

## THE POWER OF BEAUTY.

They cry'd, no wonder such celestial charms,  
For nine long years have set the world in arms;  
What winning graces! what majestic mien!  
She moves a goddess, and she looks a queen.

POPE'S HOMER.

MADAM *Dacier*, who was perhaps the most learned and sensible woman that France ever produced, has observed, that the above stands upon record, the greatest compliment ever paid to beauty; and that so long as *Homer* shall be read, it will remain a distinguished monument of the gallantry of heathenish times and grey hairs. *Madam Dacier* is perfectly right, if every thing he duly considered; for *Priam*, who was the king of Troy, was, at the time I am speaking of, a very old man, had most of his sons killed in that ever memorable siege, and repeatedly ran the risk of losing his own life, and all the Trojan chiefs and counsellors likewise, who were equally old with himself, had, like him, lost many of their sons and relations in the war; and like him too suffered under all the dangers and distresses of a nine years siege, were, after all, the very men to pay the above great compliment to *Helen*; who was an alien, had been the sole cause of the war, and without any other stipulation than that of giving her up, would have put an end at once to the war and all its calamities. Rather, however, than agree to such a condition, and part forever with so much beauty, these gallant old men determined, feeble as they were, and harassed as they had been not to give her up, though that might be, as in the end it actually proved to be, the destruction of Troy and of themselves! how justly then may we say here, what *Dryden* has so happily applied elsewhere. *None but the brave deserve the fair.*

*Phryne*, the Venus-formed, judge-bewitching *Phryne*, is another, and if possible, stronger instance of the all-powerful influence of beauty; and proves a position as curious as it is important, that what is spoken to the ear, however eloquent, is not near so effectually beautiful, as what is shewn to the eye. This lady was remarkable for having a face exquisitely beautiful, and a person of the most exact and perfect symmetry, inasmuch that all the statues of Venus were then made after her much admired, but, universally allowed, matchless model. In consequence, however, of repeated riots having been raised, and some lives lost, at her apartments, an action was brought against her by order of the court of Athens, and the great *Demosthenes* that thunder-bolt of eloquence, retained against her. *Hyperides*, who was the second orator of his time, and *Phryne's* particular favourite, immediately on hearing of the prosecution, undertook, with a generosity as prompt as it was noble, to plead her cause, unfeared, and even unsolicited: And when the trial came on, he endeavored, by every argument that such transcendent beauty could inspire, to bring his fair client off. Finding, however, at length, that notwithstanding all he could say, *Demosthenes*, by an impassioned impetuosity of declamatory eloquence, alike, irresistible with the world-overwhelming torrent at the general delude, bore down all before him, and that the court, in consequence thereof, and of the facts being fully proved, was just going to give judgment against her; *Hyperides*, effectually to soften the judges without saying one word more, turned round to his fair friend, and uncovering her neck, displayed, at once, one of the finest bosoms that eyes ever beheld! Struck with such amazing such bewitching beauty, the hoary and hitherto inflexible judges, who had determined but the moment before, to act up\* to the sanguinary spirit of their laws, shew themselves the rigid dispensers of severe justice, and agreeable thereto, pass upon her the last dreadful sentence, found, in an instant, all their firmest resolves shook to the ground. Won over by such irresistible and all conquering charms, they as with one voice, rose, declaring, that the ruffian hands of no executioner should ever touch, much less destroy such inimitable, such ineffable beauty and loveliness, immediately acquitted her, amidst the air-rending acclamations of the surrounding multitude, frantic for the moment, with repeated bursts of the most immoderate joy.

*So love was crowned, but beauty (not Music) won the cause.*

\* The laws of Athens were so shockingly sanguinary as to draw this severe sarcasm from one person, that they were written more with blood than with ink; another person, alluding to the tamer of many of them, whose names is *Draco*, and which is the Latin for a dragon, observed that they were the laws rather of a dragon than of a man; and a third, understanding they punished with death every crime, even the smallest, declared, that they were fitter for the regions of Pandemonium, than a country inhabited by human beings.

(From a London Magazine.)

