

# Poetry.

## THE BYGONE YEAR.

For whosois this that engageth his heart to approach unto me? saith the Lord. Jer. 30 : 21.

A YEAR, another year, is fled ;

Its issues who can tell ?

Millions of voices of the dead

Reply from heaven or hell.

All these were living at the birth

Of the departed year ;

They all have vanish'd from the earth,

We fill their places here.

Though to the eye, the ear, the mind

Of man their speech is seal'd,

The eternal meaning each may find

In two plain words reveal'd.

Lost spirits, from the dark abyss,

Cry mournfully "*Beware!*"

Spirits in g'ory, and in bliss,

Sing joytully "*Prepare!*"

Thus timely warn'd, and moved with fear

Of wrath, let us beware ;

For life or death in this new year,

For earth and heaven prepare.

Who then of those with us this day,

In childhood, youth, or age,

"To love the Lord our God" can say,

"We all our hearts engage?" [Montgomery.]

## A HYMN FOR THE NEW YEAR.

BY REV. DR. RAFFLES.

YESTERAY is past and gone,

Numbered with the things that were :

And to-morrow is unknown ;

None its story can declare.

None can what is past recall :

What is future none secure ;

One event awaits us all,

Only that event is sure.