

they derive their malignity and contrariety to the divine will ? is it not the love and pursuit of inferior objects on their own account, and giving them that place in our affections, which is due only to God ? All sins of whatever kind, may be easily reduced to this, and shown to be nothing else, but the alienation and estrangement of our heart and affections from God, to whom alone they are due, which, in so far as it prevails, necessarily occasions a misapplication of every faculty of our minds, and of every member of our bodies, and thus a rebellion of the whole man. But whoever loves God above all, and places his chief happiness and delight in him, is truly holy ; not only will he be so, as the effect, but really is so, by the possession of this disposition. In proportion as this love is increased and strengthened, his sanctification is carried on, and when it is complete and triumphant, entirely free from the mixture of any baser passion, he is perfect in holiness.—*Witherspoon*.

THE CHILDREN'S PORTION.

A LAST ADVICE.

DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS,—It is a very solemn thing to die. All men feel it to be so, whether they are prepared or unprepared. A death-bed is a place where all men are led to speak very seriously. Those who are able to trifle there, are few and monstrous exceptions to the rule of our nature. I wish you now to listen while I tell you about an advice which a dying man lately gave to a young lad about sixteen years of age. This man lived in the world above sixty years, and the young lad had lived only sixteen. The old man was at the close of life, looking back upon all that he had done, and upon all that he enjoyed ; while the youth was just at the commencement of life, and was looking forward to many years that may yet lie before him. The old man had travelled over the journey—the young man was just setting out. Well, what do you think was one of the most solemn and earnest advices which this old man gave ? Taking the lad near to his bed, he said, “ John, if I had life to begin now, intoxicating drink would never enter my lips. I earnestly advise you never to allow it to enter yours.” Perhaps some one will be apt to say that this was just an enthusiastic teetotaler ; if it had been so, he was at that moment a dying man, in the hourly expectation of