

And still, O Lord, Thou art the same,
 Though seated on the throne,
 As when, on that eventful day,
 Thy grace to her was shown :
 THYSELF, the *precious* gift of God,
 Givest those waters *free* ;
 And openest lips, like hers of old,
 To win fresh souls to Thee.

THE MIDDLE WALL BROKEN DOWN.

JOHN IV.

"He that *ascended* is the same that *descended*, that he might fill all things" (Eph. iv). A *Lamb* was seen in the midst of the *throne* (Rev. v.); a *Lamb*, too, as it had been slain. It is He who *purged our sins* here, that is on high set down on the *right hand of the majesty* (Heb. i.). The One who was in the *form of God* became *obedient unto death* (Phil. ii.).

Such passages tell of elevation and of lowliness together ; full, ineffable nearness to God, and yet perfect nearness to us. It is as God and man in one Christ. The *history* of the blessed One is, thus like His *Person*.

Mystery of mysteries ! and yet the needful fact on which all depends, all of God's glory in us, and of our blessedness in Him for ever.

The first chapter of John combines with these thoughts. Christ is there traced from the God-head to the altar ; and in touching these extreme