

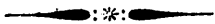
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THE LATE DUKE OF RICHMOND.

IT appears to me that St. Paul's question with its answer, "Who hath known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him? but we have the mind of Christ," points out the foundation of the Christian's faith and consolation. The Apostle freely admits our imperfect knowledge of the nature of God, and our great ignorance of the Divine administration; and to console us under this imperfection, he tells us that we have the mind of Christ, a knowledge sufficient for all our wants. His sentiments and example, his resignation, his devotion to the will of his Father, are all revealed for our instruction and imitation. We know how to be acted in the hour of affliction, "not my will but thine be done;" and if we are in possession of the same humble and ready spirit of acquiescence, and can bear without murmuring the vicissitudes of the present life, we shall not be greatly disturbed by the many bitter and unexpected visitations which come daily upon us.

The Apostle's question is taken with some little variation from the Prophet Isaiah, "Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his counsellor, hath taught him;" but the time for revealing the answer was not yet come, it was reserved as a revelation worthy of the Messiah.

Before the appearance of Christ, God permitted no person to be of his Counsels. Special communications were sometimes made to particular men, but to none were the mysteries of Providence revealed. The Patriarchs and Prophets had a faint glimpse vouchsafed them of the happi-