Landesbibliothek Oldenburg

Digitalisierung von Drucken

A Treatise Of Human Nature

Being An Attempt to introduce the experimental Method of Reasoning Into Moral Subjects

Of The Passions

Hume, David London, 1739

Book II. Of the Passions.

urn:nbn:de:gbv:45:1-1219



A

TREATISE

OF

Human Nature.

BOOK II.

Of the Passions.

PART I.

Of Pride and Humility.

S E C T. I.

Division of the Subject.



S all the perceptions of the SECT.

mind may be divided into I.

impressions and ideas, so the

impressions admit of another
division into original and se-

condary. This division of the impressions is Vol. II, B the

I. Of pride and humility.

PART the same with that which * I formerly made use of when I diftinguish'd them into impressions of sensation and reflection. Original impressions or impressions of sensation are fuch as without any antecedent perception arise in the foul, from the constitution of the body, from the animal spirits, or from the application of objects to the external organs. Secondary, or reflective impressions are such as proceed from some of these original ones, either immediately or by the interpolition of its idea. Of the first kind are all the impressions of the senses, and all bodily pains and pleafures: Of the fecond are the paffions, and other emotions refembling them.

'Tis certain, that the mind, in its perceptions, must begin somewhere; and that fince the impressions precede their correfpondent ideas, there must be some impresfions, which without any introduction make their appearance in the foul. As these depend upon natural and physical causes, the examination of them wou'd lead me too far from my present subject, into the sciences of anatomy and natural philosophy. For this reason I shall here confine myself to those other impressions, which I have

call'd

^{*} Book I. Part I. Sect. 2.

call'd fecondary and reflective, as arifing SECT. either from the original impressions, or from their ideas. Bodily pains and pleasures are Division the fource of many passions, both when felt of the and confider'd by the mind; but arise ori- subject. ginally in the foul, or in the body, whichever you please to call it, without any preceding thought or perception. A fit of the gout produces a long train of passions, as grief, hope, fear; but is not deriv'd immediately from any affection or idea.

THE reflective impressions may be divided into two kinds, viz. the calm and the violent. Of the first kind is the sense of beauty and deformity in action, composition, and external objects. Of the fecond are the passions of love and hatred, grief and joy, pride and humility. This division is far from being exact. The raptures of poetry and music frequently rise to the greatest height; while those other impressions, properly call'd passions, may decay into fo foft an emotion, as to become, in a manner, imperceptible. But as in general the paffions are more violent than the emotions arifing from beauty and deformity, these impressions have been commonly distinguish'd from each other. The subject of the human mind being fo copious and various, B 2

I. and specious division, that I may proceed with the greater order; and having said all and humi-I thought necessary concerning our ideas, shall now explain those violent emotions or passions, their nature, origin, causes, and effects.

WHEN we take a furvey of the passions, there occurs a division of them into direct and indirect. By direct passions I understand such as arise immediately from good or evil, from pain or pleasure. By indirect fuch as proceed from the fame principles, but by the conjunction of other qualities. This diffinction I cannot at prefent justify or explain any farther. I can only observe in general, that under the indirect passions I comprehend pride, humility, ambition, vanity, love, hatred, envy, pity, malice, generofity, with their dependants. And under the direct passions, defire, aversion, grief, joy, hope, fear, despair and security. I shall begin with the former,

man mind being to copious and verious

prefitors have been commonly diffinguish I. T D B chi achieved The ful ject, of the fac-

SECT. II.

Of pride and humility; their objects and causes.

HE passions of PRIDE and HUMI-SECT. LITY being fimple and uniform impressions, 'tis impossible we can ever, by a multitude of words, give a just definition of them, or indeed of any of the passions. The utmost we can pretend to is a description of them, by an enumeration of fuch circumstances, as attend them: But as these words, pride and humility, are of general use, and the impressions they represent the most common of any, every one, of himself, will be able to form a just idea of them, without any danger of mistake. For which reafon, not to lose time upon preliminaries, I shall immediately enter upon the examination of these passions.

'Tis evident, that pride and humility, tho' directly contrary, have yet the same OBJECT. This object is self, or that succession of related ideas and impressions, of which we have an intimate memory and confciousness. Here the view always fixes when

mount our

PART we are actuated by either of these passions.

I.
Of pride
and humitity.

According as our idea of ourself is more or less advantageous, we feel either of those opposite affections, and are elated by pride, or dejected with humility. Whatever other objects may be comprehended by the mind, they are always consider'd with a view to ourselves; otherwise they wou'd never be able either to excite these passions, or produce the smallest encrease or diminution of them. When self enters not into the consideration, there is no room either for pride or humility.

But tho' that connected fuccession of perceptions, which we call felf, be always the object of these two passions, 'tis imposfible it can be their CAUSE, or be fufficient alone to excite them. For as these passions are directly contrary, and have the fame object in common; were their object also their cause; it cou'd never produce any degree of the one passion, but at the same time it must excite an equal degree of the other : which opposition and contrariety must destroy both. 'Tis impossible a man can at the same time be both proud and humble; and where he has different reasons for these passions, as frequently happens, the passions either take place alternately; or if they encounter,

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

counter, the one annihilates the other, as far SECT. as its strength goes, and the remainder only of that, which is superior, continues to ope- of pride rate upon the mind. But in the present and bumicase neither of the passions cou'd ever become objects and fuperior; because supposing it to be the view causes. only of ourself, which excited them, that being perfectly indifferent to either, must produce both in the very fame proportion; or in other words, can produce neither. To excite any paffion, and at the same time raise an equal share of its antagonist, is immediately to undo what was done, and must leave the mind at last perfectly calm and indifferent.

WE must, therefore, make a distinction betwixt the cause and the object of these paffions; betwixt that idea, which excites them, and that to which they direct their view, when excited. Pride and humility, being once rais'd, immediately turn our attention to ourself, and regard that as their ultimate and final object; but there is fomething farther requisite in order to raise them: Something, which is peculiar to one of the passions, and produces not both in the very fame degree. The first idea, that is prefented to the mind, is that of the cause or productive principle. This excites the paffion. fion.

PART fion, connected with it; and that passion,

I. when excited, turns our view to another idea, which is that of self. Here then is a passion plac'd betwixt two ideas, of which the one produces it, and the other is produc'd by it. The first idea, therefore, represents the cause, the second the object of the passion.

To begin with the causes of pride and humility; we may observe, that their most obvious and remarkable property is the vast variety of subjects, on which they may be plac'd. Every valuable quality of the mind, whether of the imagination, judgment, memory or disposition; wit, good-sense, learning, courage, justice, integrity; all these are the causes of pride; and their opposites of humility. Nor are these passions confin'd to the mind, but extend their view to the body likewife. A man may be proud of his beauty, strength, agility, good mein, address in dancing, riding, fencing, and of his dexterity in any manual bufiness or manufacture. But this is not all. The paffion looking farther, comprehend whatever objects are in the least ally'd or related to us. Our country, family, children, relations, riches, houses, gardens, horses, dogs, cloaths; any of these may become a cause either of pride or of humility.

FROM

FROM the confideration of these causes, SECT. it appears necessary we shou'd make a new distinction in the causes of the past- of pride fion, betwixt that quality, which operates, and humiand the subject, on which it is plac'd. A objects and man, for instance, is vain of a beautiful causes. house, which belongs to him, or which he has himself built and contriv'd. Here the object of the passion is himself, and the cause is the beautiful house: Which cause again is fub-divided into two parts, viz. the quality, which operates upon the paffion, and the subject, in which the quality inheres. The quality is the beauty, and the subject is the house, consider'd as his property or contrivance. Both these parts are effential, nor is the distinction vain and chimerical. Beauty, confider'd merely as fuch, unless plac'd upon fomething related to us, never produces any pride or vanity; and the strongest relation alone, without beauty, or fomething else in its place, has as little influence on that passion. Since, therefore, these two particulars are easily separated, and there is a necessity for their conjunction, in order to produce the paffion, we ought to confider them as component parts of the cause; and infix in our minds an exact idea of this distinction.

SEÇT.

PART
I.
Of pride and humility.

III.

TO

SECT. III.

Whence these objects and causes are deriv'd.

BEING so far advanc'd as to observe a difference betwixt the object of the passions and their cause, and to distinguish in the cause the quality, which operates on the passions, from the subject, in which it inheres; we now proceed to examine what determines each of them to be what it is, and assigns such a particular object, and quality, and subject to these affections. By this means we shall fully understand the origin of pride and humility.

"It is evident in the first place, that these passions are determined to have self for their object, not only by a natural but also by an original property. No one can doubt but this property is natural from the constancy and steadiness of its operations. 'Tis always self, which is the object of pride and humility; and whenever the passions look beyond, 'tis still with a view to ourselves, nor can any person or object otherwise have any influence upon us.

THAT

THAT this proceeds from an original SECT. quality or primary impulse, will likewise ap- III. pear evident, if we confider that 'tis the Whence diftinguishing characteristic of these passions. these ob. Unless nature had given some original qua-causes are lities to the mind, it cou'd never have any deriv'd. fecondary ones; because in that case it wou'd have no foundation for action, nor cou'd ever begin to exert itself. Now these qualities, which we must consider as original, are fuch as are most inseparable from the foul. and can be refolv'd into no other: And fuch is the quality, which determines the object of pride and humility. The pride and

WE may, perhaps, make it a greater question, whether the causes, that produce the passion, be as natural as the object, to which it is directed, and whether all that vast variety proceeds from caprice or from the constitution of the mind. This doubt we shall soon remove, if we cast our eye upon. human nature, and confider that in all nations and ages, the same objects still give rife to pride and humility; and that upon the view even of a stranger, we can know pretty nearly, what will either encrease or diminish his passions of this kind. If there be any variation in this particular, it proceeds from nothing but a difference in the

I. besides very inconsiderable. Can we imaof pride gine it possible, that while human nature
and bumiremains the same, men will ever become
entirely indifferent to their power, riches,
beauty or personal merit, and that their
pride and vanity will not be affected by
these advantages?

Bu T tho' the causes of pride and humility be plainly natural, we shall find upon examination, that they are not original, and that 'tis utterly impossible they shou'd each of them be adapted to these passions by a particular provision, and primary constitution of nature. Beside their prodigious number, many of them are the effects of art, and arise partly from the industry, partly from the caprice, and partly from the good fortune of men. Industry produces houses, furniture, cloaths. Caprice determines their particular kinds and qualities. And good fortune frequently contributes to all this, by discovering the effects that refult from the different mixtures and combinations of bodies. 'Tis abfurd, therefore, to imagine, that each of these was foreseen and provided for by nature, and that every new production of art, which causes pride or humility; instead of adapting itself to the

the passion by partaking of some general SECT. quality, that naturally operates on the mind; is itself the object of an original principle, Whence which till then lay conceal'd in the foul, these obs. and is only by accident at last brought to causes are light. Thus the first mechanic, that in- deriv'd. vented a fine scritoure, produc'd pride in him, who became possest of it, by principles different from those, which made him proud of handsome chairs and tables. As this appears evidently ridiculous, we must conclude, that each cause of pride and humility is not adapted to the passions by a distinct original quality; but that there are fome one or more circumstances common to all of them, on which their efficacy depends.

Besides, we find in the course of nature, that tho' the effects be many, the principles, from which they arise, are commonly but few and simple, and that 'tis the sign of an unskilful naturalist to have recourse to a different quality, in order to explain every different operation. How much more must this be true with regard to the human mind, which being so confin'd a subject may justly be thought incapable of containing such a monstrous heap of principles, as wou'd be necessary to excite the passions of pride and humility, were each distinct

PART cause adapted to the passion by a distinct fet of principles?

Of pride

HERE, therefore, moral philosophy is and bumi- in the fame condition as natural, with regard to aftronomy before the time of Copernicus. The antients, tho' fensible of that maxim, that nature does nothing in vain, contriv'd fuch intricate fystems of the heavens, as feem'd inconfistent with true philosophy, and gave place at last to something more fimple and natural. To invent without fcruple a new principle to every new phænomenon, instead of adapting it to the old; to overload our hypotheses with a variety of this kind; are certain proofs, that none of these principles is the just one, and that we only defire, by a number of falfehoods, to cover our ignorance of the truth.

SECT. IV.

Of the relations of impressions and ideas.

HUS we have establish'd two truths SECT. without any obstacle or difficulty, that 'tis from natural principles this variety of causes excite pride and humility, and and that 'tis not by a different principle each SECT. different cause is adapted to its passion. We IV. Thall now proceed to enquire how we may of the rereduce these principles to a lesser number, and lations of imfind among the causes something common, pressions on which their influence depends.

In order to this we must reslect on certain properties of human nature, which tho' they have a mighty influence on every operation both of the understanding and paffions, are not commonly much infifted on by philosophers. The first of these is the affociation of ideas, which I have so often observ'd and explain'd. 'Tis impossible for the mind to fix itself steadily upon one idea for any confiderable time; nor can it by its utmost efforts ever arrive at such a constancy. But however changeable our thoughts may be, they are not entirely without rule and method in their changes. The rule, by which they proceed, is to pass from one object to what is refembling, contiguous to, or produc'd by it. When one idea is prefent to the imagination, any other, united by these relations, naturally follows it, and enters with more facility by means of that introduction.

THE fecond property I shall observe in the human mind is a like affociation of impressions.

PART pressions. All resembling impressions are connected together, and no fooner one arises than the rest immediately follow. Grief and bumi- and disappointment give rise to anger, anger to envy, envy to malice, and malice to grief again, till the whole circle be compleated. In like manner our temper, when elevated with joy, naturally throws itself into love, generofity, pity, courage, pride, and the other refembling affections. 'Tis difficult for the mind, when actuated by any passion, to confine itself to that passion alone, without any change or variation. Human nature is too inconstant to admit of any fuch regularity. Changeableness is esfential to it. And to what can it so naturally change as to affections or emotions. which are fuitable to the temper, and agree with that fet of passions, which then prevail? 'Tis evident, then, there is an attraction or affociation among impressions, as well as among ideas; tho' with this remarkable difference, that ideas are affociated by refemblance, contiguity, and causation; and impressions only by resemblance.

In the third place, 'tis observable of these two kinds of affociation, that they very much affist and forward each other, and that the transition is more easily made where they

they both concur in the fame object. Thus SECT. a man, who, by any injury from another, is very much discompos'd and ruffled in his Of the temper, is apt to find a hundred fubjects relations of discontent, impatience, fear, and other pressions uneafy paffions; especially if he can dif- and ideas. cover these subjects in or near the person, who was the cause of his first passion. Those principles, which forward the transition of ideas, here concur with those, which operate on the passions; and both uniting in one action, bestow on the mind a double impulse. The new passion, therefore, must arise with so much greater violence, and the transition to it must be render'd so much more easy and natural.

Upon this occasion I may cite the authority of an elegant writer, who expresses himself in the following manner. "As the fancy delights in every thing that is great, strange, or beautiful, and is still more pleas'd the more it finds of these perfections in the same object, so it is capable of receiving a new satisfaction by the affistance of another sense. Thus any continu'd sound, as the music of birds, or a fall of waters, awakens every moment the mind of the beholder, and makes him more attentive to the several Vol. II.

13

I.

Of pride

lity,

PART " beauties of the place, that lie before " him. Thus if there arises a fragrancy of " fmells or perfumes, they heighten the and bumi- " pleasure of the imagination, and make " even the colours and verdure of the land-" fchape appear more agreeable; for the ideas " of both senses recommend each other, " and are pleasanter together than when " they enter the mind feparately: As the " different colours of a picture, when they " are well disposed, set off one another, " and receive an additional beauty from the " advantage of the fituation." In this phænomenon we may remark the affociation both of impressions and ideas, as well as the mutual affiftance they lend each other.

SECT. V.

Of the influence of these relations on pride and bumility.

SECT. HESE principles being establish'd on unquestionable experience, I begin to confider how we shall apply them, by revolving over all the causes of pride and humility, whether these causes be regarded, as the qualities, that operate, or as the fubjects, on which the qualities are plac'd. In examin-

examining these qualities I immediately find SECT. many of them to concur in producing the fenfation of pain and pleasure, indepen- of the dent of those affections, which I here endea- influence vour to explain. Thus the beauty of our relations person, of itself, and by its very appear- on pride and bumiance, gives pleafure, as well as pride; and lity. its deformity, pain as well as humility. A magnificent feast delights us, and a fordid one displeases. What I discover to be true in some instances, I suppose to be so in all; and take it for granted at prefent, without any farther proof, that every cause of pride, by its peculiar qualities, produces a separate pleasure, and of humility a separate uneafiness.

AGAIN, in confidering the fubjects, to which these qualities adhere, I make a new fupposition, which also appears probable from many obvious instances, viz. that these subjects are either parts of ourselves, or something nearly related to us. Thus the good and bad qualities of our actions and manners constitute virtue and vice, and determine our personal character, than which nothing operates more strongly on these passions. In like manner, 'tis the beauty or deformity of our person, houses, equipage, or furniture, by which we are render'd either

PART vain or humble. The fame qualities, when transfer'd to fubjects, which bear us no relation, influence not in the smallest degree Of pride and bumi- either of these affections.

HAVING thus in a manner suppos'd two properties of the causes of these affections, viz. that the qualities produce a separate pain or pleasure, and that the subjects, on which the qualities are plac'd, are related to felf; I proceed to examine the paffions themselves, in order to find something in them, correspondent to the suppos'd properties of their causes. First, I find, that the peculiar object of pride and humility is determin'd by an original and natural instinct, and that 'tis absolutely impossible, from the primary constitution of the mind, that these passions shou'd ever look beyond self, or that individual person, of whose actions and fentiments each of us is intimately conscious. Here at last the view always rests, when we are actuated by either of these passions; nor can we, in that situation of mind, ever lofe fight of this object. For this I pretend not to give any reason; but confider such a peculiar direction of the thought as an original quality.

THE fecond quality, which I discover in these passions, and which I likewise consider as

an

an original quality, is their fensations, or SECT. the peculiar emotions they excite in the foul, and which constitute their very being of the and effence. Thus pride is a pleafant fen-influence fation, and humility a painful; and upon relations the removal of the pleasure and pain, there on pride and humiis in reality no pride nor humility. Of this lity. our very feeling convinces us; and beyond our feeling, 'tis here in vain to reason or dispute.

IF I compare, therefore, these two establish'd properties of the passions, viz. their object, which is felf, and their fenfation, which is either pleasant or painful, to the two suppos'd properties of the causes, viz. their relation to felf, and their tendency to produce a pain or pleafure, independent of the passion; I immediately find, that taking these suppositions to be just, the true system breaks in upon me with an irrefiftible evidence. That cause, which excites the pasfion, is related to the object, which nature has attributed to the paffion; the fensation, which the cause separately produces, is related to the fensation of the passion: From this double relation of ideas and impreffions, the paffion is deriv'd. The one idea is eafily converted into its cor-relative; and the one impression into that, which re-

C 3

fembles

Of pride

PART sembles and corresponds to it: With how much greater facility must this transition be made, where these movements mutually affist each and humi- other, and the mind receives a double impulse from the relations both of its impresfions and ideas?

> THAT we may comprehend this the better, we must suppose, that nature has given to the organs of the human mind, a certain disposition sitted to produce a peculiar impression or emotion, which we call pride: To this emotion she has assign'd a certain idea, viz. that of felf, which it never fails to produce. This contrivance of nature is eafily conceiv'd. We have many instances of fuch a fituation of affairs. The nerves of the nose and palate are so dispos'd, as in certain circumstances to convey such peculiar fenfations to the mind: The fenfations of lust and hunger always produce in us the idea of those peculiar objects, which are fuitable to each appetite. These two circumstances are united in pride, The organs are so dispos'd as to produce the pasfion; and the passion, after its production, naturally produces a certain idea. All this needs no proof. 'Tis evident we never shou'd be possest of that passion, were there not a disposition of mind proper for it; and 'tis

as evident, that the passion always turns our SECT. view to ourselves, and makes us think of our own qualities and circumstances.

THIS being fully comprehended, it may fluence of now be afk'd, Whether nature produces the tions on passion immediately, of herself; or whether pride and she must be assisted by the co-operation of other causes? For 'tis observable, that in this particular her conduct is different in the different passions and sensations. The palate must be excited by an external object, in order to produce any relish: But hunger arifes internally, without the concurrence of any external object. But however the case may stand with other passions and impresfions, 'tis certain, that pride requires the affistance of some foreign object, and that the organs, which produce it, exert not themfelves like the heart and arteries, by an original internal movement. For first, daily experience convinces us, that pride requires certain causes to exciteit, and languishes when unsupported by some excellency in the character, in bodily accomplishments, in cloaths, equipage or fortune. Secondly, 'tis evident pride wou'd be perpetual, if it arose immediately from nature; fince the object is always the fame, and there is no difposition of body peculiar to pride, as there

PART is to thirst and hunger. Thirdly, Humility is in the very same situation with pride; and therefore, either must, upon this and humifully. It destroy the contrary passion from the very sirst moment; so that none of them cou'd ever make its appearance. Upon the whole, we may rest satisfy'd with the foregoing conclusion, that pride must have a cause, as well as an object, and that the one has no influence without the other.

THE difficulty, then, is only to discover this cause, and find what it is that gives the first motion to pride, and fets those organs in action, which are naturally fitted to produce that emotion. Upon my confulting experience, in order to resolve this difficulty, I immediately find a hundred different causes, that produce pride; and upon examining thefe causes, I suppose, what at first I perceive to be probable, that all of them concur in two circumstances; which are, that of themselves they produce an impression, ally'd to the paffion, and are plac'd on a fubject, ally'd to the object of the passion. When I confider after this the nature of relation, and its effects both on the passions and ideas, I can no longer doubt, upon these suppositions,

tions, that 'tis the very principle, which SECT. gives rife to pride, and bestows motion on V. those organs, which being naturally dispos'd of the into produce that affection, require only a first fluence of impulse or beginning to their action. Any tions of these relations, that gives a pleasant sensation, and pride and bumility. is related to self, excites the passion of pride, which is also agreeable, and has self for its object.

WHAT I have faid of pride is equally true of humility. The fensation of humility is uneafy, as that of pride is agreeable; for which reason the separate sensation, arifing from the causes, must be revers'd, while the relation to felf continues the same. Tho' pride and humility are directly contrary in their effects, and in their fensations, they have notwithstanding the same object; so that 'tis requifite only to change the relation of impressions, without making any change upon that of ideas. Accordingly we find, that a beautiful house, belonging to ourselves, produces pride; and that the same house, still belonging to ourselves, produces humility, when by any accident its beauty is chang'd into deformity, and thereby the fensation of pleasure, which corresponded to pride, is transform'd into pain, which is related to humility. The double relation be-

PART tween the ideas and impressions subsists in I. both cases, and produces an easy transition from the one emotion to the other.

Of pride and humility.

In a word, nature has bestow'd a kind of attraction on certain impressions and ideas, by which one of them, upon its appearance, naturally introduces its correlative. If these two attractions or affociations of impressions and ideas concur on the fame object, they mutually affift each other, and the transition of the affections and of the imagination is made with the greatest ease and facility. When an idea produces an impression, related to an impression, which is connected with an idea, related to the first idea, these two impressions must be in a manner inseparable, nor will the one in any case be unattended with the other. 'Tis after this manner, that the particular causes of pride and humility are determin'd. The quality, which operates on the paffion, produces feparately an impression resembling it; the subject, to which the quality adheres, is related to felf, the object of the passion: No wonder the whole cause, confisting of a quality and of a subject, does so unavoidably give rife to the passion.

To illustrate this hypothesis, we may compare it to that, by which I have already explain'd

thefe rela-

plain'd the belief attending the judgments, SECT. which we form from causation. I have obferv'd, that in all judgments of this kind, there of the inis always a present impression, and a related fluence of idea; and that the present impression gives a tions on vivacity to the fancy, and the relation conveys pride and this vivacity, by an eafy transition, to the related idea. Without the present impression, the attention is not fix'd, nor the spirits excited. Without the relation, this attention rests on its first object, and has no farther consequence. There is evidently a great analogy betwixt that hypothesis, and our prefent one of an impression and idea, that transfuse themselves into another impression and idea by means of their double relation: Which analogy must be allow'd to be no despicable proof of both hypotheses.

SECT. VI.

Limitations of this System.

UT before we proceed farther in this SECT. I fubject, and examine particularly all the causes of pride and humility, 'twill be ' proper to make fome limitations to the general fystem, that all agreeable objects, related to ourselves, by an association of ideas and

PART and of impressions, produce pride, and disagreeable ones, bumility: And these limitations Of pride are deriv'd from the very nature of the and humi- fubject.

28

I. Suppose an agreeable object to acquire a relation to felf, the first passion, that appears on this occasion, is joy; and this pasfion discovers itself upon a slighter relation than pride and vain-glory. We may feel joy upon being present at a feast, where our fenses are regal'd with delicacies of every kind: But 'tis only the master of the feast, who, beside the same joy, has the additional paffion of felf-applause and vanity. 'Tis true, men fometimes boaft of a great entertainment, at which they have only been prefent; and by fo fmall a relation convert their pleasure into pride: But however, this must in general be own'd, that joy arises from a more inconfiderable relation than vanity, and that many things, which are too foreign to produce pride, are yet able to give us a delight and pleasure. The reafon of the difference may be explain'd thus. A relation is requifite to joy, in order to approach the object to us, and make it give us any fatisfaction. But beside this, which is common to both passions, 'tis requisite to pride, in order to produce a transition from

from one paffion to another, and convert SECT. the satisfaction into vanity. As it has a VI. double task to perform, it must be endow'd with double force and energy. To which one of this we may add, that where agreeable objects splear not a very close relation to ourselves, they commonly do to some other person; and this latter relation not only excels, but even diminishes, and sometimes destroys the former, as we shall see afterwards *.

HERE then is the first limitation, we must make to our general position, that every thing related to us, which produces pleasure or pain, produces likewise pride or humility. There is not only a relation requir'd, but a close one, and a closer than is requir'd to joy.

II. THE fecond limitation is, that the agreeable or difagreeable object be not only closely related, but also peculiar to ourselves, or at least common to us with a few perfons. 'Tis a quality observable in human nature, and which we shall endeavour to explain afterwards, that every thing, which is often presented, and to which we have been long accustom'd, loses its value in our eyes, and is in a little time despis'd and neglected. We likewise judge of objects more from * Part II., Sect. 4.

comparison

lity.

30

PART comparison than from their real and intrinsic merit; and where we cannot by fome contrast enhance their value, we are apt to overand bumi- look even what is effentially good in them. These qualities of the mind have an effect upon joy as well as pride; and 'tis remarkable, that goods, which are common to all mankind, and have become familiar to us by custom, give us little fatisfaction; tho' perhaps of a more excellent kind, than those on which, for their fingularity, we fet a much higher value. But tho' this circumstance operates on both there passions, it has a much greater influence on vanity. We are rejoic'd for many goods, which, on account of their frequency, give us on pride. Health, when it returns after a long absence, affords us a very sensible satisfaction; but is feldom regarded as a subject of vanity, because 'tis shar'd with such vast numbers.

THE reason, why pride is so much more delicate in this particular than joy, I take to be, as follows. In order to excite pride, there are always two objects we must contemplate, viz. the cause or that object which produces pleafure; and felf, which is the real object of the passion. But joy has only one object necessary to its production, viz. that which gives pleafure; and tho' it be requi-

fite, that this bear some relation to felf, SECT. yet that is only requisite in order to render VI. it agreeable; nor is felf, properly speaking, Limitatithe object of this passion. Since, therefore, ons of this pride has in a manner two objects, to which it directs our view; it follows, that where neither of them have any fingularity, the passion must be more weaken'd upon that account, than a passion, which has only one object. Upon comparing ourselves with others, as we are every moment apt to do, we find we are not in the least distinguish'd; and upon comparing the object we possess, we discover still the same unlucky circum-By two comparisons so disadvantageous the passion must be entirely destroy'd.

III. THE third limitation is, that the pleasant or painful object be very discernible and obvious, and that not only to ourselves, but to others also. This circumstance, like the two foregoing, has an effect upon joy, as well as pride. We fancy ourselves more happy, as well as more virtuous or beautiful, when we appear so to others; but are still more oftentacious of our virtues than of our pleasures. This proceeds from causes, which I shall endeavour to explain afterwards,

IV, THE

32 PART

IV. THE fourth limitation is deriv'd from the inconstancy of the cause of these pasof pride fions, and from the field. What is casual and fions, and from the short duration of its coninconstant gives but little joy, and less pride. We are not much fatisfy'd with the thing itself; and are still less apt to feel any new degrees of felf-fatisfaction upon its account. We foresee and anticipate its change by the imagination; which makes us little fatisfy'd with the thing: We compare it to ourfelves, whose existence is more durable; by which means its inconstancy appears still greater. It feems ridiculous to infer an excellency in ourselves from an object, which is of fo much shorter duration, and attends us during fo finall a part of our existence. 'Twill be easy to comprehend the reason, why this cause operates not with the same force in joy as in pride; fince the idea of felf is not so effential to the former passion as to the latter.

V. I MAY add as a fifth limitation, or rather enlargement of this system, that general rules have a great influence upon pride and humility, as well as on all the other passions. Hence we form a notion of different ranks of men, fuitable to the power or riches they are possest of; and this no-

tion

tion we change not upon account of any SECT. peculiarities of the health or temper of the VI. persons, which may deprive them of all enjoyment in their possessions. This may be one of this accounted for from the same principles, that explain'd the influence of general rules on the understanding. Custom readily carries us beyond the just bounds in our passions, as well as in our reasonings.

IT may not be amiss to observe on this occasion, that the influence of general rules and maxims on the passions very much contributes to facilitate the effects of all the principles, which we shall explain in the progress of this treatise. For 'tis evident, that if a person full-grown, and of the same nature with ourselves, were on a sudden transported into our world, he wou'd be very much embarrass'd with every object, and wou'd not readily find what degree of love or hatred, pride or humility, or any other paffion he ought to attribute to it. passions are often vary'd by very inconsiderable principles; and these do not always play with a perfect regularity, especially on the first trial. But as custom and practice have brought to light all these principles, and have settled the just value of every thing; this must certainly contribute to the easy production of the pas-VOL. II. fions.

34

Of pride

PART fions, and guide us, by means of general eftablish'd maxims, in the proportions we ought to observe in preferring one object to another. and humi- This remark may, perhaps, ferve to obviate difficulties, that may arise concerning some causes, which I shall hereafter ascribe to particular passions, and which may be esteem'd too refin'd to operate so univerfally and certainly, as they are found to do.

> I SHALL close this subject with a reflection deriv'd from these five limitations. This reflection is, that the persons, who are proudest, and who in the eye of the world have most reason for their pride, are not always the happiest; nor the most humble always the most miserable, as may at first fight be imagin'd from this fystem. evil may be real, tho' its cause has no relation to us: It may be real, without being peculiar: It may be real, without shewing itself to others: It may be real, without being constant: And it may be real, without falling under the general rules. Such evils as these will not fail to render us miferable, tho' they have little tendency to diminish pride: And perhaps the most real and the most solid evils of life will be found of this nature.

> > SECT.

SECT. VII.

Of vice and virtue.

AKING these limitations along with SECT.

us, let us proceed to examine the VII.
causes of pride and humility; and see, whether in every case we can discover the double relations, by which they operate on the passions. If we find that all these causes are related to self, and produce a pleasure or uneasiness separate from the passion, there will remain no farther scruple with regard to the present system. We shall principally endeavour to prove the latter point; the former being in a manner self-evident.

To begin with VICE and VIRTUE, which are the most obvious causes of these passions; 'twou'd be entirely foreign to my present purpose to enter upon the controversy, which of late years has so much excited the curiosity of the publick, whether these moral distinctions be founded on natural and original principles, or arise from interest and education. The examination of this I reserve for the following book; and in the mean time shall endeavour to show, that my system maintains its ground upon D 2

PART either of these hypotheses; which will be a strong proof of its folidity.

tity.

36

For granting that morality had no founand humi-dation in nature, it must still be allow'd, that vice and virtue, either from felf-interest or the prejudices of education, produce in us a real pain and pleasure; and this we may observe to be strenuously afferted by the defenders of that hypothesis. Every passion, habit, or turn of character (fay they) which has a tendency to our advantage or prejudice, gives a delight or uneafiness; and 'tis from thence the approbation or dif-approbation arises. We easily gain from the liberality of others, but are always in danger of losing by their avarice: Courage defends us, but cowardice lays us open to every attack: Justice is the support of society, but injustice, unless check'd, wou'd quickly prove its ruin: Humility exalts; but pride mortifies us. For these reasons the former qualities are esteem'd virtues, and the latter regarded as vices. Now fince 'tis granted there is a delight or uneafiness still attending merit or demerit of every kind, this is all that is requifite for my purpose.

> But I go farther, and observe, that this moral hypothesis and my present system not only agree together, but also that, allow-

ing

ing the former to be just, 'tis an absolute SECT. and invincible proof of the latter. For if VII. all morality be founded on the pain or plea- of vice fure, which arises from the prospect of any and virloss or advantage, that may result from our own characters, or from those of others, all the effects of morality must be deriv'd from the fame pain or pleafure, and among the rest, the passions of pride and humility. The very effence of virtue, according to this hypothesis, is to produce pleasure, and that of vice to give pain. The virtue and vice must be part of our character in order to excite pride or humility. What farther proof can we defire for the double relation of impressions and ideas?

THE fame unquestionable argument may be deriv'd from the opinion of those, who maintain that morality is something real, essential, and sounded on nature. The most probable hypothesis, which has been advanc'd to explain the distinction betwixt vice and virtue, and the origin of moral rights and obligations, is, that from a primary constitution of nature certain characters and passions, by the very view and contemplation, produce a pain, and others in like manner excite a pleasure. The uneasiness and satisfaction are not only inseparable

D 3

from

Of pride

38

PART from vice and virtue, but constitute their very nature and effence. To approve of a character is to feel an original delight upon and bumi- its appearance. To disapprove of it is to be fensible of an uneafiness. The pain and pleasure, therefore, being the primary causes of vice and virtue, must also be the causes of all their effects, and confequently of pride and humility, which are the unavoidable attendants of that distinction.

> But supposing this hypothesis of moral philosophy shou'd be allow'd to be false, 'tis still evident, that pain and pleasure, if not the causes of vice and virtue, are at least inseparable from them. A generous and noble character affords a fatisfaction even in the furvey; and when prefented to us, tho' only in a poem or fable, never fails to charm and delight us. On the other hand cruelty and treachery displease from their very nature; nor is it possible ever to reconcile us to these qualities, either in ourselves or others. Thus one hypothesis of morality is an undeniable proof of the foregoing fystem, and the other at worst agrees with

> Bu T pride and humility arise not from these qualities alone of the mind, which, according to the vulgar fystems of ethicks,

have been comprehended as parts of moral SECT. duty, but from any other that has a con- VII. nexion with pleasure and uneasiness. No- of vice thing flatters our vanity more than the ta- and virlent of pleafing by our wit, good humour, or any other accomplishment; and nothing gives us a more fensible mortification than a disappointment in any attempt of that nature. No one has ever been able to tell what wit is, and to shew why such a system of thought must be receiv'd under that denomination, and fuch another rejected. 'Tis only by tafte we can decide concerning it, nor are we possest of any other standard, upon which we can form a judgment of this Now what is this tafte, from which true and false wit in a manner receive their being, and without which no thought can have a title to either of these denominations? 'Tis plainly nothing but a fenfation of pleasure from true wit, and of uneasiness from false, without our being able to tell the reasons of that pleasure or uneafiness. The power of bestowing these opposite senfations is, therefore, the very essence of true and false wit; and consequently the cause of that pride or humility, which arises from them.

