

could receive; he distributed among them not only medicine, but money: he soothed and consoled them by expressions of tenderness and friendship, and sent others on the same errand to those whom he could not visit himself.

Among the Cretans that had accompanied him from Salentum, were two old men, whose names were Traumatophilus and Nosophugus.

Traumatophilus had been at the siege of Troy with Idomeneus, and had learned the art of healing wounds from the sons of Æsculapius. He poured into the deepest and most malignant sores, an odoriferous liquor, which removed the dead and mortified flesh, without the assistance of the knife, and facilitated the formation of a new substance, of a fairer and better texture than the first.

Nosophugus had never seen the sons of Æsculapius, but by the assistance of Merion, he had procured a sacred and mysterious book, which was written by Æsculapius for their instruction. Nosophugus was also beloved by the gods; he had composed hymns in honour of the offspring of Latona; and he offered, every day, a lamb, white and spotless, to Apollo, by whom he was frequently inspired. As soon as he saw the sick, he knew, by the appearance of the eyes, the colour of the skin, the temperament of the body, and the state of respiration, what was the cause of the disease. Sometimes he administered medicines, that operated by perspiration; and the success shewed how much the increase or diminution of that secretion, can influence the mechanism of the body, for its hurt or advantage. To those that were languishing under a gradual decay, he gave infusions of certain salutary herbs, that by degrees fortified the noble parts, and by purifying the blood, brought back the vigour and the freshness of youth. But he frequently declared, that if it were not for criminal excesses, and idle fears there would be but little employment for the physician: «The number of diseases,» says he, «is a disgrace to mankind; for virtue produces health. Intemperance converts the very food that should sustain life, into a poison that destroys it; and pleasure, in-

dios; los consolaba, y daba ánimo con afectuosas palabras, y hacia visitar los que él por sí propio no podía.

Entre los Cretenses que habian seguido á Telémaco; habia dos viejos, de los quales el uno se llamaba Traumatófilo, y el otro Nozófugo.

Traumatófilo habia ido con Idomenéo al asedio de Troya; y de los hijos de Esculapio habia aprendido el arte divino de sanar qualquiera herida. Esparcia éste en las llagas mas profundas, y mas enconadas un licor odorífero, que sin necesidad de cortarla, consumia la carne muerta y corrompida; y en poco tiempo hacia crecer otra nueva, mas sana y bella que la primera.

Nozófugo jamas habia visto á Macaon, ni Polidario; pero por medio de Merion habia alcanzado cierto sagrado libro y misterioso, que dió Esculapio á sus hijos. A mas de esto tenia Nozófugo cordial amor á los dioses: habia compuesto himnos en honra de los hijos de Latona; y cada dia sacrificaba á Apolo una blanca res, y sin mancha, con que lograba que el dios le inspirara frecuentemente. Apenas veia él algun enfermo, quando en los ojos, en la encarnadura, en la disposicion del cuerpo, en la respiracion, conocia al instante el origen de la enfermedad. Dábase pues ciertos remedios, que hacian prorumpir el sudor, y mostraba con el feliz suceso á los enfermos cuánto la transpiracion facilitada ó disminuida, destempla ó acomoda á toda la masa del cuerpo. Para la enfermedad que procedia de decaimiento, daba cierta bebida, que reforzaba poco á poco las partes nobles, y templando la sangre, hacia que remozaran los hombres. Afirmaba frecuentemente, que provenia de falta de virtud y de esfuerzo la necesidad de acudir á menudo á la medicina. Las buenas costumbres, decia, engendran la salud, y por eso es vergüenza grande de los hombres el padecer tantos males. Su destemplanza truena en mortal veneno los alimentos, que estan destinados para conservar la vida. Los deleites, que nos tomamos sin la moderacion debida,



dulged to excess, shortens our days more than they can be lengthened by medicine. The poor are more rarely sick for want of nourishment, that the rich by taking too much: high seasoned meats, that stimulate appetite after nature is sufficed, are rather poison than food. Medicines themselves offer violence to nature: and should never be used, but in the most pressing necessity. The great remedy, which is always innocent, and always useful, is temperance, a moderate use of pleasure, tranquillity of mind, and exercise of the body: these produce a pure and well tempered blood, and throw off superfluous humours that would corrupt it. » Thus was Nosophugus yet less honoured for the medicine by which he cured diseases, than for the rules he prescribed to prevent them, and render medicine unnecessary.

