

THE SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES—VOL. VIII.]

TORONTO, JULY 16, 1887.

[No. 15.]

THE FUNERAL AT NAIN.

THE Bible narration of events in the life of our Lord is necessarily concise in character, the nature of the work precluding introduction of those details which would so add embellishment. Other than the inspired writers have left records and traditions which men of letters and students of life in the East have used to give us vivid portrayals of these acts of God, as, in the flesh, he walked with men through favoured but ungrateful Judea. One of these descriptions, including a sketch of our Lord's general appearance, and the miracle of raising from the dead the widow's son at Nain, we take from the famous work of a contemporary writer, as follows:

"As the funeral procession wound mournfully out of the gate of the city, down the road stretching forth from it, a much larger gathering of people might be seen approaching. The multitude were either being led by or following a man of striking figure some distance in advance. The leader moved slowly; a form slightly above the average in stature, and slender, even delicate. His action was calm and deliberate, like that habitual to men much given to serious thought upon grave subjects; and it well became his costume, which was an undergarment, full-sleeved and reaching to the ankles, and an outer robe called the 'talith.' On his left arm he carried the usual hand-

kerchief for the head, the red fillet swinging loose down his side. Except the fillet and a narrow border at the lower edge of the talith, his attire was of linen, yellowed with dust and road-stains. Possibly the exception should be extended to the tassels,

reddish golden where most strongly touched by the sun. Under a broad, low forehead, under black, well-arched eyebrows beamed eyes, dark-blue, large, and softened to exceeding tenderness by lashes of the great length sometimes seen on children, but

seldom, if ever, on men. As to the other features, it would have been difficult to decide whether they were Greek or Jewish. The delicacy of the nostrils and mouth was unusual to the latter type; and when it was taken into account with the gentleness of the eye, the pallor of the complexion, the fine texture of the hair, and the softness of the beard which fell in waves over his throat to his breast, there were never a warrior but would have laughed at him in encounter; never a gentler who would not have confided in him at sight; never a child that would not, with quick instinct, have given him its hand and whole artless trust; nor might anyone have said he was not beautiful.

"The features, it should be further said, were ruled by a certain expression, which, as the viewer chose,

which were blue and white, as prescribed by law for rabbis. His sandals were of the simplest kind; he was without scrip, girdle or staff.

"The head was open to the cloudless light, except as it was draped with hair—long, slightly waved, parted in the middle, and auburn in tint, with a tendency to

might with equal correctness have been called the effect of intelligence, love, pity or sorrow; though, in better speech, it was a blending of them all—a look easy to fancy as the mark of a sinless soul doomed to the sight and understanding of the utter sinfulness of those among whom it was passing; yet, withal, no one could have



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