

notion, even of an orator either accusing or defending, without being spur'd on by anger. And though it should not be real, they think his words and gesture must carry the appearance of it, that the action of the orator, may excite this passion in his hearer. And they deny that any man was ever seen, who doth not know what it is to be angry : and they name what we call lenity, by the bad appellation of indolence : nor do they commend only this lust, (for anger is, as I defined it above, the lust of revenge) but they maintain that kind of lust or desire, to be given us by nature for very good purposes: that no one can execute any thing well *but what he is in earnest about*. Themistocles used to walk in the publick places in the night, because he could not sleep : and when asked the reason, his answer was, that Miltiades's trophies kept him awake. Who has not heard how Demosthenes used to watch ? who said it gave him pain, if any mechanick was up in a morning at his work before him. Lastly, That some of the greatest philosophers had never made that progress in their studies, but from an ardent desire. We are informed that Pythagoras, Democritus, and Plato, visited the remotest parts of the world; they thought that they

ought

224 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book IV.

ought to go where ever any thing was to be learned. Now it is not conceivable that these things could be affected but by the greatest ardour of mind.

XX. They say that even grief, which we describe as a monstrous fierce beast, and to be avoided as such, was appointed by nature, not without some good purpose: that men should lament when they had committed a fault, well knowing they had exposed themselves to correction, rebuke, and ignominy. For they think those who can bear ignominy and infamy without pain, are at liberty to commit what crimes they please: for with them, *reproach is a stronger check than conscience*. From whence we have that in Afranius, borrowed from common life, for when the abandoned son saith, wretched that I am! the severe father replies,

*Let him but grieve, no matter what the cause.*

And they say the other diseases of the mind have their use; pity incites us to the assistance of others, and to alleviate the calamities of men, who undeservedly fall into them: that even emulation and defamation are not without their use; as when you see one attain  
what

what you cannot, or observe another on a footing with yourself: That, should you take away fear, you would supplant all diligence in life; which those use most who are afraid of the laws, and the magistrates, who dread poverty, ignominy, death, and pain. But when they argue thus, they allow of their being retrenched, though they deny that they either can, or should be pluck'd up by the roots: so that their opinion is, that Mediocrity is best in every thing. When they reason in this manner, what think you? do they say something or nothing? *A.* To me they say something, I wait therefore to hear what you will say to them.

XXI. *M.* Perhaps I may find something: but this first, do you take notice with what modesty the Academicks behave themselves? for they speak plainly to the purpose. The Peripateticks are answered by the Stoicks, they have my leave to fight it out; who think myself no otherwise concerned than to enquire after probabilities. The business is then, if we can meet with any thing in this question that touches on the probable, beyond which human nature cannot proceed. The definition of a perturbati-

Q

on

226 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book IV.

on, as Zeno, I think, has rightly determined it, is thus. That a perturbation is a commotion of the mind against nature in opposition to right reason; or shorter thus, that a perturbation is a more vehement appetite; that is called more vehement which is at a greater distance from the constant course of nature. What can I say to these definitions? the most part of them we have from those who dispute with sagacity and acuteness: some indeed, such as the *Ardours of the mind*, and the *Whetstones of virtue*, favour of the pomp of Rhetoricians. As to the question, if a brave man can maintain his courage without becoming angry; it may be questioned with regard to the Gladiators: though we observe much resolution even in them; they meet, converse, they agree about terms, so that they seem rather placid than angry. But let us admit some Placideianus of that trade, to be in such a mind, as Lucilius relates of him,

*If for his blood you thirst, the task be mine,  
His lawrels at my feet he shall resign;  
Not but I know before I reach his heart,  
First on myself a wound he will impart.  
I hate the man, inrag'd I fight, and strait  
In action we had been, but that I wait*

*Till*



*Till each his sword had fitted to his hand,  
My rage I scarce can keep within command.*

XXII. But we see Ajax in Homer advancing to meet Hector in battle chearfully, without any of this boisterous wrath, who had no sooner taken up his arms, but the first step he made inspired his associates with joy, his enemies with fear: that even Hector, as he is represented by Homer, trembling condemned himself for having challenged him to fight. Yet these conversed together, calmly and quietly, before they engaged; nor did they shew any anger, or outrageous behaviour during the combat. Nor do I imagine that Torquatus, the first who obtained this surname, was in a rage, when he plundered the Gaul of his collar: or that Marcellus's courage at Clastidium was owing to his anger. I could almost swear, that Africanus, whom we are better acquainted with, from the freshness of his memory, was no ways inflamed by anger, when he covered Alienus Pelignus with his shield, and drove his sword into the enemies breast. There may be some doubt of L. Brutus, if, through infinite hatred of the tyrant, he might not attack Aruns with more rashness, for I observed they mutually

killed each other in close fight. Why then do you call in the assistance of anger? would courage, should it not begin to grow mad, lose its energy? What? do you imagine Hercules, whom the very courage, which you would have to be anger, preferred to heaven, was angry when he engaged the Erymanthian boar, or the Nemeean lion? or was Theseus in a passion when he seized on the horns of the Marathonian bull? Take care how you make courage to depend in the least on rage; when anger is altogether irrational, and that is not courage which is void of reason.

XXIII. We ought to hold all things here in contempt; death is to be looked on with indifference; pains and labours as tolerable: when these are established on judgment and conviction, then will that stout and firm courage take place: unless you attribute to anger what ever is done with vehemence, alacrity, and spirit. To me indeed that very Scipio who was chief priest, that favourer of the saying of the Stoicks, *that no private man could be a wise man*, doth not seem to be angry with Tiberius Gracchus, even when he left the consul in a languishing condition, and though a private man himself command-  
ed

ed, with the authority of a consul, that all who meant well to the republick should follow him. I do not know whether I have done any thing in the republick that has the appearance of courage, but if I have, I certainly did not do it in wrath. Doth any thing come nearer madness than anger? which Ennius has well defined, the beginning of madness. The changing colour, the alteration of our voice, the look of our eyes, our manner of fetching our breath, the little command we have over our words and actions, how little do they partake of a sound mind? what can make a worse appearance than Homer's Achilles, or Agamemnon during the quarrel. For as to Ajax, anger drove him into downright madness, and was the occasion of his death. Courage therefore doth not want the patronage of anger, it is sufficiently provided, armed, and prepared of itself. We may as well say that drunkenness, or madness, is of service to courage, because those who are mad or drunk, do a great many things often with more vehemence. Ajax was always brave, but most so when in a passion :

*The greatest feat that Ajax e'er atchiev'd  
Was, when his single arm the Greeks  
relieved.*

230 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book IV.