THERE may, perhaps, be some, who being accustom'd to the style of the schools

D 4

and

40

PART and pulpit, and having never confider'd human nature in any other light, than that in which they place it, may here be fur-Of pride in which they place it, and humi- priz'd to hear me talk of virtue as exciting pride, which they look upon as a vice; and of vice as producing humility, which they have been taught to confider as a virtue. But not to dispute about words, I observe, that by pride I understand that agreeable impression, which arises in the mind, when the view either of our virtue, beauty, riches or power makes us fatisfy'd with ourfelves: And that by bumility I mean the opposite impression. 'Tis evident the former impression is not always vicious, nor the latter virtuous. The most rigid morality allows us to receive a pleasure from reflecting on a generous action; and 'tis by none efteem'd a virtue to feel any fruitless remorfes upon the thoughts of past villiany and baseness. Let us, therefore, examine these impressions, consider'd in themselves; and enquire into their causes, whether plac'd on the mind or body, without troubling ourfelves at present with that merit or blame, which may attend them.

SECT.

SECT. VIII.

Of beauty and deformity.

THETHER we confider the body SECT. as a part of ourselves, or assent to VIII. those philosophers, who regard it as something external, it must still be allow'd to be near enough connected with us to form one of these double relations, which I have afferted to be necessary to the causes of pride and humility. Wherever, therefore, we can find the other relation of impressions to join to this of ideas, we may expect with affurance either of these passions, according as the impression is pleasant or uneasy. But beauty of all kinds gives us a peculiar delight and fatisfaction; as deformity produces pain, upon whatever subject it may be plac'd and whether furvey'd in an animate or inanimate object. If the beauty or deformity, therefore, be plac'd upon our own bodies, this pleasure or uneasiness must be converted into pride or humility, as having in this case all the circumstances requisite to produce a perfect transition of impressions and ideas. These opposite sensations are related to the opposite passions. The beauty

PART or deformity is closely related to felf, the object of both these passions. No wonder, then our own beauty becomes an object of and bumi- pride, and deformity of humility.

Bu T this effect of personal and bodily qualities is not only a proof of the prefent fystem, by shewing that the passions arise not in this case without all the circumstances I have requir'd, but may be employ'd as a stronger and more convincing argument. If we consider all the hypotheses, which have been form'd either by philosophy or common reason, to explain the difference betwixt beauty and deformity, we shall find that all of them resolve into this, that beauty is fuch an order and construction of parts, as either by the primary constitution of our nature, by custom, or by caprice, is fitted to give a pleasure and satisfaction to the foul. This is the diftinguishing character of beauty, and forms all the difference betwixt it and deformity, whose natural tendency is to produce uneafinefs. Pleasure and pain, therefore, are not only necessary attendants of beauty and deformity, but constitute their very essence. And indeed, if we confider, that a great part of the beauty, which we admire either in animals or in other objects, is deriv'd from the idea

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

43

idea of convenience and utility, we shall SECT. make no scruple to affent to this opinion. That shape, which produces strength, is of beauty beautiful in one animal; and that which is and defora fign of agility in another. The order and mity. convenience of a palace are no less effential to its beauty, than its mere figure and appearance. In like manner the rules of architecture require, that the top of a pillar shou'd be more slender than its base, and that because such a figure conveys to us the idea of fecurity, which is pleafant; whereas the contrary form gives us the apprehenfion of danger, which is uneasy. From innumerable inftances of this kind, as well as from confidering that beauty like wit, cannot be defin'd, but is difcern'd only by a taste or sensation, we may conclude, that beauty is nothing but a form, which produces pleasure, as deformity is a structure of parts, which conveys pain; and fince the power of producing pain and pleasure make in this manner the effence of beauty and deformity, all the effects of these qualities must be deriv'd from the sensation; and among the rest pride and humility, which of all their effects are the most common and remarkable.

THIS

PART T.

44

Of pride

THIS argument I esteem just and decifive; but in order to give greater authority to the prefent reasoning, let us suppose it and humi-false for a moment, and see what will follow. 'Tis certain, then, that if the power of producing pleafure and pain forms not the effence of beauty and deformity, the fensations are at least inseparable from the qualities, and 'tis even difficult to confider them apart. Now there is nothing common to natural and moral beauty, (both of which are the causes of pride) but this power of producing pleafure; and as a common effect supposes always a common cause, 'tis plain the pleasure must in both cases be the real and influencing cause of the passion. Again; there is nothing originally different betwixt the beauty of our bodies and the beauty of external and foreign objects, but that the one has a near relation to ourselves, which is wanting in the other. This original difference, therefore, must be the cause of all their other differences, and among the reft, of their different influence upon the paffion of pride, which is excited by the beauty of our perfon, but is not affected in the least by that of foreign and external objects. then, these two conclusions together, we find they compose the preceding system betwixt them,

them, viz. that pleasure, as a related or re-SECT. sembling impression, when plac'd on a re-VIII. lated object, by a natural transition, pro-Of beauty duces pride; and its contrary, humility and deformity. This system, then, seems already sufficiently confirm'd by experience; tho' we have not yet exhausted all our arguments.

'T is not the beauty of the body alone that produces pride, but also its strength and force. Strength is a kind of power; and therefore the desire to excel in strength is to be consider'd as an inferior species of ambition. For this reason the present phænomenon will be sufficiently accounted for, in explaining that passion.

Concerning all other bodily accomplishments we may observe in general, that whatever in ourselves is either useful, beautiful, or surprising, is an object of pride; and it's contrary, of humility. Now 'tis obvious, that every thing useful, beautiful or surprising, agrees in producing a separate pleasure, and agrees in nothing else. The pleasure, therefore, with the relation to self-must be the cause of the passion.

Tho' it shou'd be question'd, whether beauty be not something real, and different from the power of producing pleasure, it can never be disputed, that as surprize is no-

thing

lity.

46

PART thing but a pleasure arising from novelty, it is not, properly speaking, a quality in any object, but merely a paffion or impression and humi- in the foul. It must, therefore, be from that impression, that pride by a natural tranfition arises. And it arises so naturally, that there is nothing in us or belonging to us, which produces furprize, that does not at the fame time excite that other paffion. we are vain of the furprifing adventures we have met with, the escapes we have made, and dangers we have been expos'd to. Hence the origin of vulgar lying; where men without any interest, and merely out of vanity, heap up a number of extraordinary events, which are either the fictions of their brain, or if true, have at least no connexion with themselves. Their fruitful invention supplies them with a variety of adventures; and and where that talent is wanting, they appropriate fuch as belong to others, in order to fatisfy their vanity.

In this phænomenon are contain'd two curious experiments, which if we compare them together, according to the known rules, by which we judge of cause and effect in anatomy, natural philosophy, and other fciences, will be an undeniable argument for that influence of the double relations above-

mention'd.

mention'd. By one of these experiments SECT. we find, that an object produces pride mere- VIII. ly by the interposition of pleasure; and that of beauty because the quality, by which it produces and deforpride, is in reality nothing but the power of mity. producing pleasure. By the other experiment we find, that the pleafure produces the pride by a transition along related ideas; because when we cut off that relation the pasfion is immediately destroy'd. A surprising adventure, in which we have been ourselves engag'd, is related to us, and by that means produces pride: But the adventures of others, tho' they may cause pleasure, yet for want of this relation of ideas, never excite that paffion. What farther proof can be defired for the present system?

THERE is only one objection to this fystem with regard to our body; which is, that tho' nothing be more agreeable than health, and more painful than sickness, yet commonly men are neither proud of the one, nor mortify'd with the other. This will easily be accounted for, if we consider the *fecond* and *fourth* limitations, propos'd to our general system. It was observ'd, that no object ever produces pride or humility, if it has not something peculiar

PART culiar to ourself; as also, that every cause Of pride

of that passion must be in some measure constant, and hold some proportion to the and humi-duration of ourself, which is its object. Now as health and fickness vary incesfantly to all men, and there is none, who is folely or certainly fix'd in either, these accidental bleffings and calamities are in a manner separated from us, and are never confider'd as connected with our being and existence. And that this account is just appears hence, that wherever a malady of any kind is fo rooted in our constitution, that we no longer entertain any hopes of recovery, from that moment it becomes an object of humility; as is evident in old men, whom nothing mortifies more than the confideration of their age and infirmities. They endeavour, as long as poffible, to conceal their blindness and deafness, their rheums and gouts; nor do they ever confess them without reluctance and uneafinefs. And tho' young men are not asham'd of every head-ach or cold they fall into, yet no topic is fo proper to mortify human pride, and make us entertain a mean opinion of our nature, than this, that we are every moment of our lives fubject to fuch

fuch infirmities. This fufficiently proves that SECTE bodily pain and fickness are in themselves VIII. proper causes of humility; tho' the custom of estimating every thing by comparison and deformore than by its intrinsic worth and value, makes us overlook these calamities, which we find to be incident to every one, and causes us to form an idea of our merit and character independent of them.

WE are asham'd of such maladies as affect others, and are either dangerous or disagreeable to them. Of the epilepsy; because it gives a horror to every one present: Of the itch; because it is insectious: Of the king's-evil; because it commonly goes to posterity. Men always consider the sentiments of others in their judgment of themselves. This has evidently appear'd in some of the foregoing reasonings; and will appear still more evidently, and be more fully explain'd afterwards.

Vol. II. E SECT.

50 PART Of pride and bumi-

SECT. IX.

Of external advantages and difadvantages.

SECT.

UT tho' pride and humility have the qualities of our mind and body, that vis felf, for their natural and more immediate causes, we find by experience, that there are many other objects, which produce these affections, and that the primary one is, in some measure, obscur'd and lost by the multiplicity of foreign and extrinsic. We found a vanity upon houses, gardens, equipages, as well as upon perfonal merit and accomplishments; and tho' these external advantages be in themselves widely distant from thought or a person, yet they considerably influence even a passion, which is directed to that as its ultimate object. This happens when external objects acquire any particular relation to ourselves, and are affociated or connected with us. A beautiful fish in the ocean, an animal in a defart, and indeed any thing that neither belongs, nor is related to us, has no manner of influence on our vanity, whatever extraordinary qualities lities it may be endow'd with, and what-SECT ever degree of furprize and admiration it IX. may naturally occasion. It must be some of exterway associated with us in order to touch our nal adpride. Its idea must hang in a manner, and disadupon that of ourselves; and the transition vantages from the one to the other must be easy and natural.

But here 'tis remarkable, that tho' the relation of refemblance operates upon the mind in the same manner as contiguity and causation, in conveying us from one idea to another, yet 'tis feldom a foundation either of pride or of humility. If we resemble a person in any of the valuable parts of his character, we must, in some degree, possess the quality, in which we resemble him; and this quality we always chuse to survey directly in ourselves rather than by reflexion in another person, when we wou'd found upon it any degree of vanity. So that tho' a likeness may occasionally produce that passion by suggesting a more advantageous idea of ourselves, 'tis there the view fixes at last, and the passion finds its ultimate and final cause.

THERE are instances, indeed, wherein men shew a vanity in resembling a great man in his countenance, shape, air, or other E 2 minute

PART minute circumftances, that contribute not lity.

52

in any degree to his reputation; but it must be confess'd, that this extends not very far, Of pride be confessed, that the same be confiderable moment in these and huminor is of any confiderable moment in these affections. For this I affign the following reason. We can never have a vanity of refembling in trifles any person, unless he be poffess'd of very shining qualities, which give us a respect and veneration for him. These qualities, then, are, properly speaking, the causes of our vanity, by means of their relation to ourselves. Now after what manner are they related to ourselves? They are parts of the person we value, and confequently connected with these trifles; which are also suppos'd to be parts of him. These trifles are connected with the refembling qualities in us; and these qualities in us, being parts, are connected with the whole; and by that means form a chain of feveral links betwixt ourselves and the shining qualities of the person we resemble. But besides that this multitude of relations must weaken the connexion; 'tis evident the mind, in passing from the shining qualities to the trivial ones, must by that contrast the better perceive the minuteness of the latter, and be in some measure asham'd of the comparifon and refemblance.

THE

THE relation, therefore, of contiguity, SECT. or that of causation, betwixt the cause and object of pride and humility, is alone requi- of exterfite to give rife to these passions; and these nal adrelations are nothing else but qualities, by and difwhich the imagination is convey'd from vantages. one idea to another. Now let us confider what effect these can possibly have upon the mind, and by what means they become fo requifite to the production of the paffions. 'Tis evident, that the affociation of ideas operates in fo filent and imperceptible a manner, that we are scarce sensible of it, and discover it more by its effects than by any immediate feeling or perception. It produces no emotion, and gives rife to no new impression of any kind, but only modifies those ideas, of which the mind was formerly posses'd, and which it cou'd recal upon occasion. From this reasoning, as well as from undoubted experience, we may conclude, that an affociation of ideas, however necessary, is not alone sufficient to give rise to any passion.

'Tis evident, then, that when the mind feels the passion either of pride or humility upon the appearance of a related object, there is, befide the relation or transition of thought, an emotion or original impression produc'd

54

Of pride dity.

PART by some other principle. The question is, whether the emotion first produc'd be the passion itself, or some other impression relaand humi- ted to it. This question we cannot be long in deciding. For besides all the other arguments, with which this fubject abounds, it must evidently appear, that the relation of ideas, which experience shews to be so requisite a circumstance to the production of the passion, wou'd be entirely superfluous, were it not to fecond a relation of affections, and facilitate the transition from one impression to another. If nature produc'd immediately the passion of pride or humility, it wou'd be compleated in itfelf, and wou'd require no farther addition or encrease from any other affection. But supposing the first emotion to be only related to pride or humility, 'tis eafily conceiv'd to what purpose the relation of objects may ferve, and how the two different affociations, of impressions and ideas, by uniting their forces, may affift each other's operation. This is not only eafily conceiv'd, but I will venture to affirm 'tis the only manner, in which we can conceive this subject. An easy transition of ideas, which, of itself, causes no emotion, can never be necessary, or even useful to the passions, but by forwarding

warding the transition betwixt fome related SECT. impressions. Not to mention, that the IX. fame object causes a greater or smaller de- of extergree of pride, not only in proportion to the nal adencrease or decrease of its qualities, but al- and disadfo to the distance or nearness of the rela-vantages. lation; which is a clear argument for the transition of affections along the relation of ideas; fince every change in the relation produces a proportionable change in the paffion. Thus one part of the preceding fyftem, concerning the relations of ideas is a fufficient proof of the other, concerning that of impressions; and is itself so evidently founded on experience, that 'twou'd be loft time to endeavour farther to prove it.

This will appear still more evidently in particular instances. Men are vain of the beauty of their country, of their country, of their parish. Here the idea of beauty plainly produces a pleasure. This pleasure is related to pride. The object or cause of this pleasure is, by the supposition, related to self, or the object of pride. By this double relation of impressions and ideas, a transition is made from the one impression to the other.

MEN are also vain of the temperature of the climate, in which they were born; of E 4 the

I. of the fertility of their native foil; of the goodness of the wines, fruits or victuals, produc'd by it; of the softness or force of their language; with other particulars of that kind. These objects have plainly a reference to the pleafures of the sense, and are originally confider'd as agreeable to the feeling, taste or hearing. How is it possible they cou'd ever become objects of pride, except by means of that transition above-explain'd?

THERE are some, that discover a vanity of an opposite kind, and affect to depreciate their own country, in comparison of those, to which they have travell'd. These perfons find, when they are at home, and furrounded with their countrymen, that the strong relation betwixt them and their own nation is shar'd with so many, that 'tis in a manner lost to them; whereas their distant relation to a foreign country, which is form'd by their having feen it and liv'd in it, is augmented by their confidering how few there are who have done the same. For this reason they always admire the beauty, utility and rarity of what is abroad, above what is at home.

SINCE we can be vain of a country, climate or any inanimate object, which bears a relation to us, 'tis no wonder we are vain

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

57

of the qualities of those, who are connected SECT. with us by blood or friendship. Accord-XI. ingly we find, that the very same qualities, of exterwhich in ourselves produce pride, produce nal adalso in a lesser degree the same affection, and disadwhen discover'd in persons related to us. The vantages beauty, address, merit, credit and honours of their kindred are carefully display'd by the proud, as some of their most considerable sources of their vanity.

As we are proud of riches in ourselves, so to satisfy our vanity we defire that every one, who has any connexion with us, shou'd likewise be possest of them, and are asham'd of any one, that is mean or poor, among our friends and relations. For this reason we remove the poor as far from us as possible; and as we cannot prevent poverty in some distant collaterals, and our foresathers are taken to be our nearest relations; upon this account every one affects to be of a good family, and to be descended from a long succession of rich and honourable ancestors.

I HAVE frequently observ'd, that those, who boast of the antiquity of their families, are glad when they can join this circumstance, that their ancestors for many generations have been uninterrupted proprie-

tors

Of pride

58

PART tors of the same portion of land, and that their family has never chang'd its possessions, or been transplanted into any other county and bumi- or province. I have also observ'd, that 'tis an additional subject of vanity, when they can boaft, that these possessions have been transmitted thro' a descent compos'd entirely of males, and that the honours and fortune have never past thro' any female. Let us endeavour to explain these phænomena by the foregoing fystem.

> 'T is evident, that when any one boafts of the antiquity of his family, the fubjects of his vanity are not merely the extent of time and number of ancestors, but also their riches and ctedit, which are suppos'd to reflect a luftre on himself on account of his relation to them. He first considers these objects; is affected by them in an agreeable manner; and then returning back to himfelf, thro' the relation of parent and child, is elevated with the passion of pride, by means of the double relation of impressions and ideas. Since therefore the paffion depends on these relations, whatever strengthens any of the relations must also encrease the passion, and whatever weakens the relations must diminish the passion. Now 'tis certain the identity of the possession strengthens the

the relation of ideas arifing from blood and Sect. kindred, and conveys the fancy with greater facility from one generation to another, from of exterthe remotest ancestors to their posterity, nal advantages who are both their heirs and their descendants. By this facility the impression is transferanted more entire, and excites a greater degree of pride and vanity.

THE case is the same with the transmission of the honours and fortune thro' a fuccession of males without their passing thro' any female. 'Tis a quality of human nature, which we shall consider * afterwards, that the imagination naturally turns to whatever is important and confiderable; and where two objects are prefented to it, a fmall and a great one, usually leaves the former, and dwells entirely upon the latter. As in the fociety of marriage, the male fex has the advantage above the female, the husband first engages our attention; and whether we consider him directly, or reach him by passing thro' related objects, the thought both rests upon him with greater satisfaction, and arrives at him with greater facility than his confort. 'Tis eafy to fee, that this property must strengthen the child's relation to the father, and weaken that to

Part II. Sect. 2.

the

PART the mother. For as all relations are nothing but a propenfity to pass from one idea to another, whatever strengthens the propen-Of pride another, whatever thought and as we have a stronger propensity to pass from the idea of the children to that of the father, than from the same idea to that of the mother, we ought to regard the former relation as the closer and more confiderable. This is the reason why children commonly bear their father's name, and are esteem'd to be of nobler or baser birth, according to his family. And tho' the mother shou'd be posfest of a superior spirit and genius to the father, as often happens, the general rule prevails, notwithstanding the exception, according to the doctrine above-explain'd. Nay even when a superiority of any kind is so great, or when any other reasons have such an effect, as to make the children rather represent the mother's family than the father's, the general rule still retains such an efficacy that it weakens the relation, and makes a kind of break in the line of ancestors. The imagination runs not along them with facility, nor is able to transfer the honour and credit of the ancestors to their posterity of the fame name and family fo readily, as when the transition is conformable to the general rules,

Book II. Of the Passions.

6I

rules, and passes from father to son, or from brother to brother.

SECT. X.

Of property and riches.

UT the relation, which is esteem'd SECT. the closest, and which of all others X. produces most commonly the passion of pride, is that of property. This relation 'twill be impossible for me fully to explain before I come to treat of justice and the other moral virtues. 'Tis fufficient to observe on this occasion, that property may be defin'd, such a relation betwixt a person and an object as permits bim. but forbids any other, the free use and possession of it, without violating the laws of justice and moral equity. If justice, therefore, be a virtue, which has a natural and original influence on the human mind, property may be look'd upon as a particular fpecies of causation; whether we consider the liberty it gives the proprietor to operate as he please upon the object, or the advantages, which he reaps from it. 'Tis the fame case, if justice, according to the system of certain philosophers, shou'd be esteem'd an artificial

PART artificial and not a natural virtue. For then T. honour, and cuftom, and civil laws fupply Of pride lity.

the place of natural conscience, and produce, and bumi- in some degree, the same effects. This in the mean time is certain, that the mention of the property naturally carries our thought to the proprietor, and of the proprietor to the property; which being a proof of a perfect relation of ideas is all that is requisite to our present purpose. A relation of ideas, join'd to that of impressions, always produces a transition of affections; and therefore, whenever any pleasure or pain arifes from an object, connected with us by property, we may be certain, that either pride or humility must arise from this conjunction of relations; if the foregoing fystem be folid and fatisfactory. And whether it be fo or not, we may foon fatisfy ourfelves by the most cursory view of human life.

EVERY thing belonging to a vain man is the best that is any where to be found. His houses, equipage, furniture, cloaths. horses, hounds, excel all others in his conceit; and 'tis eafy to observe, that from the least advantage in any of these, he draws a new subject of pride and vanity. His wine, if you'll believe him, has a finer flavour than any other; his cookery is more ex-

quisite;

quisite; his table more orderly; his servants SECT. more expert; the air, in which he lives, X. more healthful; the foil he cultivates more of properfertile; his fruits ripen earlier and to greater ty and perfection: Such a thing is remarkable for its novelty; fuch another for its antiquity; This is the workmanship of a famous artist; that belong'd once to fuch a prince or great man: All objects, in a word, that are useful, beautiful ot furprizing, or are related to fuch, may, by means of property, give rife to this passion. These agree in giving pleasure, and agree in nothing else. This alone is common to them; and therefore must be the quality that produces the passion, which is their common effect. As every new instance is a new argument, and as the instances are here without number, I may venture to affirm, that scarce any system was ever fo fully prov'd by experience, as that which I have here advanc'd.

If the property of any thing, that gives pleasure either by its utility, beauty or novelty, produces also pride by a double relation of impressions and ideas; we need not be surprized, that the power of acquiring this property, shou'd have the same effect. Now riches are to be considered as the power of acquiring the property of what pleases;

and

Of pride

PART and 'tis only in this view they have any influence on the passions. Paper will, on many occasions, be confider'd as riches, and and humi- that because it may convey the power of acquiring money: And money is not riches, as it is a metal endow'd with certain qualities of folidity, weight and fufibility; but only as it has a relation to the pleasures and conveniences of life. Taking then this for granted, which is in itself fo evident, we may draw from it one of the strongest arguments I have yet employ'd to prove the influence of the double relations on pride and humility.

IT has been observ'd in treating of the understanding, that the distinction, which we fometimes make betwixt a power and the exercise of it, is entirely frivolous, and that neither man nor any other being ought ever to be thought possest of any ability, unless it be exerted and put in action. But tho' this be strictly true in a just and philosophical way of thinking, 'tis certain it is not the philosophy of our passions; but that many things operate upon them by means of the idea and supposition of power, independent of its actual exercise. We are pleas'd when we acquire an ability of procuring pleafure, and are displeas'd when another acquires a power

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

65

power of giving pain. This is evident from SECT. experience; but in order to give a just explication of the matter, and account for this of properfatisfaction and uneafiness, we must weigh to and the following reflections.

Tis evident the error of distinguishing power from its exercise proceeds not entirely from the scholastic doctrine of free-will, which, indeed, enters very little into common life, and has but small influence on our vulgar and popular ways of thinking. cording to that doctrine, motives deprive us not of free-will, nor take away our power of performing or forbearing any action. But according to common notions a man has no power, where very confiderable motives lie betwixt him and the fatisfaction of his defires, and determine him to forbear what he wishes to perform. I do not think I have fallen into my enemies power, when I fee him pass me in the streets with a fword by his fide, while I am unprovided of any weapon. I know that the fear of the civil magistrate is as strong a restraint as any of iron, and that I am in as perfect fafety as if he were chain'd or imprison'd. But when a person acquires such an authority over me, that not only there is no external obstacle to his actions; but also that VOL. II. he

PART he may punish or reward me as he pleases, without any dread of punishment in his turn, I then attribute a full power to him, and and humi- confider myfelf as his fubject or vaffal.

Of pride

66

Now if we compare these two cases, that of a person, who has very strong motives of interest or safety to forbear any action, and that of another, who lies under no fuch obligation, we shall find, according to the philosophy explain'd in the foregoing book, that the only known difference betwixt them lies in this, that in the former case we conclude from past experience, that the person never will persorm that action, and in the latter, that he possibly or probably will perform it. Nothing is more fluctuating and inconftant on many occafions, than the will of man; nor is there any thing but strong motives, which can give us an absolute certainty in pronouncing concerning any of his future actions. When we see a person free from these motives, we suppose a possibility either of his acting or forbearing; and tho' in general we may conclude him to be determin'd by motives and causes, yet this removes not the uncertainty of our judgment concerning. these causes, nor the influence of that uncertainty on the passions. Since therefore

Book II. Of the Passions.

we ascribe a power of performing an action SECT. to every one, who has no very powerful X. motive to forbear it, and refuse it to of properfuch as have; it may justly be concluded, ty and that power has always a reference to its exercise, either actual or probable, and that we

67

consider a person as endow'd with any ability when we find from past experience, that 'tis probable, or at least possible he may exert it. And indeed, as our passions al-

ways regard the real existence of objects, and we always judge of this reality from past instances; nothing can be more likely

of itself, without any farther reasoning, than that power confists in the possibility or pro-

bability of any action, as discover'd by experience and the practice of the world.

Now 'tis evident, that wherever a person is in such a situation with regard to me, that there is no very powerful motive to deter him from injuring me, and consequently 'tis uncertain whether he will injure me or not, I must be uneasy in such a situation, and cannot consider the possibility or probability of that injury without a sensible concern. The passions are not only affected by such events as are certain and infallible, but also in an inferior degree by such as are possible and contingent. And tho' per-

F 2 haps

I. discover by the event, that, philosophically speaking, the person never had any power of harming me; since he did not exert any; this prevents not my uneasiness from the preceding uncertainty. The agreeable passions may here operate as well as the uneasy, and convey a pleasure when I perceive a good to become either possible or probable by the possibility or probability of another's bestowing it on me, upon the removal of any strong motives, which might formerly have hinder'd him.

But we may farther observe, that this satisfaction encreases, when any good approaches in such a manner that it is in one's own power to take or leave it, and there neither is any physical impediment, nor any very strong motive to hinder our enjoyment. As all men desire pleasure, nothing can be more probable, than its existence when there is no external obstacle to the producing it, and men perceive no danger in sollowing their inclinations. In that case their imagination easily anticipates the satisfaction, and conveys the same joy, as if they were perswaded of its real and actual existence.

-fog Vita both Canandianos bas stall But

BUT this accounts not sufficiently for the SECT. fatisfaction, which attends riches. A mifer receives delight from his money; that is, of properfrom the power it affords him of procuring ty and all the pleasures and conveniences of life, tho' he knows he has enjoy'd his riches for forty years without ever employing them; and confequently cannot conclude by any fpecies of reasoning, that the real existence of these pleasures is nearer, than if he were entirely depriv'd of all his possessions. But tho' he cannot form any fuch conclusion in a way of reasoning concerning the nearer approach of the pleafure, 'tis certain he imagines it to approach nearer, whenever all external obstacles are remov'd, along with the more powerful motives of interest and danger, which oppose it. For farther satisfaction on this head I must refer to my account of the will, where I shall * explain that false sensation of liberty, which makes us imagine we can perform any thing, that is not very dangerous or destructive. Whenever any other person is under no strong obligations of interest to forbear any pleasure, we judge from experience, that the pleasure will exist, and that he will probably obtain it. But when ourselves are * Part III. Sect. 2.

F₃ in

Of pride

PART in that fituation, we judge from an illusion of the fancy, that the pleasure is still closer and more immediate. The will feems to and bumimove eafily every way, and cafts a shadow or image of itself, even to that fide, on which it did not fettle. By means of this image the enjoyment feems to approach nearer to us, and gives us the fame lively fatisfaction, as if it were perfectly certain and unavoidable.

> 'Twill now be easy to draw this whole reasoning to a point, and to prove, that when riches produce any pride or vanity in their possessions, as they never fail to do, 'tis only by means of a double relation of impreffions and ideas. The very effence of riches confifts in the power of procuring the pleafures and conveniences of life. The very effence of this power confifts in the probability of its exercise, and in its causing us to anticipate, by a true or falle reasoning, the real existence of the pleasure. This anticipation of pleasure is, in itself, a very confiderable pleafure; and as its cause is some possession or property, which we enjoy, and which is thereby related to us, we here clearly fee all the parts of the foregoing fystem most exactly and distinctly drawn out before us.

> > FOR

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

FOR the same reason, that riches cause SECT. pleasure and pride, and poverty excites uneafiness and humility, power must produce of properthe former emotions, and flavery the latter. ty and Power or an authority over others makes us capable of fatisfying all our defires; as flavery, by subjecting us to the will of others, exposes us to a thousand wants, and mortifications.

'Tis here worth observing, that the vanity of power, or shame of slavery, are much augmented by the confideration of the persons, over whom we exercise our authority, or who exercise it over us. For suppoling it possible to frame statues of such an admirable mechanism, that they cou'd move and act in obedience to the will; 'tis evident the poffession of them wou'd give pleasure and pride, but not to such a degree, as the fame authority, when exerted over fenfible and rational creatures, whose condition, being compar'd to our own, makes it feem more agreeable and honourable. Comparison is in every case a sure method of augmenting our esteem of any thing. A rich man feels the felicity of his condition better by opposing it to that of a beggar. But there is a peculiar advantage in power, by the contrast, which is, in a man-

F 4

ner,

I. the person we command. The comparison is obvious and natural: The imagination and humi-finds it in the very subject: The passage of the thought to its conception is smooth and easy. And that this circumstance has a considerable effect in augmenting its influence, will appear afterwards in examining the nature of malice and envy.

SECT. XI.

Of the love of fame.

SECT, XI. Defide these original causes of XI. pride and humility, there is a secondary one in the opinions of others, which has an equal influence on the affections. Our reputation, our character, our name are considerations of vast weight and importance; and even the other causes of pride; virtue, beauty and riches; have little influence, when not seconded by the opinions and sentiments of others. In order to account for this phænomenon 'twill be necessary to take some compass, and first explain the nature of sympathy.

No quality of human nature is more remarkable, both in itself and in its confequences,

73

quences, than that propenfity we have to SECT. sympathize with others, and to receive by communication their inclinations and fenti- of the ments, however different from, or even love of contrary to our own. This is not only fame. conspicuous in children, who implicitly embrace every opinion propos'd to them; but also in men of the greatest judgment and understanding, who find it very difficult to follow their own reason or inclination, in opposition to that of their friends and daily companions. To this principle we ought to ascribe the great uniformity we may observe in the humours and turn of thinking of those of the same nation; and 'tis much more probable, that this refemblance arises from fympathy, than from any influence of the foil and climate, which, tho' they continue invariably the same, are not able to preserve the character of a nation the same for a century together. A good-natur'd man finds himself in an instant of the same humour with his company; and even the proudest and most furly take a tincture from their countrymen and acquaintance. chearful countenance infuses a sensible complacency and ferenity into my mind; as an angry or forrowful one throws a fudden damp upon me. Hatred, refentment, efteem,

PART teem, love, courage, mirth and melancholy; all these passions I feel more from communication than from my own natural temof pride munication man from and humi- per and disposition. So remarkable a phæand humi- per and disposition. nomenon merits our attention, and must be

trac'd up to its first principles.

WHEN any affection is infus'd by fympathy, it is at first known only by its effects, and by those external figns in the countenance and conversation, which convey an idea of it. This idea is prefently converted into an impression, and acquires fuch a degree of force and vivacity, as to become the very passion itself, and produce an equal emotion, as any original affection. However instantaneous this change of the idea into an impression may be, it proceeds from certain views and reflections, which will not escape the strict scrutiny of a philosopher, tho' they may the person himself, who makes them.

'Tis evident, that the idea, or rather impression of ourselves is always intimately present with us, and that our consciousness gives us fo lively a conception of our own person, that 'tis not possible to imagine, that any thing can in this particular go bevond it. Whatever object, therefore, is related to ourselves must be conceived with

which is refembling or contiguous.

a like vivacity of conception, according to the SECT. foregoing principles; and tho' this relation XI. shou'd not be so strong as that of causation, of the it must still have a considerable influence. love of Resemblance and contiguity are relations not to be neglected; especially when by an inference from cause and effect, and by the observation of external signs, we are inform'd of the real existence of the object,

Now 'tis obvious, that nature has preferv'd a great resemblance among all human creatures, and that we never remark any passion or principle in others, of which, in fome degree or other, we may not find a parallel in ourselves. The case is the same with the fabric of the mind, as with that of the body. However the parts may differ in shape or fize, their structure and composition are in general the same. There is a very remarkable refemblance, which preferves itfelf amidft all their variety; and this refemblance must very much contribute to make us enter into the fentiments of others, and embrace them with facility and pleafure. Accordingly we find, that where, beside the general resemblance of our natures, there is any peculiar fimilarity in our manners, or character, or country,

76

PART country, or language, it facilitates the fympathy. The stronger the relation is betwixt of pride ourselves and any object, and humi- does the imagination make the transition, ourselves and any object, the more easily and convey to the related idea the vivacity of conception, with which we always form the idea of our own person.

> No R is resemblance the only relation, which has this effect, but receives new force from other relations, that may accompany it. The fentiments of others have little influence, when far remov'd from us, and require the relation of contiguity, to make them communicate themselves entirely. The relations of blood, being a species of causation, may fometimes contribute to the fame effect; as also acquaintance. which operates in the fame manner with education and custom; as we shall see more fully * afterwards. All these relations, when united together, convey the impression or consciousness of our own perfon to the idea of the fentiments or paffions of others, and makes us conceive them in the strongest and most lively manner.

IT has been remark'd in the beginning of this treatife, that all ideas are borrow'd from impressions, and that these two kinds

[#] Part II. Sect. 3.

of perceptions differ only in the degrees of SECT.

force and vivacity, with which they strike upon the foul. The component parts of of the ideas and impressions are precisely alike. love of The manner and order of their appearance fame. may be the fame. The different degrees of their force and vivacity are, therefore, the only particulars, that diftinguish them: And as this difference may be remov'd, in some measure, by a relation betwixt the impresfions and ideas, 'tis no wonder an idea of a fentiment or passion, may by this means be so inliven'd as to become the very fentiment or passion. The lively idea of any object always approaches its impression; and 'tis certain we may feel fickness and pain from the mere force of imagination, and make a malady real by often thinking of it. But this is most remarkable in the opinions and affections; and 'tis there principally that a lively idea is converted into an impression. Our affections depend more upon ourselves, and the internal operations of the mind, than any other impressions; for which reason they arise more naturally from the imagination, and from every lively idea we form of them. This is the nature and cause of sympathy; and 'tis after this manner we enter so deep into the opinions and affections

PART affections of others, whenever we discover them.

Of pride

WHAT is principally remarkable in this and bumi- whole affair is the strong confirmation these phænomena give to the foregoing fystem concerning the understanding, and confequently to the prefent one concerning the passions; fince these are analogous to each other. 'Tis indeed evident, that when we fympathize with the passions and sentiments of others, these movements appear at first in our mind as mere ideas, and are conceiv'd to belong to another person, as we conceive any other matter of fact. 'Tis also evident, that the ideas of the affections of others are converted into the very impreffions they represent, and that the passions arise in conformity to the images we form of them. All this is an object of the plainest experience, and depends not on any hypothesis of philosophy. That science can only be admitted to explain the phænomena; tho' at the same time it must be confest. they are so clear of themselves, that there is but little occasion to employ it. For befides the relation of cause and effect, by which we are convinc'd of the reality of the passion, with which we sympathize; besides this, I say, we must be affisted by the relations

tions of refemblance and contiguity, in or- SECT. der to feel the fympathy in its full perfection. And fince these relations can entire- of the ly convert an idea into an impression, and love of convey the vivacity of the latter into the for- fame. mer, so perfectly as to lose nothing of it in the transition, we may easily conceive how the relation of cause and effect alone, may ferve to frengthen and inliven an idea. fympathy there is an evident conversion of an idea into an impression. This conversion arises from the relation of objects to ourself. Ourfelf is always intimately present to us. Let us compare all these circumstances, and we shall find, that sympathy is exactly correspondent to the operations of our understanding; and even contains fomething more furprifing and extraordinary.

