

Poetry.

(From the Banner of the Cross.)
CHRISTIAN SONGS, No. VI.
"IT IS FINISHED."
BY REV. JAMES GILBERT LYONS, LL.D.

LADY MARY WHARTON.
(From "English Churchwomen of the Seventeenth Century.")

Lady Mary Wharton was the eldest daughter of Henry Carey, Earl of Dorset, and her mother was of the ancient family of the Pollards...

She was in the thirtieth year of her age before she gave way to any proposal of marriage, but at that time she received one from Sir Thomas Wharton...

It appears from Clarendon, that whilst Lord Dover fought at Edgehill on the king's side, his son, Lord Rochford, was on the opposite part...

She studied the Scriptures, and copied largely from her own use, increasing her knowledge by the writings of the best divines...

She once heard a sermon by Mr. John Hudson, afterwards bishop of Elphin, upon 1 Sam. 17: "For this child I prayed, &c."

"O my God, I desire now to come before Thee, humbled in my soul for my own baseness and filthiness from head to foot..."

"Then after an enumeration of many general mercies, she thus proceeds:
"God, give me Thy grace likewise, that all this Thy goodness may not be in vain upon my soul..."

After this manner she recorded the many special mercies, deliverances, and blessings which she, her husband, son and family had received, noting the day and month of the year...

She was so much affected by the thought of God's loving kindness to her, that she could not forbear to speak of it in her private discourses with her friends...

In religious conversations, the part which she usually bore, was of asking questions on such points as she desired to be further informed in...

Mr. Watkinson, in describing her character, goes through all the parts of it in relation to her duty towards God and towards man...

The last time she ever received this Holy Sacrament was on June 9th, 1673, on which occasion she came out of the house after being confined to it by want of strength...

Some part of the paper to her husband, dated February, 1667.
"My dear heart, Sir Thomas Wharton—Our good and gracious God will be thy great support and comfort in all conditions..."

Then, making mention of her only son: "Of whom I need not desire your taking care, for he is yours as much as mine, and I know you love him..."

"I pray God to bless you; and He who has raised you from many illnesses and weaknesses, raise your heart and life to some degree answerable to these great mercies..."

"In the first place, love and fear God; and press and strive every day to increase more and more in the love and service of Him, in whom you live, move, and have your being..."

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avoid, as much as you can, all debauchery, and those that follow it. Let the fear of God first prevail with you; then the pleasing of your father, and your dead mother's injunctions, when she was alive...

"I would give you warning of two sorts of people: the flatterer and the backbiter, and of being either yourself. And when any flatters you to your face, be not pleased with it, but have a more strict guard upon your behaviour and actions, and examine whether it belong to you or no..."

SPECULATIVE BELIEF.

(From "Remarks on the Apology for Mr. Home's Life," by Bishop Horne.)

To account for the opposition often so visible between the lives and opinions of Christians, one must enumerate all the various methods, by which, in matters of moral and spiritual concern, men are wont to impose upon themselves...

"My feelings while life was returning were the reverse in every point of those which have been described above. One single but confused idea—a miserable belief that I was drowning—dwelt upon my mind, instead of the many clear and infinite ideas which had recently rushed through it..."

"The length of time that was occupied by this deluge of ideas, or rather the shortness of time into which they were condensed, I cannot now state with precision, yet certainly two minutes could not have elapsed from the moment of suffocation to that of being hauled up..."

"The strength of the flood-tide made it expedient to pull the boat at once to another ship, where I underwent the usual vulgar process of emptying the water by letting my head hang downwards, then bleeding, and even administering gin..."

"The extraordinary effect related in the annexed letter, of the retrospective activity of the mind in drowning persons—it is probably applicable to other cases of extremity when exertion to save life has ceased—is so curious, and yet, as we know, in some way analogous case, so entirely in conformity with the experience of others—that we transfer it to our columns from the Literary World of the 14th inst., in order to invite attention to it..."

"DROWNING.—The following is from a letter by Admiral Beaufort to Dr. Wollaston, just published in London:
"Many years ago, when I was a youngster on board one of His Majesty's ships in Portsmouth harbor, af-

ter sculling about in a very small boat, I was endeavouring to fasten her alongside the ship to one of the scuttle-rings; in foolish eagerness I stepped upon the gunwale, the boat of course upset, and I fell into the water, and not knowing how to swim, all my efforts to lay hold either of the boat or the floating sculls were fruitless...

"So far, these facts were either partially remembered after my recovery, or supplied by those who had latterly witnessed the scene; for during an interval of such agitation a drowning person is too much occupied in catching at every passing straw, or too much absorbed by alternate hope and despair, to mark the succession of events very accurately..."

"From the moment that every exertion had ceased—which I imagine was the immediate consequence of complete suffocation—a calm feeling of the most perfect tranquillity superseded the previous tumultuous sensations—it might be called apathy—certainly not resignation, for downing no longer appeared to be an evil—I no longer thought of being rescued, nor was I in any bodily pain..."

"The children from River Cavalia Station did not come up to-day as usual. The teacher there, I had told here, and thought they would be compelled to do so. The reason assigned was the fear that the children would be bewitched by the Cavalia people..."

"The offering to-day was made to those who were killed in the late war, and an extraordinary one. The number of men killed having been considerable, and some of them from almost every family, N. the warrior doctor, directed that each family should prepare a bullock, and when all were ready, the whole should be killed on the same day, each family sacrificing and eating apart, before the principal house of their Headman..."

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as the season approached when the Grahwayans had departed to rebuild their town, he found that they would allow of no arbitration in the case, insisting that they could, and were determined to build in defiance of the Cavalia people. The affair having assumed this aspect, was unavoidable, unless the Cavalia people were induced to recede from their position and allow the Grahwayans to proceed without molestation...

"The meeting was held at the 'ta ka' (appointed house) so called from the fact that here the Bodi or chief officer of the town is appointed, when first elected, and subsequently when public sacrifices are made, and numbers here the town progresses, which are also appointed, are kept. It was very numerously attended. I found the headmen seated on one side, the delegation near them, and the older 'Sodibo' next, and the people generally on the opposite side..."

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poor woman, however, he declared that she was a witch, and one of the worst kind; that she was in league with her relatives the Grahwayans, and visited them constantly at night to get the souls of the Cavalia people out of their bodies, and to put them into the bodies of the Cavalia people, and to kill the woman, before she had time to carry her plans into effect...

"The people did not hesitate a moment what to do in such a case. Early yesterday morning she was taken out so much that she fell—but not to die. The poor wretch, unable to walk, was dragged out on the beach, and there she lay, unable to rise, and throwing her hands about in agony, from the morning till the evening, and night. At length, however, she was carried to her home, but no one dared approach to afford her any assistance, or to talk to her, except to taunt her and aggravate her sufferings..."

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