

and from which his enjoyments spring, does not suffice him ; and that his desires and his hopes drag him towards another, as yet unknown, and only dimly anticipated. It is in the different relations in which every one places himself to the one and the other world, that the difference of individual character is chiefly found ; for it gives the mind an original bent upon which all the rest depends. He who is wholly taken up with the earthly, so as to have neither thought nor feeling for a higher world, must in truth be termed most wretched : he is without the highest and best inward satisfaction, and is incapable of arriving at the true perfection of his moral nature. But there is also a certain contempt of the earth, and an erroneous mode of occupying ourselves with an existence beyond it, which, even if it does not lead to a neglect of the duties of life, yet at least prevents us from enjoying the good in this world which Providence designed for us. The truly elevated frame of mind avoids this double one-sidedness : it takes its starting-point from the endless traces of the Divinity which pervade everything on earth, and are to be found through all creation in the wise arrangement and loving solicitude for the comfort of every created thing ; and in this frame of mind we connect those pure feelings of the heart which truly belong to a better world, with such of our social relations as we can devote ourselves to without impairing the true worth of our nature. It is thus that we seek and engraft the super-terrestrial upon the terrestrial, and become capable of elevating ourselves to the full purity of a heavenly life. In this sense we live for another world, even in this ; for the earthly then becomes merely the shell of the divine ; and this last, by no means lying hidden within, but beam-