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II. These obstacles are not insurmountable: To upright hearts, to sincere and pure souls, who seek the truth without prejudice, without passion, and without interest. "If I have faith," worldlings sometimes say, "I would soon break all the chains that bind me to sin." But they may be answered, "you would soon have faith, if you broke these chains."

DECEMBER 26.

ON PROVIDENCE.

I. God directs by his Providence every thing that happens in the world.

The Providence of God not only directs the great events on which depend the rise and fall of empires and kingdoms; but he orders or permits the most trivial incidents that concern the poorest of men. "A hair falls not from your head," says the Saviour, "without the order or consent of Providence." Chance is nothing; it is a