It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife. However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his first entering a neighbourhood, this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families, that he is by no means僻 willing to pass unobserved. Though he may not muchcourteously &lign; the he is known to be in the market for a wife. If such an object can be found, which has not already had an offer from some gentleman of consequence, she is taken immediately up, for it is the baker's rule, to take the first offer. Mr. Bingley's fine person and gentlemanly manners must soon make him popular; and he is already徘徊ing for an invitation, etc. Mrs. Bennet was quite prepared for his discovering his partiality for the eldest sister; and she was quite as well pleased with the report as Mrs. Long.

Mr. Darcy is not so well worth listening to as his friend, is he?—poor Eliza!—to be only just tolerable. "I beg you would not put it into Lizzy's head to be vexed at him. He is not so very bad after all, you know. He is not so vain and conceited as everyone says; and he is certainly more amiable in his way, and adds to his accomplishments of form and person, a certain something in his air and manner. He is extremely courteous."

"Ah, he is! I have often heard it said of him, that he is excessively cold, and has no sort of amiable quality."

"Yes, I thought so at first; but I have a great many ideas of my own, or rather my mother had, and I have not found them to be at all wrong."

"If he is as cold as you say, I shall think it a great advantage to you to be acquainted with him."

"But I mean no acquaintance."

"You are too particular."

"Oh! no, I am not. I have a very reasonable opinion of myself, and am not going to be the first object of his desire."

"I have no doubt of it, Lizzy."

"I see, Miss Lucas, you do not like Mr. Darcy."

"I speak rather of his character."

"But, my dear Miss Lucas, I never found that a man was always a gentleman, unless he had a good deal of personal beauty to add to it."

"Mr. Darcy is not so well worth listening to as his friend, is he?—poor Eliza!—to be only just tolerable."