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PHILOSOPHIC REFLECTIONS.

By Plato. Paper No. V.

SIMPLE EMOTIONS.

This general and obvious distinction, we find among our sensibilities a large class which we may denominate simple emotions. These comprise the joys and sorrows of life in all their varieties of modification and degree, according as the object which awakens them differ. Under this class falls those general states of the mind which, without assuming a definite and obvious form, impart a tinge and coloring of joyousness or sadness to all our activity. Under this class also, must be included the more specific forms of feeling, such as the grief or sorrow we feel at the loss of friends sympathy with the happiness or sorrow of others, the enjoyment arising from the contemplation or persuasion of our own superiority to others, and the chagrin of the reverse, the enjoyment of the ludicrous, of the new and wonderful, to which must be added the satisfaction resulting from the consciousness of right action, and those vivid feelings of regret in view of the wrong, which, in their higher degree, assume the name of remorse, and fall like a chill and fearful shadow over the the troubled path of earthly life. These are all simple emotions, and all, moreover, are but so many forms of joy and sorrow, varying as the objects vary which give rise to them.

It will be observed, however, that of these several specific forms of simple emotion, some are of higher order than the others. Such are those last mentioned in the series, the feelings awakened in view of the ludicrous, in view of the new and wonderful, in view of the beautiful, and in view of the right, or, in

general, the aesthetic and moral emotions. These, seem to possess a higher dignity, and to involve a higher degree of intellectual development, we may denominate the rational, in distinction from the other simple emotions, which, to make the difference, we may term instinctive. Passing on in our analysis, we come next to a class of emotions differing from the already considered, in being of a complex character. It is no longer a feeling of delight and satisfaction in the object, or the reverse, but along with this is blended the wish, more or less definite and intruse, of good or ill, to the object which awakens the emotion. The feeling assumes the active form, becomes objective, and travels out from itself and the bosom that cherishes it, to the object which calls it forth. In this desire of good or ill to the object, the simple element of joy or sorrow, the subjective feeling, is often merged and lost sight of; yet it ever exists as an essential element of the complex emotion.

HUNTING ITEMS.

Again we are upon the wing for items and we commence at the Depot, where we before left off. Looking into then; J. G. Strong's office as we pass, we discover that gentleman in an animated discussion upon the policy of the in-coming Republican administration. Another glance gives us his audience; the inevitable, everlasting and unquenchable water horse of the Republican party Mr. Wentz, Chas. Newell and a number of grain constituents, with Joseph I. the battering ram of the sovereign hard-heads in their cante, spitting his impatience upon the inoffensive floor for a chance to LIP IN. Seeing Mr. Strong had the floor and would not be interrupted in his own house by SMALL FRY, we pass on and run against smiling 'Jim' of the M'Pherson, and while we exchange salutations with him we are joined by those two happy, genial hearted gentlemen the Campbells, who seem not only to make sunshine for themselves, but for all others whom they may chance to meet with. The proportions and beauty of our friend John's proboscis has not diminished in his absence; he claims it never will, and he nose.

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