

THE POETICAL WORKS
OF THE
REV. H. F. LYTE, M.A.

A FACSIMILE OF THE HYMN
'ABIDE WITH ME! FAST FALLS THE
EVENTIDE'

IN THE AUTHOR'S HANDWRITING

abide with us for it is toward
Evening and the day is far spent
abide with me! Fast falls the Eventide;
The darkness thickens. Lord, with us abide.
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me!

Swift to its close ebb out life, little day,
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see.
O Thou who changest not, abide with me!

Not a brief glance I beg, a passing word;
But as Thou dwellest with thy disciples, and,
Familiar, condescending, patient, free,
Come, not to sojourn, but abide with me.

Come not in terrors, as the king of kings;
But kind and good with healing in thy wings,
Lears for all woes, a heart for every plea,
Come, Friend of sinners, and then abide with us

Thou on my head in early youth didst send;
And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left thee.
On to the close, O Lord, abide with me!

I need thy presence every passing hour.
What but thy grace can fail the Supter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O, abide with me!

I fear us for with thee at hand to bless:
I'll have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold then thy cross before my closing eyes
Speak through the gloom, and point me to the skies
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee!
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

A. H. W.

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REV. H. F. LYTE, M.A.

AUTHOR OF 'ABIDE WITH ME'

EDITED, WITH A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH,

BY THE

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

THE Rev. Henry Francis Lyte, M.A., who has secured world-wide renown as the author of 'Abide with Me' and other famous hymns, was born at Ednam, near Kelso, in Scotland, of English parentage, on June 1, 1793. To the gracious influence of a good and talented mother must be attributed the honour of shaping the character and mind of her son, whose thoughts were ordained to influence and bless the world. Memories of his mother constantly proved a source of inspiration to goodness, and were sacred treasures in his soul to the very last. He wrote a poem entitled, 'On Dreaming of my Mother,' by which we see how deeply her image was engraven on his soul.

His father, who was a military officer, descended from an influential family in Somersetshire.

It was at Protoro, in Ireland, that their famous son received instruction at school, being then nine years of age. At this early stage he acquitted himself with distinction under the tuition of Dean Burrows. Still, it is to be regretted that his early advantages were meagre. His natural abilities, however, were considerable. The difficulties and struggles of his early life created within him a spirit of determination and perseverance, without which he could not have secured the advantages which came to him later, and which carried him triumphantly through adversities which would have daunted most men. Ambitions of the noblest order moved his soul. In the poem 'Aspirations' we are favoured with a glimpse of his magnificent spirit.

At the age of nineteen he proceeded to Trinity College, Dublin, and from the first became recognized as a distinguished scholar and a popular friend. Some of the friendships formed

at this time were so strong and dear that they remained firm through the numerous changes of succeeding years. When in middle life he wrote 'Stanzas to J. K.,' his heart was as warm in friendship as when the holy attachments were made in the flush of youth. His appreciation of faithfulness on the part of his friends was very great, and afforded him intense delight. When the years of sickness came, he found his friends a source of much comfort and strength.

As is generally the case with those who highly esteem the friendships of life, he felt their loss most acutely. The poem 'Friends Lost in 1833' expresses his sense of sorrow. But he was constantly forming new attachments, and so all through life his friends were numerous. His pleasant friendliness of nature was such that others were instinctively attracted toward him. We may, however, conclude that his early-formed friendships were the sweetest and best. Happy are all who succeed in retaining the friends of their youth. 'He that hath many friends must show himself friendly.' But though of such a sociable nature, he was most industrious, and never allowed social engagements to interfere with his intellectual pursuits.

Whilst at Dublin he gave much attention to his natural aptitude for poetry, and composed some poems which won valuable prizes. In three successive years he secured the English prize for poetry in the college competition. His poem 'Richard Cœur de Lion,' which secured the Chancellor's premium, attracted considerable attention. In a letter to a friend, dated March, 1815, Mr. Lyte says, in reference to the poem: 'On looking over this, the Provost imagined, with his telescopic eyes, that he had discovered some merit sufficient to entitle it to recitation at the next visitation. I was therefore commanded to attend with my poem, and gave them a dose of about two hundred lines from the beginning of the composition, which the Chancellor liked so well that he wished for the rest of the work for perusal. The Provost has expressed a wish that I should publish the poem, "dedicated to the Vice-Chancellor," and "at the desire of the Board and Fellows of the University."' "

His poem on the Primrose was composed during his first year at Dublin. It is full of exquisite thought, and shows how intensely he observed and loved Nature. The spirit and power of the poem are charming. From his childhood days flowers were a source of much delight to him, and often he sang their praises. His poems 'Spare my Flower' and 'The Wallflower' are magnificent work. The poem 'Flowers' is a superb production in which many aspects of life are gently touched. It is full of fine spiritual ideas.

Several of his poems show that Nature in all her moods appealed powerfully to his soul.

But 'The Battle of Salamanca' is perhaps the most remarkable of all his works at this period. The descriptive power is truly remarkable for one so young. The language thrills one like the rousing tones of a battle-march rendered by skilful musicians. Mr. Lyte might have been an experienced soldier, so extensive and appropriate was his military vocabulary.

He excites our admiration as a model of industry who is absolutely depending on his own resources. By extra labour in teaching pupils he succeeded in making his financial course much easier. After graduating at Dublin he was drawn toward the medical profession, but soon his soul became so powerfully moved by religious impressions that he was constrained to relinquish the idea of medicine and prepare for the ministry.

In 1815, soon after he became of age, he was ordained to the ministry of the Church of England. His first curacy was at Wexford, where he toiled with much devotion in parochial duties; but as the town did not afford him congenial society or sufficient leisure for literary pursuits, he decided to become tutor to the boys of an old friend, with whom he went to reside, and where he had times of intense delight with suitable society and literary privileges.

For a time his religious activity declined; then, through the illness of a neighbouring clergyman, he was led to see the great importance of putting first things first, and wholeheartedly devoting himself to the work of the ministry, for which he had been specially set apart. In the extremity his

dying ministerial friend had been brought to test the foundations upon which he had been resting, and had discovered how in many things he had failed to give Christ pre-eminence. The depth of the impression made upon Mr. Lyte's mind at the side of his friend's death-bed may be understood from the following quotation from a letter written about this time. He said: 'I was greatly affected by the whole matter, and brought to look at life and its issues with a different eye than before; and I began to study my Bible, and preach in another manner than I had previously done.' The incident changed and influenced the whole current of his life.

When his friend died, Mr. Lyte was obliged to undertake an enormous amount of responsibility for the widow and family, which, in addition to his other labours, broke down his health. He soon fell into a decline, which was only arrested by a prolonged holiday on the Continent. On his return he was unsettled for a time. Various curacies were accepted and soon resigned, but at last he settled at Marazion, near Penzance. His mind was ever productive, and some of his letters from Marazion show how much he lived in a literary realm. Whilst residing there he became acquainted with Anne, the only daughter of the Rev. W. Maxwell, D.D., of Bath. The Maxwells were a renowned Wesleyan Methodist family of exalted station. His acquaintance with Miss Maxwell speedily ripened into affectionate intimacy, and they were eventually married. From a religious point of view the marriage can scarcely be regarded as an ideal one, and one cannot but be amused to hear elderly residents of Brixham tell how, in their youth, they saw Mrs. Lyte go into the Wesleyan Church for worship, where she sat with her maid in the gallery, whilst her husband, as the minister of All Saints', Lower Brixham, journeyed to his church to conduct Divine worship there. Their religious differences caused some difficulties, but still his home life was bright and happy. To the end Mrs. Lyte was a devoted Wesleyan Methodist, and proved a friend indeed to many ministers of that denomination.

Miss Maxwell does not appear as the only one who ever won Mr. Lyte's affections. His heart was strangely moved in

early life, and the love remained strong for several years. Though the object of his affection was destined to marry another, she did not live long after her marriage. The story is extremely sad, and yet it is full of beauty. The poem 'Agnes' gives some particular information. In the poem 'Sad Thoughts' (1815) Mr. Lyte passes through clouds of depression. Though disappointed in love, there is no rebellion of soul. One marvels how, in the day of sadness, he can think so sweetly of the sacred memories of the past.

At the time of his marriage to Miss Maxwell, Mr. Lyte's health was very poor, and it was deemed advisable to remove to a more congenial sphere. Accordingly they settled at Lymington, where, in the quiet country, the poet enjoyed a considerable amount of leisure, and where much of his poetical work was done. It was at Lymington that he finished 'Tales on the Lord's Prayer.' The manuscript was put aside, and would never have been published had not some friends urgently requested it. Had the author been able to revise the work some improvements would doubtless have been made, but as he removed to a busier town and resumed his ministerial labours the opportunity could not be secured. The tales in verse most beautifully illustrate the Lord's Prayer. The work has in it much beautiful language and thought. It drew from Mr. Christopher North in *Blackwood* the following statement: 'This is the right kind of poetry, its style and spirit reminding one sometimes of Wordsworth, sometimes of Crabbe. He ought to give us another volume.' Frequently the tales remind one of Gray's 'Elegy.'

The death of his infant daughter during his residence in Hampshire led to 'Lines to A. M. M. L.' being written. They are full of the spirit of deep faith and resignation. Those who have been bereaved of children will find them full of comfort. During his sojourn at Lymington his health very considerably improved, and he decided to again enter upon active ministerial duties. As South Devonshire was considered a mild and healthy district, he obtained a curacy at Charlton, near Kingsbridge, where he laboured about two years. He also took a cottage at Dittisham, and from this

quiet retreat he journeyed occasionally to officiate at the fishing town of Brixham. It did not seem likely that a fishing town would have any attraction for a gentleman of refined nature and literary taste such as his, but there were circumstances that influenced him so forcibly that he at last consented to put aside his preferences and enter the divinely-opened door at Brixham. This was during the year 1819. He took charge of the new district church which had been recently erected, and commenced a ministry which lasted upwards of twenty-eight years. The town had then a population of about 4,000 people, and was best known as an important trawl-fishing port, and the place where the Prince of Orange landed with his army in 1688. The people generally were in very comfortable circumstances. Indeed, many had considerable means, which had been accumulated mainly during the years in which Torbay was a rendezvous for the Channel Fleet, and when Torquay did not attract ship traffic as it does to-day. The fact that Berry Head had been a large and important military station for many years also accounts for the financial prosperity of the town. Besides, seafaring life in those days was a lucrative undertaking, perhaps much more so than it is to-day, and certainly much more so with the trawling ships of Brixham. But there was much wickedness prevalent. The military station and the visits of the fleet had seriously affected the morality of the town, but the devoted minister faced the difficult situation bravely, and soon became a power for good and a person much beloved. The warm-hearted people responded to his earnest solicitations and his visits to their vessels when in harbour; going from one to the other and chatting freely with the sailors resulted in his invitations to service being accepted, and large numbers of the people gathered in the church to hear him. His refined spirit and the exalted nature of his mind and character had a subduing and refining influence upon the people. They became so attached to their pastor that they readily and liberally responded to his appeals for assistance in the work of God. The fishermen regarded him as a special favourite. The hazardous calling of these brave men made him

feel how very urgent his spiritual work amongst them was.

Brixham men—yes, and women also—have long been noted for their brave and noble hearts and conduct. Often had he seen life freely risked in order to save perishing fellow-men, and it was his close touch with the perils to which the heroes of Brixham were constantly exposed that inspired him in the production of the splendid poem entitled 'Grace Darling.' In it we see how powerfully heroic deeds appealed to his nature. We are certain that the dangers of the seafaring life made him very solicitous concerning his parishioners' souls. His deep spiritual interest was practically illustrated by the presentation by him of a copy of the Bible to every skipper for use aboard his ship. He also wrote a short book of 'Devotions' for the sailors to use when at sea.

Knowing their love of singing, he wrote several naval songs which they could sing to well-known tunes. Thus he brought himself into close touch and friendship with his parishioners by taking deep practical interest in their personal life and labours. His soul was large, gentle, gracious, and totally unselfish. With lavish hand he ministered with all his might to the needs of the people. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lyte were exceedingly good to the poor. It was with great delight that Mrs. Lyte received poor girls to her home in order to train them for domestic service, and send them out into the world efficient and hopeful. We are told that she was an exceptionally good business woman; her shrewdness and activity were remarkable.

Aged ones yet remain in Brixham who testify to the benefits they personally received from Mr. Lyte's untiring ministry of generosity and love. Some remember how, in their youth, he visited their homes during bereavement, and was full of great tenderness and sympathy. His labours were multifarious. A Bible class which he organized and conducted for sailors was greatly appreciated, and led to the reformation of many lives. Through the love for the Word of God which this class was the means of creating in their hearts, a number learned to read the Bible for themselves. So in very many

ways he moved amongst the people as a friend with a heart and hand ever at their service.

On several occasions he was requested by the fishermen to preach special sermons, and readily acceded to their desire. At such times the fishermen wended their way to church in large numbers, and a custom was established of attending church *en masse* to hear a special discourse before they started out on their annual journeys to distant fishing-grounds.

These processions were of unusual interest, and presented a sight quaint and unique. The men were arrayed in blue trousers, with white braces over blue jerseys, and red woollen caps on their heads. On Queen Victoria's coronation day the fishermen marched to church carrying a banner inscribed 'Prepare to meet thy God.' Mr. Lyte preached a remarkable sermon from the words 'Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find,' and incidentally praised the men for their good behaviour during the festivities.

His ministry from the pulpit was very effectual, as the following instance will prove: A young lady of Brixham became convinced of her sin and great need of a Saviour on one occasion when he preached from the text 'One thing thou lackest.' For some time she was in great distress about her soul, but eventually obtained peace of mind whilst in a Methodist society at Torquay. The interest which Mrs. Lyte took in the spiritual welfare of the people is revealed in the correspondence which she entered into with the young lady above referred to. When she found that the seeker had found the Saviour, and was in happy fellowship with Christian people, she wrote: 'I can truly say it rejoiced my heart and refreshed my spirit to find your soul prospering. Surely you enjoy the liberty wherewith Christ has made you free. The rich gift of faith is indeed abundantly imparted to you, and you find it a balm for every wound, a cordial for every fear. What reason have you for gratitude! Your friends glorify the grace of God on your account, and bless a merciful and covenant-keeping God, who has shown forth His love to you in bringing you out of darkness into light. All things are yours that are needful, and blessed be the Lord for His truth's

sake.' Mrs. Lyte expressed her feeling toward the Methodists in the following letter, addressed to the same person: 'I cannot say that I feel sorry that you have joined the Methodists, for I have often, very often, found the blessed effects of attending amongst their members the means of grace. May humble love and holy fear attend you all your journey through!'

Mr. Lyte's sermons were seldom written in full. The principal divisions and illustrations of the subjects were all that he wrote. We are told that when preaching he had a charming power. His voice was rich and his manner graceful. Congregations listened to his eloquence as if held under a sacred spell. It is impossible to find in his prose works anything that adequately exhibits the superior style and completeness which characterized his preaching. From the rich treasure-house of his refined mind he poured forth the sacred pearls and gems of truth. It appears that he composed a large variety of articles and sermons which were complete in his own mind, but very incomplete on paper. As only brief notes were available, we see the reason why such a comparatively small quantity of his literary labours have been published. Of his sons, his second one inherited a large measure of his literary power, and but for his early death (at the age of twenty-four, soon after his father), the world would doubtless have been favoured with many other prose and poetic works which his father left in an incomplete state.

In addition to his special work amongst fishermen, and his preaching and literary labours, Mr. Lyte established various branches of parish work, which were so effectively carried out by a noble band of workers who rallied round him, that the moral aspect of the whole community was greatly improved. Prayer-meetings were established and conducted by him, which were very largely attended by Christians of all denominations. An annuity fund was also established and conducted with spirit and efficiency. He organized a Sunday-school, which soon numbered between 700 and 800 scholars, and between 70 and 80 devoted teachers. Many of these teachers became very capable as a result of the great pains which he

took to prepare them for their work. For use in the schools he compiled books of elementary instruction, which proved of great service. He was always present at the school when health permitted, and had much influence over the scholars. Frequently he gave addresses, which were always full of interest. It is interesting to note that he was the first to commence Sunday-school treats in Brixham, and to this day the town is noted for its schools and treats. The number of scholars found in the Sunday-schools is exceptionally large, and perhaps no town has a larger number in proportion to its population. Schools of every denomination have their separate treats on different days, and these events are regarded as the most beautiful and popular public functions of the year. This deep interest is largely due to the enthusiasm which Mr. Lyte first infused into them. His example might profitably be copied by ministers of all denominations. His interest was very practical. Year by year he wrote special hymns for the Sunday-school anniversary services and for the treat days, and sometimes composed tunes for them also. They were always anticipated with pleasure, and the joyous manner in which they were sung by the children gave the author most intense delight. On the field-day the scholars formed a long procession, and Mr. Lyte, who was tall and of a noble bearing, with a face beaming with gladness, headed them through the town to a field at Berry Head, where he joined in the various pleasures with much spirit. He would give sixpence to the first girl that could catch him. At once they would make a rush, and he would run zigzag round the field. A dear old lady still resides at Brixham who joined in one of these chases, and grasping his coat in her eagerness, and with the pressure of some girls at her heels, the minister's coat-tail was torn about six inches. But the sixpence was won, and he good-humouredly said: 'I don't know whether I ought to give you the sixpence or not, now that my coat is torn.' At the same time he smilingly handed the girl the coveted prize. The love which children bore toward him is a fine testimony to his spirit and worth. His kindness flowed like an unfailing stream. Whenever he met

young people in the streets, he always had a kindly word and a smile for them. During his early ministry at Brixham Mr. Lyte resided at Burton House, behind which, in the fields, may be seen a large rock, which forms a picturesque object on a sloping bank, in which there is fixed a tablet bearing a poetical inscription which he wrote in memory of a much-loved dog which belonged to Lady Farnham, with whom the Lyte family were intimately associated. He had a deep love for animals and birds. At Burton House he kept an eagle, which was generally to be seen chained to a tree which still flourishes. Children from all parts of the town used to go and see the bird, and no doubt with secret hope in their hearts to see its owner as well. The poet was delighted to see the pleasure and amusement which the eagle afforded his young friends.

His interests were very numerous and varied. As the result of excessive labours serious physical symptoms appeared which greatly alarmed his friends. His strength gradually failed. The ordinary duties of his parochial work were always numerous, and, owing to the hilly nature of the town, visitation demanded much physical strain. He also educated his own children, and in order to increase his income took a number of gentlemen's sons as private resident pupils. One of these afterwards became famous as Lord Salisbury, Prime Minister of England.

In consequence of his tutorial labours, the hours which ought to have been devoted to rest were employed in writing, general reading, and in scientific investigations. Scientific studies greatly interested him. No time was lost; the scope of his reading was extensive. The early Fathers had much attraction for him, and he seemed to revel in ancient classical writings: their charm and beauty fascinated him.

His interest in the musical portion of church services was very deep. For years Mr. Lyte had felt the need of a metrical version of the Psalms, and after much hesitation he commenced the difficult task. As a result of great labour, he succeeded in producing a volume (written originally for his church at Lower Brixham) which proved a great blessing to

many congregations both in this country and in America. It was published under the title 'Spirit of the Psalms' in 1834. It is a testimony to its worth that large portions of it have been added to various collections of hymns. His love for the Psalms was profound ; they seemed to be like a spring of living water to his soul. As early as 1815 he had paraphrased the forty-sixth Psalm in one of his prize poems at Dublin, and so perfectly was it done that the work secured widespread appreciation. The Psalms became a real part of his deepest nature, and in them he found real peace and consolation. In the years of his great weakness, when duties were resigned one by one, and when death seemed threatening, he loved to meditate upon their sacred truths.

The early part of the year 1839 was for him a period of intense suffering. His medical adviser, Dr. Chambers, urged him to take complete rest in order to prolong his life ; but his earnest spirit found no rest or pleasure in inactivity, and he was soon at work again producing poetry with remarkable prolificness. He remarked to friends who urged him to take more care, 'that it was better to wear out than to rust out.' A large number of his hymns were composed at Brixham, and soon found their way into various books of hymns for public worship and private devotion. All his hymns impress one with the spiritual depth of his mind and character. His confidence in God was deep and firmly grounded : a Divine calm encircled his life.

The state of his health did not improve, but he toiled on year after year with insufficient rest and change. At last he was induced to take a voyage to Norway. It was thought that Norwegian air would be a splendid tonic for his enfeebled frame.

His description of Norwegian scenery, which he so richly enjoyed in August, 1842, is exceedingly fine. The following quotation gives the reader an illustration of his power :

'Christiansand is a beautiful clean town, situated at the bottom of one of the noble fiords of this country, backed on every side by fine rocky hills, sprinkled over with firs. The whole region around is "glorious in desolation"—mountains

of granite, 9,000 feet high, rushing up into the clouds, and extensive island masses of rock lining the whole coast.'

When speaking of his tour through Sweden, he says: 'We passed through beautiful scenery, composed, as the greater part of that in Sweden is, of granite hills of a beautiful purple colour, covered with wood, and between them rich verdant plains, forests, and lakes. The scenery is fine and striking beyond anything that I know of. Trolhalten, however, itself left all that I ever saw far behind. A greater body of water than the Rhine rushes down over rocks twice as high as Schaffhausen, foaming, dashing, roaring all the way, and you can approach the fall so near as almost to "lay your hand upon his mane."' "

On his return he again commenced his labours with zeal, but in the winter of 1843 an attack of bronchitis seized him through exposure to the night air after preaching, and for some months he was obliged to discontinue his public labour. When spring came (1844) the serious condition of his lungs necessitated a change to a warmer climate, but for various reasons his departure was delayed until the autumn.

At this time he was greatly disturbed on account of divisions which had arisen in his Church, but though extremely weak, he prepared and preached to his people a sermon specially designed to secure peace and unity. All through his life he endeavoured, as far as possible, to avoid religious controversy, but now his soul yearned with unspeakable desire for harmony in the Church he loved so well, and for which he had sacrificed so much. There were several reasons for the existing unrest. High Church practices which he introduced caused much trouble, and the advent of 'Brethren' in the town also disturbed several members of his congregation. The preaching of the sermon referred to above must have been a heavy strain upon his nature. As he faced the people for whom he had given his life, and gazed upon the sacred structure where his voice had for many years been raised to exalt Christ and bless his fellows, there must have been a powerful mingling of gladness and sorrow. Now he must

leave the sacred place in charge of others : the house most dear to him.