These excellent persons were sent, by Telemachus, to visit the sick of the army: many of whom they recovered by their remedies, but yet more by the care which they took to have them properly attended, to keep their persons clean, and the air about them pure; at the same time confining the convalescent to an exact regimen, as well with respect to the quality, as the quantity of their food. The soldiers, touched with gratitude at this seasonable and important relief, gave thanks to the gods, for having sent Telemachus among them.

« He is not, » said they, « a mere mortal like ourselves: he is certainly some beneficent deity, in a human shape; or, if he is, indeed, a mortal, he bears less resemblance to the rest of men, than to the gods. He is an inhabitant of the earth, only to diffuse good: his affability and benevolence recommend him still more than his valour O! that we might have him for our king! but the gods reserve him, for some more favoured and happy people; among whom they design to restore the golden age! »

These encomiums were overheard by Telemachus,

acortan mas nuestros dias, que no los pueden alargar los remedios. Mas raras veces enferman los pobres por falta de sustento, que lo que enferman los ricos por tenerlos de mas. Los manjares que mueven sobrado el apetito, y hacen comer mas de lo necesario, envenenan en vez de alimentar. Aun los mismos remedios son verdaderos males, que gastan la naturaleza, y de que no debemos servirnos, sino en solas las necesidades que requieren un pronto socorro. El gran remedio, que siempre es inocente, siempre provechoso, es la sobriedad, la templanza en qualquiera gusto, la tranquilidad del ánimo, y el exercicio del cuerpo. Asi se hace una sangre dulce y templada, y se resuelven los humores supérfluos. De esta manera el sabio Nozófugo era tan admirable por ocasion de sus remedios, como por aquella regla á que exhortaba á los hombres con sus consejos, para que previnieran los males, y para hacer inútiles todos los remedios.

Envió Telémaco estos dos viejos á visitar todos los enfermos que habia en el ejército. Curáron muchos con sus remedios; pero sanáron harto mas con el cuidado que tuviéron de hacer que fueran bien servidos, segun convenia á su necesidad; porque ponian toda diligencia en hacer que estuvieran limpios de qualquiera inmundicia, para impedir por medio de la limpieza, que el ayre no fuera nocivo; y en que observaran la regla de una perfecta sobriedad en su convalecencia. Todos los soldados movidos interiormente de agradecimiento por tales asistencias que recibian, daban gracias rendidas á los dioses, porque habian enviado á Telémaco al ejército de los aliados.

No es este hombre, decian, sino alguna deidad benéfica baxo de forma humana: y ya que sea hombre, mas se semeja á los dioses, que al resto de los hombres; porque no está en el mundo sino para beneficiar á los otros. Su apacibilidad y bondad lo hacen aun mas amable que su valor. ¡ O, si lo pudieramos tener nosotros por nuestro Rey! Pero los dioses le guardan para otra gente, que ellos mas aman, y mas feliz que nosotros, para renovar en aquel pais las delicias del siglo de oro.

Quando iba Telémaco de noche á reconocer los quar-



while he was going about the camp in the night, to guard against the stratagems of Adrastus; and therefore, could not be suspected of flattery, like those which designing sycophants often bestow upon princes to their face: insolently presuming, that they have neither modesty nor delicacy; and that nothing more is necessary to secure their favour, than to load them with extravagant praise. To Telemachus, that only was pleasing which was true: he could bear no praise, but that, which, being given when he was supposed to be absent, he might reasonably conclude to be just. To such praise, he was not insensible: but tasted the pure and serene delight, which the gods have decreed alone to virtue, and which vice can neither enjoy nor conceive. He did not, however, give himself up to this pleasure: his faults immediately rushed into his mind; he remembered his excessive regard for himself, and indifference to others; he felt a secret shame, at having received, from nature, a disposition which made him appear to want the feelings of humanity; and he referred to Minerva all the praise that he had received, as having grafted excellence upon him, which he thought he had no right to appropriate to himself.