*Quitting the field; urg'd on by rising rage,  
Forc'd the declining troops again t'engage.*

XXIV. Shall we say then that madness has its use; examine the definitions of courage? you will find, it doth not require the assistance of passion. Courage is then an affection of mind that bears all things with subjection to the chief law; or a firm maintenance of judgment in supporting or repelling every thing that has a formidable appearance, or knowing what is formidable or otherwise, and by maintaining invariably, such a sense of them, as to bear them, or despise them; or in fewer words according to Chrysippus: for the above definitions are Sphærus's, one of prime ability in defining, as the Stoicks think: but they are all pretty much alike, they give us only common notions, some one way, and some another. But what is Chrysippus's definition? Fortitude, saith he, is the knowledge of all things that are bearable: or an affection of the mind, which bears and supports every thing in obedience to the chief law of reason, without fear. Now, though we should take the same liberty with these, as Carneades used to do, I fear they will be the only philosophers: for which of these definitions doth

doth not explain that obscure and intricate notion of courage which every man conceives within himself? which being thus explained, what can a warrior, a commander, or an orator want more? and no one can think but that they will behave themselves courageously without anger. What? do not even the Stoicks, who maintain that all fools are mad, *make the same inferences?* for take away perturbations, especially a hastiness of temper, and they will appear to talk very absurdly. But what they assert is thus: They say that all fools are mad, as all dunghills stink; not that they always do so, but stir them, and you will perceive it. Thus a hot man is not always in a passion; but provoke him, and you will see him run mad. Now, that very anger, which is of such service in war, what is its use at home with his wife, children, and family? Is there then any thing that a perturbed mind can do better than that which is calm and steady? or can any one be angry without a perturbation of mind? Our people then were in the right, who, as all vices depend on our *morals*, and none is worse than a testy disposition, called angry men alone *morose*.

XXV. Anger is in no wise becoming in an orator; it is not amiss to affect it. Do you imagine I am angry when I plead with unusual vehemence and sharpness? What? when I write out my speeches after all is over and past? or do you think Æsopus was ever angry when he acted, or Accius was so when he wrote? They act indeed very well, but the orator better than any player, provided he is really an orator: but then they carry it on without passion, and with a composed mind. But what wantonness is it to commend lust? You produce Themistocles and Demosthenes: to these you add Pythagorus, Democritus, and Plato. What do you call studies lust? now should these studies be the most excellent turn, as those were which you mentioned, they ought however to be composed and tranquil: and what kind of philosophers are they who commend grief, than which nothing is more detestable? Afranius has said much to their purpose,

*Let him but grieve, no matter what the cause.*

But he spoke this of a debauched and dissolute youth: but we are enquiring after a constant and wise man. We may even allow a centurion, or standard-bearer to be angry, or any others

others, whom, not to explain the mysteries of the rhetoricians, I shall not mention here, for to touch the passions where reason cannot be come at, may have its use ; but my enquiry, as I often aver, is of a wise man.

XXVI. But even emulation, detraction, pity have their use, why should you pity rather than assist, if it is in your power ? Is it because you cannot be liberal without pity ? we should not take cares on ourselves upon another's account ; but ease others of their grief if we can. But that detraction, or that vicious emulation, which resembles a rivalry, of what use is it ? Now emulation implies being uneasy at another's good, and that because he enjoys it. How can it be right, that you should voluntarily grieve, rather than take the trouble of acquiring what you want to have ; for it is madness in the highest degree, to desire to be the only one that has it. But who can with justness speak in praise of a mediocrity of evils ? Can any one in whom there is lust or desire, be otherwise than libidinous or desirous ? or not be angry, where anger is in any degree ? or where any vexation is, not to be vexed ? or where fear is, not to be fearful ? Do we look then on the  
libidinous,



234 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book IV.

libidinous, the angry, the anxious, and the timid man as wise? Of whose excellence I could speak very largely and copiously, but to be as short possible. Thus, that wisdom is an acquaintance with all divine and human affairs, or a knowledge of the cause of every thing. Hence it is, that it imitates what is divine, and holds all human concerns as inferior to virtue. Did you then say that it was your opinion that such a man was as naturally liable to any perturbation as the sea is exposed to winds? what is there that can discompose such gravity and constancy? any thing sudden or unforeseen? How can any thing of this kind befall one, to whom nothing is sudden that can happen to man? Now as to their saying that redundancies should be pared off, and only what is natural remain; what, I pray you, can be natural, which may be too much? All these proceed from the roots of errors, which must be entirely plucked up, and destroyed, not pared and lopt off.

XXVII. But as I suspect that your enquiry is more with regard to yourself that the wise man, for you allow him to be free of all perturbations, and would willingly be so too.

Let

Book IV. of M. T. CICERO. 235

Let us see what remedies may be applied by philosophy to the diseases of the mind.

There is certainly some remedy; nor has nature been so unkind to the human race, as to have discovered so many salutary things for the body, and none for the mind: she has even been kinder to the mind than the body, in as much as you must seek abroad for the assistance the body requires, the mind has all within itself. But by how much more excellent and divine the mind is, it requires the more diligence, which, when it is well applied, it discovers what is best; when neglected, is involved in many errors. I shall apply then all my discourse to you; for though you appear to enquire about the wise man, your enquiry may possibly be about yourself. Various then are the cures of those perturbations which I have expounded; for every disorder is not appeased the same way, for one medicine must be applied to one who mourns, another to the pityful, another to the person who envies; for there is this difference to be maintained in all the four perturbations; we are to consider, whether the cure is to be applied, as to a perturbation in general, that is all contempt of reason, or vehement appetite: or whether it would be better directed to particular

ticular perturbations, as to fear, lust, and the rest: whether that is not to be much affected by that which occasioned the grief, or whether every kind of grief is not to be entirely set aside. As should any one grieve that he is poor, the question is, would you maintain poverty to be no evil, or would you contend that a man ought not to grieve at any thing? Certainly this is best; for should you not convince him with regard to poverty, you must allow him to grieve: but if you remove grief by particular arguments, such as I used yesterday, the evil of poverty is in some manner removed.

XXVIII. But any perturbation of the mind of this sort, may be as it were, wiped away by this method of appeasing the mind: that is, by shewing that there is no good in what gave rise to joy and lust, nor any evil in what occasioned fear or grief. But certainly the most effectual cure is, by shewing that all perturbations are of themselves vicious, and have nothing natural or necessary in them. As we see grief itself is easily softened, when we charge those who grieve with a weakness, and an effeminate mind: or when we commend the gravity and constancy of those

those who bear calmly whatever befalls them here, which indeed is generally the case with those who look on these as real evils, but yet think they should be borne with resignation. One imagines pleasure to be a good, another money; and yet the one may be called off from intemperance, the other from covetousness. But the other method and address, which, at the same time that it removes the false opinion, withdraws the disorder, has more subtilty in it: but it seldom succeeds, and is not applicable to vulgar minds, for there are some diseases which that medicine can by no means remove. For should any one be uneasy that he is without virtue, without courage, void of duty, and honesty: his anxiety proceeds from a real evil, and yet we must apply another method to cure to him; and such an one as all the philosophers, however they may differ about other things, agree in. For they must necessarily consent to this, that commotions of the mind in opposition to right reason are vicious: that even admitting those things not to be evils, which occasion fear or grief; nor those good which provoke desire or joy, yet that very commotion itself is vicious: for we mean by the expressions magnanimous and brave, one who is resolute, sedate,

sedate, grave, and superior to every thing in this life: but one who either grieves, fears, covets, or is transported, cannot confesse under that denomination; for these things are consistent only with those who look on the things of this world, as an overmatch for their minds.

