

THE  
GOSPEL MAGAZINE

AND

PROTESTANT BEACON.

“COMFORT YE, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE, SAITH YOUR GOD.”

“ENDEAVOURING TO KEEP THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT IN THE BOND OF PEACE.”

“JESUS CHRIST, THE SAME YESTERDAY, AND TO-DAY, AND FOR EVER. WHOM TO  
KNOW IS LIFE ETERNAL.”

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## P R E F A C E.

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THE events of the day in which we live are so rapid in their occurrence, as well as so astounding in their magnitude, that, rather than offer any comment, we—especially under present personal circumstances—prefer standing still, and looking on in *silent awe*. Instead, we repeat, of seeking to intrude at such a juncture, and in the midst of so much that is so solemn and mysterious, with opinions of our own, we desire to bow in holy reverential submission to Him “who ruleth in the armies of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth.” “None dare stay His hand, nor say, What doest Thou?” He is infinite in wisdom, boundless in love, omnipotent in power. Nothing we are sure has arisen or can arise, which He did not eternally foresee, and against which He did not eternally provide. He “worketh,” now, as of old, “all things after the counsel of His own will.”

The word, in reference to the momentous events transpiring in our day and generation, which has long been impressed upon our heart, is this, “Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.” In God, and God alone, as manifesting Himself in and through His dear Son by the Holy Ghost, in His most precious word, is the hope, stay, and consolation of His one Church.

To the Church of the living God, at present traversing the wilderness, and combating all that must of necessity arise from a cease-

less warfare with the world, the flesh, and the devil, we would say, Make the 46th Psalm your watchword. May "Be still, and know that I am God," especially resound through your very inmost souls, causing you to realize all that is involved in the expression, "In quiet and in confidence shall be your strength." Be it the privilege of such ever to remember that "the just shall live by *faith*," and that "he that believeth shall not make haste." The Lord give such, moreover, to enjoy the Divine consolation which the Psalmist experienced when he said, "Although my house be not so with God; yet He hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure: for this is all my salvation, and all my desire, although He make it not to grow."

THE EDITOR.

*London, Dec. 18, 1867.*