

“ but not in Despair ; persecuted, but not forsaken ; cast down, but not destroyed ; always bearing about in the Body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the Life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our Body†.”

He then proceeds to lay before the Corinthians the great Advantages arising from Afflictions, to animate them in their Christian Course, and reconcile them to those Pressures. “ We faint not,” says he ; but tho’ our outward Man perish, yet the inward Man is renewed Day by Day. For our light Affliction, which is but for a Moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal Weight of Glory.\*”

THE greatest Sufferings here will soon have an End. Compared to Eternity, their Duration is but as a Moment. A State of endless Glory succeeds, which will more than compensate for them. This bright Prospect beyond the Precincts of Mortality outweighs all the Christian’s Trials, however severe. A Ray of cheering Light and Hope is hence darted on him, which dispels his Gloom, raises him from Despondency, and invigorates his Resolution. With this Reflection he may sit down, not only resigned, but even joyful under the keenest Afflictions.

IN the Chapter from which my Text is taken, the Apostle pursues the same Point, tho’ placed in a different View. He tells the Corinthians, that supposing even the worst---suppose his Persecutors were carried so far by their malignant Rage as to put the Christian to Death ; he would only change an

† II Corinth. iv. 8---10.

\* V. 15, 17.