

fearful as inevitable. Extreme and constant suffering here, and utter and hopeless ruin hereafter, could not have failed to have been the portion of every member of the race. The power of Apollyon had, in that case, been far more dreadful: exerted with a determination and a force, of which each and all would, unintermittingly, have been reaping the bitter fruits. Thanks, then, 'to the God of all grace,' who grants him not his cruel pleasure, in the accomplishment of his evil intentions, and the gratification of his malevolent desires; but who, while mysteriously permitting, mercifully restrains, overrules, and counteracts, his Agency."

Much of the prevailing disbelief, or at least practical disregard, of the scriptural doctrine respecting the existence and agency of evil spirits, Mr. Young ascribes to modern Authorship. He says:—

"If ever there was a period in the history of our Country, when both instruction and admonition, in relation to the evils in question, were peculiarly needed; that period seems to be the present. Of the popular literature of the day, not a little is deeply tinctured with an anti-evangelical spirit. Not only is this true, in regard to the large classes of Productions, that are of a decidedly Deistical, or semi-Deistical, character: Productions, either openly denying the Inspiration, or directly impugning the distinctive and fundamental verities, of Holy Scripture. It may also be affirmed of others, which profess to impart useful or entertaining knowledge and whose authors disclaim all intention of opposing, or disparaging, any of the announcements of Christianity. Often, they embody sentiments,—sometimes plainly enunciated, sometimes artfully insinuated,—which do not harmonize with the teachings of the Word. What, too, renders them the more dangerous is, that the incongruity is not always apparent.

"The peril, from this source, is the greater, and is continually on the increase, owing to the more familiar acquaintance that is being cultivated with works of German authorship. For these, there has been, of late, a growing demand. Indeed, the craving becomes, in some quarters, *morbid*: it is stimulated into a keenness, almost resembling a species of mania; while it spreads, at the same time, with the infectiousness of an epidemic. Hence a vastly augmented and augmenting importation of them. The consequence has been, what might have been expected. The reading part of the British mind has been, to no small extent, indoctrinated into the opinions, and even, as it were, cast into the strange moulds, or trained to the peculiar mode of thought and expression, prevalent in Fatherland. This is a process of assimilation, or mental discipline and impression, which, especially during the last two or three decades, has been going on, silently yet perceptibly, and at a quickening rate.

"That Land, no doubt, can boast of most distinguished scholars; men, whose names in their respective spheres of sacred or profound lore, stand pre-eminent—among the ornaments at once of their Country and age. From their various learning and elaborate performances, important benefits have been reaped, in different departments, not excepting that of Biblical Criticism. To deny this, were equally ungrateful and uncandid. Their Treatises contain much that is both valuable and profound; the precious fruit of deep research, and unrivalled attainment. For aught superior, perhaps equal, in solid worth and usefulness, we shall look in vain to the publications; on dogmatic or exegetical Theology of our best writers at home. We feel ourselves laid under obligations, which we willingly acknowledge, to their abilities, industry and erudition. Nor, even when compelled to dissent entirely from their expositions or tenets, can we withhold our tribute of gratitude for instruction which their prelections afford.

"It is matter of deep regret, however, that advantages, so solid and manifold, should, not seldom, be marred by the accompaniment of countervailing evils. Readily do we admit the high order of excellence, stamped on not a few Continental Productions, which it has been our privilege to examine: nor is there a wish to dispute the merits of others, of which report speaks in favourable