

ulty. Though it is often considered a troublesome task, yet it is certainly a source of great convenience: for many troubles and pains arise that might have been spared, had the rule been properly applied. A library well stocked with volumes, representing the literature of all nations and all ages past, would, indeed, present a very rude appearance, if the books were carelessly thrown upon the shelves regardless of order. A museum, containing thousands of different curiosities, would be the source of endless toil and irritation when selecting from among them certain articles required, if every class and every subdivision did not occupy its proper place.

A language composed of thousands of words, for convenience, is divided into a few classes: and these classes we may describe as having certain properties, respectively belonging to them, and thus the peculiarities of one language may be intelligently described in another, extending thought in every conceivable direction, promoting and elevating the standard of the mind. The facility of this, depends largely upon the order in which the representatives of thought are arranged. But we need not confine ourselves to laws and regulations established by man for illustrations.

Let us observe carefully the various changes constantly going on in the works of nature, in the handiwork of God. Nature may seem in many of her ways to be confusion, a chaos, over which it has no control. The soft and gentle breeze, followed, (as if by accident,) by cold and piercing winds, the roaring tempest and the lightning's glare. The smooth and glossy face of the grand and mighty ocean, calm and still, followed by the heaving waves, rolling mountain on mountain high, its dark gloomy countenance whitened with foam. The sullen murmur and the crackling sound of the tree tops in the dismal night and the fresh and tender shrub sparkling with the morning dew.

The sweet music of the gay and happy song-bird, as it flutters from branch to branch, in the bright foliage greeting the rising sun, whose golden beams are peeping over the distant hills. All these seem to follow each other at irregular intervals, apparently regardless of order. But in taking a more general observation, a more expanded view, we shall find that what before seemed so chaotic now exhibits the highest degree of order.

The inorganic as well as the organic world furnishes an abundance of examples. Each element seems to be subject to a law, or code of laws, from which there is no appeal. Every atom seems to occupy a certain sphere, and to have a certain function to perform. The atmosphere, acted upon by the force of gravitation, presses every loose article—when not otherwise employed—gently but firmly to the bosom of the earth. Thus everything is retained in its proper place, when once there, until further required. And oh, what a vast field of thought and contemplation we have before us whenever we consider the precise arrangement in the construction of every plant and every animal, from the lowest to the highest degree. And the Planet, this Earth which is at least the temporary home of all these so grand and wonderfully constructed, is but a minute part, a mere speck, in the great universe of God.

Truly it has been said, Order is Heaven's first law. And only by obedience to this law can we ever accomplish the object for which we were designed.

P. W. H.

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We should not be too hasty in bestowing either our praise or our censure on mankind, since we shall often find such a mixture of good and evil in the same character, that it may require a very accurate judgment and a very elaborate inquiry to determine on which side the balance turns.—*Fielding*.