

"There is in arithmetic a rule called REDUCTION, by which numbers of different denominations are brought to the same denomination. If this ingenious author shall invent a rule in logic, analogous to this, he will bless the world with a most important discovery. Then, indeed, he will have the honor of establishing an everlasting peace in the republic of letters: then we shall have the happiness to see controversy of every kind, theological, historical, philosophical, receive its mortal wound: for though in every question we could not even then determine with certainty on which side the truth lay, we could always determine with as much certainty as geometry or algebra can afford, on which side the probability lay, and in what degree. But till this metaphysical reduction is discovered, it will be impossible, where the evidences are of different orders, to ascertain by subtraction the superior evidence. We could not but esteem him a novice in arithmetic, who, being asked whether seven pounds or eleven-pence make the greater sum, and what is the difference, should, by attending solely to the numbers, and overlooking the value, conclude that eleven-pence were the greater, and that it exceeded the other by four. Must we not be equally so in reasoning, if we follow the same absurd method? Will we not fall into as great blunders? Of as little significance do we find the balance.—Is the value of things which are not alike to be determined merely by weight? Shall silver be weighed against lead, or copper against iron? If in exchange for a piece of gold, I were offered some counters of baser metal, is it not obvious, that till I know the comparative value of the metals, in vain shall I attempt to find what is equivalent by the assistance either of scales or arithmetic?"

We shall allow both the Doctor and the sceptical champion to speak again; but in the mean time a sufficiency of the germs and elementary reasons of things have been presented to engage our consideration, in this department, for the session of a month.—'Short lessons and well learned,' is a maxim founded in the wisdom of the wise, and is acceptable both to teacher and taught.—Could the principal points contained in the Doctor's dissertations be fairly and fully placed before the community, and as fairly and fully examined by the whole discerning public, a blessing of no ordinary character would result to society, descending to after ages.

CONDUCTOR.

SPIRITUAL PURITY.

Extremes, inconsistencies, contrarities, incongruities, are the prominent features of the religious communities of the nineteenth century. Could science furnish us with an instrument such as we have been fancying, a sort of spiritual thermometer, constructed to test the different views, feelings, ceremonies, degrees of virtue, and variety of organization of all the religious denominations of this our day and generation, how great and striking would be the diversity. Some have a religion that is all ordinances; some, that is all spirit; some, that is of a partially mixed nature, having doth ordinances and spiritual influence, but the