

THE CALLIOPEAN



ENGRAVED BY F. C. LOWE

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The Ascension of Elijah.* For the Calliopean.
BY ANONYMOUS.

By the brink of the river the Prophet had stood,
His mantle he waved o'er the boisterous flood;
Through the waves of the Jordan the Prophet has pass'd
Undrench'd by the waters—unscathed by the blast.

On the green shore of Gilead majestic he stood,
His steps were on earth—but his heart with his God;
Refined from earth's dross, he was pure of its leaven,
His eye beam'd the fire of all-glorious Heaven.

But see! from on High to the earth now is tending
The chariot of Heaven on the sunbeams descending;
Like the mist rising upward, the Prophet is borne
From Elisha who gazes, bewildered—forsorn.

No longer the chariot of Israel carried—
On the wings of the whirlwind, fast, fast was it carried,
And the wheels of its fleetness sound faint on the ear,
Where in glory resplendent the steeds disappear!

"My Father! my Father! the sight is enough,
The chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof!"
He caught a faint glimpse of the Land of his rest,
And his mantle prophetic, he girds to his breast.

The mantle-smit waters divide at his bidding—
The dry bed of Jordan re-echoes his treading—
The God of Elijah his spirit inspires,
And Elisha the Prophet in wonder retires.

St. George, Dumfries.

Written and first published in 1846. Altered and corrected by the Author for the "Calliopean."

Read at the Annual Review.

Sketch of the Life of Mrs. Graham.

Thus eminently pious woman, in all her intercourse with the world, strictly adhered to, and carried out the precepts and injunctions of sacred writ.

But her character shone not so brightly when surrounded by worldly prosperity, smiled upon by fortune, and the object of af-

fectionate sympathy and love, as when providence seemed to frown, and all without seemed dark and void; while blest with parental solicitude and guidance, or leaning on the arm of a faithful and devoted husband, she felt not the coldness and emptiness of the world; her lamp burned dimly, and her heart was not wholly the Lord's.

But even then, the Shepherd of souls was nurturing her talents, that they might work out His own good pleasure. By experiencing the fluctuations of earthly scenes and enjoyments, she was induced to fly afresh for refuge to the hope set before her in the gospel, and clung more closely to Him, in whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. It was not until she had left her native soil, kindred and friends, for the privations and difficulties of the western world, that those traits, which afterwards distinguished her as a Christian, a wife, and a mother, at all exhibited themselves. Her religious privileges at this time, were but scanty. Her Sabbaths were spent in a grove perusing the sacred volume, and communing with her God; but even while laboring under these disadvantages, she was being fitted for a more extensive field of usefulness. The clouds which had gradually been gathering around her, at length burst, in fearful reality upon her heart.

Her only earthly friend in this land of strangers, he for whose sake she had forsaken home, with all its endearments, was marked out by the ruthless destroyer. This severe dispensation was met, not with murmuring or despondency, but with calm resignation to the will of heaven. Her prayer was not, "restere to me my protecter:" though by his removal she must be cast unprovided for upon the world, dependent solely upon the labor of her own hands for sustenance. The only anxiety which now seized upon the mind of this humble follower of Jesus was, that he whom she had loved on earth should be fitted for the skies. And even amidst the trying realities of the last sad interview, when the sobs of her orphan children burst upon her, she raised her voice in thanksgiving to God, as the emancipated spirit flew away from earth, triumphing in redeeming love. It was not until the last rites of affection and love had been paid to the remains of the departed, and the sympathising neighbors had retired, that the bereaved one felt the loneliness of her dejected situation, or gave expression to the emotions of her heart.

As soon as the first outbreak of grief had subsided, she arose, girt on her armor, and dedicated herself to the Lord as a widow indeed. She heeded not her own isolated situation. Her children, the destitute and suffering, now claimed her attention. A course was marked out for her by Him who seeth and ordaineth