XXIX. Wherefore, as I said, the philosophers have all one method of cure; that nothing is to be said to that, whatever it is, that disturbs the mind, but concerning the perturbation itself. Thus, first with regard to desire, when the business is only to remove that, the enquiry is not to be, whether that be good or evil, that provokes lust; but lust itself is to be removed: so that whether honesty is the chief good, or pleasure, or whether it consists in both these together, or in the other three kinds of goods, yet, should there be in any one too vehement an appetite of even virtue itself, the whole discourse should be directed to the deterring him from that vehemence. But human nature, when placed in a conspicuous view, gives us every argument for appeasing the mind; and to make this the more distinct, the laws and conditions of life should be explained  
in

in our discourse. Therefore it was not without reason, that Socrates is reported when Euripides acquainted him with his play, called Orestes, to have begged that the three first verses might be repeated :

*What tragic story men can mournful tell,  
What e'er from fate or from the gods befall,  
That human nature can support —*

But in order to persuade those to whom any misfortune has happened, that they can, and ought to bear it, it is very useful to set before them others who have borne the like. Indeed, the method of appeasing grief was explained in my dispute of yesterday, and in my book Of consolation, which I wrote in the midst of my own grief, for I was not the wise man : and applied this, notwithstanding Chrysippus's advice to the contrary, who is against applying a medicine to the fresh swellings of the mind ; but I did it, and committed a violence on nature, that the greatness of my grief might give way to the greatness of the medicine.

XXX. But fear borders upon grief, of which I have already said enough : but I must say a little on that. Now as grief proceeds

ceeds from what is present, so fear from future evil: so that some have said that fear is a certain part of grief: others have called fear the harbinger of trouble; which, as it were, introduces the ensuing trouble. Now the reasons that make what is present tolerable; make what is to come of little weight: for with regard to both, we should take care to do nothing low, or groveling, soft or effeminate, mean or abject. But notwithstanding we should speak of the inconstancy, imbecillity, and levity of fear itself, yet it is of greater service to despise those very things we are afraid of. So that it fell out very well, whether it was by accident or design, that I disputed the first and second day, on death and pain; two things that are the most dreaded: now if what I then said was approved of, we are in a great degree freed from fear. And thus far, on the opinion of evils.

XXXI. Proceed we now to goods, *i. e.* joy and desire. To me indeed, one thing alone seems to take in the cause of all that relates to the perturbations of the mind, that all perturbations are in our own power; that they are taken up upon opinion; and are voluntary.



voluntary. This error then must be discharged; this opinion removed: and as with regard to imagined evils, we are to make them more tolerable, so with respect to goods, we are to lessen the violent effects of those things which are called great and joyous. But one thing is to be observed, that equally relates both to goods and evils: that, should it be difficult to persuade any one, that none of those things which disturb the mind are to be looked on as good or evil, yet a different cure is to be applied to different motions; and the malevolent is to be corrected by one way of reasoning, the lover by another, the anxious man by another, and the fearful by another: and it were easy for any one who pursues the best approved method of reasoning, with regard to goods and evils, to maintain that no fool can be affected with joy, as he never can have any thing good. But at present, my discourse proceeds upon the common received notions. Let then honours, riches, pleasures, and the rest, be the very good things they are imagined: yet a too elevated, and exulting joy on the possessing them is unbecoming; though it were allowable to laugh, a loud laugh would be indecent. Thus a mind enlarged by joy, is as blameable as a contrac-

dition of it in grief: and longing is of equal levity with the joy of possessing; and as those who are too dejected, are said to be effeminate, so they who are too elate with joy, are properly called light: and as envy partakes of grief, so to be pleased with another's misfortune, of joy; and both these are usually corrected, by shewing the wildness and inhumanity of them. And as it becomes a man to be cautious, but it is indecent to be fearful; so to be pleased is proper, but to be joyful improper. I have, that I might be the better understood, distinguished pleasure from joy. I have already said above, that a contraction of the mind can never be right, but an elation may: for the joy of Hector in Nævius is one thing,

*'Tis joy indeed to bear my praises sung  
By you, who are the theme of honour's tongue.*

But that of the character in Trabea another. *The kind Procurefs, allured by my money, will observe my nod, will watch my desires, and study my will. If I but move the door with my little finger, instantly it flies open; and if Chrysis should unexpectedly discover me, she will run with joy to meet me, and throw herself into my arms.*

Now

Book IV. of M. T. CICERO. 243

Now he will tell you how excellent he thinks this:

*Not even fortune herself is so fortunate.*

XXXII. Any one who attends the least to it will be convinced how unbecoming this joy is. And as they are very shameful, who are immoderately delighted with the enjoyment of venereal pleasures; so are they very scandalous, who lust vehemently after them. And all that which is commonly called love, (and believe me I can find out no other name to call it by) is of such levity, that nothing, I think, is to be compared to it; of which Cæcilius——

*I hold the man of every sense beriev'd,  
Who grants not love to be of gods the chief:  
Whose mighty power whate'er is good effects,  
Who gives to each his beauty and defects:  
Hence health and sickness; wit and folly  
hence*

*The God that love and hatred doth dispense!*

An excellent corrector of life this same poetry! which thinks that love, the promoter of debauchery and vanity, should have a place in the council of the Gods. I am speaking of comedy: which could not subsist

244 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book IV

at all, but on our approving of these debaucheries. But what saith that chief of the Argonauts in tragedy?

*My life I owe to honour less than love.*

What then? this love of Medea what a train of miseries did it occasion? and yet the same woman has the assurance to say to her father in another poet, that she had a husband

*Dearer by love than ever fathers were.*

XXXIII. But let us allow the poets to trifle: in whose Tables we see Jupiter himself engaged in these debaucheries: apply we then to the masters of virtue, the philosophers, who deny love to be any thing carnal; and in this they differ from Epicurus, who, I think, is not much mistaken. For what is that love of friendship? how comes it, that no one is in love with a deformed young man, or a handsome old one? I am of opinion, that this love of men had its rise from the Gymnastics of the Greeks, where these kinds of loves are free and allowed of: therefore Ennius spoke well;

*The censure of this crime to those is due,  
Who naked bodies first expos'd to view:*

Now

Now supposing them chaste, which I think is hardly possible; they are uneasy and distressed, and the more so, as they contain and refrain themselves. But to pass over the love of women, where nature has allowed more liberty; who can misunderstand the poets in their rape of Ganymede, or not apprehend what Laius saith, and what he would be at in Euripides? lastly, what the principal poets, and the most learned have published of themselves in their poems and songs? What doth Alcus, who was distinguished in his own republick for his bravery, write on the love of young men? for all Anacreon's poetry is on love. But Ibycus of Rhegium appears from his writings, to have had this love stronger on him than all the rest.

