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1. 2534 in period 7 pp.

The Morning Star of Mohammedan Missions

[the morning star]

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Sometimes one observes, if one looks at the sky in the early morning at certain times of the year, he will see all the stars ~~disappear~~ disappear^{ed} and it looks as if day were going to come soon, and then he will see one star still shining bright and clear, ~~As a precursor~~ a precursor of the daylight that is ahead. Time passes and this star disappears as the sun appears in all its glory.

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Sometimes in history we find an individual who appears in this way, shines with a bright light but seems to leave very little trace save a story and an example, often even this is forgotten. Then a period of time passes, a new era comes, something bursts into bright relief and on looking back we find that it is very similar to the one bright lonely star that appeared some time ahead.

Such a star was John Wyclif, ^{what} ~~known as~~ ^{called} the morning star of the ^{English} Reformation, in his teaching and in his activity in England. He chose most of the principles that were distinctive of the Reformation when it came. But after Wyclif's death most of his influence was destroyed. His followers were tracked down, and killed. Even the body of Wyclif was dug up from the grave and burned and the ashes thrown into the river. ²⁰⁰ It looked as if Wyclif had been a meteor flashing across the sky, leaving no trace for the future of the views that he held or the teachings that he tried to advance. More than a century passed. The teachings of Luther came into England, many followed them, the great English Reformation came into its own, then people looked back and saw how similar it all was to ²⁰⁰ what Wyclif had taught more than a century before. ²⁹⁸ Wyclif became known as the Morning Star of the Reformation.

Today we are going to glance at one who could be truly be called the Morning Star of Mohammedan Missions. ~~The Turks~~ ^{church} through the first six or seven centuries, of the history of Mohammedanism, the ~~Turks~~ slumbered as far as any effective mission work was concerned. After five centuries, fiery preachers alerted Europe to the injury

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