Shortly after preaching his farewell sermon he left the town, and hundreds of people gathered with sorrowing hearts to bid him good-bye. A general impression prevailed that he would never return. The ordeal of parting greatly moved Mr. Lyte, but the earnest love of numbers of his people soothed his spirit. He had not laboured in vain. His destination was Naples, but owing to great weakness and severe weather he had to make several halts on the journey.

Writing from Leghorn, November 12, 1844, he says : ' I have been too ill to visit or take any interest in the various attractive objects around me. My week at Avignon, which was to have been given to Roman remains and Papal palaces, was spent in bed. At Lyons the case was no better. I enjoyed the blue mountains, closed by Mont Blanc, that ennobled our voyage down the Rhone, and I gasped and tottered through a palace or two at Genoa ; but all the rest has hitherto been sickness and suffering, weakness and exhaustion. I am not worse to-day, though I fear not much better, and am obliged to look at others moving off by the steamers, without the power of accompanying them. I sometimes think that I am near the end of my journey altogether ; but I hang on the goodness and mercy of God, and amid the watches of the night enjoy some comfortable meditations on His pardoning love, His restoring grace, His protecting providence.'

At last, after much weariness and delay, he arrived at Naples. His poem ' Longings for Home ' was finished at Christmas, 1844, at that place. Love for home was a strong passion in his nature, and the poem is full of the sweet and beautiful thoughts which surged through his soul. In reading it we notice that, notwithstanding the intense sufferings which he was then experiencing, his soul was still full of cheerfulness.

In January, 1845, he wrote : ' How it will be with me eventually I scarcely dare to anticipate ; but I much fear that I shall not see Berry Head again. However, I can

meekly bow, and say, "The Lord's will be done," and can trust in a Saviour's merits to give one of His unworthiest of creatures acceptance with God. This, indeed, is all my hope, and all my desire; and well, perhaps, is it for me that I have no merits of my own to detain me from reposing thus exclusively on the blood of a Redeemer: I have been kept also, I trust, in a patient spirit throughout my illness, and receive it as an earnest of God's love, that He has withheld me, through all my sufferings of so many months, from uttering one word of impatience or repining.'

By this time it was quite certain that the climate of Naples did not suit his constitution; on several occasions his life was in real peril. On January 31 he wrote: 'In leaving Naples, of which I have seen but little, I cannot help again and again longing that you could see a little of it as well as myself. In spite of its filth, it would still divert you: everything seems so full of life.' On February 5 he wrote from Naples: 'In a few days we shall start for Rome. How the air of the Eternal City will agree with me remains to be proved. They tell me that the sea is injurious to me. I hope not; for I know of no divorce I should more deprecate than from the lordly ocean. From childhood it has been my friend and playmate, and never have I been weary of gazing on its glorious face. Besides, if I cannot live by the sea, adieu to poor Berry Head—adieu to the common, the rocks, the military ruins—adieu to the wild birds and wild flowers, and all the objects that have made my old residence so attractive.'

His love for the sea was intense. Often would he gaze upon it with great emotion, and when convenient take a trip in his private yacht.

The Berry Head residence commands an uninterrupted view of Torbay. It is a large structure, and was originally erected for military purposes at the time when England was at war with the first Napoleon. The house is in a splendid position, and has the advantage of both land and sea views of such variety that they may be regarded as among the very finest in England. The property is in a splendid state of preservation. Mr. Lyte improved the grounds considerably.

Very early in the mornings he was seen hard at work, and it was thought by some who knew him best that he injured himself with lifting and assisting with the heavy boulders which form the handsome rockeries there.

On one occasion, whilst he was personally engaged in leveling a mound of earth for gardening purposes, he came upon a quantity of human remains (probably of deceased soldiers), which he at once covered up, and upon the spot erected a monument, which bears the following brief and pathetic inscription: 'To the unknown dead.' His deed was very tender and beautiful. It helps us to enter into the solemn and thoughtful depths of his poem on 'Napoleon's Grave,' which he addressed to the French nation on their proposing to remove Napoleon's remains from St. Helena to France.

At his beloved Berry Head residence Mr. Lyte spent many hallowed hours walking along the terrace and through the paths and amongst the trees, listening to the ceaseless music of the sea as it kissed the rocks a few yards below. At the east end of the house there is a garden round which he used to walk with arms and legs going vigorously, and lips moving as if in conversation. In this way many of his poems were composed, and then he would retire to his study and commit them to writing.

The intended journey from Naples to Rome was eventually accomplished, and he wrote therefrom on February 16, 1845: 'In spite of my sufferings, I greatly enjoyed the journey hither. For the greater part of the way the road wound among the Apennines: immense blocks of rock filled the valleys and hill-sides along which we passed; and these again were clothed with olives and vines, and orange and lemon trees, beautifully blending the wild and the cultivated. Here a noble peak presented itself covered with snow, and there a ruined aqueduct stalked across a valley. In one place we broke upon the glorious sea, dashing against the walls of some picturesque old tower, and in another caught sight of one of these fantastic and castellated piles, standing on the spur of one of the surrounding mountains, or commanding some rugged pass between them; and Frondi, Mola di Gaeta,

and Terracina, towns on the road, are each worthy of a painter. With regard to Rome, it will, I fear, be some time before I can tell you much of it: great kindness, however, we have already experienced here, as well as everywhere else. Truly, as P. says [P. was his valued nurse Pope, who afterwards died at Berry Head, and was buried in Collaton churchyard, near Paignton], if we ever exercised hospitality or showed kindness to anyone at Berry Head, it has been more than repaid to us here, in our day of need, in Italy.' All the time that Berry Head House has been in the possession of the Lyte family it has had a wide and well-earned reputation for hospitality. The present occupier, Miss Hogg, a grand-daughter of Mr. Lyte, still nobly maintains the traditions of the house and family.

In March, 1845, Mr. Lyte wrote from Rome: 'This place is certainly as different from Naples as one place can be from another. There the chief interest is to be found in the beautiful scenery, and the supple and versatile people; here the people are comparatively grave and dignified, and the great interest of the place arises from its associations. You spoke of the excitement attending the first view of the Eternal City, and it was very great. I had not expected to see it in all its ruined splendour, seated as it is in a mighty plain. I had imagined it somehow lying in a mountainous district; but, like London, Paris, and, I believe, all other great cities, it lies in a vast basin, with mountains rising all around; but generally at the distance of from ten to fifteen miles from the city.'

His descriptive power is so very fine that one greatly regrets the fact that such a small quantity of his prose works have been made public.

After a three months' stay at Rome he was much improved, though his condition was still very serious. With what strength he possessed he sought to enjoy the scenes and intellectual privileges of the ancient city until he was seized with an attack of fever, which utterly prostrated him. His life was almost despaired of, but his soul remained full of God's holy calm and peace. When convalescent he wrote,

dated April 16: 'Praised be God that the hand which pens this is not cold in the grave! I have had another deliverance from death—a more wonderful one than any that has preceded it.' During his convalescence he composed 'Thoughts in Weakness' (April 17, 1845), which give an idea of the rich experience he enjoyed. His sublime mind showed itself in the poetical views he took of almost everything and every experience of life.

Gradually his condition improved, and the summer of 1845 was spent in travelling in the Tyrol and Switzerland. In a letter from Venice, dated June 11, he says: 'Nothing can give the slightest idea of this Queen of the Waters; and on the evening of the regatta, when every house and palace along the Grand Canal was hung with tapestry, and thousands of beautiful gondolas, many with ten rowers, and all dressed out in the most brilliant and fanciful costumes, were gliding along the waters swift as darts, and yet not one interfering with the other, the scene was one which beggars all description: I never witnessed anything the least like it—so brilliant and so novel. Indeed, Venice itself is the most lovely spot I was ever in; and the evening trips that we take in our gondolas out into the offing to catch the evening sea-breeze are more luxurious than you can imagine.' These changes acted beneficially upon him. He was also cheered for a time by the company of his sons and some English friends, with whom he spent a season of much joy and hope.

When autumn came he returned to Rome, as the climate there in winter seemed to agree very well with his constitution. Through all his journeyings and trying experiences he was full of patience and resignation, and maintained a cheerful spirit. When travelling he richly enjoyed the sweet ministry of Nature, notwithstanding the pain and weakness which were ever with him. Nature appealed to him with much power, and he gloried in her beauties. Natural grandeur filled him with awe; the scenes among which he lived seemed to become a real part of his nature. During the winter 1845-1846 he improved considerably, and was able to enjoy some intellectual fellowship, and further enrich his mind with the

literary treasures of Rome. But his weakness was very distressing. He writes, March 7, 1846: 'Even a little talking I often find too much for me, and I therefore go about like a monk of La Trappe, dropping into bookshops and libraries, when I find any warm enough for me, and conversing much, both here and at home, with the mighty dead through their writings. It is a great privation to me that I cannot write. The labour of composition I find makes me ill, and the act of stooping over paper, for the purpose of writing, likewise pains and injures me. However, I have abundant reason for thankfulness that I am as I am. No person that knew me last spring could have anticipated my surviving to this spring, and yet here I am with another respite granted to me.' In the spring of 1846 he returned to England, and spent some months with his family at Brixham. Though he was so feeble he did all he could for his parishioners, giving interviews to some and instructions for others. The spiritual condition of the parish was his constant care. Though his ministerial labours were now necessarily small, yet his mind and his pen were busy during the gracious days of summer. During these few months at Brixham he prepared an edition of the poems of Henry Vaughan, which won for him a permanent place among English men of letters. Had he been spared he would have edited a series of Early English poets, with whom he was very well acquainted, and whose beauties he revelled in. He had abundant qualification for the task, and it is greatly to be regretted that he did not live to fulfil his intention. During the summer he had used all the power he possessed, and it was evident, even to himself, that he could not think of wintering in England. As the autumn drew near, the serious symptoms which the least cold produced necessitated a return to Italy. Accordingly he started out, and in a letter from Vicenza, September 16, 1846, we have further insight into his mind and evidence of his descriptive powers. He said: 'I have been pursuing my intention of zigzagging about among the fine old cities of Lombardy, and they have in no respect disappointed my expectations. Brescia, and Verona (which I left yesterday), and this Vicenza likewise, are most interesting

places, full of beautiful and curious architecture of all ages, and rich in fine churches and paintings. This is, in fact, quite a city of palaces, and the wonders of Palladio's hand, and the influence of his style, are to be seen on every side. No one, indeed, knows anything of Italy till he has rummaged out these repositories of her past glories.' In a letter from Milan, dated October 12, he further refers to Brescia: 'Brescia is a most charming place, full of its own distinguished painters, built half of its extent on Roman foundations, with a bronze statue of "Victory" rivalling any at Rome, and a picture by Paolo Veronese, "The Death of St. Aphia," alone worth travelling twenty miles to see. Then Verona, rich in Roman and medieval remains, with half a dozen noble churches, left just as they came from the hands of their builders in the eleventh century, full of splendid equestrian monuments of the Scaligeri, and surrounded with battlemented walls climbing over the neighbouring heights. The magnificent amphitheatre supplies just what is wanting in the Coliseum at Rome. The interior is almost perfect, and there are three fine Roman gates, pretty much what they were when Ausonius trotted through them. Cremona overflows with fine pictures, though they are fast modernizing away all the interest of the old churches. Lodi has only one church worth visiting, the *Incoronata*; but this is a gem indeed—full of the loveliest pictures, either by Titian or in Titian's best style.' On November 25 he wrote from Rome: 'After long wanderings, much of toil and sickness, here I am once more, through Divine mercy, in a quiet resting-place, for some months to come. Before my arrival here, some kind friends had taken for me a comfortable residence on the Pincian Hill, the last house of the *Via Gregoriana*, only one story high, so that I have no trouble in getting upstairs, and overlooking all the beauties and glories of modern Rome. How I wish that I could place you here for a few minutes at my side, and, as your eye wandered over the cupolas, and spires, and pillars, and domes below, give you the history of each, with all the interesting associations, classical, ecclesiastical, and romantic, that are attached to them!' Referring to Romanism in a

letter dated December 17, 1846, he says : ' It is curious to see how narrow and personal they all become, who have once conformed to Romanism. Is it a consciousness of the badness of their cause that induces them to adopt this line of argument ? Ventura told his audience the other day that the author of the Anglican schism was Henry VIII. ; and what, he asked, was to be expected from a man that had eighteen wives, and cut the heads off every one of them ? ' The closing of the year 1846 seems to have been to Mr. Lyte a time of great solemnity. In his poem ' January 1st, 1847, ' we have a view of his deepest life. Though his view of the New Year in the poem referred to is somewhat sad, it cannot be concluded that his general view of life was sombre. His New Year's morning hymn has a more hopeful tone, especially in the last verse. At All Saints' Church, Brixham, the New Year's morning hymn is a special favourite, and is sung there by the congregation every New Year's Day. Though he was in constant weakness and pain, and a sad note is struck again and again in his poetry, yet his life had in it much deep pleasure. In Rome he had many friends whose company he greatly enjoyed. As a friend he was ever welcome : men of exalted rank and attainments considered it a privilege to share his companionship. In society circles his kindly and sociable spirit made him a most desirable addition. His cultivated and well-stored mind gave forth its treasures freely to enrich all who were fortunate enough to share his fellowship. His thoughts were so bright and original, and his manner of expressing them so easy and attractive, that he naturally and unobtrusively occupied a chief place in social gatherings. In a remarkable degree he was able to draw the best from other minds, and ever took great care that no one's light was obscured or dimmed by the brilliance of his own. At all times he placed a very humble estimate upon his powers. From the few extracts that have been given to the public from his letters we find how wide was the range of his mind, and understand something of the deep life of his soul ; but from the public point of view it must ever be regretted that his journals and private papers were sealed by a written note

which he left behind requesting that they should not be made public after his decease.

On January 8, 1847, he wrote: 'The whole population of Rome, headed by the nobles, assembled on New Year's Day under the Pope's windows to salute him and ask his blessing, and I have little doubt that he may be called at this moment the most liberal and popular monarch in Europe. We have a great deal too much controversy here: it is an unhealthy atmosphere for my soul to breathe, and especially unsuitable to one that should be in hourly preparation for eternity. Oh that He who has all hearts at His disposal may raise mine daily above it, into that calm, clear, elevated region, where He is Himself seen and conversed with by faith, and where the soul may best ripen for His eternal presence and enjoyment!' The soundness of Mr. Lyte's Protestantism may be judged from the following somewhat lengthy quotation from a letter dated January 26, 1847: 'Some of my visitors still continue their calls—among the rest dear M., who seldom lets a day slip by without our meeting. Indeed, we are like the last roses of summer, and obliged to strengthen each other's hands a little. He goes about a good deal, as usual, to hear the sermons, and witness the ceremonies, and then comes and takes a cup of tea with me in the evenings, when we talk matters over. New converts to Romanism are so overbearing, and so indefatigable in their efforts to effect new conversions, that they are quite intolerable. They never allow anyone to be five minutes in their company without giving the conversation a controversial turn; and such an atmosphere is anything but an agreeable or a wholesome one for the soul to live in. It is not pleasant to be obliged to live continually with one's armour on and one's spear in its rest; to be obliged to watch one's words, lest you should make any admission that might be afterwards used against you, or allow your adversary to establish a position from which he may afterwards advantageously assail you. To give you an instance of this: I was introduced yesterday to Mrs. A., who, with her sisters, has conformed to Romanism, and, after a few commonplaces, she began to remark on the beauty of seeing the common people

here so devout, and the contrast it furnished to England in this respect. I questioned, however, the fact of their being, as a body, more really devout than our English poor. She observed that there might be a few devout people amongst the Dissenters, but that I had no right to take them into consideration. This point again I denied, urging that when she spoke of the Italian poor nationally, so she should speak of the English poor likewise as a body. She then asserted that the poor of the Church of England were unable to understand her Liturgy, full as it was of obsolete expressions and involved sentences—a point I again questioned, saying that this diction, which she called obsolete, was the good old Saxon that still lingered in the phraseology of the peasantry, but, however, that I thought an objection to the unintelligibility of the English Liturgy came with rather a bad grace from those whose sacred services were all carried on in Latin. Oh, but, she said, the people understand the Latin of the Mass from their infancy; and had I ever remarked their devoutness when attending it? I answered that I had observed them sometimes apparently very devout; but when I came to look more closely, I found that, instead of giving any attention to the Mass that was celebrated in their presence, they had each their own little book of private devotions, on which all their thoughts and feelings seemed to be employed, to the neglect and disparagement of the holy rite which was then celebrated before them. Here was, I said, according to *their* views, the Great Sacrifice of Calvary renewed in their presence; here was the Lord of lords bodily appearing among them; and they, instead of being awed and absorbed by such a consideration, were occupying themselves with something else, which, however excellent it might be in itself, was a miserable and insulting intrusion when allowed to come between Him and them, between the Creator and His creatures. And this is the kind of running fight which one is obliged constantly to carry on here, not at all, in my mind, to the advancement of comfort or piety. Sometimes, indeed, we are provoked to carry the war a little into the enemy's camp. I think I said something in my last of a little skirmish we have lately had with some

of the champions here, which, indeed, is not yet closed. M. had been to hear one of Ventura's sermons, and as he built a great deal on the text, M. turned to his little Bible to look for it. It was said by Ventura to be from the third of Malachi : " Behold He cometh, the Lord, the Ruler ! and in His hand, power, kingdom, and authority." But, to M.'s surprise, he could find nothing of the kind there. On his return home he came to me, and asked me to show him the Vulgate ; but, lo ! there was no text like it there either. While we were at tea, as good luck would have it, Dr. Grant came in, so we referred the matter to him ; but his endeavours to find the passage were as vain as our own. From him, however, we learned that the sentence occurred in the Introit for the day (the Epiphany) in the Missal, and that it was there stated to be from Malachi iii.

' But now arose a more serious question, not as to the incorrectness of Father Ventura, but of the infallible Missal itself. Had *it* quoted the passage incorrectly, and had it so stood for centuries, unnoticed by the Missal's commentators or its ministers ? Was the Bible so little known or referred to in the Church of Rome that an error of this kind could remain so long undiscovered and uncorrected in the most distinguished of its formularies ? The little doctor felt the importance of the point, and has been ever since endeavouring to explain the matter. His first solution was a very lame one. The Introits, he said, were not all taken from the Scripture, but many of them from the Fathers, and this, perhaps, was one of these. I begged him, however, to inform me which of the eminent Fathers there was whose name began with " Mal," and what Mal. " iii." could possibly mean in this point of view. Finding, then, that this would not do, they referred the matter to N., I suppose as having been more recently conversant with Scripture than others among them ; and his suggestion was that the passage was taken, not from the Vulgate, but the old Italic version. However, this has, I suppose, likewise failed them ; for yesterday M. received a note from Dr. G., saying that he believed the passage not to be a quotation from Scripture at all, but a "paraphrase"

of the whole chapter in question ; to which M. has replied that the solution of the difficulty was by no means satisfactory, more especially as a paraphrase was generally understood to be an explanation in a fuller form, and the words in question had anything but that character about them. I contented myself with merely asking the doctor this morning, when I met him for a moment, whether this was the way in which his Church usually dealt with Scripture, giving the people *her own* words, and referring to *them* as the Word of God ? I dare say we shall hear something more about the matter, as we do not intend to let it drop here. Having put such a hook in Leviathan, it would be a pity not to play him a little.'

The above letter puts the reader into secret touch with the pretensions of the Church of Rome with regard to the authority of its voice, and shows how hollow those pretensions are when once they are closely scrutinized. Though he lived for so long a time in Rome, and constantly breathed the very atmosphere of Roman Catholicism, Mr. Lyte was too alert to be ensnared, and too shrewd a student to be misled by Romish teaching.

In a letter from Rome, February 6, 1847, after speaking of different classes of visitors, he says : 'Another considerable class here are the converts, very few of them persons of much mental power, but possessing all the zeal for which people of this class, to whatsoever sect they belong, are famous. They wear rose-coloured spectacles, through which they view all the fooleries and enormities of the Papal system, and are very anxious to transfer them from their own noses to those of other people.'

In a letter dated February 16, 1847, he says : 'The more I am acquainted with the religion of this land, the more unreal do I think it, and the more do I feel it to consist in mere externals. With the exception of the new English converts, who have been brought up in a different school, and a few select others, I cannot help feeling that I am living among actors.'

He also informs us that a number of English clergymen

who had gone over to Rome speedily met with many disappointments, and were very ill-satisfied with what they found in the Romish Church. Though Mr. Lyte himself became somewhat 'High Church,' he never in the least departed from the essential principles of Protestantism. It was only natural that the Romish system should interest him greatly, and form a large part of the conversational topics that arose amongst his circle of friends in the ancient city; but there was a wide range of subjects ever before his mind in which he was greatly interested, and on which he could impart much information. But besides the joys which intellectual fellowship with his friends afforded, the valuable libraries of Rome were to him the source of much pleasure.

In the following month (March, 1847) he finished his poem entitled 'The Poet's Plea.' It is one of the most charming poems he ever wrote. The versatility of his mind and the range of his imaginations are here shown, perhaps, to better advantage than in any other of his efforts. One here finds his exalted conception of the poet's calling, and how highly he prized the sacred gifts with which God had endowed him.

But although he had, during the winter, enjoyed much social fellowship, and used his pen considerably, yet at times his weakness was very extreme. He seldom spoke of it, however, and bore up in such a remarkable manner as to show how very superior the mind that is inspired by truth and God can be over matter. But oh, how his soul yearned for the springtime! Something of his experience bursts forth in his poem on that delightful season of the year. He was a poet who, in a very special manner, incorporated much of his personal experience in his poems.

