

VOLUME IX.—No. 14.]

Poetry.

THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST.

(From the Church of England Magazine.)
The Kingdom of Christ is a subject of the highest importance... O word of truth to cheer...

ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT.

(From Alison's History of Europe.)
The system of government in the East, from the earliest times, has been the same: we have no need to turn to modern travellers for a picture of the social system; it is to be found sketched out in the books of the Old Testament, and faithfully portrayed in the pages of Xenophon and Herodotus.

rent progress presents itself. The rise of power, the growth of civilization, the marvels of opulence, have been far more rapid than in the western world; but, on the other hand, the catastrophes to which they have been subjected have been much more rapid, the degeneracy by which they have been undermined, infinitely more swift in its progress.

land, they would have for once spoke the truth; but this suits not with their plan."
A statement sent home by the Rev. Mr. Weeks, contains many interesting particulars of the condition of many of the churches and congregations of New England in the year 1778. It is therefore given at length:—

nicians in Claremont are increased, but I have been cruelly distressed with fines for refusing entirely to fight against the king. In sundry places where I used to officiate, the church people are all dwindled away. Some have fled to the king's army for protection; some were banished; and many dead."
THE SPIRIT OF PRAYER.
Sir,—I do not use this phrase, "the Spirit of Prayer," in any fanciful or mystic sense, but simply as expressive of that just perception, in the devotional mind, of the most fitting subjects for intercourse and communion with the gracious Lord, and the facility, in such of selecting the most appropriate words, and apt language for giving those subjects utterance in prayer or praise.

of promise. In like manner praise was given for the calling of Abraham, and for the promise that in him and in his seed all the families of the earth should be blessed, "foreseeing that the Saviour Jesus was to come in the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to enlarge the blessing and the covenant of Abraham to all the nations and kindreds of the earth."

thought, what a retirement within the sanctuary of the heart's holiest aspirations, rests upon the bosom of that stream of devotional language, which bears us, from the lowest prostration of self-humbling and confession, to mingle our hearts and voices with the anthem song of rejoicing angels, in the Book of Common Prayer. How strongly can those who unite in it, in the true spirit of prayer, feel realized to them that primary condition of social worship, which extemporaneous prayer can never bring with it:—"If two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in Heaven." It is thus that our very familiarity, by frequent repetition, with its thoughts and language—with such thoughts and such language, which has been so much cavilled at—constitutes the very excellence of our public worship; and that (to use the thought of a valued friend and aged Christian, long since departed), through this very familiarity, the words of the Liturgy cease at length to be notified by the devout heart as the vehicle of its spiritual intercourse; and our public worship assumes to such all the free and unfettered movement of private mental prayer, seeming released, as it were, from the trammels of language for its outbreathing and utterance.