

*Mrs. Arnold.*—In the fifteenth verse of the next chapter of Proverbs, we find those words, which seem to apply closely to Herod's character, and shew that great as his tyranny and cruelty were, they were not greater than the wisdom of Solomon had been able to foresee in similar circumstances :—"As a roaring lion, and as a ranging bear, so is a wicked ruler over the poor people." In the book of Daniel there is also related an act of tyranny and persecution which still further supports the truth of these Proverbs, and shows another instance in which the malice of the most powerful earthly enemies is baffled by the protection which it pleased God to extend to his servants. Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon, had set up a golden image in the plain of Dura, in the Province of Babylon, and had commanded that all people, of all nations and languages, who were within hearing of a certain signal to be given, should fall down and worship the image, and whoever refused to fall down and worship the idol, should, in the same hour, be thrown alive into a burning fiery furnace. Among the persons who were most highly trusted for their wisdom and integrity, even by Nebuchadnezzar, were three Jews, whom he had set as Governors over Babylon, and to whom he had shewn great favour ; for even the wicked can value the high qualities of good and upright people, and acknowledge the great value of their principles, when they have any dealings with them. Those Jews, who were firm in their own religion, and worshipped the one true God of their fathers, resolutely refused to bow down to the image which Nebuchadnezzar had set up, preferring rather to suffer the heaviest penalty a cruel tyrant could inflict upon them, than offend against the commandment of God. There are always a sufficient