

or disorder, the night will be sleepless and miserable.

Nature even teaches us that we ought to imitate those who have preceded us in well doing. This day, as to continuance, is the same as yesterday; and this night will be the same as the last. The tender plant that now springs from the root of the broken oak, will be clothed with leaves of the same form and verdure, with those which covered the parent stem; it will spread similar roots in the ground; and, in like manner, direct its lofty branches towards the impending skies.

All things, therefore, my brethen, announce to us, the importance of the Apostle's advice: "be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises."

In considering this subject, it is natural to reflect, first, on the duty recommended, the diligent imitation of those, who have gone before us, in the path of virtuous life; secondly, on the more conspicuous parts of their example, faith and patience; and, thirdly, on the rewards which they have reaped, the promised blessings that they inherit.

1. With regard to the first of these subjects, the diligent imitation of those who have gone before us, nothing can be more striking, than the instruction