

the time of probation and free choice is past : the part we have selected whilst here, that the "just judge" will confirm as ours forever. Were we to think occasionally and seriously on the inevitable judgment, and the awful issues it involves, we would assuredly lend a more ready ear to the pitying and pleading voice of our loving Father seeking to wean us from our folly. "O ye sons of men, how long will ye be dull of heart? Why do you love vanity and seek after lying."—(Psl. IV, 3).

Yes, with all our loud talk about our love for truth, the fine scorn affected for the small prevarications of the poor and needy, the sad fact remains that the sons of men love vanity, and seek after lying. The great primary truths of God's existence, power and providence are clearly written over the face of nature : our free will, our accountability, our immortality, are easy conclusions of our reasoning faculties ; our conscience like a faint, yet unmistakable, echo of God's voice, raises the warning cry—"fly from evil ; do good,"—and the ever-living witness and bearer of God's message to man, the Church, teaches with authority justified by her credentials the safe road to eternal happiness. Notwithstanding all this, what do we frequently behold ? Men shutting their eyes to these evidences of unchangeable truth, and eagerly perusing an account of some physical phenomena by which it is sought to prove the non-existence of a Creator, or of a human soul. They will never read a book whose author reasons logically from well-established principles, nor one in which the doctrines of our Religion are explained and demonstrated. Yet, they pretend to be anxious to learn the truth. Is their search, then, an honest one ? Is their rejection of long-held beliefs a rational, or a reasoned one ? Surely not. They wish to not believe, and the ever-vigilant tempter leads them gradu-