XXXIV. Now we see that the loves of these were libidinous. There have arisen some amongst us philosophers, (and Plato is at the head of them, whom Dicaearchus blames not without reason) who have countenanced love. The Stoicks in truth say, not only that their wise man may be a lover, but they also define love itself to be an *endeavour of making friendship from the appearance of beauty*. Now, provided there is

246 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book IV.

any one in the nature of things, without solicitude, without desire, without care, without a sigh; such an one may be a lover: for he is free from all lust: *but I have nothing to say to him,* as lust is my subject. But should there be any love, as there certainly is, which is but little short, if at all, of madness, such as his in the Leucadia:

*Should there be any god whose care I am,*

it is incumbent on all the gods to see that he enjoys his amorous pleasure.

*Wretch that I am!*

Nothing truer, and he saith very well.

*What, are you sane, lamenting at this rate?*

He seems even to his friends to be out of his senses? then how tragical he becomes!

*Thy aid, divine Apollo, I implore,*

*And thine dread ruler of the watry store.*

*Oh! all ye winds assist me.*

He thinks the whole world should be overturn'd to help his Love: he excludes Venus alone as unkind to him, Thy aid, O Venus, why should I invoke? he thinks Venus too much employed in her own lust, to have regard to any thing else, as if he himself had

not

not said, and committed these shameful things from lust.

XXXV. Now the cure from one affected in this manner, is to shew, how light, how contemptible, how very trifling he is in what he desires; how he may turn his affections to another object, or accomplish his desires by some other means, or that he may entirely disregard it: sometimes he is to be led away to things of another kind, to study business, or other different engagements and concerns: very often the cure is effected by change of place, as sick people, that have not recovered their strength. They think an old love may be driven out by a new one, as one nail drives out another: but he should be principally advised, what madness love is: for of all the perturbations of the mind, nothing is more vehement; though without charging it with rapes, debaucheries, adultery, or even incest, the baseness of any of these being very blameable; yet, I say, not to mention these, the very perturbation of the mind in love, is base of itself, for to pass over all its mad tricks; those very things which are looked on as indifferent, what weakness do they barge? "*Affronts, jealousies, jars, parlies,*



248 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book IV.

"wars, then peace again. Now, for you to  
 "ask advice to love by, is all one as if you  
 "should ask advice to run mad by." Now  
 is not this inconstancy and mutability of  
 mind enough to deter one by its own deform-  
 ity? We are to demonstrate, as was said of  
 every perturbation, that it consists entirely  
 in opinion and judgment, and is owing to  
 ourselves. For if love was natural, all would  
 be in love, and always so, and love the same  
 object; nor would one be deterred by shame;  
 another by thought, another by satiety.

XXXVI. Anger too, when it disturbs the  
 mind any time, leaves no room to doubt its be-  
 ing madness: by the instigation of which, we  
 see such contention as this between brothers.

*Where was there ever impudence like  
 thine,*

*Who on thy malice ever could refine?*

You know what follows: for abuses are  
 thrown out by these brothers, with great bit-  
 terness on every other verse; so that you may  
 easily know them for the sons of Atreus, of  
 that Atreus who invented a new punishment  
 for his brother:

*I who his cruel heart to gall am bent*

*Some new, unheard of torment must invent.*

Now

Now what were these inventions? hear  
Thyestes.

*My impious brother fain would have me eat  
My children, and thus serves them up for  
meat.*

To what length now will not anger go? even  
as far as madness. Therefore we say properly  
enough, that angry men have given up  
their power, that is, they are out of the  
power of advice, reason, and understanding:  
for these ought to have power over the whole  
mind. Now you should put those out of  
the way, whom they endeavour to attack,  
till they have recollected themselves; but  
what doth recollection here imply, but getting  
together the dispersed parts of their mind?  
or they are to be begged and intreated,  
if they have the means of revenge, to defer it  
to another opportunity, till their anger cools.  
But the expression of cooling implies, cer-  
tainly, that there was a heat raised there in  
opposition to reason: from whence that say-  
ing of Archytas is commended: who being  
somewhat provoked at his steward, How  
would I have treated you, saith he, if I had  
not been in a passion?

XXXVII. Where then are they who say that anger has its use? can madness be of any use? but still it is natural. Can any thing be natural that is against reason? or how is it, if anger is natural, that one is more inclined to anger than another? or how is it, that the lust of revenge should cease before it has revenged itself? or that any one should repent of what he had done in a passion? as we see Alexander could scarce keep his hands from himself, when he had killed his favourite Clitus, so great was his compunction! Now who, that is acquainted with these, can doubt but that this motion of the mind is altogether in opinion and voluntary? for who can doubt but that disorders of the mind, such as covetousness, a desire of glory, arise from a great estimation of those things, by which the mind is disordered? from whence we may understand, that every perturbation is founded in opinion. And if boldness, *i. e.* a firm assurance of mind, is a kind of knowledge and serious opinion, not hastily taken up: diffidence is then a fear of an expected and impending evil: and if hope is an expectation of good, fear must of course be an expectation of evil. Thus fear and  
other

Book IV. of M. T. CICERO. 251

other perturbations are evils. Therefore as constancy proceeds from knowledge, so perturbation from error. Now they who are said to be naturally inclined to anger, or pitiful, or envious, or any thing of this kind; their minds are constitutionally, as it were, in bad health, yet they are curable, as is said of Socrates, when Zopyrus, who professed knowing the nature of every one from his person, had heaped a great many vices on him in a publick assembly, he was laughed at by others, who could perceive no such vices in Socrates: but Socrates kept him in countenance, by declaring that such vices were in him, but he had got the better of them by his reason. Therefore as any one who has the appearance of the best constitution, may yet be more inclined to some particular disorder, so different minds may be differently inclined to different diseases. But those who are said to be vicious, not by nature, but their own fault; their vices proceed from wrong opinions of good and bad things, so that one is more prone than another, to different motions and perturbations. But as in the body, an inveterate disorder is harder to be got rid of, than a perturbation; and a  
fresh

fresh tumour in the eyes is sooner cured, than a defluxion of any continuance is removed.

XXXVIII. But as the cause of perturbations is discovered, all which arise from the judgment or opinion, and *volitions*, I shall put an end to this discourse. But we ought to be assured the ends of good and evil being discovered, as far as they are discoverable by man, that nothing can be desired of philosophy greater, or more useful, than what I have disputed of these four days. For to a contempt of death, and the few enabled to bear pain; I have added the appeasing of grief, than which there is no greater evil to man. Though every perturbation of mind is grievous, and differs but little from madness: yet we are used to say of others, when they are under any perturbation, as of fear, joy, or desire, that they are moved and disturbed; but of those who give themselves up to grief, that they are miserable, afflicted, wretched, unhappy. So that it doth not seem to be by accident, but with reason proposed by you, that I should dispute separately of grief, and of the other perturbations: for there lies the spring and head of all our miseries: but the cure of grief, and of other disorders

Book IV. of M. T. CICERO. 253

disorders is one and the same, in that they are all voluntary, and founded on opinion; that we take them on ourselves because it seems right so to do. Philosophy promises to pluck up this error, as the root of all our evils: let us surrender ourselves to be instructed by it, and suffer ourselves to be cured; for whilst these evils have possession of us, we can not only not be happy, but even not be right in our minds. We must either deny that reason can effect any thing, when, on the other hand, nothing can be done right without reason; or since philosophy depends on the deductions of reason, we must seek from her, would we be good or happy, all helps and assistances for living well and happily.