## REMARKS ON FAMILY GOVERNMENT.

THAT great Philosopher, *The Marquis of Beccaria*, has said, with great truth, that good government is begun in the cradle; that it is in vain to make laws to punish vice, unless the rising generation, is trained up in the love of virtue. The great defect in family government, general-

ly arises from a want of harmony between the governors. Where the father and mother do not exhibit before their children a respect and esteem for each other, their precepts will be vain, and their reproofs ineffectual. If their children observe that they do not reverence and respect each other, they will hold the parental advice in contempt. If, therefore, parents disapprove of each other's conduct, in any instance, they never ought to mention it before their children, or in the hearing of their servants. I have heard it said by a very serious man, that he had rather do that which could not be approved of, three times before others, than once before his children.

The family uneasiness which injures the education of children, might be avoided by a little prudence and caution. It is much to be wondered at, that parents do not use more prudence in this respect, for the promotion of their own comfort and happiness, if they do not feel a necessity for it, on the principles of good family government. There certainly is no mode of life, in which happiness can be so well insured, as in the nuptial state.

My friend *PHILANTHROS*, lived long in a single state: He was no enemy to matrimony:—He mer, while young, a series of misfortunes, which gave him a proper sense of himself—of the world—and the enjoyments of life: He knew how to place a proper estimate upon every thing—but thought his circumstances would not admit of the expence of a family:—His heart was open and generous: He never turned aside from distress—and when he had nothing else to bestow, he gave a tear: He was assiduous in business—honest in his dealings—and constant in his studies. Then why should not the world esteem him?

*PHILANTHROS* had lived beyond the age of forty, when he became acquainted with *SERIMA*, who had lived but a few years short of the age of my friend. She had seen uncommon afflictions in her day: Friends, false or unskilful had misled her path of life, and her heart had been wounded by the arrows which were thrown for her defence. These trials naturally tended to soften a heart too perceptible of woe, and to turn her attention from the most exact and beautiful form of features, to the cultivation of her mind.

Upon a short acquaintance, their hearts, taught by adversity, and elevated by pure sentiment, beat in unison, and became united before they were aware of their situation: They were soon married.

It is a great mistake in those who suppose that the pleasures of the married state depend upon youth. Many years after *PHILANTHROS* and *SERIMA* were married, he rested under the shade of his cherry-tree, and wrote the following *Sonnet*, which shews his affection and happiness.

## SONNET.

THE ROSE LATE DISCOVERED.

"AS Damon stroll'd along the mead,  
He spy'd a charming flower;  
The summer's green was in its fade,  
And gone the vernal shower.

"Sweet child of nature, lovely rose,  
Exclaim'd the ravisht swain;  
Blest be the turf on which it grows,  
How blest its native plain!

"Why did I not in prime of May,  
Observe with friendly eye,  
Thy charms unfolding to the day,  
Thy rising beauties spy?

"Close by thy side this faithful arm,  
Had watch'd thy youthful bloom;  
No scorching heat or beating storm,  
Had on thy beauties come.

"But now alas! the weary sun,  
His blazing car has driven;  
Till half his yearly toil is done,  
And now descends the Heavens.

"Yet still thy fragrance fills the vale,  
It reigns unrival'd there;  
From thee, the winds their health exhale,  
From thee their sweetness bear.

"No cloud malignant on thy head,  
Its noisome drops shall spill;  
Or noxious vapours on thee shed  
Their damps, thy bloom to chill.

"As summer's heat forsakes the year,  
And winter's frost comes on;  
Thy fate I'll watch with anxious care,  
And live for thee alone."

The example and precepts of *Philanthros* and *Serima*, ingraft prudence and discretion on every action of their children, and domestics: As their offspring rise into life, they are admired and beloved by their neighbors; and from thence arises inexpressible happiness to their parents.

AMINTOR.

(From the Independent Chronicle.)

## DOMINICA, September 10.

Last Sunday arrived here, a small vessel from Martinique, with upwards of fifty refugees on board, some of whom are said to be of the most respectable characters and connections in that island. Their flight has been occasioned by another change in the order of things there. This is said to be the fifth revolution in the government of that island in the course of a few months.

The Governor *Monf. Damas*, was confined to the limits of Fort-Royal when the vessel came

away; and it is since reported, that he has escaped to Grenada, from whence he is preparing for his immediate departure for France; as is also a government brig now in this harbor. All the government vessels in that island were ordered to depart immediately, on the inhabitants getting possession of the forts. This new change has fortunately been effected without that scene of bloodshed and massacre which that island has so often experienced since the commencement of the French revolution.

