

The specific peculiarities induced by particular professions are not less marked than the generic ones. How different, for instance, the character of the sedentary tailor, as such, from that of the equally sedentary barber ! Two imperfectly-taught young lads, of not more than the average intellect, are apprenticed, the one to the hair-dresser, the other to the fashionable clothes-maker, of a large village. The barber has to entertain his familiar round of customers, when operating upon their heads and beards. He must have no controversies with them ; —that might be disagreeable, and might affect his command of the scissors or razor : but he is expected to communicate to them all he knows of the gossip of the place ; and as each customer supplies him with a little, he of course comes to know more than anybody else. And as his light and easy work lays no stress upon his respiration, in course of time he learns to be a fast and fluent talker, with a great appetite for news, but little given to dispute. He acquires, too, if his round of customers be good, a courteous manner ; and if they be in large proportion Conservatives, he becomes, in all probability, a Conservative, too. The young tailor goes through an entirely different process. He learns to regard dress as the most important of all earthly things,—becomes knowing in cuts and fashions,—is taught to appreciate, in a way no other individual can, the aspect of a button, or the pattern of a vest ; and as his work is cleanly, and does not soil his clothes, and as he can get them more cheaply, and more perfectly in the fashion than other mechanics, the chances are ten to one that he turns out a beau. He becomes great in that which he regards as of all things greatest,—dress. A young tailor may be known by the cut of his coat and the merits of his pantaloons, among all other workmen ; and as even fine clothes are not enough of themselves, it is necessary that he should also have fine manners ; and not having such advantages of seeing polite society as his neighbor the barber, his gentlemanly manners are always less fine than grotesque. Hence more ridicule of tailors among working men than of any other class of mechanics. And such—if nature has sent them from her