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SHORT SELECTIONS  
FOR TRANSLATING  
ENGLISH INTO FRENCH

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# SHORT SELECTIONS

FOR TRANSLATING

# English into French

INCLUDING A FEW EXAMINATION PAPERS

*Arranged progressively, with explanatory and grammatical notes*

BY

PAUL BERCY, B.L., L.D.

Director of P. BERCY'S School of Languages, New York.

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*Le Français pratique, etc., etc.*



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# SHORT SELECTIONS

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### SPEEDY PROMOTION.

One day, on the field<sup>1</sup>, Napoleon's hat<sup>2</sup> having fallen off<sup>3</sup>, a young lieutenant stepped forward<sup>4</sup>, picked it up<sup>5</sup>, and presented it to him<sup>6</sup>. "Thank you, captain," said the Emperor inadvertently. "In what regiment, Sire?" inquired the lieutenant quick as lightning. Napoleon smiled, and forthwith promoted the witty youth<sup>7</sup> to a captaincy<sup>8</sup>.

Notes.—1. On the field ; *sur le champ de bataille*.—2. 'Napoleon's hat'. Invert: 'the hat of Napoleon'.—3. To fall off ; *tomber*. [The verb *tomber* is conjugated, in its compound tenses, with the auxiliary verb *être*].—4. To step forward ; *s'avancer*.—5. To pick up ; *ramasser*. [Put 'it' (*le*) before the verb, as in French personal pronouns, direct as well as indirect, precede the verb.]—6. And presented it to him ; *et le lui présenta*.—7. Youth ; *jeune homme*.—8. To a captaincy ; *au grade de capitaine*.

## A LIGHT DINNER.

The celebrated musician Rossini (1792-1868) had accepted an invitation to dine with a lady<sup>1</sup> whose dinners were known to be arranged on a most economical scale<sup>2</sup>. The dinner offered to the *maestro* formed no exception<sup>3</sup> to the general rule, and he left the table rather<sup>4</sup> hungry.

“I hope you<sup>5</sup> will soon do me the honor to dine again with me,” said the lady to him<sup>6</sup>, as he was taking leave of her<sup>7</sup>.

“Immediately, if you like,” replied he.

**Notes** —1. With a lady ; *d'une dame*.—2. Whose dinners . . . scale ; *qui était connue pour composer ses menus d'une manière très économique*.—3. To form no exception ; *ne pas faire exception*.—4. Rather hungry ; *ayant encore faim*.—5. I hope you ; *j'espère que vous*.—6. Put ‘to him’ before the verb (said).—7. As he was . . . of her ; *au moment où il prenait congé d'elle*.

## HEROIC INDIANS.

Some Indians taken in a battle near the Cordilleras<sup>1</sup> were very fine men, above six feet high<sup>2</sup>, and all under thirty years of age<sup>3</sup>. In order to<sup>4</sup> force them to reveal what they knew about their countrymen's position<sup>5</sup>, they were placed<sup>6</sup> in a line. The first two refused to answer the questions which were put to them<sup>7</sup> and were instantly shot<sup>8</sup>. The third, when his turn came, refused likewise to betray his tribe, and simply said<sup>9</sup>: “Fire! I am a man and can die.”

**Notes**.—1. Near the Cordilleras ; *près des Cordillères*.—2. Above six feet high ; *de plus de six pieds*.—3. ‘Of age’, not

to be translated.—4. In order to ; *pour*.—5. ‘About their countrymen’s position’. Invert : ‘about the position of their countrymen’.—6. They were placed ; *on les plaça*.—7. To answer . . . put to them ; *de répondre aux questions qu’on leur posa*.—8. To be shot ; *être fusillé*.—9. Put the adverb after the verb. [The adverb is generally placed after the verb in the simple tenses.]

---

## TWO LAWYERS.

A pert young lawyer once boasted to<sup>1</sup> a member of the bar<sup>2</sup> that he had received two hundred dollars for<sup>3</sup> speaking in a certain lawsuit. The other replied : “I received<sup>4</sup> double that sum<sup>5</sup> for<sup>3</sup> keeping silent in that very case<sup>6</sup>.”

Notes.—1. To boast to some one ; *se vanter devant quelqu’un*.—2. The bar ; *le barreau*.—3. For ; *pour*, to be followed by the infinitive. [In French the preposition *en* is followed by the present participle, but all the other prepositions are followed by the infinitive.]—4. ‘I received’ ; translate by ‘I have received’.—5. Double that sum ; *le double de cette somme*.—6. That very case ; *cette même cause*.

---

## HEAD OF A GOOSE.

A person threw the head of a goose<sup>1</sup> on the stage of the Belleville theatre. The manager, advancing to the front<sup>2</sup>, said : “Gentlemen<sup>3</sup>, if any one among you has lost his head, let him not be uneasy<sup>4</sup>, for I will restore it on the conclusion<sup>5</sup> of the performance.”

Notes.—1. The head of a goose ; *une tête d’oie*.—2. Advancing to the front ; *s’avança sur le devant de la scène et*.—3. Gentlemen ; *messieurs*.—4. Let him not be uneasy ; *qu’il ne soit pas inquiet*.—5. On the conclusion ; *à la fin*.

### THREE TROUBLESOME CLIENTS.

A celebrated lawyer once said<sup>1</sup> that the three most troublesome clients<sup>2</sup> he ever had<sup>3</sup> were a young lady who wanted to be married<sup>4</sup>, a married woman who wanted a divorce, and an old maid who did not know<sup>5</sup> what she wanted<sup>5</sup>.

Notes.—1. Put the adverb ‘once’ after the verb ‘said’.—2. Translate: ‘the three clients the most troublesome’.—3. He ever had; *qu’il eût jamais eus* [In French an adverb is never placed between the subject and the verb; it is generally placed after the verb in the simple tenses, and between the auxiliary and the participle in the compound tenses.]—4. To be married; *se marier*.—5. Translate by the imperfect indicative.

### A LETTER TO A FRIEND.

My dear friend, it is a long time now since you<sup>1</sup> promised<sup>2</sup> to pay me a visit<sup>3</sup> and spend a fortnight with me during the spring. Now that the cold days have gone away<sup>4</sup> and the flowery season has just set in<sup>5</sup>, let me<sup>6</sup> remind you of your promise and invite you to come within a week<sup>7</sup>: the sooner the better<sup>8</sup>.

Yours faithfully<sup>9</sup>.

Notes.—1. It is . . . since you; *il y a longtemps que vous*.—2. ‘Promised’; use the preterite indefinite.—3. To pay a visit; *faire une visite*.—4. Have gone away; *sont passés*.—5. And the flowery . . . set in; *et que la saison des fleurs vient de commencer*.—6. Let me; *permettez-moi de*.—7. Within a week; *dans le courant de la semaine*.—8. The sooner the better; *le plus tôt sera le mieux*.—9. Yours faithfully; *votre dévoué*.

LA FONTAINE<sup>1</sup>.

It is recorded of<sup>2</sup> La Fontaine, noted for his absent-mindedness<sup>3</sup>, that he once attended<sup>4</sup> the funeral of one of his most intimate friends, and shortly afterward called to visit<sup>5</sup> that friend.

When reminded by<sup>6</sup> the astonished servant of the recent death, he<sup>7</sup> was at first terribly shocked, and then remarked: "True, of course<sup>8</sup>; I recollect now<sup>9</sup>, I went<sup>10</sup> to his funeral."

Notes.—1. La Fontaine. A celebrated French fabulist (1621-1695).—2. It is recorded of; *on raconte de La Fontaine*.—3. Absent-mindedness; *distraktion*.—4. To attend; *assister à*.—5. Called... friend; *alla chez lui pour le voir*.—6. When... servant of; to be translated in the active form: When the astonished servant reminded him of (*lui rappela*).—7. He; *La Fontaine*.—8. True, of course; *oui, c'est vrai*.—9. Put *que* here.—10. 'I went'; translate by the preterite indefinite and remember the verb *aller* is conjugated, in its compound tenses, with the auxiliary *être*.

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 VALUE OF TIME.

<sup>1</sup>Time is precious, <sup>1</sup>life is short, and consequently not a single moment should be<sup>2</sup> lost. Sensible men<sup>3</sup> know how<sup>4</sup> to make the most of<sup>5</sup> time; they are never idle, but continually employed, either<sup>6</sup> in amusements or<sup>6</sup> study<sup>7</sup>. It is a universal maxim that idleness<sup>8</sup> is the mother of vice; it is, however, certain, that laziness<sup>9</sup> is the inheritance of fools<sup>10</sup>, and nothing can be so despicable as a sluggard.

Notes.—1. Put the definite article, as the article is used, in French, before all nouns employed in a general sense. —

2. Should be ; *ne devrait être*.—3. Sensible men ; *les hommes sensés*.—4. To know how ; *savoir*.—5. To make the most of ; *le mieux utiliser*.—6. Either . . . or ; *soit . . . soit . . .*.—7. Repeat 'in' before study, as the prepositions *à, de, en* must be repeated in French before every noun, pronoun, or verb which they govern.—8. Idleness : *l'oisiveté*.—9. Laziness ; *la paresse*.—10. Of fools ; *des sots*.

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### CAT AND BIRD.

A lady who had a tame bird was in the habit of letting it out<sup>1</sup> every day, and had taught a favorite cat not to touch it. But one morning, as it was picking up crumbs from<sup>2</sup> the carpet, the cat seized it on a sudden<sup>3</sup>, and jumped with it in her mouth upon the table<sup>4</sup>.

The lady was much alarmed for the safety<sup>5</sup> of her favorite, but on turning about, instantly discovered the cause<sup>6</sup>. The door had been left open, and a strange cat had just come<sup>7</sup> into the room.

After the lady had turned the strange cat out<sup>8</sup>, her own cat came down from the table, and dropped<sup>9</sup> the bird, without doing it<sup>10</sup> any injury.

Notes.—1. Was in the . . . it out ; *avait l'habitude de le laisser sortir*.—2. As it was . . . carpet ; *au moment où il becquetait des miettes sur le tapis*.—3. On a sudden ; *tout à coup*.—4. Invert : 'And jumped upon the table *with it* (*en le tenant*) in her mouth.'—5. Was much alarmed for the safety of her favorite ; *était très alarmée pour son favori*.—6. Instantly discovered the cause ; *elle comprit aussitôt pourquoi le chat avait agi ainsi*.—7. Had just come ; *venait d'entrer*.—8. To turn out ; *chasser*.—9. To drop ; *lâcher*.—10. Without doing it ; *sans lui avoir fait*.



## ANECDOTE OF CUVIER.

Cuvier, the naturalist, said: "I found that my shaving took me<sup>1</sup> a quarter of an hour a<sup>2</sup> day; this makes<sup>3</sup> seven hours and a half in a month, and ninety hours, or three days and eighteen hours in a year. This discovery staggered me<sup>4</sup>. Here was I complaining<sup>5</sup> that time was too short, that the years flew by too swiftly, that I had not hours enough for work, and in the midst of my complaining<sup>6</sup> I was wasting<sup>7</sup> nearly four days a<sup>2</sup> year in lathering<sup>8</sup> my face with a shaving brush; I resolved thenceforth to let my beard grow<sup>9</sup>."

Notes.—1. My shaving took me; *qu'il me fallait, pour me raser*.—2. A; *par*. [In speaking of time the indefinite article A is translated in French by the preposition *par*, used without an article.]—3. This makes; *ce qui fait*.—4. Staggered me; *m'impressionna vivement*.—5. Here... complaining; *je me plaignais*.—6. In the midst of my complaining; *pendant que je me plaignais*.—7. 'I was wasting' to be translated by the imperfect.—8. In lathering; *à savonner*.—9. 'Grow' to be translated after 'to let'.

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 AUSTRALIA.

What<sup>1</sup> strikes the European traveller most<sup>2</sup> on arriving in Australia, is to see the order of nature to which he has been accustomed, completely reversed. Thus, the seasons are inverted<sup>3</sup>: January marks the middle of summer, and July the middle of winter. Midnight in England, is noon there. When it is fine<sup>4</sup> in Australia, the barometer falls; it rises to announce bad weather. Our longest day is in June;

with the Australians<sup>5</sup> it is in December. The heat blows from<sup>6</sup> the North, the cold from the South ; it is on the summits that the atmosphere is warmest.

Notes.—1. What ; *ce qui*.—2. ‘Most’ must be placed after the verb ‘strikes’.—3. Are inverted : *sont interverties*. [A past participle accompanied by the auxiliary verb *être*, agrees with its subject in gender and number.]—4. When it is fine ; *quand il fait beau*.—5. With the Australians ; *en Australie*.—6. The heat blows from the North ; *le vent du nord donne la chaleur*.

---

### THREE RATS.

An Italian prince<sup>1</sup> having seen in a dream three rats,—one fat, the other lean, and the third blind,—sent for<sup>2</sup> a celebrated Bohemian gypsy, and demanded an explanation<sup>3</sup>. “The fat<sup>4</sup> rat,” said the sorceress, “is your prime minister ; the lean<sup>4</sup> rat, your people, and the blind<sup>4</sup> rat, yourself<sup>5</sup>.”

Notes.—1. In French the adjectives of nationality are placed after the substantive. They are never written with a capital letter.—2. To send for some one ; *envoyer chercher quelqu’un* ; or : *faire venir quelqu’un*.—3. And demanded an explanation ; *et en demanda l’explication*. [*En*, of it, i. e. of the dream.]—4. Put the adjectives ‘fat’, ‘lean’, ‘blind’ after the nouns.—5. Put ‘*c’est*’ before ‘yourself’.

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### A CURIOUS CASE OF INSANITY.

“Did you say<sup>1</sup> you considered Mr. Smith<sup>2</sup> insane?” asked a lawyer of<sup>3</sup> a witness in a criminal case<sup>4</sup>.

“Yes, sir, I did<sup>5</sup>.”

“ Upon what grounds<sup>6</sup> did you base<sup>7</sup> that impression ? ”

“ Why<sup>8</sup>, I lent him a silk umbrella<sup>9</sup>, and five dollars in money<sup>10</sup>, and he returned<sup>11</sup> both<sup>12</sup>. ”

Notes.—1. ‘ Did you say ’; translate by the preterite indefinite, and put ‘ *que* ’ after it.—2. Put ‘ *comme* ’ before ‘ insane ’...—3. To ask something of some one; *demander quelque chose à quelqu’un*.—4. A criminal case; *une affaire criminelle*.—5. I did; *je l’ai dit*.—6. Upon what grounds, *sur quoi*.—7. ‘ Did you base ’; translate by the present indicative.—8. Why; *eh bien!*—9. A silk umbrella; *un parapluie de soie*. [*De* is used in compound words when *of*, *made of*, *coming from* can be understood.]—10. Money; *argent*.—11. To return; *rendre*. Translate by the preterite indefinite.—12. Them both; *le tout*.

### A FINE COMPLIMENT.

Haydn, the musician, paid<sup>1</sup> a beautiful compliment to a great female vocalist. Reynolds had painted her<sup>2</sup> as Cecilia<sup>3</sup>, listening to<sup>4</sup> celestial<sup>5</sup> music. Looking at<sup>6</sup> it, Haydn said: “ It is like her<sup>7</sup>, but there is<sup>8</sup> a strange mistake. ” “ What is that? ” asked Reynolds. “ Why, you<sup>9</sup> have painted her listening to the angels, when you ought to have<sup>10</sup> represented the angels listening to her. ”

Notes.—1. To pay a compliment to some one; *faire un compliment à quelqu’un*.—2. Put ‘ her ’ before ‘ had painted ’.—3. Cecilia; *sainte Cécile*.—4. To listen to some one, to something; *écouter quelqu’un, quelque chose*.—5. Put the adjective ‘ celestial ’ after the noun.—6. To look at some one, something; *regarder quelqu’un, quelque chose*.—7. It is like her; *ce portrait est bien ressemblant*.—8. There is; *il y a*.—9. Why; *eh bien*.—10. You ought to have; *vous auriez dû*, to be followed by an infinitive.

## A NOBLE DESCENT.

Francis the first<sup>1</sup>, being desirous to raise one of the most learned men<sup>2</sup> of the time to the highest dignities of the Church, asked him<sup>3</sup> if he was of noble descent<sup>4</sup>. "Your majesty<sup>5</sup>," answered the abbot, "there were<sup>6</sup> three brothers in Noah's ark<sup>7</sup>; but I cannot tell positively from which of them I am descended<sup>8</sup>".

Notes.—1. The French use the *cardinal* numbers instead of the ordinal in speaking of sovereigns, excepting the first, which is *premier* (féminin : *première*). In all cases the article is omitted before the number.—2. Turn : One of the men the most learned.—3. Asked him ; *lui demanda*.—4. If he . . . descent ; *s'il descendait d'une noble famille*.—5. Your majesty ; *Sire*.—6. There were ; *il y avait*.—7. Turn : in the ark of Noah (*Noë*). [The English form of the possessive case is rendered in French in an inverted manner, the last word coming first.]—8. I am descended ; *je descends*.

## A QUEER HABIT.

The French historian Mezeray was a man subject to strange humors<sup>1</sup>, extremely negligent of his person, and so careless of his dress<sup>2</sup> that he might have passed for a beggar rather than what he was. He used<sup>3</sup> to study and write by candle-light<sup>4</sup>, even at noonday in the summer, and always escorted his company to the door<sup>5</sup> with a candle in his hand<sup>6</sup>. He was secretary of the French Academy.

Notes.—1. A humor ; *un caprice*.—2. And so careless of his dress ; *et s'occupant si peu de ses vêtements*.—3. To use ; *avoir l'habitude (de)*.—4. 'By candle-light'; turn : 'at the light of a

candle'.—5. And always . . . to the door ; *et il accompagnait toujours ses visiteurs jusqu'à la porte*.—6. In his hand ; *à la main*. [The possessive adjective, used in English before a part of the body, is translated in French by the definite article, when the sense clearly shows the possessor.]

---

### A LAWYER'S LETTER.

The following is said to be a copy<sup>1</sup> of a letter sent<sup>2</sup> by a lawyer to a person who was indebted to<sup>3</sup> one of his clients :

“ Sir, I am desired to apply to you for<sup>4</sup> the sum of two hundred dollars due to my client, Mr. Jones. If you send me the money by this day week<sup>5</sup> you will oblige me, if not, I shall oblige you.”

Notes.—1. The following . . . copy ; *voici, dit-on, la copie*.—2. Sent by a lawyer ; *qu'un avocat envoya*.—3. To be indebted to ; *devoir de l'argent à*.—4. I am . . . to you for ; *on m'a chargé de vous réclamer*.—5. By this day week ; *dans le courant de la semaine*.

---

### A FAITHFUL DOG.

A youthful conscript, desperately<sup>1</sup> wounded in a battle, was conveyed indiscriminately<sup>2</sup> with hundreds of others to a hospital.

In the course of a few days<sup>3</sup> a little dog made his appearance<sup>4</sup>, and searching amidst the dying<sup>5</sup> and the dead,<sup>5</sup> discovered at length his expiring master and was found licking his hands.<sup>6</sup>

After his death a comrade took charge<sup>7</sup> of the faithful animal, but no kindness could console him. He refused all food, pined away<sup>8</sup> and died.

Notes.—1. Desperately ; *mortellement*.—2. Indiscriminately ; *pêle-mêle*.—3. In the . . . days ; *quelques jours après*.—4. Make his appearance ; *arriva*.—5. Put the plural in French.—6. And was . . . hands ; *et on le trouva LUI léchant LES mains*. [We said (page 13 note 6) that the possessive adjective used in English before a part of the body is translated by the definite article when the sense clearly shows the possessor. When there is the least doubt about the possessor, one of the pronouns *me, te, se, lui, nous, vous, leur* is placed before the verb.]—7. To take charge of ; *se charger de*.—8. To pine away ; *dépérir*.

---

## THE KNOWLEDGE OF COMMON THINGS.

Every boy ought<sup>1</sup> to know that he has five senses ; that the year has four seasons ; that the world is composed of land and water, and divided into five parts ; that there<sup>2</sup> are four cardinal<sup>3</sup> points ; that<sup>4</sup> metals such as gold, silver and lead, are dug out of the earth, and that diamonds are<sup>5</sup> found on the land, and pearls in the sea.

Boys ought at an early<sup>6</sup> age to be acquainted with such<sup>7</sup> things as are in common use ; but I have often found it<sup>8</sup> necessary to explain to them that sugar is made<sup>9</sup> from the juice of the sugar-cane which grows in China ; and that chocolate is manufactured<sup>10</sup> from the seed of a plant of South America<sup>11</sup>, which is<sup>12</sup> called<sup>13</sup> cocoa.

Notes.— 1. Ought to know ; *devrait savoir*. — 2. There are ; *il y a*.—3. Put the adjective (*cardinal*) after the noun.—4. Put the definite article before ‘metals’, ‘gold’, ‘silver’, ‘lead’, ‘diamonds’ and ‘pearls’.—5. That diamonds are found ; *qu'on trouve les diamants*. [On is much used in French as the subject of an active verb, when the passive voice is used in

English. *On* always requires the verb to be in the third person of the singular.]—6. At an early age; *dès leur bas âge*.—7. To be acquainted... things as; *connaître les choses qui*.—8. 'It,' not to be translated.—9. That sugar is made from; *qu'on fait le sucre avec*.—10. Manufactured from; *fabriqué avec*.—11. South America; *l'Amérique du Sud*.—12. 'Which is,' not to be translated.—13. [A past participle employed without an auxiliary agrees, like an adjective, in gender and number with the noun to which it relates.]

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### LORD BACON'S DREAM.

When Lord Bacon, as he himself records<sup>1</sup>, dreamt in<sup>2</sup> Paris that he saw "his father's house in the country<sup>3</sup> plastered all over with black mortar<sup>4</sup>," his feelings were highly wrought upon<sup>5</sup>. The emotions under which he labored<sup>6</sup> were of a very apprehensive kind, and he made no doubt<sup>7</sup> that the next intelligence from England<sup>8</sup> would apprise him of the demise of his father. The sequel proved his apprehensions to be<sup>9</sup> well founded; for his father actually died the same night in which he had<sup>10</sup> his remarkable dream.

Notes.—1. As he himself records; *comme il l'a rapporté lui-même*.—2. In; *à*. [In, to, at, are translated by *à* before names of towns, and by *en* before names of countries.]—3. A house in the country; *une maison de campagne*.—4. Plastered... mortar; *toute badigeonnée de noir*.—5. His feelings... upon; *il fut tout bouleversé*.—6. Under which he labored; *qu'il ressentit*.—7. To make a doubt; *douter*.—8. The next... England; *que les premières nouvelles qu'il recevrait d'Angleterre*.—9. The sequel... founded; *il sut plus tard que ses craintes étaient*.—10. He had; *il avait eu*.

## A VERY MUCH ASTONISHED FRENCHMAN.

A Frenchman, walking about<sup>1</sup> a card-room where *écarté* was played<sup>2</sup>, approached one of the tables where the parties had scored two each<sup>3</sup>; and understanding<sup>4</sup> very little English, he addressed<sup>5</sup> one of the gentlemen thus:

“How is the game<sup>6</sup>?”

The latter very naturally replied:

“We are two to two.”

The Frenchman did not quite understand the reply, and turning to the next table where the parties were also two each, he repeated his question, and was answered<sup>7</sup>: “We are two to two, too.”

“*Toutoutou* and *toutoutoutou!*” exclaimed the Frenchman; and he turned away<sup>8</sup> in a rage, thinking they were laughing at<sup>9</sup> him.

Notes.—1. Walking about a card-room; *qui passait dans une salle de jeu*.—2. Where *ecarté* was played; *où l'on jouait à l'écarté*.—3. Where the parties. . . each; *où les joueurs avaient deux points chacun*.—4. And understanding; *comme il comprenait*.—5. To address some one; *s'adresser à quelqu'un*.—6. The game; *la partie*.—7. And was answered; *et on lui répondit*.—8. And he. . . in a rage; *et il partit furieux*.—9. To laugh at; *se moquer de*.

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 THE COMMON END OF LAWSUITS.

Under a great tree, close to<sup>1</sup> a village, two boys found a walnut.

“It belongs to me,” said Peter, “for I was first to see it<sup>2</sup>.”



“No, it belongs to me,” cried Paul, “for I picked it up<sup>3</sup>.”

And so they began to quarrel in earnest<sup>4</sup>.

“I will settle the dispute<sup>5</sup>,” said an older boy who had just<sup>6</sup> come up<sup>7</sup>.

He placed himself between the two boys, broke the nut in two, and said :

“One piece<sup>8</sup> of shell belongs to him<sup>9</sup> who first saw the nut; the other piece of shell<sup>10</sup> belongs to him who first picked it up; but the kernel<sup>11</sup> I keep for judging<sup>12</sup> the case. And this,” he said as<sup>13</sup> he sat down and laughed<sup>14</sup>, “is the common end of lawsuits.”

Notes.—1. Close to; *près de*.—2. For I . . to see it; *parce que c'est moi qui l'ai vue le premier*. [The past participle, accompanied by the auxiliary *avoir*, agrees with its *direct* regimen, when that regimen is placed before the participle.]—3. To pick up; *ramasser*.—4. In earnest; *sérieusement*.—5. To settle a dispute; *arranger une affaire*.—6. Who had just; *qui venait de*.—7. To come up; *arriver*.—8. One piece; *un morceau* (put: ‘of the’).—9. To him; *à celui*.—10. ‘Of shell,’ to be left out.—11. But the kernel I keep; *quant à l'amande, je la garde*.—12. For judging; *pour avoir jugé*.—13. As he; *quand il*.—14. And laughed; *en riant*.

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### TIT FOR TAT (Dent pour dent).

A lady had a magnificent cat<sup>1</sup>. Mrs. Davis, a neighbor<sup>2</sup>, ordered her man-servant to kill it, as<sup>3</sup> it alarmed her<sup>4</sup> canary. The lady sent mouse-traps to all her friends, and when two or three hundred mice were caught, she had them put<sup>5</sup> into a box, which

was forwarded to the cruel neighbor. Mrs. Davis, thinking the box<sup>6</sup> might contain some elegant present, hastened to open it, when out jumped the mice<sup>7</sup>, to her great horror, and filled the house.

At the bottom of the box she found a paper directed to her, from her neighbor<sup>8</sup>, saying<sup>9</sup>: “Madam, as you killed<sup>10</sup> my cat, I take the liberty of sending you<sup>11</sup> my mice.”

Notes.—1. Put the noun before the adjective. [In general, adjectives having more syllables than their noun are placed after it.]—2. A neighbor: *une de ses voisines*.—3. As; *parce que*.—4. [The possessive adjectives *his, her, its*, always agree in French with the thing possessed, and not with the possessor.]—5. She has them put; *elle les fit mettre*.—6. Thinking the box: *pensant que la boîte*.—7. When out jumped the mice; *aussitôt les souris s'échappèrent*.—8. A paper directed to her, from her neighbor; *une note de sa voisine à son adresse*.—9. Saying; *conçue en ces termes*.—10. ‘Killed,’ translate by the preterite indefinite.—11. Of sending you; *de vous envoyer*.

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### A DISCOMFITED LAWYER.

In a court, some time ago<sup>1</sup>, a very pretty young lady appeared<sup>2</sup> as a<sup>3</sup> witness. Her testimony was likely<sup>4</sup> to result unfavorably for the client of a pert young lawyer, who addressed her very superciliously with the inquiry<sup>5</sup>:

“You are married, I believe?”

“No, sir.”