«It is thy bounty,» said he, «O goddess! which has given me Mentor, to fill my mind with knowledge, and correct the infirmities of my nature. Thou hast vouchsafed me wisdom, to profit by my faults, and mistrust myself. It is thy power that restrains the impetuosity of my passions; and the pleasure that I feel in comforting the afflicted, is thy gift. Men would hate me but for thee: and without thee, I should deserve hatred: I should be guilty of irreparable faults; and resemble an infant, who, not conscious of its own weakness, quits the side of its mother, and falls at the next step.»

Nestor and Philoctetes were astonished to see Telemachus so affable, so attentive to oblige, so ready to supply the wants of others, and so diligent to prevent them. They were struck with the difference of his behaviour, but could not conceive the cause: and what surprised them most was, the care that he took about

teles del campo, para prevenir con diligente cautela todos los engaños de Adrasto, oia estas alabanzas, que no eran sospechosas de adulacion, como las que dan, muchas veces, los aduladores, en cara, á los príncipes, suponiendo que no tienen modestia ni vergüenza, y que, para apoderarse de su favor, basta alabarlos desmedidamente. Como estas puntualmente y no otras eran las alabanzas que él procuraba, se recogijaba con ellas interiormente su corazon, y sentia aquel gusto tan dulce y deseado, que no han los dioses unido sino es á la virtud; y que por no haberlo probado los malos, no lo pueden creer, ni imaginar. Sin embargo no se entregaba demasiadamente Telémaco á semejante gusto; porque luego se le ofrecian todos los errores que habia cometido. Hacia reflexion á su altivez, á la indiferencia con que trataba á todos los hombres, sin hacer distincion de uno á otro, y tenia cierta oculta vergüenza de haber nacido de un corazon tan duro, y de parecer tan poco humano. Referia toda la gloria que á él se daba á la sabia Minerva, y no se tenia por merecedor de la misma gloria.

Vos habeis sido, decia, ó gran diosa, quien me dió á Mentor para mi enseñanza, y para corregir mi mala inclinacion. De vos recibo aquella luz de prudencia, que me hace aprovechar de las faltas que yo cometo, para que desconfie de mí propio. Vos me haceis que saque consuelo de aliviar, y de dar remedio á las desgracias ajenas. Sin vuestro influxo seria odiado, fuera digno de serlo, sin vuestro auxilio cometeria muchos errores irremediables, y seria de la forma que un niño, que no conociendo su flaqueza propia, se aparta de la madre, y á cada paso cae al irse á alejar de ella.

Nestor y Filotetes estaban aturdidos, viendo á Telémaco ya tan apacible, tan atento á beneficiar, tan oficioso, tan ayudador, tan ingenioso en prevenir todas las necesidades. No sabian qué cosa creer, ni lo reconocian por el primero. Lo que les dió mas razon de admirarse, fué el cuidado que se tomó de los fune-



the funeral of Hippias. He went himself and drew the body, bloody and disfigured, from the spot where it lay hidden under a heap of the slain: he was touched with a pious sorrow; and wept over it: « O mighty shade! » said he, « thou art not now ignorant of my reverence for thy valour. Thy haughtiness, indeed, provoked me; but thy fault was from the ardour of youth: alas! I know but too well, how much youth has need of pardon. We were in the way to be united by friendship: O why have the gods snatched thee from me, before I had an opportunity to compel thy esteem! »

Telemachus caused the body to be washed with odoriferous liquors; and, by his orders, a funeral pile was prepared. The lofty pines groaned under the strokes of the axe; and, as they fell, rolled down the declivity of the mountain. Oaks, those ancient children of the earth, which seemed to threaten heaven, and elms and poplars, adorned with thick foliage of vivid green, with the spreading beach, the glory of the forest, strewed the borders of the river Galesus; and a pile was there raised, with such order, that it resembled a regular building: the flame began to sparkle among the wood, and a cloud of smoke ascended in volumes to the sky.

