

"GOD IS LOVE"—1 John, iv. 8.

Yes, God is love! This truth divine  
Meets the glad ear in every sound;  
Whene'er we turn, we see it shine,  
Inscribed in brightness all around.  
We feel it in the breath of morn,  
We hear it midst the hush of even;  
'Tis spangled on the dewy lawn,  
'Tis blazon'd in the starry heaven.

We trace it in each lovely flower,  
Of grateful scent or radiant hue;  
In each bright beam and genial shower,  
That nature's faded charms renew;  
'Tis warbled in the leafy shade,  
'Tis echo'd from two breezy hill;  
It smiles in ev'ry verdant glade,  
And sparkles in the crystal rill.

And whence those treasures of the mind,  
Which science from her store imparts?  
Whence ev'ry tender "tie that binds"  
"In union sweet according hearts?"  
And whence devotion's hallow'd fire,  
The bliss we share with saints above,  
Each gen'rous thought, each pure desire,  
But from the same rich fount of love?

Nay, not a sorrow rends the heart,  
Nor feels the frame one throb of pain,  
But mercy wings the piercing dart—  
Each earthly loss is heavenly gain.  
Yes, even death, the Christian knows,  
Shall but his crowning blessing prove,  
And to his soul those gates unclose  
Where all, like God himself, is love.

SACRAMENT SUNDAY.

Dear to my soul this festal morn,  
That upward calls my thoughts away,  
Salute my heart the glad return  
Of this—the sacramental day.

Blest spirit, source of life divine,  
Help me by faith on Christ to feed,  
Grant me the peace, the hope benign,  
That from his promises proceed.

Teach me to dwell with grateful thought,  
With love, and pure devotion's flame,  
On him who man's redemption bought,  
And may I ever praise his name.

O may my life, my every power be thine  
"Till pilgrim cares, and struggles cease;  
Into thy hands, I'd then my soul resign,  
With the blest Jesus may I rest in peace.

Anon.

SELECT SENTENCES.

CHRIST.—Behold Him, and wonder and love!—  
This is He who bore all your iniquities on the igno-  
minious cross; whose merciful exertions you have  
contemned, and on whose precious blood you have  
trampled.—Anon.

JESUS—"is able to save them to the uttermost that  
come unto God by Him; seeing he ever liveth to  
make intercession for them." 7 Heb. 25.

Waken, O Lord, our drowsy sense,  
To walk the dangerous road;  
And if our souls are hurried hence,  
May they be found with God.—Watts.

\* From the Church of England Magazine.

A deacon in ——— went to his minister, and  
professing to speak the sentiments of the congrega-  
tion, began to complain of his style of preaching,  
"I do not say these things for myself," said the  
deacon; "I am not at all dissatisfied; but the peo-  
ple are very uneasy, and I am afraid we shall have  
trouble." "How is it," inquired the pastor,  
"that you hear all these complaints? No other  
member of the church seems to be so familiar with  
them as you are?" "Oh," said the deacon, "they  
all know that I am on terms of intimacy with you,  
and they make me the tunnel into which they pour  
every thing which they wish you to hear." "Yes,"  
replied the pastor, "and it is because you are a  
tunnel that they use you as such."

The above, from the *Presbyterian*, might find a  
parallel in more places than one. We have known  
many tunnels in our day, and the mischief of the  
matter is not simply they have wide mouths and take  
in a great deal: they contrive, by various little strata-  
gems of their own, to run out much more than  
they receive. These tunnels have disturbed more  
congregations than they ever watered. Every such  
tunnel is characterized in 1st Peter, 6: 5.

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