“Oh! only about to be<sup>6</sup> married?”

“No, sir.”

“Only wish to<sup>7</sup>?”

“Really, I don’t know. Would you advise such a step<sup>8</sup>?”

“Oh, certainly! I am a married man<sup>9</sup> myself.”

“Is it possible! I never should have thought it. Is your wife<sup>10</sup> deaf or blind?”

It is hardly necessary to add that the discomfited lawyer did not vouchsafe a reply<sup>11</sup>.

Notes.—1. Some time ago; *il y a quelque temps*.—2. To appear; *comparaître*.—3. ‘As a.’ [The article ‘a’ preceded by ‘as’ is omitted in French, when no verb follows the noun. ‘As’ is translated by *comme* when it means *in quality of, in the character of*, and by *en* if it means *with the feelings of*.] 4. Her testimony..for the; *comme il était probable que son témoignage serait défavorable au*.—5. Who addressed..inquiry; *ce dernier lui demande d’un air arrogant*.—6. About to be married; *sur le point de vous marier*.—7. Only wish to; *vous le désirez seulement*.—8. Would you...step; *me le conseillerez-vous?*—9. I am a married man; *je suis marié*.—10. ‘Is your wife;’ turn: ‘your wife is she.’—11. Did not...reply; *se garda bien de répondre*.

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## THE SHOE-BLACK’S ASSISTANT.

A gentleman passing one of the bridges across the Seine, had his boots dirtied by a poodle dog<sup>1</sup> rubbing against them<sup>2</sup>. He<sup>3</sup>, in consequence, went to a man who was stationed on the bridge, and had them<sup>4</sup> cleaned. The same circumstance<sup>5</sup> having occurred<sup>6</sup> more than<sup>7</sup> once, his curiosity was excited<sup>8</sup>, and he watched the dog. He saw him roll<sup>9</sup> himself in the mud of the river, and then watch for<sup>10</sup> a person with well polished boots, against which he contrived to rub himself<sup>11</sup>. Finding<sup>12</sup> that the shoe-black was the

owner of the dog, he taxed him<sup>13</sup> with the artifice; and, after a little hesitation, the man confessed that he had taught<sup>14</sup> the dog the trick, in order to procure customers<sup>15</sup> for himself.

Notes.—1. A poodle dog; *un caniche*.—2. Rubbing against them; *qui vint s'y froter*.—3. 'He, in consequence, went;' turn; 'he went, in consequence' (*alors*). [See note p. 6, l. 8.] 4. And had them cleaned; *et les fit cirer*. [When two verbs follow one another, the second is always in the infinitive.]—5. Circumstances; *fait*.—6. To occur; *arriver*. [The verb *arriver* is always conjugated, in its compound tenses, with the auxiliary *être*.]—7. 'Than' preceding a cardinal number is translated by *de* (*d'* before a vowel).—8. Excited; *éveillée*.—9. To roll one's self; *se rouler*.—10. And then watch for; *alors guettant*.—11. Against which...himself; *il allait se froter contre elle (une personne)*.—12.—Finding; *ce monsieur ayant découvert*.—13. To tax some one with; *accuser quelqu'un d'avoir recours à*.—14. To teach something to some one; *apprendre quelque chose à quelqu'un*.—15. A customer; *une pratique*.

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### ANECDOTE OF RENAN.

Once Renan was present at a banquet<sup>1</sup> given by Mrs. Aubernon, whose<sup>2</sup> mansion<sup>3</sup> was then the rendezvous of the celebrities of the epoch. Mr. Jules Simon was among them, and in the course of the repast he began to develop an ingenious social theory<sup>4</sup>. Renan, growing tired of it<sup>5</sup>, was about<sup>6</sup> to speak, when the hostess stopped him by<sup>7</sup> saying: "Wait a minute or two, M. Renan, and then we shall be happy to hear you."

Renan closed his mouth while Jules Simon continued to hold forth<sup>8</sup>. At length he brought his

speech to an end, and Mrs. Aubernon rose to call on Renan. "I think<sup>9</sup> you had something to say," she remarked<sup>10</sup>. "Yes, madame, you are right<sup>11</sup>. I wanted to ask for<sup>12</sup> a few more potatoes."

*The London Globe.*

Notes.—1. A banquet; *un dîner*.—2 'Whose,' referring to persons, is translated by *dont* (or *de qui*), and the definite article must be placed before the noun which comes after 'whose'—3. A mansion; *un hôtel*—4. An ingenious social theory; *une ingénieuse théorie sociale*.—5. Growing tired of it; *que cela commençait à fatiguer*.—6. To be about to; *être sur le point de*.—7. [BY, when before a present participle, and implying the means or the end, is translated by EN.]—8. Continued to hold forth; *continuait à parler*.—9. Put *que* before 'you.'—10. She remarked; *dit-elle*.—11. To be right; *avoir raison*.—12. I wanted to ask for; *je voulais demander*.

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### AT SCHOOL.

"At school," says Hunt, "our routine of life<sup>1</sup> was this :

"We rose at the call of a bell, at six in summer, and seven in winter; and, after<sup>2</sup> combing our hair, and washing our hands and faces<sup>3</sup>, went<sup>4</sup> at the call of another bell, to breakfast.

"All this took up<sup>5</sup> about an hour.

"From breakfast we proceeded to school<sup>6</sup>, where we remained till eleven, winter and summer, and then had an hour's play<sup>7</sup>.

"Dinner took place<sup>8</sup> at twelve.

"Afterwards was a little play<sup>7</sup> till one, when<sup>9</sup> we went again to school<sup>6</sup>, and remained till five in summer and four in winter.

“At six was<sup>10</sup> supper.

“We used to play after it<sup>11</sup> in summer till eight; in winter we proceeded<sup>12</sup> from supper to bed.”

Notes.—Remember that the IMPERFECT of the indicative is used to express an action which was *frequently* or *habitually* performed.—1. Our routine...this; *voici quelle était notre vie*.—2. After combing...washing our; *après nous être peignés et nous être lavés*. (See note, p. 14, l. 5.) [All the prepositions (*en* excepted) govern the infinitive, either present or past. The preposition *après* requires the past infinitive.]—3. And faces; *et la figure*.—4. ‘Went;’ translate ‘we went’ and turn: ‘We went to breakfast at the call...’—5. To take up; *prendre*.—6. To school; *en classe*. [The article is not used (except in a few expressions) before substantives governed by the preposition *en*.]—7. Play; *récréation*.—8. Took place; *était*.—9. When; *puis*.—10. Was supper; *nous avions le souper*.—11. After it; *ensuite*.—12. To proceed; *aller*.

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### A MOTHER'S GRIEF.—I.

Mrs. Bird slowly opened the drawer of a bureau<sup>1</sup>. There were little coats of many a form and pattern<sup>2</sup>, piles of aprons, and rows of small stockings, and even a pair of little shoes, worn and rubbed at the toes<sup>3</sup>, were peeping from the folds of a paper. There was a toy horse and wagon<sup>4</sup>, a top, a ball—memorials gathered with many a tear and many a heart-break<sup>5</sup>! She sat down by the drawer, and leaning her head on her hands over it<sup>6</sup>, wept till<sup>7</sup> the tears fell through her fingers into the drawer; then suddenly raising her<sup>8</sup> head, she began, with nervous haste, selecting<sup>9</sup> the plainest and most substantial articles<sup>10</sup>, and gathering them into a bundle<sup>11</sup>.

“Mamma,” said one of hër boys, gently touching her arm<sup>12</sup>, “are you going to give away<sup>13</sup> those things?”

Notes.—1. A bureau; *une commode*.—2. Of many a form and pattern; *de formes et de coupes différentes*.—3. Worn and rubbed at the toes, were...of a paper; *usés au bout par le frottement et qui sortaient du papier qui les enveloppait*.—4. A toy horse and wagon; *un cheval de bois et son chariot*.—5. With many...and a heartbreak; *avec bien des larmes et des déchirements de cœur*.—6. And leaning.. over it; *et s’y appuyant, la tête sur ses mains*.—7. Till; *jusqu’au moment où*; the following verb, ‘fell,’ to be in the preterite. Or: *jusqu’à ce que*, followed by the verb ‘fell’ in the imperfect of the subjunctive.—8. Her; *la*.—9. Selecting; *à choisir*.—10. Articles; *objets*. [When two or more adjectives are divided by commas or joined by ‘and,’ they are generally placed after the noun.]—11. And gathering...a bundle; *et à en faire un paquet*.—12. Gently touching her arm; *en lui touchant doucement le bras*.—13. Are you...away; *allez-vous donner*.

### A Mother’s Grief.—II.

“My dear boys, said she, softly and earnestly<sup>1</sup>, “if our dear, loving little Henry looks down from heaven, he would be glad<sup>2</sup> to have us do this. I could not find it in my heart to give them<sup>3</sup> away to any common person<sup>4</sup>—to anybody that was happy<sup>5</sup>; but I give them to a mother more heart-broken and sorrowful<sup>6</sup> than I am<sup>7</sup>, and I hope God will send his blessings with them<sup>8</sup>!”

There are in this world blessed souls<sup>9</sup>, whose sorrows all spring up into joy<sup>10</sup> for others, whose earthly hopes, laid in the grave with many tears, are the seed from which spring healing flowers<sup>11</sup> and balm

for the desolate<sup>12</sup> and the distressed<sup>12</sup>. Among such<sup>13</sup> was the delicate woman who sits there by the lamp, dropping slow tears, while she prepares the memorials of her lost one<sup>14</sup> for the outcast wanderer<sup>15</sup>.

MRS. STOWE, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

Notes.—1. Softly and earnestly; *d'un ton à la fois doux et sérieux*.—2. He would be...do this; *il doit être heureux de nous voir agir ainsi*.—3. Them; *ces objets*.—4. To any common person; *à une personne quelconque*.—5. To anybody that was happy; *à quelqu'un d'heureux*.—6. Heart-broken and sorrowful; *navrée et désolée*.—7. Than I am; *que moi*.—8. Will send...with them; *y joindra sa bénédiction*.—9. Blessed souls; *de saintes âmes*.—10. All spring up into joy; *deviennent une source de joie*.—11. Healing flowers; *des fleurs salutaires*.—12. Translate 'desolate' and 'distressed' in the plural.—13. Among such; *de ce nombre*.—14. The memorials of her lost one; *les souvenirs de l'enfant qu'elle a perdu*.—15. For the outcast wanderer; *pour la malheureuse fugitive*.

### BALZAC'S SERIOUS MISTAKE.

The late<sup>1</sup> Baron James Rothschild was always on excellent terms with Balzac, who dedicated more than one novel to him<sup>2</sup>. Once, when<sup>3</sup> he was obliged to make a trip to Germany, and when, as often happened with him, he was in money difficulties<sup>4</sup>, Balzac went to the Baron, who, with his usual benevolence, advanced him the sum of three thousand francs, giving him also a letter of recommendation to<sup>5</sup> his nephew at<sup>6</sup> Vienna. The letter was unsealed, according to custom. Balzac read it, found it cold, poor<sup>7</sup>, and unworthy of him, and never took it to the nephew.



Returning<sup>8</sup> to Paris, he went<sup>9</sup> to see<sup>10</sup> Baron Rothschild. "Well<sup>11</sup>," said the latter, "have you seen my nephew?" Balzac proudly said that he had kept the letter. "I am sorry for you," said the Baron; "have you it with you<sup>12</sup>?" "Yes, here it is." "Observe this little hieroglyphic below the signature; it would have opened a credit of 25,000 francs for you<sup>13</sup> at the Vienna firm." Balzac bit his nails<sup>14</sup> and said nothing more.

Notes.—1. The late Baron J. R.; *feu le baron Jacques R.*—2. To him; *lui* to be put before the verb 'dedicated,' as in French all the pronouns, direct or indirect objects must be placed before the verb, except when the verb is in the imperative without a negative.—3. When; *que*.—4. And when...difficulties; *et qu'il était à court d'argent, comme cela lui arrivait souvent*.—5. To; *pour*.—6. At; *de*.—7. Poor; *insignifiante*.—8. Returning; *à son retour*.—9. He went to see; *il alla voir*.—10. Put *le* before Baron. The article is used in French before the nouns of titles, profession, preceding proper names.—11. Well; *eh bien!*—12. Have you got it with you? *avez-vous cette lettre sur vous?*—13. It would have...for you; *cela vous aurait ouvert un crédit de 25,000 francs*.—14. Bit his nails; *se mordit les doigts*, instead of; *mordit ses doigts*.

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### ABSENCE OF MIND.

Isaac Newton, one evening in winter<sup>1</sup>, finding it<sup>2</sup> extremely cold, instinctively drew his chair very close to the grate<sup>3</sup>, in which a fire had been recently lighted. By degrees, the fire being completely kindled, he felt the heat intolerably intense, and rang his bell with unusual violence. John was not

at hand; he at last made his appearance, by the time<sup>5</sup> Newton was almost literally roasted.

“Remove the grate, you lazy rascal<sup>6</sup>!” exclaimed Newton, in a tone of irritation very uncommon with<sup>7</sup> that amiable and placid philosopher; “remove the grate ere I am burned to death<sup>8</sup>.”

“Please, sir, might you not rather<sup>9</sup> draw back your chair?” said John, a little waggishly.

“Upon my word,” said Newton smiling, “I never thought of<sup>10</sup> that.”

**Notes.**—1. One evening in winter; *un soir d'hiver*.—2. Finding it; *sentant qu'il faisait*.—3. Very close to the grate; *très près de la grille*.—4. To ring a bell; *sonner*.—5. By the time; *quand*.—6. You lazy rascal; *paresseux coquin*.—7. Very uncommon with; *très extraordinaire chez*.—8. Ere...death; *avant que je meure brûlé*. [*Avant que* is followed by a verb in the subjunctive mood.]—9. Might you not rather; *ne vaudrait-il pas mieux*.—10. I never thought of that; *je n'y ai pas pensé un seul instant*. [*Y* is for ‘to that.’ In French we say: *penser à quelqu'un, à quelque chose*.]

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### THE BLIND MAN AND THE MILK.

One blind from birth<sup>1</sup> asked a man who could see: “What color<sup>2</sup> is milk?” The man who could see replied: “The color of milk is like white paper.” The blind man asked: “This color, then, rustles in the hands<sup>3</sup> like paper?” The man who could see replied: “No,” it is white, like white flour.” The blind man asked: “Then it is soft and pliable<sup>4</sup>, like flour, is it<sup>5</sup>?” The man who could see replied: “No; it is simply white, like a rabbit.” The blind

man asked: "Then it is downy<sup>6</sup> and soft, like a rabbit?" The man who could see replied: "No; white is a color exactly like snow." The blind asked: "Then it is cold, like snow, is it?" And in spite of all the comparisons which the man who could see made still<sup>6</sup>, the blind man<sup>7</sup> was wholly unable to comprehend what the color of milk really was<sup>8</sup>.

TOLSTOI, *The Long Exile*.

Notes.—1. One blind from birth; *un aveugle de naissance*.—2. What color; *de quelle couleur*.—3. Rustles in the hand; *produit un bruissement sous les doigts*.—4. Soft and pliable; *moelleux et souple*.—5. Is it; *n'est-ce pas?*—6. Downy and soft; *couvert de duvet et doux*.—7. The blind man: *l'aveugle*.—8. Invert: What was really the color of (the) milk.

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### GIBBON IN LOVE.

Gibbon, the author of the "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," had grown<sup>1</sup> extremely corpulent. When in Lausanne<sup>2</sup>, he fell in love<sup>3</sup> with Mme. de Crouzas, and one day, when<sup>4</sup> he was alone with her, he threw himself on his knees in declaring his tender sentiments in the most impassioned language. The lady checked his ardor in terms expressive<sup>5</sup> of her displeasure. Yet<sup>6</sup> he remained kneeling and silent. Mme. de Crouzas, growing impatient<sup>7</sup>, desired him to get up<sup>8</sup>. "Alas," madam, I cannot," replied the disappointed lover, after fruitless efforts to rise. His enormous size and weight<sup>9</sup> did not permit him to do so without help. Mme. de Crouzas

rang the bell<sup>10</sup> and ordered the servant to help him up<sup>11</sup>.

This lady afterwards was married to<sup>12</sup> M. de Necker and was mother to<sup>13</sup> Mme. de Staël.

Notes.—1. To grow; *devenir*. [*Devenir* is always conjugated in its compound tenses with the auxiliary *être*.]—2. When in L.; *pendant son séjour à L.*—3. To fall in love with; *devenir amoureux de*.—4. When; *que*. [After an expression of time (day, year, month...) ‘when’ and ‘in which’ are rendered by *où*. But after ‘one day’ WHEN is rendered by QUE with the indicative.]—5. In terms expressive of; *en termes qui exprimaient*.—6. Yet; *cependant*.—7. Growing impatient; *impatiente*.—8. Desired him to get up; *le pria de se relever*.—9. His enormous size and weight; *sa corpulence énorme et sa pesanteur*.—10. To help him up; *de l’aider à se relever*.—11. Was married to; *épousa*.—12. To; *de*.

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## TWO ROGUES.

A well-dressed<sup>1</sup> gentleman, while walking<sup>2</sup> in Paris with a valuable gold-headed cane in his hand<sup>3</sup>, was stopped by a wretched looking man,<sup>4</sup> who had dragged himself painfully along on crutches, and piteously implored charity.

The gentleman, moved to<sup>5</sup> compassion, generously gave the beggar a piece of silver.

“How can you be so foolish?” cried a fellow standing by; “that fellow is an impostor, and no more lame than you are.<sup>6</sup> Just lend me your cane for<sup>6</sup> a minute, and by means of a sound thrashing<sup>7</sup> I will convince you of the truth of what I say<sup>8</sup>.”

The gentleman mechanically let the man take the cane, and the beggar, throwing down his crutches,

ran off as fast as he could. The other, amidst roars of laughter from the bystanders, ran after him, menacing him with his cane; and so they ran a considerable distance, when they turned aside<sup>9</sup> and were seen no more.<sup>10</sup>

The gentleman waited for<sup>11</sup> some time, expecting to see the man return with his cane; but the expectation was in vain.<sup>12</sup> It was then clear that the whole scene had been an affair concerted between a pair of<sup>13</sup> adroit rogues.

Notes.—1. Turn: 'A gentleman well dressed'. ['Gentleman' must generally be translated by *monsieur*.]—2. While walking; *qui se promenait*.—3. In his hand; *à la main*.—4. A wretched looking man; *un homme à l'aspect misérable*.—5. Moved to; *ému de*.—6. 'Are', 'for', are not to be translated.—7. And by . . . thrashing; *et en lui donnant une bonne râclée*.—8. Of what I say; *de mes paroles*.—9. To turn aside; *prendre une rue détournée*.—10. And were seen no more; *alors on les perdit de vue*.—11. To wait for; *attendre*.—12. But the . . . vain; *mais son attente fut vaine*.—13. A pair of; *deux*.

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### ABSENT-MINDEDNESS.

What we call absent-mindedness is temporary suspension of the faculty of memory... La Bruyère's "Absent Man"<sup>1</sup> was no mere creature of fertile imagination. The original is said to have been<sup>2</sup> the Count de Brancas, of whom<sup>3</sup> a curious story is related. One day he was reading by the fire in his study, when the nurse brought him a child newly born to him<sup>4</sup>. The Count threw away the book and took the child on his knee to play with it. By and

by a visitor was announced<sup>5</sup>, and the Count, forgetting all about the child, and remembering only that he had been reading<sup>6</sup> a book, threw the poor infant carelessly upon the table. (ALL THE YEAR ROUND.)

Notes.—1. La Bruyère's 'Absent Man'; '*le Distrain*' de La Bruyère. (La Bruyère, célèbre moraliste français, 1646-1696.)—2. The original . . . have been; *on dit que l'original de ce portrait était*.—3. Of whom; *sur qui*.—4. A child newly born to him; *un de ses enfants qui venait de naître*.—5. By and by . . . announced; *peu après on lui annonce une visite*.—6. To be reading; *lire*. To have been reading; *avoir lu*.

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## LOUIS XIV.

The personal qualities of the French king<sup>1</sup> added to<sup>2</sup> the respect inspired by the power and importance of his kingdom. No sovereign has ever represented the majesty of a great state with more dignity and grace.

He was his own prime minister, and performed the duties of a prime minister with an ability and an industry which could not be reasonably expected<sup>3</sup> from one who had in infancy succeeded to a crown, and who had been surrounded by flatterers before he could<sup>4</sup> speak.

He had shown, in an eminent degree,<sup>5</sup> two talents invaluable to<sup>6</sup> a prince, the talent of choosing his servants well,<sup>7</sup> and the talent of appropriating to himself the chief part of the credit of their acts.

In his dealings with foreign powers, he had some generosity, but no justice. His perfidy and<sup>8</sup> vio-

lence, however, excited less enmity than the insolence with which he constantly reminded<sup>9</sup> his neighbours of<sup>10</sup> his own greatness and of<sup>10</sup> their littleness.

(MACAULAY.)

Notes.—1. Of the French king; *du roi de France*; or: *du roi Louis XIV.*—2. To add to; *augmenter*.—3. Which could not be reasonably expected; *qu'on n'avait aucune raison d'attendre*.—4. Before he could; *avant de pouvoir*.—5. In an eminent degree; *au plus haut degré*.—6. To; *chez*.—7. Of choosing well; *de bien choisir*, his servants.—8. Repeat 'his'. [In French the possessive adjective must be repeated before every noun.]—9. He reminded; *il rappelait à*.—10. 'Of' to be left out. [To remind some one of something; *rappeler quelque chose à quelqu'un*.]

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### A FRIEND'S ADVICE.

Your father received me in his library; and on my taking leave<sup>1</sup>, showed me a shorter way out of<sup>2</sup> the house, through a narrow passage, which was crossed by a beam overhead<sup>3</sup>.

We were still talking<sup>4</sup>, as I withdrew, he accompanying me behind, and I turning partly towards him, when he said hastily, "Stoop! Stoop!" I did not understand him till<sup>5</sup> I felt my head hit against<sup>6</sup> the beam.

He was<sup>7</sup> a man who never missed any occasion of giving instruction<sup>8</sup>; and upon this<sup>9</sup> he said to me: "You are young, and have the world before you; stoop as you go through it<sup>10</sup>, and you will miss<sup>11</sup> many hard thumps<sup>12</sup>."

This advice, thus beat<sup>13</sup> into my head, has frequently been of use<sup>13</sup> to me; and I often think of it<sup>14</sup> when I see pride mortified, and misfortune brought upon people by their carrying their heads<sup>15</sup> too high.  
(B. FRANKLIN.)

Notes.—1. On my taking leave; *quand je pris congé de lui*, [An English present participle preceded by a possessive adjective, or an article, has to be generally turned into a tense of the indicative or of the subjunctive.]—2. Out of; *pour sortir de*.—3. Which was . . . overhead; *dont une poutre traversait le plafond*.—4. 'We were still talking'; use the imperfect in French. [The imperfect must be used to express a thing having been done at the moment when another took place: 'I was speaking, when.']—5. I did not . . . till; *je ne compris ce qu'il me disait que lorsque*.—6. To hit against; *heurter*.—7. He was; *c'était*. [The pronouns *he, she, it, they* . . . used with the verb *être* are translated by *ce*, when the attribute of the verb is a noun, a demonstrative or a possessive pronoun.]—8. Of giving instruction; *de donner une leçon*.—9. And upon this; *et à ce propos*.—10. As you go through it; *en le traversant*.—11. To miss; *éviter*.—12. A thump; *un coup*.—13. Thus beat; *ainsi enfoncé*.—14. 'Of use'; turn by 'useful'.—15. By their carrying their heads; *parce qu'elles* (*elles* refers to *les personnes*, which is always feminine) *portent la tête*. [See note 1 above.]

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### TO GIVE AND TO SELL.

He went into a restaurant and sat himself down at a table. To the young woman who came to learn his wants he observed<sup>1</sup>:

"Give me<sup>2</sup> ham and<sup>2</sup> eggs<sup>2</sup>, bread and<sup>2</sup> butter, and a cup of coffee."

The food was brought, and when it was nearly consumed the waitress approached and laid a check by<sup>3</sup> the eater's plate.



“What might that be<sup>4</sup>?” he asked<sup>5</sup>.

“Check, sir,” she replied<sup>6</sup>.

“A check? What is it for<sup>7</sup>?”

“It is to tell you how much to pay the cashier.”

“Pay the cashier? Why should I<sup>8</sup>?”

“For the food you have eaten. You ordered it.”

“But I did not ask you to sell me food. I said: Give me so-and-so<sup>9</sup>. Now<sup>10</sup> the word *give* as defined<sup>11</sup> by Mr. Webster in his dictionary, means ‘to bestow<sup>12</sup> without a return; to confer<sup>13</sup> without compensation.’ Yet, after I asked you, in plain English, to give me...

His discourse on language met with an interruption<sup>14</sup> at this point. The cashier came to see what was going on<sup>15</sup> at this particular table. When he ascertained the subject of the lecture,<sup>16</sup> he grasped the speaker by the coat collar and escorted him to the door.

**Notes.**—1. To the young... he observed; *il dit à la servante qui vint lui demander ce qu’il désirait.*—2. Put here a partitive article (*du, de la, de l’, des*). [The partitive article must be repeated before every noun.]—3. And laid a check by the eater’s plate; *et déposa la note près de l’assiette du consommateur.*—4. What might that be? *qu’est-ce que c’est que cela?*—5. ‘He asked’; translate: ‘asked he’.—6. She replied; *répondit-elle.*—7. What is it for; *pourquoi faire?*—8. Why should I? *pourquoi payerais-je?*—9. So-and-so; *ceci et cela.*—10. Now; *or.*—11. As defined; *tel qu’il est défini.*—12. To bestow; *accorder.*—13. To confer; *remettre.*—14. Met with an interruption; *fut interrompu*—15. What was going on; *ce qui se passait.*—16. The lecture; *la leçon.*

## DEATH OF BACON.

It had occurred<sup>1</sup> to Bacon that snow might be used with advantage for the purpose<sup>2</sup> of preventing animal substances from putrefying<sup>3</sup>. On<sup>4</sup> a very cold day early in the spring of the year sixteen hundred and twenty-six, he alighted from his coach near Highgate in order to try the experiment<sup>5</sup>. He went into a cottage, bought a fowl, and with his own hands stuffed it with<sup>6</sup> snow. While thus engaged<sup>7</sup> he felt a sudden chill, and was soon so much indisposed that it was impossible for him to return to Gray's Inn. The Earl of Arundel, with whom he was well acquainted<sup>8</sup>, had a house at Highgate. To that house Bacon was carried<sup>9</sup>. The Earl was absent, but the servants who were in charge of the place showed great respect and attention to the illustrious guest.

Here<sup>10</sup>, after an illness of about a week, he expired early on the morning<sup>11</sup> of Easter day, 1626.

(MACAULAY.)

Notes.—1. It had occurred to Bacon; *Bacon s'était imaginé.*—2. For the purpose of preventing; *pour empêcher.*—3. From putrefying; *de se putréfier.*—4. 'On', to be left out.—5. In order to try the experiment; *pour faire cette expérience.*—6. To stuff with; *bourrer de.*—7. While thus engaged; *pendant cette opération.*—8. To be well acquainted with some one; *être lié avec quelqu'un; être en excellentes relations avec quelqu'un.*—9. Invert thus: 'Bacon was carried to that house.'—10. Here; *c'est là que.*—11. On the morning of Easter day; *dans la matinée du jour de Pâques.*

## WILLIAM COWPER TO JOSEPH HILL, ESQ.

JUNE 25th, 1785.

