POETRY, INSTRUCTIVE AND DEVOTIONAL

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Poetry, instructive and devotional by Various

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POETRY, INSTRUCTIVE AND DEVOTIONAL



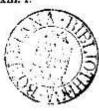
POETRY,

INSTRUCTIVE AND DEVOTIONAL.

"Praise is comely for the upright,"

PRALM XXXII. 1.

Could we leave our foolish dreaming Of a fancied heaven below, And see Jesus' glory beaming, How our souls would long to go!



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1842.

667.

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(8)

CONTENTS.

				Pa	R
Thankegiving	20	OPIE		:0e : 3	1
Retirement	¥	COWPER			5
" Will ye also go away?"	22	NEWTON .		a l	2
The Child	7	HART .			4
Paslm xix.		ADDISON .		4	6
" What think ye of Christ?"		NEWTON			7
A Morning Hymn	· į	SMITH .		į :	8
Transient and lasting Happiness	⋰.				9
"What is your Life?"		J. TAYLOR		ំ 1	to
Light shining out of Darkness .	3 10	COWFER	4	a İ	12
A New Year's Hymn	` §	NEWTON .		. 1	13
Comfort in Sickness	2 ×	TOPLADY		. 1	4
Night	- 2	MONTOOKER	Y	. 1	le
Communion with God	: 3	COWPER		. 1	8
Prayer		MONTGOMER	Y	. 1	9
Prayer		COWPER .	. 3	. 2	O
The happy Change	(X)	COWPER .		. 2	2
The Child of the Lord	2	GUBNEY .		. 2	3
"The Sower soweth the Word" .	0	MONTGOMER	Y	. 2	4
Welcome Cross		COWPER .		. 2	G
Prayer		—— .		. 2	7
On Death		COWPER	. !	. 2	8
On the Death of a Christian				. 3	KO
"Lovest thou me?"	6 8	Newton		. 3	1
Walking with God		COWPER .		. 3	2
"Lo, we have left all, and followed The	e2"	G		. 3	3
The waiting Soul		COWPER .		. 3	5
The Lord our Defence		ADDISON .	П	. 3	7
Home in View	200	NEWTON .		3	9
The World no continuing City		KRLLY	3 1	. 44	0

CONTENTS.

									P	age.
Preedom from Care .	21	1.02		0.6		NEWTON	7			41
Wisdom	¥10°		4			COWPER		63	4	43
Hope beyond the Grave	301	110		88	:	NEWTON			*	44
Poor, yet Rich .		33				KELLY				45
The Christian in Death	90			3	90	H. MORE	×		30	46
Humility			1			MONTGOM	BR	Y		47
The contrite Heart .		29		36	40	COWPER				48
The Christian and his Ec	ho	•				CAYLBY				50
"It is the Glory of a Me	un to	pas	6 O	781						220
Transgression " .	500	22		33	*	-	•		٠.	62
" Blessed are the Peacen	nke	Ta"			10	1			+	54
Aspirations for Heaven		12		×	÷	THAYER	٠	90	8	66
Lamentation for Unfaithi	alne	188							+	66
Submission		- 10		1	•	(3		٠	57
Submission					•	COWPER			,	68
The Loadstone	(A	59		¥.		NEWTON			+	59
The Path of Sorrow		*	200		9781	COWPER			æ	61
Happiness				Œ.		TOPLADY	į			62
The future Peace and Glo	ry of	the	Chi	are	h	COWPER			8	64
Christ's Care for his Peop	le				Ņ					65
Consolation in Sickness .		0	¥3			HART .				66
Raceeding great and prec	ious	Pre	int	881		KIRKHAM				67
Tribulation succeeded by	Glo	ry				DE COURCE	ď			69
A Sight of Heaven in Sie	kne	88 .		19.5	410	WATTS				70
A Prospect of Heaven me	akes	Des	th	ea.	sy	WAITS				72
Launching into Eternity		2.4	28		٠,	WATTE			ď	73
The End of Time .		Ü.		2		C. WESLE	¥			74
Death the Passage to Im-	mor	talit	Y		90	PARNELL			gr.	75
" Enter not into judgme				88	r-					46.71
vant for in thy sight										
ing he instified"		-	-	-		OTTABLES				78

POETRY.

INSTRUCTIVE AND DEVOTIONAL

THANKSGIVING.

THERE's not a leaf within the bower;—
There's not a bird upon the tree;—
There's not a dewdrop on the flower;—
But bears the impress, Lord! of thee.

Thy hand the varied leaf design'd,

And gave the bird its thrilling tone;

Thy power the dewdrop's tints combin'd,

Till like a diamond's blaze they shone.

Yes; dewdrops, leaves, and buds, and all, The smallest, like the greatest things; The sea's vast space, the earth's wide ball, Alike proclaim thee King of kings.

But man alone to bounteous Heaven,
Thanksgiving's conscious strains can raise;
To favoured man alone 'tis given
To join the angelic choir in praise!

RETIREMENT.

Far from the world, O Lord, I flee, From strife and tumult far; From scenes where Satan wages still His most successful war.

The calm retreat, the silent shade,
With prayer and praise agree;
And seem by thy sweet bounty made
For those who follow thee.

There, if thy spirit touch my soul,
And grace her mean abode,
Oh, with what peace, and joy, and love,
She communes with her God!

There, like the nightingale, she pours Her solitary lays; Nor sake a witness of her song, Nor thirsts for human praise.

Author and Guardian of my life, Sweet source of light divine, And (all harmonious names in one) My Saviour, thou art mine! What thanks I owe thee, and what love, A boundless, endless store, Shall echo through the realms above, When time shall be no more.

" WILL YE ALSO GO AWAY ?"

When any turn from Zion's way, Alas! what numbers do! Methinks I hear my Saviour say, "Wilt thou forsake me too?"

Ah! Lord, with such a heart as mine, Unless thou hold me fast, I feel I must, I shall decline, And prove like them at last.

Yet thou alone hast power, I know, To save a wretch like me; To whom, or whither could I go, If I should turn from thee?

Beyond a doubt I rest assur'd Thou art the Christ of God, Who hast eternal life secur'd, By promise and by blood.