

not the sanctity of moral rule; for we are clearly as responsible for the exercise of our passions and affections as for the other faculties of our nature. Whatever may be the clouds first raised by the subtilty of man, and still hanging over certain moral questions, practically we feel that we are free; and the judgment of conscience declaring to us that we are responsible for our deeds, is recorded in the language and institutions of every civilized nation in the history of the world. If this does not satisfy the metaphysician, it is at least enough for the christian moralist; whose rule of life is simple, and whose light is clear.

Leaving, however, all dark questions connected with the determination of the human will; let us for a moment consider men as they are, and the obvious motives of their actions. However they may differ in the natural strength or cultivation of their individual powers, there are the same essential elements in all; and morally speaking one man seems to be distinguished from another, only by the direction and expansion he has given to his innate faculties, and the governing power he has gained over them. We see one obeying the movements of

life, and that faith is worthless unless it influence the will: yet, on his own system, the will is never determined by a mere perception of the greatest positive good. In short, whatever practical view we take of human nature, faith, in the sense in which the word is used by Locke, is of no value unless there be added to it some of that very element of assent which he condemns under the name of enthusiasm. Without the co-operation of the affections, the influence of christian rule would soon be extinguished within the bosom—would go out like fire in a damp vault for want of the air of heaven to keep it burning. I have thought it right to point out this inconsistency, because it involves consequences of great importance: and the chapters last referred to, are written with an energy and spirit most captivating to the judgment of young minds.