

unobjectionable expression or not, it must be admitted that the thing referred to, really exist. The proofs of it are innumerable, and everywhere present themselves. Think of the regular succession of morning, noon, evening, and night; of the uniform course of the seasons, spring, summer, autumn, and winter. If a field be sown with barley, you may predict that a crop of wheat will not be produced. And how striking is the illustration furnished by the eclipses of the heavenly bodies,—the sun and the moon. These occur at considerable intervals, and embrace an extensive range, yet the learned can calculate them, and foretell them with perfect certainty and precision, hundreds of years before they take place. Unquestionably there exists, an established order of things; but this furnishes no objection to the continued, universal agency of God. For what are these laws of nature? Certainly nothing but what He has instituted, what He uniformly upholds, and what, in a moment, He could change. They are just the scheme of administration which in His infinite wisdom He sees to be best, and by which He accordingly conducts the affairs of the world and brings to pass what He pleases. Whatever then, results from these laws, must be ascribed to their author. The bountiful harvest we enjoy, is the gift of God as truly as if no such laws were in existence.

Let us now turn our attention to the display of Divine goodness, made in the crowning of the year. And here, several considerations must be taken into view. First of all, let us reflect on the greatness of the benefit bestowed. We cannot, of course, be supposed to compare it with blessings of a spiritual nature. It is small and insignificant indeed, contrasted with that which pertains to the salvation of the soul, and bears on the interests of eternity. But among temporal benefits, it occupies a distinguished place. We have bodily wants, which must be supplied, else we find ourselves in wretchedness. No want of this kind, is more pressing than of food. "Moreover, the profit of the earth is for all; and the king himself is served by the field." Shall we not then acknowledge most gratefully, our obligation to God, for opening His hand and satisfying the desire of everything that lives. But further, we all know, and many have painfully felt, that for some years past, this country has been suffering severely from commercial embarrassment. For that, there has doubtless been a sufficient cause, and surely the follies and the sins of men, must be taken into account. It would be a mistake, to ascribe that embarrassment to our deficient crops; for trade has been struggling in many countries where the harvests were abundant. But it admits of no dispute, we believe, that the distress among ourselves, was greatly aggravated by the scantiness of the produce of the field. Men's minds are now cheered by the hope, that commercial revival, will speedily be experienced. It is not for us to indulge in prophecy, though we join in the pleasing anticipation; but this much we think, may be confidently held, that the abundance of the crops is conducive