With the return of spring he resolved to return home, and on his arrival at Berry Head he was in a state of great exhaustion. His soul was inspired with the prospect of once more taking his part in the social circle of his much-loved home. The old scenes had much charm for him, and refreshed his spirit; but he gazed upon the glorious scenery of Torbay with the knowledge that he could not live long to enjoy it. With

much care he improved a little, and at Midsummer was able to journey to London to officiate at the marriage ceremony of one of his sons. The words of blessing which he addressed to the happy pair were uttered with feelings of deep emotion. On his return to Berry Head he spent many happy days among the much-loved scenes and people. His residence there had always a special attraction for him. It was, perhaps, the dearest place on earth to him. As the summer sped away a serious attack of inflammation came on, and was of such an extreme character that it seemed as if he could not possibly recover. But in a manner almost miraculous he recovered a measure of strength which greatly encouraged his friends. His condition was, however, extremely frail, as may be seen from the following quotation from a letter dated August 25 : ' I am meditating flight again to the South. The little faithful robin is every morning at my window, sweetly warning me that autumnal hours are at hand. The swallows are preparing for flight, and inviting me to accompany them, and yet, alas ! while I talk of flying, I am just able to crawl, and often ask myself whether I shall be able to leave England at all. But you know how the spring rises with me as soon as the pressure is removed. I am, therefore, calculating, with many a *Deo volente*, on taking up my staff in rather less than three weeks from the present time. We shall probably go direct through France to Marseilles, and from thence to Naples. I must, of course, look for many restings by the way ; but, if we can get to the South of France early in October, I shall hope to do well. At Naples we should probably pause for a few weeks, and then proceed to Palermo, where the fields generally continue in flower till Christmas. There I should like to remain till February, when we might, if all are spared, return to Italy again, and get up to Rome for the spring season. Such is a sketch of my plans. How small a part of them may we be permitted to carry into execution ! and yet it is right to form them, while we leave the rest to Him who does for us better than we could for ourselves. Oh for more of entire dependence on Him ! entire confidence in Him ! Not, I hope, that I am quite without these, but I want to feel them more a

living principle of action. Conformity to the will and image of the Lord is no easy attainment, and it takes much hammering to bend us to it.'

The above letter shows that he was fully aware of his serious condition, and not misled by any temporary feelings of improvement. But great was the astonishment of his friends when he decided to preach again to the people he had loved so long. It was in vain to urge him to relinquish his intention. Perhaps he had some intimation that his end was very near, and wished to preach the glorious truths of the Gospel once more with what little remained of his fast-declining strength. Accordingly on September 4, 1847, he carried out his intention, and delivered a sermon (amid the breathless attention of his hearers) on the Holy Communion to a crowd of eager and sympathetic listeners. The sermon was clear both in expression and ideas, and must for ever be memorable as the last public effort of the noble minister. After preaching the sermon he assisted at the Communion service which followed, and did not seem very much worse for the exertion. On the evening of the same day he presented the manuscript of the now world-famed hymn 'Abide with Me' to his daughter, the late Mrs. Hogg, together with a tune which he had composed for it. It is not at all likely that the hymn was written that day; those who know most of Mr. Lyte are not quite sure when he began the hymn, and think that he did not probably give it its final form till he sent it home to Mrs. Lyte, with possibly some slight verbal alteration, from Avignon. By the hymn Mr. Lyte has bestowed untold benedictions on men of all nations and for all the centuries to come. It was the desire of his heart to write something that would prove of permanent value and blessing to mankind, and in a very rich measure his desire was fulfilled in the Divine poem 'Abide with Me,' which is generally regarded throughout Christendom as a treasure of the utmost value. In the opinion of many there is nothing more sublime and precious in all the literature of the world. His ardent yearning is expressed in the following lines from the poem 'Declining Days':

Might verse of mine inspire
One virtuous aim, one high resolve impart ;
Light in one drooping soul a hallow'd fire,
Or bind one broken heart.—

Death would be sweeter then,
More calm my slumber 'neath the silent sod ;
Might I thus live to bless my fellow-men,
Or glorify my God !

O Thou ! whose touch can lend
Life to the dead, Thy quick'ning grace supply,
And grant me, swanlike, my last breath to spend
In song that may not die !

In a manner truly remarkable the great wish of his soul was realized. 'Abide with Me' is a hymn which has strengthened and consoled millions of people, and which will long continue its gracious ministry. It may be described as an immortal hymn. His last effort was his mightiest and noblest work. God did certainly quicken his fading powers to strike a chord to cheer the world. Had Mr. Lyte been spared to old age, his ripening powers would have enriched the world abundantly. He felt, however, that his short life had not been spent in vain, and doubtless he personally realized the value of 'Abide with Me,' and anticipated the success and blessing which have attended it. The popularity of the hymn increases. When in 1887 the editors of *Sunday at Home* invited their readers to send lists of the hundred English hymns which stood highest in their esteem, by nearly 3,500 votes Mr. Lyte's hymn 'Abide with Me' was placed second in the list ; 'Rock of Ages' secured the first place of honour.

During the same week in which he preached his last sermon he left his much-loved home for the genial climate of Southern Europe, in company with his wife, his second son, and a faithful friend and companion. Though in a shattered and emaciated condition, he could still enjoy company and take vital interest in the scenery of the route. Writing from La Pallise on October 10, he says : 'I never saw anything more exquisite than the woodland scenery we passed through yesterday. The country was flat enough in itself, but the trees, with their

hundred hues, clothed it in inexpressible beauty.' The journey was continued in stages as he could bear to travel: the effort to breathe was for him at this time extremely great. Mrs. Lyte was obliged to return home, but his friends seemed to be continually before his mind. Writing from Avignon on October 19, he says: 'I hear glowing accounts indeed of Nice itself for winter quarters, especially for persons suffering from bronchial complaints. However, a few days' residence there will tell me more of its suitability to me than anything I can learn from the reports of others. More, however, of these matters when I write from Nice. In the meantime we shall be longing for news from home; and let your letters be in imitation of mine so far as egotism is concerned, for you cannot tell me too much of yourself and all around you.' In another letter from Avignon, he says: 'I have, ever since I saw you, been either travelling or in bed. We have been creeping forward by slow stages; and the day before yesterday reached the Valley of the Rhone, where the climate became entirely changed, and I began to breathe and move again freely in the warm atmosphere of Provence. It is quite surprising how much warmer it is in this favoured region. Fresh fruits of all kinds abound, and the bunches of grapes rival those of Eshcol. The scenery in this valley also is pre-eminently beautiful. It is the Rhine on a larger scale; the mountains, as you pass down the River Rhone, assume the most picturesque aspects. Sometimes they close in on the stream, and again recede into the blue distance, out-topped occasionally by the remoter snowy Alps. But the most striking objects of all are the woods, which present a variety and richness of hues—yellow, orange, crimson, purple, and green—unknown in the landscapes of our English autumns. The colours are so vivid that, if they were faithfully set down on canvas, an English eye must pronounce them unnatural—so true it is that what Art dare not attempt Nature does. But to return to personals. What our future movements will be is scarcely yet decided, but we shall, I think, now that we have reached a more genial climate, linger here a little. There is much to interest in the shape of Roman antiquities at

Nismes and Arles ; and after visiting them we shall, I think, move on to Nice and Genoa. I shall, I trust, find a letter from you at Nice.'

The following quotations are from a letter dated November 3, 1847, commenced at Arles, finished at Aix : ' I hope you have not been very anxious to hear of us or from us, though you will, I dare say, be surprised at hearing from this place. We are, however, pursuant to our plan before leaving England, continuing to loiter here in the South of France. On Thursday we hope to be at Nice, and to remain there at least a week. It will be no small treat also to hear at length from home again : we are absolutely thirsting for news of you all, trusting, indeed, that the same merciful Father is protecting you who is protecting us, but longing to know this for certain. I have myself been wonderfully well for the last ten days, though the weather has been by no means warm.'

But when within a few hours' journey of Nice he was attacked with influenza, and after his arrival there dysentery set in, and other serious complications ensued. It was soon evident that his condition was hopeless. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered to him by the Rev. Henry Manning, Archdeacon of Chichester, afterwards Cardinal of Rome. His sufferings were very intense, and at times his mind was clouded, but notwithstanding the severity of his trial he was resting calmly in God. With humble spirit he said that ' he had nothing—was nothing—in himself ; he gloried not save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ—a sinner saved by grace ; a brand plucked from the burning, yet clothed in spotless raiment, washed in a Saviour's blood, and owning an unfading inheritance, eternal in the heavens.'

During his active years he always thought of the act of dying with much distress of mind, but in the ordeal, the God of all grace, who had given him grace to live so nobly, also granted him dying grace. After a sleep one day the dying sufferer beautifully said to his devoted attendant : ' Oh, there is nothing terrible in death : Jesus Christ steps down into the grave before me.' After having engaged in silent prayer, and with finger pointing to the sky, he said :

' Oh, blessed converse ! begun on earth, to be perfected so soon in paradise ! Blessed faith ! to-day piercing through the mist of earth ! to-morrow changed to sight ! abiding ever with the Lord.' Soon after he fell asleep as calmly as a healthy child falls into natural slumber.

Through all that trying experience his resignation and cheerfulness were remarkable. Though dying on a distant shore, absent from the scenes and associations which had afforded him so much comfort, he never murmured. His mind seemed to turn ever to the great goodness of God. When passing through the valley his face was often luminous with the visions of unseen realities which were crowding in upon his ripened and prepared soul.

He died at Nice, on November 20, 1847, and was interred in the English cemetery there, where a simple marble cross marks his grave.

All Saints' Church, Brixham, where Mr. Lyte laboured as Vicar from 1819 to 1847, is a commodious building, to which has recently been added a 'Lyte' memorial tower. It is a massive and worthy erection. The local interest in Mr. Lyte does not abate, and though it is nearly sixty years since he passed away, his memory is still cherished with grateful affection. To-day they honour with grateful hearts one whose poetical message has gone forth from their midst to bless the world.

In the church there may be seen near the font a tablet of uncommon design, bearing the following inscription :

' Keep in mind HENRY FRANCIS LYTE, M.A., first Vicar of this parish, and author of the hymn " Abide with Me." In whose memory the rebuilding of the body of this church was begun A.D. 1884.'

The chancel was built A.D. 1872 to the glory of God and in memory of the Rev. John Roughton Hogg, M.A., who was for twenty years connected with the parish as curate and incumbent. He died suddenly after preaching at Torquay on Advent Sunday, 1867, at the age of fifty-six years.

At the south end of the church there is a large handsome memorial window in memory of his wife, A. M. M. Hogg, the

only surviving daughter of Mr. Lyte, of whom the poet had been passionately fond. His feelings are expressed in the poem 'A Recall to my Child A. M.,' June 1, 1839 (his forty-sixth birthday). She had been a real part of his life and his dearest companion. During his Continental journeys throughout his illness she accompanied him until her marriage to Mr. Hogg, her father's curate, a little while before the noble poet passed away.

GENERAL POEMS AND HYMNS

ABIDE WITH ME

(Copied from a facsimile of the original lines.)

'Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.'—LUKE xxiv. 29.

ABIDE with me ! Fast falls the eventide ;
The darkness thickens. Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me !

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day ;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away :
Change and decay in all around I see.
O Thou who changest not, abide with me !

Not a brief glance I beg, a passing word ;
But as Thou dwell'st with Thy disciples, Lord ;
Familiar, condescending, patient, free,—
Come, not to sojourn, but abide with me.

Come not in terrors, as the King of kings ;
But kind and good with healing in Thy wings,
Tears for all woes, a heart for every plea,
Come, Friend of sinners, and then abide with me.

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile ;
And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee.
On to the close, O Lord, abide with me !

I need Thy presence every passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power ?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be ?
Through cloud and sunshine, O, abide with me !

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless :
 Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
 Where is Death's sting ? where, Grave, thy victory ?
 I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,
 Speak through the gloom, and point me to the skies ;
 Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee !
 For life, in death, O Lord, abide with me !

A FALLEN SISTER

SHE is not dead—she only sleeps :
 Life in her soul its vigil keeps :
 Though dark the cloud, though strong the chain,
 Speak, Lord, and she shall live again !

She is not dead :—it cannot be
 That one whose soul so glowed to Thee
 Should all that's past renounce, forget :
 Oh, speak, and she will hear Thee yet.

I know, I know how once she felt,
 Have seen her spirit mount and melt ;
 Have joined with her in praise and prayer ;
 And cannot, dare not, yet despair.

She that has fed on heavenly food,
 Conversed with all that's great and good,
 Can she descend from heights like these,
 To the poor worldling's husks and lees ?

She, that has bent at heaven's high throne,
 And claimed its glories for her own,
 An earthworm here again to crawl ?—
 She cannot long so deeply fall.

I know how many for her feel,
 And plead with Thee to come and heal :
 I know the power of faith and prayer,
 And cannot, will not, yet despair.

Sunk as she is in thoughtless sin,
 Thou hast a still, small voice within—
 A silent hold—a hidden plea—
 That needs but quickening, Lord, from Thee.

A look of Thine can life impart ;
 A tone of Thine can touch the heart :
 The very grave Thy voice must hear :
 Oh, bid it reach our sister's ear !

Press on her soul each pang and scorn,
 Which Thou for her of old hast borne ;
 And ask how she will dare to meet,
 Thy face upon a Judgment-seat.

Talk to her heart, and bid her feel ;
 Send forth Thy word to wound and heal ;
 Melt off her spirit's icy chain,
 And bid her rise and live again.

She is not dead : Thy voice Divine
 Can still revive, and seal her Thine ;
 And 'neath Thy wing she yet may dwell,
 More meek, more safe, than ere she fell.

TO A BLADE OF GRASS

Poor little twinkler in the sun,
 That liftest here thy modest head,
 For every breeze to blow upon,
 And every passing foot to tread ;

The loneliest waste, the humblest bower,
 Content in homely green to dress,
 And wear away thy little hour
 In meek unheeded usefulness ;

No hues of thine attract the eye,
 No sweets allure the roving bee,
 Nor deigns the dainty butterfly
 To rest his wing on lowly thee.

All undistinguished and forgot
 Among the myriads of thy kind,
 The moral of thy tranquil lot
 Thou wastest on the idle wind.

Be mine, while others pass thee by,
 To win and wear thee in my strain ;
 And from thy gentle teaching try
 A lesson for my heart to gain.

While brighter children of the sun
 With altering seasons droop and die,
 I see thee green and gladsome run
 Through all the changes of the sky.

Where vegetative life begins,
 Thy little flag is first unfurled,
 And marks the empire Nature wins,
 From desolation round the world.

Yes ; Nature claims thee for her own ;
 Her thousand children house with thee :
 An insect world, to eye unknown,
 Peoples thy covert blithe and free.

The partridge, 'midst her speckled brood,
 Leans upon thee her cowering breast ;
 Thou giv'st the field-mouse home and food ;
 Thou curtain'st round the skylark's nest.

Thou feed'st the honest steer by day,
 Thou strew'st at night his open bed ;
 The young lamb, in his morning play,
 Strikes down the dewdrop from thy head.

Oh, ever pleasing, ever plain,
 Creation's goodly household vest !
 By thee is fringed the ruined fane,
 By thee the poor man's grave is drest.

The pilgrim of the sandy waste,
 The roamer of the long, long sea,
 The sick-room's or the dungeon's guest—
 'Tis his, 'tis his, to value thee.

Green soother of the burning eye,
 Thou speak'st of sweet and simple things—
 Of freedom, health, and purity,
 And all that buxom Nature brings.

Be mine to dwell with her, with thee ;
 At eventide the fields to roam ;
 My God among His works to see,
 And call my wandering spirit home :

And, while I view the Hand that tends
 Ten thousand worlds, so kind to thee,
 To feel that He, who so descends,
 Will not o'erlook a worm like me.

SHE IS GONE ! SHE IS GONE !

SHE is gone ! she is gone ! A God of love
Has called her up to His side above ;
Has gathered the flower in all its prime,
And bade it bloom in a brighter clime ;
Has filled her hand with a heavenly lyre,
And found her a place in His angel choir.

She is gone ! she is gone to a land of light,
Where the glorious day ne'er sinks in night ;
Where a cloud ne'er comes across the sky ;
Where the tears are wiped from every eye ;
Where all is holiness, love, and bliss,
And none regret such a world as this.

She is gone ! she is gone ! she passed away
Like the dying close of a summer day :
A dawn of glory round her shone,
A light shot down from the heavenly throne :
The last of her breath in song was spent,
And forth in a smile her spirit went.

She is gone ! she is gone to her high reward,
To bask in the looks of her wished-for Lord.
She gained one peep through the golden gate ;
She saw the Seraphim for her wait ;
And sprang from sorrow and sin away,
To dwell in the light of eternal day.

She is gone ! she is gone ! And who would chain
Her soul to a world like ours again ?
But oh, the blank, the desolate void,
In hearts that her converse here enjoyed !
They long from all upon earth to sever,
And be with their loved and lost for ever.

She is gone ! she is gone but a while before,
She waits for them at the heavenly door :
They hear her calling them up on high ;
They feel her drawing them on to the sky ;
And pray, at their parting hour to be
As ripe, as ready, as blessed as she.

THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

BLEST is the broken, bleeding heart,
For sin constrained to ache !
Soon Heavenly Hands shall bind it up,
No more to bleed or break.

Blest are the eyes, whose burning tears
 O'er past transgressions fall !
 The Sun of Righteousness shall rise,
 To dry, or light them all.

That broken heart, that tearful eye,
 That pensive pilgrim guise,
 Are Heaven's own gifts, and more than all
 That worldlings seek or prize.

Who has them claims and titles has
 Which none beside can own ;
 Pledges of more than eye hath seen,
 Or heart conceived or known.

Through clouds and sunshine, storm and calm,
 He on to glory goes,
 With hope to light him o'er his way,
 And bliss to crown its close.

The wise may slight, the proud may shun !
 His God is with him still,
 And adds a zest to all his joys,
 And lightens every ill.

Through Him he daily triumphs gains,
 O'er Satan, self, and sin ;
 Through Him new blessings smile without,
 New joy and peace within.

A coal from heaven has touched his lips,
 And filled his mouth with song ;
 And Faith and Love spring forth to waft
 His fainting steps along.

He goes, he goes, his fadeless crown
 From Christ's own hand to win !
 The angels throng round heaven's high gate,
 To hail the stranger in !

The silver cord is loosed at last,
 The fettered soul takes wing ;
 Assumes its station fast by God,
 His ceaseless praise to sing.

THE WALLFLOWER

WHY loves my flower, so high reclined
 Upon these walls of barren gloom,
 To waste her sweetness on the wind,
 And far from every eye to bloom ?

Why joy to twine with golden braid
 This ruined rampart's aged head,
 Proud to expose her gentle form,
 And swing her bright locks in the storm ?

That lonely spot is bleak and hoar,
 Where prints my flower her fragrant kiss ;
 Yet sorrow hangs not fonder o'er
 The ruins of her faded bliss.
 And wherefore will she thus inweave
 The owl's lone couch, and feel at eve
 The wild bat o'er her blossoms fling,
 And strike them down with heedless wing ?

Thus, gazing on the loftiest tower
 Of ruined Fore at eventide,
 The Muse addressed a lonely flower
 That bloomed above in summer pride.
 The Muse's eye, the Muse's ear,
 Can more than others see and hear :
 The breeze of evening murmured by,
 And gave, she deemed, this faint reply :

On this lone tower, so wild and drear,
 'Mid storms and clouds I love to lie,
 Because I find a freedom here
 Which prouder haunts could ne'er supply.
 Safe on these walls I sit, and stem
 The elements that conquered them ;
 And high o'er reach of plundering foe,
 Smile on an anxious world below.

Though envied place I may not claim
 On warrior's crest, or lady's hair ;
 Though tongue may never speak my name,
 Nor eye behold and own me fair ;
 To Him, who tends me from the sky,
 I spread my beauties here on high,
 And bid the winds to waft above,
 My incense to His throne of love.

And though in hermit solitude,
 Aloft and wild, my home I choose,
 On the rock's bosom pillowed rude,
 And nurtured by the falling dews ;
 Yet duly with the opening year,
 I hang my golden mantle here.
 A child of God's I am, and He
 Sustains, and clothes, and shelters me.

Nor deem my state without its bliss :
 Mine is the first young smile of day ;
 Mine the light zephyr's earliest kiss ;
 And mine the skylark's matin lay.
 These are my joys : with these on high,
 In peace I hope to live and die,
 And drink the dew, and scent the breeze,
 As blithe a flower as Flora sees.

Bloom on, sweet moralist ! Be thine
 The softest shower, the brightest sun !
 Long o'er a world of error shine,
 And teach them what to seek and shun !
 Bloom on, and show the simple glee
 That dwells with those who dwell like thee ;
 From noise, and glare, and folly driven,
 To thought, retirement, peace, and heaven.

Show them, in thine, the Christian's lot,
 So dark and drear in worldly eyes ;
 And yet he would exchange it not
 For all they most pursue and prize.
 From meaner cares and trammels free,
 He soars above the world, like thee ;
 And, fed and nurtured from above,
 Returns the debt in grateful love.

Frail, like thyself, fair flower, is he,
 And beat by every storm and shower ;
 Yet on a Rock he stands, like thee,
 And braves the tempest's wildest power.
 And there he blooms, and gathers still
 A good from every seeming ill ;
 And, pleased with what his lot has given,
 He lives to God, and looks to heaven.

'MY BELOVED IS MINE, AND I AM HIS'

IMITATED FROM QUARLES

LONG did I toil, and knew no earthly rest ;
 Far did I rove, and found no certain home :
 At last I sought them in His sheltering breast,
 Who opes His arms, and bids the weary come.
 With Him I found a home, a rest Divine ;
 And I since then am His, and He is mine.

Yes, He is mine ! and nought of earthly things,
 Not all the charms of pleasure, wealth, or power,
 The fame of heroes, or the pomp of kings,
 Could tempt me to forgo His love an hour.
 Go, worthless world, I cry, with all that's thine !
 Go ! I my Saviour's am, and He is mine.

The good I have is from His stores supplied :
 The ill is only what He deems the best.
 He for my Friend, I'm rich with nought beside ;
 And poor without Him, though of all possessed.
 Changes may come—I take, or I resign,
 Content, while I am His, while He is mine.

Whate'er may change, in Him no change is seen,
 A glorious Sun, that wanes not, nor declines :
 Above the clouds and storms He walks serene,
 And on His people's inward darkness shines.
 All may depart—I fret not nor repine,
 While I my Saviour's am, while He is mine.

He stays me falling ; lifts me up when down ;
 Reclaims me wandering ; guards from every foe ;
 Plants on my worthless brow the victor's crown,
 Which in return before His feet I throw,
 Grieved that I cannot better grace His shrine,
 Who deigns to own me His, as He is mine.