*My dear friend :*

I write in a nook that I call my *boudoir*. It is a summer-house<sup>1</sup> not much bigger than a sedan chair<sup>2</sup>, the door of which<sup>3</sup> opens into the garden, that is now crowded<sup>4</sup> with pinks, roses, and honey-suckles, and the window into our neighbour's orchard. It formerly served an apothecary, now dead, as a smoking-room<sup>5</sup>; and under my feet is a trap-door<sup>6</sup>, which once covered a hole in the ground, where he kept his bottles. At present, however, it is dedicated to sublimer uses. Having lined it with<sup>7</sup> garden mats, and furnished it with<sup>8</sup> a table and two chairs, here I write all that I write in summer-time, whether<sup>9</sup> to my friends or<sup>9</sup> to the public. It is secure from<sup>10</sup> all noise, and a refuge from all intrusion; for intruders<sup>11</sup> sometimes trouble<sup>12</sup> me in the winter evenings at Olney. But (thanks to my *boudoir*) I can now hide myself from them. A poet's retreat is sacred. . . .

Notes.—1. A summer-house; *un pavillon*.—2. A sedan chair; *une chaise à porteur*.—3. The door of which; *dont la porte*.—4. That is now crowded with; *plein en ce moment de*.—5. As a smoking-room; *de fumoir*. To translate in this order: 'It served formerly as a smoking-room.'—6. A trap-door; *une trappe*.—7. Lined with; *garni de*.—8. Furnished with; *meublé de*.—9. Whether . . . or; *soit . . . soit . . .*—10. Secure from; *à l'abri de*.—11. For intruders; *car des fâcheux*.—12. 'To trouble'; *déranger*.

## A CONTEST OF PATIENCE.

A Quaker in a coach had got<sup>1</sup> into one of those narrow streets in the City<sup>2</sup> which allow only one vehicle<sup>3</sup> to pass at a time, when from the other end came a cab driven by a young lord. One of them should go back; neither one nor the other would do so. The Quaker invites the young man to give up<sup>4</sup>, the more so<sup>5</sup>, he adds, as it is easier for a cab than for a heavy carriage to drive back. The spark<sup>6</sup> replies to the request only by a laugh<sup>7</sup>.

The Quaker then coolly pulls out his pipe and begins to smoke. The young man opens a newspaper and reads.

When the Quaker had finished his pipe, he said to the opposite party: "Friend<sup>8</sup>, when thee hast done reading<sup>9</sup> thy paper wilt thee lend it me?" But, receiving no answer, he commissioned his coachman to go and buy<sup>10</sup> the *Times*. On hearing this, the spark felt convinced he had no chance of tiring out<sup>11</sup> the patience of his antagonist, and so<sup>12</sup> he at once drove back.

Notes.—1. Had got; *s'était engagé*.—2. In the city; *de la City* (à Londres).—3. Which allow only one vehicle; *où une seule voiture peut*.—4. To give up; *à céder*.—5. The more so; *d'autant plus*.—6. The spark; *le petit-maître*.—7. By a laugh; *en riant*.—8. 'Friend'; put: 'My friend'.—9. When thee hast done reading; *quand tu auras fini de lire*. [In French the future is used after *when, after, as soon as*, to express a thing to come.]—10. To go and buy; *d'aller acheter*.—11. Of tiring out; *de lasser*.—12. And so he at once drove back; *et il fit aussitôt reculer sa voiture*.

## LETTRES DE CACHET.

During the administration of Cardinal Fleury alone, 80,000 were granted or even sold for a few louis by ministers. Some striking illustrations of the uses to which this summary power was put at times<sup>1</sup> are afforded<sup>2</sup> in the memoirs of the Comte de Ségur. There was in Paris a flower girl<sup>3</sup> named Jeanneton, whose beauty attracted the notice of the gentlemen of the Court, and the Chevalier de Coigny, happening to find her<sup>4</sup> looking particularly sprightly one day, inquired the reason. "My husband was such a brute and such a monster," she answered, "that I have bought a *lettre de cachet* from the Comte de St. Florentin for ten louis to free me<sup>5</sup> from him." The chevalier lost sight of Jeanneton for<sup>6</sup> a couple of years, and when he met her again she was pale and dejected. "Where have you been all this time?" he asked, "I hardly knew you again." "Alas, Sir," she replied, "I was a fool to rejoice. My wicked husband had the same idea as myself. He too went to the minister and bought a *lettre de cachet* for me; so it cost our poor household twenty louis to get both of us locked up<sup>7</sup>."—*The Nineteenth Century*.

Notes.—1. The uses . . . 'at times'. *l'usage que l'on faisait quelquefois de ce pouvoir arbitraire*.—2. 'Are afforded in'; translate the sentence in the active form: 'The memoirs of . . . afford some striking illustrations of the uses.'—3. A flower girl; *une jeune fleuriste*.—4. Happening to find her; *l'ayant un jour trouvée*.—5. To free me; *pour me délivrer*.—6. For; *pendant*.—7. To get . . . locked up; *pour nous faire enfermer tous les deux*.

## A DOLLAR FOR TWO.

A gentleman left Cleveland for New York at an early hour in the morning<sup>1</sup> without his breakfast, and being very hungry, upon the arrival of the train at Erie, entered<sup>2</sup> the dining-room, and placing his carpet-bag upon a chair, sat down beside it and commenced a valorous attack<sup>3</sup> upon the viands placed before him.

By and by<sup>4</sup> the proprietor of the establishment came around to collect fares, and upon reaching<sup>5</sup> our friend, ejaculated, "Dollar<sup>6</sup>, sir."—"A dollar!" responded the eating man<sup>7</sup>, "a dollar! I thought you only charged<sup>8</sup> fifty cents a meal for one<sup>9</sup>."—"That's true, but I count your carpet-bag one<sup>10</sup>, since it occupies a seat." (The table was far from being crowded.)

Our friend expostulated<sup>11</sup>, but the landlord insisted, and the dollar was reluctantly brought forth<sup>12</sup>.

The landlord passed on. Our friend deliberately arose, and opening his carpet-bag: "I have paid for you, and now you must eat." Upon which<sup>13</sup> he seized everything eatable within his<sup>14</sup> reach, <sup>15</sup>nuts, raisins, apples, cakes, pies, and amid the roars of the bystanders, and the discomfiture of the landlord, phlegmatically went<sup>16</sup> and took his seat in the cars.

Notes.—At an early . . . breakfast; *le matin de bonne heure, sans avoir déjeuné*.—2. To enter a house, a room . . .; *entrer DANS une maison, une chambre* . . .—3. And commenced . . . upon; *et attaqua vivement*.—4. By and by; *peu après*.—5. And upon . . . friend; *et arrivé à notre voyageur*.—6. Dollar,

sir; *un dollar, monsieur.*—7. The eating man; *le consommateur.*—8. To charge for; *demander.*—9. For one; *par tête.*—10. I count... one; *je compte votre sac de nuit comme une personne.*—11. To expostulate; *se récrier.*—12. And the dollar... forth; *et le voyageur lui donna le dollar à contre-cœur.*—13. Upon which; *sur ce.*—14. Within his reach; *à sa portée.*—15. [The article is sometimes omitted before substantives, in order to render the language more striking and expressive.]—16. Phlegmatically went; *sortit sans se presser.*

### A GOOD RETORT.

A story is told<sup>1</sup> of a very eminent lawyer in<sup>2</sup> New York receiving a severe reprimand from a witness<sup>3</sup> whom he was trying<sup>4</sup> to browbeat.

It was an important issue<sup>5</sup>, and in order to save his cause from defeat<sup>6</sup>, it was necessary that the lawyer should impeach<sup>7</sup> the witness. He endeavored to do it on the ground of age.

The following dialogue ensued:

LAWYER.—How old are you<sup>8</sup>?

WITNESS.—Seventy-two years.

L.—Your memory, of course<sup>9</sup>, is not so brilliant and vivid as it was twenty years ago, is it<sup>10</sup>?

W.—I do not know but it is<sup>11</sup>.

L.—State some circumstance which occurred<sup>12</sup>, say twelve years ago, and we shall be able to see how well you can remember.

W.—Well, sir, I will do it<sup>13</sup>. About twelve years ago<sup>14</sup> you studied in Mr. D.'s office, did you not<sup>15</sup>?

L.—Yes.

W.—Well, sir, I remember<sup>16</sup> your father coming into my office and saying to me:

“ Mr. A., my son is to be<sup>17</sup> examined<sup>17</sup> to-morrow, and I wish<sup>18</sup> you would lend me fifteen dollars to buy him a new suit of clothes<sup>19</sup>.”

I remember also, sir, that from that day to this<sup>20</sup> he has never paid me that sum. That, sir, I remember as though it was but yesterday<sup>21</sup>.

Notes.—1. To tell a story ; *raconter une histoire*. Use the active form.—2. In; *de*.—3. To receive a severe reprimand from some one ; *être cruellement mortifié par quelqu'un*.—4. ‘ He was trying ’, translate by the imperfect.—5. It was . . . issue ; *il s’agissait d’une affaire importante*.—6. And in order . . . from defeat ; *et pour ne pas perdre sa cause*.—7. ‘ Should impeach ’, to be translated by the imperfect of subjunctive. ‘ To impeach ’, *récuser*. [The subjunctive is used after most impersonal verbs : it is necessary, *il faut* ; it is good, it is certain.]—8. How . . . you ; *quel âge avez-vous ?*—9. Of course ; *naturellement*.—10. Is it ? *n’est-ce pas ?*—11. I do not . . . it is ; *je pense que si*.—12. Say ; *par exemple*.—13. Well, sir, I will do it ; *je le veux bien, monsieur*.—14. About twelve years ago ; *il y a environ douze ans*.—15. Did you not ; *n’est-ce pas ?*—16. Put *que* after I remember, and translate *coming* and *saying* by the preterit or definite past, ‘ came ’ and ‘ said ’.—17. Is to be examined ; *doit passer son examen*.—18. Put *que* after ‘ I wish ’, and translate ‘ would lend ’ by the present of subjunctive. [The subjunctive is used after verbs expressing wish, pleasure, sorrow, pity, surprise . . . *Espérer*, to hope, is excepted.]—19. A new suit of clothes ; *un costume neuf*.—20. ‘ To this ’ is not to be translated.—21. As though . . . yesterday ; *comme si c’était d’hier*.

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## THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD AND HIS WIFE.

I was ever<sup>1</sup> of opinion that the honest man who married<sup>2</sup> and brought up<sup>2</sup> a large family, did<sup>2</sup> more service than he who<sup>3</sup> continued<sup>2</sup> single and only talked of population<sup>4</sup>. From this motive, I had



scarce taken orders a year before I<sup>5</sup> began to think seriously of<sup>6</sup> matrimony, and chose my wife as she did her wedding-gown, not for a fine glossy surface, but for such qualities as would wear well<sup>7</sup>.

To do her justice<sup>8</sup>, she was a good-natured, notable woman<sup>9</sup>; and as for breeding, there were<sup>10</sup> few country ladies who could show more<sup>11</sup>. She could read any English book without much spelling<sup>12</sup>; but for pickling, preserving, and cookery, none could excel her. She prided herself also upon being an excellent contriver in housekeeping<sup>14</sup>; though I could never find<sup>15</sup> that we grew richer with all her contrivances.

However, we loved each other tenderly, and our fondness increased as<sup>16</sup> we grew old.

(O. GOLDSMITH.)

Notes.—1. 'I was ever'; use the preterit indefinite.—2. Use the present.—3. Did more service than he who; *est plus utile que celui qui*.—4. And only talked of population; *et ne parle que de la population du monde*.—5. I had scarce . . . before I; *un an à peine après avoir pris les ordres, je*.—6. 'To think of'; *penser à*.—7. Not for a fine . . . wear well; *non pour le brillant de l'étoffe, mais parce qu'elle était bonne et durable*.—8. 'To do justice'; *rendre justice (à)*.—9. She was a . . . woman; *je dois dire que c'était une femme remarquable et d'une excellente nature*.—10. 'There were' not to be translated.—11. Who could show more; *auraient pu en montrer davantage*.—12. Without much spelling; *assez couramment*.—13. For pickling, preserving, and cookery; *pour les conserves, les confitures et la cuisine*.—14. She prided . . . in housekeeping; *elle se flattait d'être une excellente femme de ménage*.—15. 'I could never find'; translate: 'I have never found'.—16. As; *à mesure que*. [As is always translated by *à mesure que*, when it means 'in proportion as'.]

## WAS IT YOUNG ?

A gentleman searching for<sup>1</sup> a goose for dinner, was attracted by the sight<sup>2</sup> of a plump and weighty one.

“Is that a young one?” asked he of<sup>3</sup> a young and rosy-cheeked lass in attendance.

“Yes, sir; indeed it is<sup>4</sup>.”

“How much do you ask for it<sup>5</sup>?” asked the gentleman.

“Two dollars, sir.”

“That is too much. Say one dollar<sup>6</sup>, and have your money.”

“Well, sir, as I would like to get you as a regular customer, I will take it<sup>7</sup>.”

The goose was carried home, and roasted, but found to be<sup>8</sup> so tough as to be uneatable; and the following day<sup>9</sup> the gentleman accosted the fair poulterer.

“Did you not tell me,” he asked, “that that goose I bought of you was young?”

“Yes, sir, I did<sup>10</sup>, and it was.”

“No, it was not.”

“Don’t you call me a young woman?”

“Yes.”

“Well, I’ve heard my mother say, many a time<sup>11</sup>, that it<sup>12</sup> was nearly six weeks younger than I.”

Notes.—1. A gentleman, searching for; *un monsieur qui cherchait*.—2. Was attracted . . . of a; *en vit une*.—3. Asked he of; *demande-t-il à*.—4. Indeed, it is; *certainement qu’elle l’est (jeune)*.—5. How much do you ask for it; *combien en voulez-vous?*—6. Say one . . . your money; *laissez-la moi à un*

*dollar et voici l'argent.*—7. I will take it ; *j'accepte.*—8. But found . . . uneatable ; *mais elle était dure au point de n'être pas mangeable.*—9. The following day ; *le lendemain.*—10. I did ; and it was ; *je l'ai dit et c'était vrai.*—11. Many a time ; *souvent.*—12. It ; *cette oie.*

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### THE PROPER CALLING. (*Vocation.*)

In one of the suburbs of a great city lived an estimable man, who had one son, an incorrigible youth. While the father was debating in his mind<sup>1</sup> one day what calling he should apprentice the lad to<sup>2</sup>, the latter committed some wickedness, for which he was locked up in a room utterly bare of furniture, the father having first placed therein<sup>3</sup> a Bible, a dollar and an apple. The old man determined that, if on going<sup>4</sup> to release his son he should find him<sup>5</sup> reading the Bible, he would make a clergyman of him ; if he found him admiring the money he would set him up as a banker ; and if eating the apple he should be a farmer. When the time came for determining the boy's fate, the old man found him sitting on the Bible, with the dollar in his pocket and masticating the last bit of the apple. So he made a politician of him<sup>6</sup>.

**Notes.**—1. Was debating in his mind one day ; *se creusait un jour la tête pour savoir.*—2. What calling . . . the lad to ; *vers quelle carrière il pourrait diriger son fils.*—3. The father . . . therein ; *où son père mit.*—4. On going ; *quand il irait.*—5. He should find him reading ; *il le trouvait occupé à lire.*—6. So he . . . of him ; *voyant cela il en fit un politicien.* (*Politicien* is a word recently introduced in the French language.)

## FRANCIS THE FIRST.

Science and the arts had, at that time<sup>1</sup>, made little progress in France. They were just beginning<sup>2</sup> to advance beyond the limits<sup>3</sup> of Italy, where they had revived, and which had hitherto been their only seat.

Francis I. took them immediately under his protection. He invited learned men to his court; he conversed with them familiarly; he employed them in business; he raised them to offices of dignity, and honoured them with<sup>4</sup> his confidence.

That race of men<sup>5</sup>, not more prone to complain, when denied the respect<sup>6</sup> to which they fancy themselves entitled<sup>7</sup>, than apt to be pleased, when treated<sup>8</sup> with the distinction which they consider as their due<sup>9</sup>, thought they could not exceed in gratitude to<sup>10</sup> such a benefactor, strained their invention<sup>11</sup>, and employed all their ingenuity in panegyric.

Succeeding authors, warmed with their descriptions of Francis' bounty, adopted their encomiums, and refined upon them<sup>12</sup>. The appellation of "Father of Letters" bestowed upon Francis, has rendered his memory sacred among historians, and they seem to have regarded it<sup>13</sup> as a sort of impiety to uncover his infirmities, or to point out his defects.

(ROBERTSON.)

Notes.—1. At that time; *à cette époque* (i. e. before the reign of Francis the first, 1515-1547.)—2. They were just beginning; *ils commençaient à peine*.—3. To advance beyond the limits; *à franchir les frontières*.—4. With; *de*.—5. That race of men; *ces hommes*.—6. When denied the respect; *quand on leur refuse le respect*.—7. To be entitled to; *avoir des titres à*.—8.

'When treated'; turn; 'when they are treated'.—9. As their due; *comme leur étant due*.—10. 'To' to be left out.—11. Strained their invention; *ils s'efforcèrent de produire des œuvres nouvelles*.—12. And refined upon them; *et renchérirent sur eux*.—13. 'It', to be left out,

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### PRECEDENCE.

Shortly after<sup>1</sup> Napoleon I. was made First Consul, and had installed himself in the Palace of the Tuileries, he held a grand reception and a ball.

But he experienced<sup>3</sup> at that early day of his career no little difficulty<sup>4</sup> in organizing<sup>5</sup> his court and making<sup>5</sup> matters go smoothly<sup>6</sup>.

When the supper was ready, the ladies were summoned first. Two thousand ladies rushed forward to the door of the great dining-room.

The great folding doors<sup>7</sup> were closed, and the officers of the palace found it impossible to get them open<sup>8</sup>, for the ladies pressed against them, and were engaged in high dispute among themselves, as to which of them had the right to go first.

One of the officers hastened to the First Consul, and asked him how they should settle<sup>9</sup> the question of precedence. "O," said Bonaparte, "nothing is easier; tell them that the oldest is to go first<sup>10</sup>."

The officer reported to the ladies the First Consul's decision, and instantly they all fell back<sup>11</sup>. This gave the officers an opportunity to get the doors open, when, to their astonishment, none of the ladies were willing<sup>12</sup> to go first.

After standing<sup>13</sup> in that ridiculous position for<sup>14</sup> a moment, they began to laugh heartily at<sup>15</sup> their own folly, and all marched into the dining-room without further delay.

Notes.—1. Add *que*, before ‘Napoleon’.—2. He held; *il donna*.—3. Turn: ‘But at that early day of his career he experienced’.—4. He experienced no little difficulty in; *il éprouva d’assez grandes difficultés pour*.—5. ‘Organizing’ and ‘making’ must be translated by the infinitive.—6. To make matter go smoothly: *éviter les froissements*.—7. A folding door; *une porte à deux battants*.—8. To get them open; *de les faire ouvrir*.—9. They should settle; *on devait régler*.—10. Is to go first; *doit passer la première*.—11. To fall back; *reculer*.—12. None of the ladies were willing; *aucune des dames ne voulut*.—13. After standing; *après être restées*.—14. ‘For’ is not to be translated.—15. At; *de*. [We say *rire de*, for ‘to laugh at’.]

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## ON<sup>1</sup> MODESTY.

Modesty<sup>1</sup> is a very good quality, and<sup>2</sup> which generally accompanies true merit: it engages and captivates the minds<sup>3</sup> of people; as, on the other hand<sup>4</sup>, nothing is more shocking and disgusting<sup>5</sup> than presumption and impudence. We cannot like a man who is always commending<sup>6</sup> and speaking<sup>7</sup> well of himself, and who is the hero of his own story. On the contrary, a man who endeavors to conceal his own merit, who sets that of other people in its true light<sup>8</sup>, who speaks but little of himself, and with modesty, such a man makes a favourable impression upon the understanding<sup>9</sup> of his hearers, and acquires their love and esteem.

There is, however, a great difference between modesty and an awkward bashfulness<sup>10</sup>, which is as ridiculous as true modesty is commendable. It is as absurd to be a simpleton as to be an impudent fellow<sup>11</sup>; and one ought to know how to come into a room<sup>12</sup>, speak to people, and answer them<sup>13</sup>, without being out of countenance<sup>14</sup>, or without embarrassment. The English are generally apt to be bashful, and have not those<sup>15</sup> easy, free, and at the same time polite, manners which the French have<sup>16</sup>.

CHESTERFIELD. *Letters to His Son.*

**Notes.**—1. Put the definite article.—2. ‘And’, to be left out.—3. The minds of people; *les esprits*.—4. As on the other hand; *d’un autre côté*.—5. Disgusting; *repoussant*.—6. Who is always commending; *qui se fait toujours valoir*.—7. Construe; ‘and speaks always well of himself.’—8. Who sets . . . true light; *qui fait bien ressortir celui des autres*.—9. The understanding; *l’esprit*.—10. An awkward bashfulness; *une timidité déplacée*.—11. An impudent fellow; *effronté*.—12. To know how to come into a room; *savoir se présenter*. [‘To know how to’ is always translated by the verb *savoir*.]—13. Speak to people and answer them; *adresser la parole et répondre*.—14. Without . . . of countenance, or; *sans perdre contenance et*.—15. Those; *les*. [Put ‘manners’ immediately after this.]—16. Which the French have; *des Français*.

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GULLIVER’S MEALS IN LILLIPUT.

I had three hundred cooks to dress my victuals, in little convenient huts about my house, where they and their families lived<sup>1</sup>, and prepared me two dishes apiece<sup>2</sup>. I took up twenty waiters in my hand, and placed them on the table; a hundred more<sup>3</sup> attended

below on the ground, some with dishes of meat, and some with barrels of wine and other liquors slung on their shoulders; all which the waiters above<sup>4</sup> drew up as I wanted, in a very ingenious manner, by certain cords<sup>5</sup>, as we draw the bucket up a well in Europe. A dish of their meat was a good mouthful, and a barrel of their liquor a reasonable draught<sup>6</sup>. Their mutton yields<sup>6</sup> to ours, but their beef is excellent. I have had a sirloin so large, that I have been forced to make three bites of it<sup>8</sup>, but this is rare. My servants were astonished to see me eat it, bones and all<sup>9</sup>, as in our country we do<sup>10</sup> the leg of a lark. Their geese and turkeys<sup>11</sup> I usually ate at a mouthful<sup>12</sup>, and I confess they far exceed ours. Of their smaller fowl<sup>13</sup>, I could take up<sup>14</sup> twenty or thirty at the end of my knife.

SWIFT.

Notes.—1. Where they . . . lived; *où ils vivaient, eux et leurs familles*.—2. Two dishes apiece; *deux plats chacun*.—3. A hundred more; *cent autres*.—4. All which the . . . as I wanted; *les domestiques qui étaient sur la table montaient ces objets, à mesure que j'en avais besoin*.—5. By certain cords; *au moyen de cordes*.—6. A draught; *une gorgée*.—7. Yields to ours; *ne vaut pas le nôtre*.—8. To make three bites of it; *d'en faire trois bouchées*.—9. Bones and all; *chair et os*.—10. We do the leg of a lark; *nous croquons une cuisse d'alouette*.—11. Invert thus: 'I ate usually their geese and their turkeys.'—12. At a mouthful; *en une bouchée*.—13. Of their smaller fowl; *quant à leurs petits oiseaux*.—14. I could take up; *je pouvais en prendre*. [The pronoun EN is used in speaking of persons and of things, to avoid the repetition of a word already expressed. It means *of him, of her, of it . . .* and, like the other pronouns, it is placed before the verb, except when the verb is in the affirmative imperative.]



## REFLECT BEFORE ACTING.

A certain Cham of Tartary going a progress<sup>1</sup> with his nobles, was met by a dervise who cried with a loud voice<sup>2</sup>: "Whoever will give me a hundred pieces of gold, I will give him a piece of advice<sup>3</sup>."

The Cham ordered him the sum<sup>4</sup>; upon which the dervise said: "Begin nothing of which thou hast not<sup>5</sup> well considered the end."

The courtiers, upon hearing this plain sentence, smiled, and said with a sneer: "The dervise is well paid for his maxim."

But the king was so well satisfied with<sup>6</sup> the answer that he ordered it to be written<sup>7</sup> in golden letters in several places of his palace, and engraved on all his plate.

Not long after, the king's surgeon was bribed to kill him with a poisoned lancet at the time he let him bleed<sup>8</sup>.

One day, when the king's arm was bound, and the fatal lancet in the surgeon's hand, he<sup>9</sup> read on the basin: "Begin nothing of which thou hast not well considered the end." He immediately started, and let the lancet fall out<sup>10</sup> of his hand.

The king observed his confusion<sup>11</sup> and inquired the reason<sup>12</sup>. The surgeon fell prostrate, confessed the whole affair, was pardoned, and the conspirators died.

The Cham, turning to his courtiers, told them: "That counsel could not be too much valued, which has<sup>13</sup> saved a king's life."

*The Spectator.*

Notes.—1. Going a progress ; *pendant un voyage*.—2. Who cried with a loud voice ; *qui criait d'une voix forte*.—3. A 'piece of advice', translate 'An advice'.—4. Ordered him the sum ; *donna l'ordre de lui compter cette somme*.—5. Of which thou hast not ; *avant d'en avoir bien*.—6. Satisfied with the ; *content de cette*.—7. He ordered it to be written ; *il ordonna qu'on l'inscrivît*. [The subjunctive is used after verbs expressing *will, command*. The imperfect of the subjunctive is used when the first verb is in a past tense, if we mean to express a thing not occurred yet.]—8. At the time he let him bleed ; *lorsqu'il se ferait saigner*.—9. He ; *celui-ci*.—10. And let... of his hand ; *et laissa échapper la lancette de sa main*.—11. His confusion ; *son trouble*.—12. And inquired the reason ; *et lui en demanda la raison*.—13. "That counsel could not be too much valued"; use the active form : 'One could not...'

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## THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD.

The little republic to which I gave laws<sup>1</sup> was regulated in the following manner : By sunrise<sup>2</sup> we all<sup>3</sup> assembled in our common apartment, the fire being previously kindled by the servant. After we had saluted each other with proper ceremony, for I always thought fit to keep up some mechanical<sup>4</sup> forms of good breeding, without which freedom ever destroys friendship, we all<sup>3</sup> bent in gratitude to that Being<sup>5</sup> who gave us another day. This duty being<sup>6</sup> performed, my son and I went to pursue our usual industry abroad<sup>7</sup>, while my wife and daughters employed themselves in providing breakfast, which was always ready at a certain time<sup>8</sup>. I allowed half an hour for this meal and an hour for dinner ; which

time was taken up in innocent mirth between my wife and daughters, and in philosophical arguments between my son and me. O. GOLDSMITH.

Notes.—1. To which I gave laws ; *que je gouvernais*.—2. By sunrise ; *au lever du soleil*.—3. To assemble ; *se réunir*. [‘All’, in French, does not follow the personal pronoun, as in English; it follows the verb.]—4. Some mechanical forms ; *quelques formes extérieures*.—5. We all bent . . . that Being ; *nous nous prosternions tous pour remercier Dieu (de)*.—6. ‘Being’ is not to be translated.—7. Went to . . . abroad ; *nous sortions pour nos occupations habituelles*. [When the subjects of a verb are of different persons, the verb agrees with the first person in preference to the other two, and with the second in preference to the third. In this case, the pronoun *nous* (not expressed in English) is generally placed before the verb, if one of the subjects is in the first person, and *vous* if the second person is used with the third, without a first person.]—8. At a certain time ; *à une heure déterminée*.—9. Which time was taken up ; *ce temps était employé*.