79

"T is now time to turn our view from the general confideration of fympathy, to its influence on pride and humility, when these passions arise from praise and blame, from reputation and infamy. We may observe, that no person is ever prais'd by another for any quality, which wou'd not, if real, produce, of itself, a pride in the person possess of it. The elogiums either turn upon his power, or riches, or family, or virtue; all of which are subjects of vanity, that we have already

Of pride

PART already explain'd and accounted for. 'Tis certain, then, that if a person consider'd himself in the same light, in which he apand bumi- pears to his admirer, he wou'd first receive a separate pleasure, and afterwards a pride or felf-fatisfaction, according to the hypothesis above explain'd. Now nothing is more natural than for us to embrace the opinions of others in this particular; both from sympathy, which renders all their fentiments intimately present to us; and from reasoning, which makes us regard their judgment, as a kind of argument for what they affirm. These two principles of authority and sympathy influence almost all our opinions; but must have a peculiar influence, when we judge of our own worth and character. Such judgments are always attended with paffion *; and nothing tends more to difturb our understanding, and precipitate us into any opinions, however unreasonable, than their connexion with passion; which diffuses itself over the imagination, and gives an additional force to every related idea. To which we may add, that being conscious of great partiality in our own favour, we are peculiarly pleas'd with any thing, that con-

* Book I. Part III. Sect. 10.

firms

firms the good opinion we have of ourselves, SECT. and are eafily shock'd with whatever opposes it.

ALL this appears very probable in theo- Of the ry; but in order to bestow a full certainty love of on this reasoning, we must examine the phænomena of the paffions, and fee if they agree with it.

AMONG these phænomena we may efteem it a very favourable one to our prefent purpose, that tho' fame in general be agreeable, yet we receive a much greater fatisfaction from the approbation of those, whom we ourselves esteem and approve of, than of those, whom we hate and despise. In like manner we are principally mortify'd with the contempt of persons, upon whose judgment we fet some value, and are, in a great measure, indifferent about the opinions of the rest of mankind. But if the mind receiv'd from any original instinct a desire of fame, and aversion to infamy, same and infamy wou'd influence us without diffinction; and every opinion, according as it were favourable or unfavourable, wou'd equally excite that defire or aversion. The judgment of a fool is the judgment of another person, as well as that of a wise man, and is only inferior in its influence on our own judgment.

WE VOL. II. G

PART WE are not only better pleas'd with the approbation of a wife man than with that of a fool, but receive an additional fatis-Of pride and humi- faction from the former, when 'tis obtain'd after a long and intimate acquaintance. This is accounted for after the same manner.

> THE praises of others never give us much pleasure, unless they concur with our own opinion, and extol us for those qualities, in which we chiefly excel. A mere foldier little values the character of eloquence: A gownman of courage: A bishop of humour: Or a merchant of learning. Whatever esteem a man may have for any quality, abstractedly consider'd; when he is conscious he is not possest of it; the opinions of the whole world will give him little pleasure in that particular, and that because they never will be able to draw his own opinion after them.

> NOTHING is more usual than for men of good families, but narrow circumstances, to leave their friends and country, and rather feek their livelihood by mean and mechanical employments among strangers, than among those, who are acquainted with their birth and education. We shall be unknown, fay they, where we go. No body will fuspect from what family we are sprung. We

Book II. Of the Passions.

83

thall be remov'd from all our friends and SECT. acquaintance, and our poverty and meannefs will by that means fit more eafy upon of the
us. In examining these sentiments, I find love of they afford many very convincing arguments for my present purpose.

FIRST, We may infer from them, that the uneafiness of being contemn'd depends on sympathy, and that sympathy depends on the relation of objects to ourselves; since we are most uneasy under the contempt of persons, who are both related to us by blood, and contiguous in place. Hence we seek to diminish this sympathy and uneasiness by separating these relations, and placing ourselves in a contiguity to strangers, and at a distance from relations.

SECONDLY, We may conclude, that relations are requisite to sympathy, not abfolutely consider'd as relations, but by their influence in converting our ideas of the sentiments of others into the very sentiments, by means of the affociation betwixt the idea of their persons, and that of our own. For here the relations of kindred and contiguity both subsist; but not being united in the same persons, they contribute in a less degree to the sympathy.

G 2

THIRDLY,

84

Of pride

PART THIRDLY, This very circumstance of the diminution of sympathy by the separation of relations is worthy of our attention, and bumi- Suppose I am plac'd in a poor condition among strangers, and consequently am but lightly treated; I yet find myself-easier in that fituation, than when I was every day expos'd to the contempt of my kindred and countrymen. Here I feel a double contempt; from my relations, but they are absent; from those about me, but they are ftrangers. This double contempt is likewife strengthen'd by the two relations of kindred and contiguity. But as the perfons are not the fame, who are connected with me by those two relations, this difference of ideas separates the impressions arifing from the contempt, and keeps them from running into each other. The contempt of my neighbours has a certain influence; as has also that of my kindred: But these influences are distinct, and never unite; as when the contempt proceeds from persons who are at once both my neighbours and kindred. This phænomenon is analogous to the fystem of pride and humility above-explain'd, which may feem for extraordinary to vulgar apprehensions.

FOURTHLY,

FOURTHLY, A person in these circum- SECT. stances naturally conceals his birth from XII. those among whom he lives, and is very of the uneasy, if any one suspects him to be of love of a family, much superior to his present fortune and way of living. Every thing in this world is judg'd of by comparison. What is an immense fortune for a private gentleman is beggary for a prince. A peafant wou'd think himself happy in what cannot afford necessaries for a gentleman. When a man has either been acustom'd to a more folendid way of living, or thinks himfelf intitled to it by his birth and quality, every thing below is difagreeable and even shameful; and 'tis with the greatest industry he conceals his pretentions to a better fortune. Here he himfelf knows his misfortunes: but as those, with whom he lives, are ignorant of them, he has the difagreeable reflection and comparison suggested only by his own thoughts, and never receives it by a fympathy with others; which must contribute very much to his ease and satisfaction.

If there be any objections to this hypothesis, that the pleasure, which we receive from praise, arises from a communication of sentiments, we shall find, upon examination, that these objections, when taken in a pro-

3

86

PART per light, will ferve to confirm it. Popular fame may be agreeable even to a man, who despises the vulgar; but 'tis because Of pride who delphes the tage and humi-their multitude gives them additional weight and authority. Plagiaries are delighted with praifes, which they are conscious they do not deserve; but this is a kind of castlebuilding, where the imagination amuses itfelf with its own fictions, and strives to render them firm and stable by a sympathy with the fentiments of others. Proud men are most shock'd with contempt, tho' they do not most readily assent to it; but 'tis because of the opposition betwixt the passion, which is natural to them, and that receiv'd by fympathy. A violent lover in like manner is very much displeas'd when you blame and condemn his love; tho' 'tis evident your opposition can have no influence, but by the hold it takes of himself, and by his fympathy with you. If he despises you, or perceives you are in jest, whatever you say has no effect upon him.

noisemmex noon but flan ... SECT.

SECT. XII.

Of the pride and humility of animals.

HUS in whatever light we confider SECT. this subject, we may still observe, XII. that the causes of pride and humility correfoond exactly to our hypothesis, and that nothing can excite either of these passions, unless it be both related to ourselves, and produces a pleasure or pain independent of the passion. We have not only prov'd, that a tendency to produce pleasure or pain is common to all the causes of pride or humility, but also that 'tis the only thing, which is common: and confequently is the quality, by which they operate. We have farther prov'd, that the most considerable causes of these pasfions are really nothing but the power of producing either agreeable or uneafy fenfations; and therefore that all their effects, and amongst the rest, pride and humility, are deriv'd folely from that origin. Such fimple and natural principles, founded on fuch folid proofs, cannot fail to be receiv'd -s or sidesiligas ad G 4 hould el lo by

PART by philosophers, unless oppos'd by some objections, that have escap'd me.

Of pride

88

TIS usual with anatomists to join their and bumi- observations and experiments on human bodies to those on beafts, and from the agreement of these experiments to derive an additional argument for any particular hypothesis. 'Tis indeed certain, that where the structure of parts in brutes is the same as in men, and the operation of these parts also the same, the causes of that operation cannot be different, and that whatever we discover to be true of the one species, may be concluded without hefitation to be cerrain of the other. Thus tho' the mixture of humours and the composition of minute parts may justly be presum'd to be somewhat different in men from what it is in mere animals; and therefore any experiment we make upon the one concerning the effects of medicines will not always apply to the other; yet as the structure of the veins and muscles, the fabric and fituation of the heart, of the lungs, the stomach, the liver and other parts, are the fame or nearly the same in all animals, the very same hypothefis, which in one species explains muscular motion, the progress of the chyle, the circulation of the blood, must be applicable to every

very one; and according as it agrees or dif- SECT. agrees with the experiments we may make XII. in any species of creatures, we may draw of the a proof of its truth or falshood on the whole, pride and Let us, therefore, apply this method of en-animals. quiry, which is found fo just and useful in reasonings concerning the body, to our present anatomy of the mind, and see what discoveries we can make by it.

In order to this we must first shew the correspondence of passions in men and animals, and afterwards compare the causes, which produce these passions.

'Tis plain, that almost in every species of creatures, but especially of the nobler kind, there are many evident marks of pride and humility. The very port and gait of a fwan, or turkey, or peacock show the high idea he has entertain'd of himself, and his contempt of all others. This is the more remarkable, that in the two last species of animals, the pride always attends the beauty, and is discover'd in the male only. The vanity and emulation of nightingales in finging have been commonly remark'd; as likewife that of horses in swiftness, of hounds in fagacity and fmell, of the bull and cock in strength, and of every other animal in his

90

PART his particular excellency. Add to this, that every species of creatures, which approach Of pride 10 often to man, as cofo often to man, as to familiarize themselves probation, and are pleas'd with his praises and careffes, independent of every other confideration. Nor are they the careffes of every one without distinction, which give them this vanity, but those principally of the persons they know and love; in the same manner as that paffion is excited in mankind. All these are evident proofs, that pride and humility are not merely human paffions, but extend themselves over the whole animal creation.

THE causes of these passions are likewise much the same in beasts as in us, making a just allowance for our superior knowledge and understanding. Thus animals have little or no fense of virtue or vice; they quickly lose fight of the relations of blood; and are incapable of that of right and property: For which reason the causes of their pride and humility must lie folely in the body, and can never be plac'd either in the mind or external objects. But fo far as regards the body, the same qualities cause pride in the animal as in the human kind; and 'tis on beauty, strength, swiftness or some other nfeful

91

useful or agreeable quality that this passion SECT. is always founded.

The next question is, whether, fince those of the passions are the same, and arise from the pride and same causes thro' the whole creation, the manner, in which the causes operate, be also the same. According to all rules of analogy, this is justly to be expected; and if we find upon trial, that the explication of these phænomena, which we make use of in one species, will not apply to the rest, we may presume that that explication, however specious, is in reality without foundation.

In order to decide this question, let us consider, that there is evidently the same relation of ideas, and deriv'd from the same causes, in the minds of animals as in those of men. A dog, that has hid a bone, often forgets the place; but when brought to it, his thought passes easily to what he formerly conceal'd, by means of the contiguity, which produces a relation among his ideas. In like manner, when he has been heartily beat in any place, he will tremble on his approach to it, even tho' he discover no signs of any present danger. The effects of resemblance are not so remarkable; but as that relation

PART relation makes a confiderable ingredient in causation, of which all animals shew so evident a judgment, we may conclude that the three relations of resemblance, contiguity and causation operate in the same manner upon beasts as upon human creatures.

THERE are also instances of the relation of impressions, sufficient to convince us, that there is an union of certain affections with each other in the inferior species of creatures as well as in the superior, and that their minds are frequently convey'd thro' a feries of connected emotions. A dog, when elevated with joy, runs naturally into love and kindness, whether of his master or of the fex. In like manner, when full of pain and forrow, he becomes quarrelsome and ill-natur'd; and that passion, which at first was grief, is by the smallest occasion converted into anger.

THUS all the internal principles, that are necessary in us to produce either pride or humility, are common to all creatures; and fince the causes, which excite these passions, are likewise the same, we may justly conclude, that these causes operate after the same manner thro' the whole animal creation. My hypothesis is so simple,

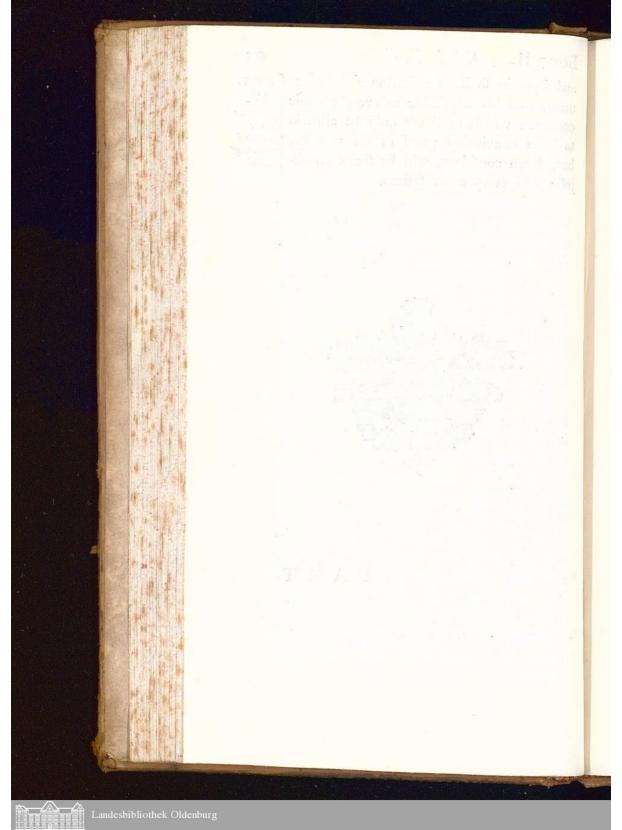
and

93

and supposes so little reflection and judge-SECT. ment, that 'tis applicable to every sensible IV. creature; which must not only be allow'd Of the to be a convincing proof of its veracity, pride and but, I am consident, will be found an ob-animals. jection to every other system.



PART





PART II.

Of love and hatred.

SECT. I.

Of the object and causes of love and hatred.

IS altogether impossible to give Sect.

any definition of the passions of I.

love and hatred; and that because
they produce merely a simple impression, without any mixture or composition.

Twou'd be as unnecessary to attempt any description of them, drawn from their nature, origin, causes and objects; and that both because these are the subjects of our present enquiry, and because these passions of themselves are sufficiently known from our common feeling and experience. This we have already observed concerning pride and humility,

Of love and ba-

PART humility, and here repeat it concerning love and hatred; and indeed there is fo great a resemblance betwixt these two sets of pasfions, that we shall be oblig'd to begin with a kind of abridgment of our reasonings concerning the former, in order to explain the latter.

> As the immediate object of pride and humility is felf or that identical person, of whose thoughts, actions, and fensations we are intimately conscious; so the object of love and hatred is some other person, of whose thoughts, actions, and fensations we are not confcious. This is fufficiently evident from experience. Our love and hatred are always directed to fome fenfible being external to us; and when we talk of self-love, 'tis not in a proper sense, nor has the fensation it produces any thing in common with that tender emotion, which is excited by a friend or mistress. "Tis the fame case with hatred. We may be mortified by our own faults and follies; but never feel any anger or hatred, except from the injuries of others.

> But the object of love and hatred be always some other person, 'tis plain that the object is not, properly fpeaking, the cause of these passions, or alone sufficient to excite

excite them. For fince love and hatred are Sect. directly contrary in their fenfation, and I. have the same object in common, if that of the obobject were also their cause, it wou'd pro- jests and duce these opposite passions in an equal de- love and gree; and as they must, from the very first hatred. moment, destroy each other, none of them wou'd ever be able to make its appearance. There must, therefore, be some cause different from the object.

IF we confider the causes of love and hatred, we shall find they are very much diverfify'd, and have not many things in common. The virtue, knowledge, wit, good fense, good humour of any person, produce love and efteem; as the opposite qualities, hatred and contempt. The fame passions arise from bodily accomplishments. fuch as beauty, force, fwiftness, dexterity; and from their contraries; as likewife from the external advantages and difadvantages of family, possessions, cloaths, nation and climate. There is not one of these objects, but what by its different qualities may produce love and esteem, or hatred and contempt, and gold satisfaint to action

FROM the view of these causes we may derive a new distinction betwixt the quality that operates, and the subject on which it Vol. II. H

98

Of love and batred.

PART is plac'd. A prince, that is posses'd of a stately palace, commands the esteem of the people upon that account; and that first, by the beauty of the palace, and fecondly, by the relation of property, which connects it with him. The removal of either of these destroys the passion; which evidently proves that the cause is a compounded one.

> 'Twou'd be tedious to trace the paffions of love and hatred, thro' all the observations which we have form'd concerning pride and humility, and which are equally applicable to both fets of passions. 'Twill be sufficient to remark in general, that the object of love and hatred is evidently fome thinking person; and that the fensation of the former passion is always agreeable, and of the latter uneafy. We may also suppose with some shew of probability, that the cause of both these passions is always related to a thinking being, and that the cause of the former produce a separate pleasure, and of the latter a separate uneasiness.

> ONE of these suppositions, viz. that the cause of love and hatred must be related to a person or thinking being, in order to produce these passions, is not only probable, but too evident to be contested. Virtue and vice, when confider'd in the abstract; beauty

and deformity, when plac'd on inanimate SECT. objects; poverty and riches, when belong- I. ing to a third person, excite no degree of of the oblove or hatred, esteem or contempt to-jects and wards those, who have no relation to them. love and A person looking out at a window, sees me hatred. in the street, and beyond me a beautiful palace, with which I have no concern: I believe none will pretend, that this person will pay me the same respect, as if I were owner of the palace.

'Trs not so evident at first fight, that a relation of impressions is requisite to these passions, and that because in the transition the one impression is so much confounded with the other. that they become in a manner undistinguishable. But as in pride and humility, we have easily been able to make the separation, and to prove, that every cause of these passions produces a separate pain or pleasure, I might here observe the same method with the same fuccess, in examining particularly the several causes of love and hatred. But as I hasten to a full and decisive proof of these systems, I delay this examination for a moment: And in the mean time shall endeavour to convert to my present purpose all my reasonings concerning pride and humityille on others, be Hat we feel immedi-

PART lity, by an argument that is founded on un-II. questionable experience.

Of love and hatred.

IOO

THERE are few persons, that are satisfy'd with their own character, or genius, or fortune, who are not defirous of shewing themselves to the world, and of acquiring the love and approbation of mankind. Now 'tis evident, that the very fame qualities and circumstances, which are the causes of pride or felf-esteem, are also the causes of vanity or the defire of reputation; and that we always put to view those particulars with which in ourselves we are best satisfy'd. But if love and esteem were not produc'd by the same qualities as pride, according as these qualities are related to ourselves or others, this method of proceeding wou'd be very abfurd, nor cou'd men expect a correspondence in the sentiments of every other person, with those themselves have entertain'd. 'Tis true, few can form exact fystems of the passions, or make reflections on their general nature and refemblances. But without fuch a progress in philosophy. we are not subject to many mistakes in this particular, but are fufficiently guided by common experience, as well as by a kind of presensation; which tells us what will operate on others, by what we feel immediately

Book II. Of the Passions.

TOI

ately in ourselves. Since then the same SECT. qualities that produce pride or humility, I. cause love or hatred; all the arguments Of the obthat have been employ'd to prove, that the jests and causes of the former passions excite a pain love and or pleasure independent of the passion, will hatred. be applicable with equal evidence to the causes of the latter.

SECT. II.

Experiments to confirm this system.

PON duly weighing these argu-SECT.

ments, no one will make any scru-II.

ple to assent to that conclusion I draw from them, concerning the transition along related impressions and ideas, especially as 'tis a principle, in itself, so easy and natural. But that we may place this system beyond doubt both with regard to love and hatred, pride and humility, 'twill be proper to make some new experiments upon all these passions, as well as to recal a few of these observations, which I have formerly touch'd upon.

In order to make these experiments, let us suppose I am in company with a person, whom I formerly regarded without any sen-

H 3 timens

PART timents either of friendship or enmity. Here II. I have the natural and ultimate object of all these four passions plac'd before me. Myard hard hard felf am the proper object of pride or humility; the other person of love or hatred.

REGARD now with attention the nature of these passions, and their situation with respect to each other. 'Tis evident here are four affections, plac'd, as it were, in a fquare or regular connexion with, and distance from each other. The passions of pride and humility, as well as those of love and hatred, are connected together by the identity of their object, which to the first fet of passions is self, to the second some other person. These two lines of communication or connexion form two oppofite fides of the square. Again, pride and love are agreeable paffions; hatred and humility uneafy. This fimilitude of fenfation betwixt pride and love, and that betwixt humility and hatred form a new connexion, and may be confider'd as the other two fides of the square. Upon the whole, pride is connected with humility, love with hatred, by their objects or ideas: Pride with love, humility with hatred, by their fenfations or impressions, no ni ma I sloquil su

#HORES

-nal yna tuonin w labragar viramiot I SAY

I say then, that nothing can produce SECT. any of these passions without bearing it a double relation, viz. of ideas to the object Experiof the passion, and of sensation to the pas-ments to fion itself. This we must prove by our ex- this system. periments.

FIRST EXPERIMENT. To proceed with the greater order in these experiments, let us first suppose, that being plac'd in the situation above-mention'd, viz. in company with some other person, there is an object presented, that has no relation either of impressions or ideas to any of these passions. Thus suppose we regard together an ordinary stone, or other common object, belonging to neither of us, and caufing of itfelf no emotion, or independent pain and pleasure: 'Tis evident such an object will produce none of these four passions. Let us try it upon each of them fucceffively. Let us apply it to love, to hatred, to humility, to pride; none of them ever arises in the smallest degree imaginable. Let us change the object, as oft as we please; provided still we choose one, that has neither of these two relations. Let us repeat the experiment in all the dispositions, of which the mind is susceptible. No object, in the vast variety of nature, will, in any disposi-H 4 tion,

PART tion, produce any passion without these re-II. lations.

Of love and hatred.

SECOND EXPERIMENT. Since an object, that wants both these relations can eyer produce any passion, let us bestow on it only one of these relations; and see what will follow. Thus suppose, I regard a stone or any common object, that belongs either to me or my companion, and by that means acquires a relation of ideas to the object of the passions: "Tis plain, that to confider the matter a priori, no emotion of any kind can reasonably be expected. For befides, that a relation of ideas operates fecretly and calmly on the mind, it bestows an equal impulse towards the opposite passions of pride and humility, love and hatred, according as the object belongs to ourselves or others; which opposition of the passions must destroy both, and leave the mind perfectly free from any affection or emotion. This reasoning a priori is confirm'd by experience. No trivial or vulgar object, that causes not a pain or pleasure, independent of the passion, will ever, by its property or other relations, either to ourselves or others, be able to produce the affections of pride or humility, love or hatred.

dain't at the distance will in any disposi-

THIRD EXPERIMENT. 'Tis evident, SECT. therefore, that a relation of ideas is not able alone to give rife to these affections. Experi-Let us now remove this relation, and in its ments to stead place a relation of impressions, by pre- this fiftem. fenting an object, which is agreeable or difagreeable, but has no relation either to ourfelf or companion; and let us observe the consequences. To consider the matter first a priori, as in the preceding experiment; we may conclude, that the object will have a finall, but an uncertain connexion with thefe passions. For besides, that this relation is not a cold and imperceptible one, it has not the inconvenience of the relation of ideas, nor directs us with equal force to two contrary paffions, which by their oppofition destroy each other. But if we confider, on the other hand, that this transition from the fensation to the affection is not forwarded by any principle, that produces a transition of ideas; but, on the contrary, that tho' the one impression be easily transfus'd into the other, yet the change of objects is suppos'd contrary to all the principles, that cause a transition of that kind; we may from thence infer, that nothing will ever be a fleady or durable cause of any passion, that is connected with the passion merely by a relation

Of Love

PART relation of impressions. What our reason wou'd conclude from analogy, after ballancing these arguments, wou'd be, that an object, which produces pleasure or uneafiness, but has no manner of connexion either with ourselves or others, may give fuch a turn to the disposition, as that it may naturally fall into pride or love, humility or hatred, and fearch for other objects, upon which, by a double relation, it can found these affections; but that an object, which has only one of these relations, tho'. the most advantageous one, can never give rife to any constant and establish'd passion.

Most fortunately all this reasoning is found to be exactly conformable to experience, and the phænomena of the passions. Suppose I were travelling with a companion thro' a country, to which we are both utter strangers; 'tis evident, that if the profpects be beautiful, the roads agreeable, and the inns commodious, this may put me into good humour both with myfelf and fellow-traveller. But as we suppose, that this country has no relation either to myfelf or friend, it can never be the immediate cause of pride or love; and therefore if I found not the passion on some other object, that bears either of us a closer relation, my emotions

are

107

are rather to be consider'd as the overflow- SECT. ings of an elevate or humane disposition, than as an establish'd passion. The case is Experithe same where the object produces uneasi- ments to ministrate and galvomer to pastini this fiften. ness.

FOURTH EXPERIMENT. Having found, that neither an object without any relation of ideas or impressions, nor an object, that has only one relation, can ever cause pride or humility, love or hatred; reason alone may convince us, without any farther experiment, that whatever has a double relation must necessarily excite these passions; fince 'tis evident they must have some cause. But to leave as little room for doubt as poffible, let us renew our experiments, and fee whether the event in this cafe answers our expectation. I choose an object, such as virtue, that causes a separate satisfaction: On this object I bestow a relation to felf; and find, that from this disposition of affairs, there immediately arises a passion. But what paffion? That very one of pride, to which this object bears a double relation. Its idea is related to that of felf, the object of the passion: The sensation it causes refembles the fensation of the passion. That I may be fure I am not mistaken in this experiment, I remove first one relation; then another: 108

PART another; and find, that each removal de-Of love and batred.

stroys the passion, and leaves the object perfectly indifferent. But I am not content with this. I make a still farther trial; and instead of removing the relation, I only change it for one of a different kind. I suppose the virtue to belong to my companion, not to myfelf; and observe what follows from this alteration. I immediately perceive the affections wheel about, and leaving pride, where there is only one relation, viz. of impressions, fall to the side of love, where they are attracted by a double relation of impressions and ideas. By repeating the fame experiment, in changing anew the relation of ideas, I bring the affections back to pride; and by a new repetition I again place them at love or kindness. Being fully convinc'd of the influence of this relation, I try the effects of the other; and by changing virtue for vice, convert the pleafant impression, which arises from the former, into the difagreeable one, which proceeds from the latter. The effect still answers expectation. Vice, when plac'd on another, excites, by means of its double relations, the passion of hatred, instead of love, which for the same reason arises from virtue. To continue the experiment, I change anew the relation of

of ideas, and suppose the vice to belong to SECT. myself. What follows? What is usual. A II. subsequent change of the passion from ha-Experitred to humility. This humility I convert ments to into pride by a new change of the impressibility splem. shows and find after all that I have compleated the round, and have by these changes brought back the passion to that very situation, in which I first found it.

But to make the matter still more certain, I alter the object; and instead of vice and virtue, make the trial upon beauty and deformity, riches and poverty, power and fervitude. Each of these objects runs the circle of the passions in the same manner, by a change of their relations: And in whatever order we proceed, whether thro' pride, love, hatred, humility, or thro' humility, hatred, love, pride, the experiment is not in the least diversify'd. Esteem and contempt, indeed, arise on some occasions inflead of love and hatred; but these are at the bottom the fame passions, only diverfify'd by fome causes, which we shall explain afterwards. A show of sull most

FIFTH EXPERIMENT. To give greater authority to these experiments, let us change the situation of affairs as much as possible, and place the passions and objects in all the different

II. Of love and ba-

PART different positions, of which they are sufceptible. Let us suppose, beside the relations above-mention'd, that the person, along with whom I make all these experiments, is closely connected with me either by blood or friendship. He is, we shall suppose, my fon or brother, or is united to me by a long and familiar acquaintance. Let us next suppose, that the cause of the passion acquires a double relation of impressions and ideas to this person; and let us see what the effects are of all these complicated attractions and relations.

> BEFORE we confider what they are in fact, let us determine what they ought to be, conformable to my hypothesis. 'Tis plain, that, according as the impression is either pleasant or uneasy, the passion of love or hatred must arise towards the person, who is thus connected to the cause of the impression by these double relations, which I have all along requir'd. The virtue of a brother must make me love him; as his vice or infamy must excite the contrary pasfion. But to judge only from the fituation of affairs, I shou'd not expect, that the affections wou'd rest there, and never transfuse themselves into any other impression. As there is here a person, who by means of

E

a double relation is the object of my pass Sect. fion, the very same reasoning leads me to think the passion will be carry'd farther.

The person has a relation of ideas to my-ments to confirm self, according to the supposition; the passion, of which he is the object, by being either agreeable or uneasy, has a relation of impressions to pride or humility. Tis evident, then, that one of these passions must arise from the love or hatted.

This is the reasoning I form in conformity to my hypothesis; and am pleas'd to find upon trial that every thing answers exactly to my expectation. The virtue or vice of a son or brother not only excites love or hatred, but by a new transition, from similar causes, gives rise to pride or humility. Nothing causes greater vanity than any shining quality in our relations; as nothing mortishes us more than their vice or infamy. This exact conformity of experience to our reasoning is a convincing proof of the solidity of that hypothesis, upon which we reason.

SIXTH EXPERIMENT. This evidence will be still augmented, if we reverse the experiment, and preserving still the same relations, begin only with a different passion.

II. Of love and hared.

PART sion. Suppose, that instead of the virtue or vice of a fon or brother, which causes first love or hatred, and afterwards pride or humility, we place these good or bad qualities on ourselves, without any immediate connexion with the person, who is related to us: Experience shews us, that by this change of fituation the whole chain is broke, and that the mind is not convey'd from one paffion to another, as in the preceding instance. We never love or hate a fon or brother for the virtue or vice we discern in ourselves: tho' 'tis evident the same qualities in him give us a very fenfible pride or humility. The transition from pride or humility to love or hatred is not fo natural as from love or hatred to pride or humility. This may at first fight be esteem'd contrary to my hypothesis; fince the relations of impressions and ideas are in both cases precisely the fame. Pride and humility are impressions related to love and hatred. Myself am related to the person. It shou'd, therefore, be expected, that like causes must produce like effects, and a perfect transition arise from the double relation, as in all other cases. This difficulty we may easily solve by the following reflections,

III's begin only with a difference

'Tis evident, that as we are at all times SECT. intimately conscious of ourselves, our sentiments and passions, their ideas must strike Experiupon us with greater vivacity than the ideas ments to of the fentiments and passions of any other this system. person. But every thing, that strikes upon us with vivacity, and appears in a full and strong light, forces itself, in a manner, into our confideration, and becomes prefent to the mind on the smallest hint and most trivial relation. For the fame reason, when it is once prefent, it engages the attention, and keeps it from wandering to other objects, however strong may be their relation to our first object. The imagination passes eafily from obscure to lively ideas, but with difficulty from lively to obscure. In the one case the relation is aided by another principle: In the other case, 'tis oppos'd by it.

Now I have observ'd, that those two faculties of the mind, the imagination and passions, assist each other in their operation, when their propensities are similar, and when they act upon the same object. The mind has always a propenfity to pass from a passion to any other related to it; and this propenfity is forwarded when the object of the one passion is related to that of the other. The two impulses concur with each VOL. II. other,

PART other, and render the whole transition more II. Of love and batred.

fmooth and easy. But if it shou'd happen. that while the relation of ideas, strictly speaking, continues the same, its influence, in causing a transition of the imagination, shou'd no longer take place, 'tis evident its influence on the passions must also cease, as being dependent entirely on that transition. This is the reason why pride or humility is not transfus'd into love or hatred with the same ease, that the latter passions are chang'd into the former. If a person be my brother I am his likewise: But tho' the relations be reciprocal, they have very different effects on the imagination. The paffage is fmooth and open from the confideration of any person related to us to that of ourself, of whom we are every moment conscious. But when the affections are once directed to ourself, the fancy passes not with the same facility from that object to any other person, how closely so ever connected with us. This eafy or difficult transition of the imagination operates upon the paffions, and facilitates or retards their transition; which is a clear proof, that these two faculties of the passions and imagination are connected together, and that the relations of ideas have an influence upon the affections.

IIS

affections. Besides innumerable experiments SECT. that prove this, we here find, that even when the relation remains; if by any particular circumstance its usual effect upon the ments to confirm fancy in producing an affociation or tranthis softem. Sition of ideas, is prevented; its usual effect upon the passions, in conveying us from one to another, is in like manner prevented.

Some may, perhaps, find a contradiction betwixt this phænomenon and that of fympathy, where the mind passes easily from the idea of ourselves to that of any other object related to us. But this difficulty will vanish, if we confider that in sympathy our own person is not the object of any passion, nor is there any thing, that fixes our attention on ourselves; as in the present case, where we are suppos'd to be actuated with pride or humility. Ourfelf, independent of the perception of every other object, is in reality nothing: For which reason we must turn our view to external objects; and 'tis natural for us to confider with most attention fuch as lie contiguous to us, or refemble us. But when felf is the object of a passion, 'tis not natural to quit the confideration of it, till the passion be exhausted; in which case the double relations of impressions and ideas can no longer operate.

II. Of love and batred.

PART SEVENTH EXPERIMENT. To put this whole reasoning to a farther trial, let us make a new experiment; and as we have already feen the effects of related passions and ideas, let us here suppose an identity of passions along with a relation of ideas; and let us confider the effects of this new fituation. 'Tis evident a transition of the passions from the one object to the other is here in all reason to be expected; since the relation of ideas is suppos'd still to continue, and an identity of impressions must produce a stronger connexion, than the most perfect refemblance, that can be imagin'd. If a double relation, therefore, of impressions and ideas is able to produce a transition from one to the other, much more an identity of impressions with a relation of ideas. Ac. cordingly we find, that when we either love or hate any person, the passions seldom continue within their first bounds; but extend themselves towards all the contiguous objects, and comprehend the friends and relations of him we love or hate. Nothing is more natural than to bear a kindness to one brother on account of our friendship for another, without any farther examination of his character. A quarrel with one perfon gives us a hatred for the whole family, tho'

Of the Passions. BOOK II.

117 tho' entirely innocent of that, which dif-SECT.

Experi-

pleases us. Instances of this kind are every where to be met with.

THERE is only one difficulty in this ex- ments to periment, which it will be necessary to ac-this system. count for, before we proceed any farther. 'Tis evident, that tho' all paffions pass easily from one object to another related to it, yet this transition is made with greater facility, where the more confiderable object is first presented, and the lesser follows it, than where this order is revers'd, and the leffer takes the precedence. Thus 'tis more natural for us to love the fon upon account of the father, than the father upon account of the fon; the fervant for the master, than the master for the servant; the subject for the prince, than the prince for the subject. In like manner we more readily contract a hatred against a whole family, where our first quarrel is with the head of it, than where we are displeas'd with a fon, or fervant, or fome inferior member. In short, our passions, like other objects, descend with greater facility than they afcend.

