

lightening, and sanctifying operations. He has promised to "give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him^b."

Another lesson which we may learn from the fact of our Saviour having gone into heaven is, that He is able to sympathise with us in all the trials and infirmities of life; often they are irksome and painful to bear, but they will not last long, in heaven we shall find rest and peace. Jesus, our High Priest, will bear our infirmities, and vouchsafe such a degree of grace and strength, that shall enable us to bear them patiently, and resignedly to His holy will. And as we look up to heaven in faith at our ascended Lord, we shall behold the accomplishment of the work He begun on earth; but the effect of that work, as regards ourselves, will not be completed, until we shall enter upon our perfect state of "consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in His eternal and everlasting glory."

One thought more. The Ascension of Christ should remind us of the glorious yet awful truth of His second coming. "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heavenⁱ." And as He was the King of glory on the former occasion, so He will be in a manner more conspicuous and awful on the latter; He will "come in the glory of His Father with His angels."

God grant that we may be of the number of those who shall then meet Him with joy and confidence, and "not be ashamed before Him at His coming."

A. R. B.

THE DEW OF HEAVEN.

SEEST thou yon tender bud its leaves unfolding,
 Attracted by the radiance of the sun,
 While still a dew-drop clear its cup is holding,
 Though many hours since morning's dawn have run ?

Methinks 'tis like a maiden fair and lowly,
 Advancing onwards to maturer youth,
 But yet retaining, midst a world unholy,
 Her childhood's happy innocence and truth.

Ah! thus upranted by the World, unswerving,
 May we our stedfast course of life pursue,
 Still in the Cross upon our brow preserving
 The purity of our Baptismal dew.

NINA.

^b Luke xi. 13.

ⁱ Acts i. 11.