

POETRY.

THE HOUSE OF GOD.

By Rev. G. Bryan.

Great God, I long have lov'd and love
To think of thy fair courts above;
But let me not forget the worth
And beauty of thy house on earth.

O, well I know that thou art there,
To hear the voice of praise and prayer;
That thou art too benign and kind
To go and leave no gift behind.

Then lead my heart to seek the grace
Imparted in that holy place;
And help me, at each visit, more
To prize it than I priz'd before.

And if I must return again
To earthly works and worldly men,
Incline me to review thy will,
And live as in thy presence still.

So when my soul shall be at length
Renew'd in heavenly life and strength,
I shall ascend on wings of love
To worship in thy courts above.

BISHOP JEBB IN SICKNESS.

Effect of Scripture in soothing the mind in the midst of pain.

The life of such a man was one continual preparation for meeting the divine will concerning him. But it should not pass unrecorded, that when it pleased God thus suddenly to visit his faithful servant (by an attack of paralysis) he was found, without as without, in that state of preparation which our blessed Lord Himself (St. Luke xii. 35, 36) has specially recommended and enjoined. For several days before the shock he had been engaged in the study (with him an early and favourite study) of Bishop Hall's contemplations; and on the evening of the attack the book lay open upon his study-table ready to be again taken up had he returned in health. Accordingly, when first able to collect his thoughts they flowed naturally in their usual channel. During the remainder of his continuance he gave himself wholly, at his waking hours, to hearing passages of Scripture read, suited to his present state, to meditating, or making short reflections, upon them. One night, finding himself disturbed from sleep by uneasy dreams, as is usual (at times) in sleep procured by anodynes,* he desired to have something suitable on a religious subject read to him. My brother proposed a Psalm, and was about to begin the beautiful and appropriate 103rd, when the Bishop said, "Read the Psalm that has 'who saveth thy life from destruction,' (that is, Ps. ciii. 4.) He listened with the deepest interest and ecstacy; called for Bishop Horne's Commentary, which gave him much satisfaction, and, immediately after, settled into a calm slumber, which lasted through the night. In the morning he told the physicians of his anodyne, which, they cordially agreed, was far more effectual than any thing they could have prescribed. At another time expatiating, in their presence, upon the matchless beauties of Scripture, he called for the 104th Psalm, and, pronouncing it the simplest ode that ever had come from the mind or pen, even of inspired man, desired that it might be read aloud. The effect none, who had the happiness to be present, can easily forget: his animated eye seemed to nod a comment on each verse, and to impart his own feeling of the divine original. None caught the spirit more fully than his two medical friends; while one of them, Dr. Carroll, a Roman Catholic, could not refrain from expressing the mingled pleasure and edification with which he ministered at the bedside of a protestant Christian bishop.—Foster's Life of Bishop Jebb.

* Medicines intended to sooth pain and procure sleep.

THE HUMAN BODY.

The human body was not made of the celestial elements, light and air, but of the more gross terrestrial objects, by organs of a nature similar to them. In this instance, as in another since God, seemeth to hat "chosen the base things of the world, to confound things honourable and mighty," when, "of the dust of the ground," he composed a frame, superior, in rank and dignity, to the heavens and all their hosts. They whose profession leads them to examine the structure of his astonishing piece of mechanism, these men see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the formation of the human-body. A contemplation of its parts, and their disposition, brought Galen upon his knees, in adoration of the wisdom with which the whole is contrived; and incited him to challenge any one, upon an hundred year's study, to tell how the least fibre or particle could have been more commodiously placed, either for use or beauty. While the world shall last, genius and diligence will be producing fresh proof that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made;" that "marvellous are the works," and, above all, this capital work, of the Almighty; and that the hand which made it, must needs be verily and indeed divine.—Bishop Horne.

SIN AGAINST THE HOLY GHOST.

The sin against the Holy Ghost is nothing else than a slandering and reviling, instead of owning and assenting to that evidence which God has given us of the truth of the Gospel, in the gifts of tongues, prophecy, and other illuminations called the Holy Ghost; so that no man who owns Christ's religion, and thinks he was no impostor; and believes that these miraculous gifts of the Holy Ghost were no magical shows or diabolical delusions, can ever be guilty of it, no; before he arrive to that, he must not only disbelieve this last and greatest evidence, but disparage and rail against it. If then, there be any man who own's Christ's authority, and obeys His laws, and believes His Gospel, and hopes in its promises, and fears its threatenings, and expects that every word of that covenant which was confirmed to us by the infallible evidence of the Spirit and the Holy Ghost shall come to pass, he is not more guiltless of any sin than of this against the Holy Ghost; for he doth not so much as slight and disparage, but owns and submits to it.—Kettlewell.

"I saw among the Youth a Young Man void of Understanding."—Such an one did Solomon see in his day, and such a one we have now in our eye. Who has not such an one in his eye, as he thinks over the youths of his place or neighbourhood?—There he goes a man of the world and of fashion;—He is dressed in all the extravagances of the age;—he visits;—he travels; he feasts;—he drinks;—he dances;—he sings;—he plays, his hours fly like a dream. But who is this with palid cheek, and hollow eyes? It is that young man! Who is this whose trembling limbs can scarce support him as he passes along! It is that "young man!" Who is this that is grown old before his time? Is it that young man? Here he stands, cheerless and broken; his fortunes ruined; his reputation blasted; creditors pursuing him; his wife or his mother broken hearted; and for all seeking happiness in the promised recess of intemperate pleasure.—Frederick Psilor.

Society.—How beautifully is it ordered that, as many thousands work for one, so must every individual bring his labour to make the whole! The highest is not to despise the lowest, nor the lowest to envy the highest; each must live in all and by all. Who will not work, neither shall he eat. So God has ordered that men, being in need of each other, should learn to love each other, and bear each other's burdens.—Godfrey.

A Socialist, named Hardinge, was arrested in Manchester, while lecturing in defence of thieving, under certain circumstances. He was charged with the robbery of 30 pieces of silk, from a coach, and has been committed.—Ulster Missionary.

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C. H. BEECHER

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