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Gethsemane and Calvary.

(FROM THE "PRESBYTERIAN HERALD.")

Alpha, Omega of my hope,  
Where Jesus drank the dreadful cup,  
The central spot where sinners meet  
To gaze on scenes so sad, so sweet :  
Oh ! does it not seem passing strange  
That 'midst creation's boundless range,  
No scene should so attractive be  
As darkeome, lone Gethsemane ?

And yet I know that scenes abound  
On this fair earth with beauty crowned ;  
I know that there are flow'rets gay  
Uppringing all around our way ;  
But oh ! this gloomy garden-shade  
The birth-place of our hopes is made ;  
What were the fairest world to me,  
Without thy scenes, Gethsemane !

If there my Saviour had not trod  
The wine-press of the wrath of God,  
Endured the smitings of his sword,  
When my desert was on Him poured ;  
If agonies like these had not  
Been witnessed in this sacred spot,  
A long farewell to hope for me,  
Without thy scenes, Gethsemane !

His sacred knees there pressed the ground,  
While thickest midnight gathered round ;  
Stand still and wonder, O my soul,  
While mighty billows o'er Him roll !

No scene so strange beneath the skies  
Has ever drawn these wondering eyes,  
As where my Saviour bends the knee,  
In gloomy, sad Gethsemane !

And thence to Calvary I go,  
That penitential tears may flow,  
While all my debts—a mountain load—  
My surety cancels with his blood.  
The flames consume the Sacrifice,  
My Saviour bows his head and dies !  
The penal vengeance due to me,  
I learn upon Mount Calvary !

I bathe me 'neath the crimson tide  
The fountain opened in his side ;  
Earth has no other central spot,  
Where all my anguish is forgot.  
Sure nowhere else my heart has felt  
Love, which its adamant can melt,  
As where the Man of griefs I see  
Expiring thus on Calvary !

Oh ! tell me not of scenes more fair !  
Permit my heart to linger here,  
Without a Saviour lifted high,  
A hopeless, ruined wretch were I ;  
Foundation, Head-Stone, First and Last !  
Here be my sweetest moments passed ;  
Till in his glory I shall see  
The man who died on Calvary !