26. *The Aſs and the Horse.*

A young sprightly Horse, adorned with a beautiful war-harneſs and champing his foaming bridle, came thundering and neighing along the way, and overtook an Aſs, who was labouring under a heavy burden and moving slowly the same road. „*Out of my way,*“ *cried the haughty Horse, don't you see by my sparkling harneſs who I am and what master I belong to?* „*On my back I carry the first man in the land! Get thee gone therefore, wretched slave, if you will not have me trample thee in the dirt.*“ *With depreſsed spirits the poor Aſs got out of his way as fast as he could, enviously murmuring: Alas! how happy should I feel, could I exchange my situation with that of the fortunate animal! Not long after this, that wish being still within his breast, to his utmost amazement, he met the very same Horse, dragging a dung cart, why thought he, it is now my time to insult and said.* „*Hey-day, friend is it you? What a change have you undergone?*“ „*It is the misfortune of war,*“ *said the Horse with dejected voice.* — „*I was wounded in battle and shot in the eye, and being found infirm, afterwards sold by my master to a carrier* — *what I am now, you see yourself.*

Application.

All earthly goods, being subject to a constant change it is folly to be proud of them and to treat the poor with contempt and scorn. Never should too great a value be put in things which are perishable and may be lost, and for that reason it is wisdom to be humble and moderate when we are in luck, remembering its uncertainty.

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