The End of the fourth Book.

THE

---

T H E  
TUSCULAN DISPUTATIONS  
O F  
Marcus Tullius Cicero.

---

B O O K V.

*Whether Virtue alone be sufficient for  
a happy L I F E.*

**T**HIS fifth day, Brutus, shall put an end to our Tusculan Disputations: on which day I disputed on your favourite subject. For I perceived from that accurate book you wrote me, as well as from your frequent conversation, that you are clearly of this opinion, that virtue is of itself sufficient for a happy life: and though it may be difficult to prove this, on account of the  
many



256 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book IV.

many various strokes of fortune, yet it is a truth of such a nature, that we should endeavour to facilitate the proof of it. For among all the topicks of philosophy, there is none of more dignity or importance. As the first philosophers must have had some inducement, to neglect every thing for the search of the best state of life: surely, it was with the hopes of living happily, that they laid out so much care and pains on that study. Now if virtue was discovered and carried to perfection by them; and if virtue is a sufficient security for a happy life: who but must think the work of philosophising excellently established by them, and undertaken by me? But if virtue as subject to such various and uncertain accidents, is but the slave of fortune, and not of sufficient ability to support herself; I am afraid we should seem rather to offer up our petitions to her, than endeavour to place our confidence in virtue for a happy life. Indeed when I reflect on those troubles, with which I have been severely exercised by fortune, I begin to suspect this opinion; and sometimes even to dread the weakness and frailty of human nature, for I am afraid, lest as nature has given us infirm bodies, and nas joined to these  
in

incurable diseases, and intolerable pains; she might also have given us minds participating of these bodily pains, and harrassed with troubles and uneasinesses, peculiarly her own.

But here I correct myself for forming my judgment of the force of virtue, more from the weakness of others, or mine own perhaps, than from virtue itself: for that (provided there is such a thing as virtue, and your uncle Brutus has removed all doubt of it) has every thing that can befall man in subjection to her, and by disregarding them, is not at all concerned at human accidents: and being free from every imperfection, thinks nothing beyond herself can relate to her. But we, who increase every approaching evil by our fear, and every present one by our grief, chuse rather to condemn the nature of things, than our own errors.

II. But the amendment of this fault, and of all our other vices and offences, is to be sought for in philosophy: To whose protection as my own inclination and desire lead me, from my earliest days, so, under my present misfortunes, I have recourse to the same port, from whence I set out, after having been tost by a violent tempest. O philosophy, thou

S

conductor

258 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

conductor of life! thou discoverer of virtue, and expeller of vices! what had not only I myself been, but the whole life of man without you? To you we owe the origin of cities, you called together the dispersed race of men into social life, you united them together, first, by placing them near one another, then by marriages, and lastly, by the communication of speech and languages. To you we owe the invention of laws, you instructed us in morals and discipline: To you I fly for assistance, and as I formerly submitted to you in a great degree, so now I surrender up myself entirely to you. For one day well spent, and agreeable to your precepts, is preferable to an eternity of sin. Whose assistance then can be of more service to me than yours, who has bestowed on us tranquillity of life, and removed the fear of death? But philosophy is so far from being praised, as she hath deserved of the life of man, that she is wholly neglected by most, and ill spoken of by many. Can any speak ill of the parent of life, and dare to pollute himself thus with parricide! and be so impiously ungrateful as to accuse her, whom he ought to reverence, had he been less acquainted with her? But this error, I imagine, and this darkness has spread

spread itself over the minds of ignorant men, from their not being able to look so far back, and from their not imagining that those by whom human life was first improved, were philosophers: for though we see philosophy to have been of long standing, yet the name must be acknowledged to be but modern.

III. But indeed, who can dispute the antiquity of philosophy, either in fact or name? which acquired this excellent name from the ancients, by the knowledge of the origin, and causes of every thing, both divine and human. Thus those seven Σοφοί as they were held and called by the Greeks, and Wise men by us; and thus Lycurgus many ages before, in whose time, before the building of this city, Homer is said to have been, as well as Ulysses and Nestor in the heroick ages, were all reported really to have been, as they were called, Wise men; nor would it have been said, that Atlas supported the heavens, or that Prometheus was bound to Caucasus, nor would Cepheus with his wife, his son-in-law, and his daughter, have been enrolled among the constellations, but that their more than human knowledge of the heavenly bodies had transferred their names into an erroneous

fable. From whence, all who were exercised in the contemplation of nature, were held to be, as well as called, wise men : and that name of theirs continued to the age of Pythagoras, who is reported to have gone to Phlius, as we find it in Ponticus Heraclides, a very learned man, and an hearer of Plato's, and to have discoursed very learnedly, and copiously on certain subjects, with Leon, Prince of the Phliasii : that Leon, admiring his ingenuity and eloquence, asked him what art he particularly professed ; his answer was, that he was acquainted with no art, but that he was a philosopher. Leon, surprised at the novelty of the name, enquired what he meant by the name of philosopher, and in what they differed from other men : on which Pythagoras replied, *that the life of man seemed to him, to resemble that fair, which was kept with the most grand entertainment of sports, and the general concourse of all Greece. For as there were some, whose pursuit was glory, and the honour of a crown, for the performance of bodily exercises ; so others were induced by the gain of buying and selling, and mere lucrative motives : but there was likewise one sort of them, and they by far the best, whose aim was neither applause, nor profit,*

Book V. of M. T. CICERO. 261

*profit, but who came merely as spectators thro' curiosity, to remark what was done, and to see in what manner things were carried on there. Thus we come from another life and nature, unto this, as it were out of another city, to some much frequented fair: some slaves to glory, others to money: that there are some few, who taking no account of any thing else, earnestly look into the nature of things: that these call themselves studious of wisdom, that is, philosophers; and as there it is more reputable to be a looker on, without making any acquisition, so in life the contemplating on things, and acquainting yourself with them, greatly exceeds every other pursuit of life.*

IV. Nor was Pythagoras the inventor only of the name, but he enlarged also the thing itself, who, when he came into Italy after this conversation at Phlius, adorned that Greece, which is called Great Greece, both privately and publickly, with the most excellent institutes and arts, of whose discipline perhaps, I shall find another opportunity to speak. But numbers and motions, the beginning and end of things, were the subjects of the ancient philosophy down to Socrates, who

262 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

was a hearer of Archelaus the disciple of Anaxagoras. These made diligent enquiry into the magnitude of the stars, their distances, courses, and all that relates to the heavens. But Socrates was the first who brought down philosophy from the heavens, placed it in cities, introduced it into families, and obliged it to examine into life and morals, good and evil. Whose several methods of disputing, together with the variety of his topicks, and the greatness of his abilities, being *immortalized* by the memory and writings of Plato, gave rise to many sects of philosophers of different sentiments; of all which I have principally adhered to that, which, in my opinion, Socrates himself followed; to conceal my own opinion, clear others from their errors, and to discover what has the most probability in every question. A custom Carneades maintained with great copiousness and accuteness, and which I myself have often used on many occasions elsewhere, agreeable to which manner I disputed too in my Tusculum, and indeed I have sent you a book of the four former days disputations; but the fifth day, when we had seated ourselves as before, what we were to dispute on was proposed thus.

