

380. ON DIVINE ADMONITIONS.

“Thine own wickedness shall correct thee,
 “and thy backslidings shall reprove thee;
 “know therefore and see, that it is an evil
 “thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken
 “the Lord thy God, and that my fear is not
 “in thee, saith the Lord God of hosts.” Jer.
 ii. 17, 19.

My mind hath often been affected with
 sorrow, in beholding a wrong application of
 the gifts of our heavenly Father; and those
 expressions concerning the defilement of the
 earth have been opened to my understanding,
 “The earth was corrupt before God, and
 “the earth was filled with violence.” Gen.
 vi. 11. Again, Isaiah xxiv. 5. “The earth
 “also, is defiled under the inhabitants there-
 “of, because they have—broken the ever-
 “lasting covenant.”

The earth being the work of a divine pow-
 er, may not as such be accounted unclean;
 but when violence is committed thereon, and
 the channel of righteousness so obstructed,
 that “in our skirts are found the blood of
 “the souls of poor innocents; not by a se-
 “cret search, but upon all these.” Jerem.
 ii. 34. *

When blood, shed unrighteously, remains
 unatoned for, and the inhabitants are not
 effectually purged from it, when they do not
 wash their hands in innocency, as was figur-
 ed in the law, in the case of one being found
 slain;

* See a caution and warning to Great-Britain and her co-
 lonies, page 31.