

INTRODUCTION.

THE lives of eminently pious persons are fraught with lessons of the greatest value. It is scarcely possible to estimate all the good to be derived from the reading of such experiences. One of the most devout and learned of men—Philip Doddridge—says :—"My own heart has been so much edified and animated by what I have read in the memoirs of persons who have been eminent for wisdom and piety, that I cannot but wish the treasure may be more increased."

The Rev. John Lancaster says :—"The benefits to be derived from a serious perusal of such writings are peculiarly interesting. They unfold to us the secrets of other hearts, and thus qualify us to commune more profitably with our own ; they increase our stock of facts with regard to the human mind, and powerfully promote our advancement in one of the most useful branches of knowledge—the knowledge of man ; they enable us to trace the sublime march of an immortal and redeemed spirit, through the intricacies and dangers of this land of peril, to the kingdom of our heavenly Father ; they evince the efficacy of grace ; they publish the triumphs of faith, the pleasures of devotion, the truth of the promises, the faithfulness of God ; they especially tend to elevate our hopes, give a

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REV. ALBERT SIMS,