THAT we may comprehend, wherein confifts the difficulty of explaining this phænomenon, we must consider, that the very fame reason, which determines the imagi-

nation I 3

Of love and batred.

PART nation to pass from remote to contiguous objects, with more facility than from contiguous to remote, causes it likewise to change with more ease, the less for the greater, than the greater for the less. Whatever has the greatest influence is most taken notice of; and whatever is most taken notice of, prefents itself most readily to the imagination. We are more apt to over-look in any subject, what is trivial, than what appears of confiderable moment; but especially if the latter takes the precedence, and first engages our attention. Thus if any accident makes us consider the Satellites of 'fupiter, our fancy is naturally determin'd to form the idea of that planet; but if we first reflect on the principal planet, 'tis more natural for us to overlook its attendants. The mention of the provinces of any empire conveys our thought to the feat of the empire; but the fancy returns not with the fame facility to the confideration of the provinces. The idea of the fervant makes us think of the mafter; that of the fubject carries our view to the prince. But the fame relation has not an equal influence in conveying us back again. And on this is founded that reproach of Cornelia to her fons, that they ought to be asham'd she shou'd

shou'd be more known by the title of the SECT. daughter of Scipio, than by that of the mother of the Gracchi. This was, in other Experiwords, exhorting them to render themselves ments to as illustrious and famous as their grand-this fiftem. father, otherwise the imagination of the people, passing from her who was intermediate, and plac'd in an equal relation to both, wou'd always leave them, and denominate her by what was more confiderable and of greater moment. On the fame principle is founded that common custom of making wives bear the name of their hufbands, rather than husbands that of their wives; as also the ceremony of giving the precedency to those, whom we honour and respect. We might find many other instances to confirm this principle, were it not already fufficiently evident.

Now fince the fancy finds the fame facility in passing from the lesser to the greater, as from remote to contiguous, why does not this easy transition of ideas assist the transition of passions in the former case, as well as in the latter? The virtues of a friend or brother produce first love, and then pride; because in that case the imagination passes from remote to contiguous, according to its propensity. Our own virtues produce not first pride, and then love to a friend or

Of love and batred.

PART brother; because the passage in that case wou'd be from contiguous to remote, contrary to its propenfity. But the love or hatred of an inferior cause not readily any passion to the superior, tho' that be the natural propenfity of the imagination: While the love or hatred of a superior, causes a passion to the inferior, contrary to its propenfity. In short, the same facility of tranfition operates not in the same manner upon fuperior and inferior as upon contiguous and remote. These two phænomena appear contradictory, and require some attention to be reconcil'd.

> As the transition of ideas is here made contrary to the natural propenfity of the imagination, that faculty must be overpower'd by fome stronger principle of another kind; and as there is nothing ever present to the mind but impressions and ideas, this principle must necessarily lie in the impressions. Now it has been observ'd, that impressions or passions are connected only by their refemblance, and that where any two passions place the mind in the fame or in fimilar dispositions, it very naturally passes from the one to the other: As on the contrary, a repugnance in the difpositions produces a difficulty in the transi-

> > tion

tion of the passions. But 'tis observable, Sect. that this repugnance may arise from a difference of degree as well as of kind; nor experido we experience a greater difficulty in passion fing suddenly from a small degree of love this system. to a small degree of hatred, than from a small to a great degree of either of these affections. A man, when calm or only moderately agitated, is so different, in every respect, from himself, when disturbed with a violent passion, that no two persons can be more unlike; nor is it easy to pass from the one extreme to the other, without a considerable interval betwixt them.

THE difficulty is not less, if it be not rather greater, in passing from the strong passion to the weak, than in passing from the weak to the strong, provided the one passion upon its appearance destroys the other, and they do not both of them exist at once. But the case is entirely alter'd, when the passions unite together, and actuate the mind at the same time. A weak passion, when added to a strong, makes not so considerable change in the disposition, as a strong when added to a weak; for which reason there is a closer connexion betwixt the great degree and the small, than betwixt the small degree and the great,

THE

PART
II. Of love and habitred.

THE degree of any passion depends upon the nature of its object; and an affection directed to a person, who is considerable in our eyes, fills and possesses the mind much more than one, which has for its object a person we esteem of less consequence. Here then the contradiction betwixt the propenfities of the imagination and passion displays itself. When we turn our thought to a great and a small object, the imagination finds more facility in paffing from the small to the great, than from the great to the fmall; but the affections find a greater difficulty: And as the affections are a more powerful principle than the imagination, no wonder they prevail over it, and draw the mind to their fide. In spite of the difficulty of passing from the idea of great to that of little, a passion directed to the former, produces always a fimilar paffion towards the latter; when the great and little are related together. The idea of the fervant conveys our thought most readily to the mafter; but the hatred or love of the master produces with greater facility anger or good-will to the fervant. The strongest passion in this case takes the precedence; and the addition of the weaker making no confiderable change on the difpofition,

123

fition, the passage is by that means ren-SECT. der'd more easy and natural betwixt them. II.

As in the foregoing experiment we Experifound, that a relation of ideas, which, by ments to any particular circumstance, ceases to pro-this softem. duce its usual effect of facilitating the tranfition of ideas, ceases likewise to operate on the paffions; fo in the present experiment we find the fame property of the impreffions. Two different degrees of the same paffion are furely related together; but if the fmaller be first present, it has little or no tendency to introduce the greater; and that because the addition of the great to the little, produces a more fenfible alteration on the temper, than the addition of the little to the great. These phænomena, when duly weigh'd, will be found convincing proofs of this hypothefis.

AND these proofs will be confirm'd, if we consider the manner in which the mind here reconciles the contradiction, I have observ'd betwixt the passions and the imagination. The fancy passes with more facility from the less to the greater, than from the greater to the less: But on the contrary a violent passion produces more easily a feeble, than that does a violent. In this opposition the passion in the end prevails

Of love and batred.

PART over the imagination; but 'tis commonly by complying with it, and by feeking another quality, which may counter-ballance that principle, from whence the opposition arifes. When we love the father or mafter of a family, we little think of his children or fervants. But when these are present with us, or when it lies any ways in our power to ferve them, the nearness and contiguity in this case encreases their magnitude, or at least removes that opposition, which the fancy makes to the transition of the affections. If the imagination finds a difficulty in paffing from greater to less, it finds an equal facility in paffing from remote to contiguous, which brings the matter to an equality, and leaves the way open from the one passion to the other.

EIGHTH EXPERIMENT. I have obferv'd that the transition from love or hatred to pride or humility, is more easy than from pride or humility to love or hatred; and that the difficulty, which the imagination finds in paffing from contiguous to remote, is the cause why we scarce have any instance of the latter transition of the affections. I must, however, make one exception, viz. when the very cause of the pride and humility is plac'd in some other

I 25

person. For in that case the imagination is SECT. necessitated to consider the person, nor can II. it possibly confine its view to ourselves. Experi-Thus nothing more readily produces kind-ments to ness and affection to any person, than his this fiftem. approbation of our conduct and character: As on the other hand, nothing infpires us with a stronger hatred, than his blame or contempt. Here 'tis evident, that the original passion is pride or humility, whose object is felf; and that this paffion is tranffus'd into love or hatred, whose object is fome other person, notwithstanding the rule I have already establish'd, that the imagination passes with difficulty from contiguous to remote. But the transition in this case is not made merely on account of the relation betwixt ourselves and the person; but because that very person is the real cause of our first passion, and of consequence is intimately connected with it. 'Tis his approbation that produces pride; and disapprobation, humility. No wonder, then, the imagination returns back again attended with the related passions of love and hatred. This is not a contradiction, but an exception to the rule; and an exception that arises from the fame reason with the rule itself.

Such

PART
II. the of love if and hate tred.

Such an exception as this is, therefore, rather a confirmation of the rule. And indeed. if we confider all the eight experiments I have explain'd, we shall find that the same principle appears in all of them, and that 'tis by means of a transition arising from a double relation of impressions and ideas, pride and humility, love and hatred are produc'd. An object without * a relation, or + with but one, never produces either of these passions; and 'tis I found that the pasfion always varies in conformity to the relation. Nay we may observe, that where the relation, by any particular circumstance, has not its usual effect of producing a transition either of ** ideas or of impressions, it ceases to operate upon the passions, and gives. rife neither to pride nor love, humility nor This rule we find still to hold good ++, even under the appearance of its contrary; and as relation is frequently experienc'd to have no effect; which upon examination is found to proceed from fome particular circumstance, that prevents the transition; so even in instances, where that circumstance, tho' present, prevents not the

tran-

127

transition, 'tis found to arise from some o- Sect. ther circumstance, which counter-ballances it. Thus not only the variations resolve themselves into the general principle, but ments to confirm even the variations of these variations.

SECT. III.

Difficulties folv'd.

FTER fo many and such undeniable SECT.

proofs drawn from daily experience
and observation, it may seem superfluous to
enter into a particular examination of all the
causes of love and hatred. I shall, therefore,
employ the sequel of this part, First, In removing some difficulties, concerning particular causes of these passions. Secondly, In
examining the compound affections, which
arise from the mixture of love and hatred
with other emotions.

Nothing is more evident, than that any person acquires our kindness, or is expos'd to our ill-will, in proportion to the pleasure or uneasiness we receive from him, and that the passions keep pace exactly with the sensations in all their changes and variations. Whoever can find the means either by his services, his beauty, or his stattery, to ren-

II. Of love and hatred.

128

PART der himself useful or agreeable to us, is sure of our affections: As on the other hand, whoever harms or displeases us never fails to excite our anger or hatred. When our own nation is at war with any other, we detest them under the character of cruel, perfidious. unjust and violent: But always esteem ourfelves and allies equitable, moderate, and merciful. If the general of our enemies be fuccessful, 'tis with difficulty we allow him the figure and character of a man. He is a forcerer: He has a communication with dæmons; as is reported of Oliver Cromwell, and the Duke of Luxembourg: He is bloody-minded, and takes a pleafure in death and destruction. But if the success be on our fide, our commander has all the opposite good qualities, and is a pattern of virtue, as well as of courage and conduct. His treachery we call policy: His cruelty is an evil inseparable from war. In short, every one of his faults we either endeavour to extenuate, or dignify it with the name of that virtue, which approaches it. evident the same method of thinking runs thro' common life.

> THERE are some, who add another condition, and require not only that the pain and pleasure arise from the person, but likewife

Book II. Of the Passions.

129

wise that it arise knowingly, and with a Sect. particular design and intention. A man, II. who wounds and harms us by accident, be-Dissibilities comes not our enemy upon that account, solv'd. nor do we think ourselves bound by any ties of gratitude to one, who does us any service after the same manner. By the intention we judge of the actions, and according as that is good or bad, they become causes of love or hatred.

But here we must make a distinction. If that quality in another, which pleases or displeases, be constant and inherent in his person and character, it will cause love or hatred independent of the intention: But otherwife a knowledge and defign is requifite, in order to give rife to these passions. One that is difagreeable by his deformity or folly is the object of our aversion, tho' nothing be more certain, than that he has not the least intention of displeasing us by these qualities. But if the uneafiness proceed not from a quality, but an action, which is produc'd and annihilated in a moment, 'tis necessary, in order to produce some relation, and connect this action fufficiently with the person, that it be deriv'd from a particular fore-thought and defign. 'Tis not enough, that the action arise from the

Of love and hatred.

130

PART person, and have him for its immediate cause and author. This relation alone is too feeble and inconfrant to be a foundation for these passions. It reaches not the senfible and thinking part, and neither proceeds from any thing durable in him, nor leaves any thing behind it; but paffes in a moment, and is as if it had never been. On the other hand, an intention shews certain qualities, which remaining after the action is perform'd, connect it with the perfon, and facilitate the transition of ideas from one to the other. We can never think of him without reflecting on these qualities; unless repentance and a change of life have produc'd an alteration in that respect: In which case the passion is likewise alter'd. This therefore is one reason, why an intention is requifite to excite either love or hatred.

> Bur we must farther consider, that an intention, befides its strengthening the relation of ideas, is often necessary to produce a relation of impressions, and give rife to pleasure and uneasiness. For 'tis observable, that the principal part of an injury is the contempt and hatred, which it shews in the person, that injures us; and without that, the mere harm gives us a less sensible uneafiness

IZI

uneafiness. In like manner, a good office SECT. is agreeable, chiefly because it flatters our III. vanity, and is a proof of the kindness and Difficulties esteem of the person, who performs it. solv'd. The removal of the intention, removes the mortification in the one case, and vanity in the other; and must of course cause a remarkable diminution in the paffions of love and hatred.

I GRANT, that these effects of the removal of defign, in diminishing the relations of impressions and ideas, are not entire, nor able to remove every degree of these relations. But then I ask, if the removal of defign be able entirely to remove the passion of love and hatred? Experience, I am fure, informs us of the contrary, nor is there any thing more certain, than that men often fall into a violent anger for injuries, which they themselves must own to be entirely involuntary and accidental. This emotion, indeed, cannot be of long continuance; but still is sufficient to shew. that there is a natural connexion betwixt uneafiness and anger, and that the relation of impressions will operate upon a very small relation of ideas. But when the violence of the impression is once a little abated, the defect of the relation begins to be better felt; and

PART and as the character of a person is no wise interested in such injuries as are casual and involuntary, it seldom happens that on their account, we entertain a lasting entired.

To illustrate this doctrine by a parallel instance, we may observe, that not only the uneasiness, which proceeds from another by accident, has but little force to excite our passion, but also that which arises from an acknowledg'd necessity and duty. One that has a real design of harming us, proceeding not from hatred and ill-will, but from justice and equity, draws not upon him our anger, if we be in any degree reasonable; notwithstanding he is both the cause, and the knowing cause of our sufferings. Let us examine a little this phænomenon.

"T is evident in the first place, that this circumstance is not decisive; and tho' it may be able to diminish the passions, 'tis feldom it can entirely remove them. How few criminals are there, who have no ill-will to the person, that accuses them, or to the judge, that condemns them, even tho' they be conscious of their own deserts? In like manner our antagonist in a law-suit, and our competitor for any office,

I33

office, are commonly regarded as our ene-SECT. mies; tho' we must acknowledge, if we III. wou'd but reslect a moment, that their mo-Difficulties tive is entirely as justifiable as our own.

Besides we may confider, that when we receive harm from any person, we are apt to imagine him criminal, and 'tis with extreme difficulty we allow of his justice and innocence. This is a clear proof, that, independent of the opinion of iniquity, any harm or uneasiness has a natural tendency to excite our hatred, and that afterwards we seek for reasons upon which we may justify and establish the passion. Here the idea of injury produces not the passion, but arises from it.

Nor is it any wonder that passion shou'd produce the opinion of injury; since otherwise it must suffer a considerable diminution, which all the passions avoid as much possible. The removal of injury may remove the anger, without proving that the anger arises only from the injury. The harm and the justice are two contrary objects, of which the one has a tendency to produce hatred, and the other love; and tisaccording to their different degrees, and our particular turn of thinking, that either

K 3 of

PART of the objects prevails, and excites its proper II. passion.

Of love and hatred.

SECT. IV.

Of the love of relations.

AVING given a reason, why seveIV.

ral actions, that cause a real pleasure or uneasiness, excite not any degree, or but a small one, of the passion of love or hatred towards the actors; 'twill be necessary to shew, wherein consists the pleasure or uneasiness of many objects, which we find by experience to produce these passions.

ACCORDING to the preceding fystem there is always requir'd a double relation of impressions and ideas betwixt the cause and effect, in order to produce either love or hatred. But tho' this be universally true, 'tis remarkable that the passion of love may be excited by only one relation of a different kind, viz. betwixt ourselves and the object; or more properly speaking, that this relation is always attended with both the others. Whoever is united to us by any connexion is always sure of a share of our love, proportion'd to the connexion, without enquiring into his other qualities. Thus

135

the relation of blood produces the strongest Sect. tie the mind is capable of in the love of IV. parents to their children, and a lesser degree of the same affection, as the relation lessel love of refers. Nor has consanguinity alone this effect, but any other relation without exception. We love our country-men, our neighbours, those of the same trade, profession, and even name with ourselves. Every one of these relations is esteem'd some tie, and gives a title to a share of our affection.

THERE is another phænomenon, which is parallel to this, viz. that acquaintance, without any kind of relation, gives rife to love and kindness. When we have contracted a habitude and intimacy with any perfon; tho' in frequenting his company we have not been able to discover any very valuable quality, of which he is posses'd; yet we cannot forbear preferring him to strangers, of whose superior merit we are fully convinc'd. These two phænomena of the effects of relation and acquaintance will give mutual light to each other, and may be both explain'd from the same principle.

THOSE, who take a pleasure in declaiming against human nature, have observ'd, that man is altogether insufficient to support himself; and that when you loosen all the

K 4 holds,

II. and ha-

PART holds, which he has of external objects, he immediately drops down into the deepest melancholy and despair. From this, fay they, proceeds that continual fearch after amusement in gaming, in hunting, in business; by which we endeavour to forget ourfelves, and excite our spirits from the languid state, into which they fall, when not fustain'd by some brisk and lively emotion. To this method of thinking I fo far agree, that I own the mind to be infufficient, of itself, to its own entertainment, and that it naturally feeks after foreign objects, which may produce a lively fensation, and agitate the spirits. On the appearance of fuch an object it awakes, as it were, from a dream: The blood flows with a new tide: The heart is elevated: And the whole man acquires a vigour, which he cannot command in his folitary and calm moments. Hence company is naturally fo rejoicing, as presenting the liveliest of all objects, viz. a rational and thinking Being like ourselves, who communicates to us all the actions of his mind; makes us privy to his inmost sentiments and affections; and lets us fee, in the very instant of their production, all the emotions, which are caus'd by any object. Every lively idea is agreeable, but especially

137

that of a paffion, because such an idea be-Sect. comes a kind of passion, and gives a more IV. sensible agitation to the mind, than any o-Of the love of re-lations.

THIS being once admitted, all the rest is eafy. For as the company of strangers is agreeable to us for a short time, by inlivening our thought; fo the company of our relations and acquaintance must be peculiarly agreeable, because it has this effect in a greater degree, and is of more durable influence. Whatever is related to us is conceiv'd in a lively manner by the easy tranfition from ourselves to the related object. Custom also, or acquaintance facilitates the entrance, and strengthens the conception of any object. The first case is parallel to our reasonings from cause and effect; the second to education. And as reasoning and education concur only in producing a lively and strong idea of any object; so is this the only particular, which is common to relation and acquaintance. This must, therefore, be the influencing quality, by which they produce all their common effects; and love or kindness being one of these effects, it must be from the force and liveliness of conception, that the paffion is deriv'd. Such a conception is peculiarly agreeable, and makes

PART makes us have an affectionate regard for II. every thing, that produces it, when the proper object of kindness and good-will. Of love and ba-

tred.

'Tis obvious, that people affociate together according to their particular tempers and dispositions, and that men of gay tempers naturally love the gay; as the ferious bear an affection to the ferious. This not only happens, where they remark this refemblance betwixt themselves and others, but also by the natural course of the dispofition, and by a certain fympathy, which always arises betwixt fimilar characters. Where they remark the refemblance, it operates after the manner of a relation, by producing a connexion of ideas. Where they do not remark it, it operates by fome other principle; and if this latter principle be fimilar to the former, it must be receiv'd as a confirmation of the foregoing reasoning.

THE idea of ourselves is always intimately present to us, and conveys a fenfible degree of vivacity to the idea of any other object, to which we are related. This lively idea changes by degrees into a real impression; these two kinds of perception being in a great measure the same, and differing only in their degrees of force and vivacity. But this change must be produc'd

139

with the greater ease, that our natural tem- SECT. per gives us a propenfity to the fame im- IV. pression, which we observe in others, and of the makes it arise upon any slight occasion. In love of rethat case resemblance converts the idea into an impression, not only by means of the relation, and by transfusing the original vivacity into the related idea; but also by prefenting fuch materials as take fire from the least spark. And as in both cases a love or affection arises from the resemblance, we may learn that a fympathy with others is agreeable only by giving an emotion to the spirits, fince an easy sympathy and correfpondent emotions are alone common to relation, acquaintance, and resemblance.

The great propensity men have to pride may be consider'd as another similar phænomenon. It often happens, that after we have liv'd a considerable time in any city; however at first it might be disagreeable to us; yet as we become familiar with the objects, and contract an acquaintance, tho' merely with the streets and buildings, the aversion diminishes by degrees, and at last changes into the opposite passion. The mind finds a satisfaction and ease in the view of objects, to which it is accustom'd, and naturally prefers them to others, which, tho',

PART tho', perhaps, in themselves more valuable, are less known to it. By the same quality of the mind we are seduc'd into a good opinion of ourselves, and of all objects, that belong to us. They appear in a stronger light; are more agreeable; and consequently fitter subjects of pride and vanity, than any other.

IT may not be amis, in treating of the affection we bear our acquaintance and relations, to observe some pretty curious phænomena, which attend it. 'Tis eafy to remark in common life, that children esteem their relation to their mother to be weaken'd. in a great measure, by her second marriage, and no longer regard her with the same eye, as if she had continu'd in her state of wi-Nor does this happen only, dow-hood. when they have felt any inconveniencies from her fecond marriage, or when her husband is much her inferior; but even without any of these considerations, and merely because she has become part of another family. This also takes place with regard to the fecond marriage of a father; but in a much less degree: And 'tis certain the ties of blood are not fo much loofen'd in the latter case as by the marriage of a mother. These two phænomena are remarkable.

14.I

markable in themselves, but much more so SECT. when compar'd. IV.

In order to produce a perfect relation of the betwixt two objects, 'tis requisite, not only love of rethat the imagination be convey'd from one to the other by refemblance, contiguity or causation, but also that it return back from the fecond to the first with the same ease and facility. At first fight this may feem a necessary and unavoidable consequence. If one object refemble another, the latter object must necessarily resemble the former. If one object be the cause of another, the fecond object is effect to its cause. 'Tis the fame case with contiguity: And therefore the relation being always reciprocal, it may be thought, that the return of the imagination from the fecond to the first must alfo, in every case, be equally natural as its passage from the first to the second. But upon farther examination we shall easily difcover our miftake. For fuppofing the fecond object, befide its reciprocal relation to the first, to have also a strong relation to a third object; in that case the thought, pasfing from the first object to the second, returns not back with the same facility, tho' the relation continues the fame; but is readily carry'd on to the third object, by means

Of love and batred.

PART of the new relation, which presents itself and gives a new impulse to the imagination. This new relation, therefore, weakens the tie betwixt the first and second objects. The fancy is by its very nature wavering and inconftant; and confiders always two objects as more strongly related together, where it finds the passage equally eafy both in going and returning, than where the transition is easy only in one of these motions. The double motion is a kind of a double tie, and binds the objects together in the closest and most intimate manner.

THE fecond marriage of a mother breaks not the relation of child and parent; and that relation fuffices to convey my imagination from myfelf to her with the greatest ease and facility. But after the imagination is arriv'd at this point of view, it finds its object to be furrounded with fo many other relations, which challenge its regard, that it knows not which to prefer, and is at a loss what new object to pitch upon. ties of interest and duty bind her to another family, and prevent that return of the fancy from her to myself, which is necessary to fupport the union. The thought has no longer the vibration, requisite to set it perfectly

143

fectly at ease, and indulge its inclination to SECT. change. It goes with facility, but returns IV. with difficulty; and by that interruption of the finds the relation much weaken'd from what love of reit wou'd be were the passage open and easy on both sides.

Now to give a reason, why this effect follows not in the same degree upon the fecond marriage of a father: we may reflect on what has been prov'd already, that tho' the imagination goes eafily from the view of a leffer object to that of a greater, yet it returns not with the fame facility from the greater to the less. When my imagination goes from myself to my father, it passes not fo readily from him to his fecond wife, nor confiders him as entering into a different family, but as continuing the head of that family, of which I am myself a part. His superiority prevents the easy transition of the thought from him to his fpouse, but keeps the passage still open for a return to myself along the same relation of child and parent. He is not funk in the new relation he acquires; fo that the double motion or vibration of thought is still easy and natural. By this indulgence of the fancy in its inconstancy, the tie of child and parent still preferves its full force and influence.

A

PART
II.
Of love
and hatred.

A MOTHER thinks not her tie to a fon weaken'd, because 'tis shar'd with her husband: Nor a son his with a parent, because 'tis shar'd with a brother. The third object is here related to the first, as well as to the second; so that the imagination goes and comes along all of them with the greatest facility.

SECT. V.

Of our esteem for the rich and powerful.

SECT. V. OTHING has a greater tendency to give us an esteem for any person, than his power and riches; or a contempt, than his poverty and meanness: And as esteem and contempt are to be consider'd as species of love and hatred, 'twill be proper in this place to explain these phænomena.

HERE it happens most fortunately, that the greatest difficulty is not to discover a principle capable of producing such an effect, but to choose the chief and predominant among several, that present themselves. The satisfaction we take in the riches of others, and

T45

and the esteem we have for the possessors SECT. may be ascrib'd to three different causes. First, To the objects they posses; such as of our houses, gardens, equipages; which, being esteem for agreeable in themselves, necessarily produce and powa fentiment of pleasure in every one, that erful either confiders or furveys them. Secondly, To the expectation of advantage from the rich and powerful by our sharing their pos-Thirdly, To fympathy, which feffions. makes us partake of the fatisfaction of every one, that approaches us. All these principles may concur in producing the present phænomenon. The question is, to which of them we ought principally to ascribe it.

'Tis certain, that the first principle, viz. the reflection on agreeable objects, has a greater influence, than what, at first fight, we may be apt to imagine. We feldom reflect on what is beautiful or ugly, agreeable or difagreeable, without an emotion of pleasure or uneafiness; and tho' these fensations appear not much in our common indolent way of thinking, 'tis eafy, either in reading or conversation, to discover them. Men of wit always turn the discourse on fubjects that are entertaining to the imagination; and poets never present any objects but fuch as are of the same nature. Mr. Philips VOL. II.

II. Of love and batred.

PART Philips has chosen Cyder for the subject of an excellent poem. Beer wou'd not have been fo proper, as being neither fo agreeable to the taste nor eye. But he wou'd certainly have preferr'd wine to either of them. cou'd his native country have afforded him fo ageeeable a liquor. We may learn from thence, that every thing, which is agreeable to the fenses, is also in some measure agreeable to the fancy, and conveys to the thought an image of that fatisfaction, which it gives by its real application to the bodily organs.

> But tho' these reasons may induce us to comprehend this delicacy of the imagination among the causes of the respect, which we pay the rich and powerful, there are many other reasons, that may keep us from regarding it as the fole or principal. For as the ideas of pleasure can have an influence only by means of their vivacity, which makes them approach impreffions, 'tis most natural those ideas shou'd have that influence, which are favour'd by most circumstances, and have a natural tendency to become strong and lively; such as our ideas of the passions and sensations of any human creature. Every human creature refembles ourselves, and by that means has an advantage above any other object, in operating on the imagination. BE-

BESIDES, if we consider the nature of SECT. that faculty, and the great influence which all relations have upon it, we shall easily be of our perswaded, that however the ideas of the esteem for pleafant wines, music, or gardens, which and powthe rich man enjoys, may become lively erful and agreeable, the fancy will not confine itself to them, but will carry its view to the related objects; and in particular, to the person, who possesses them. And this is the more natural, that the pleasant idea or image produces here a paffion towards the person, by means of his relation to the object; fo that 'tis unavoidable but he must enter into the original conception, fince he makes the object of the derivative passion. But if he enters into the original conception, and is confider'd as enjoying these agreeable objects, 'tis sympathy, which is properly the cause of the affection; and the third principle is more powerful and univerfal than the first.

ADD to this, that riches and power alone, even tho' unemploy'd, naturally cause esteem and respect: And consequently these passions arise not from the idea of any beautiful or agreeable objects. 'Tis true; money implies a kind of representation of such objects, by the power it affords of obtaining them; and for that reason may still be esteem'd proper to convey those agreeable

L 2

images,

II. Of love

and batred.

148

PART images, which may give rife to the paffion. But as this prospect is very distant, 'tis more natural for us to take a contiguous object, viz. the fatisfaction, which this power affords the person, who is possest of it. And of this we shall be farther satisfy'd, if we confider, that riches represent the goods of life, only by means of the will; which employs them; and therefore imply in their very nature an idea of the person, and cannot be confider'd without a kind of fympathy with his fenfations and enjoyments.

THIS we may confirm by a reflection, which to fome will, perhaps, appear too fubtile and refin'd. I have already observ'd, that power, as distinguish'd from its exercife, has either no meaning at all, or is nothing but a poffibility or probability of existence; by which any object approaches to reality, and has a fenfible influence on the mind. I have also observ'd, that this approach, by an illusion of the fancy, appears much greater, when we ourselves are possest of the power, than when it is enjoy'd by another; and that in the former case the objects feem to touch upon the very verge of reality, and convey almost an equal fatisfaction, as if actually in our possession. Now I affert, that where we esteem a perfon upon account of his riches, we must enter enter into this fentiment of the proprietor, SECT. and that without such a sympathy the idea of the agreeable objects, which they give of our him the power to produce, wou'd have but esteem for the rich a feeble influence upon us. An avaritious and power man is respected for his money, tho' he scarce is possest of a power; that is, there scarce is a probability or even possibility of his employing it in the acquisition of the pleasures and conveniences of life. To himself alone this power seems perfect and entire; and therefore we must receive his sentiments by sympathy, before we can have a strong intense idea of these enjoyments, or esteem him upon account of them.

Thus we have found, that the first principle, viz. the agreeable idea of those objects, which riches afford the enjoyment of; resolves itself in a great measure into the third, and becomes a sympathy with the person we esteem or love. Let us now examine the second principle, viz. the agreeable expectation of advantage, and see what force we may justly attribute to it.

'Trs obvious, that tho' riches and authority undoubtedly give their owner a power of doing us fervice, yet this power is not to be confider'd as on the fame footing with that, which they afford him, of L 3 pleasing

Of love and ha-

150

PART pleafing himself, and satisfying his own appetites. Self-love approaches the power and exercife very near each other in the latter case; but in order to produce a fimilar effect in the former, we must suppose a friendship and good-will to be conjoin'd with the riches. Without that circumstance 'tis difficult to conceive on what we can found our hope of advantage from the riches of others, tho' there is nothing more certain than that we naturally efteem and respect the rich, even before we discover in them any fuch favourable disposition towards us.

But I carry this farther, and observe not only that we respect the rich and powerful, where they shew no inclination to ferve us, but also when we lie so much out of the sphere of their activity, that they cannot even be suppos'd to be endow'd with that power. Prisoners of war are always treated with a respect suitable to their condition; and 'tis certain riches go very far towards fixing the condition of any person. If birth and quality enter for a share, this still affords us an argument of the same kind, For what is it we call a man of birth, but one who is descended from a long succesfion of rich and powerful ancestors, and who acquires our esteem by his relation to perfons

fons whom we efteem? His ancestors, there- SECT. fore, tho' dead, are respected, in some meafure, on account of their riches, and con- Of our fequently without any kind of expectation. efteem for

But not to go fo far as prisoners of war and powand the dead to find inftances of this dif- erful. interested esteem for riches, let us observe with a little attention those phænomena that occur to us in common life and conversation. A man, who is himself of a competent fortune, upon coming into a company of strangers, naturally treats them with different degrees of respect and deference, as he is inform'd of their different fortunes and conditions; tho' 'tis impossible he can ever propose, and perhaps wou'd not accept of any advantage from them. A traveller is always admitted into company, and meets with civility, in proportion as his train and equipage speak him a man of great or moderate fortune. In short, the different ranks of men are, in a great measure, regulated by riches, and that with regard to superiors as well as inferiors, ftrangers as well as acquaintance.

THERE is, indeed, an answer to these arguments, drawn from the influence of general rules. It may be pretended, that being accustom'd to expect succour and pro-L 4 tection

PART tection from the rich and powerful, and to II.

of love and bather them in their fortune, but from whom we can never hope for any advantage. The general rule still prevails, and by giving a bent to the imagination draws along the passion, in the same manner as if its proper object were real and existent.

But that this principle does not here take place, will eafily appear, if we confider, that in order to establish a general rule, and extend it beyond its proper bounds, there is requir'd a certain uniformity in our experience, and a great superiority of those instances, which are conformable to the rule, above the contrary. But here the case is quite otherwise. Of a hundred men of credit and fortune I meet with, there is not, perhaps, one from whom I can expect advantage; so that 'tis impossible any custom can ever prevail in the present case.

UPON THE WHOLE, there remains nothing, which can give us an esteem for power and riches, and a contempt for meanness and poverty, except the principle of sympathy, by which we enter into the sentiments of the rich and poor, and partake of their pleasure and uncasiness. Riches

153

give fatisfaction to their possessor; and this Sect. fatisfaction is convey'd to the beholder by the imagination, which produces an idea of our resembling the original impression in force estimate the rich and vivacity. This agreeable idea or im- and powpression is connected with love, which is erful. an agreeable passion. It proceeds from a thinking conscious being, which is the very object of love. From this relation of impressions, and identity of ideas, the passion arises, according to my hypothesis.

THE best method of reconciling us to this opinion is to take a general furvey of the universe, and observe the force of sympathy thro' the whole animal creation, and the easy communication of sentiments from one thinking being to another. In all creatures, that prey not upon others, and are not agitated with violent paffions, there appears a remarkable defire of company, which affociates them together, without any advantages they can ever propose to reap from their union. This is still more conspicuous in man, as being the creature of the universe, who has the most ardent defire of fociety, and is fitted for it by the most advantages. We can form no wish, which has not a reference to fociety. A perfect folitude is, perhaps, the greatest punishment

Of love

and batred.

PART we can fuffer. Every pleasure languishes when enjoy'd a-part from company, and every pain becomes more cruel and intolerable. Whatever other passions we may be actuated by; pride, ambition, avarice curiofity, revenge or lust; the foul or animating principle of them all is fympathy; nor wou'd they have any force, were we to abstract entirely from the thoughts and fentiments of others. Let all the powers and elements of nature conspire to serve and obey one man: Let the fun rise and set at his command: The fea and rivers roll as he pleafes, and the earth furnish spontaneously whatever may be useful or agreeable to him: He will still be miserable, till you give him fome one person at least, with whom he may share his happiness, and whose esteem and friendship he may enjoy.

THIS conclusion from a general view of human nature, we may confirm by particular instances, wherein the force of fympathy is very remarkable. Most kinds of beauty are deriv'd from this origin; and tho' our first object be some senseless inanimate piece of matter, 'tis feldom we rest there, and carry not our view to its influence on sensible and rational creatures. A man, who shews us any house or building, takes particular care among other things to point out SECT. the convenience of the apartments, the advantages of their fituation, and the little of our room lost in the stairs, anti-chambers and esteem for passages; and indeed 'tis evident, the chief the rich part of the beauty confifts in these particu- erful. lars. The observation of convenience gives pleasure, fince convenience is a beauty. But after what manner does it give pleafure? 'Tis certain our own interest is not in the least concern'd; and as this is a beauty of interest, not of form, so to speak, it must delight us merely by communication, and by our fympathizing with the proprietor of the lodging. We enter into his interest by the force of imagination, and feel the fame fatisfaction, that the objects naturally occasion in him.

This observation extends to tables, chairs, scritoires, chimneys, coaches, sadles, ploughs, and indeed to every work of art; it being an universal rule, that their beauty is chiefly deriv'd from their utility, and from their stress for that purpose, to which they are destin'd. But this is an advantage, that concerns only the owner, nor is there any thing but sympathy, which can interest the spectator.

TIS.

