

The prophet Jeremiah represents the degrees of preparation toward idolatrous sacrifice, in the similitude of a work carried on by children, men, and women. "The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead the dough to bake cakes for the queen of heaven." Jer. vii. 18.

It was a complaint of the Lord against Israel, through his prophet Ezekiel, that "they strengthened the hands of the wicked, and made the hearts of the righteous sad." Ezek. xiii. 12.

Some works of iniquity carried on by the people were represented by the prophet Hosea, in the similitude of ploughing, reaping, and eating the fruit; "You have ploughed wickedness, reaped iniquity, eaten the fruit of lying, because thou didst trust in thy own way, to the multitude of thy mighty men." Hosea x. 13.

I have felt great distress of mind since I came on this island, on account of the members of our society being mixed with the world in various sorts of business and traffic, carried on in impure channels. Great is the trade to Africa for slaves; and in loading these ships abundance of people are employed in the manufactories.

Friends in early time refused, on a religious principle, to make or trade in superfluities, of which we have many large testimonies on record, but for want of faithfulness some gave way, even some whose examples