

POETRY.

GRAVES.

BY GEORGE MENZIES, NIAGARA.

Go to the graves, and ask of them,
How notelessly have fled
The days so full of life to thee,
O'er their forgotten dead!

And when thy chequered earthly years
Have run their mystic race,
As hushed will be the foot of time,
Alove thy dwelling place.

Go—if thy spirit fain would learn
The blessedness of prayer—
Go to the graves at even-tide,
And breathe thy vespers there.

O! tread not idly on the spot
Where dreamless sleepers be—
The voiceless dust beneath thy feet,
Once waked and wept like thee.

Each relic there, howe'er minute,
And hid from mortal ken,
Is pregnant with a germ of life,
That will not die again.

The grave is *sacred*—for the dust
Within its dark abode,
Renascent, yet shall walk in all
The glorious light of God!

The grave is *holy*—know ye not,
That He who came to save
The dying from the power of death,
Once slumbered in the grave?

To Him who owned that earthly grave,
The victory was given—
And hopes are clustering round it now,
That link the soul with heaven.

SCOTTISH MISSIONARY MELODY.

BY THE SAME.

We are verily guilty concerning our brother.—Gen. xlii 21.
There is darkness abroad o'er yon beautiful land—
The darkness of Mind—the free spirit is cramped;
And lo! on the brow of the *Christian* a brand
Of rudeness more vile than the red man's is stamped.
Why is it that Mind in that glorious clime,
Should spring into life but to sicken and wither?
Ate we travellers to Zion—then ours is the crime—
“We are verily guilty concerning our brother.”

We are lighted away to the home of our rest,
In the bright land of promise by Bethlehem's Star;
But to those in the deep forest wilds of the West,
The rays of its glory beam faintly afar.
There are Scotsmen in exile, and with them they bear
Home memories that sorrow and time may not
smother;

But the Sabbaths of Scotland, alas! are not there—
“We are verily guilty concerning our brother.”

Away, then, away—the sad struggle is past;
O'er the sleepless Atlantic our vessel is bound;
And the bread that we now on the deep waters cast,
Perchance after many long days may be found.
We have come; but a guerdon more holy than fame,
Hath lured us through anguish and jeopardsy hither
And yet there is room—let the loiterers exclaim,
“We are verily guilty concerning our brother.”

*Upper Canada.

THOUGH HE SLAY ME, YET WILL I TRUST IN HIM.—JOB.

How easy it is to register a vow!
How easy too the willing knee to bow,
And *say* a prayer with soul-deceiving art,
And mock our Maker with an absent heart.
O! keep my heart by thine almighty power.
Great God of grace, in every passing hour;
And let thy Spirit all my thoughts sustain—
For surely thou wilt not be sought in vain.
O! let my trust unshaken stand in thee,
And in thy strength my every purpose be:
What time my heart, deceived from thee would stray,
Then look on Christ, and turn thy wrath away.
When frantic ire and strife around me rage,
And deadly war men with their brethren wage;
When passions fierce disturb the social frame,
And wicked men profane thy holy name;
Make plain my path—my heart inclining still,
To read thy providence, and do thy will:
Or if perchance death's shafts about me speed,
A present help be Thou in time of need.
Let not presumption turn me from the way
Of truth and grace, O Lord! I humbly pray;
But if thy holy cause my frailties blot,
Then in thine anger, Lord, rebuke me not.

Brockville.

FABIAN.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor regrets that he has been under the necessity of omitting the “Practical Sermon” for the present month, for want of room. We offer our apology to “A Layman of the Scottish Church,” for delaying so long the publication of his “*Remarks on the Legislative Incorporation of the Church.*” They will appear in our next. We think it proper, however, to state that we entirely dissent from some of his opinions; and our hope is, that the insertion of his paper may lead to a profitable discussion of the subject treated of in reference to Canada. B. R. “*On the Influence of Example,*” and several other Communications not yet noticed, will receive due attention.