

wall. Cursed be their anger for it was fierce and their wrath for it was cruel."

According to the distinction of the text, persons may be said to fall into the hands of God, when famine, pestilence, lightning, volcanoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, or any other immediate executioners of divine justice, are commissioned against them. As instances, I might mention the famines and pestilences, which Israel often experienced. Among events of modern times, I might mention the scarcity in Scotland and Ireland, the famine in Paris, and diverse other parts of France, and the scarcity in Britain and Poland. I might mention the torrent from the mountains, which swept away 2000 persons in Spain. I might mention the desolating earthquakes at Lima, Callao, Lisbon, Cuba and many other places. I might mention the plague, which, within less than half a century, raged in Smyrna, Tunis and Egypt. To come to our own times and country, I might mention the spotted fever of recent date, and the malignant pestilential fever, which a few years ago raged in several of our sea-ports, and of which about 5000 died in the city of Philadelphia. "We know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompence, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Heb. 10. 30, 31. But David considered falling immediately into the hand of man, as the most deplorable of calamities. Great are the mercies of a just and avenging God; but "the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel." Prov. 12. 10.

Persons may be said to fall into the hand of a man, when reduced to a state of servitude, or imprisonment, by those, with whom they were at peace. Such was the case of some, mentioned in the bible, and to come to our own times, such is the case of those of our seamen, who have been "impressed on board British vessels;"\* and also of such of our seamen, as have been "seized

\* Much has been said respecting the imprisonment of American seamen, as one of the great causes for the present war. Mr. Foster in his letter of June 1, 1812, to Mr. Monroe says, "I have it in charge to repeat to you, Sir, for the information of your government, that the government of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent will continue to give the most positive orders against the detention of American citizens on board his Majesty's ships; and that no difficulties, beyond what are requisite for clearly ascertaining the national character of individuals, whose cases are brought before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, will be interposed to prevent or delay their immediate discharge." The impressment of our seamen is a wrong, which ought to be redressed, not palliated. But the whole number of our impressed seamen according to the most lengthened list ever pretended by the advocates for the present war, is very small indeed, compared with the number of persons held in absolute slavery, even in the single state of Virginia. The case of the southern