

an example of patience, meekness and love, which they may follow ; shewing how they ought to live in mutual good will : Jealous over them, like St. Paul, with a godly jealousy ; that he may present them to God, holy\* and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight : And animated by this most pleasing reflection—that so far as his exertions contribute to promote true religion and holiness, or to discourage and suppress irreligion or vice ; they proportionably enlarge the kingdom of Christ, and they diminish and extinguish the kingdom and reign of darkness.

SUCH is the nature of a Clergyman's duty, and such the temper, zeal and spirit with which he should set about the discharge of it. And now, if any be read to ask—Who is sufficient for these things ?—I answer—that the great Apostle, St. Paul, reflecting on the weight and difficulties of the ministerial office, and awful consequences of a failure in it—the trials and opposition it was sure to meet—the labours both of mind and body required for its success, and the ungrateful return that would be often made for those labours—reflecting on these, I say, as well as on the feeble powers of man, who was to execute this office : He asked this very question.† No man was better acquainted with the weight and difficulties of that office ;

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\* 11 Corinth. XI. 2. Colof. I. 22. † 11 Corinth. II. 16.