

# THE WESLEYAN.

"HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS."

Scripture.

VOLUME I. HALIFAX, N. S. MONDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 10, 1838. NUMBER 15.

## POETRY.

### TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

And looking up to Heaven, He sighed, and saith unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened.—*ST. MARK, vii. 34.*

THE Son of God in doing good.

Was fain to look to heaven and sigh :  
And shall the heirs of sinful blood  
Seek joy unmix'd in charity ?  
God will not let Love's work impart  
Full solace, lest it steal the heart ;  
Be thou content in tears to sow,  
Blessing, like Jesus, in thy woe.

He look'd to heaven, and sadly sigh'd—  
What saw my gracious Saviour there  
With fear and anguish to divide

The joy of Heaven-accepted prayer !  
So o'er the bed where Lazarus slept  
He to his Father groan'd and wept :  
What saw he mournful in that grave,  
Knowing himself so strong to save ?

O'erwhelming thoughts of pain and grief  
O'er his sinking spirit sweep :—  
"What boots it gathering one lost leaf  
"Out of you seer and wither'd heap,  
"Where souls and bodies, hopes and joys,  
"All that earth owns or sin destroys,  
"Under the spurning hoof are cast,  
"Or tossing in th' autumnal blast ?"

The deaf may hear the Saviour's voice,  
The fetter'd tongue its chain may break,  
But the deaf heart, the dumb by choice,  
The laggard soul, that will not wake,  
The guilt that scorns to be forgiven ;—  
These battle e'en the spells of heaven ;  
In thought of these, his brows benign  
Not even in healing cloudless shine.

No eye but His might ever bear  
To gaze all down that drear abyss,  
Because none ever saw so clear  
The shore beyond of endless bliss :  
The giddy waves so restless hurl'd,  
The vex'd pulse of this feverish world,  
He views and counts with steady sight,  
Used to behold the Infinite.

But that in such communion high  
He hath a fount of strength within,  
Sure his meek heart would break and die,  
O'erburthen'd by his brethren's sin ;  
Weak eyes on darkness dare not gaze,  
It dazzles like the noon-day blaze ;  
But He who seeks God's face may brook  
On the true face of Sin to look.

What then shall wretched sinners do,  
When in their last, their hopeless day,  
Sin, as it is shall meet their view,  
God turn his face for aye away ?  
Lord, by thy sad and earnest eye,  
When Thou didst look to heaven and sigh :  
Thy voice, that with a word could chase  
The dumb, deaf spirit from his place ;

As thou hast touch'd our ears, and taught  
Our tongues to speak thy praises plain,

Quell thou each thankless godless thought  
That would make fast our bonds again,  
From worldly strife, from mirth unblest,  
Drowning thy music in the breast,  
From foul reproach, from thrilling fears,  
Preserve, good Lord, thy servants' ears.

From idle words, that restless throng,  
That haunt our hearts when we would pray,  
From pride's false chime, and jarring wrong,  
Seal Thou my lips, and guard the way :  
For Thou hast sworn, that every ear,  
Willing or loth, thy trump shall hear,  
And every tongue unchained be  
To own no hope, no God, but Thee.

*Keble's Christian Year.*

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

### MEMOIR OF DAVID BALDWIN. By a MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL.

THE father of the youth who forms the subject of this narrative, is a respectable miller in the county of Kings, Long-Island. He has for several years occupied one of those numerous mills moved by the tide-waters of the ocean, which stand along the bays indenting the south-western shore. The wide expanse which these locations present to the eye, the tumultuous roarings of the ocean, with the occasional terror and majesty of the storm, are calculated to give a philosophical, if not a religious turn to the reflecting mind.

David Baldwin, who died April 5, 1833, aged 22, was brought up at one of these mills. His opportunity for education was only that of a common school. But breaking through the disadvantages of his situation, he made very respectable attainments. With the exception of the Latin and Greek languages, he surpassed in general knowledge most of the youth who issue from our collegiate institutions. The powers of his mind were of the first order. Strongly intellectual, he was able to grapple with any subject to which his attention was given. In the accomplishment of his purposes he was unbending, and immovably tenacious of the opinions he embraced ; nevertheless he was kind and condescending in his feelings, sober, quiet and industrious in his habits.

The constant resort to his father's mill by the inhabitants of the adjacent country rendered it a position extremely favourable for exerting an extensive influence : but most unhappily, as it appeared to us, he embraced that system of opinions which regards the Bible as a fable, and Jesus Christ, our blessed Saviour, as an impostor. These sentiments absorbed his whole mind, and completely warped his understanding, in other respects remarkably good ; he became thoroughly versed in the whole system of infidelity ; he knew all the objections and arguments which for two hun-