

**A MEMORIAL OF
JOSEPH
JOHN GURNEY**

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A Memorial of Joseph John Gurney by Bernard Barton

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BERNARD BARTON

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BY BERNARD BARTON.

"Know ye not there is a Prince and a Great Man fallen this day
in Israel."—2 SAM. III. 33.

LONDON:
CHARLES GILPIN, 5, BISHOPSGATE STREET WITHOUT.

1847.

PREFATORY NOTE.

THE composition of this brief and very imperfect Memorial, has been to me not less an effort of duty, than a labour of love; each equally urging me to put on record *my own individual impressions* of our departed Friend's Ministerial and Public Character; and my grateful appreciation of both. *As such*, I send them to the Press: it follows, that neither the Society of which he was a distinguished ornament, nor any of its Members are responsible for my Portraiture of him.

B. B.

TO ELIZA P. GURNEY.

I.

THINK not, dear Friend, because my Verse
Hath rather led me to rehearse
The loss our Church has known ;
That while I seek to pay Her debt,
I for one moment could forget
Bereavement like thine own !

II.

But sorrow is a holy thing !
And such a sanctity must cling
Around a grief like thine ;
That I respect it far too much,
Lightly on such a theme to touch,
In these brief lines of mine.

III.

Yet while thy Husband's public worth
Gives to this feeble tribute birth,
As justly can I prize
Virtues as priceless, pure, and true,
Which their own peaceful halo threw
Round Home's dear sanctities !

IV.

The genial smile, the gentle tone,
The Christian kindness ever shewn
By him to each, and all,
At home—to inmate or to guest,
Put on their brightest and their best
Affection to enthral.

V.

If there the spell of each seem o'er,
If there they can delight no more,
So potent was their sway :
Cherish'd in memory still they live ;
Nor can the soothing joy they give
With Death itself decay.

VI.

For the dark Grave but holds "in trust"
The relics of the good and just ;
The Graces these enshrined
Share not the frame's mortality ;
Too heavenly and too pure *to die*,
They leave in living Memory
Their Monument behind !

