

"when so much had been said about the 'prayer test,' and when we scarcely knew whether the faith of the church might not have been shaken for the moment by the universal storm of skepticism. President Wolsey was giving the opening address. After referring to the prevalent skepticism, he looked up with that peculiar twinkle of the eye which we all recollect—at once expressive of denial and satisfaction—and repeated the first stanza of Bishop Coxé's hymn:

'Oh, where are kings and empires now,  
Of old that went and came?  
But, Lord! Thy church is praying yet,  
A thousand years the same!

"For a moment there was silence. In another moment the full significance of the reference had flashed on every mind and the response was instantaneous and universal. Shouts, waving of handkerchiefs from the ladies, clapping of hands, stamping of feet—I never knew anything like it. Round after round continued until the storm of applause ended in a burst of grateful tears. No one doubted that the church still believed in prayer and that the tempest had passed without the loss of a sail."

"When o'er Judea's vales and hills" is the first line of a poem written in 1840, entitled, "Hymn to the Redeemer." From it two beautiful hymns have been selected, whose first lines are:

"How beauteous were the marks divine!"  
"Oh! who like Thee, so calm and bright!"

In some collections the stanzas are combined into one hymn. There are few hymns that surpass those of Bishop Coxé in description of the earthly life of the Redeemer and in expression of love to Him. A stanza commonly omitted is as follows:

"The bending angel stooped to see  
The lisping infant clasp Thy knee,  
And smile, as in a father's eye,  
Upon Thy mild divinity."

His "Watchwords; a Hymn for the Times," appeared in his "Athanasian,"

1840, and afterward in the "*Lyra Sacra Americana*." It is martial in tone and spirit, and is to be classified in the list of hymns on spiritual warfare. Its first couplet is:

"We are living—we are dwelling—  
In a grand and awful time."

Some stanzas are included by the Rev. Lyman Abbott, in his "Plymouth Hymnal," 1894, which are wanting in most hymnals. They are as follows:

"Hark, the onset! Will ye fold your  
Faith-clad arms in lazy lock?  
Up, oh, up, thou drowsy soldier;  
Worlds are charging to the shock.

"Magog leadeth many a vassal,—  
Christ His few, His little ones;  
But about our leaguered castle,  
Rear and vanguard, are His sons!

"Sealed to blush, to waver never;  
Crossed, baptized, and born again,  
Sworn to be Christ's soldiers ever,  
Let us, Lord, at least be men."

The Rev. Charles S. Robinson, D. D., in his annotation of this hymn entitles it "A Call to Service," and suggests that one or two stanzas from another author might well be added to it:

"Men of thought, be up and stirring night  
and day;

Sow the seed—withdraw the curtain—clear  
the way:

Men of action, aid and cheer them, as ye  
may!

There's a fount about to stream,  
There's a light about to beam,  
There's a warmth about to glow,  
There's a flower about to blow;

There's a midnight blackness changing into  
gray.

Men of thought and men of action, clear the  
way!

"Lo! a cloud's about to vanish from the  
day;

And a brazen wrong to crumble into clay.  
Lo! the right's about to conquer: clear then  
way!

With the right shall many more  
Enter smiling at the door;  
With the giant wrong shall fall  
Many others, great and small,

That for ages long have held us for their  
prey.

Men of thought and men of action, clear the  
way!"

One of the British national hymns is,  
"Now Pray We for Our Country." It