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### CHARLES DICKENS’ READING.

Dickens’ habits as a speaker differed from those of most orators<sup>1</sup>. He gave no thought to the composition of the speech he was to make<sup>2</sup> till the day before he was to<sup>3</sup> deliver it.

Whether the effort was to be a long or short one, he never wrote down a word of what he was going<sup>4</sup> to say ; but when the proper time arrived for him to consider his subject, he took a walk into the country, and the thing was done. When he returned he was all ready for his task.

He liked to talk about the audiences that came to hear him read, and he gave the palm to his Parisian

one<sup>5</sup>, saying it was the quickest to catch his meaning<sup>6</sup>. Although he said many were always present in the room in Paris<sup>7</sup> who did not fully understand English, yet the French eye is so quick to detect expression that it never failed instantly to understand what he meant by a look or an act<sup>8</sup>. "Thus, for instance," he said<sup>9</sup>, "when I was impersonating Steerforth in *David Copperfield*, and gave that peculiar grip of the hand to Emily's lover, the French audience burst into cheers<sup>10</sup> and rounds of applause." (J. T. FIELD.)

Notes.—1. Most orators; *la plupart des orateurs*.—2. He was to make; *qu'il devait faire*.—3. Till the day before he was to; *jusqu'à la veille du jour où il devait*. ['Till' or 'until', when a verb follows, is *jusqu'à ce que*, with the subjunctive. Before a noun, when no verb follows, and meaning 'as far as', 'as late as', it is translated by *jusqu'à*.]—4. He was going; *il allait*.—5. To his Parisian one; *aux Parisiens*.—6. His meaning; *ce qu'il voulait dire*.—7. In Paris; *à Paris*.—8. An act; *un geste*.—9. He said; *disait-il*.—10. Burst into cheers and rounds of applause; *éclatait en acclamations et en applaudissements*.

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## THE ORIGIN OF THE MOSS ROSE.

There is a very pretty German tradition not generally known which accounts in the following manner<sup>1</sup> for the existence of the moss rose. The legend is to the effect<sup>2</sup> that once upon a time an angel, having a mission of love to<sup>3</sup> suffering humanity, came down on earth. He was much grieved<sup>4</sup> at all the sin and misery<sup>5</sup> he saw, and at all the evil things<sup>5</sup> he heard. Being tired, he sought a place wherein to

rest, but, as it fared<sup>6</sup> with his Master, so it fared with him : there was no room for him, and no one would give<sup>7</sup> him shelter. At last he lay down under the shade of a rose and slept till the rising sun awoke him. Before winging his flight<sup>8</sup> heavenward he addressed<sup>9</sup> the rose, and said that as it had given him that shelter which man denied, it should receive an enduring token of his power and love. And so, leaf by leaf, and twig by twig<sup>10</sup>, the soft green moss grew round the stem, and there it is to<sup>11</sup> this day, a cradle in which the new-born rose may lie, a proof, as the angel said, of God's power and love<sup>12</sup>.

A moss rose ; *une rose mousseuse*.

1. Which accounts... manner for; *qui explique de la manière suivante*.—2. The legend is to the effect that; *d'après la légende*.—3. To; *pour*.—4. To be grieved at; *être affligé de*.—5. Put 'que'.—6. As it fared with; *ce qui arriva pour*.—7. Would give him; *ne voulut lui donner*.—8. Before winging his flight; *avant de prendre son vol*.—9. To address somebody; *s'adresser à quelqu'un*.—10. And twig by twig; *et brin à brin*.—11. To this day; *encore aujourd'hui*.—12. Of God's power and love; turn: 'of the power and of the love of God.'

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### THE GOAT,<sup>1</sup> THE LION AND THE FOX.

The goat, according to the<sup>2</sup> Hindu tale, took shelter during a storm in the den of a lion. When he saw no chance to escape, he terrified the king of beasts by boasting<sup>3</sup> of a celestial origin, and telling him he had been condemned before he could return<sup>4</sup> to Heaven to eat ten elephants, ten tigers, and ten lions.

He had, he said<sup>5</sup>, eaten every kind<sup>6</sup> of animal but the lion; and so saying he marched up to the astonished monster<sup>7</sup>, who fled by a back way from his den.

The lion in his flight met a fox, and described to him the appearance of the goat (an animal he had never seen before), his horns, his strange beard, and above all, his boasting language.

The fox laughed, and told his majesty how he had been tricked<sup>8</sup>.

They went back together, and met the goat at the entrance of the den. The latter at once saw his<sup>9</sup> danger, but his wits did not forsake him:

“What conduct is this<sup>10</sup>, you<sup>11</sup> scoundrel?” said he to the fox; “did I not command you to get ten lions, and here<sup>12</sup> you have only brought me one?”

So saying, he advanced boldly, and the lion, again frightened by his words and actions, fled in terror, allowing the goat to return quietly to his home.

Notes.—1. ‘The goat’; here: *le bouc*.—2. According to the; *d’après un*.—3. By boasting; *en se vantant d’être*.—4. Before he could return; *avant de pouvoir retourner*.—5. He said; *dit-il*.—6. Every kind of animal; *tous ces animaux*.—7. ‘The astonished monster’; put the participle ‘astonished’ after the noun. [Participles used adjectively are always placed after the noun.]—8. How he had been tricked; *comment on s’était joué d’elle* [*elle* refers to *Sa Majesté*].—9. His danger; *le danger qu’il courait*.—10. What conduct is this; *que signifie ceci?*—11. ‘You’ is to be left out.—12. And here; *et voilà que*.

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### DEATH-BED OF WASHINGTON.

About five o’clock (on the 14th of December, 1799)<sup>1</sup> Dr. Craik, Washington’s old friend, came into the

room and approached the bedside. "Doctor," said the General, "I die hard<sup>2</sup>, but I am not afraid to go<sup>3</sup>. I believed, from my first attack, that I should not survive it<sup>4</sup>: my breath can not last long." The doctor pressed his hand in silence, retired from the bedside, and sat by the fire, absorbed in grief<sup>5</sup>.

"About ten o'clock," writes Mr. Lear, "he made several attempts to speak to me before he could effect it<sup>6</sup>. At length he said: 'I am just going<sup>7</sup>. Have me decently buried<sup>8</sup>, and do not let my body be put into the vault in less than three days after I am dead<sup>9</sup>.' I bowed assent<sup>10</sup>, for I could not speak. He then looked at me again, and said, 'Do you understand me?' I replied, 'Yes,'—'tis well,' said he.

"About ten minutes before he expired (which was<sup>11</sup> between ten and eleven o'clock), his breathing became easier. He lay quietly; he withdrew his hand from mine, and felt his own pulse<sup>12</sup>. I saw his countenance change. I spoke to Dr. Craik, who sat by the fire. He came to the bedside. The General's hand fell from<sup>13</sup> his wrist. I took it<sup>14</sup> in mine, and pressed it<sup>14</sup> to my bosom. Dr. Craik put his hands over his eyes, and he expired without a struggle or a sigh." (W. IRVING, "Life of Washington.")

Notes.—1. Put the definite article before 'doctor'. [The definite article must be put in French before nouns of title, dignity, profession.]—2. I die hard; *je lutte contre la mort*.—3. To go; *de mourir*.—4. That I could not survive it; *que je ne pourrais pas y survivre*.—5. Absorbed in grief; *accablé de chagrin*.—6. Before he could effect it; *avant de le pouvoir*.—7. I am just going; *je vais mourir*.—8. Have me decently buried; *faites-moi enterrer sans pompe*.—9. In less... I am

dead ; *moins de trois jours après ma mort*.—10. I bowed assent ; *je lui fis signe que oui*.—11. Which was ; *ce fut*.—12. And felt his own pulse ; *il se tâta lui-même le pouls*.—13. To fall from ; *lâcher*.—14. 'It' ; i.e., the General's hand.

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### CREDULITY (I).

A Chaldean peasant was conducting a goat to the city of Bagdad. He was mounted on an ass, and the goat followed him, with<sup>1</sup> a bell suspended to his neck.

"I shall sell these two animals," said he to himself<sup>2</sup>, "for<sup>3</sup> thirty pieces of silver ; and with the money I can<sup>4</sup> purchase a new turban, and a rich vestment of taffety, which I will tie with a sash of purple silk. The young damsels will then smile more favourably upon me<sup>5</sup> ; and I shall be the finest man at the mosque."

Whilst the peasant was thus anticipating in idea his future enjoyments, three artful rogues concerted a stratagem to plunder him of<sup>6</sup> his present treasures.

As he moved slowly along<sup>7</sup>, one of them slipped off<sup>8</sup> the bell from the goat's neck, and fastening it, without being perceived, to the tail of the ass, carried away his booty.

The man riding upon the ass, and hearing the sound of the bell, continued to muse, without the least suspicion of the loss he had sustained<sup>9</sup>. Happening<sup>10</sup>, however, a short while afterwards, to turn about his<sup>11</sup> head, he discovered, with grief and astonishment, that the animal was gone<sup>12</sup>, which constituted



so considerable a part of his riches ; and he inquired, with the utmost anxiety, after<sup>13</sup> his goat, of<sup>14</sup> every traveller whom he met with<sup>15</sup> on the road.

Notes.—1. And the goat... to his neck ; *et suivi du bouc qui avait une sonnette suspendue au cou.*—2. Said he to himself ; *se disait-il.*—3. ‘ For ’ must not be translated.—4. ‘ I can, ’ must be translated in the future, because a future action is implied.—5. Will then smile upon me ; *me souriront alors*, ‘ most favourably ’.—6. To plunder him of ; *pour le dépouiller de.*—7. To move slowly along ; *cheminer lentement.*—8. To slip off ; *détacher.*—9. Without the least... he had sustained ; *sans se douter le moins du monde de la perte qu’il avait faite.*—10. Happening ; *quand il lui arriva.*—11. His, *la.*—12. That the animal was gone, which ; *de la disparition de l’animal qui.* [It is necessary that the relative pronoun be placed as near its antecedent as possible, so as to avoid ambiguity.]—13. To inquire after ; *s’enquérir de.*—14. Of ; *auprès de.*—15. To meet with ; *rencontrer.*

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### CREDULITY (II).

The second rogue now accosted him, and said : “ I have just<sup>1</sup> seen in yonder fields a man in great haste, dragging along with him<sup>2</sup> a goat.” The peasant dismounted<sup>3</sup> with great precipitation, and requested the obliging stranger to hold his ass, that he might lose no time<sup>4</sup> in overtaking the thief.

He instantly<sup>5</sup> began the pursuit, and having traversed in vain that course that<sup>6</sup> was pointed out to him, he came back, fatigued and breathless, to the place from whence he had set out : where he neither found<sup>7</sup> his ass, nor the deceitful informer to whose care<sup>8</sup> he had intrusted him.

As he walked pensively onwards, overwhelmed with<sup>9</sup> shame, vexation and disappointment, his attention was roused by the loud complaints and lamentations of a poor man who was sitting by the side<sup>10</sup> of a well. He turned out<sup>11</sup> of his way to sympathise with a brother in affliction, recounted his own misfortunes, and inquired the cause of that violent sorrow which seemed to oppress him.

Notes.—1. To have just ; *venir de* (followed by the infinitive.)—2. Dragging along with him ; *traînant après lui*.—3. Dismounted ; *mit pied à terre*.—4. That he . . . no time in ; *afin de ne pas perdre de temps pour*.—5. Put ‘instantly’ after the verb. [In French an adverb is never placed between a pronoun subject and the verb.]—6. And having . . . that course that ; *et après avoir vainement suivi la route qui*.—7. Where he neither found ; *il n’y trouva ni . . . (nor, ni)*.—8. To whose care ; *aux soins de qui*.—9. Overwhelmed with ; *accablé de*. [In French the preposition *de* must be repeated before every noun.]—10. Who was sitting by the side ; *qui était assis auprès (de)*.—11. To turn out of ; *se détourner de*.

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### CREDULITY (III).

“Alas!” said the poor man in the most piteous tone of voice<sup>1</sup>, “as I was resting here to drink, I dropped into the water a casket full of diamonds, which I was employed<sup>2</sup> to carry to the Caliph of Bagdad, and I shall be put to death on the suspicion of having secreted so valuable a treasure<sup>3</sup>.”

“Why do you not jump into the well in search of the casket?” cried the peasant, astonished at<sup>4</sup> the stupidity of his new acquaintance.

“Because it is deep,” replied the man, “and I can neither dive nor swim; but if you will undertake<sup>5</sup> this kind office for me, I will reward you with<sup>6</sup> thirty pieces of silver.”

The peasant accepted the offer with exultation, and whilst he was putting off his cassock, vest, and slippers, expressed his gratitude to the holy prophet for his providential succour. But the moment<sup>7</sup> he plunged into the water in search of the pretended casket, the man, who was one of the three rogues that had concerted the plan of robbing him, seized upon<sup>8</sup> his garments, and bore them off<sup>9</sup> in security to his comrades.

Thus, through<sup>10</sup> inattention, simplicity, and credulity, was the unfortunate Chaldean<sup>11</sup> duped of all his little possessions<sup>12</sup>. (PERCIVAL.)

Notes.—1. In the most . . . of voice ; *de la voix la plus piteuse*.—2. Which I was employed ; *qu'on m'avait chargé (de)*.—3. ‘So valuable a treasure’; construe : ‘a treasure so valuable’.—4. Astonished at ; *étonné de*.—5. And if you will . . . for me ; *et si vous voulez avoir la bonté de faire cela pour moi*.—6. I will reward you with ; *je vous donnerai en récompense*.—7. But the moment ; *mais au moment où*.—8. ‘To seize upon ; *s'emparer de*.—9. And bore them off ; *et les porta*.—10. Through ; *par suite de*.—11. ‘Was the . . . duped of’; construe : ‘the unfortunate Chaldean was duped of’ (*fut dépouillé*).—12. Of all his little possessions ; *de tout le peu qu'il possédait*.

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## THE BENEVOLENT AND THE MISER.

That man<sup>1</sup> deserves the thanks of his country who connects with his own the good of others. The philosopher enlightens the world; the manufacturer

employs the needy<sup>2</sup>, and the merchant gratifies the rich, by procuring for them the rarities of<sup>3</sup> every clime. But the miser, although he may be no burden on<sup>4</sup> society, yet, thinking only of himself, affords to no one else either profit or pleasure.

As it is not the lot of any one in this world to have a very large share of happiness, that man will of course have the largest portion who makes himself a partner<sup>5</sup> in the happiness of others. The benevolent<sup>6</sup> are sharers in every one's joys.

Notes.—1. That man ; *celui-là*.—2. The needy ; *ceux qui sont dans le besoin*.—3. The rarities of ; *ce qu'il y a de rare dans*.—4. Although . . . burden on society ; *quoiqu'il ne soit peut-être pas un fardeau pour la société*. [The conjunction *quoique* is always followed by the subjunctive.]—5. Who makes . . . the happiness ; *qui prend part au bonheur*.—6. The benevolent ; *l'homme bienfaisant*.

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### THE BEE AND THE ANT.

A violent dispute once arose<sup>1</sup> between the Bee and the Ant, each claiming superiority<sup>2</sup> for prudence and industry ; and as neither of them would give up the point<sup>3</sup>, they mutually agreed to refer the decision of this great question to the decree of Apollo, who was fortunately at hand<sup>4</sup> tending the cattle of Admetus<sup>5</sup>. Accordingly, approaching the god, each made out his title<sup>6</sup> to a preference with all the eloquence which a Bee or an Ant had ever been master of<sup>7</sup>.

Then Apollo gave judgment thus :

“I consider you both<sup>8</sup> as most excellent examples of industry and prudence. You,” said he, address-

ing<sup>9</sup> the Ant, "by your care, your foresight, and your labor, make for yourself ample provision in time of need<sup>10</sup>; thus independent, you never intrude on<sup>11</sup> or tax<sup>12</sup> the labor of<sup>13</sup> others for help; but recollect<sup>14</sup>, at the same time, that it is yourself alone that you benefit<sup>15</sup>; no other creature ever shares any part of your hoarded riches. Whereas the Bee produces, by his meritorious and ingenious exertions, that<sup>16</sup> which becomes a blessing to the world. Therefore, I must give my judgment in favor of the Bee."

Notes.—1. Once arose; *s'éleva un jour*.—2. Each claiming superiority; *chacune se prétendant supérieure à l'autre*.—3. To give up the point; *abandonner ses prétentions*.—4. At hand; *tout auprès*.—5. The cattle of Admetus; *les troupeaux d'Admète*.—6. To make out his title; *faire valoir ses titres*.—7. Which a . . . master of; *qu'aient jamais pu déployer une abeille et une fourmi*.—8. I . . . you both; *je vous regarde toutes deux*.—9. To address somebody; *s'adresser à quelqu'un*.—10. In time of need; *pour les temps durs*.—11. To intrude on; *importuner*.—12. To tax the labor; *mettre à contribution*.—13. 'Of', not to be translated.—14. To recollect; *se rappeler*.—15. To benefit; *faire du bien à*.—16. That which; *quelque chose qui*.

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## CRITICS OF POETRY.

It would be amusing to make a digest<sup>1</sup> of the irrational laws which bad critics have framed for the government of poets<sup>2</sup>.

Shakespeare, says Rymer, ought not to have made<sup>3</sup> Othello black; for<sup>4</sup> the hero of a tragedy ought always to be white.

Milton, says another critic, ought not to have taken Adam for his hero; for the hero of an epic poem ought always to be victorious.

Milton, says another, should not have put so many similes into his first book; for the first book of an epic poem ought always to be the most unadorned. There are no similes in the first book of the Iliad.

A law of heroic rhyme<sup>5</sup>, which, fifty years ago, was considered as fundamental, was that there should be a pause<sup>6</sup>—a comma at least—at the end of every couplet. It was also provided that there should never be a full stop<sup>7</sup> except at the end of a line.

We do not see why we should not make<sup>8</sup> a few rules of the same kind, why we should not enact that the number of scenes in every act shall be three<sup>9</sup> or some multiple of three; that the number of lines in every scene shall be an exact square<sup>10</sup>; that the *dramatis personæ*<sup>11</sup> shall never be more or fewer than<sup>12</sup> sixteen; and that, in heroic rhymes, every thirty-sixth line shall have twelve syllables.

(MACAULAY.)

**Notes.**—1. A digest; *un recueil*.—2. For the government of poets; *pour servir de règle aux poètes*.—3. Ought not to have made; *n'aurait pas dû faire*.—4. For; *car*.—5. Construe: 'A law which, fifty years ago, was considered as fundamental in the heroic rhyme (*dans la poésie héroïque*).—6. That there should be a pause; *qu'il devrait y avoir un repos*.—7. A full stop; *un point*.—8. We should not make; *nous ne ferions pas*.—9. Three; *de trois*.—10. An exact square; *un carré parfait*.—11. The *dramatis personæ*; *les personnages d'un drame*.—12. Than; *de*.

## ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

England is the southern and Scotland the northern part of the celebrated island called Great Britain. England is greatly larger than Scotland, and the land<sup>1</sup> is much richer, and produces better crops. There are also a great many more men in England<sup>2</sup>, and both the gentlemen and the country people<sup>3</sup> are more wealthy, and they have better food and clothing, than those<sup>4</sup> in Scotland. The towns, also, are<sup>5</sup> much more numerous, and more populous.

Scotland, on the contrary, is full of hills, and huge moors and wildernesses, which bear no corn, and afford but little food for flocks of sheep or herds of cattle<sup>6</sup>. But the level ground<sup>7</sup> that lies along the great rivers is more fertile, and produces good crops. The natives of Scotland are accustomed to live more hardily in general than those of England. The cities and towns are fewer<sup>8</sup>, smaller, and less full of inhabitants<sup>9</sup> than in England. But, as Scotland possesses great quarries of stone<sup>10</sup>, the towns are commonly built of that material, which is<sup>11</sup> more lasting, and has<sup>12</sup> a grander effect to the eye, than the bricks used in England.

(WALTER SCOTT.)

Notes.—1. The land is ; *le sol en est*.—2. There are also . . . in England ; *il y a aussi bien plus d'habitants en Angleterre*.—3. And both the gentlemen and the country people ; *et les gens de la ville comme ceux de la campagne*.—4. 'Those', to be left out.—5. Are ; *y sont*.—6. And afford . . . of cattle ; *et où les bestiaux trouvent à peine de quoi se nourrir*.—7. The level ground ; *les terres basses*.—8. The cities and towns are fewer ; *les villes et les bourgs y sont moins nombreux*.—9. Less full of inhabitants than in England ; *et la population y est moins com-*

*pacte que dans les villes de l'Angleterre.*—10. 'Of stone', to be left out.—11. Built of that material, which is ; *bâties en pierres, qui sont.*—12. And has ; *et produisent.*

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## CONVERSATION.

One of the greatest pleasures of life is conversation<sup>1</sup>;—and the pleasures of conversation are of course enhanced by every increase of knowledge<sup>2</sup>: not that we should meet together to talk of alkalies and angles, or to add to our stock of history and philology—though a little of these things is no<sup>3</sup> bad ingredient in conversation ; but let the subject be what it may<sup>4</sup>, there is always a prodigious difference between the conversation of those who have been well educated and of those who have not enjoyed this advantage. Education gives fecundity of thought, copiousness of illustration<sup>6</sup>, quickness, vigour, fancy, words, images, and illustrations<sup>6</sup>, it decorates every common thing, and gives the power of trifling<sup>7</sup> without being undignified and absurd. The subjects themselves may not be wanted<sup>8</sup> upon which the talents of an educated man have been exercised<sup>9</sup>; but there is always a demand for<sup>10</sup> those talents which his education has rendered strong and quick. (SYDNEY SMITH.)

Notes.—1. Turn : (*la*) conversation is one of the greatest pleasures of (*la*) life.—2. Knowledge ; *connaissances* (pluriel).—3. Is no ; *ne soit pas*. [Subjunctive after *quoique* (although).]—4. But let . . . what it may ; *mais quel que soit le sujet*. [The subjunctive after *quel que . . .*, and *quelque . . . que*.]—5. Illustration ; *exemples*.—6. Illustrations ; *comparaisons*.—7. Of trifling ; *de dire des riens*.—8. The subjects themselves may



not be wanted upon which ; *il est possible qu'on n'ait pas à traiter les sujets sur lesquels.*—9. Turn : have been exercised (*se sont exercés*) the talents of an educated man.—10. But there is always a demand for those ; *mais on recherche toujours les.*

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### STORY OF JOHN MAYNARD (I).

John Maynard was well known in the lake district<sup>1</sup> as a<sup>2</sup> God-fearing, honest, and intelligent pilot. He was pilot on a steamboat from<sup>3</sup> Detroit to Buffalo.

One summer afternoon — at that time those steamers seldom carried boats—smoke was seen<sup>4</sup> ascending from below ; and the captain cried out :

“Simpson, go below, and see what the matter is down there<sup>5</sup>.”

Simpson came up with his face pale as ashes, and said :

“Captain, the ship is on fire.”

Then<sup>6</sup> “Fire ! fire ! fire !” on<sup>7</sup> shipboard.

All hands were<sup>8</sup> called up. Buckets of water were<sup>8</sup> dashed on the fire, but in vain. There were large quantities of rosin and tar on board, and it was found useless to attempt to save the ship. The passengers rushed<sup>9</sup> forward, and inquired of<sup>10</sup> the pilot :

“How far are we<sup>11</sup> from Buffalo ?”

“Seven<sup>12</sup> miles.”

“How long before<sup>13</sup> we can reach there ?”

“Three-quarters of an hour, at our present rate of steam.”

“Is there any danger ?”

“Danger *here*<sup>14</sup>! See the smoke bursting out! Go forward, if you would save your lives<sup>15</sup>.”

Notes.—1. In the lake district; *dans la région des lacs*.—2. Put ‘pilot’ after ‘as a’. [When two or more adjectives qualify the same noun, they are almost always placed after that noun.]—3. ‘From... to’; *qui faisait le service de ... à*.—4. ‘Smoke was seen’; translate: ‘One saw (*de la*) smoke’.—5. What the matter is down there; *ce qui se passe là-bas*.—6. Then; *alors le cri*.—7. On the shipboard; *retentit sur le navire*.—8. ‘All hands were called up.’ ‘Buckets of water were dashed.’ To be put in the active form, in the present indicative. [The present tense is sometimes used for the past, to awake the attention in making the thing, as it were, present.]—9. ‘Rushed forward’; translate by the present indicative.—10. And inquired of the pilot; *et demandent au pilote*.—11. How far are we; *à quelle distance sommes-nous*.—12. Translate: ‘at seven miles’.—13. How long before; *combien de temps faut-il pour*.—14. Danger here! *s’il y a du danger!*—15. If you would... lives; translate in the present of the indicative. ‘To save one’s life; *se sauver*.

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## STORY OF JOHN MAYNARD (II).

Passengers and crew—men, women, and children—crowded the forward part of the ship. John Maynard stood at the helm. The flames burst forth in a sheet of fire; clouds of smoke arose. The captain cried out through his trumpet<sup>1</sup>:

“John Maynard!”

“Ay, ay, sir<sup>2</sup>!”

“Are you at the helm?”

“Ay, ay, sir!”

“How does she head<sup>3</sup>?”

“South-east by east, sir.”

“Head her south-east, and run her on shore,” said the captain.

Nearer, nearer, yet nearer, she approached the shore. Again the captain cried out :

“John Maynard !”

The response came feebly this time, “Ay, ay, sir !”

“Can you hold five minutes longer, John ?” he said.

“By God’s help, I will<sup>4</sup>.”

The old man’s hair was scorched from the scalp<sup>5</sup> : one hand<sup>6</sup> disabled, his<sup>7</sup> knee upon the stanchion, and his teeth set<sup>8</sup>, with his other<sup>9</sup> hand upon the wheel, he stood firm as a rock.

He beached the ship ; every man, woman and child was saved, as<sup>10</sup> John Maynard dropped, and his spirit took its flight to its God<sup>11</sup>.

(J. B. GOUGH.)

Notes.—1. ‘A trumpet’; *un porte-voix*.—2. ‘Sir’; to be translated : *mon commandant*.—3. How does she head ; *quelle est la direction du navire?*—4. By God’s help, I will ; *avec l’aide de Dieu je tiendrai*.—5. The old man’s hair . . . from the scalp ; *les cheveux du vieux pilote étaient brûlés jusqu’à la racine*.—6. One hand ; *une de ses mains*.—7. His knee ; *un genou*.—8. His teeth set ; *les dents serrées*.—9. With the other hand upon the wheel ; *l’autre main au gouvernail*.—10. As ; *alors*.—11. And his . . . to its God ; *et son âme s’envola vers Dieu*.

## FRENCH, ENGLISH, AND GERMAN.

A Frenchman, an Englishman, and a German were commissioned<sup>1</sup>, it is said, to give the world the benefit<sup>2</sup> of their views on that interesting animal, the Camel.

