

Original Poetry.

For the Church. WISDOM.

I sought, in my spirit's darksome night, For Wisdom's wondrous dwelling...

I look'd to the sky's ethereal dome, With its pillars of cloud around it...

There were the stars in their halls on high, Each on its throne of brightness...

I look'd on earth, and her length was seen, And her breadth, with beauty o'erflowing...

And there was ocean's unbounded vast, With its mighty eddies whirling...

The eagle pois'd high o'er the crystal wave, And his arrowy glance seem'd prying...

I ask'd him did Wisdom dwell beneath, Where ocean his tumult calm'd...

The eagle shot by like a falling star, And vanished from view in his fleetness...

"Not on the land, nor yet in the sky, With its pillars of cloud around it...

"Nor yet in the cavern'd chambers deep, Where ocean his chaplet twineth...

"Her home is made in man's inmost heart, When the fear of the Lord hath fill'd it...

"And never, oh! never, while love and fear Forsake not the soul they have enter'd...

Loughboro', November, 1838.

J. H.

CHURCH CALENDAR.

- Dec. 23.—Fourth Sunday in Advent. 25.—Christmas Day. 26.—St. Stephen the Martyr.

JOHN FRANCIS DE LA HARPE.

A CONVERTED INFIDEL.

This individual was born at Paris, Nov. 20, 1739. His parents, though of respectable families, were poor...

His education being finished, he became connected with several literary characters, among whom was Diderot, a confirmed atheist...

The various academies offered to young men of talents the means of rising into notice. These were completely in the hands of the philosophers...

With all his efforts, however, he could not gain a maintenance. He had married a woman of poor parents...

Caressed, and admired, especially by Voltaire himself, La Harpe and his wife remained for a year at Ferney...

At the period of the Revolution, La Harpe became involved in the public misfortunes of France. At first he applauded the destruction of the ancient institutions...

He was obliged to make continual apologies and retractions. At length he could no longer dissemble his sentiments...

Many of his associates had perished on the scaffold; and La Harpe knew not how soon the same fate might be his...

"I was in my prison," says he, "in a little chamber, solitary and desolate. For some days I had read the Psalms, the Gospel, and a few pious books..."

Thus brought by saving mercy, not only to a sense of guilt, but to a knowledge of that Saviour by whom the stain of guilt is obliterated for ever, he employed his time in translating the Psalms into verse...

Various opinions have been formed as to the reality of La Harpe's conversion. By his former associates, as might have been expected, he was esteemed mad...

How awful in their character and in their end are those revolutionary and infidel principles which deluged France with the blood of the noblest of her sons and daughters...

Gospel, or to light in the heart one spark of impurity!—Church of England Magazine.

The Garner.

CHRISTMAS.

By this it appears how suitably a beam of admirable light did concur in the angels' message, to set out the majesty of the Son of God...

HEATHEN CONFIRMATIONS OF SCRIPTURE.

We find an opinion current through Heathen antiquity that all is not right with the human race; that things were not at first as they are now...

PERPETUITY OF THE CHURCH.

Whatever be the temporary issue of the contest, either in parliament or throughout the country, of this we are assured, that the foundations of our Zion are enduring...

CONSCIENCE.

No, we cannot believe you when you would tell us that you are let alone by God. Again we reply that we know better. We know that the young man, who is the slave of his passions...

SILENT PRAYER.

In the extremity of pain, the Christian feels there is no consolation but in humble acquiescence in the Divine will. It may be that he can pray but little, but that little will be fervent...

There is grace in the desire of grace, as there is sin in the desire of sin. They that do nothing, are in the ready way to do that which is worse than nothing.—Mason.

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Toronto, July, 1838. 7.1f.

The Church

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