V.



Book. V., of M. T. CICERO. 263

V. *A.* I do not think virtue can possibly be sufficient to a happy life. *M.* But my Brutus thinks so, whose judgment, with submission, I greatly prefer to yours. *A.* I make no doubt of it, but your regard for him is not the business now, but what I said was my opinion: I want you to dispute on that. *M.* What! do you deny that virtue can possibly be sufficient for a happy life? *A.* It is what I entirely deny. *M.* What? is not virtue sufficient to enable us to live as we ought, honestly, commendably, or lastly, to live well? *A.* Certainly sufficient. *M.* Can you then help calling any one miserable, who lives ill? or any one whom you allow to live well, will you deny to live happily? *A.* Why may I not? for a man may be upright in his life, honest, praise-worthy, and therefore live well, even in the midst of torments, but a happy life doth not aspire after that. *M.* What then? is your happy life left on the outside of the prison, whilst constancy, gravity, wisdom, and the other virtues are surrendered up to the executioner, and bear punishment and pain without reluctance? *A.* You must look out for something new, if you would do any thing. These things have very little effect on me, not merely from their being common,

264 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

but principally, because, like some certain light wines, that will not bear water, these arguments of the Stoicks are pleasanter to taste than swallow. As when the assemblage of virtue is committed to the rack, it raises so reverend a spectacle before our eyes, that happiness seems to hasten on, and not to suffer them to be deserted by her. But when you carry your attention off from these fancies, to the truth and the reality, what remains without disguise is, whether any one can be happy in torment. Wherefore let us examine that, and not to be under any apprehensions, lest the virtues should expostulate and complain, that they are forsaken by happiness. For if prudence is connected with every virtue, prudence itself discovers this, that all good men are not therefore happy, and she recollects many things of M. Attilius, Q. Cæpio, M. Aquilius: and prudence herself, if these representations are more agreeable to you than the things themselves, pulls back happiness, when it is endeavouring to throw itself into torments, and denies that it has any connection with pain and torture.

VI. *M.* I can easily bear with your behaving in this manner, though it is not fair in you  
to

to prescribe to me, how you would have me dispute: but I ask you if I did any thing or nothing the foregoing Days? *A.* Yes, something was done, some little matter indeed. *M.* But if that is the case, this question is routed, and almost put an end to. *A.* How so? *M.* Because turbulent motions and violent agitations of the mind, raised and elated by a rash impulse, getting the better of reason, leave no room for a happy life. For who that fears either pain or death, the one of which is always present, the other always impending, can be otherwise than miserable? Now supposing the same person, which is often the case, to be afraid of poverty, ignominy, infamy, or weakness, or blindness, or lastly, which doth not befall particular men, but often the most powerful nations, slavery; now can any one under the apprehensions of these be happy? What? if he not only dreads as future, but actually feels and bears them as present? let us unite in the same person, banishment, mourning, the loss of his children; whoever is in the midst of this affliction is worn with sickness, can he be otherwise than very miserable indeed? what reason can there be, why a man should not rightly enough be called miserable, that we see inflamed

266 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

flamed and raging with lust, coveting every thing with an unsatiable desire, and the more pleasures he receives from any thing, still thirsting the more violently after them? And as to man vainly elated, exulting with an empty joy, and boasting of himself without reason, is not he so much the more miserable, as he thinks himself the happier? Therefore, as these are miserable, so on the other hand they are happy, who are alarmed with no fears, wasted by no griefs, provoked by no lusts, melted by no languid pleasures that arise from vain and exulting joys. We look on the sea as calm when not the least breath of air disturbs its waves, so the placid and quiet state of the mind is discovered when unmoved by any perturbation. Now if there is any one who holds the power of fortune, and every thing human, every thing that can possibly befall any man as tolerable, so as to be out of the reach of fear or anxiety: and should such an one, covet nothing, be lifted up by no vain joy of mind, what can prevent his being happy, and if these are the effects of virtue, why cannot virtue itself make men happy?

VII. *A.* One of these is undeniable, that they who are under no apprehensions, no ways uneasy, who covet nothing, are lifted up by no vain joy, are happy : therefore I grant you that : and the other I am not at liberty to dispute ; for it was proved by your former disputations that a wise man was free from every perturbation of mind. *M.* Doubtless then the dispute is over. *A.* Almost, I think, indeed. *M.* But yet, that is more usual with the mathematicians than philosophers. For the geometricians, when they teach any thing, if what they had before taught relates to their present subject, they take that for granted, and already proved : and explain only what they had not wrote on before. The philosophers, whatever subject they have in hand, get every thing together that relates to it ; notwithstanding they had disputed on it some where else. Was not that the case, why should the Stoicks say so much on that question, whether virtue was abundantly sufficient to a happy life ? when it would have been answer enough, that they had before taught, that nothing was good but what was honest : this proved, the consequence would be, that virtue was sufficient to a happy life : and how

268 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

as follows from the other, so if a happy life consists in virtue, nothing can be good but what is honest: but they do not act in this manner: for they have distinct books of honesty, and the chief good: for though it follows from the former, that virtue has force enough to make life happy, yet they treat the other distinctly; for every thing, especially of so great consequence, should be supported by arguments which belong to that alone. Have a care how you imagine philosophy to have uttered any thing more noble, or that she has promised any thing more fruitful or of greater consequence: for, good Gods, what doth she engage, that she will so accomplish him who submits to her laws, as to be always armed against fortune, and to have every assurance within himself of living well and happily, that he shall in one word be for ever happy. But let us see what she will perform? In the mean while I look upon it as a great thing that she has promised. For Xerxes who was loaded with all the rewards and gifts of fortune, not satisfied with his armies of horse and foot, nor the multitude of his ships, nor his infinite weight of gold, offered a reward to any one who could find out a new pleasure: which when discovered

Book V, of M. T. CICERO. 269

covered, he was not satisfied with; nor can there ever be an end to lust. I wish we could engage any one, by a reward, to produce something the better to establish us in this.