While here, alas ! I knew but half His love,
 But half discern Him, and but half adore ;
 But when I meet Him in the realms above,
 I hope to love Him better, praise Him more,
 And feel, and tell, amid the choir Divine,
 How fully I am His, and He is mine.

WINTER

THE billowy shore is booming loud,
 The sky is black with storm and cloud,
 The fields are bare, the air is chill,
 And winter reigns from vale to hill.

The shortening day, the muffled sky,
 The wild wind whistling bleakly by,
 The naked fields, the leafless tree,
 Speak, mortal man, speak all to thee.

They talk of sin, they talk of woe,
Of ruin wrought to all below :
They taunt the author of their doom,
And point him onward to the tomb.

The waves lift up their voice ; the woods
Make solemn answer to the floods :
They bid us stand abased and awed,
And own an Omnipresent God.

Calm on the tempest's hurrying wings,
He walks His trembling earth, and flings,
Unmoved by elemental din,
His scourges o'er a world of sin.

Almighty ! be it mine to lie
Adoring as Thou passest by,
And hear Thee at the close proclaim
The gentler glories of Thy name !

The fire, the earthquake, and the wind—
In these my God I would not find—
But in the Voice still, small, and dim,
That speaks of Christ, and peace through Him.

ASPIRATIONS

I WOULD not always sail
Upon a sunny sea :
The mountain wave, the sounding gale,
Have deeper joys for me.

Let others love to creep
Along the flowery dell :
Be mine upon the craggy steep,
Among the storms, to dwell.

The rock, the mist, the foam,
The wonderful, the wild—
I feel they form my proper home,
And claim me for their child.

The whirlwind's rushing wing,
The stern volcano's voice,
To me an awful rapture bring :
I tremble and rejoice.

I love thy solemn roar,
 Thou deep, eternal sea,
 Sounding along from shore to shore,
 The boundless and the free.

I love the flood's hoarse song,
 The thunder's lordly mirth,
 The midnight wind, that walks along
 The hushed and trembling earth ;

The mountain, lone and high,
 The dark and silent wood,
 The desert stretched from sky to sky
 In awful solitude.

A presence and a power
 In scenes like these I see :
 The stillness of a midnight hour
 Has eloquence for me.

Then, bursting earth's control,
 My thoughts are all at flood :
 I feel the stirrings in my soul
 Of an immortal mood.

My energies expand ;
 My spirit looks abroad ;
 And, midst the terrible and grand,
 Feels nearer to her God.

Let others tamely weigh
 The danger and the pain :
 I do not shrink the price to pay,
 To share the joy and gain.

SPARE MY FLOWER

O SPARE my flower, my gentle flower,
 The slender creature of a day !
 Let it bloom out its little hour,
 And pass away.
 Too soon its fleeting charms must lie
 Decayed, unnoticed, overthrown.
 O hasten not its destiny,—
 Too like thy own.

The breeze will roam this way to-morrow,
 And sigh to find his playmate gone :
 The bee will come its sweets to borrow,
 And meet with none.

O spare ! and let it still outspread
 Its beauties to the passing eye,
 And look up from its lowly bed
 Upon the sky.

O spare my flower ! Thou know'st not what
 Thy undiscerning hand would tear :
 A thousand charms thou notest not
 Lie treasured there.
 Not Solomon, in all his state,
 Was clad like Nature's simplest child ;
 Nor could the world combined create
 One floweret wild.

Spare, then, this humble monument
 Of an Almighty's power and skill ;
 And let it at His shrine present
 Its homage still.
 He made it who makes nought in vain :
 He watches it who watches thee ;
 And He can best its date ordain
 Who bade it be.

O spare my flower—for it is frail ;
 A timid, weak, imploring thing—
 And let it still upon the gale
 Its moral fling.
 That moral thy reward shall be :
 Catch the suggestion, and apply :—
 ' Go, live like me,' it cries ; ' like me
 Soon, soon, to die.'

ELLEN

SHE rests beneath her native earth,
 Close to the spot that gave her birth.
 Her young feet trod the flowers that bloom—
 Meet emblems—on her early tomb :
 Her living voice was wont to cheer
 The echoes which our sorrows hear.

She rests beneath her native earth ;
 And few remain to speak her worth.
 Her little sojourn here was spent
 In unobtrusive banishment :
 A flower upon the desert thrown,
 That lived and breathed to God alone.

Yet long her gentle ways shall dwell
In hearts that knew and loved her well ;
And oft they lift their tearful eyes,
To hear her calling from the skies ;
And ill could they her absence bear,
But that they hope to join her there.

PARTED CHRISTIANS

WHEN reft of the converse of those that they love,
The godless may fret and repine :
'Tis ours to look up to a Father above,
And try to His will to resign.
The friends in a Saviour need not be deplored,
Wherever their lot may be cast :
Tho' severed on earth, we are one in the Lord,
And shall meet in His presence at last.

Our Guardian all-wise and all-merciful is ;
He knows, and will give us, the best :
Assured we shall still be each other's and His,
To Him we relinquish the rest.
We each commend each to Omnipotent hands,
And calm on His promise repose ;
And know that, though scattered o'er seas and o'er
lands,
We are sure to reach home at the close.

Meanwhile, we kneel down at the same throne of grace ;
We breathe up the same daily prayer ;
We march the same road to the same happy place,
The same Spirit guiding us there.
Sweet hope realizes the things that shall be,
And memory those that have been ;
And, reaching by these to what sense cannot see,
We lose the dark present between.

We strive to be all that the absent would love ;
To flee from what they would condemn ;
Intent, when we meet, upon earth or above,
To be found the more worthy of them.
With aims so exalted, and trust so secure,
All else is in lovely accord,
All holy, all happy, all peaceful and pure—
Oh, who would not love in the Lord ?

FLY, YE HOURS

FLY, ye hours, the best, the brightest :
 Best are they that fleet the lightest !
 Man, be wise :
 Thy earthly joys
 Are poor, compared with those thou slightest.

The world we roam
 Is not our home :
 We seek a rest that aye remaineth.
 Through weal or woe,
 From all below
 We haste to scenes where nothing paineth.
 Fly, ye hours, etc.

It is not life,
 This toil and strife :
 These only serve from God to sever.
 We hope to rise
 Above the skies ;
 And there shall live, and live for ever.
 Fly, ye hours, etc.

Can that be gain,
 Whose charms detain
 The soul from glory's richer treasures ?
 Can that be woe,
 That serves to throw
 A brighter hue o'er coming pleasures ?
 Fly, ye hours, the best, the brightest !
 Thou that in the world delightest,
 Rise, O rise,
 To nobler joys,
 And taste the bliss which now thou slightest.

THE SAILOR'S MEDITATION ON WATCH AT NIGHT

ABOVE me hangs the silent sky ;
 Around me rolls the sea ;
 The crew is all at rest ; and I
 Am, Lord, alone with Thee !
 Go where I may, from all remote,
 Thou, Lord, art ever near :
 No secret thought, but Thou canst note ;
 No word, but Thou canst hear.

When all around are sunk to sleep,
 Thy presence here I find :
 To me Thou walkest o'er the deep,
 Or speakest in the wind.

I look up to the starry sky ;
 And read Thy glories there :
 I look down to myself, and sigh,
 ' Can I be still Thy care ?'

I think of days and dangers past,
 When I have found Thee nigh ;
 And wonder how Thy love can last
 To such a worm as I.

I think of terrors yet at hand,
 Of judgment, and the tomb ;
 And ask my soul how it shall stand
 To hear its final doom !

Ah, then, how all I've been and done
 Would fill me with despair,
 If to the Cross I could not run,
 And find a Saviour there !

I know He has the power to aid ;
 I know He has the will :
 And He, who once for sinners bled,
 Will rescue sinners still.

Lord, arm my soul with faith in Thee,
 And fill my heart with love ;
 My path from sin and danger free,
 And guide me safe above.

And while at night the waves I beat,
 Lord, often thus descend,
 And grant me here communion sweet
 With Thee, the sailor's Friend.

AUTUMNAL HYMN

THE leaves around me falling
 Are preaching of decay ;
 The hollow winds are calling,
 ' Come, pilgrim, come away !'
 The day, in night declining,
 Says, I must too decline :
 The year its life resigning—
 Its lot foreshadows mine.

The light my path surrounding,
 The loves to which I cling,
 The hopes within me bounding,
 The joys that round me wing—
 All melt like stars of even,
 Before the morning's ray,
 Pass upward into heaven,
 And chide at my delay.

The friends gone there before me
 Are calling me from high,
 And joyous angels o'er me
 Tempt sweetly to the sky.
 'Why wait,' they say, 'and wither,
 'Mid scenes of death and sin ?
 O rise to glory hither,
 And find true life begin !'

I hear the invitation,
 And fain would rise and come—
 A sinner, to salvation ;
 An exile, to his home :
 But while I here must linger,
 Thus, thus, let all I see
 Point on, with faithful finger,
 To heaven, O Lord, and Thee.

INVOCATION

ALTERED FROM QUARLES

SPIRITS of light and love, who pace around
 The city's sapphire walls ; whose stainless feet
 Measure the gem-paved paths of sacred ground,
 And trace the New Jerusalem's jasper street !
 Ah you, whose overflowing hearts are crowned
 With your best wishes ; who enjoy the sweet
 Of all your hopes ; when next ye come before
 My absent Lord, O say how I implore
 From His reviving eye one look of kindness more.
 Tell Him, O tell Him, how my widowed breast
 Beneath the burden of His frown has pined :
 Tell Him, O tell Him, how I lie oppressed
 In all the tempest of a troubled mind.
 O tell Him, tell Him, I can know no rest
 Till He shall smile, as once, appeased and kind.
 Tell Him, I think upon the vows He swear—
 His love, His truth, His grace—and thus I dare
 To come before Him now with penitence and prayer.

Say, the parched soil desires not so the shower
 To quicken and refresh her embryo grain ;
 Say, the fallen crestlet of the drooping flower
 Woos not the bounty of the genial rain,
 As my lorn spirit looks out for the hour
 When her lost Lord shall visit her again.
 Then, gentle spirits, should ye hear your lays,
 And seem to melt, your best hosannahs raise ;
 And with your heavenly notes sustain my feeble praise.

THE PILGRIM'S SONG

My rest is in heaven ; my rest is not here ;
 Then why should I murmur when trials are near ?
 Be hushed, my dark spirit ! the worst that can come
 But shortens thy journey, and hastens thee home.

It is not for me to be seeking my bliss,
 And building my hopes in a region like this :
 I look for a city which hands have not piled ;
 I pant for a country by sin undefiled.

The thorn and the thistle around me may grow :
 I would not lie down upon roses below :
 I ask not my portion, I seek not a rest,
 Till I find them, O Lord, in Thy sheltering breast.

Afflictions may damp me, they cannot destroy ;
 One glimpse of Thy love turns them all into joy :
 And the bitterest tears, if Thou smile but on them,
 Like dew in the sunshine grow diamond and gem.

Let doubt, then, and danger, my progress oppose ;
 They only make heaven more sweet at the close.
 Come joy, or come sorrow, whate'er may befall,
 An hour with my God will make up for it all.

A scrip on my back, and a staff in my hand,
 I march on in haste through an enemy's land :
 The road may be rough, but it cannot be long ;
 And I'll smooth it with hope, and I'll cheer it with song.

EVENING

SWEET evening hour ! sweet evening hour !
 That calms the air, and shuts the flower ;
 That brings the wild bird to her nest,
 The infant to its mother's breast.

Sweet hour ! that bids the labourer cease ;
That gives the weary team release,
And leads them home, and crowns them there,
With rest and shelter, food and care.

O season of soft sounds and hues,
Of twilight walks among the dews,
Of feelings calm, and converse sweet,
And thoughts too shadowy to repeat !

The weeping eye, that loathes the day,
Finds peace beneath thy soothing sway ;
And faith and prayer o'ermastering grief,
Burst forth, and bring the heart relief.

Yes, lovely hour ! thou art the time
When feelings flow, and wishes climb ;
When timid souls begin to dare,
And God receives and answers prayer.

Then trembling through the dewy skies
Look out the stars, like thoughtful eyes
Of angels, calm reclining there,
And gazing on this world of care.

Then, as the earth recedes from sight,
Heaven seems to ope her fields of light,
And call the fettered soul above,
From sin and grief, to peace and love.

Sweet hour ! for heavenly musing made—
When Isaac walked, and Daniel prayed ;
When Abram's offering God did own ;
And Jesus loved to be alone.

Who has not felt that evening's hour,
Draws forth devotion's tenderest power ;
That guardian spirits round us stand,
And God Himself seems most at hand ?

The very birds cry shame on men,
And chide their selfish silence, then :
The flowers on high their incense send ;
And earth and heaven unite and blend.

Let others hail the rising day :
I praise it when it fades away ;
When life assumes a higher tone,
And God and heaven are all my own.

MORNING THOUGHTS

AGAIN, O Lord, I ope my eyes,
 Thy glorious light to see,
 And share the gifts so largely lent
 To thankless man by Thee.

And why has God o'er me this night
 The watch so kindly kept ?
 And why have I so safely waked ?
 And why so sweetly slept ?

And wherefore do I live and breathe ?
 And wherefore have I still
 The mind to know, the sense to choose,
 The strength to do Thy will ?

Is it, to waste another day,
 In folly, sin, and shame ?
 To give to these my heart and hand,
 And spurn my Maker's claim ?

Is it, to grow unto the world,
 As glides the world from me ;
 Be one day nearer to the grave,
 And further, Lord, from Thee ?

No ! thus too many days I've spent !
 To Thee, then, this be given :
 Teach what I owe to man below,
 And to Thyself in heaven.

Oh, bring me to my Saviour's cross,
 For mercy for the past ;
 And make me live the coming day
 As if it were my last !

NOVEMBER

THE autumn wind is moaning low the requiem of the year ;
 The days are growing short again, the fields forlorn and sere ;
 The sunny sky is waxing dim, and chill the hazy air ;
 And tossing trees before the breeze are turning brown and bare.

All Nature and her children now prepare for rougher days :
 The squirrel makes his winter bed, and hazel hoard purveys ;
 The sunny swallow spreads his wings to seek a brighter sky ;
 And boding owl, with nightly howl, says cloud and storm are
 nigh.

No more 'tis sweet to walk abroad among the evening dews :
The flowers are fled from every path, with all their scents and
hues :

The joyous bird no more is heard, save where his slender song
The robin drops, as meek he hops the withered leaves among.

Those withered leaves, that slender song, a solemn truth
convey,—

In wisdom's ear they speak aloud of frailty and decay :
They say that man's apportioned year shall have its winter
too ;

Shall rise and shine, and then decline, as all around him do.

They tell him, all he has on earth, his brightest, dearest things,
His loves and friendships, joys and hopes, have all their falls
and springs :

A wave upon a moon-lit sea, a leaf before the blast,
A summer flower, an April hour, that gleams and hurries past.

And be it so : I know it well : myself, and all that's mine,
Must roll on with the rolling year, and ripen to decline.
I do not shun the solemn truth ; to him it is not drear,
Whose hopes can rise above the skies, and see a Saviour near.

It only makes him feel with joy, this earth is not his home ;
It sends him on from present ills to brighter hours to come :
It bids him take with thankful heart whate'er his God may
send,

Content to go through weal or woe to glory in the end.

Then murmur on, ye wintry winds ; remind me of my doom :
Ye lengthened nights, still image forth the darkness of the
tomb.

Eternal summer lights the heart where Jesus deigns to shine.
I mourn no loss, I shun no cross, so Thou, O Lord, art mine !

AGNES

I SAW her in childhood—
A bright gentle thing,
Like the dawn of the morn,
Or the dews of the spring :
The daisies and harebells
Her playmates all day ;
Herself as light-hearted
And artless as they.

I saw her again—
 A fair girl of eighteen,
 Fresh glittering with graces
 Of mind and of mien.
 Her speech was all music ;
 Like moonlight she shone ;
 The envy of many,
 The glory of one.

Years, years fled over—
 I stood at her foot ;
 The bud had grown blossom,
 The blossom was fruit.
 A dignified mother,
 Her infant she bore ;
 And looked, I thought, fairer,
 Than ever before.

I saw her once more—
 'Twas the day that she died ;
 Heaven's light was around her,
 And God at her side ;
 No want to distress her,
 No fears to appal—
 O then, I felt, then
 She was fairest of all !

ON A NAVAL OFFICER BURIED IN THE ATLANTIC

THERE is, in the wide lone sea,
 A spot unmarked, but holy ;
 For there the gallant and the free,
 In his ocean bed lies lowly.

Down, down, within the deep,
 That oft to triumph bore him,
 He sleeps a sound and pleasant sleep,
 With the salt waves washing o'er him.

He sleeps serene, and safe
 From tempest or from billow,
 Where the storms that high above him chafe,
 Scarce rock his peaceful pillow.

The sea and him in death,
 They did not dare to sever :
 It was his home while he had breath ;
 'Tis now his rest for ever.

Sleep on, thou mighty dead !
 A glorious tomb they've found thee.
 The broad blue sky above thee spread,
 The boundless waters round thee.

No vulgar foot treads here ;
 No hand profane shall move thee ;
 But gallant fleets shall proudly steer,
 And warriors shout, above thee.

And when the last trump shall sound,
 And tombs are asunder riven,
 Like the morning sun from the wave thou'lt
 bound,
 To rise and shine in heaven.

STABILITY

THERE is a change in all below ;
 Nought sure beneath the sky :
 Suns rise and set, tides ebb and flow,
 And man but lives to die.

Our joys and sorrows, hopes and fears,
 Still course each other on :
 A blessing in our path appears—
 We grasp, and it is gone !

No drop of honey, but a sting
 Within it lies concealed ;
 No hour that passes, but its wing
 Away some good has wheeled.

The joyous sun that lights to-day
 But clouds to-morrow's sky :
 The stars but shine to fall away ;
 The world but lives to die.

And let them pass—each earthly thing—
 While, Lord, 'tis mine to stand
 On Thy eternal word, and cling
 To Thy almighty hand.

Though sun and moon should sink in gloom,
 Thy promise ne'er declines :
 Dissolving worlds but leave Thee room
 To work Thy vast designs.

Linked to Thy truth I hold me up,
 Though earth from 'neath me slide ;
 And take content whatever cup
 Thy wisdom may provide.

Bitter or sweet, I little heed :
 All, all is sweet to me,
 While I my title clearly read
 To joys at last with Thee.

'THE UNKNOWN GOD'

BASED UPON ACTS XVII. 24.

THE Lord hath builded for Himself ;
 He needs no earthly dome :
 The universe His dwelling is,
 Eternity His home.

Yon glorious sky His temple stands,
 So lofty, bright, and blue,
 All lamped with stars, and curtained round
 With clouds of every hue.

Earth is His altar : Nature there
 Her daily tribute pays :
 The elements upon Him wait,
 The seasons roll His praise.

Where shall I see Him ? How describe
 The dread Eternal One ?
 His footprints are in every place,
 Himself is found in none.

He called the world, and it arose ;
 The heavens, and they appeared :
 His hand poured forth the mighty deep ;
 His arm the mountains reared.

He sets His foot upon the hills,
 And earth beneath Him quakes ;
 He walks upon the hurricane,
 And in the thunder speaks.

I search the rounds of space and time,
 Nor find His semblance there :
 Grandeur has nothing so sublime,
 Nor beauty half so fair.

Yet all I am, or meet, proclaim
 His wisdom, love, and power :
 They shine from all yon rolling worlds :
 They bloom in every flower..

He is ; He was ; He aye shall be.
 But how, my soul ? and what ?
 Where is He ?—say, ye works of His—
 Vain thought ! where is He not ?

Thou Omnipresent, dread Unknown,
 Engage for evermore :
 Enlarge my views, exalt my soul,
 And help me to adore !

THE APPROACH OF SPRING

O ! SPRINGTIME now will soon be here—
 The sweetest time of all the year ;
 When fields are green, and skies are blue,
 And the world grows beautiful anew.

The storms and clouds shall pass from high ;
 And the sun walk lordly up the sky,
 And look down love and joy again,
 On herb, and beast, and living men.

Then the laughing flowers on plant and tree,
 Shall bud and blossom pleasantly ;
 And spirits through the buxom air,
 Drop health and gladness everywhere :

The birds shall build their nests, and wake
 Their roundelays in bush and brake ;
 And the young west-wind on joyous feet,
 Go wooing along from sweet to sweet.

Then lives lithe Hope, live Love and Mirth ;
 Then God in beauty walks the earth :
 The heart is in tune, and the life-blood plays,
 And the soul breaks out in songs of praise.

O ! Springtime now will soon be here,
 The sweetest time of all the year ;
 When green leaves burst, and flow'rets spring,
 And young hearts too are blossoming.

'Twas then I ventured first to twine
My Annie's trembling arm in mine ;
And trod—with her I cared not where—
Through vocal fields and scented air.

O days of sunshine, song, and flowers !
O young Love's early haunts and hours !
O tones and looks ! O smiles and tears !
How shine ye still through lapse of years !

There was one bank we loved to climb,
All matted o'er with fragrant thyme,
And screened from every vagrant breeze
But the sweet south, up with the bees

Came musical ; and there we stood,
And gazed down on the ocean flood,
That slept beneath us, heaving mild
Between his shores, like a cradled child ;

Or turned where on the orchard trees
Young Spring sat swinging in the breeze,
Unfolding buds, and tending flowers,
For summer's future fruits and bowers.

All, all was bright !—at times like this,
No sight or sound comes in amiss ;
But things around appear to win
A colour from the mood within.

The earth laughed into flower : the sky
Cleared off the cloud from its brow on high ;
And God—the God of grace—unfurled
His flag of peace o'er a fallen world.

These youthful days are past and gone ;
The autumn of my years comes on ;
I much am changed in mind and frame ;
Yet Spring, sweet Spring, comes still the same.

I grow young with the young year then ;
I live my past lot o'er again ;
And in these hours of song and bloom,
See types of those beyond the tomb.

O ! Springtime now will soon be here,
The Spring of Heaven's millennial year ;
When God again o'er Nature's night,
Shall say, ' Be light,' and there is light.

O Thou that into glorious birth,
 Shalt wake at last this fallen earth,
 While humbler things Thy influence share,
 Be not the soul forgotten there !

