

sincere happiness He awards to them, is happiness through the medium of virtue ; that still He is willing to be the dispenser of joy substantial and unfading, but of no such joy apart from moral excellence ; that He loves the gratification of His children, but He loves their righteousness more ; that dear to Him is the happiness of all His offspring, but dearer still their worth ; and that therefore He, the moral governor, will so conduct the affairs of His empire, as that virtue and happiness, or that vice and misery shall be associated.

11. We have already said, that, by inspecting a mechanism, we can infer both the original design of him who framed it, and the derangement it has subsequently undergone—even as by the inspection of a watch, we can infer, from the place of command which its regulator occupies, that it was made for the purpose of moving regularly ; and that, notwithstanding the state of disrepair and aberration into which it may have fallen. And so, from the obvious place of rightful supremacy which is occupied by the conscience of man in his moral system, we can infer that virtue was the proper and primary design of his creation ; and that, notwithstanding the actual prevalence of obviously inferior principles over the habits and history of his life. Connect this with the grand and general adaptation of External Nature for which we have now been contending—even the capacity of that world in which we are placed for