

The Ascension.

ASCEND, Lord strong and mighty, Glory's King !
 Thy throne, set on translucent golden floor,
 Waits Thy return, and through Heaven's open door,
 As at Thy Birth, the thronging angels sing :
 Rise, on cloud-chariot, and the swift wind's wing !
 Now Bethany's palms Thy presence know no more
 Now fades from sight blue Galilee's garden shore ;
 Zion's gold-fretted fane is vanishing ;
 Anon the round world shines a distant star !
 Nor does Thy pity with Thy rapture end ;
 Not gone from earth, although enthroned above ;
 For ever present where Thy people are.
 So grant us grace divine, like Thee to blend
 Heaven-soaring thoughts, and earth-bound work of love.

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Correspondence.

ARCHDEACON CAMPBELL ON 2 PETER. II. 4-9.

To the Editor of THE CHURCHMAN.

SIR,—In his article on "The Spirits in Prison," in your April number, Dr. Campbell criticizes some notes of mine in Bishop Ellicott's "Commentary," and in so doing falls into one or two errors (pp. 373, 374.)

(1) He attributes to me something which I have never written and never meant.

(2) He blames me for saying that an inspired writer has in writing a long sentence "lost the thread of the construction."

(3) He gives his own view of the construction, and then remarks, "The sentence is complete." But it is quite evident that, on his own showing, the sentence is not complete.

Kindly allow me to say a few words on each of these points.

(1) He says that I "would have had St. Peter write something like this, 'If God spared not the angels that sinned, casting them down to Tartarus, but spared the angels that sinned not.'" I do not find anything to this effect in my notes. On the contrary, I say that the sentence, if freed from its entanglement, would run—"If God spared not the angels for their sin . . . the Lord knoweth how . . . to reserve the ungodly unto the day of judgment under punishment." See notes on verses 4 and 9.

(2) With the Greek Testament before one, it is impossible to doubt that inspired writers can write sentences in which "the thread of the construction is lost." Sometimes two or three constructions are mixed up together. And there is nothing strange in this ; quite the contrary. Even educated people, when under the influence of strong emotion, lose control of their grammar ; uneducated people still more so. The latter are apt to do so even without the influence of emotion. Inspiration does not put a stop to all this. Are we to suppose that, if an illiterate fisherman were