The Lacedemonians advanced with a slow and mournful pace, holding their lances reversed, and fixing their eyes upon the ground: the ferocity of their countenances was softened into grief; and the silent tear dropt unbidden, from their eyes. These Lacedemonians were followed by Phericides, an old man, yet less depressed by the weight of years, than by sorrow to have survived Hippias, whom he had educated from his earliest youth. He raised his hands, and his eyes that were drowned in tears, to heaven: since the death of Hippias, he had refused to eat, and the lenient hand of sleep had not once closed his eyes: or suspended the anguish of his mind. He walked on with trembling steps, implicitly following the crowd, and scarce knowing whither he went: his heart was

rales, que habian de hacerle á Ippia. Fué él mismo á levantar el sangriento y desfigurado cadáver del lugar en que estaba oculto baxo de un grande monton de piedras, y sobre él derramó copiosas lágrimas de compasion. Ahora, dixo, grande alma, bien sabes cuánta estima yo he hecho de tu valor. Es verdad que me movió á saña tu altivez; pero era causa de tus defectos el herbor de la juventud. Bien conozco cuánta necesidad tiene esta edad de que se le perdonen muchas cosas. Despues hubiéramos sido con reciproco lazo de amistad, sinceramente unidos. Confieso que toda la culpa era mia: ¿Por qué, pues, ó dioses, me habeis llevado á Ippia con temprana muerte?

Telémaco despues hizo lavar el cadáver con ciertos aromáticos licores; y luego por su orden se compuso la pyra. Gemian á los golpes de las segures los desmedidos pinos, y caian heridos de ellas, rodando de lo alto de las montañas. Las encinas antiguas, hijas de la tierra, que parecia que por lo erguido hacian amenazas al cielo; los empinados álamos, los olmos, que tienen las copas tan verdes y tan aseadas con espesas hojas: las ayas, honor de las selvas, venian á caer en la márgen del rio Galeo, donde estaba el ejército acampado. Allí con proporcion conveniente fué erigida una pira, que parecia una fábrica regular. Ya se empezaban á vér las llamas, y ya subia al cielo una tempestad de humo.

Marchaban los primeros con espacioso paso los Lacedemonios, arrastrando las lauzas por tierra, y vueltas ácia atrás las puntas, con los ojos clavados en el suelo. Notábanse en aquellos fieros semblantes representado el profundo dolor, que en sí mismos tenían y derramaban abundantes lágrimas. Inmediatamente venia el anciano Perécides, ménos gravado del número de los años, que de la pena de sobrevivir á Ippia, á quien habia criado desde su mas tierna infancia. Levantaba al cielo las manos, y allá fixaba tambien los ojos, todos bañados de ternísimas lágrimas. Despues de haber muerto Ippia, no queria comer cosa alguna, ni aun el dulce sueño le habia podido cerrar los ojos para un breve reposo, ni suspender un punto su acostumbrado dolor. Caminaba todo temblando de



too full for speech : and his silence was that of dejection and despair : but when he saw the pile kindled , a sudden transport seized him , and he cried out , « O Hippias , Hippias ! I shall see thee no more . Hippias is dead , and I am still living . O my dear Hippias ! It was I that taught thee , cruel and unrelenting ; it was I that taught thee the contempt of death . I hoped that my dying eyes would have been closed by thy hand ; and that I should have breathed the last sigh into thy bosom . Ye have prolonged my life , ye gods ! in your displeasure , that I might see the life of Hippias at an end . O my child , thou dear object of my care and hope , I shall see thee no more ! But I shall see thy mother , who , dying of grief , will reproach me with thy death ; and I shall see thy wife , fading in the bloom of youth , and agonized with despair and sorrow , of which I am the cause ! O call me from these scenes , to the borders of the Styx , which have received thy shade : the light is hateful to my eyes ; and there is none but thee , whom I desire to behold ! I live , O my dear Hippias ! only to pay the last duty to thy ashes . »

The body of the hero appeared stretched upon a bier , that was decorated with purple and gold . His eyes were extinguished in death ; but his beauty was not totally effaced , nor had the graces faded wholly from his countenance , however pale . Around his neck , that was whiter than snow , but reclined upon the shoulder , floated his long black hair , still more beautiful than that of Atys or Ganymede , but in a few moments to be reduced to ashes : and on his side appeared the wound through which , issuing with the torrent of his blood , his spirit had been dismissed to the gloomy regions of the dead .

