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Miscellaneous Articles.

THE SEASONS CONTEMPLATED.

The constant and regular succession of the seasons from year to year, and the alternation of day and night every twenty-four hours, are a most beautiful and beneficial display of the wise orderings of Divine Providence, a perpetual manifestation of his benevolence and faithfulness. How highly pleasurable to us is this succession, compared with what would be the case if there were an unvarying uniformity, were that indeed possible, a kind of monotonous sameness in nature. And how replete is it with necessary benefit, as well as enjoyment, to the creatures of God. Spring fits the earth for receiving into her bosom the seeds of those productions which are requisite for the support of man, and all the tribes of animated beings. Summer brings them to maturity; Autumn gathers them into the vast store-house of the Divine bounty, out of which He supplieth the wants of every thing that lives; Winter affords the ground needed repose from its fruitfulness, and serves much to prepare it again for renewing its fertility. How wonderful then, how greatly to be admired, is the provision which God has made, in the steady return of the seasons, for accomplishing exceedingly valuable ends—ends which they accomplish, under His guidance, by working together for that purpose.

It is a very interesting inquiry, in what manner does God bring about these great and highly useful changes of season? He does it by means of