TRUE

CHRISTIAN LOVE

be sung with any of the common Tunes of the Psalms

Coloss. iii 16.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, in all Wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in Psalms and Hymns, and spiritual Songs, singing with grace in your Hearts to the Lord.

1 Pet. i. 8. Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable, and full of Glory.

Written by the late Reverend and learned Mr. David Dickson, sometime Minister of the Gospel at Irvine, afterwards Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh.

To which is added, Honey Drops, or, Crystal Streams flowing from Christ the fountain and Head thereof.

G L A S G O W:

Printed in the Year, M, D C C, L I.
TO THE READER

Since Christ's fair truth craves no man's a
Take this rude song in better part.
FLUSTIAN LOVE.

Then why want I contenting Love, since Christ's love may be had: In whom is all that I do seek, or can be thought or said? What

A Heart for Love, when

the leaf as I can crave,

love that can give full content, cannot choose but have agents fill with me: Though Honour heght to lift me up,

and Mammon me to live: nor makes my Heart to swerve.

For Fear, Envy, Care and Toil, with other ill hew'd Wights,

Wait for my service if I need, their Matters, O what fights.

The only thing like to prevail,

was match'd unto my mind;

when Fancy busk'd my party with Ecclef. 1. 2.

Perfections of each Kind.

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Perfections of each Kind.
True Christian Love.

What other Loves do seem
is truly in him found:

Cant. 5. 10. The scattered beauties of the
in him are jointly bound.

What they do lack and cannot
because they finite be:
'Tis infinite, in him it stands
for ever still: O he,
He, he, is only worthy Love,
and nothing else but he:
Alas; that Vanity so long
hath so bewitched me.

Why heard I flattering Idols Words
why did I parly keep?
Why suffered I Affliction
to sing me so asleep?

Ps. 77. 22. How went I on so foolishly,
and kept so oft their tryst,
As if false loves could be found true,
and had no mind of Christ?

No, not when Christ was suitin me,
and they found oft untrue:
I stuck still in the bonds, and could,
myself no ways rescue.

Ps. 73. 23. Yet good and wise Lord Jesus Christ,
did still pursue my Love:
He knew, tho' I refus'd, my Heart
was his, he could me move.

Cant. 8. 4. And now 'tis done, my love is thine,
Lord Jesus, come receive
This whorish Heart, and suffer not
my soul hence to deceive.
There shall my suitors all me serve,
but thou my Love shalt be.

They
True Christian Love.

All be mine, not I theirs, else shall not follow me.

Shall I have Advantage twice, and blest shall be my lot:

Let my Lovers Goods and Love have theirs, well I wot.

Love that will not me despise, though I unworthy be.

Tho' vile and loathsome, yet will he not loath, but pity me.

Tho' fickle I, he will not change,

his constancy is known:

Of change no shadow is with him,

he loves for as his own.

When I for want of wit and strength offend, and do confess:

He will not chide, but pardon me

my Faults both more and less.

He will no charge upon me lay,

more than I may well bear:

But will my Burthens, as I need support: I do not fear.

No wrath at others will cause him unpleasant he to me:

No slanderer will get his Ear, to hear of me a Lie.

He will not misconstrue my Words, he will not angry be:

Nor fret without a cause, nor frown, nor fitch a Fault falsely:

Nor mark my ways so narrowly, as nothing to pass by,

His Love will hide my Sin, in Love, Faith safely may rely.

He
True Christian Love.

He will not waste his Heart, nor will himself disgrace:

Ps. 89. 22. No Foes can hurt him, and then he turns upon their Face.

John 13. His Love to other Saints shall work prejudice to me,
More than the Sun's light unto doth hinder me to see.

No causeless jealousy will vex at any Time his Mind:

Isa. 30. 21. But if he see my heart go wrong,

Rev. 2. 19. I know he is so kind,
As to admonish and rebuke,
and chasten if it need;
And so me save from perishing,
too oft deserv'd indeed.

Gen. 12. 3. If I be sad, he will be loath yet more to vex my Heart:

Num. 24. 9. If any other will do so,
'gainst them he'll take my Part.
And those that grieve me, he will grieve, and curse them more and less.
That curleth me, so will he those that bless me surely blest.

Job. 5. 29. If Trouble set about me round,

Ps. 61. 15. he will not me forsake,
Nor leave me comfortless alone, but pity on me take.

Pet. 13. 17. And if he hide his face a while, as Wisdom oft requires,

Jam. 1, 2. He doth but exercise my Faith, and sharpen my Desires.
And if he seem to stay well long, that I become so dead.

As
True Christian Love.

neither say nor sing, 
meditate nor read: 
ought else that might affwage, 
its pangs in such a case: 
high and droop, and hang my Head, 
ing looking for his Grace.

ring but broken Words or none, 
perplexed with thoughts confus'd: 
Suggestions whisper all the while, 
as if I were refus'd.

