

SERMON.

We are unto God a sweet savour of CHRIST, in them that are saved and in them that perish. To the one we are the savour of death unto death, and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?—2 Cor. ii. 15, 16.

WERE any one, moved with an ambition to excel, to enquire how he might be sure of occupying a high and lofty station in life, I know not how we could better direct him towards the attainment of his object than by placing before him in its true light the office of the CHRISTIAN MINISTER. Other professions, it is true, offer more to captivate and allure the young man of narrow views or small powers of thought; the gratification of a vain-glorious temper and the love of enterprise draw away very many to the pursuit of ARMS,—an ambitious craving after distinction and the love of power lead others in their youth to seek the prominent position which the BAR and the SENATE offer,—a more enlarged and philanthropic turn of mind marks out the study of MEDICINE as their pursuit to others, who desire to benefit their fellow-men, but look no farther than this present life and the alleviation of bodily suffering; others, again, with lofty views of intellectual greatness, thirsting after knowledge themselves, and desiring to raise the general standard of mental excellence higher, devote themselves to the various branches of SCIENCE to which circumstances or the peculiar bias of their own physical temperament lead them. And they find their ambition gratified, and gain their end: and all these and other secular professions produce numbers of men who attain the distinction which their youthful ambition proposed to their pursuit, and learn at the same time by experience to see the vanity of