

office ; or with the helps on which we are to rely.

He candidly acknowledges that we are *not sufficient* of ourselves to bear and execute so great a charge ; we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us ; and therefore our *sufficiency* is of God, who only can make us able and successful ministers of the New Testament ;* and crown our labours with the desired effect, in accomplishing the salvation of our brethren.

PERHAPS no man was ever endued with greater talents for the ministerial function, than St. Paul——
“ that trumpet of the Gospel, that instructor of the
“ Gentiles, that golden vessel shining through all
“ the world”——as St. Jerom calls him.† If he thus thought——if he trusted in divine aid only for success ; surely it becomes us, who are so much inferior, thus to think and trust also.

LET us then, after the example of this holy Apostle, look up to God for assistance ; humbly relying on his aid ; and earnestly imploring success, as well as success in our endeavours. St. Paul’s reliance on God, did not diminish his exertions ;

* II Corinth. III. 5. 6—IV. 7.

†——Evangelica tuba, doctor gentium, vas aureum in toto orbe resplendens. HIERON. *advers. Pelag.* Lib. 3. Opp. Tom. II. P. 205. Edit. Franc. et Lips. 1684. per TRIBBECHOV.