VIII. I wish so indeed: but I want a little information. For I allow, that in what you have stated, the one is the consequence of the other, that as if what is honest, is the only good, it must follow, that a happy life is the effect of virtue: so that if a happy life consists in virtue, nothing can be good but virtue. But your Brutus on the authority of Aristo and Antiochus doth not see this: for he thinks the case to be the same, even if there was any thing good besides virtue. *M.* What then? do you imagine I shall dispute against Brutus? *A.* You may do what you please: for it is not for me to prescribe what you shall do. *M.* How these things agree together shall be enquired somewhere else: for I frequently disputed that with Antiochus, and lately with Aristo, when, as general, I lodged with him at Athens. For to me it seemed that no one could possibly be happy under any evil: but a wise man might be under evil, if there are any evils of body or fortune. These things were said,  
which



270 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

which Antiochus has inserted in his books in many places : that virtue itself was sufficient to make a life happy, but not the happiest : and that many things are so called from the major part, though they do not include all, as strength, health, riches, honour, and glory : which are determined by their kind, not their number : thus a happy life is so called from its being in a great degree so, though it should fall short in some point. To clear this up, is not absolutely necessary at present, though it seems to be said without any great consistency : for I do not apprehend what is wanting to one that is happy, to make him happier ? for if any thing is wanting, he cannot be so much as happy ; and as to what they say, that every thing is called and looked upon from the greater part, may be admitted in some things. But when they allow three kinds of evils, when any one is oppressed with all the evils of two kinds, as with adverse fortune, and his body worn out and harrassed with all sorts of pains, shall we say such an one is little short of a happy life, not to say, the happiest ? This is what Theophrastus could not maintain : for when he had laid down, that stripes, torments, tortures, the ruin of one's country, banishment, the loss of children

Book V. of M. T. CICERO. 271

children had great influence as to living miserably and unhappily: he durst not use any high and lofty expressions, when he was so low and abject in his opinion.

IX. How right he was is not the question, he certainly was consistent. Therefore I am not for objecting to consequences where the premises are allowed of. But this most elegant and learned of all the philosophers, is not taken to task when he asserts his three kinds of good, but he is fallen upon by all for that book which he wrote on a happy life, in which book he has many arguments, why one who is tortured and racked cannot be happy. For in that he is supposed to say, that such an one cannot reach a complete happy life. He no where indeed saith so absolutely, but what he saith amounts to the same thing. Can I then find fault with him to whom I allowed, that pains of body are evils, that the ruin of a man's fortunes is an evil, if he should say that every good man is not happy, when all those things which he reckons as evils, may befall a good man? The same. Theophrastus is plagued by all the books and schools of the philosophers, for commending that sentence in his Callisthenes.

*Fortune,*

*Fortune, not wisdom, rules the life of man.*

They say never did philosopher affect any thing so languid. They are right indeed in that : but I do not apprehend any thing could be more consistent : for if there are so many good things that depend on the body, so many foreign to it, that depend on chance and fortune, is it not consistent, that fortune, who governs every thing, both what is foreign and what belongs to the body, has greater power than counsel, or would we rather imitate Epicurus ? who is often excellent in many things which he speaks, but quite indifferent how consistent, or to the purpose. He commends spare diet, and in that he speaks as a philosopher, but it is for Socrates or Antisthenes to say so, not one who confined all good to pleasure. He denies that any one can live pleasantly, unless he lives honestly, wisely, and justly. Nothing is more serious than this, nothing more becoming a philosopher, had he not applied this very thing to live honestly, justly, and wisely, to pleasure. What better, than that fortune interferes but little with a wise man ? But doth he talk thus, who had said that pain is the greatest evil, or the only evil, and who might be afflicted with the sharpest

sharpest pains all over his body, even at the time he is vaunting himself the most against fortune. Which very thing too, Metrodorus has said, but in better language: I have prevented you, Fortune, I have caught you, and cut off every access, so that you cannot possibly reach me. This would be excellent in the mouth of Aristo the Chian, or Zeno the Stoick, who held nothing to be an evil but what was base; but for you, Metrodorus, to prevent the approaches of fortune, who confine all that is good to your bowels and marrow; you who define the chief good by a firm habit of body, and a well assured hope of its continuance, for you to cut off every access of fortune? Why you may instantly be deprived of that good. Yet the simple are taken with these, and *from such sentences great is the crowd of their followers.*

X. But it is the duty of one who disputes accurately, to see not what is said, but what is said consistently. As in the opinion which is the subject of this disputation; I maintain that every good man is always happy, it is clear what I mean by good men: I call those both wise and good men, who are provided and adorned with every virtue. Let us see

T

then

then who are to be called happy? I imagine, indeed, those, who are possessed of good without any alloy of evil: nor is there any other notion connected with the word that expresses happiness, but an absolute enjoyment of good without any evil. Virtue cannot attain this, if there is any thing good besides itself: for a crowd of evils would present themselves, if we allow poverty, obscurity, humility, solitude, the loss of friends, acute pains of the body, the loss of health, weakness, blindness, the ruin of ones country, banishment, slavery, to be evils: for to conclude, a wise man may be in all these and many others: for they are brought on by chance, which may attack a wise man; but if these are evils, who can maintain a wise man to be always happy, when all these may light on him at the same time? I therefore do not easily agree with my Brutus, nor our common masters, nor those ancient ones, Aristotle, Speusippus, Xenocrates, Polemon, who reckon all that I have mentioned above as evils, and yet they say that a wise man is always happy; who if they are charmed with this beautiful and illustrious title, which would very well become Pythagoras, Socrates, and Plato, they should be persuaded, that strength, health,

health, beauty, riches, honours, power, with the beauty of which they are ravished, are contemptible; and that all those things which are the opposites of these are not to be regarded; then might they declare openly with a loud voice, that neither the attacks of fortune, nor the opinion of the multitude, nor pain, nor poverty, occasion them any apprehensions, and that they have every thing within themselves, and that they hold nothing to be good but what is within their own power. Nor can I by any means allow the same person, who falls into the vulgar opinion of good and evil, to make use of these expressions, which can only become a great and exalted man. Struck with which glory upstarts Epicurus, who, with submission to the gods, thinks a wise man always happy. He is much taken with the dignity of this opinion, but he never would have owned that, had he attended to himself: for what is there more inconsistent, than for one who could say that pain was the greatest, or the only evil, to think that a wise man should say in the midst of his torture, How sweet is this! We are not therefore to form our judgment of philosophers from detached sentences, but from their consistency with

T 2

themselves,

276 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

themselves, and their commor. manner of talking.

