

cured for himself a distinguished place among those whose names are immortal.

But natural history has a relation infinitely more important : for it is one material use of the study of nature, to illustrate this greatest of all truths :—“ That there must be a God ; that he must be almighty, omniscient, and infinite in goodness ; and that, although he dwells in a light inaccessible to any mortal eye, yet our faculties see and distinguish him clearly in his works.”

In these we are compelled to observe a degree of greatness far beyond our capacities to understand :—we see an exact adaption of parts composing one stupendous whole ; an uniform perfection and goodness that are not only entitled to our admiration, but that command from us the tribute of reverence, gratitude, and love, to the Parent of the Universe. Every step we tread in our observations on nature, affords us indubitable proofs of his superintendance. From these we learn the vanity of all our boasted wisdom, and are taught that useful lesson, humility. We are compelled to acknowledge our dependance on the protecting arm of God, and that, deprived of this support, we must that moment dissolve into nothing.

Every object in the creation is stamped with the characters of the perfection and benevolence of its author. If we examine with accurate discrimination the construction of bodies, and remark