Rise, Sun of glory ! rise, and shine
 Within this wintry breast of mine ;
 And make my inward wastes and snows
 Rejoice and blossom as the rose.

Oh, while I seem to catch the sound
 Of vegetation swelling round,
 Grant me within a growth to prove,
 Of faith, and hope, and joy, and love !

Springtide of grace, thy course begin ;
 Chase the dark reign of sense and sin ;
 From light to light advance and shine,
 Till Heaven's eternal Spring is mine !

MARY'S GRAVE

MARY, thou art gone to rest ;
 Why should we deplore thee ?
 Light the turf lies on thy breast,
 Soft the winds breathe o'er thee.
 Here within thy native clay,
 Calmly thou art sleeping,
 Safer, happier, far than they,
 Who are o'er thee weeping.

Pleasant is thy lowly bed,
 Close to those that bore thee ;
 Trees, 'neath which thy childhood played,
 Gently waving o'er thee.
 Hark the thrush ! how sweet his lay !
 See the flowers, how blooming !
 ' Weep not for the dead,' they say,
 ' Though in earth consuming.

' Weep not for her—she is gone
 Where no cares can move her ;
 All her earthly labours done,
 All her trials over.
 Weep not—she has found a home
 Where no sorrow paineth :
 Sin, nor tears, nor terrors come,
 Where a Saviour reigneth.'

PARAPHRASE OF THE FORTY-SIXTH PSALM

GOD is our hope and strength ! a present help
 In time of trouble ! therefore though the earth
 Be moved, and her mountains 'midst the deep
 Be headlong tumbled, though the waters there
 Shall rage till every hill shall shake around,
 We will not fear ! The roaring winds and waves
 Shall only glad the dwelling of the Lord,
 The seat in which the Mightiest deigns to bide.
 God in the midst forbids her to be moved !
 God shall assist her timely as before !
 The kingdoms threaten'd, and the proud of heart
 Combined in arms. But God gave forth His voice,
 Earth melted at the sound ! The Lord of Hosts
 Is with us, Israel's Monarch is our shield !
 Come hither and behold His glorious works ;
 What desolation in His wrath He brings
 O'er all the earth ; what gladness when appeased !
 See how He quells the storm of war, how breaks
 The sword, and snaps the spear, exalts the weak,
 And pulls the mighty down. Be still then, Earth,
 Tremble, ye kings, and know that I am God.
 I will defend My people, I will bend
 The stubborn knee of pride ! The Lord of Hosts
 Is with us, Israel's Monarch is our shield !

ADDRESSED TO MY FRIEND J. K.

AND then those nights, those attic nights we've passed
 With the fond few who felt and thought as we,
 Chiding the hours that stole away so fast,
 On wings of reason, wit, and minstrelsy :
 When my young Muse would list and learn from thee,
 Strains she had envied any tongue but thine,
 Or from discussions fanciful and free,
 On books, men, things gay, moral, and Divine,
 Glean'd much to please and mend, enlighten and refine.

THE ALPS

THE Alps—the Alps—the joyous Alps,
 Are all around me heaving high.
 I bow me to their snowy scalps,
 That rush into the sky.

Hail, lordly land of storm and strife,
 To poetry and wonder dear !
 'Tis worth an age of common life
 To feel as I do here :

To look down on that deep blue lake ;
 To look up in that glorious sky ;
 To feel my soul within me wake,
 And ask for wings to fly :

To bound the airy heights along ;
 Above the floating clouds to stand ;
 And meet creation's God among
 The wonders of His hand.

Hail, scenes of holy grandeur ! hail !
 Where mortal sense stands hushed and awed.
 Oh, who could gaze on such, and fail
 To think of Thee, my God ?

Alone and dread Thou dwellest here,
 The source and soul of all I see.
 I look around in joy and fear,
 And feel I am with Thee !

I see Thee on the mountain sit,
 At summer's noon, sublime and still,
 Or, in the giant shadows flit
 Along from hill to hill.

I read Thy presence and Thy power,
 In each eternal rock I meet ;
 I trace Thy love in every flower,
 That blossoms at my feet.

Thou speakest from each rolling cloud,
 That pours its stormy mirth on high,
 When cliff to cliff is shouting loud,
 Responsive to the sky.

Thy voice at night is in the sound
 Of sinking glaciers, rushing rills,
 And avalanches thundering round,
 Among the startled hills.

The mountain mists, in all their moods,
 The snows by earthly feet untrod,
 The fells, the forests, and the floods,
 Are all instinct with God.

O regions, wonderful and wild,
 Sublimity's inspiring home,
 Scenes I have dreamt of since a child,
 And longed as now to roam !

And I am here ! and I may range
 Your length and breadth without control :
 And feel a world all new and strange
 Break in upon my soul !

Hail ! mountain monarchs, hail ! Again
 Before your reverend feet I bow :
 How poor is language to explain
 The thoughts that fill me now !

THE MOTHER AND HER DYING BOY

Boy.

My mother, my mother, O let me depart !
 Your tears and your pleadings are swords to my heart.
 I hear gentle voices, that chide my delay ;
 I see lovely visions, that woo me away.
 My prison is broken, my trials are o'er !
 O mother, my mother, detain me no more !

Mother.

And will you, then, leave us, my brightest, my best ?
 And will you run nestling no more to my breast ?
 The summer is coming to sky and to bower ;
 The tree that you planted will soon be in flower ;
 You loved the soft season of song and of bloom ;
 Oh, shall it return, and find you in the tomb ?

Boy.

Yes, mother, I loved in the sunshine to play,
 And talk with the birds and the blossoms all day,
 But sweeter the songs of the spirits on high,
 And brighter the glories round God in the sky :
 I see them ! I hear them ! they pull at my heart !
 My mother, my mother, O let me depart !

Mother.

O do not desert us ! our hearts will be drear,
 Our home will be lonely, when you are not here.
 Your brother will sigh 'mid his playthings, and say,
 I wonder dear Willie so long can delay.
 That foot like the wild wind, that glance like a star—
 O what will this world be, when they are afar ?

Boy.

This world, dearest mother ! O live not for this ;
 No, press on with me to the fullness of bliss !
 And, trust me, whatever bright fields I may roam,
 My heart will not wander from you and from home.
 Believe me still near you on pinions of love ;
 Expect me to hail you when soaring above.

Mother.

Well,—go, my beloved ! The conflict is o'er :—
 My pleas are all selfish ; I urge them no more.
 Why chain your bright spirit down here to the clod,
 So thirsting for freedom, so ripe for its God ?
 Farewell, then ! farewell, till we meet at the Throne,
 Where love fears no partings, and tears are unknown !

Boy.

O glory ! O glory ! what music ! what light !
 What wonders break in on my heart, on my sight !
 I come, blessed spirits ! I hear you from high.
 O frail, faithless nature, can this be to die ?
 So near ! what, so near to my Saviour and King ?
 O help me, ye angels, His glories to sing !

ELIJAH'S INTERVIEW WITH GOD

BASED ON I KINGS XIX. 11, 12

ON Horeb's rock the prophet stood :
 The Lord before him passed :
 A hurricane in angry mood,
 Swept by him strong and fast.
 The forests fell before its force ;
 The rocks were shivered in its course :
 God rode not in the blast !
 'Twas but the whirlwind of His breath,
 Announcing danger, wreck, and death.

It ceased : the air was mute. A cloud
 Came muffling up the sun :
 Went through the mountain deep and loud,
 An earthquake thundered on.
 The frightened eagle sprang in air ;
 The wolf ran howling from his lair.
 God was not in the stun !
 'Twas but the rolling of His car,
 The trampling of His steeds from far.

It ceased again : and Nature stood
 And smoothed her ruffled frame :
 When swift from heaven a fiery flood,
 To earth devouring came.
 Down to his depths the ocean fled ;
 The sickening sun looked wan and dead.
 Yet God filled not the flame !
 'Twas but the fierceness of His eye,
 That lightened through the troubled sky.
 At last a voice all still and small,
 Rose sweetly on the ear ;
 Yet rose so calm and clear that all
 In heaven and earth might hear.
 It spoke of hope ; it spoke of love ;
 It spoke as spirits speak above ;
 And God himself was here !
 For, oh, it was a Father's voice,
 That bade His trembling world rejoice.
 Speak, gracious Lord, speak ever thus ;
 And let Thy terrors prove
 The harbingers of peace to us,
 The heralds of Thy love !
 Shine through the earthquake, fire, and storm,
 Shine in Thy milder, better form,
 And all our fears remove !
 One word of Thine is all we claim ;
 'Tis 'mercy ' through a Saviour's name.

' LO, WE HAVE LEFT ALL, AND FOLLOWED THEE '

This hymn was in public use for nearly ten years before it was known to be one of Mr. Lyte's. It had been erroneously attributed to Miss Grenfell.

JESUS, I my cross have taken,
 All to leave and follow Thee :
 Destitute, despised, forsaken,
 Thou from hence my all shalt be.
 Perish, every fond ambition,
 All I've sought, and hoped, and known ;
 Yet how rich is my condition,—
 God and heaven are still my own.
 Let all the world despise and leave me—
 They have left my Saviour too—
 Human hearts and looks deceive me ;
 Thou art not, like man, untrue :

And while Thou shalt smile upon me,
 God of wisdom, love, and might,
 Foes may hate, and friends may shun me :
 Show Thy face, and all is bright !

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure !
 Come, disaster, scorn, and pain !
 In Thy service, pain is pleasure ;
 With Thy favour, loss is gain.
 I have called Thee Abba, Father ;
 I have stayed my heart on Thee :
 Storms may howl, and clouds may gather ;
 All must work for good to me.

Man may trouble and distress me ;
 'Twill but drive me to Thy breast.
 Life with trials hard may press me ;
 Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.
 Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me !
 While Thy love is left to me !
 Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me,
 Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Take, my soul, thy full salvation ;
 Rise o'er sin, and fear, and care ;
 Joy to find in every station,
 Something still to do or bear !
 Think what spirit dwells within thee ;
 What a Father's smile is thine ;
 What thy Saviour died to win thee,—
 Child of Heaven, shouldst thou repine ?

Haste, then, on from grace to glory,
 Armed by faith, and winged by prayer ;
 Heaven's eternal day's before thee ;
 God's own hand shall guide thee there.
 Soon shall close thy earthly mission ;
 Swift shall pass thy pilgrim days ;
 Hope soon change to glad fruition,
 Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

HARK ! ROUND THE GOD OF LOVE

Composed for the Sunday-School Anniversary of All Saints', Brixham, and a great favourite among the children.

HARK ! round the God of Love
 Angels are singing !
 Saints at His feet above
 Their crowns are flinging.

And may poor children dare
 Hope for acceptance there,
 Their simple praise and prayer,
 To His throne bringing ?

Yes ! through adoring throngs
 His pity sees us,
 'Midst their seraphic songs,
 Our offering pleases.
 And Thou who here didst prove,
 To babes so full of love,
 Thou art the same above,
 Merciful Jesus !

Not a poor sparrow falls,
 But Thou art near it.
 When the young raven calls,
 Thou, Lord, dost hear it.
 Flowers, worms, and insects share,
 Hourly Thy guardian care—
 Wilt Thou bid us despair ?
 Lord, can we fear it ?

Lord, then Thy mercy send,
 On all before Thee !
 Children and children's Friend,
 Bless, we implore Thee !
 Lead us from grace to grace,
 On through our earthly race,
 Till all before Thy face
 Meet to adore Thee !

'IT IS I : BE NOT AFRAID '

LOUD was the wind, and wild the tide ;
 The ship her course delayed :
 The Lord came to their help, and cried,
 ' 'Tis I : be not afraid.'

Who walks the waves in wondrous guise,
 By Nature's laws unstayed ?
 ' 'Tis I,' a well-known voice replies ;
 ' 'Tis I : be not afraid.'

He mounts the deck : down lulls the sea ;
 The tempest is allayed ;
 The prostrate crew adore ; and He
 Exclaims, ' Be not afraid.'

Thus, when the storm of life is high,
 Come, Saviour, to my aid !
 Come, when no other help is nigh,
 And say, ' Be not afraid.'

Speak, and my griefs no more are heard ;
 Speak, and my fears are laid ;
 Speak, and my soul shall bless the word,
 ' 'Tis I : be not afraid.'

When on the bed of death I lie,
 And stretch my hands for aid,
 Stand Thou before my glazing eye,
 And say, ' Be not afraid.'

Before Thy judgment seat above,
 When nature sinks dismayed,
 Oh, cheer me with a word of love—
 ' 'Tis I : be not afraid.'

Worlds may around to wreck be driven,
 If then I hear it said,
 By Him who rules through earth and heaven,
 ' 'Tis I : be not afraid.'

NEW YEAR'S HYMN

Hail to another year,
 The year that now begins !
 All hail to Him who led us here,
 Through dangers and through sins.

Hail to another year !
 Peace to the year that's past !
 May this one at its close appear,
 Less worthless than the last !

Hail to another year !
 Ere round its wheels are driven,
 Each to the grave will stand more near—
 Will each be nearer heaven ?

Hail to another year !
 Ere half its race is sped,
 Ourselves, with all we treasure here,
 May rest among the dead.

Hail to another year !
 Though yet unknown, untrod,
 Whate'er may come, we need not fear,
 If friends, through Christ, with God.

Hail to another year,
A year of peace and love !
Oh, may it prove a foretaste here,
Of endless years above !

SAD THOUGHTS

YES, I am calm, am humbled now ;
The storm is rocked to rest ;
And I have learnt my head to bow,
And count my lot the best.

I would not struggle with my God,
Or chide what He has given :
Why should I murmur at the rod,
That drives me on to heaven ?

Yet withering thoughts at times will break,
Across my calmer frame :
And then I feel how hearts may ache,
Though still they bow the same.

Dark moods, too long and fondly nursed,
Will o'er me come unsought :
And thou, ah thou, beloved the first,
To be the last forgot !

I meet thy pensive, moonlight face ;
Thy thrilling voice I hear ;
And former hours and scenes retrace,
Too fleeting, and too dear !

Then sighs and tears flow fast and free,
Though none is nigh to share ;
And life has nought beside for me,
So sweet as this despair.

There are crushed hearts that will not break ;
And mine, methinks, is one ;
Or thus I should not weep and wake,
And thou to slumber gone.

I little thought it thus could be,
In days more sad and fair—
That earth could have a place for me,
And thou no longer there.

We met in childhood's morning road ;
Our love with life began ;
And on through years the current flowed,
And deepened as it ran.

Yes : on we loved, and loved the same,
Though little either said :
It burned, that sad and secret flame,
Like lamps among the dead.

I knew her heart was all my own ;
She knew the same of mine ;
Though caution guarded every tone,
And checked each outward sign.

To selves or others unexpressed,
The truth within us waked—
A conscious wound in either breast,
That inly bled and ached.

At last it came, the day to part !
And feelings, long repressed,
In bitter shrift from heart to heart,
Were all at length expressed.

That trying hour all barriers broke ;
A frenzy o'er me fell :
Spirit to spirit briefly spoke,
And then—Farewell ! farewell !

From that dark day I walked alone,
In this wide world of care,
My widowed heart regardless grown,
Of aught that wooed it there.

Its joys and griefs I learned to view,
Without a smile or sigh ;
And naught seemed left me now to do,
But lay me down and die.

Bereavement was not long her dower ;
She feels no more its sway :
She pined, she drooped, my severed flower !
And passed from earth away.

No plaint she breathed, no pain confessed,
But calmly fell asleep ;
She stole into her grave for rest,
And left me here to weep.

While thou wert here, there was a hope,
All dimly as it shone :
'Tis gone ! and I am left to cope
With this cold world alone.

Yet death cannot our hearts divide,
Or make thee less my own.
'Twere sweeter sleeping at thy side,
Than watching here alone.

Yet never, never can we part,
While Memory holds her reign :
Thine, thine is still this withered heart,
Till we shall meet again.

That meet we shall, I do not fear :
The thought was joy to thee :
And I have now but little here,
To part my God and me.

I feel, too, in my darkest mood,
How much my soul has won :
I know 'twas needful all, and good ;
And say, ' Thy will be done !'

Still, thoughts like these at times will come,
My firmness to surprise.
When shall I be with thee at home,
Beyond the reach of sighs ?

DOMESTIC LOVE

How lovely is domestic harmony,
Where mind on mind and heart on heart repose
Undoubting ; and the friends, whom Providence
Has cast together, sharing each with each
Their hopes, their joys, their cares, appear to live
One common life, and breathe one common will !
This fallen world brings forth no other flower
So beautiful as this ; and where the love
Of God is added to this love of man,
Somewhat of heaven itself to earth descends.
For what is heaven, but one immortal home,
Where all are brother, parent, child, or friend,
And all are happy, loving, and beloved ?
And what is hell, but the abode of hate
And envy, where discordant elements
Mingle, and hiss, and jar eternally ?
Bright comes the morn and soft descends the night
On the fair dwelling-place of love and peace ;
And from the buffetings of this rude world
Its happy inmates, like the wandering dove

Home to her ark, for refuge there can fly.
 Prayer meets no hindrance there ; and praise from
 thence,
 Of hearts and lips in unison, ascends
 More acceptable to the God of Love.
 The idol self is from his throne cast down,
 And God set up instead ; and where He reigns
 There must be happiness, there must be heaven.

THE HEART IN TUNE

BE the heart in tune within,
 All without runs smooth and even,
 And earth's objects seem to win
 Something of the hues of heaven :
 Clouds from off our sky are flown ;
 All grows bright around and o'er us ;
 Life acquires a loftier tone,
 And hope dances light before us :

Music comes in every gale ;
 Flowers in all our paths are blowing ;
 Prosperous winds fill every sail ;
 Tides are ever fair and flowing ;
 Time adds feathers to his wing ;
 Grief of half his load is lightened ;
 Life's distresses lose their sting,
 And its every joy is heightened.

Then the waste, where'er we roam,
 Gushes with refreshing fountains ;
 Then between us and our home,
 Ope the seas, and sink the mountains :
 Faith is strong, and views are clear ;
 Foes or fears no more confound us ;
 Ministering angels near,
 And an Eden opening round us :

Nature through her wide domain,
 Quits her air of ruined sadness,
 Kindles into smiles again,
 Wakes anew to song and gladness :
 God amid His works appears,
 Calls His creatures to adore Him ;
 And this world of sin and tears,
 Blossoms as the rose before Him.

If His gospel then be heard,
 Soon the inmost soul it reaches ;
 God speaks home in every word,
 Christ again in person teaches ;
 Every promise is applied,
 Power to every precept given,
 And the Spirit and the Bride,
 Point to woo us on to heaven.

Prayer and praise are easy then,
 From the soul spontaneous flowing ;
 And with love to God and men,
 Tenderly the heart is glowing.
 All our duties lighter grow ;
 Pleasant seems the meanest station ;
 And from light to light we go,
 To the fullness of salvation.

Be our spirits ever such,
 Turned into harmonious meetness,
 Till their chords to every touch,
 Answer in some tone of sweetness ;
 Quickened by celestial grace,
 Purified of earthly leaven,
 Shining, like the prophet's face,
 With a glory caught from heaven.

THE PRAYER-ANSWERING GOD

I STAND in a world where there's nothing my own,
 Where the lightest event is beyond my control ;
 But to Him that is Ruler supreme and alone,
 I gladly resign, for I know Him, the whole.
 How pleasant, 'mid changes and chances unthought,
 On His wisdom and love to disburthen our care ;
 And to know, that the God who disposes our lot,
 Is a God that will hear and will answer our prayer !

There are those that I love, far away from me now,
 And roaming through danger by shore and by sea ;
 And what were my feelings, my Father, if Thou
 Wert less than Almighty for them and for me ?
 I cannot command the wild winds to be still ;
 I cannot compel the dark waves to forbear ;
 But One is above them who can, and who will :
 In Him I am strong, for He answereth prayer.

Ah me ! I gaze round me,—and what are the smiles
 And the looks that give life all its zest and its soul ?
 Mortality claims them, and sternly reviles
 Affection's vain struggle against her control.
 I own it, I feel it ; yet, humbled and awed,
 I still dare to love them, all frail as they are ;
 For I know we are both in the hands of our God,
 The Father of Jesus, the Hearer of prayer.

Then here be my resting-place ! here will I sit
 Secure 'mid the shiftings of time and event ;
 For Fate has no power but what He may permit,
 And the Hand that must take is the same that hath lent
 On His wisdom and goodness I calmly rely ;
 Whate'er He assigns He can aid me to bear :
 He knows what is good for me better than I,
 And will give it, I hope, in despite of my prayer.

THOUGHTS IN WEAKNESS

PART I

Encouragement

THREE mighty companies compose
 The armies of the Lord ;
 Upon His love they all repose,
 And wait upon His word.
 Unlike the offices they fill,
 The homage that they bring,
 But one their ceaseless object still—
 To glorify their King.

The first in rank and station—they
 The bright angelic train,
 Who never bowed 'neath sorrow's sway,
 Nor felt corruption's stain.
 And yet they feel for man's distress,
 His every trial share,
 Nor spurn the meanest services
 To help salvation's heir.

The next—a band of humbler birth,
 But scarce of humbler place,
 Who fought and bled for Christ on earth,
 And triumphed through His grace.

Their secret wrestlings, hidden life,
To Him were not unknown :
His arm sustained them through the strife,
And now they share His throne.

The last are they who still maintain
The conflict here below,
Whose portion still is sin and pain,
The danger and the foe.
They oft are foiled, they oft despair,
But help from high is given ;
They struggle on through faith and prayer,
And fight their way to heaven.

And these—though poor and weak they be,
The Saviour owns them still ;
They serve Him, though imperfectly,
And yearn to work His will.
Temptation's tide they strive to stem,
Though faith at times burns dim,
Nor find the Lord deserting them,
While they depend on Him.

The world, the flesh, the Evil One,
Assault them hour by hour ;
And soon must all their hopes be gone,
If left to Nature's power.
But armed by Christ's own plighted word,
When fiercest foes assail,
They meet them with the Spirit's sword,
Nor find the weapon fail.

Oh, mighty is the power of prayer,
The promise large and true ;
The feeblest heart need not despair
With these to bear it through.
Though darkest clouds o'ercast the sky,
Though wave call out to wave,
Enough to know the Saviour nigh,
To bless, to guide, to save.

