

folded in infinite splendor the glories of the eternal God ; and there the Lamb that was slain is enthroned the chiefest among ten thousands, and altogether lovely. There is gathered in sweet communion and everlasting love the countless throng of the angels of light ; and as they take up their golden harps, the whole company of the redeemed from earth join in the sweet song of Moses and the Lamb. It is the New Jerusalem, whose foundations are precious stones, whose gates are pearls, and whose pavements are gold ; the city through which flows the river of the water of life, with the tree of life on its banks ; the city whence all that is sinful and all that is mortal is forever excluded ; the city where every thing grand, and beautiful, and attractive to a pure mind meets together. And yet this man can look with stupid unconcern upon the picture, and feel not one desire to be of the number who are admitted to its joys. Nay, he turns away with loathing from the sight, and says to the vanities of the world, These be my portion — these the objects to which my heart cleaves with fond desire, and which I prefer to heaven. O, is it not a contemptible choice for an immortal soul, made in the image of God ? And yet it is a most common choice. All around us we see multitudes deliberately preferring earth to heaven — a world of change, of ignorance, sin, sickness, and death, to a world where all is permanent, and holy, and happy.

But, blessed be the power of God's grace, there are some who have given up their hearts to the full influence of that glorious world, and feel from day to day its mighty attractions. Though not insensible to the affairs of this world, they are more alive to that which is unseen and eternal. They have learned to relish the employments, as well as the enjoyments, of heaven. Often, in the retirement of the soul,