

**EASTERN GLEAMS;
METRICAL ESSAYS
AND POEMS ON
THE GOSPEL HISTORY**

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Eastern Gleams; Metrical Essays and Poems on the Gospel History by Various

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VARIOUS

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AND POEMS ON
THE GOSPEL HISTORY**

EASTERN GLEAMS:

Metrical Essays and Poems

ON THE GOSPEL HISTORY.



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EASTERN GLEAMS.

Aurora-Gleams.

“I am the Light of the world; he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

FO minds truth-loving, struggling here
In doubt, to know the will supreme,
Hath no unerring radiance clear
Brightened o'er life's perplexing dream?

Souls willing to achieve the right,
And earnest in that noble quest,
Have they not seen a guiding light,
Their Loadstar on the way to rest?

Is there no Landmark set on high
To point a sure, undoubted road,
And bid the pilgrim lift his eye
To yonder East for help from God?

Unmoved as when the fathers set
Its mountain-cross "to mark the past,"
Speaks not this ancient witness yet
Truth that will stand while time shall last?

"Till the day breathe" are there not given,
Ere twilight-shadows fade away,
Bright "foregleams" of true light from heaven,
Prophetic of the perfect Day?

And hath not faith's glad morning-song
Answered the joy-awakening flame—
While the far echoes sound along,
Its blest evangel to proclaim?

Yea, is there not a voice we hear
Piercing the cloud that wraps our day—
"Pass ye this dark sojourn with fear,
Yet follow Me—I am the Way"?

"I am the Light—trust thou in Me;"
So love's high challenge speaks to faith,
Till doubt with time and darkness flee
Beyond the veil of life—of death.

Philosophies that teach us nought
Save cold negation's hopeless creed—
The dreary maze of sceptic thought—
Where but to chaos must they lead ?

To faith's serener heights we move
To watch life's fuller morning break—
"The day of God," whose light of love
A new, glad Memnon-song shall wake.

There, as the wise, the just of old,
In patience let us wait the end ;
With meekness faith's assurance hold,
And onward hope's bright vision send :

Looking for Him whose word shall stand
A beacon-fire to bless our day,
With "light that ne'er on sea or land"
Else dawned, till shadows pass away.

The Gospels.

WORDS that enshrine, in your mosaic setting,
 An image fairer than all art hath made—
 As coins that mark the Cæsars, unforgetting—
 Medallion-likenesses that will not fade ;

What never cunning workmanship or skill
 Of mortal craftsman pictured, ye portray ;
 What the Greek genius ne'er on classic hill
 Hath breathed in sculpture or in epic lay.

No, the divine Ideal that ye paint,
 Surpasseth all that e'er in galleries
 Hath been unveiled—the patriot, hero, saint,
 Prophet, or demigod to symbolize.

Of mythic gods in the Olympian world,
 Which owned all attributes of One supreme ?
 The artist limned the bolts that Zeus hurled,
 Away from Love's or Wisdom's nobler dream.