

creatures, whose foundation is in the dust, and whose sins are more than their virtues.

The doctrine of imperfection furnishes a rule also for our expectations, in reference to our fellow creatures. Let us never expect much from them, and then we shall never be painfully disappointed. If we meet with more than we expect, the greater will be our pleasure in the discovery.

2d.—Let us beware of an overweening regard to objects of a mere earthly description, and of a keener pursuit of them than what is consistent with a true knowledge of their unsatisfactory nature. Let us *use this world as not abusing it, knowing that the fashion thereof passeth away*. Thousands daily make shipwreck of the principles of virtue, and of all that ought to be dear to the human heart, by entering too deeply into the poisoned delights of sense, and forgetting their immortality.

Convinced, my brethren, that every thing truly valuable depends on the cultivation of right affections towards God and men, and on a proper exercise of the faculties of reason which we possess, let us make this the main business of our few and fleeting days. The more we attain of such solid wealth; the greater will be the satisfaction to ourselves and our usefulness to society; the more peaceful will be our dying moments; the higher our dignity in the everlasting kingdom of God our Saviour.