

When Sampson wished a wife from the Philistines, Manoah and his mother thus beautifully and impressively expostulated with him : "is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines?" His judgment and conscience must have been forcibly swayed by an admonition so parental and affectionate. But passion was imperious, and he replied, "get her for me, she pleaseth me well." They acquiesced ; and the connection was deplorably disastrous. The sinful and idolatrous practices of her country ensnared him, the divine Spirit departed from Sampson, and the child of promise and prayer, the morning of whose life was so serene and splendid, fled into eternity, agitated by tempests and surrounded by storms. He violated the express law against marriage with the Canaanites, and an accumulation of misery succeeded. How did "Solomon's women turn away his heart after other Gods" ! and what a dreadful spirit of impiety was manifested by Job's wife when she said ; "dost thou still retain thine integrity ? curse God and die." This is irresistible evidence, that immense evil is connected