

vividness, therefore, which history fails to impart may in some measure be supplied by them—by those earnest, faithful, energetic, self-denying, and successful labourers, who are here and there (O that there were more of them !) working in the moral field of the world. I mean that we may imagine, in some degree, what Paul was, as an apostle, by the labours and sacrifices of such men, and what he was in death by the triumph of those who depart in the faith of Christ. We do not forget that Paul was inspired, neither would we detract one whit from his intellectual greatness or his sanctified piety ; but there are men whom, we sometimes think, it would not derogate even from Paul to compare with him in piety and in labours, not in inspiration. Now it does, I confess, help me to contemplate our apostle with, as I imagine, greater reality, to compare his self-denying labours with those of Wesley, and his ardent piety with that of Fletcher, and his burning eloquence with that of Whitefield, and his noble and