

NO. 1.

THE BANEFUL EFFECTS OF INTEMPERANCE ON THE MIND; AND,  
ABSTINENCE, AS A CURE FOR IT IN THE PRESENT STATE OF  
SOCIETY, SUPERIOR TO MODERATION.

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B 82

## A SERMON.

PREACHED IN

THE REV. DR. WARDLAW'S CHAPEL, GLASGOW,

ON THE EVENING OF SABBATH, THE 29TH MAY, 1831.

BY THE REV. ARCHIBALD BROWNING.

TILlicouLTRY.

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1 PETER, II. 11.—*Abstain from fleshly lusts, which war  
against the soul.*

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WE are destined to an immortal existence. Our mental powers are capable of expansion and invigoration to a degree, in all probability far beyond what we can, at present conceive. The works and the ways of God, the development of the character of that great Being, who is infinite in resources, furnish a field of immeasurable extent for the exercise and improvement of these powers.

Communion with God, as it is the repose of all the loftiest and purest affections of our nature, is the only spring of perpetual mental improvement, and of lasting happiness. And, as it is only in Christ that God is reconciling the world to himself and imputes not to men their trespasses, it is evident that it is only in Christ we can enjoy communion with him.

The gospel is the only medium through which we can converse with God in Christ. The gospel is a revelation of the mercy of a holy God to perishing sinners, on the foundation of the atonement and righteousness of the Son of his love. It is a body of divine truth, so imbued with a spirit of holiness, wisdom, and love, as to purify, strengthen, and render active, intelligent and happy, every mind of which it takes full possession. Its aim, its tendency, and its effect, is to assimilate man to his Maker, and, in that way to introduce him to a reverential, but friendly and pleasing intercourse with him.