

pet's sound, we cease to be astonished : we are prepared for any results when power unlimited is wielded. But for the suppression of all manifestation of power, when the most astonishing energies of Omnipotence are called forth, we could not, by human reasoning, have been prepared. To have been told that the conception of an infant in the bosom of its mother, should be a more wonderful work than the creation of other existing beings, and should procure more glory for God, and display all His attributes more, than when suns innumerable, with their systems, burst into light and motion, would have involved at once a disproportion between the end and the apparent means, which would take the work out of the reach of man's understanding, and distinguish it as truly God's. And if we should go on to hear, that in that Infant's birth was to be accomplished the destinies of four thousand years which had preceded it, and prepared the blessing and happiness of as many generations as may follow it; that whatever had been said or done glorious and great till then was all for its sake; still more if we should learn that in that Child were united all the attributes of the Godhead in their unlimited perfection, we must needs be overpowered with astonishment, and feel how unable we are to comprehend, or to search into, the miracles of God's power.

All these mysteries are comprised by St. John in these solemn words:—"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt amongst us, and we saw His glory, the glory as it were of the only begotten Son of the Father, full of grace and truth." (i. 14.) From this we learn that the Word, that is the second person in the adorable