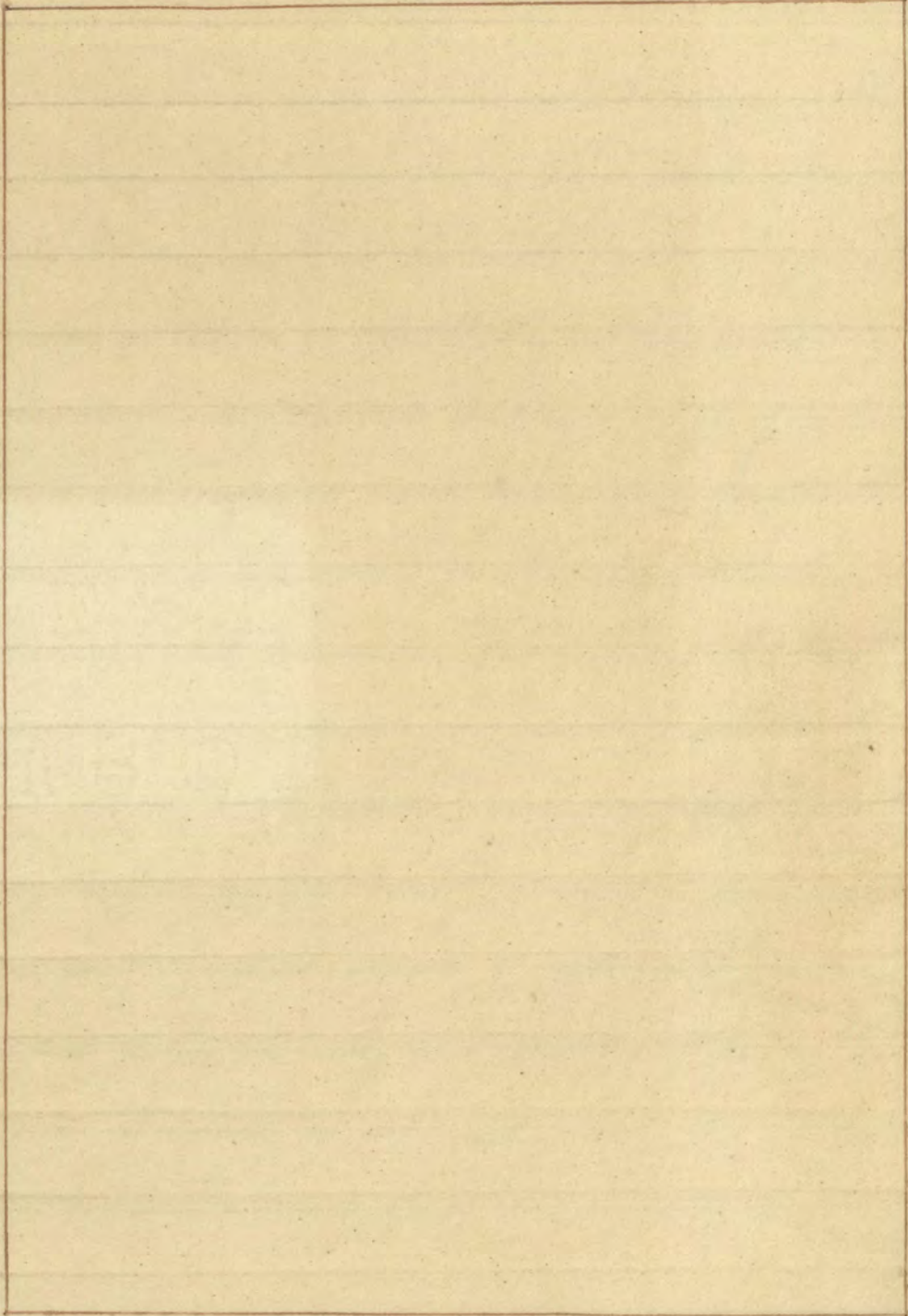


GEO A

GEO MSS. 43/8

1



E & P

1802

...and important to ...
 ...that a life of battle and
 ...in the world is a life of danger
 ...on the Ocean, and driven about by
 ...elements, we live in a state of agita-
 tion and confusion, we are hurried from trouble
 to trouble, as from dissipation to dissipation, without any
 ...state, to examine and consider what the
 danger is diminished by frequent meditation.
 It sets the world and its views at a distance from
 us. It gives us time to reflect when we are hurried
 on. The still exercise of reflection drives out
 of our minds the cares and concerns of the day, the
 ...the
 ...and projects of the world be at a distance

Not
dita
stanc
Lofc
the c
tion
toil,
to st
dang
It se
us.
we a
of ou
calm
the t

Nothing is so valuable and important to man as Meditation. We all know that a life of bustle and constant engagements in the world is a life of danger. Tossed as it were on the Ocean, and driven about by the conflicting elements, we live in a state of agitation and confusion; we are delivered over from toil to toil, or from dissipation to dissipation, without power to stand still, to examine and consider. Now, this danger is diminished by frequent Meditation. — It sets the world and its views at a distance from us. It gives us time to reflect where we are, and what we are. The still eventide of reflexion drives out of our minds the cares and concerns of the day; the calm solitude of the field chaces away from our thoughts the tumults and projects of the crowded haunts of men.

...to be ...
...to be ...
...to be ...
...to be ...
...to be ...
...to be ...
...to be ...
...to be ...
...to be ...
...to be ...

Cur
thin
sub
ly
lenc
and
of a
whe
frien
The
mede
ment
whe
Teac

Our passions too have then time to cool, and to view things in their proper colours. The rage of ambition will subside, when reflection shews us the emptiness of earthly honours. The fire of lust will burn with less violence, when reason has time to tell us, that remorse and shame are its inseparable companions. The stings of animosity and revenge will operate less forcibly, when we will give ourselves leave to remember, that friends and foes will soon lie down together in the dust. The arrows of affliction will give us less pain, when meditation informs us that they are but for a moment, and cannot follow us to that better country, where all tears are wiped away from all faces.

It is another advantage of meditation, that it teaches us that best of all knowledge, which

