

POETRY.

CONFESSION OF THE CONFIRMED.*

By David Paul Brown.

Before thine altar, mighty Lord !—
Thy altar herè on earth—
The heart and knee in bless'd accord
Bow—in this second birth.

Born first in sin—a child of grief,
I spurn'd thy saving grace,
And sought, how vainly, sought relief,
Amidst a fallen race.

In darkness seal'd, in vain the eye
Life's devious path explored ;
I heard no precept from on high—
No word save this—adored.

I saw no cross on Calvary—
I heard no dying groan ;
In riot, rout, and revelry
I liv'd for earth alone.

In pomp, in show and empty pride,
My chief delight I sought ;
What reck'd I that a Saviour died—
What that my soul was bought.

The price was paid—his precious blood,
His suffering on the tree—
Aton'd alike for bad and good—
Aton'd of course for me.

I quaff'd the brimming cup of joy,
And bade the health go round ;
I knew and dreamt of no alloy,
And no alloy I found.

I saw no Circe in the bowl,
I heard no siren's voice ;
But yielded the immortal soul,
To false and fleeting joy.

Time still roll'd on, and every hour
Estrang'd me from above ;
I never felt a Saviour's power—
I only knew his love.

I travers'd o'er life's treacherous seas
With full and flowing sail,
And sporting with the zephyr breeze,
I thought not of the gale.

It came—unthought of—still it came ;
And toss'd and tempest driven,
I found no hope but in thy name,
No refuge but in heaven.

Now—now, dear Lord, my daily food
Defies remorse and dread ;
The wine I drink 's a Saviour's blood ;
His body is my bread.

Celestial life beams on the sight,
In one unclouded ray ;
And bursting from the realms of night,
I hail eternal day.

COMFORT TO SINCERE AND HUMBLE BELIEVERS.

The Lord knoweth who are his. You shall not be deceived with the power and subtilty of Anti-Christ. You shall not fall from grace. You shall not perish. This is the comfort which abideth with the faithful, when they behold the fall of the wicked; when they see them forsake the truth and delight in fables, when they see them return to their vomit,

* From the Chronicle of the Church.

and wallow again in the mire. When we see these things in others, we must say, Alas ! they are examples for me, and lamentable examples. Let him that standeth take heed that he fall not. But God hath loved me, and hath chosen me to salvation.—His mercy shall go before me, and his mercy shall follow in me. His mercy shall guide my feet, and stay me from falling. If I stay by myself, I stay by nothing ; I must needs come to the ground. He hath loved me ; he hath chosen me ; he will keep me. Neither the example nor the company of others nor the enticing of the devil: nor, nor my own sensual imaginations, nor sword, nor fire, is able to separate me from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. This is the comfort of the faithful. Whatsoever falleth upon others, though others fall and perish, although they forsake Christ and follow after Antichrist, yet God hath loved you, and given his Son for you. He hath chosen you, and prepared you unto salvation, and hath written your names in the book of life. But how may we know that God hath chosen us? how may we see this election? or how may we feel it? The Apostle saith, "Through sanctification, and the faith of truth." These are tokens of God's election.—The Holy Spirit comforteth us in all temptations; and beareth witness with our spirit that we be the children of God; that God hath chosen us; and doth love us; and hath prepared us to salvation; that we are the heirs of his glory; that God will keep us as the apple of his eye; that he will defend us; and we shall not perish."—From Bishop Jewell, A. D. 1562.

H O N E S T Y.

About three miles from the town (of Adalia) my servant found that his great coat had fallen from his horse; riding back for two miles, he saw a poor man bringing wood and charcoal from the hills upon asses. On asking him if he had seen the coat, he said that he had found it, and had taken it to a water-mill on the road side, having shown it to all the persons he met, that they might assist him in finding its owner. On offering him money, he refused it, saying with great simplicity, that the coat was not his, and that it was quite safe with the miller. My servant then rode to the house of the miller, who immediately gave it up, he also refusing to receive any reward, and had he not been about to go down to the town. The honesty, perhaps, may not be surprising, but the refusal of money is certainly a trait of character which has not been assigned to the Turks.—*Fellows.*

I M P R E S S I V E F A C T S.

There is nothing in history that is so improving to the reader as those accounts which we meet with of the deaths of eminent persons, and of their behaviour in that solemn season. A few examples are subjoined.

Philip the Third, King of Spain, seriously reflecting upon the life which he had led, cried out, when laid upon his death-bed, "Ah, how happy should I have been, had I spent in retirement those twenty-three years during which I have held my kingdom ! My concern is not for my body, but my soul."—*Epis. Rec.*

Cardinal Wolsey, one of the greatest Ministers of state, poured forth his soul in these sad words :— "Had I been as diligent in serving my God, as I have been to please my king, he would not have forsaken me now in my grey hairs."—*Ibid.*

Sir Philip Sidney left this as his last farewell to his friends : "Govern your will and affections by the will and word of your Creator. In me behold the end of the world, and all its vanities."—*Ibid.*

"At my death," says Sir Thomas Browne, "I mean to take a total adieu of the world, not caring for a monument, history, or epitaph: not so much as the memory of my name to be found any where, but in the universal register of God."—*Ibid.*

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C. H. BELCHER,

Halifax, May 5th, 1840.

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For sale by

C. H. BELCHER.

Halifax, May 5, 1840.

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