

the word; the teachers of a Religion entirely new, opposed in its principles, its doctrines, and precepts, to the several sects of philosophy and modes of superstition prevailing in the different countries which they traversed as strangers, as well as to the propensities of a corrupt nature, which were common to the Barbarian and the Greek. The object, to which they directed their labours, was a radical change in the religious tenets and moral dispositions of mankind: and, in the conflict of weakness with power, of mildness and patience with persecution and violence, of simplicity with learning and wit, of the plain and unornamented doctrine of a crucified Redeemer with the eloquence of the rhetorician and the acuteness of the philosopher, the success of their endeavours bore an ample proportion to the boldness and magnitude of their enterprize.

Of those, who fought and who vanquished in a struggle of such apparent inequality, it is natural to enquire; to what circumstances of external assistance, or personal qualification, they were indebted for so glorious a victory. An easy solution of the difficulty would be found, in ascribing this extraordinary success to the pecu-