

every thing around ; the author and giver of his own being ; and had a kind of freehold interest in human existence, the validity and duration of which were of unquestionable certainty. Borne on the surge of this rash and heedless notion, he floats composedly down the stream of time, though it is evident that these bubbles of momentary birth will presently burst, and be no more. In spite of this dread uncertainty, unrenewed man is ever prone to forget that which above all else should be remembered,—he forgets himself. He invents schemes for future occupation ; he suggests plans to be acted on for a long time to come : he legislates for futurity, always including himself in proposed improvements, as if mortality was a catastrophe never heard of, or known only as one of those rare and singular occurrences to be placed among the remarkable events of an almanac. Are these the inductions of a sane and considerate mind ? Are they supported by reason, experience, or revelation ? “ Go to now, ye that say, To-day or to-morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain : whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life ? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”

The records of past ages reveal, with clearness not to be mistaken, the presence of a divine agency, working in and through all the operations of nature ; and the evidence of this interposition is so conclu-