

THE WESLEYAN.

"HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS."

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POETRY.

THE BIBLE.

By Anne Keble.

Hail! Holy Book! thy sacred page!
The living light, thy sacred page,
And every page with holy words
Teach us to love the Kingdom of God,
Whose Kingdom is not of this world,
But of the Father, who is ever with us,
And whose Kingdom is not of this world,
But of the Father, who is ever with us.

Eternal truths of Truth, thy voice,
Thy sacred page, and holy words,
The wayward way of thoughtless youth receive,
Whose hearts are cold, and souls are dead,
Whose hearts are cold, and souls are dead,
Whose hearts are cold, and souls are dead,
Whose hearts are cold, and souls are dead,
Whose hearts are cold, and souls are dead.

Hail Holy Book! while time his course pursues,
And earthly lights, their transient splendours lose,
While earth-born streams to trickling rills decay,
The spirit's food, with bread and buttermilk away,
Shall through thy consecrated channels pour,
Blaze the wide world, and spread from shore to shore,
Circumvent roll, with still augmenting sweep,
Its mighty volume to the boundless deep,
Till every wave, its vital influence feel,
And ocean tribes confess its power to heal;
Till clustered islands, raise the joyful song,
And sea-girt rocks, salvation's strains prolong;
Moses' law, with thankful hearts receive,
Adore his mercy, and his truth believe.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

MEMOIR OF LADY CHICHESTER,

Of Youldon-House, near Barnstable.

By the Rev. John Smith.

LADY CHICHESTER was the youngest daughter of Sir James Hamlyn Williams of Clovilly-Court, and was born in the year 1798. About the year 1823, it would seem that the Holy Spirit unveiled to her mind the empty and unsatisfactory nature of what is called "worldly pleasure," and impressed her heart with the necessity of a life devoted to God, in order to happiness in this state, as well as preparation for a better; and faithful to the light imparted, she

"Gave this world of noise and show,
With all its glittering names, adieu."

The death of a pious sister, Lady Barham, about five years before, was made the means, under God, of strengthening the impressions which she had already

received. This sister, when dying, presented her with a Bible. With such a gift, from such a giver, received at such a solemn season, she was deeply affected: her attention was turned to the sacred volume, and an interest in it excited which she had never before experienced. But as yet, as she has been heard frequently to say, she saw but as "through a glass darkly," and only beheld "man as trees walking," until she opened her school for preaching by the Wesleyan Missionaries, a circumstance in reference to which she has been heard to say, that she "should have to praise God on account of it for ever." The simple way of truth she then saw; in this way she came to the Saviour; and by believing on him with her heart unto righteousness, she obtained the knowledge of salvation by the remission of sins. Assurance of the divine favour was a blessing she enjoyed for nearly three years; and, though frequently and powerfully exercised by painful temptations, she had learned to live by faith; and, however dark the cloud, her eye saw the rainbow, the promise of God; "I am with thee;" "I will keep thee in the hour of temptation;" "My grace is sufficient for thee;" and thus she was enabled to count it all joy when tempted, knowing that the trial of her faith was more precious than gold. (1 Pet. i. 7.) Her humility, arising from a consciousness of her own nothingness, and the majesty and mercy of God, was deep; and she was ready at all times to praise God for the good that was in her, and take the blame of what was evil or erring to herself, always feeling, and frequently expressing the pious sentiment uttered by St. Paul: "By the grace of God I am what I am." Her love to God was sincere, ardent and progressive; and from the conviction that this is the substance of the Christian religion, she earnestly sought, and in a measure enjoyed, that "perfect love, which casteth out fear." She delighted in the retirement of the closet; and, after the example of her Lord and Master, and in obedience to his express command, she often retired from the world, that she might alone converse with her heavenly Friend. To him she unfolded the workings of her heart; into his ear she poured her complaint, and was "heard in that she feared." Her secret chamber was always a Bethel, and frequently the scene of the most rapturous enjoyments; and He whose eye saw her in secret, rewarded her openly. Her delight was in the law of God, and in that law did she meditate day and night. Her acquaintance with the Scriptures was very extensive; and, in conversation with her, I have often felt pleasantly astonished at the readiness with which she could refer to any passage of Scripture bearing on any subject connected with experimental religion. And so anxious was she that others should have the sacred