The subject has been time to read and review
the in that order shown. The copy of the
which is the subject shown in the margin
to be seen. The first of last will be the
case, when error has time to tell us that
and there are its important comparisons. The
of animals and things will be the first
when we will give ourselves leave to remember
things and yet will ever be seen together in the
the course of effect will give us the main
and the other reforms us that they are but for
and the first shown us to that both
when all the are shown from all
The another advantage of meditation that it
shows us that out of all knowledge which

the
In
the
to
to
ma
ry
ap
for
wi
an
to
of
cl
of

therefore the ancients suppose came down from heaven,
I mean the knowledge of ourselves. In the language of
the Psalmist, to „commune with our own Hearts,„
to pry into its secret springs and motives of action,
to examine its favourite tendencies and propensities,
may be no pleasing task, but certainly is a very necessary
and profitable one. It will teach us, where the first
assault of temptation is likely to be made, and there-
fore, where we ought most to be on our guard. It
will shew us the variety of our own imperfections,
and therefore teach us to be humble and forgiving
to others. It will point out to us the uncertainty
of every earthly advantage, and therefore will in-
cline us to extend that charity to the distressed,
of which we ourselves may one day stand in need.

[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

[Faint handwriting on the right margin of the adjacent page.]

6

And lastly, it will teach us the just value of our life itself, which alone carries with it more instructive lessons of morality, than all the eloquence of ancient sages and learned Philosophers.

But the greatest advantage of meditation is, that it will bring us acquainted with God. "Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace," is the language of holy writ; and certain it is, that till we are acquainted with him, there can be no true peace. It is therefore an inestimable advantage of meditation, that it is the means of bringing about this acquaintance. — It gives us the opportunity of considering his glorious being and perfections; which will imprint an awful reverence of his majesty on our minds. — It acquaints us

The last it will take in the first volume of the
text, which alone carries with it more extensive
views of morality than all the subsequent
pages and forms of the work.

