

## The Christian's Triumph Over Death.

[Last words of St. Jerome. Translated for the Rev. Joseph Benson, author of Benson's Commentary, and published by him in the 'Wesleyan Magazine' in 1805.]

Why mourn, my friends, a spirit's happy flight,

By heaven remanded to the plains of light ?  
Be put aside the sable weeds of woe,  
And swell the song of triumph here below.  
Escaped from life, its lingering evils o'er,  
Through fire and water doomed to pass no more,

Thy soul, converging on the wealthy place,  
Enraptured flies to God's divine embrace.  
Why flow these impious tears ? Ah, why complain ?

Death to a saint is everlasting gain.  
The Saviour's fullness, light, love, life divine.

All Jesus bought, all Jesus has, is mine.  
What if this cottage into ruins falls,  
What if to dust dissolve these tottering walls,

Lo ! yonder, founded by Almighty hands,  
For me prepared, the heavenly mansion stands.

Just now emancipating, mount, my soul,  
Thither aspire, and spurn the nether pole.  
Through foreign climes at length I cease to roam,

The weary pilgrim gains his native home.  
I see, presented to my dazzled eyes,  
The beaming crown of life, my calling's prize ;

I soon shall finish life's important race,  
And, ardent, immortality embrace.  
No longer tossed upon the stormy main,  
Thanks to my Pilot, now the port I gain.  
My soul, emerging from the mists of night,  
Exchanges darkness for refulgent light :  
For riches, poverty ; for conquest, strife ;  
For pleasure, pain ; and wins immortal life.

My soul ! that quitting this inferior earth,  
Too mean, too vile, for her celestial birth,  
For glory winged, to fields of pleasure flies,  
Above the arch of yonder ambient skies.

We say, 'We live,' because we draw our breath ;

This being is but momentary death ;  
Life's real sphere, our own eternity,  
Alone informs us what it is to be.

How advantageous, when a Christian lies  
In death ! Death is a gainful merchandise.

Shall gold, shall silver, jewels, gems be named,  
When happiness, when heaven, when God is claimed ?

O death ! angelic visitant, appear !  
Thy cherub countenance I cannot fear.

No king of terrors, welcome guest art thou,  
No gloom horrific hangs upon thy brow.  
Life's many ills thy winning smiles assuage,  
The wound's keen anguish, and the fever's rage.

By thy approach are thirst and famine driven,

And life immortal by thy smile is given.  
Me lead, my spouse, my sister, lead me soon,

Where my fond Shepherd feeds His flock at noon.

Awake, my glory ! Hither lend thy hand !  
My willing heart awaits thy kind command !

My fainting spirits thy pure perfume cheers,  
Informs my hopes, and dissipates my fears.  
I follow ; lead me to His bright abode,  
The mansion of my Father and my God.  
Haste, lovely friend ! O haste ! with thee I go

Where fruits of life in rich luxuriance grow.  
My hour is come ; thy mercy, death, display ;

O ease my love-sick soul ! O quickly come away !

Black though thou be to timid nature's view.

Yet grace triumphant eyes thee comely, too ;

And while thine embassy thy lips impart,  
The melting accents charm my bounding heart.

Let mightiest monarchs tremble at thy frown.

And lay, at thy command, their honors down ;

The power that crushes princes down to dust.

To deathless glory elevates the just.  
And low beneath that arm the wicked lie,  
Which lifts the righteous to the lofty sky.

O ! gate of life ! thy portals wide extend,



THE MANCHUS.

The picture which we give of a Manchu lady will prove interesting. The Manchus have ruled over China for the last three hundred and fifty years, and are a hardy and vigorous race. For a long time Manchuria was divided up amongst petty chieftains, who seldom for any lengthy period remained at peace with one another. Hence the people, habituated to the exercises of the field became strong and warlike. During a time when China was in the throes of a civil war, one side invoked the aid of the Manchus, and after rendering the needed aid, and after seeing the weakness of the Chinese they were emboldened to seize the throne. After about thirty years' warfare they obtained dominion over the whole of China, and a great part of Mongolia. During the time they have governed China, several of the Emperors have been very able and remarkable men. Every male Manchu above sixteen is liable to be called

on for military service, and is enrolled under the standards, which he by birth belongs to. The native Manchus are a finer race physically and morally than the Chinese, and though they have subjugated the Chinese, yet the Chinese are gradually overrunning their country and bringing its customs into conformity with those of China.

Work was begun in Manchuria in 1873, and is carried on by the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and also the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. At the outbreak of the present troubles, there were 8,000 church members, and 20,000 adherents. The full force of the missionaries, including lady workers, was between forty and fifty. Out of this number, fifteen were fully qualified doctors. All this large and promising work has been brought to a standstill, the stations wrecked, the missionaries have had to flee from the country, and many converts have perished.—'China's Millions.'

To bliss unfading quickly I ascend.  
This fleshly vestment take, O ! take away,  
Divest my mind of this debasing clay ;  
And while my powers the pealing anthem raise,

Deck my rapt soul with splendid robes of praise.

The conflict finished, lo ! I leave the field ;

Break, mighty death ! the sword, the spear, the shield.

Ah ! let soft pity touch thy tender breast ;  
Ah ! take a weary wanderer home to rest.  
For long an exile, though of nobler birth,  
Long have I wandered o'er this wretched earth ;

O ! lead me, lead me to His bright abode,  
The mansion of my Father and my God !

## The Find-the-Place Almanac

TEXTS IN THE FIRST EPISTLE TO TIMOTHY.

June 2, Sun.—We trust in the living God.  
June 3, Mon.—Meditate upon these things.  
June 4, Tues.—The laborer is worthy of his reward.

June 5, Wed.—Keep thyself pure.  
June 6, Thur.—Godliness with contentment is great gain.

June 7, Fri.—The love of money is the root of all evil.

June 8, Sat.—Follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called.