PART

I. m

Of love fc.
and ba- tic

'Tis evident, that nothing renders a field more agreeable than its fertility, and that scarce any advantages of ornament or situation will be able to equal this beauty. 'Tis the fame case with particular trees and plants, as with the field on which they grow. I know not but a plain, overgrown with furze and broom, may be, in itself, as beautiful as a hill cover'd with vines or olive-trees; tho' it will never appear fo to one, who is acquainted with the value of each. But this is a beauty merely of imagination, and has no foundation in what appears to the fenses. Fertility and value have a plain reference to use; and that to riches, joy, and plenty; in which tho' we have no hope of partaking, yet we enter into them by the vivacity of the fancy, and share them, in some measure, with the proprietor.

THERE is no rule in painting more reafonable than that of ballancing the figures, and placing them with the greatest exactness on their proper center of gravity. A figure, which is not justly ballanc'd, is disagreeable; and that because it conveys the ideas of its fall, of harm, and of pain: Which ideas are painful, when by sympa-

157

love

thy they acquire any degree of force and SECT. vivacity.

ADD to this, that the principal part of of our personal beauty is an air of health and vi-esteem for gour, and such a construction of members and power as promises strength and activity. This erful. idea of beauty cannot be accounted for but by sympathy.

In general we may remark, that the minds of men are mirrors to one another, not only because they reflect each others emotions, but also because those rays of pasfions, fentiments and opinions may be often reverberated, and may decay away by infenfible degrees. Thus the pleasure, which a rich man receives from his possessions, being thrown upon the beholder, causes a pleasure and esteem; which sentiments again, being perceiv'd and fympathiz'd with, encrease the pleasure of the possessor; and being once more reflected, become a new foundation for pleasure and esteem in the beholder. There is certainly an original fatisfaction in riches deriv'd from that power, which they bestow, of enjoying all the pleasures of life; and as this is their very nature and essence, it must be the first source of all the pasfions, which arise from them. One of the most considerable of these passions is that of

Of love and batred.

PART love or esteem in others, which therefore proceeds from a sympathy with the pleasure of the possessor. But the possessor has also a fecondary fatisfaction in riches arifing from the love and esteem he acquires by them. and this fatisfaction is nothing but a fecond reflexion of that original pleafure, which proceeded from himfelf. This fecondary fatisfaction or vanity becomes one of the principal recommendations of riches, and is the chief reason, why we either defire them for ourfelves, or esteem them in others. Here then is a third rebound of the original pleasure; after which 'tis difficult to diftinguish the images and reflexions, by reason of their faintness and confusion.

SECT. VI.

Of benevolence and anger.

SECT. TDEAS may be compar'd to the exten-I fion and folidity of matter, and impreffions, especially reflective ones, to colours. taftes, fmells and other fenfible qualities. Ideas never admit of a total union, but are endow'd with a kind of impenetrability, by which they exclude each other, and are capable

pable of forming a compound by their SECT. conjunction, not by their mixture. On the other hand, impressions and passions are of benefusceptible of an entire union; and like colours, may be blended so perfectly together, that each of them may lose itself, and contribute only to vary that uniform impression, which arises from the whole. Some of the most curious phænomena of the human mind are deriv'd from this property of

the paffions. In examining those ingredients, which are capable of uniting with love and hatred, I begin to be fenfible, in some measure, of a misfortune, that has attended every fystem of philosophy, with which the world has been yet acquainted. 'Tis commonly found, that in accounting for the operations of nature by any particular hypothesis; among a number of experiments, that quadrate exactly with the principles we wou'd endeavour to establish; there is always some phænomenon, which is more stubborn, and will not fo eafily bend to our purpose. We need not be furpriz'd, that this shou'd happen in natural philosophy. The effence and composition of external bodies are so obscure, that we must necessarily, in our reasonings, or rather conjectures concerning them,

Of love and batred.

160

PART them, involve ourselves in contradictions and abfurdities. But as the perceptions of the mind are perfectly known, and I have us'd all imaginable caution in forming conclufions concerning them, I have always hop'd to keep clear of those contradictions, which have attended every other fystem. Accordingly the difficulty, which I have at prefent in my eye, is no-wife contrary to my fystem; but only departs a little from that fimplicity, which has been hitherto its principal force and beauty.

THE passions of love and hatred are always follow'd by, or rather conjoin'd with benevolence and anger. 'Tis this conjunction, which chiefly distinguishes these affections from pride and humility. For pride and humility are pure emotions in the foul, unattended with any defire, and not immediately exciting us to action. But love and hatred are not compleated within themfelves, nor rest in that emotion, which they produce, but carry the mind to fomething farther. Love is always follow'd by a defire of the happiness of the person belov'd, and an aversion to his misery: As hatred produces a defire of the mifery and an aversion to the happiness of the person hated. So remarkable a difference betwixt these two fets of passions of pride and humility, love SECT. and hatred, which in so many other particulars correspond to each other, merits our of beneattention.

THE conjunction of this defire and aversion with love and hatred may be accounted for by two different hypotheses. The first is, that love and hatred have not only a cause, which excites them, viz. pleasure and pain; and an object, to which they are directed, viz. a person or thinking being; but likewise an end, which they endeavour to attain, viz. the happiness or misery of the person belov'd or hated; all which views, mixing together, make only one paffion. According to this system, love is nothing but the defire of happiness to another person, and hatred that of misery. The defire and aversion constitute the very nature of love and hatred. They are not only inseparable but the same.

But this is evidently contrary to experience. For the 'tis certain we never love any person without desiring his happiness, nor hate any without wishing his misery, yet these desires arise only upon the ideas of the happiness or misery of our friend or enemy being presented by the imagination,

Vol. II. M and

II. Of love and batred.

PART and are not absolutely effential to love and They are the most obvious and nahatred. tural fentiments of these affections, but not the only ones. The passions may express themselves in a hundred ways, and may fubfift a confiderable time, without our reflecting on the happiness or misery of their objects; which clearly proves, that these defires are not the same with love and hatred. nor make any effential past of them.

WE may, therefore, infer, that benevolence and anger are passions different from love and hatred, and only conjoin'd with them, by the original constitution of the mind. As nature has given to the body certain appetites and inclinations, which she encreases, diminishes, or changes according to the fituation of the fluids or folids; she has proceeded in the fame manner with the mind. According as we are poffes'd with love or hatred, the correspondent defire of the happiness or misery of the perfon, who is the object of these passions, arifes in the mind, and varies with each variation of these opposite passions. This order of things, abstractedly consider'd, is not necessary. Love and hatred might have been unattended with any fuch defires, or their

163

their particular connexion might have been SECT. entirely revers'd. If nature had so pleas'd, VI. love might have had the same effect as hatred, and hatred as love. I see no contravolence and anger. diction in supposing a desire of producing misery annex'd to love, and of happiness to hatred. If the sensation of the passion and desire be opposite, nature cou'd have alter'd the sensation without altering the tendency of the desire, and by that means made them compatible with each other.

SECT. VII.

Of compassion.

BUT tho' the defire of the happiness SECT. or misery of others, according to the VII. love or hatred we bear them, be an arbitrary and original instinct implanted in our nature, we find it may be counterseited on many occasions, and may arise from secondary principles. Pity is a concern for, and malice a joy in the misery of others, without any friendship or enmity to occasion this concern or joy. We pity even strangers, and such as are persectly indifferent to us: And if our ill-will to another proceed

PART from any harm or injury, it is not, properII. ly fpeaking, malice, but revenge. But if we examine these affections of pity and malice we shall find them to be secondary ones, arising from original affections, which are varied by some particular turn of thought and imagination.

Twill be eafy to explain the passion of pity, from the precedent reasoning concerning sympathy. We have a lively idea of every thing related to us. All human creatures are related to us by resemblance. Their persons, therefore, their interests, their passions, their pains and pleasures must strike upon us in a lively manner, and produce an emotion similar to the original one; since a lively idea is easily converted into an impression. If this be true in general, it must be more so of affliction and sorrow. These have always a stronger and more lasting influence than any pleasure or enjoyment.

A SPECTATOR of a tragedy passes thro a long train of grief, terror, indignation, and other affections, which the poet represents in the persons he introduces. As many tragedies end happily, and no excellent one can be compos'd without some reverses

verses of fortune, the spectator must sympa- SECT. thize with all these changes, and receive VII. the fictitious joy as well as every other paf- Of comfion. Unless, therefore, it be afferted, that passion. every diffinct paffion is communicated by a distinct original quality, and is not deriv'd from the general principle of fympathy above-explain'd, it must be allow'd, that all of them arise from that principle. To except any one in particular must appear highly unreasonable. As they are all first prefent in the mind of one person, and afterwards appear in the mind of another; and as the manner of their appearance, first as an idea, then as an impression, is in every case the same, the transition must arise from the same principle. I am at least fure, that this method of reasoning wou'd be confider'd as certain, either in natural philofophy or common life.

ADD to this, that pity depends, in a great measure, on the contiguity, and even fight of the object; which is a proof, that 'tis deriv'd from the imagination. Not to. mention that women and children are most fubject to pity, as being most guided by that faculty. The fame infirmity, which makes them faint at the fight of a naked fword, M 3

II.

Of love and ba-

tred.

PART fword, tho' in the hands of their best friend makes them pity extremely those, whom they find in any grief or affliction. Those philosophers, who derive this passion from I know not what fubtile reflections on the instability of fortune, and our being liable to the same miseries we behold, will find this observation contrary to them among a great many others, which it were easy to produce.

> THERE remains only to take notice of a pretty remarkable phænomenon of this paffion; which is, that the communicated paffion of fympathy fometimes acquires strength from the weakness of its original, and even arises by a transition from affections, which have no existence. Thus when a person obtains any honourable office, or inherits a great fortune, we are always the more rejoic'd for his prosperity, the less fense he seems to have of it, and the greater equanimity and indifference he shews in its enjoyment. In like manner a man, who is not dejected by misfortunes, is the more lamented on account of his patience; and if that virtue extends fo far as utterly to remove all fense of uneafiness, it still farther encreases our compassion. When a person of merit falls

167

falls into what is vulgarly esteem'd a great SECT. misfortune, we form a notion of his con- VII. dition; and carrying our fancy from the Of comcause to the usual effect, first conceive a passion. lively idea of his forrow, and then feel an impression of it, entirely over-looking that greatness of mind, which elevates him above fuch emotions, or only confidering it fo far as to encrease our admiration, love and tenderness for him. We find from experience, that fuch a degree of paffion is usually connected with such a misfortune; and tho' there be an exception in the prefent case, yet the imagination is affected by the general rule, and makes us conceive a lively idea of the passion, or rather feel the passion itself, in the same manner, as if the person were really actuated by it. From the same principles we blush for the conduct of those, who behave themselves foolishly before us; and that tho' they shew no fense of shame, nor feem in the least conscious of their folly. All this proceeds from fympathy; but 'tis of a partial kind, and views its objects only on one fide, without confidering the other, which has a contrary effect, and wou'd entirely destroy that emotion, which arises from the first appearance.

M 4

WE

PART

II. di

Of love en

and hatred.

WE have also instances, wherein an indifference and infenfibility under misfortune encreases our concern for the misfortunate. even tho' the indifference proceed not from any virtue and magnanimity. 'Tis an aggravation of a murder, that it was committed upon persons asleep and in persect security; as historians readily observe of any infant prince, who is captive in the hands of his enemies, that he is more worthy of compassion the less sensible he is of his miserable condition. As we ourselves are here acquainted with the wretched fituation of the person, it gives us a lively idea and sensation of forrow, which is the passion that generally attends it; and this idea becomes still more lively, and the fenfation more violent by a contrast with that security and indifference, which we observe in the person himfelf. A contrast of any kind never fails to affect the imagination, especially when prefented by the subject; and 'tis on the imagination that pity entirely depends *.

* To prevent all ambiguity, I must observe, that where I oppose the imagination to the memory, I mean in general the faculty that presents our fainter ideas. In all other places, and particularly when it is opposed to the understanding, I understand the same faculty, excluding only our demonstrative and probable reasonings.

SECT.

SECT. VIII.

Of malice and envy.

E must now proceed to account for Sect. the passion of malice, which imi-VIII. tates the effects of hatred, as pity does those of love; and gives us a joy in the sufferings and miseries of others, without any offence or injury on their part.

So little are men govern'd by reason in their fentiments and opinions, that they always judge more of objects by comparison than from their intrinsic worth and value. When the mind confiders, or is accustom'd to, any degree of perfection, whatever falls short of it, tho' really esteemable, has notwithstanding the same effect upon the pasfions, as what is defective and ill. This is an original quality of the foul, and fimilar to what we have every day experience of in our bodies. Let a man heat one hand and cool the other; the fame water will, at the same time, seem both hot and cold, according to the disposition of the different organs. A fmall degree of any quality, fucceeding a greater, produces the same senfation,

PART fation, as if less than it really is, and even fometimes as the opposite quality. Any gentle pain, that follows a violent one, seems as nothing, or rather becomes a pleasure; as on the other hand a violent pain, succeeding a gentle one, is doubly grievous and uneasy.

THIS no one can doubt of with regard to our passions and sensations. But there may arise some difficulty with regard to our ideas and objects. When an object augments or diminishes to the eye or imagination from a comparison with others, the image and idea of the object are still the fame, and are equally extended in the retina, and in the brain or organ of perception. The eyes refract the rays of light, and the optic nerves convey the images to the brain in the very fame manner, whether a great or fmall object has preceded; nor does even the imagination alter the dimenfions of its object on account of a comparison with others. The question then is, how from the same impression and the same idea we can form such different judgments concerning the same object, and at one time admire its bulk, and at another despise its littleness. This variation in our judgments must

ITI

must certainly proceed from a variation in SECT. fome perception; but as the variation lies VIII. not in the immediate impression or idea of of malice the object, it must lie in some other im- and envy.

pression, that accompanies it.

In order to explain this matter, I shall just touch upon two principles, one of which shall be more fully explain'd in the progress of this treatise; the other has been already accounted for. I believe it may fafely be establish'd for a general maxim, that no object is presented to the senses, nor image form'd in the fancy, but what is accompany'd with fome emotion or movement of spirits proportion'd to it; and however custom may make us insensible of this fensation, and cause us to confound it with the object or idea, 'twill be eafy, by careful and exact experiments, to separate and distinguish them. For to instance only in the cases of extension and number; 'tis evident, that any very bulky object, fuch as the ocean, an extended plain, a vast chain of mountains, a wide forest; or any very numerous collection of objects, fuch as an army, a fleet, a crowd, excite in the mind a fenfible emotion; and that the admiration, which arises on the appearance of such objects,

172

PART jects, is one of the most lively pleasures, which human nature is capable of enjoying. Now as this admiration encreases or di-Of love minishes by the encrease or diminution of and hatred. the objects, we may conclude, according to our foregoing * principles, that 'tis a compound effect, proceeding from the conjunction of the feveral effects, which arise from each part of the cause. Every part, then, of extension, and every unite of number has a feparate emotion attending it, when conceiv'd by the mind; and tho' that emotion be not always agreeable, yet by its conjunction with others, and by its agitating the spirits to a just pitch, it contributes to the production of admiration, which is always agreeable. If this be allow'd with respect to extension and number, we can make no difficulty with respect to virtue and vice,

THE fecond principle I shall take notice of is that of our adherence to general rules; which has such a mighty influence on the actions and understanding, and is able to

* Book I. Part III. Sect. 15.

emotion.

wit and folly, riches and poverty, happiness and misery, and other objects of that kind, which are always attended with an evident

impose

173

impose on the very senses. When an object SECT. is found by experience to be always accom- VIII. pany'd with another; whenever the first of malice object appears, tho' chang'd in very mate- and envy. rial circumstances; we naturally fly to the conception of the fecond, and form an idea of it in as lively and strong a manner, as if we had infer'd its existence by the justest and most authentic conclusion of our understanding. Nothing can undeceive us, not even our fenses, which, instead of correcting this false judgment, are often perverted by it, and feem to authorize its errors.

THE conclusion I draw from these two principles, join'd to the influence of comparison above-mention'd, is very short and decifive. Every object is attended with fome emotion proportion'd to it; a great object with a great emotion, a finall object with a fmall emotion. A great object, therefore, fucceeding a fmall one makes a great emotion fucceed a fmall one. Now a great emotion fucceeding a fmall one becomes still greater, and rifes beyond its ordinary proportion. But as there is a certain degree of an emotion, which commonly attends every magnitude of an object; when the emotion encreases,

Of love and ba-

tred.

PART encreases, we naturally imagine that the obiect has likewise encreas'd. The effect conveys our view to its usual cause, a certain degree of emotion to a certain magnitude of the object; nor do we confider, that comparison may change the emotion without changing any thing in the object. Those, who are acquainted with the metaphyfical part of optics, and know how we transfer the judgments and conclusions of the understanding to the fenses, will easily conceive this whole operation.

Bu T leaving this new discovery of an impression, that secretly attends every idea; we must at least allow of that principle, from whence the discovery arose, that objects appear greater or less by a comparison with others. We have fo many instances of this, that it is impossible we can dispute its veracity; and 'tis from this principle I derive the passions of malice and envy.

'Tis evident we must receive a greater or less satisfaction or uneafiness from reflecting on our own condition and circumstances, in proportion as they appear more or less fortunate or unhappy, in proportion to the degrees of riches, and power, and merit, and reputation, which we think ourfelves poffest

I75

fest of. Now as we seldom judge of ob-SECT. jects from their intrinsic value, but form our VIII. notions of them from a comparison with of malice other objects; it follows, that according as and envy. we observe a greater or less share of happipiness or misery in others, we must make an estimate of our own, and feel a consequent pain or pleasure. The misery of another gives us a more lively idea of our happiness, and his happiness of our misery. The former, therefore, produces delight; and the latter uneasiness.

HERE then is a kind of pity reverst, or contrary fensations arising in the beholder, from those which are felt by the person, whom he confiders. In general we may observe, that in all kinds of comparison an object makes us always receive from another, to which it is compar'd, a fenfation contrary to what arises from itself in its direct and immediate furvey. A fmall object makes a great one appear still greater. A great object makes a little one appear less. Deformity of itself produces uneafiness; but makes us receive new pleafure by its contrast with a beautiful object, whose beauty is augmented by it; as on the other hand, beauty, which of itself produces pleasure, makes us receive

Of love and ha-

tred.

PART a new pain by the contrast with any thing ugly, whose deformity it augments. The case, therefore, must be the same with happiness and misery. The direct survey of another's pleasure naturally gives us pleasure, and therefore produces pain when compar'd with our own. His pain, confider'd in itself, is painful to us, but augments the idea of our own happiness, and gives us pleasure.

> Nor will it appear ftrange, that we may feel a reverst sensation from the happiness and mifery of others; fince we find the same comparison may give us a kind of malice against ourselves, and make us rejoice for our pains, and grieve for our pleasures. Thus the prospect of past pain is agreeable, when we are fatisfy'd with our present condition; as on the other hand our past pleasures give us uneafinefs, when we enjoy nothing at present equal to them. The comparison being the fame, as when we reflect on the fentiments of others, must be attended with the fame effects.

> NAY a person may extend this malice against himself, even to his present fortune, and carry it so far as defignedly to feek affliction, and encrease his pains and forrows.

This

This may happen upon two occasions. First, SECT. Upon the distress and misfortune of a friend, or person dear to him. Secondly, Upon the of malice feeling any remorfes for a crime, of which and envy. he has been guilty. 'Tis from the principle of comparison that both these irregular appetites for evil arife. A person, who indulges himself in any pleasure, while his friend lies under affliction, feels the reflected uneafiness from his friend more fensibly by a comparison with the original pleasure, which he himself enjoys. This contrast, indeed, ought also to inliven the present pleasure. But as grief is here suppos'd to be the predominant passion, every addition falls to that fide, and is fwallow'd up in it, without operating in the least upon the contrary affection. 'Tis the fame case with those penances, which men inflict on themselves for their past fins and failings. When a criminal reflects on the punishment he deferves, the idea of it is magnify'd by a comparison with his present ease and satisfaction; which forces him, in a manner, to feek uneafiness, in order to avoid so disagreeable a contrast.

This reasoning will account for the origin of envy as well as of malice. The only Vol. II. N difference

II. Of love and batred.

PART difference betwixt these passions lies in this. that envy is excited by fome prefent enjoyment of another, which by comparison diminishes our idea of our own: Whereas malice is the unprovok'd defire of producing evil to another, in order to reap a pleasure from the comparison. The enjoyment, which is the object of envy, is commonly superior to our own. A fuperiority naturally feems to overshade us, and presents a disagreeable comparison. But even in the case of an inferiority, we still defire a greater distance. in order to augment still more the idea of ourself. When this distance diminishes. the comparison is less to our advantage; and confequently gives us less pleasure, and is even disagreeable. Hence arises that species of envy, which men feel, when they perceive their inferiors approaching or overtaking them in the purfuit of glory or happiness. In this envy we may see the effects of comparison twice repeated. A man, who compares himself to his inferior, receives a pleasure from the comparison: And when the inferiority decreases by the elevation of the inferior, what shou'd only have been a decrease of pleasure, becomes a real pain, by a new comparison with its preceding con-TIS dition.

'Tis worthy of observation concern- SECT. ing that envy, which arises from a superi- VIII. ority in others, that 'tis not the great dif- Of malice proportion betwixt ourfelf and another, and envy. which produces it; but on the contrary, our proximity. A common foldier bears no fuch envy to his general as to his fergeant or corporal; nor does an eminent writer meet with fo great jealoufy in common hackney fcriblers. as in authors, that more nearly approach him. It may, indeed, be thought, that the greater the disproportion is, the greater must be the uneafiness from the comparison. But we may confider on the other hand, that the great disproportion cuts off the relation, and either keeps us from comparing ourselves with what is remote from us, or diminishes the effects of the comparison. Resemblance and proximity always produce a relation of ideas; and where you destroy these ties, however other accidents may bring two ideas together; as they have no bond or connecting quality to join them in the imagination; 'tis impossible they can remain long united, or have any confiderable influence on each other.

I HAVE observed in considering the nature of ambition, that the great feel a double

N 2 pleasure

II. Of love and batred.

PART pleasure in authority from the comparison of their own condition with that of their flaves; and that this comparison has a double influence, because 'tis natural, and presented by the fubject. When the fancy, in the comparison of objects, passes not easily from the one object to the other, the action of the mind is, in a great measure, broke, and the fancy, in confidering the fecond object, begins, as it were, upon a new footing. The impression, which attends every object, seems not greater in that case by succeeding a less of the fame kind; but these two impreffions are diffinct, and produce their diffinct effects, without any communication together. The want of relation in the ideas breaks the relation of the impressions, and by fuch a feparation prevents their mutual operation and influence.

To confirm this we may observe, that the proximity in the degree of merit is not alone fufficient to give rife to envy, but must be affisted by other relations. A poet is not apt to envy a philosopher, or a poet of a different kind, of a different nation, or of a different age. All these differences prevent or weaken the comparison, and consequently the passion.

THIS

This too is the reason, why all objects Sect. appear great or little, merely by a compatison with those of the same species. A of malice mountain neither magnifies nor diminishes and envy. a horse in our eyes; but when a Flemish and a Welsh horse are seen together, the one appears greater and the other less, than when view'd apart.

FROM the same principle we may account for that remark of historians, that any party in a civil war always choose to call in a foreign enemy at any hazard rather than submit to their fellow-citizens. Guicciardin applies this remark to the wars in Italy, where the relations betwixt the different states are, properly speaking, nothing but of name, language, and contiguity. Yet even these relations, when join'd with superiority, by making the comparison more natural, make it likewise more grievous, and cause men to search for some other superiority, which may be attended with no relation, and by that means may have a less fenfible influence on the imagination. The mind quickly perceives its feveral advantages and disadvantages; and finding its fituation to be most uneasy, where superiority is conjoin'd with other relations, feeks its repose

II. tion, and by breaking that affociation of ideas, which renders the comparison so much more natural and efficacious. When it cannot break the affociation, it feels a stronger desire to remove the superiority; and this is the reason why travellers are commonly so lavish of their praises to the Chinese and Perfans, at the same time, that they depresent

stand upon a foot of rivalship with their native country.

THESE examples from history and common experience are rich and curious; but we may find parallel ones in the arts, which are no less remarkable. Shou'd an author compose a treatise, of which one part was ferious and profound, another light and humorous, every one wou'd condemn fo strange a mixture, and wou'd accuse him of the neglect of all rules of art and criticism. These rules of art are founded on the qualitics of human nature; and the quality of human nature, which requires a confiftency in every performance, is that which renders the mind incapable of passing in a moment from one passion and disposition to a quite different one. Yet this makes us not

ciate those neighbouring nations, which may

not blame Mr. Prior for joining his Alma SECT. and his Solomon in the same volume; tho' VIII. that admirable poet has succeeded perfectly of malice well in the gaiety of the one, as well as and envy. in the melancholy of the other. Even supposing the reader shou'd peruse these two compositions without any interval, he wou'd feel little or no difficulty in the change of passions: Why, but because he considers these performances as entirely different, and by this break in the ideas, breaks the progress of the affections, and hinders the one from influencing or contradicting the other?

A N heroic and burlesque design, united in one picture, wou'd be monstrous; tho' we place two pictures of so opposite a character in the same chamber, and even close by each other, without any scruple or difficulty.

In a word, no ideas can affect each other, either by comparison, or by the passions they separately produce, unless they be united together by some relation, which may cause an easy transition of the ideas, and consequently of the emotions or impressions, attending the ideas; and may preserve the one impression in the passage of the imagination to the object of the other. This principle is very remarkable, because it is N 4 analogous

Of love

and batred.

PART analogous to what we have observ'd both concerning the understanding and the passions. Suppose two objects to be presented to me, which are not connected by any kind of relation. Suppose that each of these objects separately produces a passion; and that these two passions are in themselves contrary: We find from experience, that the want of relation in the objects or ideas hinders the natural contrariety of the paffions, and that the break in the transition of the thought removes the affections from each other, and prevents their opposition. 'Tis the same case with comparison; and from both these phænomena we may safely conclude, that the relation of ideas must forward the transition of impressions; since its absence alone is able to prevent it, and to separate what naturally shou'd have operated upon each other. When the absence of an object or quality removes any usual or natural effect, we may certainly conclude that its presence contributes to the production of the effect.

SECT.

Of the mixture of benevolence and anger with compassion and malice.

THUS we have endeavour'd to ac-SECT. count for pity and malice. Both IX. these affections arise from the imagination, according to the light, in which it places its object. When our fancy confiders directly the fentiments of others, and enters deep into them, it makes us fensible of all the paffions it furveys, but in a particular manner of grief or forrow. On the contrary, when we compare the fentiments of others to our own, we feel a fensation directly opposite to the original one, viz. a joy from the grief of others, and a grief from their joy. But these are only the first foundations of the affections of pity and malice. Other paffions are afterwards confounded with them. There is always a mixture of love or tenderness with pity, and of hatred or anger with malice. But it must be confess'd, that this mixture seems at first fight to be contradictory to my fystem. For as pity

PART pity is an uneafines, and malice a joy, arising from the misery of others, pity shou'd naturally, as in all other cases, produce hatred; and malice, love. This contradiction I endeavour to reconcile, after the following manner.

IN order to cause a transition of passions, there is requir'd a double relation of impressions and ideas, nor is one relation sufficient to produce this effect. But that we may understand the full force of this double relation, we must consider, that 'tis not the prefent fensation alone or momentary pain or pleasure, which determines the character of any passion, but the whole bent or tendency of it from the beginning to the end. One impression may be related to another, not only when their fenfations are refembling, as we have all along suppos'd in the preceding cases; but also when their impulses or directions are fimilar and correfpondent. This cannot take place with regard to pride and humility; because these are only pure fenfations, without any direction or tendency to action. We are, therefore, to look for inftances of this peculiar relation of impressions only in such affections, as are attended with a certain appetite

187

tite or defire; fuch as those of love and ha-SECT. tred. IX.

BENEVOLENCE or the appetite, which of the attends love, is a defire of the happiness of mixture of the person belov'd, and an aversion to his lence, &c. misery; as anger or the appetite, which attends hatred, is a defire of the mifery of the person hated, and an aversion to his happiness. A desire, therefore, of the happiness of another, and aversion to his misery, are fimilar to benevolence; and a defire of his mifery and aversion to his happiness are correspondent to anger. Now pity is a defire of happiness to another, and aversion to his mifery; as malice is the contrary appetite. Pity, then, is related to benevolence; and malice to anger: And as benevolence has been already found to be connected with love, by a natural and original quality, and anger with hatred; 'tis by this chain the passions of pity and malice are connected with love and hatred.

This hypothesis is founded on sufficient experience. A man, who from any motives has entertain'd a resolution of performing an action, naturally runs into every other view or motive, which may fortify that resolution, and give it authority and influence

II. Of love and hatred.

PART influence on the mind. To confirm us in any defign, we fearch for motives drawn from interest, from honour, from duty. What wonder, then, that pity and benevolence, malice, and anger, being the same defires arifing from different principles. shou'd fo totally mix together as to be undistinguishable? As to the connexion betwixt benevolence and love, anger and hatred, being original and primary, it admits of no difficulty.

> WE may add to this another experiment, viz. that benevolence and anger, and confequently love and hatred, arife when our happiness or misery have any dependance on the happiness or misery of another person, without any farther relation. I doubt not but this experiment will appear fo fingular as to excuse us for stopping a moment to confider it.

> Suppose, that two persons of the same trade shou'd feek employment in a town, that is not able to maintain both, 'tis plain the fuccess of one is perfectly incompatible with that of the other, and that whatever is for the interest of either is contrary to that of his rival, and so vice versa. Suppose again, that two merchants, tho' living

189

in different parts of the world, shou'd en-SECT. ter into co-partnership together, the advan-IX. tage or loss of one becomes immediately of the advantage or loss of his partner, and mixture of the same fortune necessarily attends both. benevolence, &c. Now 'tis evident, that in the first case, hatred always follows upon the contrariety of interests; as in the second, love arises from their union. Let us consider to what principle we can ascribe these passions.

'Trs plain they arise not from the double relations of impressions and ideas, if we regard only the prefent fenfation. For takeing the first case of rivalship; tho' the pleasure and advantage of an antagonist neceffarily causes my pain and loss, yet to counter-ballance this, his pain and lofs causes my pleasure and advantage; and supposing him to be unsuccessful, I may by this means receive from him a superior de-In the fame manner gree of fatisfaction. the fuccess of a partner rejoices me, but then his misfortunes afflict me in an equal proportion; and 'tis eafy to imagine, that the latter fentiment may in many cases preponderate. But whether the fortune of a rival or partner be good or bad, I always hate the former and love the latter.

THIS

II. Of love and ha-

PART This love of a partner cannot proceed from the relation or connexion betwixt us: in the fame manner as I love a brother or countryman. A rival has almost as close a relation to me as a partner. For as the pleasure of the latter causes my pleasure, and his pain my pain; fo the pleafure of the former causes my pain, and his pain my pleafure. The connexion, then, of cause and effect is the fame in both cases; and if in the one case, the cause and effect has a farther relation of refemblance, they have that of contrariety in the other; which, being also a species of resemblance, leaves the matter pretty equal.

> THE only explication, then, we can give of this phænomenon is deriv'd from that principle of a parallel direction abovemention'd. Our concern for our own interest gives us a pleasure in the pleasure, and a pain in the pain of a partner, after the fame manner as by fympathy we feel a fensation correspondent to those, which appear in any person, who is present with us. On the other hand, the same concern for our interest makes us feel a pain in the pleasure, and a pleasure in the pain of a rival; and in short the same contrariety of fenti-

fentiments as arises from comparison and SECT. malice. Since, therefore, a parallel direction of the affections, proceeding from in-Of the terest, can give rise to benevolence or an-mixture of benevoler, no wonder the same parallel direction, lence, &c. deriv'd from sympathy and from comparison, shou'd have the same effect.

In general we may observe, that 'tis impossible to do good to others, from whatever motive, without feeling some touches of kindness and good-will towards 'em; as the injuries we do, not only cause hatred in the person, who suffers them, but even in ourselves. These phænomena, indeed, may in part be accounted for from other principles.

But here there occurs a confiderable objection, which 'twill be necessary to examine before we proceed any farther. I have endeavour'd to prove, that power and riches, or poverty and meanness; which give rise to love or hatred, without producing any original pleasure or uneasiness; operate upon us by means of a secondary sensation deriv'd from a sympathy with that pain or satisfaction, which they produce in the perfon, who possesses them. From a sympathy with his pleasure there arises love; from that with his uneasiness, hatred. But 'tis

II. Of love and batred.

PART a maxim, which I have just now establish'd, and which is absolutely necessary to the explication of the phænomena of pity and malice, "That 'tis not the present " fensation or momentary pain or pleasure, " which determines the character of any " paffion, but the general bent or tendency " of it from the beginning to the end," For this reason, pity or a sympathy with pain produces love, and that because it interests us in the fortunes of others, good or bad, and gives us a fecondary fenfation correspondent to the primary; in which it has the fame influence with love and benevolence. Since then this rule holds good in one case, why does it not prevail throughout, and why does fympathy in uneafiness ever produce any paffion befide good-will and kindness? Is it becoming a philosopher to alter his method of reasoning, and run from one principle to its contrary, according to the particular phænomenon, which he wou'd explain?

I HAVE mention'd two different causes, from which a transition of passion may arife, viz. a double relation of ideas and impressions, and what is similar to it, a conformity in the tendency and direction of any two desires, which arise from different prin-Sect. ciples. Now I assert, that when a sympa-IX. thy with uneasiness is weak, it produces ha-Of the tred or contempt by the former cause; mixture of when strong, it produces love or tenderness lence, &c. by the latter. This is the solution of the foregoing difficulty, which seems so urgent; and this is a principle founded on such e-vident arguments, that we ought to have established it, even the it were not necessary to the explication of any phænomenon.

'Tis certain, that fympathy is not always limited to the present moment, but that we often feel by communication the pains and pleasures of others, which are not in being, and which we only anticipate by the force of imagination. For supposing I saw a person persectly unknown to me, who, while afleep in the fields, was in danger of being trod under foot by horses, I shou'd immediately run to his affiftance; and in this I shou'd be actuated by the same principle of sympathy, which makes me concern'd for the present sorrows of a stranger. The bare mention of this is fufficient. Sympathy being nothing but a lively idea converted into an impression, 'tis Vol. II.

II.

Of love and ba-

tred.

PART evident, that, in confidering the future poffible or probable condition of any person, we may enter into it with fo vivid a conception as to make it our own concern; and by that means be fenfible of pains and pleafures, which neither belong to ourfelves, nor at the prefent inftant have any real exiftence.

> But however we may look forward to the future in fympathizing with any perfon, the extending of our sympathy depends in a great measure upon our sense of his present condition. 'Tis a great effort of imagination, to form fuch lively ideas even of the present sentiments of others as to feel these very sentiments; but 'tis impossible we cou'd extend this fympathy to the future, without being aided by fome circumstance in the prefent, which strikes upon us in a lively manner. When the present misery of another has any strong influence upon me, the vivacity of the conception is not confin'd merely to its immediate object, but diffuses its influence over all the related ideas, and gives me a lively notion of all the circumftances of that perfon, whether past, present, or future; possible, probable or certain. By means of this lively notion I

am interested in them; take part with them; SECT. and feel a fympathetic motion in my breaft, conformable to whatever I imagine in his. Of the If I diminish the vivacity of the first concep- mixture of tion, I diminish that of the related ideas; as lence, &c. pipes can convey no more water than what arises at the fountain. By this diminution I destroy the future prospect, which is neceffary to interest me perfectly in the fortune of another. I may feel the present impression, but carry my sympathy no farther, and never transfuse the force of the first conception into my ideas of the related objects. If it be another's mifery, which is presented in this feeble manner, I receive it by communication, and am affected with all the paffions related to it: But as I am not fo much interested as to concern myfelf in his good fortune, as well as his bad, I never feel the extensive sympathy, nor the passions related to it.

