

purification of his conscience; his union with what is true spiritual perfection. Men wonder at the conquests of Alexander, but here is a Conqueror who draws men to Himself for their highest good; who unites to Himself, incorporates into Himself.

“From first to last.” said the great Napoleon, on another occasion, “Jesus is the same; always the same—majestic and simple. Throughout a life passed under the public eye, He never gives occasion to find fault. The prudence of His conduct compels our admiration by its union of force and gentleness. Sublimity is said to be an attribute of divinity; what name then, shall we give Him in whose character was united every element of the sublime? Everything in Him amazes me. His spirit outreaches mine, and His will confounds me. Comparison is impossible between Him and any other being in the world. He is truly a Being by Himself. His ideas and His sentiments; the truth that He announces; His manner of convincing; are all beyond humanity and the natural order of things.” “His birth and the story of His life; the profoundness of His doctrine, which overturns all difficulties, as their most complete solution; His gospel; the singularity of His mysterious being; His appearance; His empire; His progress through all centuries and kingdoms; all this is to me a prodigy, an unfathomable mystery. Near as I may approach, closely as I may examine, all remains above my comprehension—great with a greatness that crushes me. It is in vain that I reflect—all remains unaccountable. I defy you to cite another life like that of Christ.”