Away goes the Frenchman<sup>3</sup> to the *Jardin des Plantes*, spends an hour there in rapid investigation, returns, and writes a *feuilleton*, in which there is no phrase the Academy can<sup>4</sup> blame, but also no phrase which adds to the general knowledge. He is perfectly satisfied, however, and says: "*Le voilà, le chameau!*"

The Englishman packs up his tea-caddy<sup>5</sup> and a magazine of comforts<sup>6</sup>; pitches his tent in the East; remains there two years studying the Camel in its habits<sup>7</sup>; and returns with a thick volume of facts, arranged without order, expounded without philosophy, but serving<sup>8</sup> as valuable materials for all who come<sup>9</sup> after him.

The German, despising the frivolity of the Frenchman, and the unphilosophic matter-of-factness<sup>10</sup> of the Englishman, retires to his study, there *to*<sup>11</sup> *construct the Idea of a Camel from out of the depths of his Moral Consciousness*. And he is still at it<sup>12</sup>.

(G. H. LEWES, *Life and Works of Goethe.*)

Notes.—1. Were commissioned; *furent chargés (de)*.—To give the world the benefit; *de faire profiter le monde*.—3. 'Along goes the Frenchman'; invert: The Frenchman goes'.—4. Can; *puisse*. [Subjunctive is generally used after *le seul, le premier, le dernier, pas un*.]—5. A tea-caddy; *une boîte à thé*.—6. A magazine of comforts; *tout un magasin de choses confortables*.—7. 'The camel in its habits'; put: 'the habits of the camel'.—8. But serving as; *mais pouvant servir de*.—9. Who come; *qui viendront*. [In French the future must be used to express a thing to come.]—10. The unphilosophic matter-of-factness; *le caractère positif et peu philosophique*.—11. There to; *pour y*.—12. At it; *plongé dans ce travail*.

## THE POWER OF LITTLE THINGS.

When Franklin made his discovery of the identity of lightning and electricity, it was sneered at<sup>1</sup>, and people asked: "Of what use is it?" To which his apt reply was<sup>2</sup>: "What is the use of a child? It may become a man!" When Galvani discovered that a frog's leg twitched<sup>3</sup> when placed in contact with different metals, it could scarcely have been imagined<sup>4</sup> that so apparently insignificant a fact could have led to important results. Yet therein lay the germ<sup>5</sup> of the Electric Telegraph, which binds the intelligence of continents together, and probably, before many years elapse<sup>6</sup>, will "put a girdle round the globe." So too, little bits of stone and fossil, dug out<sup>7</sup> of the earth, intelligently interpreted, have issued in<sup>8</sup> the science of geology and the practical operations of mining, in which large capitals are invested, and vast numbers of persons profitably employed.

The gigantic machinery employed in pumping<sup>9</sup> our mines, working<sup>10</sup> our mills and manufactories, and driving<sup>11</sup> our steamships and locomotives, in like manner depends for its supply of power upon so slight an agency as particles of water expanded<sup>12</sup> by heat. The steam which we see issuing from the common tea-kettle, when pent up<sup>13</sup> within an ingeniously contrived mechanism, displays a force equal to that of millions of horses, and contains a power to<sup>14</sup> rebuke the waves, and to set even the hurricane at defiance. Nay, it is the same power at work within the bowels<sup>15</sup> of the earth which has been

the cause of many of those semi-miraculous catastrophes — volcanoes and earthquakes — that have played so mighty a part<sup>16</sup> in the history of the globe.

(SMILES.)

Notes.—1. It was sneered at; *on en rit*.—2. To which his apt reply was; *ce à quoi il répondit bien à propos*.—3. Twitched when placed in contact; *se contractait quand elle se trouvait en contact*.—4. It could scarcely have been imagined; *on aurait eu bien de la peine à supposer*.—5. The germ; *le point de départ*; or *l'embryon*.—6. 'Elapse', not to be translated.—7. To dig out; *extraire*.—8. Have issued in; *ont donné naissance à*.—9. In pumping; *à pomper l'eau de*.—10. Working; *à mettre en mouvement*.—11. And driving; *et à faire marcher*.—12. Upon so slight an agency as particles of water expanded; *sur de petites gouttes d'eau dilatées*.—13. Pent up within; *comprimée dans*.—14. A power to; *une force suffisante pour*.—15. The bowels; *les entrailles*.—16. Turn: 'A part so mighty'.

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## THE LOVE OF OUR COUNTRY.

Whence does<sup>1</sup> this love of our country, this universal passion, proceed? Why does the eye<sup>2</sup> ever dwell with fondness upon the scenes of infant life? Why do we breathe with greater joy the breath<sup>3</sup> of our youth? Why are not other soils as grateful and other heavens as gay? Why does the soul of man ever cling to that earth where it first knew<sup>4</sup> pleasure and<sup>4</sup> pain, and under the rough discipline of the passions was roused to the dignity of<sup>4</sup> moral life?

Is it only that<sup>5</sup> our country contains our kindred and our friends? And is it nothing but a name for our social affections?

It cannot be this<sup>6</sup>; the most friendless of human beings<sup>7</sup> has a country which he admires and extols, and which he would, in the same circumstances, prefer to all others under heaven. Tempt him with<sup>8</sup> the fairest face of nature, place him by living waters under the shadowy trees of Lebanon, open to his view all the gorgeous allurements of the climates of the sun,—he will love the rocks and deserts of his childhood better than all these, and thou canst not bribe his soul<sup>9</sup> to forget the land of his nativity.

(SYDNEY SMITH.)

Notes.—1. Construe: Whence does proceed this love. . .—2. Construe: Why the eye does it dwell ever.—3. The breath of our youth; *l'air que nous avons respiré dans notre enfance*.—4. Put the definite article.—5. That; *parce que*.—6. It cannot be this; *certainement ce n'est pas cela*.—7. The most friendless of human beings; *l'homme qui a le moins d'amis*.—8. Tempt him with; *offrez-lui, pour le tenter*.—9. And thou canst not bribe his soul to forget; *et rien de ce que vous lui offrirez ne pourra lui faire oublier*.

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### MR. CRAWFORD'S IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA.

On the whole<sup>1</sup>, my last visit here has filled me with the highest admiration of<sup>2</sup> my country and given me the greatest hope for the future. I believe that we are passing out of the period of hurry and worry<sup>3</sup>, and are coming fast to a time when we shall be able to give more attention to culture. That Americans are refining<sup>4</sup> is shown by one fact that struck me as soon as I landed here early in the winter: they speak far better English now than they did ten years ago.

With the increase of leisure, society will bring together men and women more than heretofore. In this country the sexes are curiously divided; men have very little of the companionship<sup>5</sup> of women. The result is that their understanding of their own sex is developed, but the finer side of their nature suffers. American women pretend that they can get along very well<sup>6</sup> without the society of men by<sup>7</sup> giving themselves up to clubs and charitable work; but it is natural for men and women to seek one another's companionship, and I am convinced that during the next few years<sup>8</sup> many of the conventional barriers between the sexes will be broken down. In Europe, women would scorn the occupations of the women of this country as altogether too dull to be endured; they like the companionship of men, and they have it. The result is beneficial to both themselves and to the men.

(From an Interview in the New York Tribune.)

Notes.—1. On the whole; *en somme*.—2. Of; *pour*.—3. The period of hurry and worry; *la période de hâte et de fièvre*.—4. Are refining; *deviennent plus raffinés*.—5. Men have . . . of women; *les hommes vivent fort peu en la compagnie des femmes*.—6. To get along very well; *passer fort bien leur temps*.—7. By giving themselves to; *en s'intéressant à*.—8. During the next few years; *dans peu d'années*.

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### KANT'S LIFE.

The extraordinary uniformity of Kant's life renders it<sup>1</sup> possible to draw a picture of one day which may serve as a type of thousands.



Every morning about five minutes before five o'clock his servant entered the bedroom and called Kant with the words<sup>2</sup>, "It is time." Uniformly the call was obeyed<sup>3</sup>, and at five o'clock Kant was in his sitting-room or study. His sole refreshment was a cup of tea and a single pipe of tobacco.

Up to seven o'clock he continued to prepare for his lectures<sup>4</sup>. At seven o'clock he descended to his lecture room, whence he returned at nine. Thereafter he devoted himself<sup>5</sup> during the rest of the morning to his literary labours.

At a quarter before one o'clock he rose and called out to the cook<sup>6</sup>, "It is three-quarters<sup>7</sup>!"—whereupon she brought the liquor which he was to drink after the first course had been served.

At dinner, for the last twenty years of his life, he always had guests—never, if possible, less than two, and seldom, if ever, more than five. The dinner usually consisted of three courses—in which fish and vegetables formed a part<sup>8</sup>—and ended with wine and dessert...

At four, Kant went out for his constitutional walk<sup>9</sup>; on returning from which<sup>10</sup> he set to work,—perhaps first of all arranging any little matters of business, reading any novelties in the way of books<sup>11</sup>, or possibly the newspapers, for which his appetite was always keen.

As the darkness began to fall, he would take<sup>12</sup> his seat at the stove, and, with his eyes<sup>13</sup> fixed on the church tower, would ponder<sup>14</sup> on the problems which exercised his mind.

(WILLIAM WALLACE.)

**Notes.**—1. 'It', to be left out.—2. And called Kant with the words; *et l'éveillait en lui disant*.—3. The call was obeyed; *Kant obéissait à cet appel*.—4. To prepare for his lectures; *à préparer ses leçons*.—5. He devoted himself; *il s'adonnait entièrement*.—6. And called out to the cook; *et criait à la cuisinière*.—7. It is three-quarters; *midi trois quarts!*—8. In which . . . formed a part; *dont faisaient partie du poisson et des légumes*.—9. For his constitutional walk; *pour faire sa promenade hygiénique*.—10. On returning from which; *au retour de cette promenade*.—11. Reading . . . of books; *lisant tous les livres nouveaux*.—12. 'He would take'; use the imperfect, because it was a thing habitually performed.—13. And with his eyes fixed; *et les yeux fixés*.—14. 'Would ponder'; use the imperfect (see note 12).

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### THE FRUITS OF<sup>1</sup> LIBERTY (I).

Ariosto tells a pretty story of a fairy, who, by some mysterious law of her nature, was condemned to appear at certain seasons<sup>2</sup> in the form of a foul and poisonous snake.

Those who injured her during the period of her disguise were for ever excluded from participation in the blessings which she bestowed. But to those<sup>3</sup> who, in spite of her loathsome aspect, pitied<sup>4</sup> and protected her, she afterwards revealed herself<sup>5</sup> in the beautiful and celestial form which was natural to her, accompanied their steps, granted all their wishes, filled their houses with<sup>6</sup> wealth, made them happy in love and victorious in war.

Such a spirit is Liberty<sup>7</sup>. At times<sup>8</sup> she takes the form of a hateful reptile. She grovels, she hisses, she stings. But woe to those who in disgust shall

venture<sup>9</sup> to crush her! And happy are<sup>10</sup> those who, having dared to receive her in her degraded and frightful shape, shall at length be rewarded by her in the time of her beauty and<sup>11</sup> her glory!

Notes.—1. Put the definite article.—2. At certain seasons; *à certaines époques*.—3. But to those; *mais pour ceux*.—5. To pity some one; *avoir pitié de quelqu'un*. To protect some one; *protéger quelqu'un*. [Observe that the verb 'to pity' is followed, in French, by an indirect regimen, and 'to protect' by a direct regimen. In such cases, the personal pronoun must always be repeated.]—5. Construe: 'She revealed herself afterwards to them'. To reveal one's self; *se montrer*.—6. To fill with; *remplir de*.—7. Such a spirit is Liberty; *La Liberté ressemble à cette fée*.—8. At times; *parfois*.—9. 'Shall venture'; *essayeront de*.—10. 'Are' must not be translated.—11. Repeat *de*.

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## THE FRUITS OF LIBERTY (II).

There is only one cure for the evils which newly acquired freedom produces<sup>1</sup>, and that cure is freedom. When a prisoner first<sup>2</sup> leaves his cell, he can not bear the light of day: he is unable to discriminate<sup>3</sup> colors, or recognize<sup>3</sup> faces. But the remedy is, not to remand him into his dungeon, but to accustom him to the rays of the sun.

The blaze of<sup>3</sup> truth and<sup>3</sup> liberty may at first dazzle and bewilder<sup>3</sup> nations which have become half blind in the house of bondage<sup>4</sup>. But let them gaze on, and they will soon be able to bear it. In a few years men learn to reason. The extreme violence of opinion subsides. <sup>3</sup>Hostile theories correct each other. The scattered elements of truth cease to contend, and

begin to coalesce. And, at length, a system of justice and order is educed out of the chaos.

Many politicians of our time are in the habit<sup>5</sup> of laying it down as a self-evident proposition, that no people ought to be free till they are<sup>6</sup> fit to use their<sup>6</sup> freedom. The maxim is worthy of the fool in<sup>7</sup> the old story, who resolved not to go into the water till<sup>8</sup> he had learned to swim. If men are to wait for<sup>9</sup> liberty till they become wise and good in slavery, they may indeed wait for ever<sup>10</sup>.

(MACAULAY.)

Notes.—1. Put the subject ‘the freedom newly acquired’ after the verb ‘produces’.—2. When the prisoner first; *au moment où le prisonnier*.—3. Put the definite article.—4. In the house of bondage; *dans la servitude*.—5. Are in the habit; *ont l’habitude (de)*.—6. Till they are; *jusqu’à ce qu’il soit*. [Collective words such as *people, family, etc.*, when they are used in the singular in French, are followed by the verb or the adjective in the singular.]—7. In; *de*.—8. Till; *jusqu’à ce que* (to be followed by a subjunctive).—9. Are to wait for; *devaient attendre*.—10. They may . . . for ever; *ils pourraient assurément l’attendre toujours*.

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## THE BRAHMIN AND THE KNAVES.

AN EASTERN APOLOGUE.

A pious Brahmin made a vow that on<sup>1</sup> a certain day he would sacrifice a sheep, and on<sup>1</sup> the appointed morning he went forth<sup>2</sup> to buy one. There lived in his neighbourhood<sup>3</sup> three rogues who knew of his vow, and laid a scheme for profiting by<sup>4</sup> it. The first met him and said: “Oh Brahmin, wilt thou buy a sheep? I have one fit for sacrifice.” “It is for that very

purpose," said the holy man, "that I came forth this day." Then the impostor opened a bag, and brought out of it<sup>5</sup> an unclean beast, an ugly dog, lame and blind. Thereon the Brahmin cried out: "Wretch, who touchest things impure, and utterest things untrue, callest thou that cur<sup>6</sup> a sheep?" "Truly," answered the other, "it is a sheep of the finest fleece, and of the sweetest flesh. O Brahmin, it will be an offering most acceptable to the gods." "Friend," said the Brahmin, "either thou or I must be blind."

Just then one of the accomplices came up. "Praised be the gods," said this second rogue, "that I have been saved the trouble<sup>7</sup> of going to the market for a sheep! This is such a sheep as I wanted. For how much wilt thou sell it?" When the Brahmin heard this, his mind wavered to and fro<sup>8</sup>, like one swinging<sup>9</sup> in the air at a holy festival. "Sir," said he to the new-comer, "take heed<sup>10</sup> what thou dost; this is no sheep, but an unclean cur." "O Brahmin," said the new-comer, "thou art drunk or mad!"

At this time the third confederate drew near<sup>11</sup>. "Let us ask this man," said the Brahmin, "what the creature is, and I will stand by<sup>12</sup> what he shall say." To this the others agreed; and the Brahmin called out: "O stranger, what dost thou call this beast?" "Surely, O Brahmin," said the knave, "it is a fine sheep." Then the Brahmin said: "Surely the gods have taken away my senses;" and he asked pardon of<sup>13</sup> him who carried the dog, and bought it for a measure of rice and a pot of ghee<sup>14</sup>, and offered

it up to the gods, who, being wroth at this unclean sacrifice, smote him with a sore disease in all his joints<sup>15</sup>.

MACAULAY.

Notes.—1. 'On', not to be translated.—2. To go forth; *sortir*.—3. 'There lived in . . .'; turn: 'In his neighbourhood lived'.—4. To profit by; *profiter de*.—5. And brought out of it; *et en tira*.—6. A cur; *un chien hargneux*.—7. That I have been saved the trouble; *pour m'avoir épargné la peine (de)*.—8. To wave to and fro; *flottait çà et là*.—9. Like one swinging in the air; *comme lorsqu'on est balancé dans l'air*.—10. 'To take heed'; *prendre garde (à)*.—11. To draw near; *s'approcher*.—12. To stand by; *s'en rapporter à*.—13. To ask pardon of (somebody); *demander pardon à (quelqu'un)*.—14. Ghee; *beurre*.—15. Smote him with a sore disease in all his joints; *le châtièrent en l'accablant de douleurs dans toutes les articulations*.

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## CHILDREN IN DICKENS'S WORKS.

Dickens painted the children with special gratification<sup>1</sup>; he did not think of edifying the public, and he has charmed it. All his children are of<sup>2</sup> extreme sensibility; they love much, and they crave<sup>3</sup> to be loved.

To understand this gratification of the painter, and this choice of characters, we must think of<sup>4</sup> their physical type.

English children have a color<sup>5</sup> so fresh, a complexion so delicate, a skin so transparent, eyes so blue and pure, that they are like<sup>6</sup> beautiful flowers. No wonder if<sup>7</sup> a novelist loves them, lends to their soul a sensibility and innocence which shine forth from their looks<sup>8</sup>, if he thinks that these frail and

charming roses are crushed by the coarse hands which try to bend<sup>9</sup> them.

We must also imagine to ourselves<sup>10</sup> the households in which they grow up.

When at five o'clock the merchant<sup>11</sup> and the clerk leave their office and their business, they return as quickly as possible to the pretty cottage, where their children have played all day on the lawn. The fire-side by which they will pass the evening is a sanctuary, and domestic tenderness<sup>12</sup> is the only poetry they need<sup>13</sup>. A child deprived of these affections and this happiness<sup>14</sup> seems to be deprived of the air we breathe<sup>15</sup>, and the novelist does not find a volume too much<sup>16</sup> to explain its unhappiness.

TAINÉ. *History of English Literature.*

(Translated by H. Van Laun.)

Notes.—1. With special gratification ; *avec une complaisance particulière*.—2. Are of ; *ont une*.—3. They crave ; *ils demandent à*.—4. We must think of ; *il faut songer à*.—5. A color ; *une carnation*.—5. To be like ; *ressembler à*.—7. No wonder if ; *rien d'étonnant si*.—8. Which shine forth from their looks ; *qui brillent dans leurs regards*.—9. To bend ; *assouplir*.—10. We must . . . to ourselves ; *il faut encore songer (à)*.—11. A merchant ; *un négociant*.—12. Domestic tenderness ; *les tendresses de la famille*.—13. They need ; *dont ils aient besoin*.—14. Happiness ; here : *bien-être*.—15. We breathe ; *qu'on respire*.—16. Does not . . . too much ; *n'aura pas trop d'un volume*.

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## SERMONS IN STONES.

There are no natural objects out of which more can be learned than out of stones<sup>1</sup>. They seem to have been created especially to reward a patient ob-

server. Nearly all other objects in nature can be seen, to some extent, without patience, and are pleasant even in being half seen<sup>2</sup>. Trees, clouds, and rivers are enjoyable even by the careless; but the stone under his foot has for carelessness nothing in it but stumbling<sup>3</sup>: no pleasure is languidly to be had out of it, nor food, nor good of any kind; nothing but symbolism of the hard heart and the unfatherly gift. And yet<sup>4</sup>, do but give it some reverence and watchfulness<sup>5</sup>, and there is bread of thought in it<sup>6</sup>, more than in any other lowly feature of all the landscape. For a stone, when it is examined, will be found a mountain in miniature. The fineness of Nature's work is so great, that, into a single block, a foot or two in diameter<sup>7</sup>, she can compress as many changes of form and structure, on a small scale, as she needs for her mountains on a large one; and taking moss for forests, and grains of crystal for crags, the surface of a stone, in by far the plurality of instances<sup>8</sup>, is more interesting than the surface of an ordinary hill; more fantastic in form, and incomparably richer in colour.

RUSKIN.

Notes.—1. There are . . . of stones; *il n'y a rien, dans la nature, de plus instructif que les pierres.*—2. Even in being half seen; *même quand on les regarde superficiellement.*—3. But the stone. . . but stumbling; *mais l'homme insouciant ne voit dans la pierre qui est sous son pied qu'une chose qui le fait trébucher.*—4. And yet; *et cependant.*—5. Watchfulness; *attention.*—6. And there is bread of thought in it, more than; *il y a là plus d'aliment pour la pensée que.*—7. A foot or two in diameter; *d'un ou deux pieds de diamètre.*—8. In by far . . . of instances; *le plus souvent.*



## BOOKS.

“I have friends,” said Petrarch, “whose society is<sup>1</sup> extremely agreeable to me<sup>1</sup>; they are of all ages<sup>2</sup>, and of every country. ... It is easy to gain access to them<sup>3</sup>, for they are always at my service, and I admit them to my company, and dismiss them from it, whenever I please<sup>4</sup>. They are never troublesome, but immediately answer every question I ask them<sup>5</sup>.

Some relate to me the events of past ages, while others reveal to me the secrets of Nature.

Some teach me how to live<sup>6</sup>, and others how to die.

Some, by their vivacity, drive away my cares and exhilarate my spirits; while others give fortitude to my mind, and teach me the important lesson how<sup>7</sup> to restrain my desires, and to depend wholly on myself.

They open to me, in short, the various avenues of all the arts and<sup>8</sup> sciences, and upon their information I may safely rely<sup>9</sup> in all emergencies.

In return for all their services, they only ask me to accommodate them with<sup>10</sup> a convenient chamber in some corner of my humble habitation, where they may<sup>11</sup> repose in peace; for these friends are more delighted by<sup>12</sup> the tranquillity of retirement than with<sup>13</sup> the tumults of society.”

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK. *The Pleasures of Life.*

Notes.—1. Is to me; *m'est*.—2. Ages; *siècles*.—3. To gain access to them; *de les aborder*.—4. Whenever I please; *quand cela me plaît*. [*Plaire* is an intransitive verb, the object indirect of which is preceded by the preposition *à*, expressed or understood. *Cela me plaît*; *me* is for ‘to me’].—5. I ask them; *que je leur adresse*.—6. How to live; *à vivre*.—7. And teach me

the important lesson how to ; *et m'apprennent, chose importante, à.*—8. Repeat 'and of all'.—9. Turn : 'And I may safely rely upon their information'.—10. To accommodate them with ; *de leur donner.*—11. Where they may ; *où ils puissent.* [The subjunctive is used after the relative pronouns *où, qui, que, dont,* when we wish to imply some doubt or uncertainty.]—12. Are more delighted by ; *trouvent plus de charme dans.*—13. Than with the tumults ; *qu'au milieu du tumulte.*

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## INFLUENCE OF FRANCE IN THE 17TH CENTURY.

France united at that time almost every species of ascendancy. Her military glory was at the height<sup>1</sup>. She had vanquished mighty coalitions. She had dictated treaties. She had subjugated great cities and provinces. . . .

Her authority was supreme in all matters of good breeding<sup>2</sup>, from a duel to a minuet. She determined<sup>3</sup> how a gentleman's coat must be cut, how long his peruke must be<sup>4</sup>, whether his heels must<sup>5</sup> be high or low, and whether the lace on his hat must be broad or narrow.

In literature she gave law<sup>6</sup> to the world. The fame of her great writers filled Europe. No other country could produce<sup>7</sup> a tragic poet equal to Racine, a comic poet equal to Molière, a trifler<sup>8</sup> so agreeable as La Fontaine, a rhetorician<sup>9</sup> so skillful as Bossuet. The literary glory of Italy and of Spain had set ; that of Germany had not yet dawned. . . .

French was fast becoming the universal language, the language of fashionable society, the language of

diplomacy. At several courts princes and nobles spoke it more accurately and politely<sup>10</sup> than their mother tongue.

MACAULAY. *History of England.*

Notes.—1. At the height; *à son apogée*.—2. In all matters of good breeding; *en tout ce qui avait rapport aux bonnes manières*.—3. She determined; *c'était elle qui décidait*.—4. How long his peruke must be; *quelle devait être la longueur de sa perruque*.—5. Must; *devaient*.—6. She gave law; *elle faisait la loi*.—7. Produce; *montrer*.—8. A trifler; *un conteur*.—9. Rhetorician; *orateur*.—10. More accurately and politely; *plus correctement et avec plus d'élégance*.

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## WASHINGTON AND FRANKLIN.

Washington and Franklin! What other two men whose lives belong to the eighteenth century of Christendom<sup>1</sup>, have left a deeper impression of themselves upon the age in which they lived, and upon all after time<sup>2</sup>?

Washington! the warrior and the legislator! In war, contending by the wager of battle<sup>3</sup>, for the independence of his country, and for the freedom of the human race, ever manifesting amidst its horrors, by precept and by example, his reverence for the laws of peace<sup>4</sup> and for the tenderest sympathies of humanity<sup>5</sup>; in peace, soothing<sup>6</sup> the ferocious spirit of discord among his own countrymen into harmony and union, and giving to his sword a charm more potent than that attributed in ancient times to the lyre of Orpheus.

Franklin! the mechanic<sup>7</sup> of his own fortune; teaching, in early youth, under the shackles of indigence<sup>8</sup>, the way to wealth, and, in the shade of obscurity, the path to greatness; in the maturity of manhood, disarming the thunder of its terrors, the lightning of its fatal blast; and wresting from the tyrant's hands<sup>9</sup> the still more afflictive scepter of oppression. . . .

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

Notes.—1. Whose lives . . . of Christendom; *du dix-huitième siècle de l'ère chrétienne*.—2. And upon all after time; *et sur toute l'époque qui a suivi*.—3. Contending by the wager of battle; *combattant*.—4. For the laws of peace; *pour la paix*.—5. And for the tenderest sympathies of humanity; *et la plus tendre sympathie pour tous les hommes*.—6. Soothing into harmony and union; *changeant en esprit d'union et d'harmonie* 'the ferocious spirit of discord of (instead of among) his countrymen'.—7. The mechanic; *l'artisan*.—8. Under the shackles of indigence; *quand il était aux prises avec l'indigence*.—9. And wresting from the tyrant's hands; *et arrachant des mains des tyrans*.

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## HEALTH.

Such is the power of health, that without its cooperation<sup>1</sup>, every other comfort is torpid and lifeless, as the powers of vegetation without the sun. And yet this bliss is commonly thrown away in thoughtless negligence, or in foolish experiments on our own strength; we let it perish without remembering<sup>2</sup> its value, or waste it, to show how much we have to spare<sup>3</sup>: it is sometimes<sup>4</sup> given up to the management of levity and chance<sup>5</sup>, and sometimes<sup>4</sup> sold for the applause of jollity and debauchery<sup>6</sup>.

Health is equally neglected, and with equal impropriety, by the votaries of business<sup>7</sup>, and the followers of pleasure. Some ruin their health by intemperate<sup>8</sup> studies, others by incessant revels: though it requires no great abilities to prove, that he<sup>9</sup> loses pleasure who loses health. To the noisy rout of bacchanalian rioters it is almost in vain to offer advice.

Poverty is, indeed, an evil from which we naturally fly; but let us not run from one enemy to another, nor take shelter<sup>10</sup> in the arms of sickness.

JOHNSON.