Now in order to know what passions are related to these different kinds of sympathy, we must consider, that benevolence is an original pleasure arising from the pleasure of the person belov'd, and a pain proceeding from his pain: From which correspondence of impressions there arises a subsequent de-

2

II. Of love and batred.

PART fire of his pleasure, and aversion to his pain. In order, then, to make a paffion run parallel with benevolence, 'tis requifite we shou'd feel these double impressions, correspondent to those of the person, whom we confider; nor is any one of them alone fufficient for that purpose. When we fympathize only with one impression, and that a painful one, this fympathy is related to anger and to hatred, upon account of the uneafiness it conveys to us. But as the extensive or limited sympathy depends upon the force of the first sympathy; it follows, that the passion of love or hatred depends upon the same principle. A strong impreffion, when communicated, gives a double tendency of the passions; which is related to benevolence and love by a fimilarity of direction; however painful the first impresfion might have been. A weak impression, that is painful, is related to anger and hatred by the refemblance of fensations. Benevolence, therefore, arises from a great degree of mifery, or any degree strongly sympathiz'd with: Hatred or contempt from a fmall degree, or one weakly fympathiz'd with; which is the principle I intended to prove and explain.

Non

Nor have we only our reason to trust SECT. to for this principle, but also experience. A IX. certain degree of poverty produces con- of the tempt; but a degree beyond causes compas- mixture of fion and good-will. We may under-value lence, &c. a peafant or fervant; but when the mifery of a beggar appears very great, or is painted in very lively colours, we fympathize with him in his afflictions, and feel in our heart evident touches of pity and benevolence. The fame object causes contrary passions according to its different degrees. The paffions, therefore, must depend upon principles, that operate in fuch certain degrees, according to my hypothesis. The encrease of the sympathy has evidently the same effect as the encrease of the misery.

A BARREN or defolate country always feems ugly and difagreeable, and commonly infpires us with contempt for the inhabitants. This deformity, however, proceeds in a great measure from a sympathy with the inhabitants, as has been already obferv'd; but it is only a weak one, and reaches no farther than the immediate sensation, which is disagreeable. The view of a city in ashes conveys benevolent sentiments; because we there enter so deep into the inte-

refts

PART rests of the miserable inhabitants, as to wish TT. for their prosperity, as well as feel their adverfity. Of love

and batred.

198

But the the force of the impression generally produces pity and benevolence, 'tis certain, that by being carry'd too far it ceases to have that effect. This, perhaps, may be worth our notice. When the uneafiness is either small in itself, or remote from us, it engages not the imagination, nor is able to convey an equal concern for the future and contingent good, as for the present and real evil. Upon its acquiring greater force, we become so interested in the concerns of the person, as to be sensible both of his good and bad fortune; and from that compleat fympathy there arises pity and benevolence. But 'twill eafily be imagin'd, that where the prefent evil strikes with more than ordinary force, it may entirely engage our attention, and prevent that double fympathy, above-mention'd. Thus we find, that tho' every one, but especially women, are apt to contract a kindness for criminals, who go to the fcaffold, and readily imagine them to be uncommonly handsome and well-shap'd; yet one, who is prefent at the cruel execution of the rack,

199

rack, feels no fuch tender emotions; but is SECT. in a manner overcome with horror, and IX. has no leifure to temper this uneafy fenfa- Of the tion by any opposite sympathy. mixture of benevo-

But the instance, which makes the lence. &c. most clearly for my hypothesis, is that wherein by a change of the objects we feparate the double fympathy even from a midling degree of the passion; in which case we find, that pity, instead of producing love and tenderness as usual, always gives rife to the contrary affection. When we observe a person in missortunes, we are affected with pity and love; but the author of that misfortune becomes the object of our strongest hatred, and is the more detested in proportion to the degree of our compassion. Now for what reason shou'd the same passion of pity produce love to the person, who suffers the misfortune, and hatred to the person, who causes it; unless it be because in the latter case the author bears a relation only to the misfortune; whereas in confidering the fufferer we carry our view on every fide, and wish for his prosperity, as well as are sensible of his affliction?

O 4 I SHALL

PART II. Of love and hatred.

200

I SHALL just observe, before I leave the present subject, that this phænomenon of the double fympathy, and its tendency to cause love, may contribute to the production of the kindness, which we naturally bear our relations and acquaintance. Custom and relation make us enter deeply into the fentiments of others; and whatever fortune we suppose to attend them, is render'd prefent to us by the imagination, and operates as if originally our own, We rejoice in their pleasures, and grieve for their forrows, merely from the force of fympathy. Nothing that concerns them is indifferent to us; and as this correspondence of fentiments is the natural attendant of love, it readily produces that affection, wolf anothermos too to some

TDES whereas in confidering the fairer-

LIAMS I at a to \$ 101 execution of

SECT. X.

Of respect and contempt.

THERE now remains only to explain SECT. the passions of respect and contempt, along with the amorous affection, in order to understand all the passions which have any mixture of love or hatred. Let us begin with respect and contempt.

In confidering the qualities and circumflances of others, we may either regard them
as they really are in themfelves; or may
make a comparison betwixt them and our
own qualities and circumftances; or may
join these two methods of confideration.
The good qualities of others, from the first
point of view, produce love; from the second, humility; and from the third, respect;
which is a mixture of these two passions.
Their bad qualities, after the same manner,
cause either hatred, or pride, or contempt,
according to the light in which we survey
them.

THAT there is a mixture of pride in contempt, and of humility in respect, is, I think,

II. Of love and hatred.

PART too evident, from their very feeling or appearance, to require any particular proof. That this mixture arises from a tacit comparison of the person contemn'd or respected with ourselves is no less evident. The same man may cause either respect, love, or contempt by his condition and talents, according as the person, who considers him, from his inferior becomes his equal or fuperior In changing the point of view, tho' the object may remain the fame, its proportion to ourselves entirely alters; which is the cause of an alteration in the passions. These pasfions, therefore, arife from our observing the proportion; that is, from a comparison.

I HAVE already observ'd, that the mind has a much stronger propensity to pride than to humility, and have endeavour'd, from the principles of human nature, to affign a cause for this phænomenon. Whether my reasoning be receiv'd or not, the phænomenon is undifputed, and appears in many instances. Among the rest, 'tis the reason why there is a much greater mixture of pride in contempt, than of humility in respect, and why we are more elevated with the view of one below us, than mortify'd with the presence of one above us. Contempt

203

tempt or scorn has so strong a tincture of SECT.

pride, that there scarce is any other passion
discernable: Whereas in esteem or respect, Of respect
love makes a more considerable ingredient and conthan humility. The passion of vanity is so
prompt, that it rouzes at the least call;
while humility requires a stronger impulse
to make it exert itself.

But here it may reasonably be ask'd, why this mixture takes place only in some cases, and appears not on every occasion. All those objects, which cause love, when plac'd on another person, are the causes of pride, when transfer'd to ourselves; and consequently ought to be causes of humility, as well as love, while they belong to others, and are only compar'd to those, which we ourselves possess. In like manner every quality, which, by being directly confider'd, produces hatred, ought always to give rife to pride by comparison, and by a mixture of these passions of hatred and pride ought to excite contempt or fcorn. The difficulty then is, why any objects ever cause pure love or hatred, and produce not always the mixt passions of respect and contempt.

I HAVE suppos'd all along, that the paffions of love and pride, and those of humility

II. Of love and hatred.

PART mility and hatred are fimilar in their fenfations, and that the two former are always agreeable, and the two latter painful. But tho' this be univerfally true, 'tis observable, that the two agreeable, as well as the two painful passions, have some differences, and even contrarieties, which distinguish them. Nothing invigorates and exalts the mind equally with pride and vanity; tho' at the same time love or tenderness is rather found to weaken and infeeble it. The fame difference is observable betwixt the uneasy pasfions. Anger and hatred bestow a new force on all our thoughts and actions; while humility and shame deject and difcourage us. Of these qualities of the pasfions, 'twill be necessary to form a distinct idea. Let us remember, that pride and hatred invigorate the foul; and love and humility infeeble it.

From this it follows, that the' the conformity betwixt love and hatred in the agreeableness of their sensation makes them always be excited by the fame objects, yet this other contrariety is the reason, why they are excited in very different degrees. Genius and learning are pleasant and magnificent objects, and by both these circum-

205

flances are adapted to pride and vanity; but SECT. have a relation to love by their pleasure only. Ignorance and simplicity are disagree-of respect able and mean, which in the same manner and contempt. gives them a double connexion with humility, and a single one with hatred. We may, therefore, consider it as certain, that tho' the same object always produces love and pride, humility and hatred, according to its different situations, yet it seldom produces either the two former or the two latter passions in the same proportion.

"Tis here we must seek for a solution of the difficulty above-mention'd, why any object ever excites pure love or hatred, and does not always produce respect or contempt, by a mixture of humility or pride. No quality in another gives rife to humility by comparison, unless it wou'd have produc'd pride by being plac'd in ourselves; and vice versa no object excites pride by comparison, unless it wou'd have produc'd humility by the direct furvey. This is evident, objects always produce by comparison a fenfation directly contrary to their original one. Suppose, therefore, an object to be prefented, which is peculiarly fitted to produce love, but imperfectly to excite pride;

PART this object, belonging to another, gives rife directly to a great degree of love, but to a fmall one of humility by comparison; and consequently that latter passion is scarce selt in the compound, nor is able to convert the love into respect. This is the case with good nature, good humour, facility, generosity, beauty, and many other qualities. These have a peculiar aptitude to produce love in others; but not so great a tendency to excite pride in ourselves: For which reason the view of them, as belonging to

the opposite passions.

BEFORE we leave this subject, it may not be amiss to account for a pretty curious phænomenon, viz. why we commonly keep at a distance such as we contemn, and allow not our inferiors to approach too near even in place and situation. It has already been observed, that almost every kind of idea is attended with some emotion, even the ideas of number and extension, much more those of such objects as are esteemed of consequence in life, and six our attention. This not with entire indifference we can survey

another person, produces pure love, with but a small mixture of humility and respect. 'Tis easy to extend the same reasoning to

207

vey either a rich man or a poor one, but SECT. must feel some faint touches, at least, of X. respect in the former case, and of contempt in Of respect the latter. These two passions are contrary and contempt to each other; but in order to make this contrariety be felt, the objects must be someway related; otherwise the affections are totally separate and distinct, and never encounter. The relation takes place wherever the persons become contiguous; which is a general reason why we are uneasy at seeing such disproportion'd objects, as a rich man and a poor one, a nobleman and a porter, in that situation.

This uneafines, which is common to every spectator, must be more sensible to the superior; and that because the near approach of the inferior is regarded as a piece of ill-breeding, and shews that he is not sensible of the disproportion, and is no way affected by it. A sense of superiority in another breeds in all men an inclination to keep themselves at a distance from him, and determines them to redouble the marks of respect and reverence, when they are obliged to approach him; and where they do not observe that conduct, 'tis a proof they are not sensible of his superiority. From hence

too

Of love and batred.

PART too it proceeds, that any great difference in the degrees of any quality is call'd a distance by a common metaphor, which, however trivial it may appear, is founded on natural principles of the imagination. A great difference inclines us to produce a distance. The ideas of distance and difference are therefore, connected together. Connected ideas are readily taken for each other; and this is in general the fource of the metaphor, as we shall have occasion to observe afterwards.

SECT. XI.

Of the amorous passion, or love betwixt the fexes.

F all the compound paffions, which proceed from a mixture of love and hatred with other affections, no one better deferves our attention, than that love, which arises betwixt the sexes, as well on account of its force and violence, as those curious principles of philosophy, for which it affords us an uncontestable argument. plain, that this affection, in its most natu-

209

ral state, is deriv'd from the conjunction SECT. of three different impressions or passions, XI. viz. The pleasing sensation arising from of the abeauty; the bodily appetite for generation; morouspassand a generous kindness or good-will. The origin of kindness from beauty may be explain'd from the foregoing reasoning. The question is how the bodily appetite is excited by it.

THE appetite of generation, when confin'd to a certain degree, is evidently of the pleafant kind, and has a strong connexion with all the agreeable emotions. Joy, mirth, vanity, and kindness are all incentives to this desire; as well as music, dancing, wine, and good cheer. On the other hand, forrow, melancholy, poverty, humility are destructive of it. From this quality 'tis easily conceiv'd why it shou'd be connected with the sense of beauty.

But there is another principle that contributes to the same effect. I have observed that the parallel direction of the desires is a real relation, and no less than a resemblance in their sensation, produces a connexion among them. That we may fully comprehend the extent of this relation, we must consider, that any principal desire may be Vol. II.

Of love and batred.

PART attended with subordinate ones, which are connected with it, and to which if other defires are parallel, they are by that means related to the principal one. Thus hunger may oft be confider'd as the primary inclination of the foul, and the defire of approaching the meat as the secondary one; fince 'tis absolutely necessary to the satisfying that appetite. If an object, therefore, by any feparate qualities, inclines us to approach the meat, it naturally encreases our appetite; as on the contrary, whatever inclines us to fet our victuals at a distance, is contradictory to hunger, and diminishes our inclination to them. Now 'tis plain that beauty has the first effect, and deformity the second: Which is the reason why the former gives us a keener appetite for our victuals, and the latter is sufficient to disgust us at the most favoury dish, that cookery has invented. All this is eafily applicable to the appetite for generation.

FROM these two relations, viz. resemblance and a parallel defire, there arises such a connexion betwixt the fense of beauty, the bodily appetite, and benevolence, that they become in a manner inseparable: And we find from experience, that 'tis in-

different

21 I

different which of them advances first; fince SECT any of them is almost fure to be attended XI. with the related affections. One, who is of the inflam'd with luft, feels at least a momen-amorous tary kindness towards the object of it, and passion, &c. at the same time fancies her more beautiful than ordinary; as there are many, who begin with kindness and esteem for the wit and merit of the person, and advance from that to the other passions. But the most common species of love is that which first arises from beauty, and afterwards diffuses itself into kindness and into the bodily appetite. Kindness or esteem, and the appetite to generation, are too remote to unite easily together. The one is, perhaps, the most refin'd passion of the foul; the other the most gross and vulgar. love of beauty is plac'd in a just medium betwixt them, and partakes of both their natures: From whence it proceeds, that 'tis fo fingularly fitted to produce both.

This account of love is not peculiar to my fystem, but is unavoidable on any hypothesis. The three affections, which compose this passion, are evidently distinct, and has each of them its distinct object. 'Tis certain, therefore, that 'tis only by their relation

Of love and hatred.

212

PART lation they produce each other. relation of passions is not alone sufficient. 'Tis likewise necessary, there shou'd be a relation of ideas. The beauty of one perfon never inspires us with love for another. This then is a fensible proof of the double relation of impressions and ideas. From one instance so evident as this we may form a judgment of the rest.

> THIS may also serve in another view to illustrate what I have infifted on concerning the origin of pride and humility, love and hatred. I have observ'd, that tho' felf be the object of the first set of passions, and fome other person of the second, yet these objects cannot alone be the causes of the passions; as having each of them a relation to two contrary affections, which must from the very first moment destroy each other. Here then is the fituation of the mind, as I have already describ'd it. It has certain organs naturally fitted to produce a paffion; that passion, when produc'd, naturally turns the view to a certain object. But this not being fufficient to produce the passion, there is requir'd fome other emotion, which by a double relation of impressions and ideas may fet these principles in action, and beflow

213

flow on them their first impulse. This si- SECT. tuation is still more remarkable with regard XI. to the appetite of generation. Sex is not Of the aonly the object, but also the cause of the morous pasappetite. We not only turn our view to it, fion, &c. when actuated by that appetite; but the reflecting on it fuffices to excite the appetite. But as this cause loses its force by too great frequency, 'tis necessary it shou'd be quicken'd by fome new impulse; and that impulse we find to arise from the beauty of the person; that is, from a double relation of impressions and ideas. Since this double relation is necessary where an affection has both a distinct cause, and object, how much more fo, where it has only a diffinct object, without any determinate cause?

SECT. XII.

Of the love and hatred of animals.

BUT to pass from the passions of love SECT. and hatred, and from their mixtures XII. and compositions, as they appear in man, to the same affections, as they display them-

II. Of love and hatred.

214

PART selves in brutes; we may observe, not only that love and hatred are common to the whole fenfitive creation, but likewife that their causes, as above-explain'd, are of so fimple a nature, that they may eafily be suppos'd to operate on mere animals. There is no force of reflection or penetration requir'd. Every thing is conducted by fprings and principles, which are not peculiar to man, or any one species of animals. The conclusion from this is obvious in favour of the foregoing fystem.

Love in animals, has not for its only object animals of the fame species, but extends itself farther, and comprehends almost every fenfible and thinking being. A dog naturally loves a man above his own species, and very commonly meets with a return of affection.

As animals are but little susceptible either of the pleasures or pains of the imagination, they can judge of objects only by the fenfible good or evil, which they produce, and from that must regulate their affections towards them. Accordingly we find, that by benefits or injuries we produce their love or hatred; and that by feeding and cherishing any animal, we quickly acquire his

215

his affections; as by beating and abufing SECT. him we never fail to draw on us his en-XII.

mity and ill-will.

Of the

LOVE in beafts is not caus'd fo much love and by relation, as in our species; and that be- animals. cause their thoughts are not so active as to trace relations, except in very obvious instances. Yet 'tis easy to remark, that on fome occasions it has a confiderable influence upon them. Thus acquaintance, which has the fame effect as relation, always produces love in animals either to men or to each other. For the fame reason any likeness among them is the source of affection. An ox confin'd to a park with horses, will naturally join their company, if I may fo fpeak, but always leaves it to enjoy that of his own species, where he has the choice of both.

THE affection of parents to their young proceeds from a peculiar inftinct in animals, as well as in our species.

'Tis evident, that fympathy, or the communication of passions, takes place among animals, no less than among men. Fear, anger, courage and other affections are frequently communicated from one animal to another, without their knowledge of that P 4 cause,

II.

Of love

and batred.

PART cause, which produc'd the original pasfion. Grief likewise is receiv'd by sympathy; and produces almost all the same confequences, and excites the fame emotions as in our species. The howlings and lamentations of a dog produce a fenfible concern in his fellows. And 'tis remarkable, that the' almost all animals use in play the fame member, and nearly the fame action as in fighting; a lion, a tyger, a cat their paws; an ox his horns; a dog his teeth; a horse his heels: Yet they most carefully avoid harming their companion, even tho' they have nothing to fear from his refentment; which is an evident proof of the fense brutes have of each other's pain and pleafure.

EVERY one has observed how much more dogs are animated when they hunt in a pack, than when they pursue their game apart; and 'tis evident this can proceed from nothing but from fympathy. 'Tis also well known to hunters, that this effect follows in a greater degree, and even in too great a degree, where two packs, that are strangers to each other, are join'd together. We might, perhaps, be at a loss to explain this phænomenon, if we

217

had not experience of a fimilar in our-SECT.
felves. XII.

ENVY and malice are passions very reof the
markable in animals. They are perhaps love and
more common than pity; as requiring less hatred of
effort of thought and imagination.



PART



PART III.

Of the will and direct paffions.

SECT. I.

Of liberty and necessity.

E come now to explain the direct SECT.

When passions, or the impressions, which is arise immediately from good or evil, from pain or pleasure. Of this kind are, desire and aversion, grief and joy, hope and fear.

OF all the immediate effects of pain and pleasure, there is none more remarkable than the WILL; and tho', properly speaking, it be not comprehended among the passions, yet as the full understanding of its

III. Of the will and direct paffions.

220

PART its nature and properties, is necessary to the explanation of them, we shall here make it the subject of our enquiry. I defire it may be observ'd, that by the will, I mean nothing but the internal impression we feel and are conscious of, when we knowingly give rife to any new motion of our body, or new perception of our mind. This impreffion, like the preceding ones of pride and humility, love and hatred, 'tis impossible to define, and needless to describe any farther: for which reason we shall cut off all those definitions and distinctions, with which philosophers are wont to perplex rather than clear up this question; and entering at first upon the fubject, shall examine that long disputed question concerning liberty and necessity; which occurs so naturally in treating of the will.

'Tis univerfally acknowledg'd, that the operations of external bodies are necessary, and that in the communication of their motion, in their attraction, and mutual cohefion, there are not the least traces of indifference or liberty. Every object is determin'd by an absolute fate to a certain degree and direction of its motion, and can no more depart from that precise line, in which

22I

it moves, than it can convert itself into an Sect. angel, or spirit, or any superior substance. I. The actions, therefore, of matter are to be regarded as instances of necessary actions; and and necesswhatever is in this respect on the same footing with matter, must be acknowledg'd to be necessary. That we may know whether this be the case with the actions of the mind, we shall begin with examining matter, and considering on what the idea of a necessity in its operations are founded, and why we conclude one body or action to be the infallible cause of another.

IT has been observ'd already, that in no fingle instance the ultimate connexion of any objects is discoverable, either by our fenses or reason, and that we can never penetrate fo far into the effence and construction of bodies, as to perceive the principle, on which their mutual influence depends. 'Tis their constant union alone, with which we are acquainted; and 'tis from the constant union the necessity arises. If objects had not an uniform and regular conjunction with each other, we shou'd never arrive at any idea of cause and effect; and even after all, the necessity, which enters into that idea, is nothing but a determination

Landesbibliothek Oldenl

III. Of the will and direct paf-

222

PART nation of the mind to pass from one object to its usual attendant, and infer the existence of one from that of the other. Here then are two particulars, which we are to confider as effential to necessity, viz, the constant union and the inference of the mind: and wherever we discover these we must acknowledge a necessity. As the actions of matter have no necessity, but what is deriv'd from these circumstances. and it is not by any infight into the effence of bodies we discover their connexion, the absence of this infight, while the union and inference remain, will never, in any case, remove the necessity. 'Tis the observation of the union, which produces the inference; for which reason it might be thought fufficient, if we prove a constant union in the actions of the mind, in order to establish the inference, along with the necessity of these actions. But that I may bestow a greater force on my reasoning, I shall examine these particulars apart, and shall first prove from experience, that our actions have a constant union with our motives, tempers, and circumstances, before I confider the inferences we draw from it.

To

To this end a very flight and gene-Sectaral view of the common course of human affairs will be sufficient. There is no light, of liberty in which we can take them, that does not and nicefficty. Confirm this principle. Whether we consider mankind according to the difference of sexes, ages, governments, conditions, or methods of education; the same uniformity and regular operation of natural principles are discernible. Like causes still produce like effects; in the same manner as in the mutual action of the elements and powers of nature.

THERE are different trees, which regularly produce fruit, whose relish is different from each other; and this regularity will be admitted as an instance of necessity and causes in external bodies. But are the products of Guienne and of Champagne more regularly different than the sentiments, actions, and passions of the two sexes, of which the one are distinguish'd by their force and maturity, the other by their delicacy and softness?

ARE the changes of our body from infancy to old age more regular and certain than those of our mind and conduct? And wou'd a man be more ridiculous, who wou'd

PART wou'd expect that an infant of four years

III. old will raise a weight of three hundred

pound, than one, who from a person of

rwill and the same age, wou'd look for a philosodirect passpins. phical reasoning, or a prudent and wellconcerted action?

WE must certainly allow, that the cohefion of the parts of matter arises from natural and necessary principles, whatever difficulty we may find in explaining them: And for a like reason we must allow, that human fociety is founded on like principles; and our reason in the latter case, is better than even that in the former; because we not only observe, that men always seek society, but can also explain the principles, on which this univerfal propenfity is founded. For is it more certain, that two flat pieces of marble will unite together, than that two young favages of different fexes will copulate? Do the children arise from this copulation more uniformly, than does the parents care for their fafety and prefervation? And after they have arriv'd at years of difcretion by the care of their parents, are the inconveniencies attending their feparation more certain than their forefight of these incon-

225

inconveniencies, and their care of avoiding SECT. them by a close union and confederacy?

THE skin, pores, muscles, and nerves of of liberty a day-labourer are different from those of a and necest man of quality: So are his fentiments, ac-fity. tions and manners. The different stations of life influence the whole fabric, external and internal; and these different stations arife necessarily, because uniformly, from the necessary and uniform principles of human nature. Men cannot live without fociety, and cannot be affociated without government. Government makes a diffinction of property, and establishes the different ranks of men. This produces industry, traffic, manufactures, law-fuits, war, leagues, alliances, voyages, travels, cities, fleets, ports, and all those other actions and objects, which cause such a diversity, and at the fame time maintain fuch an uniformity in human life.

Shou'd a traveller, returning from a fat country, tell us, that he had feen a climate in the fiftieth degree of northern latitude, where all the fruits ripen and come to perfection in the winter, and decay in the fummer, after the same manner as in England they are produc'd and decay in the VOL. II. con-

Of the will and direct paffions.

PART contrary feafons, he wou'd find few fo credulous as to believe him. I am apt to think a travellar wou'd meet with as little credit, who shou'd inform us of people exactly of the same character with those in Plato's republic on the one hand, or those in Hobbes's Leviathan on the other. There is a general course of nature in human actions, as well as in the operations of the fun and the climate. There are also characters peculiar to different nations and particular persons, as well as common to The knowledge of these chamankind. racters is founded on the observation of an uniformity in the actions, that flow from them; and this uniformity forms the very effence of necessity.

I CAN imagine only one way of eluding this argument, which is by denying that uniformity of human actions, on which it is founded. As long as actions have a constant union and connexion with the fituation and temper of the agent, however we may in words refuse to acknowledge the necessity, we really allow the thing. Now fome may, perhaps, find a pretext to deny this regular union and connexion. For what is more capricious than human actions?

227

defires of man? And what creature departs I. more widely, not only from right reason, of liberty but from his own character and disposition? and necessary hour, a moment is sufficient to make him change from one extreme to another, and overturn what cost the greatest pain and labour to establish. Necessity is regular and certain. Human conduct is irregular and uncertain. The one, therefore, proceeds not from the other.

To this I reply, that in judging of the actions of men we must proceed upon the same maxims, as when we reason concerning external objects. When any phænomena are constantly and invariably conjoin'd together, they acquire fuch a connexion in the imagination, that it passes from one to the other, without any doubt or hefitation. But below this there are many inferior degrees of evidence and probability, nor does one fingle contrariety of experiment entirely destroy all our reasoning. The mind ballances the contrary experiments, and deducting the inferior from the fuperior, proceeds with that degree of affurance or evidence, which remains. Even when these contrary experiments are entirely equal, we remove not

III. Of the will and direct paffions.

PART the notion of causes and necessity; but suppofing that the usual contrariety proceeds from the operation of contrary and conceal'd causes, we conclude, that the chance or indifference lies only in our judgment on account of our imperfect knowledge, not in the things themselves, which are in every case equally necessary, tho' to appearance not equally constant or certain. union can be more constant and certain. than that of fome actions with fome motives and characters; and if in other cases the union is uncertain, 'tis no more than what, happens in the operations of body, nor can we conclude any thing from the one irregularity, which will not follow equally from the other.

'Tis commonly allow'd that mad-men have no liberty. But were we to judge by their actions, these have less regularity and constancy than the actions of wifemen, and confequently are farther remov'd from necessity. One way of thinking in this particular is, therefore, abfolutely inconfistent; but is a natural consequence of these confus'd ideas and undefin'd terms, which we so commonly make use of in

229

our reasonings, especially on the present Sect. I.

WE must now shew, that as the union of liberty betwixt motives and actions has the same and necessisty. constancy, as that in any natural operations, so its influence on the understanding is also the same, in determining us to infer the existence of one from that of another. If this shall appear, there is no known circumstance, that enters into the connexion and production of the actions of matter, that is not to be found in all the operations of the mind; and consequently we cannot, without a manifest absurdity, attribute necessity to the one, and resule it to the other.

THERE is no philosopher, whose judgment is so riveted to this fantastical system of liberty, as not to acknowledge the force of moral evidence, and both in speculation and proceed upon it, as upon a reasonable soundation. Now moral evidence is nothing but a conclusion concerning the actions of men, deriv'd from the consideration of their motives, temper and situation. Thus when we see certain characters or sigures describ'd upon paper, we infer that the person, who produc'd them, wou'd affirm such facts, the death of Casar, the success of Augustus,

Of the will and direct paffions.

230

PART the cruelty of Nero; and remembring many other concurrent testimonies we conclude, that those facts were once really existent, and that so many men, without any interest, wou'd never conspire to deceive us; especially fince they must, in the attempt, expose themselves to the derifion of all their contemporaries, when these facts were afferted to be recent and univerfally known. The fame kind of reasoning runs thro' politics, war, commerce, oeconomy, and indeed mixes itself so entirely in human life, that 'tis impossible to act or fubfift a moment without having recourse to it. A prince, who imposes a tax upon his fubjects, expects their compliance. A general, who conducts an army, makes account of a certain degree of courage. A merchant looks for fidelity and skill in his factor or fuper-cargo. A man, who gives orders for his dinner, doubts not of the obedience of his fervants. In short, as nothing more nearly interests us than our own actions and those of others, the greatest part of our reasonings is employ'd in judgments concerning them. Now I affert, that whoever reasons after this manner, does ipso facto believe the actions of the will to arise from necessity,

Book II. Of the Passions.

231

necessity, and that he knows not what he Sect. means, when he denies it.

ALL those objects, of which we call the Of liberty one cause and the other effect, confider'd in and necesthemselves, are as distinct and separate from fity. each other, as any two things in nature, nor can we ever, by the most accurate survey of them, infer the existence of the one from that of the other. 'Tis only from experience and the observation of their constant union, that we are able to form this inference; and even after all, the inference is nothing but the effects of custom on the imagination. We must not here be content with faying, that the idea of cause and effect arises from objects constantly united; but must affirm, that 'tis the very same with the idea of these objects, and that the necessary connexion is not discover'd by a conclusion of the understanding, but is merely a perception of the mind. Wherever, therefore, we observe the same union, and wherever the union operates in the same manner upon the belief and opinion, we have the idea of causes and necessity, tho' perhaps we may avoid those expressions Motion in one body in all past instances, that have fallen under our observation, is follow'd

III. Of the will and direct paffions.

232

PART follow'd upon impulse by motion in another. 'Tis impossible for the mind to penetrate farther. From this constant union it forms the idea of cause and effect, and by its influence feels the necessity. As there is the same constancy, and the same influence in what we call moral evidence, I ask no more. What remains can only be a difpute of words.

> AND indeed, when we confider how aptly natural and moral evidence cement together, and form only one chain of argument betwixt them, we shall make no fcruple to allow, that they are of the same nature, and deriv'd from the same principles. A prisoner, who has neither money nor interest, discovers the impossibility of his escape, as well from the obstinacy of the goaler, as from the walls and bars with which he is furrounded; and in all attempts for his freedom chuses rather to work upon the stone and iron of the one, than upon the inflexible nature of the other, The same prisoner, when conducted to the fcaffold, foresees his death as certainly from the constancy and fidelity of his guards as from the operation of the ax or wheel. His mind runs along a certain train of ideas :

233

ideas: The refusal of the foldiers to con-SECT. fent to his escape, the action of the executioner; the feparation of the head and of liberty body; bleeding, convulfive motions, and death. and necef-Here is a connected chain of natural causes fity. and voluntary actions; but the mind feels no difference betwixt them in passing from one link to another; nor is less certain of the future event than if it were connected with the prefent impressions of the memory and fenfes by a train of causes cemented together by what we are pleas'd to call a physical necessity. The same experienc'd union has the same effect on the mind, whether the united objects be motives, volitions and actions; or figure and motion. We may change the names of things; but their nature and their operation on the understanding never change.

I DARE be positive no one will ever endeavour to refute these reasonings otherwise than by altering my definitions, and assigning a different meaning to the terms of cause, and effect, and necessity, and liberty, and chance. According to my definitions, necessity makes an essential part of causation; and consequently liberty, by removing necessity, removes also causes, and is the very same thing

III. thought to imply a contradiction, and is at least directly contrary to experience, there are always the same arguments against lidirest passions.

Least directly contrary to experience, there are always the same arguments against lidirest passions.

Least directly contrary to experience, there are always the same arguments against lidirest passions.

Least directly contrary to experience, there are always the same arguments against lidirest passions.

SECT. II.

The same subject continu'd.

SECT. T BELIEVE we may affign the three I following reasons for the prevalence of the doctrine of liberty, however abfurd it may be in one fense, and unintelligible in any other. First, After we have perform'd any action; tho' we confess we were influenc'd by particular views and motives; 'tis difficult for us to perfwade ourselves we were govern'd by necessity, and that 'twas utterly impossible for us to have acted otherwife; the idea of necessity seeming to imply fomething of force, and violence, and constraint, of which we are not sensible. Few are capable of diffinguishing betwixt the liberty of spontaniety, as it is call'd in the

Book II. Of the Passions.

235 the schools, and the liberty of indifference; SECT. betwixt that which is oppos'd to violence, II. and that which means a negation of neces- The same fity and causes. The first is even the most subject con common fense of the word; and as 'tis tinu'd.

only that species of liberty, which it concerns us to preserve, our thoughts have been principally turn'd towards it, and have almost

univerfally confounded it with the other.

SECONDLY, There is a false sensation or experience even of the liberty of indifference; which is regarded as an argument for its real existence. The necessity of any action, whether of matter or of the mind, is not properly a quality in the agent, but in any thinking or intelligent being, who may confider the action, and confifts in the determination of his thought to infer its existence from some preceding objects: As liberty or chance, on the other hand, is nothing but the want of that determination. and a certain loofeness, which we feel in paffing or not paffing from the idea of one to that of the other. Now we may observe, that tho' in reflecting on human actions we feldom feel fuch a loofeness or indifference yet it very commonly happens, that in performing the actions themselves we are senfible

PART fible of fomerhing like it: And as all re-Of the direct paf-Gons.

lated or refembling objects are readily taken for each other, this has been employ'd as a will and demonstrative or even an intuitive proof of human liberty. We feel that our actions are subject to our will on most occasions and imagine we feel that the will itself is fubject to nothing; because when by a denial of it we are provok'd to try, we feel that it moves eafily every way, and produces an image of itself even on that fide, on which it did not fettle. This image or faint motion, we perswade ourselves, cou'd have been compleated into the thing itself; because, shou'd that be deny'd, we find, upon a fecond trial, that it can. But thefe efforts are all in vain; and whatever capricious and irregular actions we may perform; as the defire of showing our liberty is the fole motive of our actions; we can never free ourselves from the bonds of necessity. We may imagine we feel a liberty within ourselves; but a spectator can commonly infer our actions from our motives and character; and even where he cannot, he concludes in general, that he might, were he perfectly acquainted with every circumstance of our fituation and temper, and the most fecret

237

fecret springs of our complexion and dispo-SECT. sition. Now this is the very essence of ne-II. cessity, according to the foregoing doc-The same subject con-

A THIRD reason why the doctrine of tinu'd. liberty has generally been better receiv'd in the world, than its antagonist, proceeds from religion, which has been very unnecessarily interested in this question. There is no method of reasoning more common, and vet none more blameable, than in philosophical debates to endeavour to refute any hypothesis by a pretext of its dangerous confequences to religion and morality. When any opinion leads us into abfurdities, 'tis certainly false; but 'tis not certain an opinion is false, because 'tis of dangerous confequence. Such topics, therefore, ought entirely to be foreborn, as ferving nothing to the discovery of truth, but only to make the person of an antagonist odious. This I observe in general, without pretending to draw any advantage from it. I fubmit myfelf frankly to an examination of this kind, and dare venture to affirm, that the doctrine of necessity, according to my explication of it, is not only innocent, but even advantageous to religion and morality.

