

the good old paths and walk straight therein, without swerving to the right hand or to the left. We must contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints; knowing that if men believe not, yet He abideth faithful. He cannot deny Himself. Systems of philosophy, based on speculation, are always changing; past ages have seen them rise, fall and pass away; so that if a man committed himself to a theory to-day, he might live to see it undermined and displaced by another, and have to change his creed, as the chameleon changes its colours. But the glorious Gospel changes not. Like its immutable Author, it is the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my word shall not pass away; for the word of the Lord liveth and abideth for ever; and blessed are all they who trust therein."

LIFE'S MYSTERY.

BY EDWARD HARTLEY DEWART.

WHAT though this world present to sight,
Confusion, mystery, and gloom,
In the pure world beyond the tomb,
We yet shall see that all was right.

Not all in vain do sorrows here
Pierce with keen arrows every heart;
Lessons divine their lips impart:
There's balm and blessing in a tear.

The storm that sways the forest trees,
Still roots them deeper in the soil;
So sorrow, conflict, care, and toil
Nurture our strength by slow degrees.

Not he who doubts and dreams through life,
But he who toils in faith below,
The mystery of life shall know,
And harmony discern in strife.