

the christian to desire the honors and luxuries of life, and thus learn with the apostle, in whatever state he is, therewith to be content ?

And should it even please the Father of mercies to visit his friends and followers with the heaviest afflictions, the recollection that all events are under the disposal of infinite wisdom and goodness, will repress the rising murmur and diffuse a delightful calm thro' the soul, far superior to the exultation that arises from earthly prosperity. Even in these days the consolations of religion are sometimes seen to raise the greatest sufferers above all their temporal afflictions, and to make them triumph, when human nature, unsupported would sink into dejection or despair.

Who but the christian for instance, can look with steadfastness and serenity, nay, often with joy and gladness, on the approach of that solemn hour which will not only separate him from the most loved earthly scenes and companions, but convey his spirit to an untied unchangeable state, and bring him into the awful presence of an infinitely great and holy God ? Infidelity will indeed sometimes, though seldom steel the heart against such important considerations, and the lamentable ignorance in which most men live, both of God and of themselves, may draw a veil over these tremendous scenes, and sooth them into a fatal stupor and security. But it is the sincere disciple of Christ alone who, at the same time that he impartially reviews his whole conduct, and sees sin in all its malignity and awful consequences can resign his soul with the most perfect composure, and a hope full of immortality, into the hand of him who made it.

Permit me, my christian readers to inquire can infinite wisdom be mistaken ? can infinite goodness be cruel ? can infinite truth be false ? Allow him that knows the end from the beginning, to know better what is good for you than you do for yourself ; and to