

by strong prejudices, and these color every object at which he looks. He is sincere in desiring to view every object in its true light, and is not aware that his eye always looks upon colored objects. But an eagle-eyed world perceive it, and though they do not perhaps doubt his honesty, they lose their confidence in his judgment.

Another Christian, of the same general honesty and transparency of character, fixes his eyes so exclusively upon some particular doctrines or duties, that they give a coloring to all his views. He over-estimates their importance, and they injure the symmetry of his religious character, producing as much deviation from perfect transparency as color does in the crystal.

The same effect is sometimes produced upon character by long-continued poor health. Some diseases do actually give an unnatural color to objects seen through the eye. And there are jaundiced minds, as well as jaundiced eyes. Nor can the man avoid viewing the world with a morbid and melancholy hue thrown over it, when the nervous system is deranged, any more than a yellow tinge can be removed from external objects, when the eye is suffused with bile. He whose health is firm, and whose mental eye is clear, smiles at the delusions of the invalid, and takes pride in his superior philosophy and religion. But let a slight shock be given to his nervous system, and the same sombre cloud will overshadow him, and his boasted philosophy and religion will succumb to a deranged sensorium.

*2. I shall in the second place describe the hydrophanous character.*

Hydrophanous minerals are such as are not transparent till they are immersed in water, when they become so; as the hydrophane, a variety of opal.

So it is with many a Christian. Till the floods of adversity