Telemachus followed the body sorrowful and dejected , and scattered flowers upon it : and when it was laid upon the pile , he could not see the flames catch the linen that was wrapped about it , without again bursting into tears : « Farewell , » said he , « O ma-

tras de la tropa del pueblo , no sabiendo á qué parte le llevaban sus mismos pasos ; y audaba silencioso , sin decir palabra , porque su interior afliccion le estrechaba sobrado el corazon . Era su silencio despecho y abatimiento . Quando vió pegar fuego á la pira , pareció de improviso como frenético . Ippia , gritó , Ippia , ¡ no te podré ver mas ! ; Luego Ippia ha muerto , y yo quedo con vida ! yo soy quien te ha dado la muerte mi amantísimo Ippia : yo soy quien te ha enseñado á despreciarla . Creia que tus manos me debían cerrar los ojos , y que tú habias de recoger el último aliento de mi boca . Vos me habeis alargado la vida , cruelísimos dioses , para dexarme ver la muerte de Ippia . Amado hijo , á quien yo he educado , y que me has costado tantos cuidados , tantos afanes , ya no te he de ver mas ; pero veré á tu madre , que se morirá de tristeza , echándome la culpa de tu muerte : veré á tu esposa jóven desgrenarse el cabello ; y de todo esto yo seré la ocasion . Llámame pues , ó alma querida , llámame , para unirme contigo en el otro mundo . Ya esta vida se me ha hecho aborrecible : Ippia , querido mio , ya no quiero otro objeto sino á tí solo . Ippia , Ippia , mi amantísimo Ippia , no viva todavía , sino para prestar á tus cenizas los últimos honores .

En esto se veía tendido el cadáver de Ippia , que era llevado dentro de un féretro , adornado de púrpura , de oro y plata . La muerte , que en su rostro le habia apagado la luz de sus ojos , no le habia podido quitar del todo la belleza , y en el semblante pálido se conservaba aun la primera gracia . Veíanse ondear por el cuello , mas blanco que la nieve , reclinado sobre los hombros , los cabellos negros y largos , mas hermosos que los de Atis , y Ganymedes , los cuales de allí á poco habian de parar en cenizas . Reconocíase en un lado una profunda herida , por donde le habia salido toda la sangre , y que cruelmentè le habia quitado la vida .

Afligido Telémaco , y desmayado , seguía de cerca al cadáver , derramando sobre él algunas flores . En llegando á la pyra , no pudo el hijo de Ulises mirar las flamas , que penetraban los paños , en que iba envuelto el cuerpo del difunto , sin derramar en aquel



gnanimous youth, for I must not presume to call thee friend. Let thy shade be appeased, since thy glory is full, and my envy is precluded only by my love. Thou art delivered from the miseries that we continue to suffer; and hast entered a better region, by the most glorious path! How happy should I be to follow thee by the same way! May the Styx yield a passage to the shade, and the fields of Elysium lie open before thee! may thy name be preserved, with honour to the latest generation; and thy ashes rest, for ever, in peace!»

As soon as Telemachus, who had uttered these words in a broken and interrupted voice, was silent, the whole army sent up a general cry: the fate of Hippias, whose exploits they recounted, melted them into tenderness; and grief at once revived his good qualities, and buried, in oblivion, all the failings which the impetuosity of youth, and a bad education had concurred to produce. They were, however, yet more touched by the tender sentiments of Telemachus: «Is this,» said they, «the young Greek that was so proud, so contemptuous, and intractable? he is now affable, humane, and tender. Minerva, who has distinguished his father by her favour, is also, certainly, propitious to him. She has, undoubtedly, bestowed upon him, the most valuable gift which the gods themselves can bestow upon man; a heart that is at once replete with wisdom, and sensible to friendship.»

