

THE WORKS OF THE
REV. JOHN CUMMING, D. D.

The ensuing critique of two works from the prolific pen of this ornament of the Scottish Church, as well as eminent Protestant Divine, is extracted from the *Montreal Witness*. The companion volume to the two mentioned is styled "The Voice of the Dead." All Dr. Cumming's numerous works are pervaded by a deep tone of earnest piety. Written in graceful, flowing language, sparkling with brilliant imagery, evidencing much research, and displaying true Christian charity, and evincing a Christian interest in the wide brotherhood of the Christian Church, those volumes especially which treat of general subjects may be read with deep interest and much profit by all our readers. These are the "Lectures on the Miracles and on the Parables." "The Church and the Altar, or Sketches of Patriarchal Life and the Church before the Flood." The series of three on prophetic subjects, namely, "Lectures on the Apocalypse" 2 volumes, and "Lectures on the Seven Churches," may contain views not entertained by all, but yet are written in an earnest Christian spirit. The set of eleven volumes, handsomely bound in blue cloth, gilt, and the English Edition, may be had of Mr. John Armour, of this City, at the low price of 5s. 7d. per volume. They would form a valuable addition to the libraries of many of our readers.

VOICES OF THE NIGHT, by the Rev. John Cumming, D. D.

VOICES OF THE DAY, by the Rev. John Cumming, D. D.

The titles of these two volumes, as well as the thought which presided over their composition, are borrowed from the well known and beautiful text of Scripture.—"The night is far spent and the day is at hand." The "Voices of the Night" refer more immediately to the present condition of Christians, and their relation to God, which, compared to the glory to come, may fairly be called a night through which we are hurrying to the light of immortality. The "Voices of the Day" relate more directly to the future which awaits the faithful disciple, and the dazzling splendour of which we can only perceive now through the Scriptural promises of God. The Voices of the Day are all joy, brightness, consolation, exultation, unspeakable blessings, and everlasting glory; while in the Voices of the Night the Christian has not yet found his rest, but is fighting the good fight of faith; has lively hopes, but not unmingled with anguish; has before him a bright expectancy, but not without present travail and suffering.

The subject is beautiful in itself, and under such an eloquent pen as that of Dr. Cumming it has produced two gems of Christian literature. Several points, relating to the experience, the struggles, and the hopes of the followers of Christ, are treated in separate chapters. These are books of devotion, but not of the ordinary kind; there is a constant appeal through them to a better state of things than we are permitted to enjoy at present; heavenly expectations are raised in the breast of disciples, and sighs whispered that the promises of the Lord may soon be fulfilled. A deep feeling of devotional poetry, combined with earnestness and eloquence, pervades these volumes. This does not prevent, however, Dr. Cumming to express freely his views on questions of the times, and to enter into some speculations; but he does it always in a manner very interesting, and with such suavity

that one may differ in opinion with him, but can not feel wounded in his feelings. Such is the case, for instance, when he speaks of open communion, and administers a rebuke to those who "would try to appropriate the table of the Lord as the monopoly of a party, and not the common table of all Christians, because spread by their common Lord."

In the "Voices of the Day," which relate to the future, Dr. Cumming has given free scope to his Millenarian views, expecting a personal advent of the Lord on the earth before the Millennium, and then the cessation of celebrating the Lord's Supper, which is to be observed only "till He comes." But even those who will differ from the writer on that point will join him practically in a more earnest longing for the presence of their Redeemer in whatever shape His coming may take place.

THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT,—London, C. W.—The *Canadian Independent* is a semi-monthly Religious Journal, under the sanction of the Congregational Union of Canada, and editorship of the Rev. W. F. Clarke. It is in the 4to form, in three columns.

THE GOSPEL TRIBUNE for Alliance and Intercommunion throughout Evangelical Christendom.—Toronto, Robert Dick; Buffalo, N. Y., Phinney & Co.—The *Gospel Tribune* is published monthly, in large 8vo., each number containing 28 pages, in double columns.

We have received the numbers of the above periodicals from the commencement, and wish success to these new collaborators in the wide Christian Vineyard. Both embrace a large amount of excellent matter, original and selected. Either periodical, when paid in advance, can be procured at the low price of One Dollar.

POETRY.

THE WONDERS OF REDEEMING LOVE.

How wondrous are the works of God
Displayed through all the world abroad!
Immensely great! immensely small!
Yet one strange work exceeds them all.

He formed the sun, fair fount of light;
The moon and stars, to rule the night;
But night, and stars, and moon, and sun,
Are little works compared with one.

He rolled the seas, and spread the skies,
Made valleys sink, and mountains rise,
The meadows clothed with native green,
And bade the rivers glide between.

But what are seas, or skies, or hills,
Or verdant vales, or gliding rills,
To wonders man was born to prove,—
The Wonders of Redeeming Love!

'Tis far beyond what words express,
What saints can feel, or angels guess,—
Angels, that hymn the great I A M,
Fall down, and veil before the Lamb.

The highest heavens are short of this;
'Tis deeper than the vast abyss;
'Tis more than thought can e'er conceive,
Or hope expect, or faith believe.

Almighty God sighed human breath!
The Lord of Life experienced death.
We know not how it could be thus;
But this we know, 'twas done for us!

Blest with this faith, then let us raise
Our hearts in love, our voice in praise,
All things to us must work for good,
For whom the Lord hath shed His blood.

Trials may press of every sort,
They may be sore, they shall be short;
We now believe, but soon shall view
The greatest glories God can shew.

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