

risen from the dead, His resurrection is a guarantee strong, comforting, that those who have fallen asleep in Him, have not perished, but will rise again. "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

By directing our attention to the information we may gather from external nature as to the resurrection from the dead, we shall perceive how largely, how entirely we are indebted to revelation for this assurance, for this glorious hope. In beautiful succession the seasons of the year perform their allotted task and pass away. The calmness and cheering suns of summer fade gradually, yet perceptibly, before the march of autumn. Autumn's yellow leaves are scattered on the ground by the blasts which are the harbingers of winter. While the cold of winter lasts, nature is enjoying a temporary repose, until the revolving months bring round an increase of heat and sunshine. Spring unlocks the icy fetters of winter, and the labours of the year are begun anew. Soon the fields resume their grassy covering, and the industry of man is loud and busy as before. The promise of the God of heaven and earth, uttered in a distant past, knows no alteration; "while the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." The case is otherwise with the dwellers in the narrow house. Silence, unbroken and undisturbed, characterizes the spot where the mortal remains of some once venerable form have been laid. Be it husband, wife or friend, whom sorrowing relatives carry to the tomb; be it the aged general or the matchless statesman, whom countless voices deplore; be it the faithful ruler or the affectionate, zealous servant of God; in all cases it happens that nature, seemingly impassible and unimpressible, shows no emotion, maintains the same stern, sullen, stolid indifference. To hearts sorely saddened because some valued friend has passed away, no comfort comes from nature, no solace is written on her