The body was now consumed by the flames; and Telemachus himself sprinkled the still smoking ashes with water, which gums and spices had perfumed: he then deposited them in a golden urn, which he crowned with flowers; and he carried the urn to Phalanthus. Phalanthus was stretched out upon a couch, his body being pierced with many wounds; and life was so far exhausted, that he saw, not far distant, the irremovable gates of death.

mismo tiempo copiosas lágrimas. A dios, dixo, magnánimo Ippia, que os llamo con este nombre, porque no me atrevo á llamaros con el de amigo. Aplácate, alma grande, que has merecido tan grande gloria. Si no te amara, te envidiara tu dicha; porque te has librado de las miserias de que en esta vida estamos nosotros ceñidos, y te has salido de ellas por el camino mas glorioso que todos. ¡Ay de mí! Quán feliz seria si se me permitiera fenecer mis dias de la misma manera! Ruego á los dioses, ó gran Ippia, que no se le dificulte á tu espíritu pasar á aquella eterna felicidad sin tardanza: que se le abra el Elisio; que la fama en todos los siglos mantenga vivo su nombre; y que descansen en paz las cenizas de tu cadáver.

Apénas hubo dicho Telémaco estas palabras, mezcladas con muchos suspiros, todo el ejército levantó prontamente un alto grito. Todos se enternecian por Ippia, cuyas grandes acciones se referian; y trayendo el recuerdo de todas sus buenas prendas, el dolor de su muerte hacia olvidar los defectos, que una juventud impetuosa, y una educacion mala le habian dado. Pero mas movian el ánimo de cada uno las demostraciones tiernas del amor del desconsolado Telémaco. ¿Luego es este, decian, aquel jóven Griego, tan feroz, tan soberbio, tan iracundo, tan intratable? Hé aquí que se ha hecho apacible, afectuoso y humano. Ciertamente Minerva, que ha querido tanto á su padre, el grande Ulises, ama no ménos al hijo: ella sin duda le ha dado los dones mas preciosos, que los dioses pueden dar á los hombres, dispensándole, junto con la prudencia, un corazon tan fácil á la impresion del cariño.

Ya las llamas habian consumido el cadáver, quando Telémaco roció con sus manos las cenizas, que aun humeaban, con un licor fragante: púsolas despues en una urna de oro, y él mismo las conduxo á Falanto, habiendo ántes coronado la urna de olorosas flores. Yacia el animoso caudillo herido en varias partes del cuerpo, y estaba medio muerto en la extrema debilidad.



Traumatophilus and Nosophugus, whom Telemachus sent to his assistance, had exerted all their art; they had brought back his fleeting spirit by degrees, and he was insensibly animated with new strength: a gentle, but penetrating power, a new principle of life gliding from vein to vein, reached even to the heart; and a genial warmth relaxing the frozen hand of death, the tyrant remitted his grasp. But the insensibility of a dying languor was immediately succeeded by an agony of grief; and he felt the loss of his brother, which before he was not in a condition to feel. « Alas ! » said he, « why all this assiduity to preserve my life ! it would be better, that I should follow Hippias to the grave ! my dear Hippias ! whom I saw perish at my side. O my brother, thou art lost for ever ; and with thee all the comforts of life ! I shall see thee, I shall hear thee, I shall embrace thee no more ! I shall no more unburden my breast of its troubles, to thee ; and my friendship shall participate of thy sorrows no more ! And is Hippias thus lost, for ever ! O ye gods, that delight in the calamities of men ! can it be ? or is it not a dream, from which I shall awake ? Ah ! no ! it is a dreadful reality ! I have, indeed, lost thee, O Hippias ! I saw thee expire in the dust ; and I must, at least, live till I have avenged thee ; till I have offered up, to thy manes, the merciless Adrastus, whose hands are stained with thy blood ! »

While Phalanthus was uttering these passionate exclamations, and the divine dispensers of health were endeavouring to sooth him into peace, lest the perturbation of his mind should increase his malady, and render their medicines ineffectual, he suddenly beheld Telemachus, who had approached him unperceived. At the first sight of him, he felt the conflict of two opposite passions in his bosom : his mind still glowed with resentment at the remembrance of what had passed between Telemachus and Hippias ; and the grief that he felt for the loss of his brother, gave this resentment new force ; but he was also conscious, that he was himself indebted for his life to Telemachus, who had rescued him, bleeding and ex-