I DE-

III. Of the direct baffions.

238

PART I DEFINE necessity two ways, conformable to the two definitions of cause, of which it makes an effential part. I place it either will and in the constant union and conjunction of like objects, or in the inference of the mind from the one to the other. Now necessity, in both these senses, has universally, tho' tacitely, in the schools, in the pulpit, and in common life, been allow'd to belong to the will of man, and no one has ever pretended to deny, that we can draw inferences concerning human actions, and that those inferences are founded on the experienc'd union of like actions with like motives and circumstances. The only particular in which any one can differ from me, is either, that perhaps he will refuse to call this necessity. But as long as the meaning is understood, I hope the word can do no harm. Or that he will maintain there is fomething else in the operations of matter. Now whether it be fo or not is of no confequence to religion, whatever it may be to natural philosophy. I may be mistaken in afferting, that we have no idea of any other connexion in the actions of body, and shall be glad to be farther instructed on that head: But fure I am, I ascribe nothing to the actions

Book II. Of the Passions.

239

tions of the mind, but what must readily SECT. be allow'd of. Let no one, therefore, put II. an invidous construction on my words, by The same saying simply, that I affert the necessity of subject conhuman actions, and place them on the same sooting with the operations of senseless matter. I do not ascribe to the will that unintelligible necessity, which is supposed to lie in matter. But I ascribe to matter, that intelligible quality, call it necessity or not, which the most rigorous orthodoxy does or must allow to belong to the will. I change, therefore, nothing in the received systems, with regard to the will, but only with regard to material objects.

NAY I shall go farther, and affert, that this kind of necessity is so essential to religion and morality, that without it there must ensue an absolute subversion of both, and that every other supposition is entirely destructive to all laws both divine and buman. 'Tis indeed certain, that as all human laws are sounded on rewards and punishments, 'tis suppos'd as a sundamental principle, that these motives have an influence on the mind, and both produce the good and prevent the evil actions. We may give to this influence what name we please; but

PART as 'tis usually conjoin'd with the action common fense requires it shou'd be esteem'd III. a cause, and be look'd upon as an instance will and of that necessity, which I wou'd establish.

Of the direct paffions.

THIS reasoning is equally solid, when apply'd to divine laws, fo far as the deity is confider'd as a legislator, and is suppos'd to inflict punishment and bestow rewards with a defign to produce obedience. But I also maintain, that even where he acts not in his magisterial capacity, but is regarded as the avenger of crimes merely on account of their odiousness and deformity, not only 'tis impossible, without the necessary connexion of cause and effect in human actions, that punishments cou'd be inflicted compatible with justice and moral equity; but also that it cou'd ever enter into the thoughts of any reasonable being to inflict them. The constant and universal object of hatred or anger is a person or creature endow'd with thought and consciousness; and when any criminal or injurious actions excite that paffion, 'tis only by their relation to the perfon or connexion with him. But according to the doctrine of liberty or chance, this connexion is reduc'd to nothing, nor are men more accountable for those actions, which

which are defign'd and premeditated, than SECT. for fuch as are the most casual and accidental. Actions are by their very nature The fame temporary and perishing; and where they subject conproceed not from fome cause in the characters and disposition of the person, who perform'd them, they infix not themselves upon him, and can neither redound to his honour, if good, nor infamy, if evil. action itself may be blameable; it may be contrary to all the rules of morality and religion: But the person is not responsible for it; and as it proceeded from nothing in him, that is durable or constant, and leaves nothing of that nature behind it, 'tis impossible he can, upon its account, become the object of punishment or vengeance. According to the hypothesis of liberty, therefore, a man is as pure and untainted, after having committed the most horrid crimes, as at the first moment of his birth, nor is his character any way concern'd in his actions; fince they are not deriv'd from it, and the wickedness of the one can never be us'd as a proof of the depravity of the other. 'Tis only upon the principles of necessity, that a person acquires any merit or demerit from his actions, how-VOL. II.

PART ever the common opinion may incline to III. the contrary.

Of the will and direct paffions.

But fo inconfistent are men with themfelves, that tho' they often affert, that neceffity utterly destroys all merit and demerit either towards mankind or fuperior powers. vet they continue still to reason upon these very principles of necessity in all their judgments concerning this matter. Men are not blam'd for fuch evil actions as they perform ignorantly and cafually, whatever may be their consequences. Why? but because the causes of these actions are only momentary, and terminate in them alone. Men are less blam'd for such evil actions, as they perform hastily and unpremeditately, than for fuch as proceed from thought and deliberation. For what reason? but because a hasty temper, tho' a constant cause in the mind, operates only by intervals, and infects not the whole character. Again, repentance wipes off every crime, especially if attended with an evident reformation of life and manners. How is this to be accounted for? But by afferting that actions render a person criminal, merely as they are proofs of criminal passions or principles in the mind; and when by any alteration

243

teration of these principles they cease to be SECT. just proofs, they likewise cease to be cri. II. minal. But according to the doctrine of The same liberty or chance they never were just proofs, subject cone and consequently never were criminal.

HERE then I turn to my adversary, and defire him to free his own fystem from these odious consequences before he charge them upon others. Or if he rather chuses, that this question shou'd be decided by fair arguments before philosophers, than by declamations before the people, let him return to what I have advanc'd to prove that liberty and chance are fynonimous; and concerning the nature of moral evidence and the regularity of human actions. Upon a review of these reasonings, I cannot doubt of an entire victory; and therefore having prov'd, that all actions of the will have particular causes, I proceed to explain what these causes are, and how they operate.

R 2 SECTA

PART III. Of the will and direct paffions.

244

SECT. III.

Of the influencing motives of the will.

SECT. OTHING is more usual in philofophy, and even in common life, than to talk of the combat of passion and reason, to give the preference to reason, and affert that men are only fo far virtuous as they conform themselves to its dictates. Every rational creature, 'tis faid, is oblig'd to regulate his actions by reason; and if any other motive or principle challenge the direction of his conduct, he ought to oppose it, 'till it be entirely subdu'd, or at least brought to a conformity with that superior principle. On this method of thinking the greatest part of moral philosophy, antient and modern, feems to be founded; nor is their an ampler field, as well for metaphyfical arguments, as popular declamations, than this suppos'd pre-eminence of reason above passion. The eternity, invariableness, and divine origin of the former have been display'd to the best advantage: The blindness, unconstancy, and deceitfulness

245

ness of the latter have been as strongly in-SECT. sisted on. In order to shew the fallacy of III. all this philosophy, I shall endeavour to of the prove first, that reason alone can never be a influencing motive to any action of the will; and se-the will. condly, that it can never oppose passion in the direction of the will.

THE understanding exerts itself after two different ways, as it judges from demonstration or probability; as it regards the abstract relations of our ideas, or those relations of objects, of which experience only gives us information. I believe it scarce will be afferted, that the first species of reafoning alone is ever the cause of any action. As it's proper province is the world of ideas. and as the will always places us in that of realities, demonstration and volition feem, upon that account, to be totally remov'd, from each other. Mathematics, indeed, are useful in all mechanical operations, and arithmetic in almost every art and profesfion: But 'tis not of themselves they have any influence. Mechanics are the art of regulating the motions of bodies to some defign'd end or purpose; and the reason why we employ arithmetic in fixing the proportions of numbers, is only that we may discover the

PART the proportions of their influence and operation. A merchant is defirous of knowing the fum total of his accounts with any person: Why? but that he may learn what fum will have the same effects in paying his debt, and going to market, as all the particular articles taken together. Abstract or demonstrative reasoning, therefore, never influences any of our actions, but only as it directs our judgment concerning causes

operation of the understanding.

'Tis obvious, that when we have the prospect of pain or pleasure from any object, we feel a confequent emotion of averfion or propenfity, and are carry'd to avoid or embrace what will give us this uneafiness or fatisfaction. 'Tis also obvious, that this emotion rests not here, but making us cast our view on every fide, comprehends whatever objects are connected with its original one by the relation of cause and effect. Here then reasoning takes place to discover this relation; and according as our reasoning varies, our actions receive a subsequent variation. But 'tis evident in this case, that the impulse arises not from reason, but is only directed by it. 'Tis from the prospect of

and effects; which leads us to the fecond

of pain or pleasure that the aversion or pro-Sect. pensity arises towards any object: And these III. emotions extend themselves to the causes of the and effects of that object, as they are pointed influencing out to us by reason and experience. It can the will. never in the least concern us to know, that such objects are causes, and such others effects, if both the causes and effects be indifferent to us. Where the objects themselves do not affect us, their connexion can never give them any influence; and 'tis plain, that as reason is nothing but the discovery of this connexion, it cannot be by its means that the objects are able to affect us.

SINCE reason alone can never produce any action, or give rise to volition, I infer, that the same faculty is as incapable of preventing volition, or of disputing the preference with any passion or emotion. This consequence is necessary. 'Tis impossible reason cou'd have the latter effect of preventing volition, but by giving an impulse in a contrary direction to our passion; and that impulse, had it operated alone, wou'd have been able to produce volition. Nothing can oppose or retard the impulse of passion, but a contrary impulse; and if this contrary impulse ever arises from reason, that

4

latter

III. Of the will and direct paffions.

248

PART latter faculty must have an original influence on the will, and must be able to cause, as well as hinder any act of volition. if reason has no original influence, 'tis impossible it can withstand any principle, which has fuch an efficacy, or ever keep the mind in suspence a moment. Thus it appears, that the principle, which opposes our passion, cannot be the same with reason, and is only call'd so in an improper sense. We speak not strictly and philosophically when we talk of the combat of passion and of reason. Reafon is, and ought only to be the flave of the passions, and can never pretend to any other office than to serve and obey them. As this opinion may appear fomewhat extraordinary, it may not be improper to confirm it by fome other confiderations.

A PASSION is an original existence, or, if you will, modification of existence, and contains not any representative quality, which renders it a copy of any other existence or modification. When I am angry, I am actually possest with the passion, and in that emotion have no more a reference to any other object, than when I am thirfty, or fick, or more than five foot high. 'Tis impossible, therefore, that this passion can be oppos'd by, or be contradictory to truth

249

ing

truth and reason; fince this contradiction SECT. consists in the disagreement of ideas, confider'd as copies, with those objects, which of the influencing

WHAT may at first occur on this head, the will. is, that as nothing can be contrary to truth or reason, except what has a reference to it. and as the judgments of our understanding only have this reference, it must follow, that paffions can be contrary to reason only fo far as they are accompany'd with some judgment or opinion. According to this principle, which is fo obvious and natural, 'tis only in two fenses, that any affection can be call'd unreasonable. First, When a passion, such as hope or fear, grief or joy, despair or security, is founded on the supposition of the existence of objects, which really do not exist. Secondly, When in exerting any passion in action, we chuse means infufficient for the defign'd end, and deceive ourselves in our judgment of causes and effects. Where a passion is neither founded on false suppositions, nor chuses means infufficient for the end, the understanding can neither justify nor condemn it. 'Tis not contrary to reason to prefer the destruction of the whole world to the scratch-

Of the will and direct paf-Gons.

250

PART ing of my finger. 'Tis not contrary to reafon for me to chuse my total ruin, to prevent the least uncafiness of an Indian or person wholly unknown to me. "Tis as little contrary to reason to prefer even my own acknowledg'd leffer good to my greater, and have a more ardent affection for the former than the latter. A trivial good may, from certain circumstances, produce a desire superior to what arises from the greatest and most valuable enjoyment; nor is there any thing more extraordinary in this, than in mechanics to fee one pound weight raise up a hundred by the advantage of its fituation. In short, a passion must be accompany'd with fome false judgment, in order to its being unreasonable; and even then 'tis not the paffion, properly speaking, which is unreafonable, but the judgment.

THE consequences are evident. Since a passion can never, in any sense, be call'd unreasonable, but when founded on a false fupposition, or when it chuses means infufficient for the defign'd end, 'tis impossible, that reason and passion can ever oppose each other, or dispute for the government of the will and actions. The moment we perceive the falshood of any supposition, or the infufficiency

25 I

fufficiency of any means our passions yield Sect. to our reason without any opposition. I may III. desire any fruit as of an excellent relish; of the but whenever you convince me of my mis-influencing take, my longing ceases. I may will the the will. performance of certain actions as means of obtaining any desir'd good; but as my willing of these actions is only secondary, and founded on the supposition, that they are causes of the propos'd effect; as soon as I discover the falshood of that supposition, they must become indifferent to me.

'Tis natural for one, that does not examine objects with a strict philosophic eye, to imagine, that those actions of the mind are entirely the fame, which produce not a different fensation, and are not immediately distinguishable to the feeling and perception. Reason, for instance, exerts itself without producing any fenfible emotion; and except in the more sublime disquisitions of philosophy, or in the frivolous subtilties of the schools, scarce ever conveys any pleafure or uneafiness. Hence it proceeds, that every action of the mind, which operates with the same calmness and tranquillity, is confounded with reason by all those, who judge of things from the first view and appearance.

Of the direct paf-

PART pearance. Now 'tis certain, there are certain calm defires and tendencies, which, tho' they be real passions, produce little awill and emotion in the mind, and are more known by their effects than by the immediate feeling or fensation. These desires are of two kinds; either certain inftincts originally implanted in our natures, fuch as benevolence and refentment, the love of life, and kindness to children; or the general appetite to good, and aversion to evil, consider'd merely as fuch. When any of these passions are calm, and cause no disorder in the soul, they are very readily taken for the determinations of reason, and are suppos'd to proceed from the fame faculty, with that, which judges of truth and falshood. Their nature and principles have been suppos'd the same, because their sensations are not evidently different.

BESIDE these calm passions, which often determine the will, there are certain violent emotions of the fame kind, which have likewise a great influence on that faculty. When I receive any injury from another, I often feel a violent passion of refentment, which makes me defire his evil and punishment, independent of all consiBOOK II. Of the Passions.

253

derations of pleasure and advantage to my-Sect. self, When I am immediately threaten'd III. with any grievous ill, my fears, apprehen-of the single fions, and aversions rise to a great height, influencing and produce a fensible emotion.

THE common error of metaphyficians has lain in ascribing the direction of the will entirely to one of these principles, and fuppofing the other to have no influence. Men often act knowingly against their interest: For which reason the view of the greatest possible good does not always influence them. Men often counter-act a violent passion in prosecution of their interests and defigns: 'Tis not therefore the present uneafiness alone, which determines them. In general we may observe, that both these principles operate on the will; and where they are contrary, that either of them prevails, according to the general character or present disposition of the person. What we call strength of mind, implies the prevalence of the calm paffions above the violent; tho' we may eafily observe, there is no man so constantly posses'd of this virtue, as never on any occasion to yield to the follicitations of passion and defire. From these variations of temper proceeds the great difficulty

PART of deciding concerning the actions and refo-III. lutions of men, where there is any contrariety of motives and passions.

will and direct paf-

SECT. IV.

Of the causes of the violent passions.

SECT. HERE is not in philosophy a subject of more nice speculation than this of the different causes and effects of the calm and violent passions. 'Tis evident passions influence not the will in proportion to their violence, or the diforder they occafion in the temper; but on the contrary, that when a passion has once become a settled principle of action, and is the predominant inclination of the foul, it commonly produces no longer any fensible agitation. As repeated custom and its own force have made every thing yield to it, it directs the actions and conduct without that opposition and emotion, which fo naturally attend every momentary gust of passion. We must, therefore, distinguish betwixt a calm and a weak passion; betwixt a violent and a strong one. But notwithstanding this,

'tis certain, that when we wou'd govern a SECT. man, and push him to any action, 'twill IV. commonly be better policy to work upon of the the violent than the calm passions, and ra-causes of the violent ther take him by his inclination, than what passions. is vulgarly call'd his reason. We ought to place the object in fuch particular fituations as are proper to encrease the violence of the paffion. For we may observe, that all depends upon the fituation of the object, and that a variation in this particular will be able to change the calm and the violent paffions into each other. Both these kinds of passions purfue good, and avoid evil; and both of them are encreas'd or diminish'd by the encrease or diminution of the good or evil. But herein lies the difference betwixt them: The fame good, when near, will cause a violent passion, which, when remote, produces only a calm one. As this fubject belongs very properly to the prefent question concerning the will, we shall here examine it to the bottom, and shall consider some of those circumstances and fituations of objects, which render a paffion either calm or violent.

'Tis a remarkable property of human nature, that any emotion, which attends a paffion,

III. Of the will and direct paffions.

256

PART paffion, is eafily converted into it, tho' in their natures they be originally different from, and even contrary to each other. 'Tis true; in order to make a perfect union among passions, there is always requir'd a double relation of impressions and ideas; nor is one relation sufficient for that purpose. But the this be confirm'd by undoubted experience, we must understand it with its proper limitations, and must regard the double relation, as requifite only to make one passion produce another. When two passions are already produc'd by their feparate causes, and are both present in the mind, they readily mingle and unite, tho' they have but one relation, and fometimes without any. The predominant passion fwallows up the inferior, and converts it into itself. The spirits, when once excited, eafily receive a change in their direction; and 'tis natural to imagine this change will come from the prevailing affection. connexion is in many respects closer betwixt any two paffions, than betwixt any paffion and indifference.

> WHEN a person is once heartily in love, the little faults and caprice of his mistress, the jealousies and quarrels, to which that com

commerce is fo subject; however unpleasant SECT. and related to anger and hatred; are yet III. found to give additional force to the prevail- Of the ing passion. 'Tis a common artifice of po- causes of the wielens liticians, when they wou'd affect any per-paffions. fon very much by a matter of fact, of which they intend to inform him, first to excite his curiofity; delay as long as possible the fatisfying it; and by that means raise his anxiety and impatience to the utmost, before they give him a full infight into the business. They know that his curiofity will precipitate him into the paffion they defign to raife, and affift the object in its influence on the mind. A foldier advancing to the battle, is naturally infpir'd with courage and confidence, when he thinks on his friends and fellow-foldiers; and is struck with fear and terror, when he reflects on the enemy. Whatever new emotion, therefore, proceeds from the former naturally encreases the courage; as the fame emotion, proceeding from the latter, augments the fear; by the relation of ideas, and the conversion of the inferior emotion into the predominant. Hence it is that in martial discipline, the uniformity and lustre of our habit, the regularity of our figures Vol. II. and

PART and motions, with all the pomp and maje— III. Ity of war, encourage ourselves and allies; while the same objects in the enemy strike will and direct pasfions. in themselves.

SINCE passions, however independent, are naturally transfus'd into each other, if they are both present at the same time; it follows, that when good or evil is plac'd in such a situation, as to cause any particular emotion, beside its direct passion of desire or aversion, that latter passion must acquire new force and violence.

THIS happens, among other cases, whenever any object excites contrary passions. For 'tis observable that an opposition of pasfions commonly causes a new emotion in the spirits, and produces more disorder, than the concurrence of any two affections of equal force. This new emotion is eafily converted into the predominant paffion, and encreases its violence, beyond the pitch it wou'd have arriv'd at had it met with no opposition. Hence we naturally defire what is forbid, and take a pleasure in performing actions, merely because they are unlawful. The notion of duty, when opposite to the paffions, is feldom able to overcome them; BOOK II. Of the Passions.

259

them; and when it fails of that effect, is SECT. apt rather to encrease them, by producing III. an opposition in our motives and principles. Of the

THE same effect follows whether the causes of opposition arises from internal motives or passions. external obstacles. The passion commonly acquires new force and violence in both cases. The efforts, which the mind makes to surmount the obstacle, excite the spirits and inliven the passion.

UNCERTAINTY has the same influence as opposition. The agitation of the thought; the quick turns it makes from one view to another; the variety of passions, which succeed each other, according to the different views: All these produce an agitation in the mind, and transfuse themselves into the predominant passion.

THERE is not in my opinion any other natural cause, why security diminishes the passions, than because it removes that uncertainty, which encreases them. The mind, when left to itself, immediately languishes; and in order to preserve its ardour, must be every moment supported by a new flow of passion. For the same reason, despair, tho contrary to security, has a like influence.

S 2 'TI

PART
III.

Of the will and direct paffons.

'Trs certain nothing more powerfully animates any affection, than to conceal fome part of its objects by throwing it into a kind of shade, which at the same time that it shews enough to pre-posses us in savour of the object, leaves still some work for the imagination. Besides that obscurity is always attended with a kind of uncertainty; the effort, which the fancy makes to compleat the idea, rouzes the spirits, and gives an additional force to the passion.

As despair and security, tho' contrary to each other, produce the same effects; so absence is observed to have contrary effects, and in different circumstances either encreases or diminishes our affections. The Duc de la Rochesoucault has very well observed, that absence destroys weak passions, but encreases strong; as the wind extinguishes a candle, but blows up a fire. Long absence naturally weakens our idea, and diminishes the passion: But where the idea is so strong and lively as to support itself, the uneasiness, arising from absence, encreases the passion, and gives it new force and violence.

SECT.

SECT. V.

Of the effects of custom.

UT nothing has a greater effect both SECT. to encrease and diminish our passions, V. to convert pleasure into pain, and pain into pleasure, than custom and repetition. Custom has two original effects upon the mind, in bestowing a facility in the performance of any action or the conception of any object; and afterwards a tendency or inclination towards it; and from these we may account for all its other effects, however extraordinary.

WHEN the foul applies itself to the performance of any action, or the conception of any object, to which it is not accustom'd, there is a certain unpliableness in the faculties, and a difficulty of the spirit's moving in their new direction. As this difficulty excites the spirits, 'tis the source of wonder, furprize, and of all the emotions, which arise from novelty; and is in itself very agreeable, like every thing, which inlivens the mind to a moderate degree. But tho'

III. Of the will and direct paf-Cons.

PART tho' surprize be agreeable in itself, yet as it puts the spirits in agitation, it not only augments our agreeable affections, but also our painful, according to the foregoing principle, that every emotion, which precedes or attends a passion, is easily converted into it. Hence every thing, that is new, is most affecting, and gives us either more pleasure or pain, than what, strictly speaking, naturally belongs to it. When it often returns upon us, the novelty wears off; the passions subside; the hurry of the spirits is over; and we furvey the objects with greater tranquillity.

By degrees the repetition produces a facility, which is another very powerful principle of the human mind, and an infallible fource of pleasure, where the facility goes not beyond a certain degree. And here 'tis remarkable that the pleasure, which arises from a moderate facility, has not the fame tendency with that which arises from novelty, to augment the painful, as well as the agreeable affections. The pleasure of facility does not so much confist in any ferment of the fpirits, as in their orderly motion; which will fometimes be fo powerful as even to convert pain into pleasure, and give

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

263

us a relish in time for what at first was Sect. most harsh and disagreeable.

But again, as facility converts pain into Of the pleasure, so it often converts pleasure into effects of pain, when it is too great, and renders the actions of the mind fo faint and languid, that they are no longer able to interest and support it. And indeed, scarce any other objects become disagreeable thro' custom; but such as are naturally attended with fome emotion or affection, which is destroy'd by the too frequent repetition. One can confider the clouds, and heavens, and trees, and stones, however frequently repeated, without ever feeling any aversion. But when the fair fex, or mufic, or good cheer, or any thing, that naturally ought to be agreeable, becomes indifferent, it eafily produces the opposite affection.

But custom not only gives a facility to perform any action, but likewise an inclination and tendency towards it, where it is not entirely disagreeable, and can never be the object of inclination. And this is the reason why custom encreases all active habits, but diminishes passive, according to the observation of a late eminent philosopher. The facility takes off from the force of the passive habits by

S 4.

ren-

III. Of the will and direct paf-Gons.

PART rendering the motion of the spirits faint and languid. But as in the active, the fpirits are fufficiently supported of themselves, the tendency of the mind gives them new force, and bends them more strongly to the action.

SECT. VI.

Of the influence of the imagination on the passions.

SECT. IS remarkable, that the imagination and affections have a close union together, and that nothing, which affects the former, can be entirely indifferent to the lat-Wherever our ideas of good or evil acquire a new vivacity, the passions become more violent; and keep pace with the imagination in all its variations. Whether this proceeds from the principle above-mention'd, that any attendant emotion is easily converted into the predominant, I shall not determine. Tis sufficient for my present purpose, that we have many inflances to confirm this influence of the imagination upon the paffions.

A N'Y pleasure, with which we are ac-SECT. quainted, affects us more than any other, which we own to be superior, but of whose of the innature we are wholly ignorant. Of the one fluence of we can form a particular and determinate nation, &c. idea: The other we conceive under the general notion of pleasure; and 'tis certain, that the more general and univerfal any of our ideas are, the less influence they have upon the imagination. A general idea, tho' it be nothing but a particular one confider'd in a certain view, is commonly more obscure; and that because no particular idea, by which we represent a general one, is ever fix'd or determinate, but may eafily be chang'd for other particular ones, which will ferve equally in the representation.

THERE is a noted passage in the history of Greece, which may serve for our present purpose. Themistocles told the Athenians, that he had form'd a design, which wou'd be highly useful to the public, but which 'twas impossible for him to communicate to them without ruining the execution, since its success depended entirely on the secrecy with which it shou'd be conducted. The Athenians, instead of granting him full power to act as he thought sitting, order'd him

Of the direct paf-

PART him to communicate his design to Aristides, in whose prudence they had an entire confidence, and whose opinion they were rewill and folv'd blindly to fubmit to. The defign of Themistocles was fecretly to fet fire to the fleet of all the Grecian commonwealths. which was affembled in a neighbouring port. and which being once deftroy'd, wou'd give the Athenians the empire of the fea without any rival. Aristides return'd to the affembly, and told them, that nothing cou'd be more advantageous than the defign of Themistocles; but at the same time that nothing cou'd be more unjust: Upon which the people unanimously rejected the project.

A LATE celebrated * historian admires this passage of antient history, as one of the most fingular that is any where to be met with. Here, fays he, they are not philosophers, to whom'tis easy in their schools to establish the finest maxims and most sublime rules of morality, who decide that interest ought never to prevail above justice. 'Tis a whole people interested in the proposal, which is made to them, who consider it as of importance to the public good, and who notwithstanding reject it unanimously, and without besitation, mere-

^{*} Monf. Rollin.

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

267

ly because it is contrary to justice. For my SECT. part I fee nothing fo extraordinary in this proceeding of the Athenians. The fame rea_ Of the infons, which render it so easy for philoso-fluence of phers to establish these sublime maxims, nation. &c. tend, in part, to diminish the merit of such a conduct in that people. Philosophers never ballance betwixt profit and honesty, because their decisions are general, and neither their passions nor imaginations are interested in the objects. And tho' in the present case the advantage was immediate to the Athenians, yet as it was known only under the general notion of advantage, without being conceiv'd by any particular idea, it must have had a less considerable influence on their imaginations, and have been a lefs violent temptation, than if they had been acquainted with all its circumstances: Otherwife 'tis difficult to conceive, that a whole people, unjust and violent as men commonly are, shou'd so unanimously have adher'd to justice, and rejected any considerable advantage.

ANY fatisfaction, which we lately enjoy'd, and of which the memory is fresh and recent, operates on the will with more violence, than another of which the traces

are

Of the

fions.

PART are decay'd, and almost obliterated. From whence does this proceed, but that the memory in the first case affists the fancy, and will and gives an additional force and vigour to its conceptions? The image of the past pleafure being strong and violent, bestows these qualities on the idea of the future pleafure, which is connected with it by the relation of refemblance.

> A PLEASURE, which is fuitable to the way of life, in which we are engag'd, excites more our defires and appetites than another, which is foreign to it. This phænomenon may be explain'd from the same principle.

> NOTHING is more capable of infufing any passion into the mind, than eloquence, by which objects are represented in their strongest and most lively colours. We may of ourselves acknowledge, that such an object is valuable, and fuch another odious; but 'till an orator excites the imagination, and gives force to these ideas, they may have but a feeble influence either on the will or the affections.

> Bu T elequence is not always necessary. The bare opinion of another, especially when inforc'd with passion, will cause an idea of good

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

269

good or evil to have an influence upon us, SECT. which wou'd otherwise have been entirely vI. neglected. This proceeds from the principle of sympathy or communication; and fuence of the imaging sympathy, as I have already observed, is non-nation, &c. thing but the conversion of an idea into an impression by the force of imagination.

'Tis remarkable, that lively passions commonly attend a lively imagination. In this respect, as well as others, the force of the passion depends as much on the temper of the person, as the nature or situation of the object.

I HAVE already observed, that belief is nothing but a lively idea related to a prefent impression. This vivacity is a requisite circumstance to the exciting all our passions, the calm as well as the violent; nor has a mere siction of the imagination any considerable influence upon either of them. Tis too weak to take any hold of the mind, or be attended with emotion.

-do blocan hamming or neithern SECT.

PART III. Of the will and direct paf-

SECT. VII.

Of contiguity and distance in space and time.

VII. VER E is an eafy reason, why every thing contiguous to us, either in space or time, shou'd be conceiv'd with a peculiar force and vivacity, and excel every other object, in its influence on the imagination. Ourself is intimately present to us, and whatever is related to self must partake of that quality. But where an object is so far remov'd as to have lost the advantage of this relation, why, as it is farther remov'd, its idea becomes still fainter and more obscure, wou'd, perhaps, require a more particular examination.

'T is obvious, that the imagination can never totally forget the points of space and time, in which we are existent; but receives such frequent advertisements of them from the passions and senses, that however it may turn its attention to foreign and remote objects, it is necessitated every moment to re-

flect

flect on the present. 'Tis also remarkable, SECT. that in the conception of those objects, VII. which we regard as real and existent, we Of contitake them in their proper order and fitua-guity, &c. tion, and never leap from one object to another, which is diftant from it, without running over, at least in a cursory manner, all those objects, which are interpos'd be-When we reflect, therefore, twixt them. on any object distant from ourselves, we are oblig'd not only to reach it at first by paffing thro' all the intermediate space betwixt ourselves and the object, but also to renew our progrefs every moment; being every moment recall'd to the confideration of ourselves and our present situation. 'Tis easily conceiv'd, that this interruption must weaken the idea by breaking the action of the mind, and hindering the conception from being so intense and continu'd, as when we reflect on a nearer object. The fewer steps we make to arrive at the object, and the smoother the road is, this diminution of vivacity is less confiderably felt, but still may be observ'd more or less in proportion to the degrees of distance and difficulty.

HERE then we are to confider two kinds of objects, the contiguous and remote; of which

Of the fions.

PART which the former, by means of their relation to ourselves, approach an impression in force and vivacity; the latter by reason of the interruption in our manner of conceiving them, appear in a weaker and more imperfect light. This is their effect on the imagination. If my reasoning be just, they must have a proportionable effect on the will and paffions. Contiguous objects must have an influence much superior to the distant and remote. Accordingly we find in common life, that men are principally concern'd about those objects, which are not much remov'd either in space or time, enjoying the prefent, and leaving what is afar off to the care of chance and for-Talk to a man of his condition tune. thirty years hence, and he will not regard you. Speak of what is to happen to-morrow, and he will lend you attention. The breaking of a mirror gives us more concern when at home, than the burning of a house, when abroad, and fome hundred leagues distant.

Bur farther; the' distance both in space and time has a confiderable effect on the imagination, and by that means on the will and passions, yet the consequence of a removal moval in space are much inferior to those Sect. of a removal in time. Twenty years are VII. certainly but a small distance of time in of conticomparison of what history and even the guity, and memory of some may inform them of, and space and yet I doubt if a thousand leagues, or even time. the greatest distance of place this globe can admit of, will so remarkably weaken our ideas, and diminish our passions. A West-India merchant will tell you, that he is not without concern about what passes in Jamaica; tho' sew extend their views so far into suturity, as to dread very remote accidents.

THE cause of this phænomenon must evidently lie in the different properties of fpace and time. Without having recourse to metaphyfics, any one may eafily observe, that space or extension consists of a number of co-existent parts dispos'd in a certain order, and capable of being at once prefent to the fight or feeling. On the contrary, time or fuccession, tho' it consists likewise of parts, never presents to us more than one at once; nor is it possible for any two of them ever to be co-existent. These qualities of the objects have a fuitable effect on the imagination. The parts of extension VOL. II. being

Of the will and direct paf-

PART being susceptible of an union to the senses, acquire an union in the fancy; and as the appearance of one part excludes not another, the transition or passage of the thought thro' the contiguous parts is by that means render'd more fmooth and eafy. On the other hand, the incompatibility of the parts of time in their real existence separates them in the imagination, and makes it more difficult for that faculty to trace any long fuccession or feries of events. Every part must appear fingle and alone, nor can regularly have entrance into the fancy without banishing what is fuppos'd to have been immediately precedent. By this means any distance in time causes a greater interruption in the thought than an equal diftance in space, and confequently weakens more confiderably the idea, and confequently the paffions; which depend in a great measure, on the imagination, according to my fystem.

THERE is another phænomenon of a like nature with the foregoing, viz. the fuperior effects of the same distance in futurity above that in the past. This difference with respect to the will is easily accounted for. As none of our actions can alter the past, 'tis not strange it shou'd never determine

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

275

the will. But with respect to the passions SECT: the question is yet entire, and well worth the examining.

BESIDES the propenfity to a gradual pro-guity, and gression thro' the points of space and time, space and we have another peculiarity in our method time. of thinking, which concurs in producing this phænomenon. We always follow the fuccession of time in placing our ideas, and from the confideration of any object pass more easily to that, which follows immediately after it, than to that which went before it. We may learn this, among other instances, from the order, which is always observ'd in historical narrations. Nothing but an absolute necessity can oblige an hiftorian to break the order of time, and in his narration give the precedence to an event, which was in reality posterior to another.

This will eafily be apply'd to the queftion in hand, if we reflect on what I have before observ'd, that the present situation of the person is always that of the imagination, and that 'tis from thence we proceed to the conception of any distant object. When the object is past, the progression of the thought in passing to it from the present

Landesbibliothek Older

III. Of the will and direct paf-Sions.

PART fent is contrary to nature, as proceeding from one point of time to that which is preceding, and from that to another preceding, in opposition to the natural course of the fucceffion. On the other hand, when we turn our thought to a future object, our fancy flows along the stream of time, and arrives at the object by an order, which feems most natural, pasfing always from one point of time to that which is immediately posterior to it. This easy progression of ideas favours the imagination, and makes it conceive its object in a stronger and fuller light, than when we are continually oppos'd in our paffage, and are oblig'd to overcome the difficulties arifing from the natural propenfity of the fancy. A small degree of distance in the past has, therefore, a greater effect, in interupting and weakening the conception, than a much greater in the future. From this effect of it on the imagination is deriv'd its influence on the will and passions.

THERE is another cause, which both contributes to the same effect, and proceeds from the fame quality of the fancy, by which we are determin'd to trace the fuccession of time by a similar succession of ideas. When from the present instant we

con-

confider two points of time equally dif-SECT. tant in the future and in the past, 'tis evident, that, abstractedly consider'd, their of contirelation to the prefent is almost equal. guity, and For as the future will fometime be present, space and fo the past was once present. If we cou'd, time. therefore, remove this quality of the imagination, an equal diffance in the past and in the future, wou'd have a fimilar influence. Nor is this only true, when the fancy remains fix'd, and from the prefent instant surveys the future and the past; but also when it changes its situation, and places us in different periods of time. For as on the one hand, in supposing ourselves existent in a point of time interpos'd betwixt the present instant and the future object, we find the future object approach to us, and the past retire, and become more diftant: So on the other hand, in supposing ourselves existent in a point of time interpos'd betwixt the prefent and the past, the past approaches to us, and the future becomes more distant. But from the property of the fancy above-mention'd we rather chuse to fix our thought on the point of time interpos'd betwixt the present and

Landesbibliothek Oldenburg

III. Of the direct paf-

278

PART the future, than on that betwixt the present and the past. We advance, rather than retard our existence; and following what will and feems the natural succession of time, proceeed from past to present, and from prefent to future By which means we conceive the future as flowing every moment nearer us, and the past as retiring. An equal distance, therefore, in the past and in the future, has not the fame effect on the imagination; and that because we confider the one as continually encreasing, and the other as continually diminishing. The fancy anticipates the course of things, and furveys the object in that condition, to which it tends, as well as in that, which is regarded as the prefent.

-organization and see SECT.

party of the track show mention'd werra-

SECT. VIII.

The same subject continu'd.

