

some of those *characters* or *qualities* which the proper employment of man must possess ; by the application of which to any given case, we may determine whether it is consistent with our proper and lawful business or not, and consequently whether we ought to persevere in it or renounce it.

In the present chapter we shall consider the characters or qualities of the *employment*, to which our life on earth ought to be devoted ; in the next we shall consider the qualities of the *object* or *result*, which it ought to accomplish.

1. With regard, then, to the *qualities* of the employment in which our life on earth ought to be spent, we observe, *in the first place*, it ought to be such as to exercise ALL the powers appertaining to our nature. For all these powers have been conferred by God, and, in respect of all of them, nothing can be more evident than the design of exercise. To give the power to act in a particular way, without the intention that the possessor of that power *shall* act in that particular way, is obviously a contradiction. All our powers, therefore, must be brought into action, before the intention of the Creator can be fulfilled, whether they belong to the corporeal, or the social, or the intellectual, or the moral departments of our nature. The employment which shall provide for this is evidently our only lawful employment ; the action which it requires is co-extensive with our capacity to act ; while that which does not, is either in direct opposition to the design of our being, or, at least, it falls short of it, in proportion to the number and importance of the powers which it leaves unemployed.

All that we have advanced, on the *law* of exercise, in