

who pursues his plans with unabating vigour and ambition, mapping out his future course and figuring up the successes he anticipates, drops down into the furrow with his hand upon the plough. Even the aged, who bend and totter as they walk beneath the burden of their years, and they who have been long pining and wasting under some slow but treacherous malady, are frequently surprised by the unlooked-for summons which at length bids them depart and be no more. Thus uncertain are the movements of death, and thus varying the mode of his operations ; and in these respects the figure of the natural night is inappropriate.

But when we think of death in its actual happening unto all, whatever be the light and shade which play around the dwelling-place of mortals, and whatever be the hopes and fears which alternately possess the hearts of the living, we see that there is something here which may be fitly represented by the coming of the natural night. The original law of separation, which, as we read in the first page of Genesis, was appointed to divide the day and night, and which includes the law of their perpetual succession, is still in force, not to be interrupted or repealed while this globe shall continue to perform its diurnal revolutions. As long as the works of creation shall endure, this memorial of them shall stand, and by its continuance supply a constantly recurring emblem of