

renewed child will at death be ushered into some vast, desolate and solitary region? No. The spirit world into which he goes is no unpeopled solitude. If it were, death would be to him the greatest of all losses, from which his soul would shrink back with the utmost horror. But no, the Christian's prospect is overshadowed by no such gloom. His affections have been in course of training for still higher and holier development beyond.

"This is the bud of being—the dim dawn;  
Life's theatre as yet is shut,  
And death, strong death, alone can heave the massy bars.  
The gross impediments of clay remove,  
And make us embryos of existence free."

It is then, most emphatically, that he comes "unto Mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and Church of the first-born which are written in heaven." This is how the Christian dies.

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## MEMORABLE WORDS FROM MEN OF THE OLDEN TIMES.

Many are found in our day who think that the early fathers of the Church were dull and old fashioned, that their way of thinking, and their words of utterance are behind our times. A few exscripts from their writings, occasionally presented, may help to correct impressions so unfounded, and strengthen faith, (never too strong in any of us) in those grand virtues which have given life and adaptation to Christianity in every age. The following words are taken from Clement's "Exhortation to the Heathen," a Tract written more than sixteen hundred years ago.

### THE AUTHOR.

Titus Flavius Clements was originally a pagan philosopher. The date of his birth and of his conversion are unknown. He succeeded his master Pantænus in the Catechetical School, in Alexandria, somewhere about A. D. 189, where he continued to teach till A.D. 202, when he became a fugitive for his faith. He is supposed to have died, A.D. 220.

### IN QUEST OF GOD.

"I seek after God, not the works of God. Whom shall I take as a helper in my inquiry? We do not, if you have no objection, wholly disown Plato. How, then, is God to be searched out, O Plato? "For both to find the Father and Maker of this Universe is a work of difficulty, and having found Him, to declare Him fully is impossible." *Timæus*. Why so? "For he can by no means be expressed," Well done, Plato! Thou hast touched the truth. But do not flag. Undertake with me, the inquiry respecting the Good. For unto all men, whatever, especially those who are occupied with intellectual pursuits a certain divine effluence has been instilled; whereof, though reluctantly, they confess that God is one, indestructible, unbegotten and that some-