

it the dependent universe : but comparing this assemblage with that One Being, it becomes, in the comparison, a shadow of existence, “less than nothing and vanity;” mere emptiness. THIS BEING is GOD ; not an object perceived by our organs of sense, but the Object of pure mental conception. He is MIND, in the highest sense ; existing necessarily, and therefore having always existed and always to exist ; a free-agent, of infinite intellectual and moral perfection ; upon whom all other beings depend as their Originator, Preserver, and Benefactor, their Proprietor and Lawgiver, their Judge and Rewarder ; the supremely wise, holy, and powerful Basis of the universe. Unbiased reason, no less than the book of revelation, utters the voice of satisfaction and gladness ; “ Give unto Jehovah the glory DUE unto his name ; O, worship Jehovah in the beauty of holiness !—For of Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things ; to whom be glory for ever !”

. Of the existence and perfections, the providence and efficient activity, of this glorious Being, we have every kind and degree of evidence that can warrant the reception of any moral truth whatever. If any honest-hearted inquirer entertain a doubt, it is sufficient to refer him to the volumes of Ray and Derham, Clarke, Paley, and the authors of the Bridgewater Treatises.

Neither is this the place for adducing evidence that rational creatures are *accountable*, and that the Supreme Being exercises a moral government over them. The writings of Butler alone are sufficient for this purpose. We are convinced also, upon the most satisfactory grounds, that this Wise and Gracious Being has been pleased to give the elements of positive knowledge to mankind, sufficient to inform us upon subjects which it most highly concerns us to know, but of which, without such information, it would be utterly impossible for us,