

**WHISPERS IN THE  
PALMS. HYMNS  
AND MEDITATIONS**

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Whispers in the Palms. Hymns and Meditations by Anna Shipton

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**ANNA SHIPTON**

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THE EASTERN TRADITION OF THE PALM TREE IS, THAT WHEN THE LEAVES  
QUIVER BY THE WIND THEY WHISPER THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS.

# WHISPERS IN THE PALMS.

Hymns and Meditations.

BY

ANNA SHIPTON.

"I sat down under His Shadow with great delight,  
and His fruit was sweet to my taste."

Can. ii. 3.

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## PREFACE.

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THERE may appear little need of these hymns when so many skilful hands have already tuned their harps to the only songs that are not sad to the Soul of the Believer. "There are, it may be so, many kind of Voices, and none of them are without signification." The whisper of the wind among the branches has still its mission ; and so I send forth my little volume, rejoicing if it soothe one sad heart.

If I have dwelt so minutely upon the realization of the Promise of that bright Hereafter which cheers the Child of God in his struggles and his sorrows, it is because I believe that if the Resurrection of our



Holy Sacrifice were more distinctly presented to the Mourner, and with the same earnestness with which the sufferings of His Divine Humanity are set forth, that many an earthbound Soul, sorrowing over the sepulchre, whether of some lost hope that he has cherished, or some beloved one who has trod Life's path by his side, would look up, until, in contemplation of the tender Mercy that has prepared such glory for them that seek it, the way once solitary and full of thorns would "blossom as the rose." That way leads to the home promised to the Children of the Covenant, where the broken ties of Earth that were knit in Christ shall unite in Christ: ties that won His tender sympathy here, will not be disregarded there; and we know that in "His Presence is fulness of joy, and at His Right Hand pleasures for ever more."

Of the reality of the Ministry of Angels—the glorious company of the Apostles—the goodly fellowship of the Prophets—the noble Army of Martyrs—and “the Spirits of just men made perfect,” we have been too long afraid, although we profess to believe it. And yet it is with these companions we shall live, and serve, and worship, through countless Ages of Eternity, in the immediate Presence of Him we imperfectly serve and worship here: shall we not find among these awaiting us the fond familiar friend with whom we have “taken sweet counsel, and walked to the House of God in company?”

God's Kingdom draweth near; and we, looking for the coming of the Lord, may also look, in assured faith, for them who sleep in Jesus to come with Him. Are they not already belonging to the “great Cloud of Witnesses”—Ministering Spirits, rejoicing even

now in errands of love and mercy, delighting in Wisdom drawn from the Fountain, of which Christ is the source, and whispering of that Kingdom to come, of which Christ is the sun and centre ?

*London, October 20th, 1855.*