

remarked here, that colours have usually been considered as offering to us, a striking instance of the benevolence of the Deity. Colours are universally agreeable to mankind ; the most incurious and ignorant being attracted by, and delighted with, showy exhibitions of them. Now, all this pleasure is the gratuitous gift of the Creator ; and places his benevolence in the strongest possible point of view. There was no reason why man should have distinguished colours at all, much less have been delighted with them : but what is the fact ? not only are we gifted with organs exquisitely sensible to the beauty of colours ; but, as if solely to gratify this feeling, the whole of nature, from the highest to the lowest of her productions, forms one gorgeously coloured picture ; in which every possible tint, is contrasted or associated in every possible manner. Is there a human being who can witness the splendid colouring of the atmosphere above him by the setting sun ; who can witness the beauty and endless variety of tint displayed by every object of the landscape around him, down to the minutest insect or flower or pebble at his feet ; who is conscious of the pleasure he derives from these objects ; and who reflects, that this pleasure was not necessary to his existence, and might have been withheld ? Is there, we ask, a human being who duly