

not be without a superior, for sin will reign in their mortal bodies, and they will obey it in the lusts thereof. Nor will any get rid of all worship by banishing a pure worship. The conscience will have a creed ; if denuded of religion, it will put up with superstition, and the chance is, that in extirpating piety you restore paganism. Nor will atheism guarantee a civil liberty. It promised to do so in France : the promise, indorsed by philosophy and adorned by eloquence, was believed, and the wished-for sceptre was put into its hand. But its reign was a reign of terror, its history was a chronicle of butcheries, and it perished by its own suicidal violence, amid the loathing and horror of all civilised nations. Or, if any object to foreign examples, go back to the history of our own country. Revert to the struggles which secured that measure of freedom in the exercise of which we complain of restrictions, and claim to be relieved. Was it atheism that won for us these rights ? The chivalry of free-thinking ? No ; the atheist cannot afford to die. He has nothing to serve but time ; and what, then, should he be but time-serving ? The victory was gained by those who entered into