Yet still his gracious Hand doth me 
John 5. 14. 
support with secret Strength, 
And makes me in these deeps not drown 
Is. 23. 2. 
but brings me thro' at length.

Mean time he keeps my scatter'd Words, 
Pf. 36. 8. 
and failing those my Tears: 
In Books and Bottles, and takes course 
to rid me out of fears.

And failing both my Words and Tears, 
he marks each woful Groan: 
And failing those my sighs and all 
the Parcels of my Moan.

Yea when I sit astonished, 
Pf. 120. 2. 
my lifted Hands and Looks 
Speaks all my Mind to him, as if 
it written were in books.

For he doth search the Heart and knows 
what is the Spirits mind: 
And as its fit gives Answer to 
need's cry in every kind.

And look how sharp these Tryals are, 
their fruit is far more sweet: 
His Countenance compenseth all, 
Pf. 20. 5. 
with one blink when we meet.

For
True Christian Love.

Ps. 4. 7. For he doth make my Heart then any Tongue can tell,
Ps. 34. 21. Tho' grief was great, yet joy is more sweet than Grief was
Ps. 76. For judge ye whosoever felt what weight in Sin, what G
True Chr Milan Love.

For he doth make my Heart then any Tongue can tell,
Tho' grief was great, yet joy is more sweet than Grief was
For judge ye whosoever felt what weight in Sin, what G
In Mind opprest what Anguish when Soul feels no relief.
What Torments in perplexity, what horror in God's Wrath;
What Hell is fear'd Eternity, at losing of his Breath.
And presuppose a Soul were sure to dwell at last above

Prov. 13. 12 In Heaven with Christ, yet know ye not what languor is in Love:
Ps. 22. 42. What Sickness in deferred Hopes,
Ps. 11. 6, 3. What Battle without Foe?
24. and 7. 8. What trouble when God hides his face
And seems us to forgo.

Now judge again; when weights are lift Grief, Anguish, Torments gone:
For Wrath, Death, Hell, Eternity, of Fear now there is none.
But in their Place the Heart lift up, Life, Light and rest is come:
Felt love, peace, victory, hearts' health, and Christ's Spirit all in Sum.
Judge when our much provoked Lord, himself shows reconcile'd,
If with the joy that then is felt, a Heart may not be fill'd.
Now what can others Love do here, to Souls in such a Cafe.

But
True Christian Love.

The Grief and make the Vail

Jo. 15. 13.

Stick to hide Christ’s Face:

John Loves, all get you gone,

take Servants Place:

And Conditions were to me,

you to quite his Face.

Hours joy in him is more,

Ps. 64. 10.

ough mixt with dreary Tears,

ten all Earth’s Honour, Pleasure, Wealth,

can field in many Years.

ow I me rest and rouse my Love, Ps. 116. 7.

whafst me lovd and chus’d,

ing call’d for my worthles Love, Gal. 2. 20.

ould not be refus’d.

his Love as he fought mine,

ern of him to Love,

ites I cannot mis,

whiles he shall me prove.

My I his Fathers eldest Son,

his Sher, King of Kings:

John 2. 18.

His Heritage is Heaven and Earth,

and in them both all Things.

Dan. 2. 47.

His Wisdom laid the World all round, Ps. 2. 8.

Heb. 1. 2.

and parted Sea and Land,

Earth’s Body thro’, as Veins, he drew Prov. 8. 22.

the Waters with his Hand.

He made the Sun and Stars so swift,

yet not be seen to move,

Left Man on Earth had vexed been with Motions from above.

His Strength upholds this weighty Globe,

and yet which is far more,

He bare our Sins and heavy Wrath, deserv’d of us therefore.

B.
True Christian Love.

For Truth God's promises are all, yea, and Amen:
For Love, his Death for us a sufficient hath been.
For Justice, he can do no wrong,
for Mercy, there is none,
Or shall in Hell be, who have
for Grace thro' him alone.

Deut. 32. Most lofty and most lowly Mind, most good, and most severe.
Isa. 57.15. Most lovely, and most terrible.
Mat. 11.29. do all in him co-heere.
The meekest Lamb to all his F a Lion to his Foes.
He gives his peace to all that wrath follows all that
No Foe can stand before him, no Fugitive can flee,
Mal. 3.2. No lurking Hole can hide roth him his Eyes do all things see.
Psa. 139.8. Almighty all where present, though his Body Heaven contain.
7,10,11,12. Mat. 28,20. Eternal God, tho' he as Man, Man's property retain.
No robb'ry for his Majesty his Father's Match to be,
The Father's God head & the Spirit's, and his are one all three.
Phil. 2.6. Therefore when I do love the Son, I love the Father too,
John 5.7. And so the Spirit, who dwells in him, to all I worship do.
Gen. 3.22. He is the Tree of Life to me, and so to all his own.