

ourselves witness exemplified in so many of its details ; and then should we look on the sufferings of the present state as but the throes and the portents of some great coming enlargement going before, and even working out a far more exceeding happiness and glory to those who are exercised thereby. We do not say, that upon any observation of ours, we can found such an hypothesis, as shall give to Nature the full and positive assurance of a surpassing compensation for evil in the present system of things : But it is, at least, such an hypothesis, as should suspend, if it do not solve, the objections of the infidel—and leave to the proper evidences of Religion, whether Natural or Revealed all that inherent and native strength, which originally belongs to them.

24. We cannot take leave of this subject without adverting, for one moment, to the writings of Leibnitz ; and to a certain peculiar interest and charm which they possess in relation to Theology. There is, in some of his philosophic speculations, an extravagance which we very much regret, because of the general discredit which it has laid on him, and which extends even to his sounder and better views. It has been said of Thomson, that he looked at every thing with the eye of a poet. We would say of Leibnitz that he looked at every thing with the eye of a lofty academic—and in virtue of which he presents us, not with a substantially different orthodoxy from the Fathers of the Reformation—but he recommends it to minds of a certain cast, presented as it is by him in the complexion, and couched in the phraseology of general science. We