

FAREWELL SERMON,
TO THE
Congregation of St. Paul's Church,
BY THE
REV. ALBERT WHITMARCH.

Subject,—The Unchangeableness of Christ.—Heb. XIII. 8.

"JESUS CHRIST—THE SAME YESTERDAY—TO-DAY,
AND FOR EVER."

THE introduction of these words in the chapter before us is abrupt, and their position somewhat isolated: there is, seemingly, no immediate connection with that which precedes or follows. The faith and blessed end of their devoted Pastors had been referred to, and their example commended, when, as if by a sudden inspiration, the Apostle exclaims,—"*Jesus Christ—the same yesterday—to-day—and for ever.*"

What a grand and attractive object is this for our contemplation to-night! Far more so than any pyramid, however ancient, towering heavenward in some solitary place, but which, we know, must one day be displaced; far more so than the sturdy forest oak, that hath withstood the fury of many a wintry gale, but, ere long, will have to succumb to the laws of nature; far more so than the loftiest mountain on which the eye of man hath gazed, since when the trumpet of the last day shall sound, this will be laid low.

Magnificent as these pictures from the book of nature are, yet to the Christian Artist who is seeking, amid the fluctuations, the changes, the distractions, the agitations which surround him, something firm and stable—something that will not only stand the test of time but also endure throughout eternity—there is no object which can at all bear comparison with this, that is to say, which can fill his soul with such inward satisfaction and heavenly rapture or supply the longings, and the cravings of his inner life.

"Jesus Christ, the *same* yesterday, to-day, and for ever."
My dear Brethren, how delightful a theme is this to talk about! Where shall we begin to speak of it? Or when