

which consummates the human character and state. is their union which has distinguished those great and illustrious men, who have shone with so much honor in former ages ; and whose memory lives in the remembrance of succeeding generations.—It is their union which forms that *wisdom which is from above* ; the wisdom to which the text ascribes such high effects and to which belongs the sublime encomium given of by an author of one of the apocryphal books of Scripture with whose beautiful and emphatical expressions I conclude this discourse. *The memorial of virtue is immortal. It is known with God, and with men. When it is present, men take example at it ; and when it is gone they desire it. It weareth a crown, and triumpheth forever ; having gotten the victory ; striving for undefiled rewards. Wisdom is the breath of the power of God and a pure influence flowing from the glory of the Almighty. Therefore can no defiled thing fall into her. She is the brightness of the everlasting light ; the unspotted mirror of the power of God ; and the image of his goodness. Remaining in herself, she maketh all things new ; and in all ages, entering into holy souls, she maketh them friends of God, and prophets : For God loveth none but him that dwelleth with wisdom. She is more beautiful than the sun ; and above all the order of the stars. Being compared with light, she is found before it.**

* Wisdom of Solomon, iv. 2, 3.—vii. 25, 26, 27, 28, 29.