

fleeting Tabernacle, and place him in his heavenly, unchanging Abode.

To impress these important Truths more deeply on the Minds of the Corinthians, the Apostle tells them, that God himself was the Author of this whole Œconomy. From Motives of Love he had wisely subjected them to Trials, the more effectually to secure their Salvation. By his Grace, operating in their Hearts, he raised them to those sublime Views, and Desires after Immortality. His Spirit had wrought this Temper in them, and was a Pledge and Earnest of their future Glory. Nothing can be more conducive to fortify a Christian against Afflictions, Sufferings and Death, than what is urged to this Purpose, at V. 5. "Now he that hath wrought," or prepared and framed, "us for the self-same Thing, is God, who hath also given unto us the Earnest of the Spirit."

THE Consequence of these Particulars, and the Effects produced by them in the Apostle and other sincere Christians, we have in my Text, which immediately follows---"Therefore we are always confident; knowing that whilst we are at Home in the Body, we are absent from the Lord."

*We are always confident*---that is, undismayed at Sufferings or Death, and undaunted in the Discharge of each Christian Duty.

*KNOWING that whilst we are at Home in the Body*---that is, whilst we sojourn in the Body; for the Apostle refers to what he had said before, and wants to shew that the Body is not our proper House