

possession, and that when under the influence of passion ; they have given way to those indulgences, which were highly injurious to the general order, peace, and welfare of society. Such persons are justly represented as preferring darkness to light ; and wishing, if it were possible, to subvert that order which God has established in his works.

But what demands our particular attention is this ; that in addition to those errors which men commit, from ignorance or depravity of character, and which we must condemn as bad the moment that we know of their existence ; there are other errors in point of conduct against which no positive laws have been enacted ; at least, laws, which admit of being enforced by human means. They are not cognizable at any human tribunal ; and yet they are exceedingly pernicious to the peace and welfare of society. Independent of the evils which these errors produce in society, they debase and degrade the feelings and the understandings of those persons who are guilty of committing them. They produce deeds which are ashamed to see the light, they love darkness, and take refuge in the shades of night.— To this class of evil deeds, belong envy, ma-