

extinguished during the present state of society, and while the nations amongst whom it is practised continue to be apostates from the knowledge and worship of their Creator. While the souls of the sons of Adam are thus enslaved and sold under sin, it seems improbable that God's time for their general emancipation from bodily slavery should be at hand; but when their heart *shall turn to the Lord*, this, and numberless other evils, at his bidding, and by instruments that he appoints, will cease. The best way therefore of accomplishing this object is by providing means, wherever God has made an opening, for the education of the negroes, and for training them to habits of industry and order: to give them freedom before they are qualified to use it for the benefit of society, is giving them not a boon, but a curse.

NOTE 17, p. 117.—*Should another and last cloud of error envelope the world with darkness.* There are many passages of Holy Writ, from which it appears that, before the final triumph of the gospel, there shall be a time of great spiritual darkness upon earth; and it seems also to be intimated that this reign of evil shall be brought on by men that *despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities*,* who shall promise *liberty* to their followers, while they themselves are *the servants of corruption*;† who shall resemble Corah, and his companions in rebellion, Dathan and Abiram,‡ and rise up against their civil and ecclesiastical rulers; and who shall for a time prevail against them, as seems to be intimated by one of the most ancient prophecies in the Bible: *Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse-heels, so that his rider shall fall backward.*§ So says the venerable patriarch, in his valedictory and prophetic address to his twelve sons

* Jude 8.

† 2 Pet. ii. 9, 19.

‡ Numb. xvi. 1—3, 31—35.

§ Gen. xlix. 17.