Shall flesh and blood presume to shrink
While He vouchsafes to aid ?
Shall Nature hear that voice and sink—
' 'Tis I, be not afraid ' ?
Behold—'tis Jesus walks the deck ;
What fears our hearts o'erwhelm ?
Can wildest waves the vessel wreck
While He is at the helm ?

Oh, strange our courage e'er should reel
 With Him so near and kind ;
 So often rescued—yet to feel
 So trustless and so blind !
 Oh, strange to know all heaven to be
 Upon our side arrayed,
 All cheering, strengthening us, and we
 By every breath dismayed !

Go, ask those victors now on high
 What helped them on to heaven—
 'The very arms,' they all reply,—
 'To you as freely given.
 Our hearts, like yours, were faint and frail,
 Our foes as hard to tame ;
 But grace we found o'er all prevail.
 Oh, try and find the same !'

PART II

Submission

Yet think not, O my soul, to keep
 Thy progress on to God,
 By any road less rough and steep
 Than that thy fathers trod.
 In tears and trials thou must sow,
 To reap in joy and love.
 We cannot find our home below,
 And hope for one above.

No—here we labour, watch, and pray,
 Our rest and peace are there—
 God will not take the thorn away,
 But gives us strength to bear.
 The holiest, greatest, best have thus
 In wisdom learnt to grow :
 Yea, He that gave Himself for us
 Was perfected by woe.

Thou, Man of Sorrows, Thou didst not
 The bitter cup decline.
 Why should I claim a better lot—
 A smoother path than Thine ?
 Thou sought'st no treasure here on earth,
 No glory 'neath the skies ;
 And what Thou deem'dst so little worth,
 Shall I so highly prize ?

Did not reproach and wrong rain down
Upon Thy hallowed head ?
Didst Thou not strip off glory's crown,
To wear the thorns instead ?
When foes reviled, didst Thou reply,
Or render ill for ill ?
Didst Thou for man bleed, faint, and die ?
And shall I falter still ?

In early life to Thee I was
Consigned by solemn vow :
Enlisted 'neath Thy Holy Cross—
Shall I desert it now ?
I then, 'gainst every hostile power,
Engaged to follow Thee ;
And shall I, at the trying hour,
Be found the first to flee ?

Thou didst not flee, O King of Love,
When Thou wert sorely tried ;
When all men fled, and God above
Appeared His face to hide.
Intent that guiltless Blood to shed,
That should for guilt atone,
The mighty winepress Thou didst tread,
Unshrinking, though alone.

And shall I murmur or repine
At aught Thy hand may send ?
To whom should I my cause resign,
If not to such a Friend ?
Where Love and Wisdom deign to choose,
Shall I the choice condemn ;
Or dare the medicine to refuse
That is prescribed by them ?

Oh, small the gain when men aspire
Their Maker to control !
He gives, perhaps, their heart's desire,
And leanness to their soul.
Not His to quench the smoking flax,
Or break the bruised reed ;
Or with one pang our patience tax,
But what He knows we need.

Yet must our steadfastness be tried—
Yet must our graces grow
By holy warfare. What beside
Did we expect below ?

Is not the way to heavenly gain
 Through earthly grief and loss ?
 Rest must be won by toil and pain—
 The Crown repays the Cross.

As woods, when shaken by the breeze,
 Take deeper, firmer root,
 As winter's frosts but make the trees
 Abound in summer fruit ;
 So every Heaven-sent pang and throe
 That Christian firmness tries,
 But nerves us for our work below,
 And forms us for the skies.

PART III

Action

Away, then, causeless doubts and fears
 That weaken and enthrall ;
 Wipe off, my soul, thy faithless tears,
 And rise to duty's call.
 How much is there to win and do,
 How much to help and cheer !
 The fields are white, the labourers few ;
 Wilt thou sit 'plaining here ?

Awake, my soul, to duty wake ;
 Go, pay the debt thou ow'st.
 Go forward—and the night shall break
 Around thee as thou go'st.
 A Red Sea may before thee flow,
 Egyptian hosts pursue ;
 But He that bids thee onward go
 Will ope a pathway, too.

Swift fly the hours, and brief the time
 For action or repose ;—
 Fast flits this scene of woe and crime,
 And soon the whole shall close ;
 The evening shadows deeper fall,
 The daylight dies away.
 Wake, slumberer, at the Master's call,
 And work while it is day !

THE WORLD RENOUNCED

Go, worthless world ! I've tried and found

Thy hollowness at last :

I know thee now an empty sound,

And spurn at all thou hast.

Thy smiles, thy flatteries, thy deceit,

I've scanned them o'er and o'er.

Go, other hearts to snare and cheat ;

Thou holdest mine no more.

I've been thy dupe, I've been thy scoff,

For years I've worn thy chain :

My Saviour came and called me off,

And I am free again :

Free with the freedom Christ bestows ;

Divinely, greatly free ;

Redeemed from follies, sins, and woes ;

Redeemed, false world, from thee !

Still must I linger 'mid thy slaves,

A stranger yet a while ;

Must toss on thy uncertain waves,

And meet thy specious smile :

The scoffs of pride, the snares of sense,

Must still my firmness try ;

Till Christ returns to call me hence,

To peace with Him on high.

I know me weak, and prone to fall ;

Yet know, with Him my Friend,

I still may pass unhurt through all,

To glory in the end.

And while my sojourn here I make,

This, this my maxim be,—

To love mankind for Jesu's sake,

And spurn, false world, at thee.

A SUMMER DAY IN WINTER

THE winter wears a summer hue—

The sun is on the wave ;

The sky is one unclouded blue ;

The winds begin to rave ;

The feathery frost melts fast away
 From every glittering stem ;
 And cottage eaves in morning's ray
 Are dropping gold and gem.

That ray the silver feet unlocks,
 Of all the tiny floods ;
 They leap again down o'er their rocks,
 And prattle through the woods.

The cattle in the field rejoice,
 The birds upon the wing,
 And from the brake a doubtful voice
 Half warbles, ' Welcome, Spring !'

The wave that flew o'er yester cliff,
 Is sleeping 'neath it now ;
 And from its creek the summer skiff
 Steals out with timid prow.

The anchored ships, their voyage o'er,
 Shake out their sails to dry ;
 The fisher spreads his net on shore,
 Beneath the glowing sky.

The old man from his chimney nook
 Creeps out into the sun :
 All Nature wears her own sweet look
 Of springtide just begun.

O earth, all fallen as thou art,
 How soon thy darkest day
 Can into life and beauty start
 Beneath thy monarch's ray !

Nor less the contrast that awakes
 The wintry soul within,
 When, Lord, Thy gladdening Gospel breaks
 On Nature's night of sin.

The Sun of Righteousness ascends ;
 The clouds and storms depart ;
 And Heaven-born grace implants and tends
 Her Eden in the heart.

Yet earth's best joys are brief and base
 To those which Heaven supplies ;
 A summer smile on winter's face,
 A gleam through clouded skies.

I would not spurn these wayside flowers,
That strew my pathway home ;
But look through all to heavenly hours,
And bid their fullness come.

RECOLLECTIONS

'Twas a sweet April morning : I traversed the glade
Where my light foot in infancy often had played :
Each object recalled to my lingering view,
The hours that there once so delightfully flew.

Dear scenes of enchantment, for ever gone by !
How brightly they danced before memory's eye !
I numbered their fugitive blisses all o'er :
They were flown, and I sighed I had prized them no more.

Oh, why is it thus, that we never discover
The worth of our joys till possession is over ?
That we only can gaze on the sun of delight,
When its fast-fading glories are setting in night ?

All aimless and wild as the zephyr, we fleet
O'er a thousand fair flow'rets that smile at our feet :
Though they lure us to pluck them, and woo us to stay,
We trample, we slight them, and flutter away.

Then, when life brings its crosses, its cares, and its fears,
When disaster beside and before us appears,
Then we pause, and look back, and our folly discern ;
Then we prize, bless, and mourn what can never return.

When all that hope hung on for comfort is flown,
When delights from the past must be gathered alone,
How dimly they shine through the distance of years !
How ill can they chase present shadows and tears !

Woe, woe to the heart that is destined to ache
In a world whose gay bustle it loathes to partake !
Where nothing is left that is moving or dear,
That can light up a smile, or elicit a tear !

When conscience is sickened on looking within,
When without there is little to wish or to win,
When Memory shrinks back from the things that have been,
And Hope looking onward grows pale at the scene.

Oh, where to find comfort ? Oh, whither to fly,
 Scarce wishing to live, and yet dreading to die ?
 Thus helpless, thus reckless, pierced, lost, unforgiven ;
 Heart-broken on earth, and desponding of heaven !

Lord, Thou canst give light in this hour of despair ;
 Canst ease us of anguish, or teach us to bear :
 And good is the pressure of pain and distress,
 If they lead to a Saviour to heal and to bless.

'Tis good that our props should from 'neath us be fled,
 If we drop into Arms Everlasting instead ;
 That thistles and thorns in our pathway should rise,
 If they send us but on for repose to the skies.

When all else is changing within and around,
 In God and His goodness no change can be found.
 In giving or taking His end is the same,
 His creatures to quicken, exalt, and reclaim.

Such terrors to drive, and such love to allure,
 Lord, add but Thy grace, and the issue is sure.
 My trials may thicken, my comforts may flee ;
 I'm rich amid ruins with heaven and Thee.

FLOWERS

CHILDREN of dew and sunshine, balmy flowers !
 Ye seem like creatures of a heavenly mould,
 That linger in this fallen earth of ours,
 Fair relics of her paradise of old.

Amidst her tombs and ruins, gentle things,
 Ye smile and glitter in celestial bloom ;
 Like radiant feathers dropped from angel wings,
 Or tiny rainbows of a world of gloom.

Yes ; there is heaven about you : in your breath
 And hues it dwells. The stars of heaven ye shine ;
 Bright strangers in a land of sin and death,
 That talk of God, and point to realms Divine.

O mutely eloquent ! the heart may read
 In brims like you, in tinted leaf or wing,
 Fragrance, and music, lessons that exceed
 The formal lore that graver pages bring.

Ye speak of frail humanity : ye tell
How man, like you, shall flourish and shall fall.
But, ah ! ye speak of Heavenly Love as well,
And say, the God of flowers is God of all.

While Faith in you her Maker's goodness views,
Beyond her utmost need, her boldest claim,
She catches something of your smiles and hues,
Forgets her fears, and glows and smiles the same.

Childhood and you are playmates ; matching well
Your sunny cheeks, and mingling fragrant breath.
Ye help young Love his faltering tale to tell ;
Ye scatter sweetness o'er the bed of Death.

Sweet flowers, sweet flowers, be mine to dwell with you !
Ye talk of song and sunshine, hope and love :
Ye breathe of all bright things, and lead us through
The best of earth to better still above.

Sweet flowers, sweet flowers ! the rich exuberance
Of Nature's heart in her propitious hours :
When glad emotions in her bosom dance,
She vents her happiness in laughing flowers.

I love you, when along the fields in spring,
Your dewy eyes look countless from the turf ;
I love you, when from summer boughs you swing,
As light and silvery as the ocean surf.

I love your earliest beauties, and your last :
Come when you may, you still are welcome here ;
Flinging your sweets on Autumn's dying blast,
Or weaving chaplets for the infant year.

I love your gentle eyes and smiling faces,
Bright with the sun, or wet with balmy showers ;
Your looks and language in all times and places,
In lordly gardens, or in woodland bowers.

But most, sweet flowers, I love you when ye talk
As Jesus taught you when He o'er you trod ;
And, mingling smiles and morals, bid us walk
Content o'er earth to glory and to God.

INSCRIPTION ON A MONUMENT TO S. P. S.

WHAT shall we write on this memorial stone ?
 Thy merits ? Thou didst rest on Christ's alone.
 Our sorrows ? Thou wouldst chide the selfish tear.
 Our love ? Alas, it needs no record here.
 Praise to thy God and ours ? His truth and love
 Are sung in nobler strains by thee above.
 What wouldst thou have us write ? A voice is heard,—
 ' Write, for each reader write, a warning word.
 Bid him look well before him, and within ;
 Talk to his heedless heart of death and sin ;
 And if at these he tremble, bid him flee
 To Christ, and find Him all in all, like me.'

PLEADING FOR MERCY

WHEN at Thy footstool, Lord, I bend,
 And plead with Thee for mercy there,
 O think Thou of the sinner's Friend,
 And for His sake receive my prayer !
 O think not of my shame and guilt,
 My thousand stains of deepest dye :
 Think of the blood which Jesus spilt,
 And let that blood my pardon buy.

Think, Lord, how I am still Thy own,
 The trembling creature of Thy hand ;
 Think how my heart to sin is prone,
 And what temptations round me stand.
 O think how blind and weak am I,
 How strong and wily are my foes :
 They wrestled with Thy hosts on high ;
 How should a worm their might oppose ?

O think upon Thy Holy Word,
 And every plighted promise there—
 How prayer should evermore be heard,
 And how Thy glory is to spare.
 O think not of my doubts and fears,
 My strivings with Thy grace Divine :
 Think upon Jesu's woes and tears,
 And let His merits stand for mine.

Thine eye, Thine ear, they are not dull ;
 Thine arm can never shortened be :
 Behold me here—my heart is full—
 Behold, and spare and succour me.
 No claim, no merits, Lord, I plead ;
 I come a humbled, helpless slave :
 But, ah ! the more my guilty need,
 The more Thy glory, Lord, to save.

INSCRIPTION ON A MONUMENT AT BRIXHAM

HERE LIES VAR

(Lapdog of the Right Honourable Lady Farnham)

BREATHE, gentle spring, breathe on this grassy mound,
 And sing, ye birds, and bloom, ye flowers, around.
 Ye suns and dews, make green the resting-place
 Of honest Var, the noblest of his race.
 Gentle, yet fearless, active, fond, and true,
 He reads, proud man, a lesson here to you ;
 And bids you (happy might you hear) to be
 Guiltless in life, and calm in death as he.
 Go, and as faithful to your Master prove,
 As firm in duty, and as strong in love.
 You will not find this moment here misspent
 In musing o'er a spaniel's monument.

AN INFANT'S ADDRESS TO DEPARTING DAYLIGHT

BEAUTIFUL daylight, stay, oh, stay,
 Nor fly from the world and me away,
 To darken the skies, so blue and bright,
 And take the green fields from my lonely sight.
 No birds then will talk to me from the tall tree,
 Nor flowers appear looking and laughing on me.
 Kind voices I hear, and kind faces I view ;
 But I can't talk with them, little birds, as with you :
 I know not their language, their ways, and their looks,
 Nor care for their candles, pens, pencils, and books.
 Then, beautiful daylight, fly not yet !
 Few suns have I ever seen rise or set ;
 And when each day with its pleasures is o'er,
 I fear they will never come back any more.

A stranger I am in this world below,
And have much of its wonders to mark and know :
I want to see more of each new fairy scene,
To trace sounds and objects, and learn what they mean ;
To gaze on the features of her in whose breast
I am fed, and folded, and sung into rest,
Who kisses me softly, and calls me her dear,
And all the new friends that are kind to me here.
Then stay, sweet daylight, mine eyes to bless !
I know night little, and love it still less.
The place that I came from had nothing of shade,
In beauty and glory for ever arrayed :
There angel forms were smiling and singing,
And waving their wings in the daylight springing
From God's own face, like a fountain flowing
With rays sun and moon must fail in bestowing.
I scarcely remember that land of bliss ;
But I love what is brightest and purest in this :
And if upon one of those clouds I could lie,
That have run to the verge of the western sky,
And there, in rosy companionship seated,
Look down on the sun from earth retreated ;
If aloft in its bright fleecy folds I could lay me,
And call on the winds through the skies to convey me.
I'd ride round the world the perennial attendant
On daylight, wherever it shone most resplendent ;
Over hills, over fogs, I would take my glad flight,
And bathe and revel in rivers of light.
The moon and the stars I would leave behind ;
Nor stoop any object on earth to mind ;
Unless for her baby dear mother should cry :
Then I'd glide down to tell her how happy was I ;
I'd kiss off her tears, and wish her good-day,
And again on my travels away, away !
Sweet bird, thy suit it is vain to press,
The daylight heeds not thy fond address ;
On glittering pinion away he hies,
To meet other wishes, and light other skies :
The will of his God he goes to obey,
Nor at earthly bidding will haste or stay.
A child of light, sweet bird, thou art now,
Nor needest a veil for thy conscious brow :
No deeds thy tiny hands have done,
Need fear the broad eye of the flaring sun ;
And the pleasant and pure of this world of woe,
Is all thy delicate spirit can know.
But ah, my baby ! the day may appear,
When the light shall be loathed as it now is dear ;

When thy red-rolling eye, that can weep no more,
 The relief of night shall in vain implore !
 The billows and storms of a heart-breaking world,
 O'er each young illusion too soon may be hurled ;
 May wring thee, may wreck thee, till all is riven,
 But the friendship of God and the refuge of heaven.
 Yet, baby, my baby, if these shall be thine,
 Thou'lt not want a spot where thy head may recline ;
 Thou'lt not want a light in this world of dismay,
 To guide thee from danger, or solace thy way :
 The bright Sun of Righteousness never declines,
 The light of the Gospel eternally shines ;
 Adds zest to our joys, plucks the sting from our woes,
 Sends peace to our life, and joy to its close.
 This light, my boy, be it thine to prize :
 It ne'er will withdraw from thy favoured eyes :
 Come joy, or come sorrow, the same it will stay,
 And shine more and more to the perfect day ;
 Till grace is glory, and faith is sight,
 And God, as at first, 'mid His sons of light,
 Receives His homage of song and love,
 And thou art with Him for ever above.

IS THIS THY KINDNESS TO THY FRIEND ?

ALTERED FROM QUARLES

O THINK how He, whom thou hast wounded,
 Hast scourged, and scorned, and spit upon.
 Hath paid thy ransom, and compounded,
 For thy distresses with His own !
 How He, whose blood thy sins have spilt,
 Whose limbs they to the cross have nailed,
 Hath freely borne thy load of guilt,
 And made supply where thou hast failed.

He died, to save thy soul from dying ;
 Was bound Himself, to set thee free ;
 And where there was no power of flying,
 He came, and met the blow for thee :
 And all this dying Friend requires,
 For all His pity, all His pain,
 Are simple aims, and pure desires,
 And for His love like love again.

O loose then, Lord, my tardy tears,
 And break this fleshly rock asunder,
 And on my night of doubts and fears,
 Pour a new day of joy and wonder.
 This deadness from my soul remove ;
 Melt down my icy unbelief ;
 Let grief add feeling to my love,
 And love pluck out the sting from grief.

Then rise, poor earthworm, from the dust ;
 Enjoy thy new and large condition ;
 Walk with thy God in humble trust,
 And ripen for His full fruition.
 No more rebellious, dark, exiled,
 Adore, and love, and praise Him rather ;
 Return a lost, but contrite, child,
 And find a kind, forgiving Father.

' JESUS WEPT '

ENLARGED FROM BEDDOME

DID Christ o'er sinners weep ?
 And shall our cheeks be dry ?
 Let floods of penitential grief,
 Burst forth from every eye.

The Son of God in tears,
 The angels wondering see :
 Hast thou no wonder, O my soul ?
 He shed those tears for thee !

He wept that we might weep,
 Might weep our sin and shame ;
 He wept to show His love for us,
 And bid us love the same.

Then tender be our hearts,
 Our eyes in sorrow dim,
 Till every tear from every eye,
 Is wiped away by Him !

'WHITHER SHALL I FLY FROM THY PRESENCE?'

WHERE shall I fly ? What dark untrodden path
Will lead a sinner from his Maker's wrath ?
Alas ! where'er I bend my outcast way,
His eye can search, His mighty hand hath sway.

Is there no island in the depths of space,
No distant world, where I may shun His chase ?
Ah no ! Of all He is the spring and soul :
All feel His care, all own His high control.

But there is night :—perhaps her murky womb
May wrap and hide me in its depths of gloom ?
No : He that says, ' Be light, and there is light,'
Can look Omniscience thro' the dunnest night.

Give me, then, morning's wings ; I'll fling me where
The desert waste ne'er claims His eye or care.
Vain hope ! If He were absent, conscience then
Would act the God, and scare me back to men.

Well, then, the ocean : she my head shall hide,
And quench His bolts in her o'ersheltering tide.
Fool ! The dark waves cleave wide at His command ;
And, lo, He walks them as He walks the land.

What say the rocks ? Stern marble, ope thy breast,
And lock me in to monumental rest.
Vain, vain ! His voice the rocks have often heard ;
Nay, worlds dissolve before His lightest word.

Be death, then, mine ! At least the grave, or hell,
Will yield some sullen nook where I may dwell.
No : the last trump shall burst the bars of death ;
And God's stern presence felt makes hell beneath.

Where, then, to flee ? How shun His arm, His eye ?
Where find what earth, and heaven, and hell deny ?
How pass beyond His infinite patrol,
Who fills, pervades, informs the mighty whole ?

O where to flee ? There is but one retreat—
'Tis that which brings me contrite to His feet :
A change of heart, and not a change of place,
That flees from Justice to the arms of Grace.

The Saviour calls : ' Come, trembler, to My breast ;
Beneath My cross thou may'st securely rest :
Washed in My blood, thy guilt will all remove ;
And wrath eternal grow Eternal Love.'

‘ RETURN UNTO ME, AND I WILL RETURN
UNTO THEE ’

WILT Thou return to me, O Lord,
If I return to Thee ?
O heavenly truth ! O gracious word !
My Hope and Refuge be !

Since from Thy foot I dared to roam,
My soul has found no rest,
Chastised and contrite, back I come,
To seek it in Thy breast.

And dost Thou say Thou wilt receive,
And call me still Thy own ?
My spirit, hear, accept, believe !
And melt my heart of stone !

Again that gracious word to me !
O speak that word again !
My guilt is pardoned ?—can it be ?—
And loosed my every chain ?

No, blessed Lord ; not every chain,
Not every bond, remove :
Let one, at least, unloosed remain—
The bond of grateful love.

‘ HOW SHALL WE SING THE LORD’S SONG IN A
STRANGE LAND ? ’

THE song of God, so nobly sung,
By angels in a higher sphere,
Shall my unworthy heart and tongue,
Attempt its numbers here ?

