

rounded, and which streamed from his person, Jehovah, the *all-powerful* One, was *hidden*; "dark" (as one of the first of uninspired writers has rendered the thought) "with excessive bright."

VER. 5.—"Before him went the pestilence,
And burning coals went forth at his feet."

"At his feet," is a Hebrew idiom for, behind him. The word translated "burning coals," means a fever or burning plague. So that, besides the splendour attributed to Jehovah's person, the circumstances, so terrible to the enemies against whom he was going forth, is now introduced of pestilence, in one form, preceding him; and pestilence, in another form, marching in his rear.

VER. 6.—"He stood, and measured the earth"—

Cast a glance over it; the effect of which the following lines describe.

"He beheld, and drove asunder the nations;
And the everlasting mountains were scattered,
The perpetual hills did bow."

The "scattering of the mountains," and the "bowing of the hills," are figures which represent the irresistible power of Jehovah, and the easy and signal overthrow which those experienced against whom he contended.*

"His ways are everlasting."

This means, such were his ways "of old;" such were his ancient interpositions for his people. The word rendered "everlasting," does not necessarily denote eternity in the strict sense. It is the same with that used by the prophet Isaiah when he says that Jehovah "bare" his people, "and carried them all the days of *old*."—(Is. lxiii. 9.)

* Compare the words of David in the eighteenth Psalm, "In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears. Then the earth shook and trembled: the foundations also of the hills moved, and were shaken, because he was wroth."