Trosmafilo,

Trosmafilo, y Nozofugo, enviados del hijo de Ulises, le habian dado toda la asistencia del arte. Iban poco á poco llamando otra vez á aquella alma, que estaba ya agonizante á exercer sus officios primeros en el cuerpo. Producianse sin sentir en sus miembros, muchos nuevos espíritus : una fuerza suave y penetrativa, un bálsamo vital, se le internaba de vena en vena hasta los senos del corazon ; y un calor agradable iba vivificando todo lo que ya estaba casi muerto, por la excesiva flaqueza, y desmayo. Cesando en él ya el desaliento, sucedió al instante la pena ; y comenzó á sentir el dolor de la muerte de Ippia, que no habia hasta entónces podido percibir. Infelice de mí, decia, ¿ Por qué se pone tanto cuidado en hacerme vivir ? ¿ No me fuera mejor morir, y seguir á mi amado hermano ? Yo lo he visto morir á mi lado. ¡ O Ippia, dulzura de mi vida hermano mio ; querido hermano mio, has muerto ! Luego no podré verte mas, ni oírte, ni abrazarte, ni darte cuenta de mis trabajos, ni consolarte en los tuyos ? ¡ O dioses, enemigos de los hombres ! he perdido á Ippia, y le he perdido para siempre. ¿ Es posible que ha muerto ? No es esto sueño, ó ilusion vana ? No, no : demasiado es verdad, hermano mio, que te he perdido, que te he visto morir : y es bien que yo viva aun, quando será preciso para vengarte. Si, quiero quitar la vida al cruel Adrasto, manchado con tu sangre, y sacrificarlo á tu grande alma.

Mientras Falanto hablaba de esta suerte, Trosmafilo y Nozofugo trataron de aplacar su dolor ; porque temian que con él diera fuerzas al mal, é impidiera el efecto de los remedios. Vió improvisamente á Telemaco, que se le puso delante, y á la primera vista fué su corazon combatido de dos contrarias pasiones. Conservaba Falanto una dolorosa memoria de todo lo que habia sucedido entre Telemaco é Ippia ; y el pesar de la muerte de este hacia tal memoria mucho mas viva. No obstante eso, sabia ser deudor á Telemaco de su propia vida, habiéndole librado sangriento y medio muerto de las manos de Adrasto, que ya estaba para matarlo. Pero quando vió la urna de oro, en que estaban cerradas las cenizas de él tan amadas

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hausted, from the hands of Adrastus. During this struggle, he remarked the golden urn, that contained the dear remains of his brother; and the sight instantly melted him into tears: he embraced Telemachus, at first, without power to speak; but at length he said, in a feeble and interrupted voice:

« Thy virtue, O son of Ulysses! has compelled my love: I am indebted to thee for my life; I am indebted to thee also, for something, yet more precious than life itself! The limbs of my brother would have been a prey to the vulture, but for thee; and but for thee the rites of sepulture had been denied him! His shade would have wandered, forlorn and wretched, upon the borders of the Styx, still repulsed by Charon with inexorable severity! Must I lie under such obligations to a man whom I have so bitterly hated? May the gods reward thee, and dismiss me from life and misery together! Render to me, O Telemachus! the last duties that you have rendered to my brother, and your glory shall be complete. »

Phalanthus then fell back, fainting and overwhelmed with grief: Telemachus continued near him; but, not daring to speak, waited, in silence till his spirits should return. He revived after a short time; and, taking the urn out of the hands of Telemachus, he kissed it many times, and wept over it: « O precious dust, » said he; « when shall mine be mingled with you, in the same urn? O my brother! I will follow thee to the regions of the dead! There is no need that I should avenge thee, for Telemachus will avenge us both! »

By the skill of the two sages, who practised the science of Æsculapius, Phalanthus gradually recovered. Telemachus was continually with them, at the couch of the sick, that they might exert themselves with more diligence to hasten the cure; and the whole army was more struck with admiration at the tenderness with which he succoured his most inveterate enemy, than at the wisdom and valour with which he had preserved the army of the allies.

de su difunto hermano, vertió un arroyo de lágrimas, abrazó á Telémaco, sin poderle hablar; y finalmente con desmayada, é interrumpida voz, por los suspiros le dixo estas palabras.

