

Tables are the foundation, after prefacing his laws with the sanction of religion, commences the first of his laws in these words :

Let those who approach the gods be pure and undefiled ; let their offerings be seasoned with piety, and *all ostentation of pomp omitted* ; the god himself will be his own avenger on transgressors. Let the gods and those who were ever reckoned in the number of celestials be worshipped, and those, likewise, whom their merits have raised to heaven, such as Hercules, Bacches, Æsculapius, Castor, Pollux, and Romulus ; and let chapels be erected in honor to those qualities, by whose aid mortals arrive thither, such as *reason, virtue, piety and good faith*.

CIRCUMAMBULATION.

It was the ancient custom to use circumambulation during the performance of religious ceremonies.

In *Greece*, while the sacrifice was in the act of consuming, the priests and people walked in procession around the altar *thrice*, singing the sacred hymn, which was divided into three parts, the *Strophe* the *Antistrophe* and the *Epode*.

While the first part was chanted, they circumambulated in a direction from east to west, emblematical of the *apparent* motion of the heavenly bodies ; at the commencement of the second part they changed their course, and proceeded from west to east, pointing out the *real* motion, and during the performance of the *Epode*, they remain stationary around the altar, a symbol of the stability of the earth, waiting for some propitious omen which might announce the divine acceptance of the sacrifice.

In *Britain*, the devotional exercises of the insular sanctuary were conducted on a similar principle. Ceremonial processions moved around it, regulated by the mystical numbers, and observing the course of the sun ; sometimes moving slowly and with solemn gravity, chanting the sacred hymn of *Ilu* ; at others the devotees advanced with great rapidity, using impassioned gestures, and saluting each other with Secret signs. This was termed :—"the mystical dance of the Druids." The circular motion was intended to symbolize the motion of the earth and to give an idea of God's immensity, which fills the universe.

WHITE THE EMBLEM OF PURITY.

The color of *white* being made a symbol of purity and innocence, probably owes its origin to the following notion of the ancients : As the *Constellations* of summer accompanied the season of long, warm and unclouded days, and that of fruits, and harvests, they were considered as the powers of light, fecundity, and creation, and by a transition from a physical to a moral sense, they became genii, angels of science, of beneficence, of purity and virtue : and as the constellations of winter were connected with long nights and polar fogs, they were the genii of darkness, of destruction, of death, and, by transition, angels of ignorance of wickedness, of sin and of vice.

Now, as the earthly states, the greater part despotic, had already their monarchs, and as the sun was apparently the monarch of the skies the summer hemisphere, empire of light, and its constellations, a people of *white* angels, had for king an enlightened God, a creator intelligent and good. And as every rebel fraction must have its chief, the heaven of winter, the subterranean empire of darkness and woe, and its stars a people of *black* angels, giants or demons, had for their chief a malign