

are altogether significant of moral changes, are questions, the resolution of which I presume not to assert.\*

IV. There remains another object of my heart's desire, with which, if I might be gratified, my prayers would be answered, and my joy be unspeakable. Might I but hope that those sons of science, to whose labours and our obligations for them so frequent reference has been made, would be persuaded to give to the noblest objects of contemplation, a portion of their attention *correspondent* to that which they have devoted to objects valuable indeed, but infinitely inferior;—happy should I be, beyond expression!

The philosophers, whose names form a wreath of honour to our own and other nations, cannot but be objects of regard, with feelings of interest and solicitude to which no words can give full utterance.—Illustrious men; we look up to you with more than respect: we admire and reverence you. Your early acquisitions in mathematics and the exact sciences, in all that could lay the foundation of an enduring edifice; your separation from the frivolity and vice to the temptations of which you have been exposed; your devotement of youth and manly age, of fortune, health, labour and peril, and severe studies; your generous readiness in giving to the public the fruit of your toils; the debt which physical science owes you; the benefits which you have conferred upon society, for economical and national purposes; the excitement and encouragement which you have so readily given, through wide circles of influence;—all entitle you to our honour and affection.

But these reasons add to the justness and warmth of our wishes, that you would adorn all other excellence with the pearl of greater price. Your penetration into

\* See page 193.