

THE
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“PROVE ALL THINGS, HOLD FAST THAT WHICH IS GOOD.”

PAUL'S ALLUSIONS TO ANCIENT CUSTOMS—No 1.
THOSE ILLUSTRATIVE OF CHRISTIAN ENERGY.

The Grecian Games.

THAT our readers may have a full and clear conception of Paul's allusions to the Grecian games, we shall give him a sketch from the hand of a master, and the application of one allusion found in the Letter to the Hebrews, to prepare him to relish the study of these sacred and venerable writings—rich with all learning, and replete with all instruction.—*Ed. M. II.*

EXTRACTS.

THE most splendid and renowned solemnities, which ancient history has transmitted to us, were the *Olympic Games*. Historians, orators, and poets abound with references to them, and their sublimest imagery is borrowed from these celebrated exercises. These games were solemnized every *fifth* year by an infinite concourse of people from almost all parts of the world. They were celebrated with the greatest pomp and magnificence: hecatombs of victims were slain in honor of the immortal gods: and *Elis* was a scene of universal festivity and joy. There were *other* public games instituted, as the *Pythian*, *Nemean*, *Isthmian*—which could also boast of the valor and dexterity of their combatants, and show a splendid list of illustrious names, who had from time to time honored them with their presence. But the *lustre* of these, though maintained for a series of years, was *obscured*, and almost totally *eclipsed* by the *Olympic*. We find that the most formidable and opulent sovereigns of those