

men who assisted Pope in translating the "Odyssey;" the man who wrote that work on the Conversion of St Paul which still maintains its place in what may be termed the higher literature of the "Evidences;" in especial, the men who produced the "Pleasures of the Imagination" and the "Art of Preserving Health,"—had all very vigorous minds. Aken-side would have made a first-class metaphysical professor, particularly in the æsthetic department; and Armstrong could have effectually grappled with very severe and rugged subjects; but the poetic faculty that was in them was very subordinate to their intellect. It was true so far as it extended, but embroidered only thinly and in a threadbare way the strong tissue of their thinking. And yet both the "Art of Preserving Health" and the "Pleasures of the Imagination" are noble poems. The latter is the better known of the two: Thomas Brown used to repeat almost the whole of it every season in his class, as at once good poetry and good metaphysics. But the former deserves to be known as well. The man who could transmute such a subject into passable poetry, and render his composition readable as a whole,—and much of the poetry is more than passable, and the piece, as a whole, eminently readable,—must be regarded as having accomplished no ordinary achievement. It is, however, from the strong intellect displayed in the staple texture of the piece, rather than from its poetic embroidery, that it derives its merit.

The second class,—the class composed of men whose poetic genius overrode their intellect,—is not so largely represented in English poetry as the other. It may be safely said, however, that in the writings of men of the last century, such as Collins, Chatterton in his Rowley poems, and mayhap Meikle, we find more of poetry than of pure intellect; and in writings of men of the present century, such as those of Keats, Wilson, and mayhap Leigh Hunt, we find *much* more. In