

POETRY.

For the Presbyterian

"THEY THAT SOW IN TEARS SHALL REAP IN JOY."

BY R. O.

Our tears shall turn to shining pearls,
If they are wept for sin,
And be an ornament of grace
When we shall enter in—
To the fair land of love and light,
Where all is holy, pure, and bright.

The tears we shed for others woo—
Shall turn to diamonds rare,
And form a glorious diadem
A seraph's brow might wear;
Archangels on their thrones of bliss
Can boast no brighter crowns than this.

Our tears of grief and agony
Shall change to beautiful flowers,
And cluster round our pathway bright
Amid the blissful bowers
Of Eden's fair and happy ground,
And shed unying fragrance round.

Come then, ye sad and weary ones,
If we must weep these tears,
We'll weep as though we wept them not,
And, smiling at our tears,
Look up, and wait the happy day
When Christ shall wipe all tears away.

Osnabruck, Feb. 15th, 1853.

HYMN FOR THE NEW YEAR.

MDCCCLIII.

BY DR. RAFFLES (OF LIVERPOOL.)
GEN. XLVII. 9.

"Few and evil," said the sage,
"Have my years of travel been
In this weary pilgrimage,
In this world of toil and sin;
Nor have I as yet attained
To the years my fathers knew."
Thus the ancient saint complained,
Such the Patriarch's sad review.

Was it thus to him? No less
Mingled, chequered is it still:
Mingled gladness and distress.
Chequered scenes of good and ill;
Joy and sorrow, hope and fear,
Days of sunshine, nights of gloom,
Constitute our portion here,
Mark our journey to the tomb.

But we seek a land afar,
Glorious realms as yet unseen;
Skies where no malignant star
Sheds its influence o'er the scene;
Regions of perennial spring,
Lands where endless summer glows,
Autumn sheds no withered thing,
Wintry tempest never blows.

Wherefore then should we remain?
Give a world like this our heart?
Lo! the new-born year again
Warns us quickly to depart.
No continuing city here,
Here no portion, rest, or home;
Let us with a soul sincere
Seek a city that's to come.

There be all our treasure stored,
Riches durable and vast;—
Better than the miser's hoard,
Wealth that evermore shall last.
Ceaseless ages, as they roll,
Cannot lessen or destroy;—
Bliss, immortal as the soul,
Source of never-failing joy.

Hark! angelic voices sound,
Straus celestial greet my ear,
"Rise, and quit this earthly ground,
What should make thee linger here?
All things here shall fade away,
All around thee droop and die;
Gird thy loins, and haste away
Seek thy mansion in the sky."

SONNET

ON THE DEATH OF THE REV. DR. MACKINTOSH,
ABERDEEN.

MODEST—kind-hearted—liberal-minded—free
From bigot zeal and sanctimonious gloom;
Yet in a better sense and high degree
A minister of Jesus, in the bloom
Of manhood, when his mind, by Heaven
adorned
With more than common talents, might have
turned
To great account its treasure,—to the tomb
Has gone: Ah! who will ever fill his room
In hearts who loved him well? These are not few,
Nor few their tears. All, who the good man knew,
Him loved.

The Preacher says, "For Death prepare,
Who comes oft suddenly with stealthy feet".
And, while he speaks, he little is aware [meet,
How soon himself his Lord in Heaven must
JOHN PETRIE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE LATE PROFESSOR LEE.—This celebrated Oriental scholar and illustrious contributor to Biblical literature died at Barley Rectory, Herts, on the 16th ult. He was born in 1783 at Legnor, Salop, and first set out as carpenter and builder, but soon displayed an unquenchable thirst for philological pursuits, and with no sort of assistance from masters made himself acquainted with the Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Chaldaic, and Syriac languages. When serving his apprenticeship, and also when he wrought as a journeyman, he never neglected his daily avocations, but attended most assiduously to his business, and, notwithstanding the sum of money spent in books, he also managed to procure a chest of tools, worth £25. Being determined to stick to his calling, he was deputed by his brother, Mr. John Lee, to superintend the repairs of the house of the Rev. Mr. J. Cooks at Glasshampton. Whilst superintending this undertaking, a fire accidentally occurred, which at once consumed his tools, &c., and his prospects were at once annihilated "in one devouring flame." Painful as this untoward accident was at the time, it proved eventually to be the turning-point in the subsequent career of this most successful cultivator of letters. In this destitute condition he was commiserated by the Venerable Archdeacon Corbett, who obtained for him the mastership of Bowdler's School, Shrewsbury, and soon after introduced to him the distinguished Dr. Jonathan Scott, who had filled the responsible office of Persian Secretary to Warren Hastings in India. He taught himself in the whole eighteen languages, and translated the Bible into more than one of the eastern tongues. Before death he had attained the highest literary distinctions, being D.D. of the University of Halle, Member of the Société Asiatique of Paris, of the Royal Asiatic Society, of the Ethnographical Society of New York, Honorary Associate of the Royal Society of Literature, Canon of Bristol, Regius Professor of Hebrew in the University of Cambridge, &c. &c.

