

POETRY.

RELIGION.*

What is religion? not an empty name—
 Sound without sense—a torch without a flame :
 It is the principle of life divine,
 That makes the heart rejoice, the actions shine,
 That gives high motives to the earthly soul,
 And brings it under God's supreme controul.
 It is a union with the Power above,
 Whose ways are holy, and whose name is love ;
 The stirring of his Spirit in the heart,
 That bids the will submit, and sin depart ;
 Lights the soul's darkness, heals its festering sores,
 And the lost image of its God restores ;
 Imparts the power to love, the wish to pray,
 And bids it wing to heaven its joyous way.
 Such is the bliss that God designs for us ;
 And have we learnt to love and please him thus ?
 Does his renewing Spirit dwell within,
 The friend to virtue, and the foe to sin ?
 Have we submitted to his holy will,
 Or is the world our friend and idol still ?
 Great God ! resolve our doubts, our souls possess,
 And makes us thine in truth and righteousness ;
 Teach us in Jesus' name to seek thy throne,
 And may his blood for all our sins atone ;
 May we in him be wholly formed anew,
 And with fresh zeal our heavenward course pursue.
 Saved by his power, and quickened by his grace,
 May we be fitted to behold thy face,
 And find that true religion can bestow
 The only sure relief for every woe ;
 That it provides unfailing comfort here,
 And deathless glory in a brighter sphere.

HYMN.

By Colonel Blacker.

Eternal Spirit ! thou, whose wing
 Did order fair from chaos bring,
 As, brooding o'er the formless earth,
 It sped the young creation's birth.

Eternal Spirit ! thou, that came
 In cloven tongues of living flame ;
 To aid the apostolic band
 To preach the word in every land.

Eternal Spirit ! hail to thee,
 Commissioned from above to be
 Our sanctifying comfort here,
 Till Jesus' self shall re-appear.

Eternal Spirit ! Dove of grace !
 O, make our hearts thy dwelling place,
 And still, with power divine, control
 Each thought ' that wars against the soul.'

Eternal Spirit ! lo, we raise
 To thee the tribute of our praise ;
 Conjoint with Father and with Son—
 The Everlasting Three in One.

THE GOOD PARISHIONER.

Though near to the church, he is not far from God ;
 Like unto Justus, one that worshipped God, and his
 house joined hard to the synagogue. Otherwise, if

* By the Rev. W. H. Bathurst, M. A., Rector of Bar-
 wick-in-Elmet, Yorkshire.

his distance from the church be great, his diligence
 is the greater to come thither in season. He is timely
 at the beginning of common prayer : yet, as Tully
 charged some dissolute people for being as sluggards,
 that they never saw the sun rising or setting, as being
 always up after the one, and a bed before the other ;
 so some negligent people never hear prayers begun,
 or sermon ended : the confession being past before
 they come, and the blessing not come before they
 are passed away. In sermon he sets himself to hear
 God in the minister ; therefore divesteth he himself
 of all prejudice. He hearkens very attentively.—
 It is a shame when the church itself is a cometary,
 wherein the living sleep above ground, as the dead do
 beneath. At every point that concerns himself, he
 turns down a leaf in his heart, and rejoiceth that
 God's word hath pierced him, as hoping, that whilst
 his soul smarts, it heals. He accuseth not the min-
 ister of spite for particularising him. It does not fol-
 low that the archer aimed, because the arrow hit
 (rather our parishioner reasoneth thus : If my sin be
 notorious, how could the minister miss it ? if secret,
 how could he hit it without God's direction ? But
 foolish hearers make even the bells of Aaron's gar-
 ments to clink as they think. And a guilty consci-
 ence is like a whirlpool ; drawing in all to itself,
 which otherwise would pass by. One, causelessly
 disaffected to his minister, complained that he in his
 last sermon had personally inveighed against him, and
 accused him thereof to a grave religious gentleman
 in the parish : ' Truly,' said the gentleman, ' I had
 thought in his sermon he had meant me, for it touch-
 ed my heart.' This blunted the edge of the other's
 anger.—His tithes he pays willingly with cheerfulness.
 How many part with God's portions grudgingly,
 or else pinch it in the paying ! The tenth, amongst
 the Romans, was ever taken from what was best
 or biggest. It falls out otherwise ; paying of
 tithes, where the least and leanest are shifted off
 to make that number. He is bountiful in contributing
 to the repair of God's house. For, though he be
 not of their opinion, who would have the churches under
 the gospel conformed to the magnificence of So-
 lomon's temple (whose porch would serve us for a
 church), and adorn them so gaudily, that devotion is
 more distracted than raised, and men's souls rather
 dazzled than lightened ; yet he conceives it fitting
 that such sacred places should be handsomely and de-
 cently maintained : the rather because the climac-
 tical year of many churches from their first founda-
 tion, may seem to happen in our days ; so old, that
 their ruin is threatened if not speedily repaired.—
Fuller's Holy State.

DO ALL IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS.

(Col. iii. 17.)—In many ways and particular res-
 pects we may, and we ought, to perform all we do,
 " in the name of Jesus." We should do every thing
 out of a grateful affection and respect to him, as our
 chief principle ; every thing, as his servants, aiming
 especially at the pleasing of him, and promoting his
 honour, as our principal end ; every thing, according
 to his will and commandment, as our constant rule ;
 every thing, after his example, as our best pattern ;
 every thing, in confidence of his gracious assistance
 and blessing, as our only strength and support ; every
 thing, with the hope of acceptance purely on his ac-
 count ; every thing, with thankful sense and acknow-
 ledgment to God for the mercies and favours convey-
 ed unto us by his means, and referred upon us for
 his sake ; every thing, with humble invocation of him,
 or with prayer to God in his name ; in sum, every
 thing with a due and proper regard had to him, so
 that he be not passed over or left out in any thing
 we undertake, but come always into consideration,
 according as our relations to him, and our obligations
 to him, do require. In the performance of which
 duties, the life, indeed, of our religion, of all our
 good practice, of all our devotion, doth consist.—*Dr.*
Isaac Barrow.

Wealth.—An accession of wealth is a dangerous
 predicament for a man. At first he is stounded, if
 the accession be sudden : he is very humble and very
 grateful. Then he begins to speak a little louder ;
 people think him more sensible, and soon he thinks
 himself so.

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C. H. BELCHER.

Halifax, May 5th, 1840.

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 II. Halifax; from the Red Mill, Dal-
 mouth.
 III. Entrance to Halifax Harbour
 from Reeve's Hill, Dartmouth
 IV. View on Bedford Basin.
 PART 2 contains I. View of Halifax from McN-
 Island.
 II. View on the North West
 III. Ruins of the Duke of Kent
 Lodge, Windsor Road.
 PART 3 contains I. Windsor, N. S. from Ret-
 Farm.
 II. View from Retreat Farm, Win-
 sor, N. S.
 III. View from the Horton Mo-
 untains.

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