Digno hijo de Ulises, de vuestra virtud me conozco necesitado á amaros. Bien os debo el fragmento de mi vida; que ha de fenecer en muy breve; pero deudor os soy de otra cosa, que es mucho mas apreciable. Sin vuestra ayuda el cadáver de mi hermano hubiera sido presa de carniceras aves; sin vuestra ayuda su alma privada de sepulcro, no pudiera pasar al gozo de aquella eterna paz, que á las almas justas está dispuesta en el otro mundo. ¿ En tanto pues he de estar obligado á un hombre, á quien he aborrecido tanto? Remuneradlo, dioses, y libradme de vida tan miserable; y vos, Telémaco, dadme tambien á mí los últimos honores, que habeis dado á mi hermano, para que nada falte á vuestra gloria.

Dichas estas palabras, quedó Falanto privado de sus fuerzas, y oprimido de un dolor excesivo. Mantúvose Telémaco junto á él; pero no se atrevia á hablarle, y esperaba que recobrase el vigor perdido. Reñizose luego Falanto de aquel deliquio, tomó la urna de manos de Telémaco; y habiéndola besado muchas veces, y bañándola con sus lágrimas, dixo de esta manera: ¿ Quando, ó amadas, ó preciosas cenizas, á una con vosotras, se cerrarán las mias? Ya te sigo ó alma de Ippia: ya voy á unirme contigo en el Infierno: no: Telémaco nos vengará á los dos.

Concluido el accidente de este dolor, se iba el mal de Falanto disminuyendo de dia en dia, por la diligencia que usaban aquellos dos hombres tan experimentados en la medicina. Estaba siempre con ellos Telémaco al lado del enfermo, para hacerlos mas aplicados á no dilatar su salud; y mucho mas admiraba todo el ejército aquella gran bondad de corazón, con la qual socorria á su mayor contrario, que la braveza y prudencia, que habia hecho notorias, salvando en la batalla el ejército de los aliados.



He was, however, at the same time, indefatigable in the ruder labours of war: he slept but little; and his sleep was often interrupted, sometimes by the intelligence which was brought him at every hour of the night, as well as of the day; and sometimes by examining every quarter of the camp, which he never visited twice together at the same hour, that he might be more sure to surprise those that were negligent of their duty. Though his sleep was short, and his labour great, yet his diet was plain: he fared, in every respect, like the common soldiers, that he might give them an example of patience and sobriety; and provisions becoming scarce in the camp, he thought it necessary, to prevent murmurings and discontent, by suffering voluntarily the same inconveniencies which they suffered by necessity. But this labour and temperance, however severe, were so far from impairing his vigour, that he became, every day, more hardy and robust: he began to lose the softer graces, which may be considered as the flower of youth; his complexion became browner and less delicate, and his limbs more muscular and firm.

END OF THE SEVENTEENTH BOOK.

Al mismo tiempo se mostraba Telémaco incansable en las mas penosas tareas de la milicia. Dormia poco, é interrumpia el sueño frecuentemente, ó con las nuevas que recibia, casi á todas las horas del día y de la noche; ó con la vista de todos los quarteles del campo, que hacia siempre á la misma hora sucesivamente dos veces, para coger mas improvisamente á las centinelas, que no estaban tan vigilantes, como convenia á su oficio. Volvia muchas veces á su tienda, cubierto todo del sudor, y de frio, y era su comida ordinaria, para darles exemplo de templanza y paciencia, viviendo él propio como los soldados. Estando acaso el ejército de vituallas en el lugar en que estaba acampado, juzgó Telémaco, que era necesario poner freno á las quejas de los soldados, con sufrir voluntariamente sus mismos contratiempos. En vez de enflaquecerse el cuerpo en vida tan penosa, gallardeaba, y se endurecia de dia en dia. Empezaba Telémaco á no tener ya aquella tan graciosa belleza, que es como la flor de la juventud mas temprana; su piel se le atezaba, y hacia ménos delicada, y los miembros se le volvian ménos débiles, y mucho mas nervudos.

FIN DEL LIBRO DECIMO SEPTIMO.