

ly pernicious, evil, than any of those which I have mentioned. Think of the character, to which *custom-house oaths* are reduced. Think of the tenor of *oaths of office* : and then examine the tenour of the conduct, which, in some instances, actually follows them.

At the same time, *how widely have our elections*, in a multitude of cases, *veered from the tenour of our national and state Constitutions* ; from our original professions ; from all that is free, and unbiassed ; and from the tremendous obligation, assumed in the oath of those who elect !

How often is the eye pained, and the soul wounded to the quick, by the dismal recitals of *fashionable murder* ; perpetrated in defiance of all laws of GOD and man ; and yet left unpunished by the very government, which is thus insulted to its face ? Remember, that GOD hath said, *The land cannot be cleansed of the blood, which is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it.*

To close this painful catalogue, already long, and unhappily capable of being made much longer, I observe, that *more than 2,000,000*, I am afraid I might say, *more than 3,000,000 of our countrymen*, there is too much reason to believe, *have, and long have had*, no regular, *stated worship of GOD*, and are without any settled ministers of the Gospel, any Churches, and of course without any religion. “ Shall I not avenge for these things,” saith JEHOVAH ; “ shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation, as this ? ” “ Oh, that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments : then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness, as the waves of the sea ! ”

The third of these reasons is found in our peculiar circumstances.