

THE COMING

loved wife. Again the image of the spectrum altered. He was born again. There came to him with new, intenser meaning the doctrine of the Trinity and through it the mystic union of husband, wife and child in the Father's Love.

After a further lapse of time which was measureless, the ecstasy of the human father was terminated by the sound of a key turning in the door of the room. Instantly the spell was broken and he realized that he was fondling the face of a corpse.

The vicar rose from his knees as the doctor entered the room. He stood by the bed, shivering now with strange happiness, while the doctor lifted the hand and looked at the face of his patient.

"I was afraid," said the doctor in a hushed voice, "that he would not be able to receive the deputation. Dear fellow! He is now with the souls in whom he believed."

"And who believed in Him," said the vicar in a tone that the doctor could hardly recognize.

"Yes, there were souls who believed in him," said the doctor in a matter-of-fact voice which had a kind of gentle indulgence. "There must have been. More than one of our poor old men here died with his name on their lips. You would hardly believe what an influence he had among us. We shall miss him very