HUS we have accounted for three SECT. phænomena, which feem pretty re- VIII. markable. Why distance weakens the conception and paffion: Why diftance in time has a greater effect than that in space: And why distance in past time has still a greater effect than that in future. We must now confider three phænomena, which feem to be, in a manner, the reverse of these: Why a very great distance encreases our efteem and admiration for an object: Why fuch a distance in time encreases it more than that in space: And a distance in past time more than that in future. The curioufness of the fubject will, I hope, excuse my dwelling on it for some time.

To begin with the first phænomenon, why a great distance encreases our esteem and admiration for an object; 'tis evident that the mere view and contemplation of any greatness, whether successive or extended, enlarges the soul, and give it a sensible delight and pleasure. A wide plain, the

4. ocean

280

PART ocean, eternity, a fuccession of several ages; III. Of the will and direct paf-Fons.

all these are entertaining objects, and excel every thing, however beautiful, which accompanies not its beauty with a fuitable greatness. Now when any very distant object is presented to the imagination, we naturally reflect on the interpos'd diftance, and by that means, conceiving fomething great and magnificent, receive the usual fatisfaction. But as the fancy passes easily from one idea to another related to it, and transports to the fecond all the paffions excited by the first, the admiration, which is directed to the distance, naturally diffuses itfelf over the diffant object. Accordingly we find, that 'tis not necessary the object shou'd be actually distant from us, in order to cause our admiration; but that 'tis sufficient, if, by the natural affociation of ideas, it conveys our view to any confiderable distance. A great traveller, tho' in the same chamber, will pass for a very extraordinary person; as a Greek medal, even in our cabinet, is always esteem'd a valuable curiofity. Here the object, by a natural transition, conveys our view to the distance; and the admiration, which arises from that distance, by another natural transition, returns back to the object. Bur

Bu T tho' every great distance produces an SECT. admiration for the distant object, a distance in time has a more confiderable effect than that The fame in space. Antient busts and inscriptions are fubject more valu'd than Japan tables: And not to mention the Greeks and Romans, 'tis certain we regard with more veneration the old Chaldeans and Egyptians, than the modern Chinese and Persians, and bestow more fruitless pains to clear up the history and chronology of the former, than it wou'd cost us to make a voyage, and be certainly inform'd of the character, learning and government of the latter. I shall be oblig'd to make a digreffion in order to explain this phænomenon.

'Tis a quality very observable in human nature, that any opposition, which does not entirely discourage and intimidate us, has rather a contrary effect, and inspires us with a more than ordinary grandeur and magnanimity. In collecting our force to overcome the opposition, we invigorate the foul, and give it an elevation with which otherwise it wou'd never have been acquainted. Compliance, by rendering our strength useless, makes us insensible of it; but opposition awakens and employs it.

THIS

PART THIS is also true in the inverse. Op-III. position not only enlarges the soul; but the soul, when full of courage and magnanimirwill and direct passions.

Spumantemque dari pecora inter inertia

Optat aprum, aut fulvum descendere monte leonem.

WHATEVER supports and fills the passions is agreeable to us; as on the contrary, what weakens and infeebles them is uneasy. As opposition has the first effect, and facility the second, no wonder the mind, in certain dispositions, desires the former, and is averse to the latter.

THESE principles have an effect on the imagination as well as on the passions. To be convinc'd of this we need only consider the influence of *heights* and *depths* on that faculty. Any great elevation of place communicates a kind of pride or sublimity of imagination, and gives a fancy'd superiority over those that lie below; and, vice versa, a sublime and strong imagination conveys the idea of ascent and elevation. Hence it proceeds, that we associate, in a manner,

the idea of whatever is good with that of SECT. height, and evil with lowness. Heaven is VIII. fuppos'd to be above, and hell below. A The fame noble genius is call'd an elevate and fub-fubject conlime one. Atque udam spernit bumum fugi-tinu'd. ente penna. On the contrary, a vulgar and trivial conception is stil'd indifferently low or mean. Prosperity is denominated ascent, and adverfity descent. Kings and princes are suppos'd to be plac'd at the top of human affairs; as peafants and day-labourers are faid to be in the lowest stations. These methods of thinking, and of expresfing ourselves, are not of so little consequence as they may appear at first fight.

'T is evident to common sense, as well as philosophy, that there is no natural nor essential difference betwixt high and low, and that this distinction arises only from the gravitation of matter, which produces a motion from the one to the other. The very same direction, which in this part of the globe is call'd ascent, is denominated descent in our antipodes; which can proceed from nothing but the contrary tendency of bodies. Now 'tis certain, that the tendency of bodies, continually operating upon our senses, must produce, from custom, a like tendency

Of the will and direct paf-Gons.

PART tendency in the fancy, and that when we confider any object fituated in an afcent, the idea of its weight gives us a propenfity to transport it from the place, in which it is fituated, to the place immediately below it, and fo on, 'till we come to the ground. which equally ftops the body and our imagination. For a like reason we feel a difficulty in mounting, and pass not without a kind of reluctance from the inferior to that which is fituated above it: as if our ideas acquir'd a kind of gravity from their objects. As a proof of this, do we not find, that the facility, which is fo much study'd in music and poetry, is call'd the fall or cadency of the harmony or period; the idea of facility communicating to us that of defcent, in the fame manner as descent produces a facility?

SINCE the imagination, therefore, in running from low to high, finds an oppofition in its internal qualities and principles, and fince the foul, when elevated with joy and courage, in a manner feeks opposition, and throws itself with alacrity into any scene of thought or action, where its courage meets with matter to nourish and employ it; it follows, that every thing, which inviinvigorates and inlivens the foul, whether SECT. by touching the passions or imagination, VIII. naturally conveys to the fancy this inclina- The fame tion for ascent, and determines it to run subject conagainst the natural stream of its thoughts and timi'd. conceptions. This aspiring progress of the imagination fuits the present disposition of the mind; and the difficulty, instead of extinguishing its vigour and alacrity, has the contrary effect, of fustaining and encreasing it. Virtue, genius, power, and riches are for this reason associated with height and fublimity; as poverty, flavery, and folly are conjoin'd with descent and lowness. Were the case the same with us as Milton reprefents it to be with the angels, to whom descent is adverse, and who cannot fink without labour and compulsion, this order of things wou'd be entirely inverted; as appears hence, that the very nature of ascent and descent is deriv'd from the difficulty and propenfity, and consequently every one of their effects proceeds from that origin.

ALL this is easily apply'd to the present question, why a considerable distance in time produces a greater veneration for the distant objects than a like removal in space. The imagination moves with more difficul-

Of the direct paf-Gons.

PART ty in passing from one portion of time to another, than in a transition thro' the parts of space; and that because space or extenwill and fion appears united to our fenfes, while time or fuccession is always broken and divided. This difficulty, when join'd with a small distance, interrupts and weakens the fancy : But has a contrary effect in a great remo-The mind, elevated by the vaftness of its object, is still farther elevated by the difficulty of the conception; and being oblig'd every moment to renew its efforts in the transition from one part of time to another, feels a more vigorous and fublime disposition, than in a transition thro' the parts of space, where the ideas flow along with easiness and facility. In this disposition, the imagination, paffing, as is usual, from the confideration of the diffance to the view of the distant objects, gives us a proportionable veneration for it; and this is the reason why all the relicts of antiquity are fo precious in our eyes, and appear more valuable than what is brought even from the remotest parts of the world.

THE third phænomenon I have remark'd will be a full confirmation of this. not every removal in time, which has the effect of producing veneration and esteem. SECT. We are not apt to imagine our posterity will VIII. excel us, or equal our ancestors. This phæ- The same nomenon is the more remarkable, because subject continued any distance in suturity weakens not our ideas so much as an equal removal in the past. Tho' a removal in the past, when very great, encreases our passions beyond a like removal in the suture, yet a small removal has a greater influence in diminishing them.

In our common way of thinking we are plac'd in a kind of middle station betwixt the past and future; and as our imagination finds a kind of difficulty in running along the former, and a facility in following the course of the latter, the difficulty conveys the notion of ascent, and the facility of the contrary. Hence we imagine our ancestors to be, in a manner, mounted above us, and our posterity to lie below us. Our fancy arrives not at the one without effort, but eafily reaches the other: Which effort weakens the conception, where the distance is small; but enlarges and elevates the imagination, when attended with a fuitable object. As on the other hand, the facility affifts the fancy in a small removal, but

PART but takes off from its force when it contemplates any confiderable distance. III.

Of the direct paf-Gons.

IT may not be improper, before we leave will and this subject of the will, to resume, in a few words, all that has been faid concerning it. in order to fet the whole more diftinctly before the eyes of the reader. What we commonly understand by passion is a violent and fenfible emotion of mind, when any good or evil is presented, or any object, which, by the original formation of our faculties, is fitted to excite an appetite. By reason we mean affections of the very same kind with the former; but fuch as operate more calmly, and cause no disorder in the temper: Which tranquillity leads us into a mistake concerning them, and causes us to regard them as conclusions only of our intellectual faculties. Both the causes and effects of these violent and calm passions are pretty variable, and depend, in a great meafure, on the peculiar temper and disposition of every individual. Generally speaking, the violent passions have a more powerful influence on the will; tho' 'tis often found, that the calm ones, when corroborated by reflection, and feconded by refolution, are able to controul them in their most furious

rious movements. What makes this whole SECT. affair more uncertain, is, that a calm paf- VIII. fion may eafily be chang'd into a violent The fame one, either by a change of temper, or of fubject conthe circumstances and fituation of the object, as by the borrowing of force from any attendant passion, by custom, or by exciting the imagination. Upon the whole, this struggle of passion and of reason, as it is call'd, diversifies human life, and makes men fo different not only from each other, but also from themselves in different times. Philosophy can only account for a few of the greater and more fenfible events of this war; but must leave all the smaller and more delicate revolutions, as dependent on principles too fine and minute for her comprehension.

Vol. II. U SECT

PART
III.

Of the

will and
direct paffions.

SECT. IX.

Of the direct passions.

IS easy to observe, that the passions, IX. both direct and indirect, are founded on pain and pleasure, and that in order to produce an affection of any kind, 'tis only requisite to present some good or evil. Upon the removal of pain and pleasure there immediately follows a removal of love and hatred, pride and humility, desire and aversion, and of most of our reslective or secondary impressions.

THE impressions, which arise from good and evil most naturally, and with the least preparation are the *direct* passions of desire and aversion, grief and joy, hope and fear, along with volition. The mind by an original instinct tends to unite itself with the good, and to avoid the evil, tho' they be conceiv'd merely in idea, and be consider'd as to exist in any future period of time.

But supposing that there is an immediate impression of pain or pleasure, and that arising from an object related to ourselves or others,

this

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

291

this does not prevent the propenfity or aver-SECT. fion, with the confequent emotions, but by IX. concurring with certain dormant principles of the of the human mind, excites the new im-direct pafer pressions of pride or humility, love or hatred. That propensity, which unites us to the object, or seperates us from it, still continues to operate, but in conjunction with the indirect passions, which arise from a double relation of impressions and ideas.

THESE indirect passions, being always agreeable or uneasy, give in their turn additional force to the direct passions, and encrease our desire and aversion to the object. Thus a suit of sine cloaths produces pleasure from their beauty; and this pleasure produces the direct passions, or the impressions of volition and desire. Again, when these cloaths are consider'd as belonging to ourself, the double relation conveys to us the sentiment of pride, which is an indirect passion; and the pleasure, which attends that passion, returns back to the direct assertions, and gives new force to our desire or volition, joy or hope.

WHEN good is certain or probable, it produces JOY. When evil is in the same situation there arises GRIEF or SORROW.

U 2 WHEN

PART WHEN either good or evil is uncertain,
III. it gives rife to FEAR or HOPE, according

of the to the degrees of uncertainty on the one fide

will and or the other.

fions .

DESIRE arises from good consider'd simply, and AVERSION is deriv'd from evil. The WILL exerts itself, when either the good or the absence of the evil may be attain'd by any action of the mind or body.

BESIDE good and evil, or in other words, pain and pleasure, the direct passions frequently arise from a natural impulse or instinct, which is perfectly unaccountable. Of this kind is the desire of punishment to our enemies, and of happiness to our friends; hunger, lust, and a few other bodily appetites. These passions, properly speaking, produce good and evil, and proceed not from them, like the other affections.

None of the direct affections feem to merit our particular attention, except hope and fear, which we shall here endeavour to account for. 'Tis evident that the very same event, which by its certainty wou'd produce grief or joy, gives always rise to fear or hope, when only probable and uncertain. In order, therefore, to understand the

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

the reason why this circumstance makes SECT fuch a confiderable difference, we must re- IX. flect on what I have already advanc'd in Of the the preceding book concerning the nature direct paf-

of probability.

PROBABILITY arises from an opposition of contrary chances or causes, by which the mind is not allow'd to fix on either fide, but is inceffantly tost from one to another, and at one moment is determin'd to confider an object as existent, and at another moment as the contrary. The imagination or understanding, call it which you please, fluctuates betwixt the opposite views; and tho' perhaps it may be oftner turn'd to the one fide than the other, 'tis impossible for it, by reason of the opposition of causes or chances, to rest on either. The pro and con of the question alternately prevail; and the mind, furveying the object in its oppofite principles, finds fuch a contrariety as utterly destroys all certainty and establish'd opinion.

SUPPOSE, then, that the object, concerning whose reality we are doubtful, is an object either of defire or aversion, 'tis evident, that, according as the mind turns itfelf either to the one fide or the other, it must

U 3

Of the will and direct paffions.

294

PART must feel a momentary impression of joy or forrow. An object, whose existence we defire, gives fatisfaction, when we reflect on those causes, which produce it; and for the fame reason excites grief or uneasiness from the opposite consideration: So that as the understanding, in all probable questions, is divided betwixt the contrary points of view, the affections must in the same manner be divided betwixt opposite emotions.

Now if we consider the human mind, we shall find, that with regard to the pasfions, 'tis not of the nature of a windinstrument of music, which in running over all the notes immediately loses the found after the breath ceases; but rather resembles a string-instrument, where after each stroke the vibrations still retain some sound, which gradually and infenfibly decays. The imagination is extreme quick and agile; but the paffions are flow and reflive: For which reason, when any object is presented, that affords a variety of views to the one, and emotions to the other; tho' the fancy may change its views with great celerity; each stroke will not produce a clear and distinct note of passion, but the one passion will always be mixt and confounded with the other. other. According as the probability inclines SECT. to good or evil, the passion of joy or forrow IX. predominates in the composition: Because of the the nature of probability is to cast a supe-direct pasrior number of views or chances on one fions. fide; or, which is the fame thing, a superior number of returns of one passion; or fince the dispers'd passions are collected into one, a fuperior degree of that passion. That is, in other words, the grief and joy being intermingled with each other, by means of the contrary views of the imagination, produce by their union the passions of hope and fear.

UPON this head there may be started a very curious question concerning that contrariety of passions, which is our present fubject. 'Tis observable, that where the objects of contrary passions are presented at once, beside the encrease of the predominant paffion (which has been already explain'd, and commonly arises at their first shock or rencounter) it fometimes happens, that both the passions exist successively, and by short intervals; fometimes, that they destroy each other, and neither of them takes place; and fometimes that both of them remain united in the mind. It may, therefore, U 4

PART therefore, be ask'd, by what theory we can III. explain these variations, and to what general principle we can reduce them.

Of the will and direct paffons.

WHEN the contrary passions arise from objects entirely different, they take place alternately, the want of relation in the ideas seperating the impressions from each other, and preventing their opposition. Thus when a man is afflicted for the loss of a law-suit, and joyful for the birth of a son, the mind running from the agreeable to the calamitous object, with whatever celerity it may perform this motion, can scarcely temper the one affection with the other, and remain betwixt them in a state of indifference.

IT more eafily attains that calm fituation, when the same event is of a mixt nature, and contains something adverse and something prosperous in its different circumstances. For in that case, both the passions, mingling with each other by means of the relation, become mutually destructive, and leave the mind in perfect tranquility.

But fuppose, in the third place, that the object is not a compound of good or evil, but is consider'd as probable or improbable in any degree; in that case I assert,

that

BOOK II. Of the Paffions.

297

that the contrary passions will both of them SECT. be present at once in the foul, and instead IX. of destroying and tempering each other, of the will fubfift together, and produce a third direct pafimpression or affection by their union. Sions. Contrary passions are not capable of destroying each other, except when their contrary movements exactly rencounter, and are opposite in their direction, as well as in the fensation they produce. This exact rencounter depends upon the relations of those ideas, from which they are deriv'd, and is more or less perfect, according to the degrees of the relation. In the case of probability the contrary chances are fo far related, that they determine concerning the existence or non-existence of the same object. But this relation is far from being perfect; fince fome of the chances lie on the fide of existence, and others on that of non-existence; which are objects altogether incompatible. 'Tis impossible by one steady view to furvey the opposite chances, and the events dependent on them; but 'tis necessary, that the imagination shou'd run alternately from the one to the other. Each view of the imagination produces its peculiar pafsion, which decays away by degrees, and is follow'd

PART follow'd by a fensible vibration after the III. stroke. The incompatibility of the views keeps the passions from shocking in a direct line, if that expression may be allow'd; and yet their relation is sufficient to mingle their fainter emotions. 'Tis after this manner that hope and fear arise from the different mixture of these opposite passions of grief and joy, and from their impersect union and conjunction.

UPON the whole, contrary passions succeed each other alternately, when they arise from different objects: They mutually destroy each other, when they proceed from different parts of the fame: And they fubfift both of them, and mingle together, when they are deriv'd from the contrary and incompatible chances or possibilities, on which any one object depends. The influence of the relations of ideas is plainly feen in this whole affair. If the objects of the contrary passions be totally different, the passions are like two opposite liquors in different bottles, which have no influence on each other. If the objects be intimately connected, the paffions are like an alcali and an acid, which, being mingled, destroy each other. If the relation be more imperfect, and confifts in the Book II. Of the Passions.

299

the contradictory views of the same object, SECT. the passions are like oil and vinegar, which, IX. however mingled, never perfectly unite and of the incorporate.

As the hypothesis concerning hope and fons. fear carries its own evidence along with it, we shall be the more concise in our proofs. A few strong arguments are better than many weak ones.

THE paffions of fear and hope may arife when the chances are equal on both fides, and no superiority can be discover'd in the one above the other. Nay, in this fituation the paffions are rather the strongest, as the mind has then the least foundation to rest upon, and is toss'd with the greatest uncertainty. Throw in a superior degree of probability to the fide of grief, you immediately fee that paffion diffuse itfelf over the composition, and tincture it Encrease the probability, and into fear. by that means the grief, the fear prevails ftill more and more, till at last it runs infenfibly, as the joy continually diminishes, into pure grief. After you have brought it to this fituation, diminish the grief, after the fame manner that you encreas'd it; by diminishing the probability on that fide, and you'll

Of the will and direct paffions.

PART you'll fee the passion clear every moment, 'till it changes infenfibly into hope; which again runs, after the fame manner, by flow degrees, into joy, as you encrease that part of the composition by the encrease of the probability. Are not these as plain proofs, that the paffions of fear and hope are mixtures of grief and joy, as in optics 'tis a proof, that a colour'd ray of the fun paffing thro' a prifm, is a composition of two others, when, as you diminish or encrease the quantity of either, you find it prevail proportionably more or less in the composition? I am fure neither natural nor moral philosophy admits of stronger proofs.

PROBABILITY is of two kinds, either when the object is really in itself uncertain, and to be determin'd by chance; or when, tho' the object be already certain, yet 'tis uncertain to our judgment, which finds a number of proofs on each fide of the queftion. Both these kinds of probabilities cause fear and hope; which can only proceed from that property, in which they agree, viz. the uncertainty and fluctuation they bestow on the imagination by that contrariety of views, which is common to both.

TIS

'Tis a probable good or evil, that com-Sect. monly produces hope or fear; because probability, being a wavering and unconstant of the method of surveying an object, causes nadired pasturally a like mixture and uncertainty of passion. But we may observe, that wherever from other causes this mixture can be produced, the passions of fear and hope will arise, even the there be no probability; which must be allowed to be a convincing proof of the present hypothesis.

WE find that an evil, barely conceiv'd as possible, does sometimes produce fear; especially if the evil be very great. A man cannot think of excessive pains and tortures without trembling, if he be in the least danger of suffering them. The smallness of the probability is compensated by the greatness of the evil; and the sensation is equally lively, as if the evil were more probable. One view or glimpse of the former, has the same effect as several of the latter.

But they are not only possible evils, that cause fear, but even some allow'd to be impossible; as when we tremble on the brink of a precipice, tho' we know ourselves to be in perfect security, and have it in our choice whether we will advance a step farther.

PART ther.

III. prefence imaginate will and tainty direct paf-

Rons.

302

ther. This proceeds from the immediate presence of the evil, which influences the imagination in the same manner as the certainty of it wou'd do; but being encounter'd by the reflection on our security, is immediately retracted, and causes the same kind of passion, as when from a contrariety of chances contrary passions are produc'd.

Evils, that are certain, have fometimes the fame effect in producing fear, as the poffible or impossible. Thus a man in a strong prison well-guarded, without the least means of escape, trembles at the thought of the rack, to which he is sentenc'd. This happens only when the certain evil is terrible and confounding; in which case the mind continually rejects it with horror, while it continually presses in upon the thought. The evil is there fix'd and establish'd, but the mind cannot endure to fix upon it; from which sluctuation and uncertainty there arises a passion of much the same appearance with fear.

But 'tis not only where good or evil is uncertain, as to its existence, but also as to its kind, that fear or hope arises. Let one be told by a person, whose veracity he cannot doubt of, that one of his sons is suddenly kill'd,

kill'd, 'tis evident the passion this event Sect. wou'd occasion, wou'd not settle into pure IX. grief, till he got certain information, which of his sons he had lost. Here there is an direct passions.

Consequently the kind of it uncertain:

Consequently the fear we feel on this occasion is without the least mixture of joy, and arises merely from the sluctuation of the fancy betwixt its objects. And tho' each side of the question produces here the same passion, yet that passion cannot settle, but receives from the imagination a tremulous and unsteady motion, resembling in its cause, as well as in its sensation, the mixture and contention of grief and joy.

From these principles we may account for a phænomenon in the passions, which at first sight seems very extraordinary, viz. that surprize is apt to change into sear, and every thing that is unexpected affrights us. The most obvious conclusion from this is, that human nature is in general pusilanimous; since upon the sudden appearance of any object we immediately conclude it to be an evil, and without waiting till we can examine its nature, whether it be good or bad, are at first affected with sear. This I say is the most obvious conclusion; but up-

III. Of the avill and direct paf-Gans.

PART on farther examination we shall find that the phænomenon is otherwise to be accounted for. The fuddenness and strangeness of an appearance naturally excite a commotion in the mind, like every thing for which we are not prepar'd, and to which we are not accustom'd. This commotion. again, naturally produces a curiofity or inquisitiveness, which being very violent, from the strong and sudden impulse of the object, becomes uneafy, and refembles in its fluctuation and uncertainty, the fensation of fear or the mix'd passions of grief and joy. This image of fear naturally converts into the thing itself, and gives us a real apprehension of evil, as the mind always forms its judgments more from its present disposition than from the nature of its objects.

Thus all kinds of uncertainty have a strong connexion with fear, even tho' they do not cause any opposition of passions by the opposite views and considerations they present to us. A person, who has left his friend in any malady, will feel more anxiety upon his account, than if he were present, tho' perhaps he is not only incapable of giving him affiftance, but likewise of judging of the event of his fickness. In this case, tho' the principal object of the Sectopassion, viz. the life or death of his friend, IX. be to him equally uncertain when present of the as when absent; yet there are a thousand lit-direct picture condition, the knowledge of which fixes the idea, and prevents that fluctuation and uncertainty so near ally'd to fear. Uncertainty is, indeed, in one respect as near ally'd to hope as to fear, since it makes an essential part in the composition of the former passion; but the reason, why it inclines not to that side, is, that uncertainty alone is uneasy, and has a relation of impressions to the uneasy passions.

'T is thus our uncertainty concerning any minute circumstance relating to a perfon encreases our apprehensions of his death or misfortune. Horace has remark'd this phænomenon.

Ut assidens implumibus pullus avis
Serpentium allapsus timet,
Magis relictis; non, ut adsit, auxili
Latura plus presentibus.

But this principle of the connexion of fear with uncertainty I carry farther, and Vol. II. X observe

III. Of the will and direct paf-Gons.

PART observe that any doubt produces that pasfion, even tho' it presents nothing to us on any fide but what is good and defireable. A virgin, on her bridal-night goes to bed full of fears and apprehensions, tho' she expects nothing but pleasure of the highest kind, and what she has long wish'd for. The newness and greatness of the event, the confusion of withes and joys, so embarrass the mind, that it knows not on what paffion to fix itself; from whence arises a fluttering or unfettledness of the spirits, which being, in fome degree, uneafy, very naturally degenerates into fear.

Thus we still find, that whatever causes any fluctuation or mixture of paffions, with any degree of uneafiness, always produces fear, or at least a passion so like it, that they are scarcely to be distinguish'd.

I HAVE here confin'd myself to the examination of hope and fear in their most fimple and natural fituation, without confidering all the variations they may receive from the mixture of different views and re-Terror, confernation, astonishflections. ment, anxiety, and other passions of that kind, are nothing but different species and hins reducer vivos I vinicinsonii il degrees

degrees of fear. 'Tis easy to imagine how SECT's a different situation of the object, or a different situation of the object, or a different situation of thought, may change even the fensation of a passion; and this may in general account for all the particular sub-divisions of the other affections, as well as of fear. Love may shew itself in the shape of tenderness, friendship, intimacy, esteem, good-will, and in many other appearances; which at the bottom are the same affections, and arise from the same causes, tho' with a small variation, which it is not necessary to give any particular account of. 'Tis for this reason I have all along confin'd my-self to the principal passion.

THE same care of avoiding prolixity is the reason why I wave the examination of the will and direct passions, as they appear in animals; since nothing is more evident, than that they are of the same nature, and excited by the same causes as in human creatures. I leave this to the reader's own observation; desiring him at the same time to consider the additional force this bestows on the present system.

X 2

SECT

certain, that the for.

PART
III.
Of the will and direct paffons.

308

SECT. X.

Of curiosity, or the love of truth.

UT methinks we have been not a SECT. little inattentive to run over fo many wifferent parts of the human mind, and examine fo many passions, without taking once into the confideration that love of truth, which was the first source of all our enquiries. 'Twill therefore be proper, before we leave this subject, to bestow a few reflections on that paffion, and shew its origin in human nature. 'Tis an affection of fo peculiar a kind, that 'twoud have been impossible to have treated of it under any of those heads, which we have examin'd, without danger of obscurity and confufion.

TRUTH is of two kinds, confisting either in the discovery of the proportions of ideas, confider'd as such, or in the conformity of our ideas of objects to their real existence. 'Tis certain, that the former species of truth, is not desir'd merely as truth, and that 'tis not the justness

justness of our conclusions, which alone SECT: gives the pleasure. For these conclusions are equally just, when we discover the equa- of curiolity of two bodies by a pair of compasses, fity, or the as when we learn it by a mathematical de- truth. monstration; and tho' in the one case the proofs be demonstrative, and in the other only fenfible, yet generally speaking, the mind acquiesces with equal affurance in the one as in the other. And in an arithmetical operation, where both the truth and the affurance are of the same nature, as in the most profound algebraical problem, the pleasure is very inconsiderable, if rather it does not degenerate into pain: Which is an evident proof, that the fatisfaction, which we fometimes receive from the discovery of truth, proceeds not from it, merely as fuch, but only as endow'd with certain qualities.

THE first and most considerable circumstance requisite to render truth agreeable, is the genius and capacity, which is employ'd in its invention and discovery. What is easy and obvious is never valu'd; and even what is in itself difficult, if we come to the knowledge of it without difficulty,

III. Of the will and direct paf-

PART culty, and without any stretch of thought or judgment, is but little regarded. We love to trace the demonstrations of mathematicians; but shou'd receive small entertainment from a person, who shou'd barely inform us of the proportions of lines and angles, tho' we repos'd the utmost confidence both in his judgment and veracity. In this case 'tis sufficient to have ears to learn the truth. We never are oblig'd to fix our attention or exert our genius; which of all other exercises of the mind is the most pleafant and agreeable.

Bur tho' the exercise of genius be the principal source of that satisfaction we receive from the sciences, yet I doubt, if it be alone sufficient to give us any confiderable enjoyment. The truth we discover must also be of some importance. "Tis easy to multiply algebraical problems to infinity, nor is there any end in the discovery of the proportions of conic fections; tho' few mathematicians take any pleasure in these researches, but turn their thoughts to what is more useful and important, Now the question is, after what manner this utility and importance operate upon

us? The difficulty on this head arises from SECT. hence, that many philosophers have confum'd their time, have destroy'd their of curio-health, and neglected their fortune, in the stry, or the search of such truths, as they esteem'd important and useful to the world, tho' it appear'd from their whole conduct and behaviour, that they were not endow'd with any share of public spirit, nor had any concern for the interests of mankind. Were they convinc'd, that their discoveries were of no consequence, they wou'd entirely lose all relish for their studies, and that tho' the consequences be entirely indifferent to them; which seems to be a contradiction.

To remove this contradiction, we must consider, that there are certain desires and inclinations, which go no farther than the imagination, and are rather the faint shadows and images of passions, than any real affections. Thus, suppose a man, who takes a survey of the fortifications of any city; considers their strength and advantages, natural or acquir'd; observes the disposition and contrivance of the bastions, ramparts, mines, and other military works; 'tis plain, that in proportion as all these are fitted to attain their ends, he will receive a suitable X 4.

III.

Of the will and

Fans.

PART pleasure and satisfaction. This pleasure, as it arises from the utility, not the form of the objects, can be no other than a fympathy with the inhabitants, for whose sedirect pafcurity all this art is employ'd; tho' 'tis poffible, that this person, as a stranger or an enemy, may in his heart have no kindness for them, or may even entertain a hatred against them.

IT may indeed be objected, that fuch a remote fympathy is a very flight foundation for a passion, and that so much industry and application, as we frequently observe in philosophers, can never be deriv'd from so inconfiderable an original. But here I return to what I have already remark'd, that the pleasure of study confists chiefly in the action of the mind, and the exercise of the genius and understanding in the discovery or comprehension of any truth. If the importance of the truth be requisite to compleat the pleasure, 'tis not on account of any confiderable addition, which of itself it brings to our enjoyment, but only because 'tis, in some measure, requisite to fix our attention. When we are careless and inattentive, the same action of the understanding has no effect upon us, nor is able to convey

BOOK II. Of the Passions.

313

convey any of that satisfaction, which a- SECT.

rises from it, when we are in another disposition.

But beside the action of the mind, sity, or the which is the principal foundation of the truth, pleasure, there is likewise requir'd a degree of fuccess in the attainment of the end, or the discovery of that truth we examine. Upon this head I shall make a general remark, which may be useful on many occafions, viz. that where the mind pursues any end with passion; the' that passion be not deriv'd originally from the end, but merely from the action and purfuit; yet by the natural course of the affections, we acquire a concern for the end itself, and are uneafy under any disappointment we meet with in the pursuit of it. This proceeds from the relation and parallel direction of the passions above-mention'd.

To illustrate all this by a similar instance, I shall observe, that there cannot be two passions more nearly resembling each other, than those of hunting and philosophy, whatever disproportion may at first sight appear betwixt them. 'Tis evident, that the pleasure of hunting consists in the action of the mind and body; the motion, the attention,

the

PART the difficulty, and the uncertainty. 'Tis III. Of the direct paf-Gons.

314

evident likewise, that these actions must be attended with an idea of utility, in order will and to their having any effect upon us. A man of the greatest fortune, and the farthest remov'd from avarice, tho' he takes a pleafure in hunting after patridges and pheafants, feels no fatisfaction in shooting crows and magpies; and that because he considers the first as fit for the table, and the other as entirely useless. Here 'tis certain, that the utility or importance of itself causes no real paffion, but is only requifite to support the imagination; and the fame person, who over-looks a ten times greater profit in any other subject, is pleas'd to bring home half a dozen woodcocks or plovers, after having employ'd feveral hours in hunting after them. To make the parallel betwixt hunting and philosophy more compleat, we may observe, that tho' in both cases the end of our action may in itself be despis'd, yet in the heat of the action we acquire fuch an attention to this end, that we are very uneafy under any disappointments, and are forry when we either miss our game, or fall into any error in our reasoning.

IF we want another parallel to these af- SECT. fections, we may confider the passion of X. gaming, which affords a pleafure from the Of curiosame principles as hunting and philosophy. fity, or the It has been remark'd, that the pleasure of truth. gaming arises not from interest alone; fince many leave a fure gain for this entertainment: Neither is it deriv'd from the game alone; fince the fame persons have no fatisfaction, when they play for nothing: But proceeds from both these causes united, tho' feparately they have no effect. 'Tis here as in certain chymical preparations, where the mixture of two clear and transparent liquids produces a third, which is opaque and colour'd.

THE interest, which we have in any game, engages our attention, without which we can have no enjoyment, either in that or in any other action. Our attention being once engag'd, the difficulty, variety, and fudden reverses of fortune, still farther interest us; and 'tis from that concern our fatisfaction arises. Human life is so tiresome a fcene, and men generally are of fuch indolent dispositions, that whatever amuses them, tho' by a paffion mixt with pain, does in the main give them a fenfible pleasure. And this

III. Of the will and direct paf-Fions.

PART this pleasure is here encreas'd by the nature of the objects, which being fenfible, and of a narrow compass, are enter'd into with facility, and are agreeable to the imagination.

> THE fame theory, that accounts for the love of truth in mathematics and algebra, may be extended to morals, politics, natural philosophy, and other studies, where we confider not the abstract relations of ideas, but their real connexions and existence. But befide the love of knowledge, which displays itself in the sciences, there is a certain curiofity implanted in human nature, which is a paffion deriv'd from a quite different principle. Some people have an infatiable defire of knowing the actions and circumstances of their neighbours, tho' their interest be no way concern'd in them, and they must entirely depend on others for their information; in which case there is no room for study or application. Let us fearch for the reason of this phænomenon.

> IT has been prov'd at large, that the influence of belief is at once to inliven and infix any idea in the imagination, and prevent all kind of hefitation and uncertainty about it. Both these circumstances are ad-

vantageous,

vantageous. By the vivacity of the idea SECT. we interest the fancy, and produce, tho' in X. a lesser degree, the same pleasure, which of curioarises from a moderate passion. As the sity, or the vivacity of the idea gives pleasure, so its truth. certainty prevents uneafiness, by fixing one particular idea in the mind, and keeping it from wavering in the choice of its objects. 'Tis a quality of human nature, which is confpicuous on many occasions, and is common both to the mind and body, that too fudden and violent a change is unpleasant to us, and that however any objects may in themselves be indifferent, yet their alteration gives uneafiness. As 'tis the nature of doubt to cause a variation in the thought, and transport us suddenly from one idea to another, it must of consequence be the occasion of pain. This pain chiefly takes place, where interest, relation, or the greatness and novelty of any event interests us in it. "Tis not every matter of fact, of which we have a curiofity to be inform'd; neither are they fuch only as we have an interest to know. 'Tis sufficient if the idea strikes on us with such force, and concerns us fo nearly, as to give us an uneafiness in its inflability and inconftancy. A stranger, when

III. Of the will and direct paffrons.

PART when he arrives first at any town, may be entirely indifferent about knowing the hiftory and adventures of the inhabitants; but as he becomes farther acquainted with them, and has liv'd any confiderable time among them, he acquires the same curiofity as the natives. When we are reading the history of a nation, we may have an ardent defire of clearing up any doubt or difficulty, that occurs in it; but become careless in such refearches, when the ideas of these events are, in a great measure, obliterated.

FINIS.