Notes.—1. Without its cooperation; *sans elle*.—2. Without remembering; *sans nous souvenir de*. [*Se souvenir* is followed by an indirect object preceded by the preposition *de*. While *se rappeler* (also 'to remember') is followed by a direct object. *Se rappeler quelque chose; se souvenir DE quelque chose.*]—3. To show . . . to spare; *pour montrer de combien nous pouvons disposer*.—4. Sometimes; *tantôt*.—5. To give up . . . and chance; *abandonner légèrement à la chance*.—6. For the applause of jollity and debauchery; *pour recueillir les applaudissements des joyeux vivants et des débauchés*.—7. A votary of business; *un homme tout adonné aux affaires*.—8. Intemperate; *immodéré*.—9. Turn: 'he who (*celui qui*) loses health loses pleasure.—10. To take shelter; *se réfugier*.

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## THE PLEASURES OF LIFE.

Life is a great gift, and as<sup>1</sup> we reach years of discretion, we most of us<sup>2</sup> naturally ask ourselves what should be the main object of our existence<sup>3</sup>. Even those who do not accept<sup>4</sup> "the greatest good of the greatest number" as an absolute rule, will yet admit

that we should all endeavour to contribute as far as we may<sup>5</sup> to the happiness of our fellow-creatures.

There are many<sup>6</sup>, however, who<sup>7</sup> seem to doubt whether it is right that we should try to be happy ourselves. Our own happiness ought not, of course<sup>8</sup>, to be our main object, nor indeed will it ever be secured if selfishly sought. We may have pleasures in life, but must not let them have rule over us<sup>9</sup>, or they will soon hand us over to sorrow . . . I cannot, however, but think<sup>10</sup> that the world would be better and brighter if our teachers would dwell on the Duty of Happiness as well as on the Happiness of Duty; for we ought to be as cheerful as we can, if only<sup>11</sup> because to be happy ourselves, is a most effectual contribution to the happiness of others.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK

Notes.—1. As; *à mesure que*.—2. We most of us; *la plupart d'entre nous* (to be followed by the third person of the plural).—3. Of our existence; *de l'existence*.—4. Put here: *la maxime*.—5. As far as we may; *autant que nous le pouvons*.—6. There are many; *bien des personnes*.—7. 'Who'; not to be translated.—8. Of course; *certainement*.—9. But must not . . . over us; *mais nous ne devons pas nous laisser gouverner par eux*.—10. I cannot, however, but think; *je ne peux cependant m'empêcher de penser*.—11. If only; *fût-ce seulement*.

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### AN ECONOMICAL PROJECT (I).

I was the other evening in a grand company, where a new lamp was introduced and much admired for its splendor<sup>1</sup>; but a general inquiry was made<sup>2</sup> whether the oil it consumed was not in exact proportion to the light it afforded. No one present

could satisfy us on that point, which all agreed ought to be known<sup>3</sup>, it being a very desirable thing<sup>4</sup> to lessen, if possible, the expense of lighting our apartments. I was pleased to see this general concern for economy, for I love economy exceedingly.

I went home, and to bed<sup>5</sup>, three or four hours after midnight, with<sup>6</sup> my head full of the<sup>7</sup> subject. An accidental sudden noise<sup>8</sup> waked me about<sup>9</sup> six in the morning, when<sup>10</sup> I was surprised to find my room filled with<sup>11</sup> light, and<sup>12</sup> I imagined at first that a number of those lamps had been brought into it; but, rubbing my eyes<sup>13</sup>, I perceived the light came in at the windows<sup>14</sup>. I got up and looked out to see what might be the occasion of it<sup>15</sup>, when I saw the sun just rising above the horizon, from whence he poured his rays plentifully into my chamber; my domestic having negligently omitted, the preceding evening, to close the shutters . . .

Notes.—1. For its splendor; *pour sa belle clarté*.—2. But a general inquiry was made; *mais chacun demandait*.—3. Which all . . . known; *qui, de l'avis de tous, était important à connaître*.—4. It being . . . thing; *il est très important, en effet, (de)*.—5. And to bed; *et je me couchai*.—6. 'With', not to be translated.—7. The; *ce*.—8. An accidental sudden noise; *un bruit soudain et inusité*.—9. About; *vers*.—10. When; *et*.—11. With; *de*.—12. 'And I imagined' is to begin a new sentence, 'and' being left out.—13. To rub one's eyes; *se frotter les yeux*.—14. Came in at the windows; *entraît par la fenêtre*.—15. What might be . . . of it; *ce qui pouvait occasionner cela*.

## AN ECONOMICAL PROJECT (II).

This event has given rise<sup>1</sup> in my mind to<sup>1</sup> several serious and important reflections. I considered that

if I had not been awakened so early in the morning, I should have slept six hours longer<sup>2</sup> by the light of the sun<sup>3</sup>, and in exchange have lived six hours the following night by candle-light<sup>4</sup>; and, the latter being a much more expensive light than the former, my love of economy induced me to muster up what little arithmetic I was master of<sup>5</sup>, and to make some calculations, which I now submit to the public; for utility is, in my opinion, the test of value in matters of invention<sup>6</sup>.

Taking for the basis of my calculation the supposition that there are in Paris a hundred thousand families which consume in the night half a pound of candles per hour, I calculated that, by the economy of using<sup>7</sup> sunshine instead of candles, the city of Paris must save every year the immense sum of three millions of pounds<sup>8</sup>, English money . . .

Notes.—1. To give rise to; *faire naître*. [Use here the preterit definite, followed by a direct object.]—2. Longer; *de plus*.—3. By the light of the sun; *pendant que le soleil brillait*.—4. By candle-light; *à la lumière des bougies*.—5. To muster up . . . master of; *à faire appel à toutes mes connaissances en arithmétique*.—6. For utility . . . of invention; *car, selon moi, c'est par l'utilité d'une invention qu'on doit en apprécier la valeur*.—7. By the economy of using; *en se servant (du)*.—8. Put 'in'; *en*.

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### AN ECONOMICAL PROJECT (III).

I believe all who have common sense, as soon as they have learned<sup>1</sup> from this paper that it is daylight<sup>2</sup> when the sun rises, will contrive to rise with



him : and to compel the rest<sup>3</sup>, I would propose<sup>4</sup> that every morning, as soon as the sun rises, all the bells in every church be set ringing<sup>5</sup>; and if that is not sufficient, cannons should be fired in every street to wake the sluggards effectually, and make them open their eyes to their true interest.

All the difficulty will be in the first two or three days<sup>6</sup>, after which<sup>7</sup> the reformation will be as natural and as easy as the present irregularity. Oblige a man to rise at four in the morning, and it is more than probable that he will go willingly to bed at eight in the evening; and, having had eight hours' sleep, he will rise more willingly at four the morning following.

For the great benefit of this discovery<sup>8</sup>, thus freely communicated and bestowed by me on the public, I demand neither<sup>9</sup> place, pension, exclusive privilege, nor any other reward whatever. I expect only to have the honor of it<sup>10</sup>.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

Notes.—1. As soon as . . . this paper ; *aussitôt que cet article leur aura appris*.—2. It is daylight ; *il fait jour*. [We use, in French, the verb *faire* in the impersonal form, *il fait, il faisait, il a fait* . . . in many cases where in English the auxiliary TO BE is used also in the impersonal form : it is cold, warm, night . . . *il fait froid, chaud, nuit* . . .]—3. The rest ; *les autres*.—4. I would propose ; translate by the present of the indicative. [The subjunctive is used after the verb *proposer*, because it denotes nothing positive with regard to the following verb.]—5. All the bells . . . ringing ; *on sonne les cloches dans toutes les églises*.—6. All the difficulty . . . three days ; *cela ne sera difficile que pendant les deux ou trois premiers jours*.—7. After which ; *mais ensuite*.—8. For the . . . discovery ; *pour une*

*découverte si utile.*—9. Neither . . . nor ; *ni . . . ni.* [*Ni* must be repeated before every noun.]—10. To have the honor of it ; *d'en avoir l'honneur.*

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### THE LAZY MIND.

The lazy mind will not take<sup>1</sup> the trouble of going to the bottom of anything<sup>2</sup> ; but, discouraged by the first difficulties (and everything worth knowing or having is attended with some<sup>3</sup>), stops short, contents itself with<sup>4</sup> easy and, consequently, superficial knowledge, and prefers a great degree of ignorance to a small degree of trouble. Those people either think<sup>5</sup> or represent most things as impossible, whereas few things are so to industry and activity<sup>6</sup>. But difficulties seem to them impossibilities, or at least they pretend to think them so, by way of excuse for<sup>7</sup> their laziness. An hour's attention to the same object is too laborious for them ; they take everything<sup>8</sup> in the light in which it first presents itself, never consider it in all its different views<sup>9</sup>, and, in short, never think it through<sup>10</sup>. The consequence of this is<sup>11</sup>, that when they come to speak upon these subjects before people who have considered them with attention, they only discover<sup>12</sup> their own ignorance and laziness, and lay themselves open to answers<sup>13</sup> that put them in confusion.

CHESTERFIELD. *Letters to his Son.*

Notes.—1. 'Will not take the trouble'; use the present indicative.—2. Of anything ; *des choses.*—3. And everything . . . with some ; *et l'on en trouve dans tout ce qui mérite d'être su ou possédé.*—4. With ; *de.*—5. Those people either think ; *les paresseux considèrent.*—6. Are so to industry and activity ; *le sont* (i. e., are impossible) *pour l'homme laborieux et actif.*—7.

By way of excuse for; *pour excuser*.—8. They take everything in the light in which; *ils envisagent chaque chose au point de vue sous lequel*.—9. In all its different views; *sous ses différents aspects*.—10. Never think it through; *ils n'approfondissent jamais rien*.—11. The consequence of this is; *il s'ensuit*.—12. To discover: *montrer*.—13. And lay themselves open to answers . . . in confusion; *et s'exposent à des réponses qui les mettent dans un grand embarras*.

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### VICAR OF WAKEFIELD. PLEASURES IN THE EVENING.

At a small distance from the house, my predecessor had made a seat, overshadowed by a hedge of hawthorn and honeysuckle. Here<sup>1</sup>, when the weather was fine and our labor soon<sup>2</sup> finished, we usually sat together, to enjoy<sup>3</sup> an extensive landscape in the calm of the evening. Here, too, we drank tea, which was now become an occasional banquet<sup>4</sup>; and as we had it but seldom, it diffused a new joy, the preparations for it being made with no small share<sup>5</sup> of bustle and ceremony.

On these occasions our two little ones always read to us, and they were regularly served after<sup>6</sup> we had done. Sometimes, to give a variety to our amusements, the girls sung to the guitar<sup>7</sup>; and while they thus formed a little concert, my wife and I would stroll<sup>8</sup> down the sloping field, that was embellished with blue-bells and centaury, talk<sup>9</sup> of our children with rapture, and enjoy<sup>10</sup> the breeze that wafted both health and harmony.

O. GOLDSMITH.

Notes.—1. Here ; *là*.—2. And our labor soon finished ; *et que nous avons fini notre travail de bonne heure*.—3. To enjoy ; *jouir de*. [In French the verb *jouir* (to enjoy) is followed by an indirect object preceded by the preposition *DE*. We don't say *jouir quelque chose*, but *jouir DE quelque chose*.]—4. Which was . . . banquet ; *c'était un régal que nous nous donnions maintenant de temps en temps*.—5. The preparations . . . no small share of ; *la préparation du thé occasionnait beaucoup de*.—6. After ; *après que*.—7. To the guitar ; *en s'accompagnant de la guitare*.—8. Would stroll down ; *nous nous promenions dans*.—9. Talk of ; *nous parlions de*.—10. And enjoy ; *et nous jouissions de*.

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### TO LIVE UPON LITTLE.

The great source of independence, the French express in a precept of three words<sup>1</sup>, "*Vivre de peu*," which I have always admired. "*To live upon little*," is the great security against slavery ; and this precept extends to dress and other things besides food and drink<sup>2</sup>. When Doctor Johnson wrote his Dictionary, he put<sup>3</sup> in the word pensioner thus : "PENSIONER. *A slave of state*." After this he himself became a *pensioner* ! And thus, agreeably to his own definition, he lived and died "*a slave of state* !" What must this man of great genius and of great industry, too, have felt at<sup>4</sup> receiving this pension ! Could he be so callous<sup>5</sup> as not to feel a pang upon<sup>6</sup> seeing his own name placed before his own degrading definition ? And, what could induce him to submit to this ? His wants, his artificial wants, his habit of indulging in the pleasures of the table ; his disregard of the precept, "*Vivre de peu*." This was the

cause ; and, be it observed<sup>7</sup>, that indulgences of this sort<sup>8</sup>, while they tend to make men poor and expose them to commit mean acts, tend also to enfeeble the body, and, more especially, to cloud and to weaken the mind.

WILLIAM COBBETT.

Notes.—1. The French . . . three words ; *se résume dans ces trois mots d'un précepte français*.—2. Food and drink ; *le boire et le manger*.—3. He put in the word pensioner thus ; *il définit ainsi le mot pensionnaire*.—4. At ; *en*.—5. So callous as ; *assez insensible pour*.—6. Upon ; *en*.—7. And be it observed ; *et qu'on remarque bien ceci*.—8. That indulgences of this sort ; *l'habitude de se laisser aller à de tels penchants*.

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## FRIENDS.

Much, certainly, of the happiness and purity of our lives depends on our making a wise choice<sup>1</sup> of our companions and<sup>2</sup> friends. If our friends are badly chosen they will inevitably drag us down<sup>3</sup> ; if well, they will raise us up<sup>4</sup>.

Yet many people seem to trust in this matter to chapter of accident<sup>5</sup>. It is well and right, indeed<sup>6</sup>, to be courteous and considerate to every one with whom one is thrown into contact<sup>7</sup>, but to choose them as real friends is another matter.

Some seem to make a man a friend, or try to do so<sup>8</sup>, because he lives near, because he is in the same business, travels on the same line of railway, or for some other trivial reason. There cannot be a greater mistake . . .

To be friendly<sup>9</sup> with every one is another matter ; we must remember that there is no little enemy, and those who have ever really loved any one will have some tenderness for all.

No doubt, much as worthy friends<sup>10</sup> add to the happiness and value of life, we must in the main<sup>11</sup> depend on ourselves, and every one is his own best friend or worst enemy.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK. *The Pleasures of Life.*

Notes.—1. Depends... choice; *dépend du choix que nous faisons*.—2. Repeat 'of our'.—3. To drag down; *entraîner bien bas*.—4. To raise up; *élever*.—5. To trust... accident; *s'abandonner au hasard pour cela*.—6. Indeed; *certainement*.—7. One is thrown into contact; *on est mis en contact*.—8. To make a man... to do so; *de faire ou d'essayer de faire d'un homme leur ami*.—9. To be friendly; *vivre en bons termes*.—10. Much as worthy friends add; *quoique des amis dignes de ce nom ajoutent beaucoup (à)*.—11. In the main; *principalement*.

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### JOAN OF ARC.

In Domremi, a<sup>1</sup> village belonging to the duchy of Bar, lived a maiden called Joan of Arc. The period was one of great mental excitement<sup>2</sup>; as in other times of wide-prevailing misery<sup>3</sup>, prophecies and mystical preachings were current.

Joan of Arc's mind was particularly susceptible to such influences<sup>4</sup>, and from the time she was thirteen years old<sup>5</sup>, she had fancied that she heard voices, and had even seen forms, who called her to the assistance of the Dauphin. She persuaded herself that she was destined to fulfill an old prophecy which said that the kingdom, destroyed by a woman—meaning,

as she thought<sup>6</sup>, Queen Isabella<sup>7</sup>—should be saved by a maiden of Lorraine.

The burning of Domremi in the summer of 1482 at length gave a practical form to her imaginations<sup>8</sup>, and early in the following year she succeeded in<sup>9</sup> persuading Robert de Baudricourt to send her, armed and accompanied by a herald, to Chinon (where the King was).

She there, it is said<sup>10</sup>, by the wonderful knowledge she displayed, convinced the court of the truth of her mission... In April she was intrusted with<sup>11</sup> an army of 6,000 or 7,000 men, which was to march up the river from Blois<sup>12</sup> to the relief of Orleans.

J. FRANCK BRIGHT.

Notes.—1. 'A', not to be translated. ['A' is not expressed in French before a word in apposition.]—2. The period... excitement; *c'était à une époque où les esprits étaient très exaltés*.—3. Of wide-prevailing misery; *où la misère règne partout*.—4. Susceptible to such influences; *prêt à subir cette influence*.—5. And from... years old; *et dès l'âge de treize ans*.—6. Meaning, as she thought; *qui faisait allusion, pensait-elle, à*.—7. Queen Isabella; *la reine Isabeau de Bavière* (wife of the King, Charles VI.)—8. To her imaginations; *aux rêves de son imagination*.—9. She succeeded in; *elle réussit à* (followed by the infinitive).—10. She there, it is said; *là, dit-on*. Put the pronoun 'she' immediately before the verb 'convinced'.—11. She was intrusted with; *on lui confia*.—12. Which was... from Blois; *qui, de Blois, devait remonter le fleuve* (la Loire) *pour marcher*.

### A BACHELOR'S GROWL.

I can't say that for one who, like me, is fond of being made a great deal of<sup>1</sup>, there is anything very delightful in visits into the country.

It may be all well enough<sup>2</sup> for married people who, from the mere fact of being married, are always entitled to certain consideration, put<sup>3</sup>, for instance, into a bedroom a little larger than a dog kennel<sup>4</sup>, and accommodated with<sup>5</sup> a looking-glass that does not distort one's features like a paralytic stroke<sup>6</sup>. But we single men suffer a plurality of evils and hardships in entrusting ourselves to the casualties<sup>7</sup> of rural hospitality.

We are thrust up into any attic repository<sup>8</sup>, exposed to the mercy of rats and the incursions of swallows. Our lavations are performed in a<sup>9</sup> cracked basin, and we are so far removed from human assistance that our very bells<sup>10</sup> sink into silence before they reach half-way-down the stairs. . . .

Oh! the hardships of a single man are beyond conception, and, what is worse, the very misfortune of being single deprives one of all sympathy. "A single man can do this, and a single man ought to do that, and a single man may be put here, and a single man may be put there," are maxims that I have been in the habit of hearing constantly inculcated<sup>11</sup> and never disputed during my whole life; and so, from our fare and treatment being coarse in all matters<sup>12</sup>, they have at last grown to be all matters of course.

E. BULWER LYTTON.

Notes.—1. Is fond of being made a great deal of; *aime à ce qu'on s'occupe beaucoup de lui*.—2. It may be all well enough; *cela peut être assez agréable*.—3. Put; *sont logés*.—4. A dog kennel; *une niche à chien*.—5. And accommodated with a looking-glass; *et à qui l'on donne un miroir*.—6. Like a paralytic stroke; *comme le ferait une attaque de paralysie*.—



7. In entrusting ourselves to the casualties; *en courant les chances*.—8. We are thrust... repository; *on nous fourre dans une mansarde quelconque*.—9. Our lavations are performed in a; *nous n'avons pour nous laver qu'une*.—10. Our very bells sink into silence; *nos sonnettes mêmes se taisent*.—11. That I have . . . never disputed; *que j'ai toujours entendu émettre sans les entendre jamais contester*.—12. And so . . . to be all matters of course; *il en est résulté ceci: on a commencé par nous traiter fort mal en toute occasion, puis on a trouvé cela tout naturel*.

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### A FRIENDLY EMBARRASSMENT.

There is<sup>1</sup> a habit peculiar to many walkers. It is that custom<sup>2</sup> of stopping friends in the street<sup>3</sup>, to whom we have nothing whatever to communicate, but whom we embarrass for no other purpose than simply to show our friendship.

Jones meets his friend Smith, whom he has met in nearly the same locality<sup>4</sup> but a few hours before. During that interval, it is highly probable that no event of any importance to Smith, nor, indeed, to Jones, has occurred. Yet both gentlemen stop, and shake hands earnestly.

“Well, how goes it<sup>5</sup>?” remarks Smith, with a vague hope that something may have happened.

“So, so<sup>6</sup>,” replies the eloquent Jones, feeling intuitively the deep vacuity of his friend answering to his own<sup>7</sup>.

A pause ensues, in which both gentlemen regard each other with an imbecile smile and a fervent pressure of the hand<sup>8</sup>. Smith draws a long breath, and looks up the street; Jones sighs heavily and

gazes down the street. Another pause, in which both gentlemen disengage their respective hands<sup>9</sup>, and glance anxiously around for some conventional avenue of escape<sup>10</sup>.

Finally Smith (with a sudden assumption<sup>11</sup> of having forgotten an important engagement) ejaculates: "Well, I must<sup>12</sup> be off<sup>13</sup>!"—a remark instantly echoed<sup>14</sup> by the voluble Jones, and these gentlemen separate only to repeat their miserable formula the next day.

F. BRET HARTE.

Notes.—1. There is; *il existe*.—2. It is that custom; *c'est celle*.—3. Put 'in the street' before 'friends'.—4. In nearly the same locality; *presque au même endroit*.—5. How goes it; *comment cela va-t-il?* [This a very familiar form.]—6. So, so; *couci, couci* (very familiar).—7. Feeling intuitively . . . to his own; *comprenant que son ami n'a pas plus à dire que lui*.—8. And a fervent pressure of the hand; *et en se serrant fortement la main*.—9. Disengage their respective hands; *dégagent leurs mains*.—10. For some conventional avenue of escape; *pour trouver un prétexte plausible pour s'esquiver*.—11. With a sudden assumption of having; *prétendant tout à coup qu'il a*.—12. I must; *il faut que je* [to be followed by a subjunctive].—13. To be off; *partir*.—14. A remark . . . Jones; *Jones fait aussitôt la même remarque*.

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## A SCENE FROM ROCHESTER BRIDGE.

Bright and pleasant was the sky<sup>1</sup>, balmy the air, and beautiful the appearance of every object around, as<sup>2</sup> Mr. Pickwick leant over the balustrades<sup>3</sup> of Rochester bridge, contemplating nature, and waiting for lunch. The scene was indeed one<sup>4</sup> which might

well have charmed a far less reflective mind than that to which it was presented.

On the left of the spectator lay a ruined wall, broken in many places, and in some overhanging the narrow beach below in rude and heavy masses<sup>5</sup>. Huge knots of sea-weed hung upon the jagged and pointed stones, trembling in<sup>6</sup> every breath of wind; and the green ivy clung mournfully round the dark and ruined battlements. Behind it rose the ancient castle, its towers roofless, and its massive walls crumbling away, but telling us proudly of<sup>7</sup> its own might and strength, as when, seven hundred years ago, it rang with the clash of arms, or resounded with the noise of feasting and revelry.

On either side, the banks of the Medway, covered with<sup>8</sup> corn-fields and pastures, with here and there a windmill, or a distant church, stretched<sup>9</sup> away as far as the eye could see. The river, reflecting the clear blue of the sky, glistened and sparkled as it flowed noiselessly on; and the oars of the fishermen dipped into the water with a clear and liquid sound, as<sup>10</sup> the heavy but picturesque boats glided slowly down<sup>11</sup> the stream.

CH. DICKENS.

Notes.—1. Turn: 'The sky was bright and pleasant, the air balmy . . .'.—2. As; *quand*.—3. A balustrade (of a bridge); *un parapet*.—4. The scene was indeed one which; *le paysage était vraiment si beau, qu'il*.—5. And in some, . . . heavy masses; *et dont les lourdes et énormes masses surplombaient sur certains points* the narrow beach below.—6. In; *à*.—7. But telling us proudly of; *mais proclamant avec orgueil*.—8. With; *de*.—9. To stretch away; *s'étendre*.—10. As; *à mesure que*.—11. To glide down; *descendre*; or: *glisser en descendant*.

## ORIGIN OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE.

When we turn to France<sup>1</sup>, we find that the German immigration had<sup>2</sup> much greater effect upon its language than upon that of Italy. It was not there merely an addition to a native language, it was a grafting upon an imported tongue. The original Celtic had been driven out by the speech<sup>3</sup> of the Roman conquerors. Gaul was not merely conquered by the Romans, it was colonized by them.

But when Rome succumbed to<sup>4</sup> peoples who preferred iron to gold, action to rest, health and strength to luxury, the Teutons took possession of the land. Tribe after tribe forced its way into the rich and desirable country; the Visigoths held southern Gaul from the Loire to the Pyrenees, whilst the Franks, a confederation of several Teutonic clans<sup>5</sup>, pushed through Belgium into northern Gaul<sup>6</sup> and ultimately<sup>7</sup> gave their name to the entire land

The Romans had given their *lingua rustica* to the Celtic inhabitants of Gaul, and there, as elsewhere, it became the language of the conquering Teutons. The French language was thus established with Latin for its base, and it is yet grammatically a Latin language and nothing else; but its inflexions were destroyed, its vocabulary was revolutionized<sup>8</sup>, and its entire phonetic character was altered by the Teutonic influences to which I have referred.

These changes differed in degree in different parts of the land. In the north of France alone four distinct dialects were spoken up<sup>9</sup> to the fourteenth century; and it was not until then<sup>10</sup> that the dialect

of the district known as the *Ile de France* became the predominant language of France generally<sup>11</sup>.

ROBERT SPENCE WATSON.

**Notes.**—1. When we turn to France ; *si nous considérons la France*.—2. Had ; *eut*.—3. The speech ; *l'idiome*.—4. Succumbed to ; *fut vaincue par*.—5. Clans ; *peuplades*.—6. Into northern Gaul ; *dans la Gaule septentrionale*.—7. Ultimately ; *dans la suite*.—8. Revolutionized ; *bouleversé*.—9. Up to the ; *jusqu'au*.—10. It was not until then ; *ce fut alors seulement*.—11. Of France generally ; *de toute la France*.

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### LUXURY.

Luxury is a word of uncertain signification, and may be taken in a good as well as in a bad sense<sup>1</sup>. In general, it means great refinement in the gratification of the senses ; and any degree of it<sup>2</sup> may be innocent or blamable, according to the age, or country, or condition of the person.

The bounds between the virtue and the vice cannot here be exactly fixed, more than<sup>3</sup> in other moral subjects.

To imagine that the gratifying<sup>4</sup> of any sense, or the indulging<sup>4</sup> in any delicacy of meat, drink, or apparel, is of itself<sup>5</sup> a vice, can never enter into a head that is not disordered by the frenzies of enthusiasm<sup>6</sup>. I have, indeed, heard of a monk abroad, who, because the windows of his cell opened<sup>7</sup> upon a noble prospect, made a *covenant with his eyes* never to turn that way, or<sup>8</sup> receive so<sup>9</sup> sensual a gratification. . . .

To be entirely occupied with<sup>10</sup> the luxury of the table, for instance, without any relish for the pleas-

ures of ambition, study, or conversation, is a mark of stupidity, and is incompatible with any vigour of temper or genius. To confine one's expense entirely to such<sup>9</sup> a gratification, without regard to friends or family, is an indication of a heart destitute of humanity or benevolence. But if a man reserve time sufficient<sup>11</sup> for all laudable pursuits, and money sufficient for all generous purposes, he is free from every shadow of blame or reproach<sup>12</sup>.

D. HUME.

Notes.—1. In a good . . . sense; *en bonne ou en mauvaise part*.—3. And any degree of it; *et à quelque degré qu'on le pousse il*.—3. More than; *pas plus que*.—4. The gratifying; the indulging. [The present participle used in English as subject or object of a verb, is translated in French by the infinitive.]—5. Is of itself; *est en soi*.—6. By the frenzies of enthusiasm; *par une exaltation malade*.—7. Opened; *s'ouvraient*.—8. 'Or receive,' turn: 'and never to receive'.—9. ['A' in English follows the words SO, SUCH; in French it must precede them.]—10. With the; *du*.—11. 'Time sufficient, money sufficient'; turn: 'enough time, enough money'. [Enough; *assez*, followed by the preposition *de*.]—12. He is free . . . or reproach; *il est à l'abri de tout blâme et de tout reproche*.

