

**LYRA CONSOLATIONIS FROM
THE POETS OF THE SEVENTEENTH,
EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH
CENTURIES. SELECTED AND
ARRANGED**

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Lyra Consolationis from the Poets of the Seventeenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries.
Selected and Arranged by Claudia Frances Hernaman

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CLAUDIA FRANCES HERNAMAN

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BY

CLAUDIA FRANCES HERNAMAN


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PREFACE

THIS selection of verse is designed to comfort mourners from the first hours of their bereavement, by leading those over whom the sky is darkening, to the Cross and Grave of our great Forerunner, that so they may look onward to His glorious victory over death, and to that final restitution of all things which involves eternal reunion with our beloved in Him. Therefore, it is based on those clauses of the Apostles' Creed in which the Church confesses her belief in her Lord's Crucifixion, Death, and Burial; in His Resurrection, Ascension, and Coming again.

In order to follow out this plan, it has not always been possible to select verses of the highest literary merit, as, above all things, the sequence of ideas had to be carried on. Poets for the last three centuries have been laid under contribution, but only where their writings fell in with the design of the book ; and the compiler earnestly begs those who may be called upon to criticize her work, to bear this in mind when they are inclined to take exception either to insertions or omissions which may appear to them undesirable.

The compiler offers grateful thanks to all who have helped her : to the publishers and authors who have kindly granted her permission to insert hymns and poems, and whom she would be pleased to thank individually did space permit. But chiefly

she desires to express her gratitude to the Rev. John Ellerton, who has generously afforded her the aid of his critical and literary experience, as well as allowed the insertion of several favourite hymns.

The somewhat unusual course of inserting a very few French and German pieces in the original will perhaps commend itself to persons who can appreciate their beauty. "Wohlauf, wohlan," entitled "The Last Journey," is a hymn intended to be sung as the body is borne to its last resting-place, and no translation is able adequately to render the force and charm of the original German.

May the little book be blessed to the consolation of Christian mourners, guiding them through the valley of tears and the night of sorrow, and strengthening them

to wait in joyful hope for the time when
"sorrow and sighing shall flee away," and
the

"Day which knows no evening"

shall dawn upon the everlasting hills.

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