

HINTS, &c.

CHAPTER I.

QUESTION PROPOSED—MEANS OF REPLY— NATURE OF MAN—LAW OF EXERCISE.

“ So God created man in his own image; in the image of God created he him.” Gen. i. 27.

“ Exercise thyself unto Godliness.” 1 Tim. iv. 7.

It has been already stated that the Almighty Creator gave existence to man, and the world which he inhabits, as the means which seemed best, in the judgment of Infinite Wisdom, for accomplishing some *purpose* which he had in view; and that, to know that purpose, and labour for it, comprehend “the whole duty of man.” All things, both within us and around us, conspire to declare that God has some design to answer by our existence; to this consequently all our powers, and the time allotted us for exercising them, should be faithfully consecrated; for no portion of either of these, however small, can be devoted to any other object without