# TRUTH'S TRIUMPH, A POEM ON THE REFORMATION

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Truth's triumph, a poem on the reformation by C. R. Bond

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## C. R. BOND

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### A Doem

## ON THE REFORMATION.

BY C. R. BOND.

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34.



LONDON:

### ERRATA.

Page 7, hast line, for bride's read brides 12, line 10, for om read from 34, line 13, for worship read worships

Resembling Heaven! that breath'd her hallow'd airs,
And saw the wondrous light of Truth Divine,
Meridian in its morn,—when time and course,
The revolution of a million suns
Dividing, gave to sight a Christendom,
Fall'n from its name!—one desert vast it spread,

\* The Christian Church, as described Acts iv. Rev. xii.

Waste, horrid, wild, beneath an angry heaven:

A dismal tract of darksome clouds, shut out

From blessing's wonted smile, where noon walk'd by
In veil of low'ring night, and seem'd to shun

Th' unvoyageable skies: the pilgrim sad,

That track'd those hapless borders, yet to catch

The sacred beam celestial, cheer'd at once,

And shudder'd at the glance that wide disclos'd

A world undone! The millions vast immerg'd

Beneath the blackness of Cinunerian shades,

Denied, abhorr'd the gaze, and madiy dream'd

In falsebood, folly, sin,—truth, wisdom, grace.

Apostate! Fallacy to fallacy
Still adding;—changing, minishing, perverting
The Faith Divine, they strove to rear anew
The temples Truth had triumph'd to confound:
With what long-suffering mercy Judgment view'd!
Oft claiming, oft entreating their return;

Unheeded still;—another voice enslav'd,

That round another throne with soreery lur'd,

Where Babylon had built a mighty name,

Wide over earth enormous stretch'd;—her crest

Still towering with interminable toil,

To reach high Heaven, though fathom'd from th' Abyes.

The pomp, the power of that moon-mother'd race
Rise silvery o'er my soul, what time the trump
Of mortal Judgment dar'd proclaim Heav'n's peace
To unrepented guilt; at lucre's feet
Profferring profuse the treasures of her grace.
Name Faith and Holiness; lo! where they point,
To sworn obedience sacred:—what are these,
Bare-footed walking earth, and cilice-bound;
Abject in discipline, austere in spirit,
That mutter mattine, and assume perfection?
And these who angel innocence affecting,
With Brahma's frantic bride's self-sacrifice:

These that in desert caves, their penance drear, And wasting fast abide, and these that roam In beggar'd brotherhood,—a ghastly train? Form and formality, - Devotion's face, With all th' unconsecrated pride of life, That like a stubborn bullock, kicks the goad, As sullen at the yoke .- Of fiercer fame, The barb'd and turban'd captive at their wheels, Bursts from the east a furious band, their hoofs Afflicting earth, their looks assume the heavens; Then Slaughter, Famine, Fire, take names of grace, And forms that seem divine; with palmy state Flattering the brows whose very dreams are deathful: So prancing haughty on, they to the fanes, Illum'd, mid mitres ministrant, their spoils Heap red! and with the ruffian pomp of war, The mysteries of that hallow'd sign profane. That purchas'd peace for man .- The exemplars such; That with the garb of sanctity would grace