

of ages cleft for me," and "Deathless principle arise" are now found, and are equally edifying and equally loved.

The extent to which these papers have run in the pages of the RECORD, forbids any lengthened notice of other English hymnists, although a long array of eminent names is yet unmentioned. At a future time I may perhaps go more into detail; but, meantime, I must content myself with naming a few of our more illustrious hymn-writers of recent date. Heber will long be remembered for his stirring missionary hymn, "From Greenland's icy mountains," his hymn on the second coming of Christ, "The Lord shall come, the earth shall quake," and his Epiphany hymn, "Brightest and best of the sons of the morning." He was a man of high attainments, brilliant genius and fervent piety. Dean Milman, in addition to his "History of Latin Christianity," has bequeathed to the Church a few very fine hymns, of which the best is "O help us Lord each hour of need." Whatever we may think of Keble's theology his Evening hymn must find a place in our hearts.—"Sun of my soul! Thou Saviour dear."—Montgomery's "Prayer is the soul's sincere desire," and "Hark the song of jubilee," will ever be special favourites; while Peronet's "All hail the power of Jesus name," thrills every heart. Olivers, a Welshman, one of Wesley's preachers, has left behind him a noble Advent hymn "Lo he comes with clouds descending,"—and a nobler still, "The God of Abraham praise." I can do no more than name Kelly, Conder, Beddome, Hart, Grant, Gibbons, Collyer, Bonar, J. D. Burns, Macduff, and McCheyne, as hymnists who have added to our precious heritage of holy song.

My task is now completed—how imperfectly I am fully aware. I have aimed simply at a slight and rapid survey of that stream of christian song that has been deepening and increasing in volume as the ages rolled along. To that mighty stream of song all christian lands have contributed their respective rills—all ages have borne their tribute, and saints of every kindred and tongue have helped the great chorus that now sounds harmoniously, "like the voice of many waters." It has ever been the same and yet ever new. Redemption has been its great theme, and the name of Jesus has furnished all its music. Through its sore contests and turmoils of the ages, the great army of the living God has chanted its battle-song, and to-day it is chaunting it in ever fresh bursts of melody. Spiritual life is as fresh and gladdening to-day as when Abraham turned his steps westward, drawn by a mighty hope and a divine promise; or as when the voice of Jesus struck on the ear of Paul. A fresh

joy springs up in the heart of every individual believer who hears the generous invitation "Come unto me," and so Redemption's song is no mere echo of an earlier song, becoming fainter and feebler as we get farther from the centre: it is rather the effect of the glad tidings striking heart after heart and evoking "Songs before unknown." Never can the praises of the Redeemer be exhausted in earth or in heaven. All that the mighty singers have yet poured forth, since the first christian hymn was sung by Mary, the mother of Jesus—all that Ambrose, Bernard, Jerome, and Gregory sang, in the morning air of the christian ages—all that Luther and his choir of strong fellow-believers pealed out—all the melodies by which Cowper, Newton, Doddridge, Watts and Wesley enriched the stream of holy song—all has yet given us but some faint conceptions of the riches of redeeming love. Deeper, heavenlier songs, we may hope will yet be heard, as richer treasurers from God's holy Word are brought to light, under the Spirit's teaching. "Spiritual songs" of vaster compass will re-echo through the aisles of the great temple that over-arches all our creeds, as the Church of God holds on its victorious course, till at length the songs of earth shall be lost in the triumphant swell of praise from the great multitude that no man can number.

## Home Missions.

### Carleton, New Brunswick.

This thriving locality is situated opposite the city of St. John, and carries on quite an extensive trade in lumber, fish, &c. It is now a flourishing little city, having risen to some importance within a few years past. Owing to present depression of trade it is not in as prosperous a condition as in days of yore, but should it be made the terminus of the western railway extension, Carleton must inevitably become a great business mart. In 1836 it could only boast of two churches, and had but one adherent of Presbyterianism. Now there are seven or eight churches, a number of beautiful residences, and a large city hall. The latter is a brick building of considerable dimensions, and reflects great credit upon the public spirit of the people. As the settlement increased Presbyterianism advanced. A prayer meeting was inaugurated, members attended, and several rallied around the blue banner. At length it became the nucleus of a congregation, and exercised the pastoral oversight of Presbyteriany.