But the greatest advantage of meditation is that
it will bring us acquainted with God. It acquaints
us with himself with him, and he at once is the
language of holy writ and certain it is that the
we are acquainted with him, there can be no
peace. It is therefore an excellent advantage
of meditation, that it is the means of knowing
about the acquaintance. It gives us the opportunity
of entering his presence being and per-
fectness, which will impart us useful lessons
of his majesty in our minds. It acquaints us

7

with his all-seeing care and universal presence, which will confirm our reliance on his providence; - It teaches us, that he is the Father of the Friendless and Distressed; which will embolden us to approach his Throne, pour out our griefs before him, and make known our wants. - It informs us that nothing happens in heaven or in earth without his direction or permission, and therefore will instruct us to look up with comfort to him, on all occasions; as knowing that both we and ours are safe under the shadow of his wings, as long as we endeavour to deserve his favour and protection. And can there be a greater consolation than this, to a frail and helpless being like man; - to know that he is always under the care of an Almighty Governor,

with his all-seeing eye and universal presence
will confirm our reliance on his goodness, & the
love we that he is the Father of the Fatherless and
Protector of the weak will endeavor on to approach
his throne with our grief & for sin, and
make known our wants. It informs us that nothing
happens in heaven or in earth without his dire
tion or permission, and therefore will instruct us
to look up with respect to him, on all occasions,
as knowing that both we and ours are safe under
the shadow of his wing, as long as we endeavor
to have his favor and protection, and can
there be a greater consolation than this to a sinner,
and perhaps being his man; to know that he is
always under the care of an All-wise God.

who sees all his wants, and whose perfections are hourly employed for his welfare and support. Surely, therefore, it is every man's interest, as well as his duty, to make himself acquainted with this glorious being, and to meditate day and night on all his wonderful works; that when all the vain friendships of the world shall fail, and the world itself be dissolved, he may have an anchor of the soul, sure and steadfast,

To reap these or any other advantages from religious Meditation, we must take care

1st That this Meditation must not be superficial or irregular.

For it is the duty of a Christian to meditate and consider at all times: every night should account

the well his count and where perfectures an
 being employed for his welfare and support. And
 therefore it is every mans interest as well as his duty
 to make himself acquainted with this division be
 ing and to maintain his right on all his
 possessions as he that when all the same persons
 things of the world shall fail and the world itself
 be destroyed he may have as much of the good
 and the best
 to say that as any other advantage from religion
 which there is with others
 it is the duty of a Christian to maintain and
 to keep all his time every right which he may

9

to God and his conscience for the follies of the Day;
since none of us can tell, whether we may live to
do it tomorrow.

2^{dly}, This consideration or meditation must be universal.
It must extend to all our Sins and follies, to all
parts of our duty to God and man, and to all the
branches of our holy Religion.

3^{dly}, As our meditations on the one hand, ought
not to be cold and languid, so they ought to be
carefully guarded against visionary flights
and enthusiastic fervours on the other. Meditation
under the Government of a sober mind, is one of the
noblest employments of Human Nature. But if it
be suffered to run out into all the extravagancies
of a heated Imagination and fills their minds with

[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is illegible due to its lightness and orientation.]



notions of particular Illuminations of the Divine Spirit, and leads them to despise human ordinances as unprofitable & unnecessary, or from a discharge of the common duties of life. - it then becomes dangerous and ridiculous, and rather deserves our contempt, than our admiration.

Windsor the 1st Octbr/ 1808.

action of your Grace the Administration of the
Court and led them to a more humane and
compassionate a more easy and from a
of the common duties of life - it has
dangerous and intricate and with
subsequent than an administration.
Wm. M. 12. 2. 1702.

**A number of blank pages follow
and have not been photographed.**

