ed fuller views respecting the coming of Christ, and
he wrote to Timothy, "I am ready to be offered up,
and the time of my departure is at hand." But at
present his hope is, not to die, but to be able in his
upward flight to meet Christ in the air. He did not
wish to be unclothed by death, but "clothed upon,
that mortality might be swallowed up of life," as
gently as the day swallows up the dawn. Very re-
markable is it, that in the whole of the epistles to
the early Christian churches I cannot find one
exhortation to prepare for death. At a period when
martyrs not a few had perished, and many had "fallen
on sleep," the constant note sounded was not prepare
for death, but prepare for the coming of the Lord.
"Stablish your hearts, unblameable in holiness at the
coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." "Be patient,
brethren, to the coming of the Lord." " What man-
ner of persons ought ye to be, looking for and hast-
ing unto the coming of the day of God." Ought we
not look for the day when He, who shall come, will
come? "Yet a little while:" long it looks to us with
our petty cares and little turmoils. The centuries go
wearily by. Generations are laid to rest. The
Church is still weak in the world. But to Him who
sits in the heavens it is a little while. Suddenly
will the day of His coming break. From the ledger
the merchant shall lift up his head to look on a grand-
er account. From his desk the student shall turn to
a light before which problems and mysteries shall
vanish. From the altar the bride shall go to look
upon a grander bridal than ever earth had seen: for
the end of the world is the Church's marriage day,
when the Lord shall take home his bride. Seeing
that Christ will come, how ought you to make your
plans, to deny yourselves, to live a holy life from day
to day. Then if you are ready for the Lord's coming,