the following:

"August 27, 1834. We had a singular visitor to-day—a little girl ten years old, completely covered with hair about five inches long, very soft and light colored. Her father is a hairy man. He is a Shan, and was brought to Umerapoora by the old king. I was struck with the features of this child. Was it not that the hair was parted in the front, so that she could see, you would not know by the shape of her head which was the front or back part, her nose, ears, cheeks and even her arms being covered with long silky hair. She answered a variety of questions, with as much propriety as most children of her age, and was very mannerly in her language."