

to be the instrument, moral renovation. If manner consistent with a natural tendency to bear upon them. (of dispensing pardon possible) will be manner of conveying fitted to make the bitter a thing sin is, and permanent desires its influence. Now, and marvellous a? For "the sacrifice case," has associated, as well as with connected obedience breathing out a torn unceasing glory been pardoned and not being made for that this was possible loathsomeness of would have been her, on the one

etification is effected man's rational nature, and "The Mirror." "ligion." In that work ted with great force matter, and seems to at the line between y clear. An occasional holy character as blessing connected

hand, have been marked as very odious; nor would God, on the other, have been set forth as very worthy of esteem and admiration. No moral instrumentality, therefore, of a decided sanctifying tendency would have been brought to bear upon men's minds, in connection with the forgiveness of their sins. But here, as in other respects, the Gospel is every thing that can be desired. The demonstration, at once awful and affecting, which it affords of the heinousness of sin,—the exhibition which it makes of God as hating sin with an unutterable hatred while pitying the sinner with an equally unutterable compassion,—the necessity, arising from the perfection of his own nature, under which it represents God as laid, to be just even in justifying the ungodly;—these, among other features, renders it exactly such an instrumentality as is wanted for drawing men away from their attachment to sin, and filling them with that love to God,—love springing at once from an experience of his compassion and a perception of his excellence,—which is the essential principle of holiness.

Is this doctrine foolishness? or is it wisdom? Some may answer, foolishness; but this will not be the estimate of one who is perfect,—who has been spiritually enlightened, and led to take a broad and correct view of the redemption which he needs. Such an one will not be content with the theology (and it is the very best which those who reject the Gospel can substitute in its room) which teaches that men shall be forgiven their past offences if they repent of them, and strive after amendment of life in future. This meets with no response from his nature. It is altogether too meagre. It falls completely beneath his felt necessities. It speaks of pardon indeed, but pardon conferred in a way in which he cannot believe that it would be consistent with rectitude for God to bestow pardon. It reveals to him no adequate agent engaged to effect the renewal and sanctification of his soul.