

that happiness arose, and in which it centred. Alone, and undistracted by the presence of surrounding friends, the widowed mother approaches in mournful silence the consecrated aisle; where, softly clasped in each other's arms, she sees her beloved children resting in the repose of sleep rather than of death: and gazing on them with intense affection, she feels not sorrow for a while; but, indulging in a dream which almost realizes her past happiness, would fold her treasures to her bosom, were she not too conscious that the cold embrace would dissipate the fond illusion.

### SECT. III.

#### *Gems and precious Stones.*

If it were the purpose of this treatise to point out the adaptation of external nature to the moral as well as to the physical condition of man, it might be easily shewn, that, however an undue degree of attention to outward ornaments is blamable, a moderate degree of attention is both allowable and right: otherwise, and it is an instance that outweighs all others, it would not have been observed in the decorations of the temple of Solomon, nor in the original ordinations respecting the dress of the Levitical priesthood. Those substances consequently, which are capable of being applied to ornamental purposes, become, in our mode of using them, a test of virtue, in the same manner as our ordinary