

within us does not speak so loudly or so distinctly the evil of this transgression, as it does of falsehood, or of injurious freedom with the property of a neighbour, or of personal violence. Other forces than those of human prudence or human principle seem to have been necessary, for resisting a most powerful and destructive fascination, which never is indulged, without deterioration to the whole structure of the moral character and constitution ; and which, when once permitted to lord it over the habits, so often terminates in the cruel disruption of families, and the irretrievable ruin and disgrace of the offender. It is not by any prospective calculation of ours that this natural modesty, acting as a strong precautionary check against evils which, however tremendous, we are too heedless to reflect upon, has been established within us. It is directly implanted by One, who sees the end from the beginning ; and so forms altogether a most palpable instance, in which we have reason to congratulate ourselves, that the wellbeing of man, instead of being abandoned to himself, has been placed so immediately under the management of better and higher hands.

15. There are many other special affections in our nature—the principal of which will fall to be noticed in succeeding chapters ; and the interests to which they are respectively subservient form a natural ground of division, in our treatment of