With spirit cleaving to the dust,
How should I hope to glow and soar ?
How speak of heavenly joy and trust,
Till I have felt them more ?

An heir of guilt, a child of sin,
An exile in a world like this,
What should I find without, within,
To match with Him and His ?

In vain I spread my flickering wings ;
In vain I strive aloft to flee :
Great Lord of lords, and King of kings,
I cannot sing of Thee !

I want a seraph's lofty voice,
I want a seraph's soaring wing,
Before I make such themes my choice,
And God's dread glories sing.

Thou needest not a note of mine,
To swell the triumphs of Thy throne,
Where myriads round Thee bend and shine,
And Heaven is all Thy own.

No, rather let me sit and sigh,
And drop contrition's silent tear :
Praise is the task of saints on high ;
But prayer for sinners here.

The song of God, that glorious song,
From me in such a world as this !
O no ! a worthier heart and tongue
Must speak of Him and His.

HYMN OF PRAISE

PRAISE the Lord ! ye heavens, adore Him ;
Praise Him, angels, in the height ;
Sun and moon, rejoice before Him,
Praise Him, all ye stars and light.
Praise the Lord ! for He hath spoken ;
Worlds His mighty voice obeyed ;
Laws which never shall be broken,
For their guidance hath He made.

Praise the Lord ! for He is glorious ;
Never shall His promise fail :
God hath made His saints victorious,
Sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation ;
Hosts on high, His power proclaim ;
Heaven and earth and all creation,
Laud and magnify His name !

SABBATH HYMN

AWAKE, ye saints, awake !
 And hail this sacred day :
 In loftiest songs of praise,
 Your joyful homage pay :
 Come, bless the day that God hath blest,
 The type of Heaven's eternal rest.
 On this auspicious morn,
 The Lord of life arose ;
 He burst the bars of death,
 And vanquished all our foes :
 And now He pleads our cause above,
 And reaps the fruit of all His love.
 All hail, triumphant Lord !
 Heaven with hosannas rings,
 And earth, in humbler strains,
 Thy praise responsive sings,—
 Worthy the Lamb that once was slain,
 Through endless years to live and reign.
 Great King ! gird on Thy sword,
 Ascend Thy conquering car ;
 While justice, power, and love,
 Maintain the glorious war :
 This day let sinners own Thy sway,
 And rebels cast their arms away.

MY PRAYER

WHEN at Thy footstool, Lord, I bend,
 And plead with Thee for mercy there,
 Think of the sinner's dying Friend,
 And for His sake receive my prayer.
 O think not of my shame and guilt,
 My thousand stains of deepest dye ;
 Think of the blood which Jesus spilt,
 And let that blood my pardon buy.
 Think, Lord, how I am still Thy own,
 The trembling creature of Thy hand ;
 Think how my heart to sin is prone,
 And what temptations round me stand.
 O think upon Thy holy Word,
 And every plighted promise there ;
 How prayer should evermore be heard,
 And how Thy glory is to spare.

O think not of my doubts and fears,
 My strivings with Thy grace Divine :
 Think upon Jesus' woes and tears,
 And let His merits stand for mine.

Thine eye, Thine ear, they are not dull ;
 Thine arm can never shortened be ;
 Behold me here ; my heart is full ;
 Behold, and spare, and succour me !

FRIENDS LOST IN 1833

GONE ?—Have ye all, then, gone,—
 The good, the beautiful, the kind, the dear ?
 Passed to your glorious rest so swiftly on,
 And left me weeping here ?

I gaze on your bright track ;
 I hear your lessening voices as ye go.
 Have ye no sign, no solace, to fling back
 To us who toil below ?

They hear not my faint cry ;
 Beyond the range of sense for ever flown,
 I see them melt into eternity,
 And feel I am alone.

Into the haven pass'd,
 They anchor far beyond the scathe of ill ;
 While the stern billow, and the reckless blast,
 Are mine to cope with still.

Oh ! from that land of love,
 Look ye not sometimes on this world of woe ?
 Think you not, dear ones, in bright bowers above,
 Of those you've left below ?

Surely ye note us here,
 Though not as we appear to mortal view ;
 And can we still, with all our stains, be dear
 To spirits pure as you ?

Do ye not loathe,—not spurn,—
 The worms of clay, the slaves of sense and will ?
 When ye from God and glory earthward turn,
 Oh ! can ye love us still ?

Or, have ye rather now
 Drunk of His spirit whom ye worship there,
 Who stripp'd the crown of glory from His brow,
 The plaited thorns to wear ?

Is it a fair fond thought,
 That you may still our friends and guardians be,
 And Heaven's high ministry by you be wrought,
 With abjects low as we ?

May we not sweetly hope,
 That you around our path and bed may dwell ?
 And shall not all our blessings brighter drop,
 From hands we loved so well ?

Shall we not feel you near,
 In hours of danger, solitude, and pain,
 Cheering the darkness, drying off the tear,
 And turning loss to gain ?

Shall not your gentle voice,
 Break on temptation's dark and sullen mood,
 Subdue our erring will, o'errule our choice,
 And win from ill to good ?

O yes ! to us, to us,
 A portion of your converse still be given :
 Struggling affection still would hold you thus,
 Nor yield you all to Heaven !

Lead our faint steps to God ;
 Be with us while the desert here we roam ;
 Teach us to tread the path which you have trod,
 To find with you our home !

' IT DOTHT NOT YET APPEAR WHAT WE SHALL BE '

YE lingering hours, wheel swift away,
 And usher in the joyful day,
 When, rising from a world like this,
 My soul shall dwell where Jesus is !

Too long I've waited here below,
 And spread my wings, and sighed to go !
 Too long I've cried, ' Blest Saviour, come,
 And bear me to Thyself and home !'

How favoured they, who once on earth,
 Enjoyed Thy converse, felt Thy worth ;
 Who had Thee for their Friend and Guest,
 And leaned their heads upon Thy breast !

How blest, to look up in Thy face,
 And there Thy Father's image trace !
 To hear the music of Thy tongue,
 And learn from thence how angels sung !

A lot like this is not for me,
 On earth to thus converse with Thee ;
 And tell what I have seen, and heard,
 And handled, of the Incarnate Word.

Yet do I hope at last to rise,
 And join my Lord above the skies ;
 Close by His feet to take my place,
 And see and praise Him face to face ;

To view Him 'mid His flock, and share,
 With them the mighty Shepherd's care ;
 To hear His saints their tributes pay,
 And be myself as loud as they.

Till time shall bring this glad event,
 I linger here in banishment ;
 And but for what I taste of Him,
 My lot were yet more blank and dim.

But through the gloom at times He looks,
 My hopes revives, my fears rebukes,
 And bids me here a foretaste prove,
 Of all I seek with Him above.

Then haste, ye lingering hours, away,
 And bring the full unclouded day,
 That bears me from a world like this,
 And lands me safe where Jesus is !

ON DREAMING OF MY MOTHER

STAY, gentle shadow of my mother, stay :
 Thy form but seldom comes to bless my sleep.
 Ye faithless slumbers, flit not thus away,
 And leave my wistful eyes to wake and weep.
 Oh ! I was dreaming of those golden days
 When, will my guide, and pleasure all my aim,
 I rambled wild through childhood's flowery maze,
 And knew of Sorrow scarcely by her name.

Those scenes are fled ! And thou, alas ! art fled,
 Light of my heart, and guardian of my youth !
 Then come no more to slumbering fancy's bed,
 To aggravate the pangs of waking truth :
 Or, if kind sleep these visions will restore,
 Oh, let me sleep again, and never waken more !

TO ELLEN

WEEPING IN CHURCH ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HER FATHER'S
 DEATH, WHEN FIFTEEN YEARS OLD

AH ! wherefore should the silent tear,
 Down Ellen's youthful visage stray,
 When such a Hand unseen is near,
 To wipe each falling drop away ;
 A Hand that bears a balm from high,
 For every earthly tear and sigh ?

And wherefore mourn a parent's doom,
 When such a Parent from above,
 Extends His arms and bids her come,
 And dwell with Him whose name is Love ;
 Who ne'er that orphan will disown,
 Whom Jesus' blood has made His own ?

That gentle Hand, ah ! would she see
 And prove its power to soothe and heal !
 Ah ! would she to that Father flee,
 And know how well He loves her weal !
 Ah ! would she learn how sweet it is
 Through Christ to be for ever His !—

Come, then, and give that heart to Him,
 Which long has dwelt on meaner things :
 Come, find thy song a worthier theme,
 And learn to soar on loftier wings.
 He who has died that thou mightst live,
 Deserves the best 'tis thine to give.

The Spirit seeks to live thy Friend,
 And Christ thy Brother deigns to be :
 The joys, that know nor bounds nor end,
 To thy possession all are free.
 Whate'er is lovely, pure, or great,
 O Ellen now vouchsafes to wait.

Expectant angels cry, 'O come !'
 And saints prepare their gladdest song,
 Those wandering feet to welcome home,
 Which fifteen years have strayed too long :
 Come, then, and all shall triumph o'er
 One dear, lost, rescued sinner more.

LONGINGS FOR HOME

STERN Britain, why a home deny
 To one who loves thee well as I ?
 Who woos thee with as warm a zeal
 As sons for tenderest mothers feel,
 Would hold to thee through good and ill,
 Yet find thee but a step-dame still ?
 Earth has for me no place of rest
 So dear as thy parental breast,
 No spot to which so close I cling
 As to the shelter of thy wing ;
 And yet thou spurn'st me from thee, yea,
 Spurn'st like a prodigal away ;
 Thou fling'st me suppliant from thy side,
 To float a wreck upon the tide ;
 A boundless world at will to roam,
 And sigh and think of thee and home !

Here, amidst fabled woods and streams,
 The classic haunts of youthful dreams,
 'Mid crumbling fanes and ruins hoary,
 Rich with the hues of ancient glory ;
 Where every hill and every dell
 Has its own stirring tale to tell,
 And thoughtful pilgrims oft compare
 The things that are with things that were.
 Yes, here, where seems so much combined
 To soothe the sense and fill the mind,
 All rich, all bright, around, above,
 As soft as is the voice of love,—
 While at my feet in silver flakes
 The evening billow gently breaks,—
 I stand and muse, and o'er the sea,
 My thoughts roam off to home and thee.

O what is all that earth bestows,
 All that mere sense enjoys and knows.
 The fairest fields, the sunniest skies,
 To life's diviner charities ?

Perchance this eve, so lovely here,
 In my own land is bleak and drear ;
 And clouded skies and blustry weather,
 Drive my own dear ones close together ;
 And round the hearth their beaming faces
 Perhaps take now their wonted places,
 Each with his little social mite
 To aid the general stock to-night ;—
 His floweret on Time's path to fling,
 Or add a feather to his wing.
 O, loved ones, at this happy season
 Of tender thought and social reason,
 When hearts are full, and fancy free,
 O, do you sometimes think of me ?—
 Think of your absent wanderer, who
 So fondly hangs on home and you,
 And would this moment rather share
 Your homely fireside converse there,
 And smile with you 'neath wintry skies,
 Than reign in this fair paradise !

Alas ! 'tis by their loss alone
 Our truest blessings oft are known.
 If earth wears here a sunnier hue,
 Man is the plant that thrives with you ;
 A plant matured by want and toil,
 And noblest oft on poorest soil.
 If bleak your hills and rough your clime,
 They are not rank with weeds of crime ;
 The social virtues there take root,
 And freedom bears her richest fruit,
 While industry and skill supplies
 What niggard nature else denies.
 The poor man's rights have honour due,
 The wronged and weak redress with you.
 And boundless as yon rolling sea,
 Large as the world, your charity.
 Within your happy homes meanwhile
 Order, and peace, and comfort smile ;
 And fertile are your rugged lands
 In manly minds, and hearts, and hands,
 In generous aims and thoughts elate,
 And all that makes men good and great.
 And more than all to you is given
 High intercourse with God and Heaven.
 Religion walking through your land
 Showers down her gifts with liberal hand,

And bids the desert, as she goes,
 Rejoice, and blossom like the rose.
 This is thy glory, Britain ; this
 Makes thy fair island what it is—
 With all its faults, in moral worth,
 The Eden of this fallen earth.

Oh, gifts too lightly valued—how
 My thirsty soul would prize them now !
 Those hallowed Sabbaths, calm and fair,
 That still well-ordered house of prayer,
 The call that bids the weary come,
 The ray that lights the wanderer home ;
 The Spirit's whisper from above,
 The still small voice of truth and love.
 O when, my own loved lost ones, when
 Shall we such blessings share again ?
 Drink of the sacred springs that flow
 With balm for every want and woe,
 Lift up our hearts in prayer and praise
 Bequeathed from wiser, better days,
 And round the holy altar fare
 On food that angels may not share ?—
 When shall such joys be ours ? From high
 Heard I a solemn voice reply :
 ' Live to your Saviour : watch and pray,
 Grow in His image day by day ;
 And know, the souls which thus improve
 In meekness, duty, faith, and love,
 Though severed in this world of pain,
 In earth or Heaven shall meet again !'

GRACE DARLING'S DEATH-BED

O WIPE the death-dews from her brow !—prop up her sinking
 head !—
 And let the sea-breeze on her face its welcome freshness
 shed !
 She loves to see the western sun pour glory o'er the deep ;
 And the music of the rippling waves may sing her into
 sleep.
 Her heart has long, 'mid other scenes, for these poured out the
 sigh ;
 And now back to her Highland home she comes—but comes
 to die.

Yes, fearful in its loveliness, that cheek's prophetic bloom ;
 That lustrous eye is lighted from a world beyond the tomb ;
 Those thin transparent fingers, that hold the book of prayer,
 That form, which melts like summer snow, too plainly speak
 despair.

And they that tend around her bed, oft turn to wipe the tear
 That starts forth, as they view her thus, so fleeting, and so
 dear.

Not such was she that awful night when o'er Northumbria's
 foam,

The shipwrecked seaman's cry was heard within that rocky
 home.

Amid the pauses of the storm it loud and louder came,
 And thrilled into her inmost soul, and nerved her fragile
 frame :

' O, father, let us launch the boat, and try their lives to
 save.'

' Be still, my child, we should but go to share their watery
 grave.'

Again they shriek : ' O father, come ! the Lord our Guide will
 be :

A word from Him can stay the blast, and tame the raging sea.'
 And lo ! at length her plea prevails ; their skiff is on the wave.
 Protect them, gracious Heaven ! protect the gentle, kind, and
 brave !

They reach the rock, and, wond'rous sight to those they succour
 there,

A feeble girl achieving more than boldest men would dare !

Again, again her venturous bark bounds o'er the foaming tide ;
 Again in safety goes and comes beneath its Heavenly Guide.

Nor shrinks that maid's heroic heart, nor fails her willing hand,
 Till all the remnant of the wreck are ferried safe to land.

The cord o'erstrung relaxes then, and tears begin to fall ;—
 But tears of love and praise to Him whose mercy saved them
 all.

A deed like this could not be hid. Upon the wings of fame,
 To every corner of our isle, flew forth Grace Darling's name ;
 And tongues were loud in just applause, and bosoms highly
 beat,

And tributes from the great and good were lavished at her feet ;
 While she, who braved the midnight blast, and rode the stormy
 swell,

Shrank timid, trembling, from the praise that she had earned
 so well.

Why did they tempt her forth to scenes she ill was formed to share ?

Why bid her face the curious crowd, the question, and the stare ?

She did not risk her life that night to earn the world's applause :

Her own heart's impulse sent her forth in pity's holy cause.

And richly were her toils repaid, and well her soul content

With the sweet thought of duty done, of succour timely lent.

Her tender spirit sank apace. O, bear the drooping flower
Back to its native soil again—its own secluded bower !

Amidst admiring multitudes, she sighs for home and rest :

Let the meek turtle fold her wings within her own wild nest ;

And drink the sights and sounds she loves, and breathe her
wonted air,

And find with them a quiet hour for thoughtfulness and
prayer !

And she has reached her sea-girt home—and she can smile
once more ;

But ah, a faint and moonlight smile, without the glow of yore !

The breeze breathes not as once it did upon her fevered brow ;

The waves talk on, but in her breast awake no echoes now :

For vague and flickering are her thoughts, her soul is on the
wing

For Heaven, and has but little heed for earth or earthly thing.

' My father, dost thou hear their shriek ? dost hear their
drowning cry ?'

' No, dearest, no ; 'twas but the scream of the curlew flitting by.'

Poor panting, fluttering, hectic thing, thy tossings soon will
cease,

Thou art passing through a troubled sea, but to a land of
peace !

And He who to a shipwrecked world brought rescue, O may He
Be near thy dying pillow now, sweet Grace, to succour thee !

NAPOLEON'S GRAVE

Addressed to the French nation on their proposing to remove
Napoleon's remains from St. Helena to France.

DISTURB him not ! he slumbers well

On his rock 'mid the western deep,

Where the broad blue waters round him swell,

And the tempests o'er him sweep.

Oh, leave him where his mountain bed
Looks o'er the Atlantic wave,
And the mariner high in the far grey sky,
Points out Napoleon's grave.

There, 'midst three mighty continents
That trembled at his word,
Wrapt in his shroud of airy cloud,
Sleeps Europe's warrior lord :
And there, on the heights, still seems to stand,
At eve, his shadowy form ;
His grey capote on the mist to float,
And his voice in the midnight storm.

Disturb him not : though bleak and bare,
That spot is all his own ;
And truer homage was paid him there,
Than on his hard-won throne.
Earth's trembling monarchs there at bay,
The caged lion kept ;
For they knew with dread that his iron tread,
Woke earthquakes where he stept.

Disturb him not ! vain France, thy clime
No resting-place supplies,
So meet, so glorious, so sublime,
As that where thy Hero lies.
Mock not that grim and mouldering wreck !
Revere that bleaching brow !
Nor call the dead from his grave to deck,
A puppet pageant now !

Born in a time when blood and crime,
Raged through thy realm at will,
He waved his hand o'er the troubled land,
And the storm at once was still.
He reared from the dust thy prostrate State ;
Thy war-flag wide unfurled ;
And bade thee thunder at every gate,
Of the capitals of the world.

And will ye from his rest dare call,
The thunderbolt of war !
To grin and chatter round his pall,
And scream your ' Vive la gloire ' ?
Shall melodramatic obsequies
His honoured dust deride ?
Forbid it, human sympathies !
Forbid it, Gallic pride !

What ! will no withering thought occur,
 No thrill of cold mistrust,
 How empty all this pomp and stir,
 Above a little dust ?
 And will it not your pageant dim,
 Your arrogance rebuke,
 To see what now remains of him,
 Who once the empires shook ?
 Then let him rest in his stately couch,
 Beneath the open sky,
 Where the wild waves dash, and the lightnings
 flash,
 And the storms go wailing by ;
 Yes, let him rest ! Such men as he
 Are of no time or place ;
 They live for ages yet to be,
 They die for all their race.

DECLINING DAYS

WHY do I sigh to find
 Life's evening shadows gathering round my way ?
 The keen eye dimming, and the buoyant mind
 Unhinging day by day ?
 Is it the natural dread
 Of that stern lot, which all who live must see ?
 The worm, the clay, the dark and narrow bed,—
 Have these such awe for me ?
 Can I not summon pride
 To fold my decent mantle round my breast ;
 And lay me down at Nature's eventide,
 Calm to my dreamless rest ?
 As nears my soul the verge
 Of this dim continent of woe and crime,
 Shrinks she to hear Eternity's long surge
 Break o'er the shores of time ?
 Asks she, how shall she fare
 When conscience stands before the Judge's throne,
 And gives her record in, and all shall there
 Know, as they all are known ?
 A solemn scene and time—
 And well may Nature quail to feel them near—
 But grace in feeble breasts can work sublime,
 And faith o'er-master fear !

Hark ! from that throne comes down

A voice which strength to sinking souls can give,
That voice all Judgment's thunders cannot drown ;
' Believe,' it cries, ' and live.'

Weak—sinful, as I am,

That still small voice forbids me to despond ;
Faith clings for refuge to the bleeding Lamb,
Nor dreads the gloom beyond.—

'Tis not, then, earth's delights

From which my spirit feels so loath to part ;
Nor the dim future's solemn sounds or sights,
That press so on my heart.

No ! 'tis the thought that I—

My lamp so low, my sun so nearly set,
Have lived so useless, so unmissed should lie :—
'Tis this, I now regret.—

I would not be the wave,

That swells and ripples up to yonder shore ;
That drives impulsive on, the wild wind's slave,
And breaks, and is no more !—

I would not be the breeze,

That murmurs by me in its viewless play,
Bends the light grass, and flutters in the trees,
And sighs and flits away !

No ! not like wave or wind

Be my career across the earthly scene ;
To come and go, and leave no trace behind,
To say that I have been.

I want not vulgar fame—

I seek not to survive in brass or stone ;
Hearts may not kindle when they hear my name,
Nor tears my value own.—

But might I leave behind

Some blessing for my fellows, some fair trust
To guide, to cheer, to elevate my kind
When I am in the dust.

Within my narrow bed,

Might I not wholly mute or useless be ;
But hope that they, who trampled o'er my head,
Drew still some good from me !

Might my poor lyre but give
 Some simple strain, some spirit-moving lay ;
 Some sparklet of the soul, that still might live
 When I have passed to clay !—

Might verse of mine inspire
 One virtuous aim, one high resolve impart ;
 Light in one drooping soul a hallowed fire,
 Or bind one broken heart.—

Death would be sweeter then,
 More calm my slumber 'neath the silent sod ;
 Might I thus live to bless my fellow-men,
 Or glorify my God.

Why do we ever lose,
 As judgment ripens, our diviner powers ?
 Why do we only learn our gifts to use,
 When they no more are ours ?

O Thou whose touch can lend
 Life to the dead, Thy quick'ning grace supply,
 And grant me, swanlike, my last breath to spend
 In song that may not die !

A RECALL TO MY CHILD, A. M.

COME back, come back, my blessed child !
 Come home, my own light-hearted !
 Papa, they say, has rarely smiled,
 Since from his side you parted.—
 That face which beams like opening day,
 That laugh which never wearies ;
 Why do they linger still away ?
 Come home, dear girl, and cheer us !

