

The *external* means only, which contributed to his change of religious belief, are now under review. In his last publication he has informed us of the occasion and the outward means which so powerfully operated to produce that final change. That occasion was "the funeral of the late Archbishop of Halifax;" and the means of conversion were, "the slow and solemn procession, the long train of ecclesiastics, the chanting of the psalms, the fragrance of the incense, the lighted tapers, the elevated Cross, and all the other ceremonies." Now that any well-balanced mind should be at all influenced towards a determination as to the truth or falsity of any system or subject whatever, especially one of a religious character in which all eternal interests are involved, by *external* circumstances so extraneous and insignificant for assisting to such a change, does seem to be not merely extraordinary but almost marvellous. But so it was with Mr. Maturin, as described in his very expressive words just cited, and contained in page 13 of his last pamphlet. Surely Mr. Maturin knows, as well as any of us, that idolaters and impious worshippers through all ancient times—Baal and Ashtaroth, Wodin, Thor, and others—have had their long processions of priests and followers on various occasions, during which they also have used incense and tapers or lights, and have elevated certain material substances, and used other merely outward ceremonies. Many of such idolatrous processions were, very probably, as "slow" and even "solemn" as to the outward manner, as the one at the funeral mentioned. But observe the *point* and *force* of each particular of the description mentioned. It was not merely a "*train*," but a "*long train of ecclesiastics*" (the dress is not given); not the *psalms*, but the "*chanting of the psalms*;" not the presence of *incense*, but the "*fragrance of the incense*,"—seem to have been the *important* circumstances. As to the "lighted tapers," if it was daylight surely they were not needed, but if it was night then they were useful; but one would scarcely think they would be at all