

to the French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Dutch, among the modern; but, likewise, to the Oriental tongues. He was particularly fond of the Greek language. His attainment of such a variety of knowledge, was exceedingly assisted by a memory surprisngly retentive, and which, indeed, astonished every person with whom he was conversant. A striking instance of this hath been given by the honourable Mr. Daines Barrington, in his tract, intitled, "The Probability of reaching the North Pole discussed*." In communicating his ideas, our author had an uncommon readiness and facility; and the style of his works, which had been formed upon the model of that of the celebrated Bishop Sprat, was perspicuous, easy, flowing, and harmonious. Should it be thought that it is sometimes rather too diffusive, it will, notwithstanding, indubitably be allowed, that it is, in general, very elegant and beautiful.

To all these accomplishments of the understanding, Dr. Campbell joined the more important virtues of a moral and pious character. His disposition was gentle and humane, and his manners kind and obliging. He was the tenderest of husbands, a most indulgent parent, a kind master, a firm and sincere friend. To his great Creator he paid the constant and ardent tribute of devotion, duty, and reverence; and in his correspondences he shewed, that a sense of piety was always nearest his heart. "We cannot," said he, in a letter to Mr. Hall, "too much insist on the necessity of religion, not only as securing our happiness hereafter, but as the only safe and certain rule of life, and ten thousand times preferable to the modern notions of philosophy, and ties of honour. I may with great truth say, that the Church Catechism is a much better system of morals than Tully's Offices. There are many fine things in these, and in the works of Seneca; but, in my judgment, none that equal, either in spirit or composition, some of the Collects in our Liturgy." On another occasion, he wrote to

* The instance mentioned by Mr. Barrington, regards the accuracy where Dr. Campbell, at the distance of thirty years, remembered the facts related to him by a Dr. Daillie, concerning a voyage towards the North Pole; in which the navigators, among whom was Dr. Daillie himself, went so far as to the 89th degree of north latitude; and might easily have proceeded farther, had not the captain thought himself obliged, by his duty in other respects, to return.

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