

SERMON.

The memory of the just is blessed.—PROVERBS, x. 7.

“THIS is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event unto all.” “All things come alike to all: there is one event to the righteous, and to the wicked; to the good and to the clean, and to the unclean; to him that sacrificeth and to him that sacrificeth not; as is the good so is the sinner; and he that sweareth, as he that feareth an oath.”* This is the language of The Royal Preacher in another portion of his writings. It is one of the many graphic descriptions, in which his discourses abound, of “the travail which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it.”† Literally it is true. Taken by itself, it is no overdrawn picture of a particular aspect of human vanity. Apart from the fear of God and the truths of the Gospel, it is more than enough to occasion unmitigated “vexation of spirit.” The fact adverted to is not without a mischievous in-

* Ecc. ix, 3-2.

† Ecc. iii, 10.