

the instruction which our redeemer thus opens to us, that we may not faint under the most painful trials, but put our trust in him, even in him who sent an angel to feed Elijah in the wilderness; who fed a multitude with a few barley loaves, and is now as attentive to the wants of his people as ever.

The prophet Isaiah, represents the unrighteous doings of the Israelites toward the poor, as the fruits of an effeminate life, "As
" for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them; what
" mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces,
" and grind the faces of the poor, saith the
" Lord God." Then he mentions the haughtiness of the daughters of Sion, and enumerates many ornaments, as instances of their vanity, to uphold which, the poor were so hardly dealt with, that he sets forth their poverty, their leanness and inability to help themselves, in the similitude of a man maimed by violence or "beaten to pieces," and forced to endure the painful operation of having his face gradually worn away in the manner of grinding.

And I may here add, that at times, when I have felt true love open my heart towards my fellow creatures, and been engaged in weighty conversation in the cause of righteousness, the instructions I have received under these exercises, in regard to the true use of the outward gifts of God, have made deep and lasting impressions on my mind.

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