

THE  
WITNESS OF TRUTH.

Vol. I.]

PICTON, FEBRUARY 1, 1846.

[No. 4.

PRIMARY DESIGN OF REVELATION.

[From the Christian Baptist.]

There is as much wisdom exhibited in concealing some things as there is in revealing others. Parents, in relation to their own children, have incontestible proofs of this, if they are parents of discernment. Our Heavenly Father, in revealing himself and his designs to the children of men, has purposely concealed many things which it would have been unwise, in relation to all ends and results, to have discovered. There was evidently some principle, some statute in the counsels of the Omniscient, which allowed the discovery of certain things, and forbade the disclosure of others. When this principle or rule of revelation is apprehended, many important results are acquired, many reflections present themselves which are of much value to the student of the Bible.

We have no doubt but it is quite practicable to ascertain the rule or principle which authorizes the revelation of some things, and which withholds from mortal man the knowledge of others.

When we take into view the object proposed, in giving to the world the bible, we have got into the possession of more than half the secret. And what was this? It will be said, The illumination of the world. But in reference to some end? Assuredly in reference to some end; for, without this end in view, there could be no selection of items or topics on which to address men. God has not disclosed the principles of astronomy or navigation in any part of his revelation; yet if the object of revelation had been the mere illumination of the mind on subjects hitherto unknown, the systems and laws of astronomy or chemistry, would have been in times past a proper subject of revelation. But it is not the mere illumination of the mind which