XI. *A.* You engage me to be of your opinion ; but have a care that you are not inconsistent yourself. *M.* By what means ? *A.* Because I have lately read your fourth book on good and evil : in that you appeared to me, when disputing against Cato, to have endeavoured to shew, which with me is to prove, that Zeno and the Peripateticks differ only about some new words ; which allowed, what reason can there be, if it follows from the arguments of Zeno, that virtue contains all that is necessary to a happy life, that the Peripateticks should not be at liberty to say the same ? For in my opinion, regard should be had to the thing, not to words. *M.* What ? you would convict me from my own words, and bring against me what I had said or written elsewhere. You may act in that manner with those who dispute by established rules : we live from hand to mouth, and say any thing that strikes our mind with probability, so that we only are at liberty : But because I just now spoke of consistency, I do not think the enquiry in this place is, if Zeno's and his hearer Aristo's opinion be true, that  
nothing



nothing is good but what is honest, but, admitting that, then, whether the whole of a happy life can be rested on virtue alone. Wherefore if we certainly grant Brutus this, that a wise man is always happy, how consistent he is, is his business: for who indeed is more worthy than himself of the glory of that opinion? Still we may maintain that the same is most happy; though Zeno of Citium, a stranger and a mean coiner of words, has insinuated himself into the old philosophy.

XII. Yet the majesty of this opinion is due to the authority of Plato, who often makes use of this expression, *that nothing but virtue can be entitled to the name of good*: agreeable to what Socrates saith in Plato's Gorgias, when one asked him, if he did not think Archelaus the son of Perdiccas, who was then looked on as the most fortunate person, a very happy man: I do not know, replied he, for I never conversed with him. What is there no other way you can know it by? None at all. You cannot then pronounce of the great king of the Persians, whether he is happy or not? How can I, when I do not know how learned, or how good a man he

278 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

is? What? Do you look on a happy life to depend on that? My opinion entirely is, that good men are happy, and the wicked miserable. Is Archelaus then miserable? Certainly, if unjust. Now doth it not appear to you, that he placed the whole of a happy life in virtue alone? But what doth the same say *in his funeral oration*; for saith he, whoever has every thing that relates to a happy life so compact within himself, as not to be connected with the good fortune of another, or on the bad, and not to depend on what befalls another, or under any uncertainty, such an one has acquired the best rule of living: this is that moderate, that brave, that wise man, who submits to the gain and loss of every thing, especially his children, and obeys that old precept; so as never to be too joyful or too sad, because he depends entirely upon himself.

XIII. From Plato therefore all my discourse shall be deduced, as it were, from some sacred and hallowed fountain. Whence can I then more properly begin, than from nature, the parent of all? For whatsoever she produces, not only of the animal kind, but even of the vegetable, she designed it to be perfect in its  
respective

respective kind. So that among trees, and vines, and those lower plants and trees, which cannot advance themselves higher from the earth, some are evergreen, others are stripped of their leaves in winter, and warmed by the spring season, put them out afresh, and there are none of them but what are so quickened by a certain interior motion, and their own seeds inclosed in every one as to yield flowers, fruit, or berries, that all may have every perfection that belongs to it, *provided no violence prevents it*. But the force of nature itself may be more easily discovered in animals, as she has bestowed sense on them. For some animals that can swim she designed inhabitants of the water; some that fly to expatiate in the heavens; some creeping, some walking; of these very animals some are solitary, some herding together; some wild, others tame, some hidden and covered by the earth; and every one of these maintains the law of nature, confining itself to what was bestowed on it, unable to change its manner of life. And as every animal has from nature something that distinguishes it, which every one maintains and never quits: so man has something far more excellent, though every thing is said to excell by comparison: But the hu-

280 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

man mind as derived from the divine reason, can be compared with nothing but with God himself, if I may be allowed the expression. This then when improved, and its light, so preserved, as not to be blinded by errors, becomes a perfect understanding, that is, absolute reason: which is the very same as virtue. And if every thing is happy, which wants nothing, and is compleat and perfect in its kind, and that is the peculiar lot of virtue; certainly all who are possessed of virtue are happy. And in this I agree with Brutus, even with Aristotle, Xenocrates, Speusippus, Polemon, to me such only appear completely happy: for what can he want to a compleat happy life, who relies on his own goods, or how can he be happy who doth not rely on them?

XIV. But he who makes a threefold division of goods, must necessarily be diffident, for how can he depend on having a sound body, or that his fortune shall continue? but no one can be happy without an immoveable, fixed, and permanent good. What then is this opinion of theirs? So that I think that saying of the Spartan may be applied to them, who, on some merchants boasting before him, that he could dispatch ships to every maritime coast;

coast; replied, that a fortune which depended on ropes was not very desirable. Can there be any doubt that whatever may be lost, cannot be of the number of those things which complete a happy life; for of all that constitutes a happy life, nothing will admit of growing old, of wearing out or decaying, for whoever is apprehensive of any loss in these cannot be happy: for the happy man should be safe, well fenced, well fortified, out of the reach of all annoyance; not under trifling apprehensions, but void of all. As he is not called innocent who but slightly offends, but who offends not at all: so is he to be held without fear, not who is in but little fear, but who is void of all fear. For what else is courage but an affection of mind, that is ready to undergo perils, as well as to bear pain and labour without *any allay of fear*? Now this certainly could not be the case, if any thing were good but what depended on honesty alone. But how can any one be in possession of that desirable and much requested security (for I now call a freedom from anxiety a security, on which freedom a happy life depends) who has, or may have a multitude of evils attending him? How can he be brave and undaunted, and hold every thing as trifles which

282 *The Tusculan Disputations* Book V.

which can befall a man, for so a wise man should do, but who thinks every thing depends on himself? Could the Lacedæmonians without this, when Philip threatened to prevent all their attempts, have asked him, if he would prevent their killing themselves? Is it not easier then to find a man of such a spirit as we enquire after, than to meet with a whole city of such men? Now if to this courage I am speaking of, we add temperance that governs all our commotions? What can be wanting to compleat his happiness who is secured by his courage from uneasiness and fear; and is prevented from immoderate desires, and immoderate insolence of joy, by temperance. I could shew virtue able to effect these, but that I have explained the foregoing days.

XV. But as the perturbations of the mind make life miserable and tranquillity renders it happy: and as these perturbations are of two sorts, grief and fear proceeding from imagined evils, immoderate joy and lust from the mistake of what is good; and all these are in opposition to reason and counsel; when you see a man at ease, quite free and disengaged from such troublesome commotions, which are so much

much at variance with one another, can you hesitate to pronounce such an one a happy man? Now the wise man is always in such a disposition: therefore the wise man is always happy. Besides every good is pleasant; whatever is pleasant may be boasted and talked of; whatever is so, is glorious; but whatever is glorious is certainly laudable, whatever is laudable is doubtless too, honest; whatever then is good, is honest. But what they reckon good, they themselves do not call honest: therefore what is honest alone is good. Hence it follows that a happy life is comprised in honesty alone. Such things then are not to be called or held for goods, amidst the abundance of which a man may be most miserable. Is there any doubt but that one who enjoys the best health, has strength, beauty, has his senses in their utmost quickness and perfection; suppose him likewise, if you please, nimble and alert, nay, give him riches, honours, authority, power, glory; now, I say, should this person, who is in possession of all these, be unjust, intemperate, timid, stupid, or an idiot; could you hesitate to call such an one miserable? What then are those goods, in the possessing which you may be very miserable? Let us see then if a happy life is not made