THE CHAPLAIN OF PITCAIRN'S ISLAND.—The Rev. G. H. Nobbs, lately ordained chaplain of Pitcairn's Island, it is thought, will have to travel 10,000 miles before he rejoins his flock. Previously to quitting Southampton, Mr. Nobbs was honoured with an interview with Prince Albert at Osborne House. His Royal Highness afterwards presented him to the Queen, who showed him much kindness and condescension.

DISCOVERIES IN CHINA.—The return of M. Marchai, of Lunneville, from Peking, after a sojourn of three years at the gates of that city, has created a sensation in the scientific world. He is about to lay before the public a recital of his journey, which took but fifteen days from St. Petersburg. He has collected a vast deal of information respecting the interior of China, and has discovered, amongst other evidences of Christianity in that country long previous to its adoption in Europe, a cross of granite, upon which is graven in Chinese characters an outline of the life and sufferings of Our Saviour, with prophecies relating to the general resurrection of mankind and the final destruction of the globe. This cross bears evident marks of its genuine origin, and is supposed to belong to the second century after Christ. The inscription, which has been submitted to the inspection of a committee of savans, has caused the greatest enoi amongst them; and, while some endeavour to prove it the work of the Jesuits, others are searching diligently for confirmation of the traveller's entire belief in its originality.—Paris Correspondence of the Atlas.

MUNIFICENT ENDOWMENT.—Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Bart., has endowed the church at Greenock with £300 per annum, and £100 for a curate, on condition that daily service shall never cease to be performed.—Standard.

THE NEW PREMIER.—Shortly before the Act was passed, known by the name of Lord Aberdeen's Bill, one of the parishes of which his lordship is patron became vacant. Lord Aberdeen procured a suitable person to fill the vacancy; but he found that the parishioners were dissatisfied and were threatening to keep out the presenter. His lordship called a meeting of the parishioners. A large attendance was the result. His lordship in his own solemn manner said that, as they had met for a very important purpose, the meeting should be opened with prayer. Lord Aberdeen himself opened the meeting with a most impressive prayer. Thereafter his lordship told the audience that he had been anxious to secure a suitable minister for them; he regretted to hear that they were not satisfied; and he added that, if they would state to him why the person whom he had selected should not be settled in the parish, he would recal the presentation. The people were completely disarmed. The prayer much impressed them, and thus the reasonable proposal made by his lordship they could not resist. A most harmonious settlement was the consequence.

DR. CUMMING, OF LONDON.—A London correspondent of an Oxford paper says—It is rumoured that Dr. Cumming, of the Scotch Kirk, is likely to receive some signal mark of favour and distinction from the new Government. Lord Aberdeen being a Scotch Presbyterian, and Lord John Russell an ardent admirer of the revered Doctor, such an occurrence could not certainly excite much surprise. The idea of giving him an English Bishopric, absurd though it may at first thought appear, is not deemed very improbable, coalition being the order of the day; and more especially as it is known that Dr. Cumming has shown an inclination ever and anon to coalesce with the English Church, provided it could be arranged in a spirit of conciliation and mutual forbearance. He would of course have first to be admitted to Holy Orders in the Church. The idea is said to be favourably entertained in the highest quarter; and there are dignitaries in the Establishment, it is thought, who would be but too glad to give their aid in carrying it into effect.

At a meeting of the Free Church Presbytery of Edinburgh, held on Wednesday, it was stated that for the last seven months there had been a decrease in the contributions to the Sustentation Fund, as compared with last year, of £406 17s. 3d. In the contributions of the Schoolmasters' Fund there was a decrease in December of £12, the total sum being £19. In the same month in the previous year it was £231.