

THE HAND,
ITS MECHANISM AND VITAL ENDOWMENTS,
AS EVINCING DESIGN.

CHAPTER I.

IF we select any object from the whole extent of animated nature, and contemplate it fully and in all its bearings, we shall certainly come to this conclusion : that there is design in the mechanical construction, benevolence in the endowments of the living properties, and that good on the whole is the result. We shall perceive that the sensibilities of the body have a relation to the qualities of things external, and that delicacy of texture is, therefore, a necessary part of its constitution. Wonderful, and exquisitely constructed, as the mechanical appliances are for the protection of this delicate structure, they are altogether insufficient ; and a protection of a very different kind, which shall animate the body to the utmost