

tance must be infinite : Betwixt the clod of the valley and intelligence, who can calculate the difference ?

But in addition to the gift of being we have to consider that we are furnished with the means of making this gift increase in value and rise in dignity. We are not only endowed with powers and faculties, but we are also provided with the means of improving these powers and faculties. We have thus in our possession, the power of acquiring a knowledge of the Almighty Creator, and of the nature of that government which he exercises over his creatures.

The gift of being has been conferred upon us that we should enjoy it ; and for this our Creator has amply provided. It is impossible to exhaust the sources of employment. We have within our reach, not only, what is necessary for our support, but we have also the means of gratifying our minds with the contemplation of the character of the deity ; as that character is shewn in his works. As it pleased him to create the world, so he has given us the means by which the wonders of that world should be displayed to our view. He said, " Let there be light, and there was light, and " God saw the light that it was good."\* The

\* Gen. 1. 3. 4.