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### MONTAIGNE.

The "Essays of Montaigne," the first edition of which<sup>1</sup> appeared at Bordeaux in 1580, make, in several respects, an epoch in literature, less on account of their real<sup>2</sup> importance, or the novel<sup>2</sup> truths they contain, than of their influence upon the taste and the opinions of Europe. They are . . . the first book<sup>3</sup> that taught the unlearned reader to observe and re-

flect for himself on questions of moral philosophy. In an age when<sup>4</sup> every topic of this nature was treated systematically and in<sup>5</sup> a didactic form, he broke out without connexion of chapters<sup>6</sup>, with all the digressions that levity and garrulous egotism could suggest, with a very delightful, but, at that time, most unusual rapidity of transition from seriousness to gaiety.

It would be to anticipate much of what<sup>7</sup> will demand attention in the ensuing century were we to mention<sup>8</sup> here the conspicuous writers who, more or less directly, and with more or less of close imitation<sup>9</sup>, may be classed in the school of Montaigne; it embraces, in fact, a large proportion<sup>10</sup> of French and English literature<sup>11</sup>, and especially of that which has borrowed his title of "Essays." No prose writer<sup>12</sup> of the sixteenth century has been so generally read, nor probably given so much delight. Whatever may be our estimate of Montaigne as a<sup>13</sup> philosopher, a<sup>13</sup> name which he was far from arrogating, there will be but one opinion of the felicity<sup>14</sup> and brightness of his genius.

HALLAM. *Literature of Europe.*

Notes.—1. The first edition of which; *dont la première édition*.—2. Put the adjective after the noun.—3. They are the first book; *c'est le premier livre*.—4. In an age when; *à une époque où*.—5. In; *sous*.—6. He broke out . . . of chapters; *Montaigne lança un livre dont les chapitres n'ont entre eux aucun lien*.—7. Of what; *sur un sujet qui*.—8. Were we to mention; *que de mentionner*.—9. And with more or less close imitation; *et par suite d'une imitation plus ou moins heureuse*.—10. A large proportion; *une portion considérable*.—11.

French and English literature; *des littératures française et anglaise*; or: *de la littérature française et de la littérature anglaise*. [In French, when two adjectives express separate designations, the article and often the noun must be repeated. This rule is not always observed with nouns in the plural when there is no doubt about the dissimilarity of the things which are mentioned.]—12. A prose writer; *un prosateur*.—13. ‘A’, to be left out.—14. ‘Felicity’; here: *le charme*.

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### SOLILOQUY OF A YOUNG LADY.

“Well!” exclaimed a young lady just returned from school<sup>1</sup>, “my education is at last finished. Indeed, it would be strange if, after five years’ hard application, anything were left incomplete<sup>2</sup>. Happily, it is all over now, and I have nothing to do but to exercise my various accomplishments.

“Let me see<sup>3</sup>. As to French, I am mistress of that<sup>4</sup>, and speak it, if possible, with more fluency<sup>5</sup> than English. Italian I can read with ease, and pronounce very well—as well, at least, as any of my friends, and even better, and that is all one need wish for<sup>6</sup> in Italian.

“Music I have learned till I am perfectly sick<sup>7</sup> of it. But, now that we have a grand piano, it will be delightful to play when we have company. I must still continue to practice a little—the only thing, I think, that I need now to improve myself in. And then, there are my Italian songs, which everybody allows<sup>8</sup> that I sing<sup>9</sup> with taste; and, as it is what so few people can pretend to<sup>10</sup>, I am particularly glad that I can<sup>11</sup>.



“My drawings are universally admired, especially the shells and flowers, which are beautiful certainly. Besides this, I have a decided taste in all kinds of fancy ornaments.

“And then<sup>12</sup> my dancing and waltzing—in which our master owned he could take me no farther. Just the figure for it<sup>13</sup>, certainly. It would be unpardonable if I did not excel.

“As to common things—geography, and history, and poetry, and philosophy—thank my stars<sup>14</sup>, I have got through them all, so that I may consider myself not only perfectly accomplished, but also thoroughly well informed.

“Well, to be sure, how much I have fagged through! The only wonder is, that one head can<sup>15</sup> contain it all.”

JANE TAYLOR.

Notes.—1. Just returned from school; *qui venait de quitter l'école*.—2. Anything were left incomplete; (*s'il*) *me restait quelque chose à apprendre*.—3. Let me see; *voyons*.—4. I am mistress of that; *je le possède bien*.—5. ‘With more fluency’; put ‘more fluently’.—6. And that is . . . for; *et c'est là tout ce qu'on doit désirer*.—7. Till I am . . . of it; *au point d'en être complètement dégoûtée*.—8. Which everybody allows that; *tout le monde reconnaît que*.—9. I sing; *je les chante*.—10. And as it is . . . can pretend to; *et comme fort peu de personnes peuvent avoir cette prétention*.—11. That I can; *de pouvoir le faire*.—12. And then; *arrivons maintenant à*.—13. Just the figure for it; *j'ai précisément la tournure qu'il faut pour cela*.—14. Thank my stars; *grâce à ma bonne étoile*.—15. ‘Can’ to be translated by a subjunctive. [The subjunctive is used after verbs expressing surprise.]

## MODERN LITERATURE.

The modern literature is not a mere copy of the ancient: it has a stamp<sup>1</sup> and flavour of its own<sup>2</sup>; in the<sup>3</sup> multiform and everchanging phases of our social state, it has assumed a corresponding diversity and flexibility; and while the ancient literatures are now fixed and limited, the modern are ever progressive, becoming more abundant and more various with lapsing years<sup>4</sup>.

The former are as a lake, beautiful, but motionless and unchanging; the latter are as a river, which, swelled as<sup>5</sup> it advances by tributaries on either hand<sup>6</sup>, rolls on in ever more majestic volume. The spirit of the old has permeated our modern literatures, and can never perish, even were we to cease from its study<sup>7</sup>. But neglect of the new cuts us off from the ever-flowing stream of contemporaneous thought and life, fed, too, as it is<sup>8</sup> from distant fountains in the ancient hills. . . .

We are of opinion, then, that, as regards whether their utility in the intercourse of life—the wealth of the literature which they contain or their etymological relationship to the mother-tongue—the modern languages, and especially<sup>9</sup> French and<sup>9</sup> German, ought, in all school studies, to precede the ancient languages of<sup>9</sup> Greece and<sup>10</sup> Rome.

Their superior utility cannot be denied; the value of their literary and scientific contents, already greater, is in rapid and continual increase and our language being of two-fold origin—Latin and Teutonic—French serves admirably to illustrate the

former part, and German the latter, while their unlikeness to each other<sup>11</sup> prevents confusion in the learner's mind.

*Westminster Review.*

Notes.—1. A stamp; *un cachet*.—2. Of its own; *à elle*.—3. Put here the noun 'phases'.—4. With lapsing years; *avec chaque année qui s'écoule*.—5. As; *à mesure que*.—6. Hand; *rive*.—7. Even were . . . study; *quand même nous cesserions de l'étudier*.—8. Fed, too, as it is; *accru* (refers to the *stream of...*)—9. Put the definite article. [The definite article must be put, in French, before the names of countries, except when they are preceded by IN, *en*, or FROM, *de*, and when they are used adjectively.]—10. Put 'of'.—11. Their unlikeness to each other; *la différence qui existe entre ces deux langues*.

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### RECOLLECTIONS OF MY BOYHOOD.

My father began business as a<sup>1</sup> wine-merchant, with no<sup>2</sup> capital, and<sup>3</sup> a considerable amount of debts bequeathed him<sup>4</sup> by my grandfather. He accepted the bequest, and paid them all before he began to lay by anything for himself.

For this his best friends called him<sup>5</sup> a fool; and I, without expressing any opinion as to his wisdom, which I knew in such matters to be at least equal to mine, have written on the granite slab over his grave<sup>6</sup> that he was an "entirely honest merchant."

Years went on<sup>7</sup>, and I came to be<sup>8</sup> four or five years old. He could command<sup>9</sup> a post-chaise and pair for two months in the summer, by help of which, with my mother and me, he went the round<sup>10</sup> of his country customers. I saw all the high roads and most of the cross ones, of England and Wales, and a great part of lowland Scotland as far as Perth.

It happened—which was<sup>11</sup> the real cause of the bias of my after-life<sup>12</sup>—that my father had a rare love of pictures. Accordingly, wherever there was a gallery to be seen<sup>13</sup>, we stopped at the nearest town for the night, and in reverentest manner<sup>14</sup> I thus saw nearly all the noblemen's houses in England; not, indeed, myself at that age caring for<sup>15</sup> pictures, but much for castles and ruins; feeling<sup>16</sup> more and more, as I grew older<sup>17</sup>, the healthy delight of uncovetous admiration<sup>18</sup>, and perceiving that it was probably much happier to live in a small house and have Warwick Castle to be astonished at<sup>19</sup>, than to live in Warwick Castle and have nothing to be astonished at<sup>20</sup>.

JOHN RUSKIN.

Notes.—1. 'A', not to be translated.—2. With no; *sans*.—3. Put '*avec*' before 'a'.—4. Bequeathed him by my grandfather; *que lui avait léguées mon grand-père*.—5. Called him a; *le traitèrent de*.—6. On the granite . . . grave; *sur sa pierre tumulaire*; or: *sur le granit de sa tombe*.—7. Years went on; *quelques années s'écoulèrent*.—8. And I came to be old; *et j'arrivai à l'âge de*.—9. He could command . . . and pair; *il put avoir une chaise de poste à deux chevaux*.—10. He went the round of; *il fit une tournée chez*.—11. Which was; *et ce fut*.—12. Of the bias of my after-life; *de la voie que j'ai suivie plus tard*.—13. To be seen; *à voir*.—14. And in the reverentest manner; *et avec une respectueuse admiration*.—15. Not, indeed . . . but much for; *à cet âge je m'intéressais peu aux tableaux, mais beaucoup aux*.—16. Feeling more and more, as; *j'ai senti de plus en plus, en* (followed by the present participle).—17. To grow old; *vieillir*.—18. The healthy . . . admiration; *le plaisir pur que l'on éprouve à admirer sans convoitise*.—19. And have . . . astonished at; *et d'avoir à s'émerveiller devant le château de Warwick*.—20. And have nothing to be astonished at: *et de n'avoir à s'émerveiller de rien*.

## THE UTILITY OF HISTORY.

The utility of history consists principally in the examples it gives us of the virtues and vices of those who have gone<sup>1</sup> before us ; upon which we ought to make the proper observations.

History animates and excites us to the love and the practice of virtue, by showing us<sup>2</sup> the regard and veneration that was always paid to great and virtuous men<sup>3</sup>, in the times<sup>4</sup> in which they lived, and the praise and glory with which their names are perpetuated and transmitted down to<sup>5</sup> our times.

The Roman History furnishes more examples of virtue and magnanimity, or greatness of mind, than any other. It was a common thing<sup>6</sup> to see their consuls and dictators (who, you know, were their chief magistrates) taken from the plough<sup>7</sup>, to lead their armies against their<sup>8</sup> enemies, and after victory, returning to their plough again and passing the rest of their lives in modest retirement: a retirement more glorious, if possible<sup>9</sup>, than the victories which preceded it.

Many of their greatest men died so poor that they were buried at the expense of the public<sup>10</sup>.

Curius, who had no money of his own<sup>11</sup>, refused a great sum that the Samnites offered him, saying that he saw no glory<sup>12</sup> in<sup>13</sup> having money himself, but in<sup>13</sup> commanding those that had<sup>14</sup>. Fabricius, who had often commanded the Roman armies, and as often triumphed over their enemies, was found by his fire-side, eating those<sup>15</sup> roots and herbs which he had planted and cultivated himself in his own field.

Notes.—1. Who have gone; *qui sont morts*.—2. By showing us; *en nous montrant*.—3. Put the two adjectives after the noun.—4. In the times in which; *à l'époque où*.—5. Down to; *jusqu'à*.—6. Add here: *chez les Romains*.—7. Taken from the plough; *arrachés à la charrue*.—8. 'Their'; translate by *les*.—9. 'If possible'; turn: 'if that were possible'.—10. Of the public; *du trésor public*.—11. Who had no money of its own; *qui ne possédait rien*.—12. That he saw no glory; *que suivant lui il était glorieux non*.—13. In: *de* (followed by the infinitive).—14.—Those that had; *ceux qui en avaient*.—5. 'Those'; translate by *les*.

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### BIOGRAPHY OF A GREAT MAN.

On the day after<sup>1</sup> the burial of a celebrated man, his friends and enemies apply themselves to his biography; his school-fellows relate in the newspapers his boyish pranks<sup>2</sup>; another man recalls exactly, and word for word, the conversations he had with him more than a score of years ago. The lawyer who manages the affairs of the deceased<sup>3</sup>; draws up a list of the different offices he has filled, his titles, dates and figures, and reveals to the matter-of-fact readers<sup>4</sup> how the money left has been invested, and how the fortune has been made; the grand-nephews and second cousins<sup>5</sup> publish an account of his acts of humanity, and the catalogue of his domestic virtues.

If there is no literary genius in the family, they select an Oxford man<sup>6</sup>, conscientious, learned, who treats the deceased like a Greek author, collects endless documents<sup>7</sup>, overloads them with endless comments, crowns the whole with endless discussions, and comes ten years later, some fine Christmas

morning, with his white tie and placid<sup>8</sup> smile, to present to the assembled family three quartos of eight hundred pages each, the easy style of which would send a German from Berlin to sleep<sup>9</sup>.

He is embraced<sup>10</sup> by them with tears in their eyes; they make him sit down; he is the chief ornament at their feasts; and his work is sent<sup>10</sup> to the *Edinburgh Review*.

TAINÉ. *History of English Literature.*

Notes.—1. On the day after; *le lendemain de*.—2. His boyish pranks; *ses espiègleries d'enfance*.—3. The lawyer... of the deceased; *l'homme d'affaires de la succession*.—4. A matter-of-fact reader; *un lecteur positif*.—5. A grand-nephew; a second cousin; *un arrière-neveu; un petit-cousin*.—6. An Oxford man; *un gradué d'Oxford*.—7. Endless documents; *une infinité de documents*.—8. Placid; *serein*. To be put after the noun.—9. Would send to sleep; *endormirait*.—10. 'He is embraced'; 'his work is sent'; to be put in the active form.

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## CIVILIZATION AND NOISE.

"There is only one thing," says a social philosopher whose name we do not at the moment recall<sup>1</sup>, "more dreadful than the intolerable noise of the country in summer; and that is its intolerable quiet." The humorous exaggeration of the remark derives its point<sup>2</sup> from the spirit of contrariety in human nature, which at once so fascinates and puzzles those who study it. People<sup>3</sup> leave the city in the summer to escape from<sup>4</sup> the heavy burden of social life, and at once proceed to make social life even more exacting and burdensome at the resorts<sup>5</sup> to which they

have fled for deliverance.<sup>6</sup> Men who will tell you that they must go to the country to get some fresh air will spend a good portion of their precious two weeks' vacation in the subterranean billiard-room of some rural hotel. And tired city folks, who say their nerves are shattered by the noisy hubbub of the town, will incontinently pack up their trunks and leave any country resort that is<sup>7</sup> really quiet. In all this there is nothing new to the student of human nature. Happiness has been variously defined; but perhaps it is best described by saying that it consists in striving for things that make us discontented the moment<sup>8</sup> we get them. Even the philosopher's stone<sup>9</sup> would be worthless if we should ever chance to find it.

*From the New York Tribune.*

Notes.—1. Turn: of whom we do not recall the name at this moment.—2. The humorous . . . derives its point; *ce qu'il y a de piquant dans l'exagération de cette boutade provient (de)*.—3. People; *on* (followed by the singular).—4. To escape from; *échapper à*.—5. A resort; *une place*.—6. For deliverance; *pour s'y soustraire*.—7. 'That is', not to be translated.—8. The moment we; *au moment où nous*.—9. The philosopher's stone; *la pierre philosophale*.

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### THE PLEASURES OF TRAVEL.

It is sometimes said<sup>1</sup> that every one should travel on foot, "like Thales, Plato, and Pythagoras"; we are told<sup>2</sup> that in these days of railroads people rush through countries and see nothing. It may be so<sup>3</sup>, but that is not the fault of the railways. They



confer upon us the inestimable advantage of being able, so<sup>4</sup> rapidly and with so<sup>4</sup> little fatigue, to visit countries which were much less accessible to our ancestors.

What a blessing it is that not our own islands only—our smiling fields<sup>5</sup> and rich woods, the mountains that are full of peace<sup>6</sup> and the rivers of joy<sup>7</sup>, the lakes and heaths and hills, castles and cathedrals, and many a spot immortalized in the history of our country:—not these only, but the sun and scenery of the South<sup>8</sup>, the Alps, the<sup>9</sup> palaces of Nature, the blue Mediterranean<sup>10</sup>, and the cities of Europe, with all their memories and treasures, are now brought within<sup>11</sup> a few hours of us.

Surely no one who has the opportunity should omit to travel. The world belongs to him who has seen it.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK.

Notes.—1. It is sometimes said ; *on dit quelquefois*.—2. We are told ; *nous entendons dire*.—3. It may be so ; *cela peut être*.—4. 'So', here : *très*.—5. Our smiling fields ; *nos riantes campagnes*.—6. The mountains . . . of peace ; *nos paisibles montagnes*.—7. And the rivers of joy : *nos rivières si gaies*.—8. The sun and scenery of the South ; *les paysages ensoleillés du midi*.—9. 'The', not to be translated.—10. The blue Mediterranean ; *les flots bleus de la Méditerranée*.—11. Are now brought within ; *ne sont plus qu'à*.

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## RURAL LIFE IN ENGLAND.

The stranger who would form<sup>1</sup> a correct opinion of the English character, must not confine his observations to the metropolis<sup>2</sup>. He must go forth into the country<sup>3</sup>; he must sojourn in villages and ham-

lets; he must visit castles, villas, farm-houses, cottages; he must wander through parks and gardens; along hedges and green lanes; he must loiter about country churches; attend wakes and fairs<sup>4</sup>, and other rural festivals<sup>5</sup>; and cope with<sup>6</sup> the people in all their conditions, and all their habits and humors. . . .

It is in the country that the Englishman gives scope<sup>7</sup> to his natural feelings. He breaks loose<sup>8</sup> gladly from the cold formalities and negative civilities<sup>9</sup> of town; throws off his habits of shy reserve, and becomes joyous and free-hearted<sup>10</sup>. He manages to collect around him all the conveniences and elegancies of polite life, and to banish its restraint. His country-seat abounds with every requisite, either for studious retirement, tasteful gratification<sup>11</sup>, or rural exercise. Books, paintings, music, horses, dogs, and sporting implements of all kinds, are at hand<sup>12</sup>. He puts no constraint either upon his guests or himself, but in<sup>13</sup> the true spirit of hospitality provides the means of enjoyment<sup>14</sup>, and leaves every one to partake<sup>15</sup> according to his inclination.

WASHINGTON IRVING. *Sketch Book.*

Notes.—1. Who would form; *qui veut avoir*.—2. The metropolis; *la capitale*.—3. The country; *la campagne*.—4. Attend wakes and fairs; *suivre les fêtes et les foires*.—5. Festivals; *amusements*.—6. To cope with; *se mettre au niveau (de)*.—7. Gives scope; *donne carrière*.—8. He breaks loose; *il s'affranchit*.—9. The negative civilities; *les cérémonies insipides*.—10. And becomes joyous and free-hearted; *et se livre à une gaieté franche et sincère*.—11. Tasteful gratification; *les plaisirs délicats*.—12. Are at hand; *sont sous sa main*.—13. In; *selon*.—14. Provides the means of enjoyment; *pourvoit aux plaisirs de ses invités*.—15. To partake; *y prendre part*

## FRANCE UNDER NAPOLEON (I).

The sudden resurrection of France, when Napoleon assumed the helm<sup>1</sup>, is one of the most extraordinary passages of European history, and singularly descriptive of<sup>2</sup> the irresistible reaction in favour of a firm government, which inevitably arises from<sup>3</sup> a long course of revolutionary convulsions. Let not future ages be deluded<sup>4</sup> by the idea that a period of democratic anarchy is one<sup>5</sup> of national strength; it is, on the contrary, in the end, the certain forerunner of public calamity. The glories<sup>6</sup> of the Revolutionary wars were achieved<sup>7</sup> under the despotic rule of the Convention, wielding<sup>8</sup> ten times the power which had ever been enjoyed by Louis XIV.; the effects of democratic anarchy appeared<sup>9</sup> from its dissolution in the disasters of the Directory. After the fall of the Committee of Public Salvation<sup>10</sup>, the triumphs of France centered<sup>11</sup> in Napoleon alone; wherever he did not command in person, the greatest reverses were experienced<sup>12</sup>. . . . When he seized the helm in November, 1799, he found the armies defeated and ruined; the frontier invaded, both on the sides<sup>13</sup> of Italy and Germany; the arsenals empty, the soldiers in despair deserting their colours, the royalists revolting against the government, general anarchy in<sup>14</sup> the interior, the treasury empty, the energies<sup>15</sup> of the Republic apparently exhausted.

Notes.—1. Assumed the helm; *s'empara de l'autorité*.—2. And singularly descriptive of; *et montre d'une manière saisissante*.—3. Which inevitably arises from; *qui est la conséquence inévitable de*.—4. Let not . . . be deluded by the idea; *que . . .*

*n'aient pas l'illusion de croire.*—5. Is one; *est une période.*—6. The glories of the Revolutionary wars; *les glorieuses victoires de la Révolution.*—7. Achieved; *remportées*—8. Wielding . . . enjoyed by; *qui eut dix fois autant de pouvoir qu'en posséda jamais.*—9. The effects of . . . of the Directory; *aussitôt après la dissolution de la Convention, l'anarchie sociale aboutit aux désastres du Directoire.*—10. The Committee of Public Salvation; *le comité de Salut Public.*—11. Centered; *furent concentrés.*—12. Experienced; *essuyés.*—13. Both on the sides of; *en même temps vers . . . et vers.*—14. In; *à.*—15. The energies; *les forces.*

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### FRANCE UNDER NAPOLEON (II).

Instantly, as if by<sup>1</sup> enchantment, everything was changed; order reappeared out of<sup>2</sup> chaos, talent emerged out of obscurity; vigour arose out of weakness<sup>3</sup>. The arsenals were filled, the veterans crowded to<sup>4</sup> their eagles, the conscripts joyfully repaired to the frontier, Vendée was pacified, the exchequer began to overflow. In little more than<sup>5</sup> six months after Napoleon's accession<sup>6</sup>, the Austrians were forced to seek refuge under the cannon of Ulm, Italy was regained<sup>7</sup>, unanimity and enthusiasm prevailed<sup>8</sup> among the people, and the revived energy of the nation was finally launched into the career of conquest<sup>9</sup>.

Changes so extraordinary cannot be explained by the influence of any one man<sup>10</sup>. Great as the abilities of Napoleon undoubtedly were<sup>11</sup>, they could not be equal to<sup>12</sup> the Herculean task of reanimating a whole nation. It was the transition from anarchy to order, from the tyranny of demagogues to the ascendant of

talent, from the weakness of popular to the vigour of military government, which was the real cause of the<sup>13</sup> change. . . . The universal conviction that the reign of the multitude was at an end<sup>14</sup>, produced the astonishing burst of talent which led to the glories<sup>15</sup> of Marengo and Hohenlinden.

SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON.

Notes.—1. As if by; *comme par*.—2. Reappeared out of, *sortit du sein du*.—3. Vigour . . . weakness; *l'énergie remplaça la faiblesse*.—4. Crowded to; *accoururent en foule sous*.—5. In little more than; *un peu plus de*.—6. After N. accession; *après l'avènement de N. au pouvoir*.—7. To regain; *reconquérir*.—8. To prevail; *régner*.—9. 'Conquest'; to be translated by the plural.—10. Of any one man; *d'un seul homme, quel qu'il soit*.—11. Put: great as were (*si grandes que fussent*) undoubtedly the abilities of N.—12. To be equal to; *être à la hauteur de*.—13. The; *ce*.—14. Was at an end; *était fini*.—15. Which led to the glories; *qui amena les glorieuses victoires*.

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POETRY.

Poetry is, as was said more than two thousand years ago, imitation. It is an art analogous in many respects<sup>1</sup> to the art of painting, sculpture, and acting<sup>2</sup>. The imitations of the painter, the sculptor, and the actor, are indeed, within certain limits, more perfect than those of the poet. The machinery<sup>3</sup> which the poet employs consists merely of words; and words cannot, even when employed by such an artist as Homer or Dante, present to the mind images of visible objects quite so lively and exact as those which we carry away from looking<sup>4</sup> on the works of the brush and the chisel. But, on the other hand<sup>5</sup>,

the range of poetry is infinitely wider than that of any other imitative art, or than that of all the other imitative arts together. The sculptor can imitate only form; the painter only form and colour; the actor, until the poet supplies him with words, only form, colour, and motion. Poetry holds the outer world<sup>6</sup> in common with the other arts. The heart of man is the province<sup>7</sup> of poetry, and of poetry alone. The painter, the sculptor, and the actor can exhibit no more of human passion and character than that small portion which overflows into the gesture and the face, always an<sup>8</sup> imperfect, often a<sup>8</sup> deceitful sign of that which is within. The deeper and more complex parts of human nature can be exhibited by means of words alone. Thus the objects of the imitation of poetry are the whole external and the whole internal universe, the face of nature, the vicissitudes of fortune, man as he is in himself, man as he appears in society, all things which really exist, all things of which we can form an image in our minds by combining together parts of things which really exist. The domain of this imperial art<sup>7</sup> is commensurate with the imaginative faculty.

MACAULAY.

Notes.—1. In many respects; *sous plusieurs rapports*.—2. Acting; *le jeu de la scène*.—3. The machinery; *les instruments*.—4. From looking on; *d'un regard jeté sur*.—5. On the other hand; *d'un autre côté*.—6. Poetry holds . . . other arts; *le monde extérieur appartient en commun à la poésie et aux autres arts*.—7. Is the province of; *est le domaine de*.—8. 'An', 'a', not to be translated. Translate in this order: 'Sign always imperfect, often deceitful'.—9. This imperial art; *cet art supérieur*.

## OLD DAYS IN NEW YORK.

In those good old days of simplicity and sunshine, a passion for cleanliness was the leading principle in domestic economy, and the universal test<sup>2</sup> of an able housewife.

The front door was never opened, except for marriages, funerals, New-Year's Day<sup>3</sup>, the festival of St. Nicholas, or some such great occasion. It was ornamented with a gorgeous brass knocker<sup>4</sup>, which was curiously wrought—sometimes in the device of<sup>5</sup> a dog, and sometimes in that of a lion's head—and daily burnished with such religious zeal, that it was often worn out by the very precautions<sup>6</sup> taken for its preservation.

The whole house was constantly in a state of inundation, under the discipline<sup>7</sup> of mops and brooms and scrubbing-brushes. . . .

The grand parlor was the *sanctum sanctorum*, where the passion for cleaning was indulged without control<sup>8</sup>. No one was permitted<sup>9</sup> to enter this sacred apartment, except the mistress and her confidential maid, who visited it once a week for the purpose of<sup>10</sup> giving it a thorough cleaning. On these occasions they always took the precaution of leaving their shoes at the door, and entering devoutly in their stocking-feet<sup>11</sup>.