NEWBERN, Oct. 21.

Letters from Guadaloupe mention, that intelligence had been received from Martinique which mentioned the soldiers having joined the inhabitants; that they had taken possession of Fort-Royal; that the general had absconded; that 400 men were in pursuit of him; and that the present disturbances there exceeded any thing they had experienced before.

NEW-YORK, November 9.

Extract of a letter from a capital planter in South-Carolina, to a gentleman in New-York.

We planted 62 acres: The season in which a part of it was planted, proved unfavorable, whereby we lost about 27 by the grass, which completely destroyed it; the remaining 35 were very good. We prepared for market by the 20th of Jan. 12000 wt. and there was as much remaining to be prepared to make the whole quantity about 32000 wt. such at least was the opinion of our manager—and he has hitherto been within the mark in all his accounts of our crops. From this state you will see how vastly valuable the article of hemp may be made to this country—for after it is sown you lock up your field until it is time to pull it, and if sown early, it does not interfere with your crop at all. We, as you may suppose, intend to continue it."

When the late Mr. *Holt* (printer) first set up a newspaper in this city, one of his earliest subscribers happened to be a person from the vicinity of Albany, who was rich, but well known to be of a narrow penurious disposition. At the end of the first year the printer sent him the account of the yearly subscription, requesting that it might be discharged by the first opportunity. No answer however came; and things ran on in the same manner for the term of eighteen years, at the conclusion of which time, Mr. *Holt*, as may be well supposed, being out of all patience with his customer, had the whole amount made out and sent to him, adding at the foot thereof, that if it was not paid, he would discontinue sending any more newspapers. The subscriber having read over the account when presented, exclaimed with a disdainful sneer, *What an ungrateful man have I to do with! I was one of the very first that encouraged his paper by subscribing, and this is the return he makes me!*

BENNINGTON, (Vermont) Oct. 25.

His Excellency Governor *ROBINSON's* speech on quitting the supreme magistracy.

Gentlemen of the Council and House of Representatives,

AT the last annual election of the officers of this government, there was no choice made by the freemen of the Supreme Magistrate of the State; it was therefore the duty of the Council and House of Representatives, by their joint ballot, to elect some person to that office; it was the pleasure of the two houses to honor me with the appointment, of which I cheerfully accepted, and am conscious to myself that I have faithfully discharged my duty in the execution of that trust.

It appears from the present election, that the freemen have given their suffrages in favor of his Excellency Governor *CHITTENDEN*, I heartily acquiesce in the choice, and shall, with the greatest satisfaction, retire to private life, where I expect to enjoy that peace which naturally results from a consciousness of having done my duty.

The freemen have an undoubted right, when they see it for the benefit of the community, to call forth their citizens from behind the curtain of private life, and make them their rulers, and for the same reason to dismiss them at pleasure and elect others in their place, this privilege is essential to all free, and to republican governments. As a citizen I trust I shall ever feel for the interest of the State; the confidence the freemen have repeatedly placed in me ever since the first formation of government, lays me under additional obligation to promote their true interest.

Fellow-citizens of the legislature I wish you the benediction of heaven in the prosecution of the important business of the present session; that all your consultations may terminate for the glory of God and the interest of the citizens of this State, and that both those in public and private life may so conduct, in the several spheres in which God in his providence shall call them to act, as that, when death shall close the scene of life, we may each of us have the satisfaction of a good conscience and meet the approbation of our JUDGE.

Answer of the House of Representatives to Governor *ROBINSON's* speech.

ALTHOUGH the suffrages of the freemen of Vermont have replaced his Excellency Governor *Chittenden* in the chair of government, for the year ensuing, yet their representatives in general assembly are happy in having an opportunity of expressing their entire satisfaction with your late administration; and beg you to accept their warmest thanks for the services you have rendered them.

In republics like ours, every citizen has an equal right to be elected into the first office of government: Upon this principle, we flatter ourselves you will feel no regret in retiring from office, and mixing with your fellow citizens, till they shall again call you up to public view.

In your retirement, we wish you the full enjoyment of all the happiness and tranquility which result from domestic life, and a consciousness of having discharged every duty both as a private citizen and a chief magistrate with faithfulness and integrity.

I have the honor to be  
with great respect, your excellency's  
most obedient humble servant,  
(by order of house)

GIDEON OLIN, Speaker.