

POETRY.

HAPPINESS OF A CHRISTIAN.*

When languor and disease invade
 This trembling house of clay,
 'Tis sweet by faith to look above,
 And long to fly away.

Sweet to look back and see my name
 In life's fair book set down ;
 Sweet to look forward and behold
 Eternal joys my own.

Sweet to reflect how grace Divine
 My sins on Jesus laid ;
 Sweet to remember that His blood
 My debt of suffering paid.

Sweet in His righteousness to stand,
 Which saves from second death ;
 Sweet to experience day by day,
 His Spirit's quickening breath.

Sweet to look inward and attend
 The whispers of His love ;
 Sweet to look upward, to the place
 Where Jesus pleads above.

Sweet on His faithfulness to rest,
 Whose love can never end ;
 Sweet on His covenant of grace
 For all things to depend.

Sweet in the confidence of faith,
 To trust His wise decrees ;
 Sweet to lie passive in His hands,
 And know no will but His.

If such the sweetness of the streams,
 What must the Fountain be !
 What, to derive celestial bliss
 Immediately from Thee !

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

The Dissenters are a numerous and they are a most respectable body of men. But they are a minority in the community at large; they are besides not equally distributed over the surface of the country; they have much to say in some of the large towns, especially those of recent growth; in the counties their numbers and influence are extremely small; and they are divided among themselves, insomuch that some sects greatly more lean towards the Church than towards any combination against her. Even upon a question affecting their pockets, the church-rates, it was clear that all their union could not gain a majority sufficient to carry the bill through even the House of Commons. Upon the education question they are exceedingly divided; and one great class, the Methodists, are decidedly and pretty unanimously with the Lords and the Church. It may be added that the last general election demonstrated powerfully the influence of the Establishment; still more perhaps do some later occurrences in the towns. Even at Manchester the Church party had been defeated by a bare majority, with all the influence of the government and of the new corporation. After making every allowance for the tendency which the ministerial policy on constitutional questions, both in the colonies and at home, has inevitably had to weaken the strength and abate the confidence of the popular party, it must be admitted that all these indications show how little chance there is of making head against the influence of the Establishment on any point which is deemed essential to its interests, as long as it lasts; and the continuance of that Establishment, even if its destruction were a thing to be desired, which neither you nor I could ever for a moment allow, seems just as certain as that of any other branch of our mixed constitution.—Lord Brougham.

* From the Banner of the Cross.

DYING SCENES.

Sir Walter Raleigh behaved on the scaffold with great composure. Having vindicated his conduct in an eloquent speech, he felt the edge of the axe, observing with a smile,—"It is a sharp medicine, but a sure remedy for all woes." Being asked how he would lay himself on the block, he replied—"So the heart be right it is no matter which way the head lies."—*Southern Churchman.*

The author of Hervey's Meditations, when on his sick bed, observed that his time had been too much occupied in reading the historians, orators, and poets of ancient and modern times, and that were he to renew his studies, he would devote his attention to the Scriptures.—*Ibid.*

Short Sermon.—The christian knows that his way of access to the Father is through Christ and through Christ alone. His only firm ground to stand upon is that which is protected by the Cross of the Redeemer. Here the lightnings of Divine indignation revealed against the ungodly, not only glance powerless, but (if we may be allowed so hold a figure) condense themselves into a glory and a defence around him who is united to the Saviour.—*Ch. Alm.*

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HALIFAX, JAN. 1st, 1840.

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