After<sup>12</sup> scrubbing the floor, sprinkling it with fine white sand, . . . after washing the windows, rubbing and polishing the furniture, and putting a new branch of evergreens in the fire-place<sup>13</sup>, the windows were again closed to keep out the flies, and the room was

kept carefully locked, until the revolution of time brought round the weekly cleaning-day<sup>14</sup>.

W. IRVING.

Notes.—1. 'Sunshine'; here: *bonheur*.—2. And the universal test of; *et c'était par là que l'on jugeait*.—3. New-Year's Day; *le jour de l'an*.—4. With a gorgeous brass knocker; *d'un superbe marteau de cuivre*.—5. In the device of a; *en forme de*.—6. By the very precautions taken; *par les soins mêmes que l'on prenait*.—7. Under the discipline of; *toujours livrée aux*.—8. Where the . . . without control; *où la passion pour la propreté ne connaissait pas de limite*.—9. No one was permitted; *il n'était permis à personne*.—10. For the purpose of; *pour* [followed by the infinitive].—11. In their stocking-feet; *n'ayant aux pieds que leurs bas*.—12. After; *après avoir* [followed by the past participle].—13. A new branch of evergreens in the fire-place; *un nouveau rameau vert dans l'âtre*.—14. The weekly cleaning day; *le jour du nettoyage hebdomadaire*.

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### TENNYSON (I).

When Tennyson published his first poems, the critics found fault with them<sup>1</sup>. He held his peace<sup>2</sup>; for ten years no one saw his name in a review, nor even in a publisher's catalogue. But when he appeared again before the public, his books had made their way alone and under the surface<sup>3</sup>, and he passed at once for the greatest poet of his country and his time.

Men were surprised<sup>4</sup>, and with a pleasing surprise. The potent generation of poets who had just died out<sup>5</sup>, had passed like a whirlwind<sup>6</sup>. Like their fore-runners of the sixteenth century, they had carried



away and hurried<sup>7</sup> everything to its extreme<sup>8</sup>. Some had culled gigantic legends, piled up dreams, ransacked<sup>9</sup> the East, Greece, Arabia, the middle ages, and overloaded the human imagination with<sup>10</sup> hues and fancies from every clime. Others had buried themselves<sup>11</sup> in metaphysics and moral philosophy<sup>12</sup>, had mused indefatigably on the condition of man, and spent their lives<sup>13</sup> on<sup>14</sup> the sublime and the monotonous.

Notes.—1. Found fault with them; *en dirent mal*.—2. To hold his peace; *se taire*.—3. Under the surface; *sous terre*.—4. Men were surprised; *on fut surpris*.—5. To die out; *s'éteindre*.—6. A whirlwind; *un orage*.—7. To hurry; *précipiter*.—8. To its extreme; *jusqu'aux extrêmes*.—9. To ransack; *fouiller*.—10. With, *des*.—11. To bury one's self; *se plonger (dans)*.—12. The moral philosophy; *la morale*.—13. Their lives; *leur vie*.—14. On; *dans*.

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### TENNYSON (II).

Others, making a medley of<sup>1</sup> crime and heroism, had conducted<sup>2</sup>, through darkness and flashes of lightning, a train<sup>3</sup> of contorted and terrible figures, desperate with<sup>4</sup> remorse, relieved by their grandeur.

Men wanted to rest after<sup>5</sup> so many efforts and so much excess. On the going out of<sup>6</sup> the imaginative, sentimental and Satanic school, Tennyson appeared exquisite. All the forms and ideas which had pleased them were found in him, but purified, modulated, set<sup>7</sup> in a splendid style. He completed<sup>8</sup> an age; he enjoyed that which had agitated others; his poetry

was like the lovely evenings in summer ; the outlines of the landscape are then<sup>9</sup> the same as in the day-time ; but the splendor of the dazzling celestial<sup>10</sup> arch is dulled ; the re-invigorated flowers lift themselves up<sup>11</sup>, and the calm sun on the horizon harmoniously<sup>12</sup> casts a network of crimson rays over the woods and meadows which it just before<sup>13</sup> burned by its brightness.

TAINÉ. *History of English Literature.*

Notes.—1. Making a medley of ; *entremêlant le*.—2. Had conducted through ; *avaient promené parmi*.—3. A train of figures ; *un cortège de figures* contorted and terrible.—4. With ; *par*.—5. Men wanted to rest after ; *on voulait se reposer de*.—6. On the going out of ; *au sortir de*.—7. Set ; *encadrées*.—8. To complete ; *achever*.—9. Are then ; *y sont*.—10. But the splendor . . . is dulled ; *mais l'éclat de la coupole éblouissante s'est émoussé*.—11. To lift one's self up ; *se relever*.—12. Harmoniously . . . rays over ; *enveloppe harmonieusement dans un réseau de rayons roses*.—13. Just before ; *tout à l'heure* ; to be put after ' which '.

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## EDUCATION.

If people could get the idea<sup>1</sup> that what is called education is a good thing in itself, without reference to its practical uses, what a long step ahead<sup>2</sup> the world would take. . . .

We shall get on a solid basis when we recognize the truth that a thorough education, a full development of all the faculties, is worth all it costs<sup>3</sup> to the individual and to his or her associates, if it may never<sup>4</sup> be put to any professional use. One of the

most encouraging things in our recent life is that so many college graduates go into business. If their cultivation in the classics, in the whole range of liberal studies, is needed anywhere, it is in the business world, in social life. The effect of this infusion of culture into ordinary affairs is visible in many towns and cities in the West<sup>5</sup>, where the whole social tone is elevated by it<sup>6</sup>. One reason why<sup>7</sup> the West is so progressive in the liberal arts, in the formation of libraries and galleries, and in schemes for diffusing cultivation, is that so many college-bred young men<sup>8</sup> have gone there and gone into business. A man may not be a better lumberman because he can read Latin, and knows the difference between Hawthorne and Rider Haggard, but he will be a more interesting man. And to have an interesting society—that is, to lead interesting lives—is altogether<sup>9</sup> the most important thing in this earthly sojourn.

*Harper's Magazine.*

Notes.—1. If people . . . the idea ; *si l'on pouvait se mettre dans l'idée*.—2. What a long step ahead ; *quel grand pas en avant*.—3. Is worth all it costs . . . associates ; *valent tout leur prix pour l'homme instruit et pour ceux qui l'entourent*.—4. If it may never be ; *même si ses talents ne sont jamais*.—5. In many towns and cities in the West ; *dans plusieurs villes de l'Ouest*.—6. Where the . . . by it ; *où elle élève le niveau de la société*.—7. One reason why ; *une des raisons pour lesquelles*.—8. College-bred young men ; *jennes gens élevés dans les collèges*.—9. Altogether ; *en somme*.

**RELIGION NEVER TO BE TREATED WITH  
LEVITY.**

Impress your minds with reverence for all that is sacred. Let no wantonness<sup>1</sup> of youthful spirits<sup>2</sup>, no compliance with the intemperate mirth<sup>3</sup> of others, ever betray you into<sup>4</sup> profane sallies. Besides the guilt which is thereby incurred, nothing gives a more odious appearance of petulance and presumption to youth, than the affectation of treating religion with levity<sup>5</sup>. Instead of being an evidence of superior understanding, it discovers a pert and shallow mind; which, vain of the first smatterings of knowledge, presumes to make light of<sup>6</sup> what the rest of mankind revere. At the same time you are not to imagine that, when exhorted to be religious, you are called upon to become more formal and solemn in your manners than others of the same years, or to erect yourselves into supercilious reprovers of those around you.

The spirit of true religion breathes gentleness and affability. It gives a native unaffected ease to the behaviour. It is social, kind, and cheerful; far removed from that gloomy and illiberal superstition which clouds the brow, sharpens<sup>7</sup> the temper, dejects the spirit, and teaches men to fit themselves for another world by neglecting the concerns of this. Let your religion, on the contrary, connect preparation for heaven with an honourable discharge<sup>8</sup> of the duties of active life. Of such religion discover<sup>9</sup>, on every proper occasion, that you are not ashamed; but avoid making any unnecessary ostentation of it before the world.

**BLAIR.**

Notes.—1. Wantonness; *exubérance*.—2. Spirits; *entraîné*.—3. Immoderate mirth; *gaieté immodérée*.—4. Betray you into; *vous entraîner à*.—5. To treat religion with levity; *plaisanter sur la religion*.—6. To make light of; *de traiter légèrement*.—7. To sharpen; *aigrir* (in this case).—8. With an honourable discharge of; *en accomplissant honorablement*.—9. Discover; *montrez*. To turn: 'Discover, on every proper occasion, that you are not ashamed of such religion'.

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### BRUTUS ON THE DEATH OF CÆSAR.

Romans, countrymen, and lovers<sup>1</sup>! hear me for<sup>2</sup> my cause; and be silent that you may hear. Believe me for<sup>3</sup> mine honour, and have respect for my honour, that you may believe<sup>4</sup>. Censure me in your wisdom, and awake your senses, that you may<sup>5</sup> better judge. If there be any in this assembly, any dear friend of Cæsar's, to him I say that Brutus's love<sup>6</sup> to Cæsar was no less than his. If, then, that friend demand why Brutus rose against Cæsar, this is<sup>7</sup> my answer: Not that<sup>8</sup> I loved Cæsar less, but that<sup>9</sup> I loved Rome more. Had you rather Cæsar were living<sup>10</sup>, and die all slaves, than that Cæsar were dead, to live all freemen?

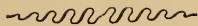
As Cæsar loved me, I weep for him; as he was fortunate, I rejoice at it; as he was valiant, I honour him; but as he was ambitious, I slew him<sup>11</sup>. There are tears for his love<sup>12</sup>, joy for his fortune, honour for his valour, and death for his ambition. Who's here so base, that would be<sup>13</sup> a bondman? If any, speak<sup>14</sup>; for him have I offended. Who's here so rude<sup>15</sup>, that would not be a Roman? If any, speak;

for him have I offended. Who's here so vile, that will not love his country? If any, speak; for him have I offended. I pause for<sup>16</sup> a reply. None? Then none have I offended<sup>17</sup>; I have done no more to Cæsar than you should do to Brutus. The question<sup>18</sup> of his death is enrolled in the Capitol; his glory not extenuated<sup>19</sup> wherein he was worthy; nor his offences enforced<sup>20</sup> for which he suffered death.

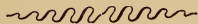
Here comes<sup>21</sup> his body, mourned by Mark Antony, who, though he had no hand in his death, shall receive the benefit of his dying<sup>22</sup>, a place in the Commonwealth; as which of you shall not<sup>23</sup>? With this I depart, that as I slew<sup>24</sup> my best lover for the good of Rome, I have<sup>25</sup> the same dagger for myself when it shall please my country to need<sup>26</sup> my death.

SHAKESPEARE. *Julius Cæsar.*

Notes.—1. Lovers; *amis* (in this case).—2. For; *dans*.—3. Believe me for; *ayez foi en*.—4. That you may believe: *pour croire à mes paroles*.—5. That you may better; *afin d'être mieux en état de*.—6. Love to; *affection pour*.—7. This is; *voici*.—8. Not that; *ce n'est pas que* (with a subjunctive).—9. Leave out 'that' and use the imperfect of the indicative.—10. Had you . . . living; *aimeriez-vous mieux voir C. vivant*.—11. Turn: 'I have slain him';—12. Love; *amitié*.—13. Who is . . . would be; *quel est ici l'homme assez lâche pour consentir à être*.—14. If any, speak; *s'il en est un, qu'il parle*.—15. Rude; *stupide*.—16. I pause for; *j'attends*.—17. Put 'none' after 'offended'.—18. The question; *les motifs*.—19. To extenuate; *amoindrir*.—20. To enforce; *aggraver*.—21. Here comes; *voici*.—22. Of his dying; *de sa mort*.—23. As which of you shall not? *et qui de vous n'en profitera pas?*—24. With this . . . I slew; *voici ma conclusion: J'ai tué*.—25. I have; *je garde*.—26. To need; *demander*.



EXAMINATION PAPERS.







# EXAMINATION PAPERS.

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## COLUMBIA COLLEGE.

### School of Arts.

JUNE, 1892.

With me, thee, him, her, us, you, them (masc. and fem.). Here is the book, shall I give it to her? No, do not give it to her, give it to me. I have a pretty rose; I will show it to her, but I will give it to you. Do not repeat that to him. If she had asked it of me, I would have given it to her with pleasure. Iron is a useful metal.

### School of Mines.

OCTOBER, 1892.

Without me you can do nothing; without you I can do everything. He who has no courage does not deserve to conquer. The book that I bought last week is the best book that I ever read; I shall lend it to you, and you will return it to my brother. Gold and silver are precious metals.

JUNE, 1893.

This city is much more beautiful than the one which you visited last year; you must remain in it much longer. After you have left it write me all you have seen in it or do not write me anything at all.

SEPTEMBER, 1893.

I met your brother yesterday and I gave him the book which you had given me for him. He told me that he would see you next week or next month. His health is much better than last year. Write to him soon; it will give him much pleasure.

## CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

JUNE, 1891.

(a) 1. Which of the French Grammars is the best? The one you saw on my desk yesterday morning.

2. I have not the least remembrance of the friends of my childhood.

3. Here is a letter for your sister-in-law; take it to her immediately.

4. I seek a country house in which I may be quiet.

5. May God watch over you.

6. Where are your pencils? I have lost them.

7. I found my gloves where I had left them.

8. I heard her say that she bought the pictures.

9. While writing these words her eyes were filled with tears.

10. Must your friend go home as soon as he has finished his work?

(b) Dumoulin, a famous physician, was sinking ("sinking," *à l'agonie*). He was surrounded by several of his colleagues, who deplored his loss. "Gentlemen," said he to them, "I leave behind me three great physicians." Each one thought he was one of the three; he was urged ("to urge," *presser*) to name them. "They are," he answered, "water, exercise, and diet" (*diète*).

JUNE, 1892.

1. He began by writing his name.

2. While traveling in France, everybody should remain for a time in Paris.

3. The question was to find a way to avoid the misfortune.

4. I had just written the letter when he entered.

5. How many inhabitants are there in this city?

6. There were ten thousand of them a year ago.

7. I gave some bread to your little brother and to mine.

8. Of which of your daughters were you thinking?

9. Is this the young lady who presented herself yesterday to you?

10. Let us not go to your house.

## YALE COLLEGE.

JUNE, 1891.

1. He has talent and courage.
2. The least faults produce sometimes the most grievous results.
3. I never saw such a man and such a woman.
4. I do not know the agent to whom he has written.
5. Our friends have not yet come back to town.
6. History is the portrait of men and times.
7. It is useful to know several languages.
8. I believe he has not thought of it.
9. What would you do if you were in my place?
10. Those books cost me two dollars apiece.

JUNE, 1892.

1. Gold and silver are metals.
2. London is the largest and richest city in the world.
3. This piece is not of the same quality as the others.
4. There is the artist whose works you admire.
5. Your letter did not reach me in time.
6. If you wish to write, you will find pens, paper and ink in my room.
7. Is French an easy language to acquire?
8. You have rendered me a service, permit me to thank you for it.
9. If I had foreseen what has happened, I would not have come.
10. That cloth is sold at three dollars a yard.

JUNE, 1893.

Translate into French, writing out the numbers :

At Sparta military courage was everything. For the young children as well as for the old men, to be afraid was a fault which was punished by the loss of rank. The unmarried man, whom no child called 'father,' was exempted from a soldier's duties, but the law deprived him also of his citizen's rights. From the year 685 to the year 477 before Christ, Sparta was the most warlike city in (of) the world.

## HARVARD COLLEGE.

JUNE, 1892.

It happened (*arriver*) once, when Kemble was playing Hamlet in the country (*en province*), the rôle of Guildenstern had been given to an actor who was, or imagined himself to be, a musician. Hamlet asks him; 'Will you play upon (*de*) this pipe (*chaluveau*, m.)?' 'My lord, I cannot.' 'I pray you.' 'Believe me, I cannot.' 'I do beseech you (*supplier*).' 'Well, if you insist, I'll do my best' (say 'of my best'); and to the confusion of Hamlet and the great amusement of the audience (*auditoire*), he played *God Save the King*.

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## ELEMENTARY FRENCH.

ADMISSION, 1893.

Villeroi, military governor of King Louis XV., wrote (used to write) very badly (*mal*). One day he addressed to Cardinal Fleury, the young monarch's tutor (*précepteur*), a communication that the latter could not read. Fleury sent back (*renvoyer*) the letter, requesting (*prier*) Villeroi to express (*d'exprimer*) his thoughts in a more legible (*lisible*) manner. A few days after, Villeroi wrote again. Fleury answered: "My dear sir, don't write me any more, for fear that people (*de crainte qu'on*, with subjunc. and *ne*) should say that the king has a governor who cannot write and a tutor who cannot read."

## ADVANCED FRENCH.

## ADMISSION (1) 1893.

I had noticed, since I had been allowed to leave my room (f) and walk about the garden (m) that the door-keeper brought every evening the keys (f) of all the doors (f) to the Abbot, and that there reigned a profound silence (m) throughout the house (f), indicating that everybody had retired for the night (f). I could go, without any obstacle, from my room (f) to that of the Abbot. My intention (f) was to take his keys away from him, by frightening him with my pistol (m) if he made any difficulty (f) about giving them to me, and to make use of them to reach the street (f). I waited impatiently for the proper time (m). The door-keeper came at the usual hour (f), that is to say, a little after nine o'clock. I let another hour (f) go by to make sure that all the friars and servants were asleep. Then I started with my pistol in my right hand (f) and a lighted candle (f) in my left. I rapped first gently at the Abbot's door to awaken him without noise. He heard me at the second rap (m), and no doubt imagining that it was some friar who was ill and needed help, he arose to open the door. I entered his room, and having drawn him to the other side (m) I declared to him that he must either open the doors or lend me his keys that I might do so myself.

## NOTES.

Since I had been allowed, put <i>since</i> <i>it had been allowed to me.</i>	To reach, <i>to gain.</i> Go by, <i>pass.</i>
Walk about, <i>walk in.</i>	To make sure, <i>to assure myself.</i>
Throughout, <i>in all.</i>	Rapped, <i>struck.</i>
To retire, reflexive verb.	Rap, <i>blow.</i>
By frightening, <i>in frightening.</i>	To imagine, reflexive verb.
About giving, <i>to give.</i>	

## VOCABULAIRE.

Door-keeper, <i>portier.</i>	Proper, <i>convenable.</i>	Friars, <i>religieux.</i>
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## ADVANCED FRENCH.

ADMISSION (1) 1893.

At the beginning of the charge, Bonnavet, while exerting himself with much valor, was wounded so dangerously, as obliged him to quit the field; and the conduct of the rear was committed to the Chevalier Bayard, who, though so much a stranger to the arts of a court that he never rose to the chief command, was always called, in times of real danger, to the posts of greatest difficulty and importance. He put himself at the head of the men at arms, and animating them by his presence and example to sustain the whole shock of the enemy's troops, he gained time for the rest of his countrymen to make good their retreat. But in this service he received a wound which he immediately perceived to be mortal, and being unable to continue any longer on horseback, he ordered one of his attendants to place him under a tree, with his face towards the enemy; then fixing his eyes on the guard of his sword, which he held up instead of a cross, he addressed his prayers to God, and in this posture, which became his character both as a soldier and as a Christian, he calmly waited the approach of death.

## NOTES.

While exerting himself with much valor, *construe* who behaved (*se conduire*) with the greatest valor.

As obliged him to quit the field. *construe* that he was obliged to quit the field of battle.

Rear, *arrière-garde*; committed, *say* confided.

So much a stranger to the arts of a court, *construe* so little courtier (*courtisan*).

Men at arms, *say* men of arms.

For the rest of his countrymen to make good their retreat, *construe* to cover the retreat of the rest of the army.

Service, *say* action.

Perceived, *sentit*.

Being unable to continue any longer on horseback, *construe* having no longer the strength to keep (*se soutenir*) upon his horse.

Attendants, *gens*.

To place him under, *say* to lean (*appuyer*) him against

Held up instead of, *tint élevée en guise de*.

Became, *convenir*.

Both, *et*.

## ADVANCED FRENCH.

Alexander, passing one day through Corinth, had the curiosity to see Diogenes, who happened to be there at the time. He found him basking in the sun, in the grove Craneum, where he was cementing his tub. "I am," said he to him, "the great king Alexander." "And I," replied the philosopher, "am the dog Diogenes." "Are you not afraid of me?" continued Alexander. "Are you good or bad?" returned Diogenes. "I am good," rejoined Alexander. "And who could be afraid of a man who is good?" replied Diogenes. Alexander admired the penetration and free manners of Diogenes. After some conversation he said to him: "I see, Diogenes, that you are in want of many things, and I shall be happy to have an opportunity of assisting you; ask of me what you will." "Retire a little to one side, then," replied Diogenes, "you are depriving me of the rays of the sun." It is no wonder that Alexander stood astonished at seeing a man so completely above every human concern. "Which of the two is richer," continued Diogenes, "he who is content with his cloak and his bag; or he for whom a whole kingdom is not sufficient, but who is daily exposing himself to a thousand dangers in order to extend its limits?"

Through, *par*.

To happen to be, *se trouver*.

To bask, *se chauffer*.

To be in want of, *manquer de*

It is no wonder, *construe*: it is not surprising.

Bag, *besace*.

# PAPERS FOR FINAL EXAMINATIONS

IN HARVARD COLLEGE.

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JUNE, 1892.

FRENCH A. Traduisez en français (*à première vue*) :

James VI. of Scotland succeeded to the throne of that kingdom when he was but sixteen months old. During his minority he had for tutor the celebrated Buchanan. At the age of twelve, James having taken upon himself the regal power, showed such an excessive attachment to favourites, and such a facility in complying with their demands, that Buchanan, alarmed for the consequences, took a curious method of convincing him of the improvidence of such conduct.

He presented the young king with two papers which he requested him to sign ; and James, after having slightly interrogated him with regard to their contents, readily appended his signature to each, without the precaution of even a cursory perusal. One of them was a transference of the regal authority to Buchanan for the term of fifteen days.

FRENCH 1a. Traduisez en français (*à première vue*) : —

Montaigne is really the first modern writer,—the first who assimilated his Greek and Latin, and showed that an author might be original and charming, even classical, if he did not try too hard. He is also the first modern critic, and his judgments of the writers of antiquity are those of an equal. He made the ancients his servants, to help him think in Gascon French; and, in spite of his endless quotations, began the crusade against pedantry. It was not, however, till a century later, that the reform became complete in France, and then crossed the channel. Milton is still a pedant in his prose, and



not seldom even in his great poem. Dryden was the first Englishman who wrote perfectly easy prose, and he owed his style and turn of thought to his French reading.—J. RUSSELL LOWELL.

Traduisez en français (*à première vue*):—

I have been twice in England. In 1833, on my return from a short tour in Sicily, Italy and France, I crossed from Boulogne and landed in London at the Tower stairs. It was a dark Sunday morning; there were few people in the streets, and I remember the pleasure of that first walk on English ground, with my companion an American artist. . . . For the first time for many months we were forced to check the saucy habit of travellers' criticism, as we could no longer speak aloud in the streets without being understood.—R. W. EMERSON.

FRENCH 1*b*. Traduisez :

I lost, last year, the friend of my youth (f.), the companion of my life (f.), the purest and best being I have ever known.<sup>1</sup> I had hoped not to survive him,<sup>2</sup> and yet I still live, because I see that I can be useful to the dear children and grandchildren that surround<sup>3</sup> me. I am seventy-five years old,<sup>4</sup> and I have not long to wait to meet<sup>5</sup> my beloved. "Dearest," said he to me, before dying,<sup>6</sup> "we have loved each other<sup>7</sup> too much in this world (m.) to begin over<sup>8</sup> another life without one another."<sup>9</sup>

1. translate : *that I have ever known*, and use subjunctive.

2. no preposition required with *to hope*; *him*, dative.

3. to surround, *entourer*.

4. translate: I have seventy-five years.

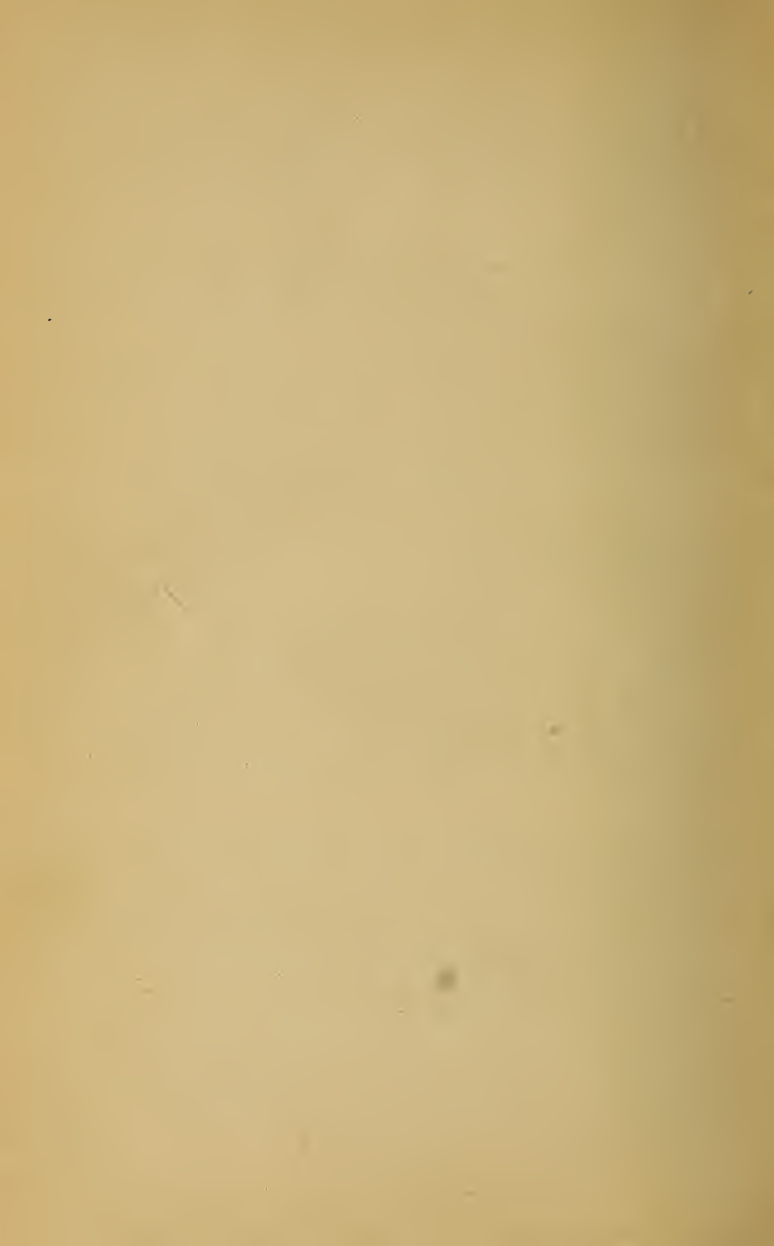
5. long (translate *long time*) to wait, *à*; to meet, *pour rejoindre*.

6. use infinitive and *de*.

7. use reflexive form with *être*; *each other* not translated.

8. to begin over, *pour recommencer*.

9. translate: *one without the other*.



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