I saunter sadly through my hours,—
 They want one voice to mend them ;
 A spell is o'er my drooping flowers,—
 They pine for you to tend them.
 The fairest now look all amiss,
 Too dingy, or too flaunting.—
 And are they changed ? ah, no, 'tis this—
 The sweetest flower is wanting !

Young spring at last, despite the shocks
 Of winter's lingering bluster,
 Has flung her mantle o'er our rocks,
 And clothed our hills with lustre.

Music and balm, and beauty play,
 In all around and o'er us.
 'Come, truant, come,' all seem to say :
 'Come, join our happy chorus.'

'Come,' cries the cowslip's fading bell ;
 'Come,' cries the ripening cherry ;
 'Come, ere the bloom in every dell,
 Is turned to pod and berry ;
 Come, ere the cuckoo change his tone ;
 Ere from her nest the linnet,
 With all her little ones is flown,
 And you've ne'er peeped within it.'

The sun sets not so brightly now,
 Across the golden water,
 As when it gleamed upon the brow,
 Of my loved absent daughter.
 Home has no more its cheerful tone,
 Its healthful hue about it :—
 When from the lyre one chord is gone,
 The rest sound ill without it.

Come back ; the city's flaunting crowd,
 The concert's formal measures,
 The din of fashion, false and loud,
 Are not like Nature's pleasures.—
 These, these alone, the heart can touch,
 Are simplest and sincerest.
 You have an eye, a soul for such :
 Come home, and share them, dearest.

Come, at my side again to walk,
 Beside the fresh'ning billow.
 Come, where the waves all night will talk,
 To you upon your pillow.
 Come, where the skiff on sunny seas,
 For you is lightly riding ;
 Where health and song in every breeze,
 My absent girl come chiding.

Come back ! we all from your glad eyes
 New light and life will borrow.
 'Tis not papa alone that sighs,
 'Why leave me to my sorrow ?'
 Each, all, in your loved converse miss
 Some wonted source of pleasure,
 From look, or tone, or smile, or kiss :
 Come home, come home, my treasure !

DAVID'S THREE MIGHTY ONES

2 SAMUEL XXIII. 15

FAINT on Rephaim's sultry side,
 Sat Israel's warrior King ;
 ' O for one draught,' the hero cried,
 ' From Bethlehem's cooling spring !—
 From Bethlehem's spring, upon whose brink
 My youthful knee bent down to drink !

' I know the spot, by yonder gate,
 Beside my father's home,
 Where pilgrims love at eve to wait,
 And girls for water come.
 O for that healing water now,
 To quench my lip, to cool my brow !

' But round that gate, and in that home,
 And by that sacred well,
 Now hostile feet insulting roam,
 And impious voices swell.
 The Philistine holds Bethlehem's halls,
 While we pine here beneath its walls.'

Three gallant men stood nigh, and heard
 The wish their King expressed ;
 Exchanged a glance, but not a word,
 And dashed from 'midst the rest.
 And strong in zeal, with ardour flushed,
 They up the hill to Bethlehem rushed.

The foe fast mustering to attack,
 Their fierceness could not rein ;
 No friendly voice could call them back.—
 ' Shall David long in vain ?
 Long for a cup from Bethlehem's spring,
 And none attempt the boon to bring ?'

And now the city gate they gain,
 And now in conflict close ;
 Unequal odds ! three dauntless men,
 Against unnumbered foes.
 Yet through their ranks they plough their way,
 Like galleys through the ocean spray.

The gate is forced, the crowd is passed ;
 They scour the open street ;
 While hosts are gathering fierce and fast,
 To block up their retreat.
 Haste back ! haste back, ye desperate three !
 Or Bethlehem soon your grave must be !

They come again ;—and with them bring—
 Nor gems nor golden prey ;
 A single cup from Bethlehem's spring,
 Is all they bear away ;
 And through the densest of the train,
 Fight back their glorious way again.

O'er broken shields and prostrate foes,
 They urge their conquering course.
 Go, try the tempest to oppose,
 Arrest the lightning's force ;
 But hope not, pagans, to withstand
 The shock of Israel's chosen band !

Hurrah ! hurrah ! again they're free ;
 And 'neath the open sky,
 On the green turf they bend the knee,
 And lift the prize on high ;
 Then onward through the shouting throng,
 To David bear their spoil along.

All in their blood and dust they sink,
 Full low before their King.
 ' Again,' they cry, ' let David drink,
 Of his own silver spring ;
 And if the draught our lord delight,
 His servants' toil 'twill well requite.'

With deep emotion David took,
 From their red hands the cup ;
 Cast on its stains a shuddering look,
 And held it heavenward up.
 ' I prize your boon,' exclaimed the King,
 ' But dare not taste the draught you bring.

' I prize the zeal that perilled life,
 A wish of mine to crown ;
 I prize the might that in the strife,
 Bore foes by thousands down :—
 But dare not please myself with aught,
 By Israel's blood and peril bought.

' To Heaven the glorious spoil is due ;
And His the offering be,
Whose arm has borne you safely through,
My brave, but reckless, three !'—
Then on the earth the cup he poured,
A free libation to the Lord.

There is a well in Bethlehem still,
A fountain, at whose brink,
The weary soul may rest at will,
The thirsty stoop and drink :
And unrepelled by foe or fence,
Draw living waters freely thence.

O, did we thirst, as David then,
For this Diviner spring !
Had we the zeal of David's men
To please a Higher King !
What precious draughts we thence might drain,
What holy triumphs daily gain !

SEA CHANGES

FROM shore to shore the waters sleep,
Without a breath to move them ;
And mirror many a fathom deep,
Rocks round and skies above them.
I catch the sea-bird's lightest wail,
That dots the distant billow,
And hear the flappings of the sail,
That lull the sea-boy's pillow.

Anon—across the glassy bay,
The catspaw gusts come creeping ;
A thousand waves are soon at play,
In sunny freshness leaping.
The surge once more talks round the shore,
The good ship walks the ocean ;
Seas, skies, and men all wake again,
To music, health, and motion.

But now the clouds, in angry crowds,
On Heaven's grim forehead muster,
And wild and wide sweeps o'er the tide,
The white squall's fitful bluster.

The stout ship heels, the brave heart reels,
 Before the 'whelming breaker ;
 And all in Nature quakes, and feels
 The presence of its Maker.

O, glorious still in every form,
 Untamed, untrodden ocean ;
 Beneath the sunshine, or the storm,
 In stillness, or commotion ;
 Be mine to dwell beside the swell,
 A witness of thy wonders ;
 Feel thy light spray around me play,
 And thrill before thy thunders !

While yet a boy I felt it joy
 To gaze upon thy glories ;
 I loved to ride thy stormy tide,
 And shout in joyous chorus.
 With calmer brow I haunt thee now,
 To nurse sublime emotion ;
 My soul is awed, and filled with God
 By thee, majestic ocean !

STANZAS TO J. K.

WHAT strains are these, what sweet familiar numbers,
 From old Ierne o'er the waters wend ?
 How welcome, wakening from its lengthened slumbers,
 Sounds the heart-music of my earliest friend !
 Well might that hand amid the chords have faltered,
 That voice have lost the power to melt and move :
 How pleasant, then, to find them still unaltered,
 That lyre in sweetness, and that heart in love !

Shall not my tuneful powers, too long neglected,
 Revive to answer that persuasive call ?—
 Like the old harp that, mould'ring and rejected,
 Hangs up in silence in some lonely hall,
 When youth and beauty's train there reassembles,
 And mirth and song once more begin to flow,
 Light o'er the chords a mimic music trembles,
 Responsive to the notes that swell below !

Ah me !—what thoughts those few bold notes awaken,—
 Bright recollections of life's morning hours ;
 Haunts long remembered, and too soon forsaken ;
 Days that fled by in sunshine, song, and flowers ;

Old Clogher's rocks, our own sequestered valley ;
Wild walks by moonlight on the sounding shore,
Hearts warm and free, light laugh, and playful sally,
All that has been,—and shall return no more—

No more,—no more,—moods ever new and changing,
Feelings that forth in song so freely gushed,
Winged hopes, high fancies, thoughts unfettered ranging—
Flowers which the world's cold ploughshare since has
crushed.

Dear early visions of departed gladness,
Ye rise, ye live a moment in that strain,
A gleam of sunshine on life's wintry sadness,
Ah ! why so bright, to flit so soon again ?

Friend of my heart !—since those young visions perished,
We've trod a chequered path of good and ill ;
We've seen the wreck of much that once we cherished,
But not the wreck of love and friendship still.
No, hand in hand we've met life's stormy weather,
Sustained the buffetings of foe and friend,
And hand in hand and heart in heart together,
We'll help and cheer each other to the end.

Strike then the chords !—alas, too rarely stricken,
And I will answer in my humbler style :
No voice like thine can soothe, can urge, can quicken,—
Why has it been so little heard ere while ?
Yes, strike the chords ! high thoughts and aims inspiring ;
And up the narrow way we'll homeward move,
Mingling our pilgrim songs, and here acquiring,
New hearts and voices for the songs above.

THE CZAR IN ROME

In December, 1845, the Emperor Nicholas of Russia, after being at Palermo and Naples, came to Rome, but met with no welcome or greeting there. His reputation had come before him, and all were indignant at his tyrannical conduct towards his Polish subjects, and his persecution of the unfortunate Roman Catholics in his dominions, whom he wished to compel to conform to the Greek Church.

One of the unfortunate nuns from the convent of Minsk, of whom more than thirty had perished under the frightful persecutions to which they were subjected, escaped from Russia, and found her way to Rome, and was thus in a great

measure the means of informing the world of the cruelties that were going on in Russia.

On the morning after his arrival the Emperor had an audience with the Pope, who appears to have spoken with great firmness and dignity upon the occasion ; and when the Emperor left his presence his face was flushed, the sweat stood on his brow, and he was evidently ill at ease. After leaving the Pope, the Emperor went into St. Peter's, where he seemed awed with the majesty of the place, and fell prostrate before St. Peter's shrine, and kissed the ground. (The Greeks are worshippers of the saints even more than the Roman Catholics.) It is even said that there he told his attendants that if the Roman Catholics had been persecuted in Russia they should be so no more.

THE mighty Cæsar of the North
Has entered Rome to-day.
Why peal her bells no greetings forth,
Her crowds no tributes pay ?
' Stranger, we love the great and good ;
But honour not the man of blood !

' The man of blood ! can one so high
Upon the lists of fame,
Who looks and moves thus loyally,
Deserve so dark a name ?'
' Yes ! let the pining exile tell,
The bleeding martyr say, how well !'

While through these streets he sweeps to-day,
The gaze of thousand eyes,
A victim of his iron sway
In yonder convent lies,
And pleads for her oppressor there.—
O King of kings, fulfil her prayer !

The soul that looks through such an eye,
That sits on such a brow ;
Must have its instincts rare and high,
Though undeveloped now ;
And moral music, strong and deep,
Among its chords must surely sleep.

And who shall say, within that breast,
What throes e'en now may work ?
Seems there no signs of strange unrest,
Beneath that brow to lurk ?
No troubled wave to heave and roll,
O'er the proud stillness of his soul ?

This morn St. Peter's courts he trod,
With stately step and stern,
Encountered there the man of God ;—
And how did he return ?
With faltering foot, and darkened look,
That spoke confusion and rebuke.

Did some strong truth, all new and strange,
Blest by the great ' I am,'
Drop from those reverend lips, and change
The lion to the lamb ?
Did pride feel there abashed and awed,
And conscience own the voice of God ?

This morn before St. Peter's shrine,
In lowly guise he knelt.
Fell on him there some grace Divine,
With power to move and melt ?
And flew to him some wing of Love,
Charged with an unction from above ?

While prostrate 'neath that ample dome,
Amidst the holy dead,
Touched with the claims of injured Rome,
His soul may well have said,
' Surely the Lord is in this spot,
And I, insensate, knew it not !'

Might one such feeling reach his heart,
One thought like this prevail,
' Remember, mortal, what thou art,
Accountable and frail !'
The crowns and sceptres of this earth,
Weighed with that thought, had little worth.

And where so well might moods like these,
Upon the spirit come,
As here, where sighs the autumn breeze,
O'er desolated Rome ;
Where every stone its moral brings ;
Where tread we on the dust of Kings ?

Saw ye a shadowy hand sublime,
Write on that ruined wall ?
Heard ye a voice, the voice of Time,
From yon grey turret call ?
' All fleets, all fades beneath the skies ;
O man, be humble and be wise !'

Go forth then, King of nations ; march
 Along the sacred way ;
 Stand 'neath the yet unbroken arch *
 Of him who lost a day,
 When he had done no generous deed ;
 And wilt thou there no lesson read ?

Go where the Coliseum rears
 Its sad, majestic pile,—
 The pride and shame of former years :—
 Go, when the moonbeams smile,
 And talk with the historic dead,
 Who there have revelled,—or have bled !

The tyrant's trophies sink to dust ;
 The hero's still arise,
 True to their monumental trust,—
 Lo, in the evening skies,
 How freshly bright the columns shine,
 Of Trajan and of Antonine !

Go, then, to these mute teachers, go !
 And if, like genial rain,
 Their lore upon thy heart shall flow,
 Thou can'st not here in vain ;
 Nor shalt thou fail to carry home,
 A blessing from Eternal Rome !

FRAGMENTS OF AN UNFINISHED POEM ENTITLED LILLA

A FAIRY TALE

'Tis pleasant to walk the broad seashore
 When the soul is dark, or the heart is sore.
 The waves give forth a soothing sound,
 As they boom along the shelving ground ;
 The crispness of the salt sea air,
 Breathes fresh on the fevered brow of care :
 And the waters, melting into the sky,
 Send the spirit on to Eternity !
 So felt Sir Rupert, as o'er the sands
 That skirted his own brave house and lands
 He paced, but in dark regardless mood
 Of aught that there his attention wooed.

* Arch of Titus.

The sky was clear, and the sun was bright,
 The blue waves danced in the shifting light,
 And the foam-bells on the sand uprolled,
 Like silvery fret on a floor of gold.
 The fair white ships sailed stately by,
 The seamew flitted and laughed on high.
 But all appeared in vain to woo
 Sir Rupert's thoughts to a livelier hue.

* * * * *

From that mysterious race I'm sprung
 That lived with man, when the world was young :
 But ever since envy and lust possessed,
 And ruled and sullied his own pure breast,
 They have fled from earthly folly and art,
 And dwell in a world of their own apart :
 Hiding in Nature's secluded bowers,
 Watching and tending her fruits and flowers,
 Giving the blossom its scent and hue,
 And the fainting leaf its drink of dew ;
 Spanning the shower with its bright brief arch,
 Leading the seasons their stately march,
 Staying the storm in his fierce career.—
 These are the tasks which engage us here.
 Not that we less count man our friend,
 Or fail on his homely wants to tend.
 We note the housewife's honest cares,
 And speed her labours all unawares.
 We succour the mower down in the mead,
 And help the ploughman to sow his seed.
 We smooth the pillow where sickness lies,
 And shake sweet sleep o'er the infant's eyes.
 But we mingle not in man's vain affairs,
 Nor darken our path with his fears and cares ;
 And the Court, the city, the festive hall,
 We feel as strangers amidst them all

* * * * *

'Tis merry, 'tis merry in Colmar towers,
 On Rostan's hills, and in Binda's bowers,
 In humble cot, and in stately hall ;
 There are happy looks and hearts in all.
 The cloud that hung o'er the whole is fled,
 And the broad clear sun laughs out instead.
 One influence sweet, one presence bright,
 Has quickened the darkness into light.
 Woman's soft smile is in Colmar found,
 And it blesses and gladdens all around.

This Rupert felt, as from day to day,
 Lilla spread round her gentle sway ;
 All, all beneath her influence grew
 To a better tone, to a brighter hue.
 Old Colmar's Courts no longer wore,
 Their lorn and desolate air of yore ;
 A cheerful bustle ran through the place,
 Content sat beaming on every face ;
 And active feet and diligent hands,
 Eager to work her light commands ;
 And all on their various tasks intent,
 At their lady's bidding came and went.
 All into life by her eye seemed warmed ;
 All to her own sweet will conformed ;
 Till throughout that grim old Gothic pile,
 Order and neatness began to smile ;
 And comfort lighted up there a home,
 That stole from the heart all wish to roam.
 Nor less did improvement win its way,
 O'er all that around the castle lay.
 The lawn, of late so rugged and wild,
 Like emerald velvet now glowed and smiled.
 The walk with mosses and weeds o'erspread,
 Wooded the light step o'er its gravelly bed.
 Trees and shrubs that had wont to swing
 Their long lank arms on the wild wind's wing,
 Were taught to conform their savage will
 To the eye of taste and the hand of skill.
 The fount, that long had forgot to play,
 Sparkled once more in the morning ray.
 The vine clung again to the elm-tree tall,
 And the plum hung blue on the garden wall.—
 And then the flowers, the laughing flowers,
 The playmates of Lilla's earliest hours,
 How did she revel among them ! how
 Watch, and nurse, and enjoy them now !
 Whether they grew on the wild bank, known
 To the wandering bee and the lark alone ;
 Or bloomed in the garden's courtly bed,
 Like orient beauties in harem bred ;
 From the queen-like rose to the harebell small,
 Gentle and simple she loved them all.

She loved whatever was lovely here ;
 And flowers, sweet flowers, to her heart were dear.
 She knew their ways, and her joy and pride,
 Was to gather them round her from every side,

To give them the site which themselves would choose,
 To trim their leaves, and to match their hues;
 A staff in the weak one's hand to place,
 And lift to the sun its small pale face;
 To bring the diffident out to view,
 The bold to check, and the proud subdued.
 Not one of them all but had its share
 Of her watchful love and judicious care.
 She flitted among them as if on wings,
 And talked to them all as to living things.
 And they as conscious how great their bliss,
 Held up their cheeks for a passing kiss;
 Flung in her pathway their sweetest scent,
 And smiled and nodded as on she went.

* * * * *

They wander down to the broad seashore,
 But not in his once dark spirit of yore.
 Now, not a wild wing that across them flies,
 Not a light shell in their path that lies,
 Nothing in ocean, or earth, or sky,
 Fails to awaken their sympathy.
 Or, if the sun with his fiercer rays,
 Drives their steps to the woodland ways,
 The squirrel is there with his chattering glee,
 And the jay glad shouting from tree to tree;
 And the rabbit stirring the ferns among,
 And the pheasant sunning her speckled young,
 O! Nature a golden harvest yields
 To all who will glean in her varied fields;
 But their brightest tints her objects wear,
 When those that we love are nigh to share!

* * * * *

And O! she was rich in each social wile,
 The night of its weariness to beguile!
 She spoke, and mute attention hung,
 Persuasion dwelt on her silver tongue;
 Sweet fancies, clad in sweetest words,
 Held the charmed ear with magic chords,
 And judgment clear, and taste refined,
 Brought food alike to the heart and mind.
 And when her favourite songs she sung,
 The birds stayed theirs;—the soft winds hung
 Entranced around her to catch the tone,
 And by her music to mend their own.

* * * * *

Each lived for each, one will, one heart,
 Without a thought or a wish apart.
 As streams, from opposite hills that run,
 But meet in the valley, and blend in one,
 Their murmurs hushed, and their wanderings past,
 Glide on together in peace at last !

* * * * *

SONG

WEEP on ! weep on ! 'tis a world of woe ;
 'Tis vain to expect aught else below.
 The life of man has but one true tone,
 From its infantile cry, to its dying groan.
 Each step he takes through a land of gloom,
 But carries him onward to the tomb ;
 And all that he meets with as he goes,
 Talks to his heart of the solemn close.

Weep on ; there are many with man to weep,
 The murmuring winds, and the moaning deep ;
 The fading flower, and the falling dews,
 And the year expiring in dolphin hues.
 What says the rainbow's beautiful dream ?
 Or the sunset's brief but gorgeous gleam ?
 Or the summer lightning, now come, now gone ?—
 We shine but to fade ! Weep on ! weep on !

Weep on ! it is good on this earth to weep :
 If we sow in tears, we in joy may reap.
 While the hopes that we madly cherish there,
 But pave the way to some new despair.
 Pale is the young cheek's richest bloom,
 When it strews the path to an early tomb ;
 And dim the fire of the brightest eye,
 When a beacon that points to mortality.
 Weep on ! weep on !

* * * * *

THE COMPLAINT OF MARY MAGDALENE

SHE sat far off,—she sat and wept,
 Heart-broken Magdalene !
 Her dark and silent watch she kept,
 Throughout the awful scene.

No power had she to soothe or aid,
No hope to interpose ;
Yet love and grief her heart upstayed,
To watch Him to the close.

'Twas He, 'twas He, who first the way
Of life to her had shown ;
Had freed her soul from Satan's sway,
And made it all His own.
'Twas He she soon had hoped to see,
In kingly glory rise,—
And now, upon the fatal tree,
He bleeds, He faints, He dies !

And she has followed Him through all
His wrongs and griefs to-day ;
Stood with Him in the Judgment hall,
Trode o'er the public way.
The scourge, the cords, the savage thorns,
She shared them to the close ;
Scorned in her outraged Master's scorns,
And bleeding in His woes.

The ponderous cross she saw Him bear,
All fainting up the hill ;
She saw them nail Him on it there,
With unrelenting skill ;
She heard their wild and withering cry,
As He aloft was swung,
The gaze of every flashing eye,
The scoff of every tongue !

No angel comes, on wings of love,
His sinking soul to cheer ;
The very heavens seem shut above,
And mercy fails to hear ;
Despised, deserted, crushed, and awed,
He hangs upon the tree,
And cries in vain, ' My God, My God,
Hast Thou forsaken Me ?'

O trying scene for woman's eye !
And yet she braved it all ;
The struggle and the agony,
The wormwood and the gall —
Though earth beneath in horror shook,
Though heaven its light withdrew,
And sterner hearts the awe partook,
Yet woman braved it through.

She sat far off—she sat and wept,
 Heart-broken Magdalene !
 Her dark and silent watch she kept,
 Throughout the trying scene !
 She sank not when His head He bowed
 She bore His dying groan—
 Till passed away the sated crowd,
 And left her there alone !

The shades of evening round her head,
 Now gathered thick and fast ;
 And forth her burthened spirit fled,
 In louder woe at last.
 Upon the ear of silent night,
 Her plaintive murmurs broke,
 And sorrow seemed to grow more light,
 As thus she wept and spoke :

‘ And is all over ? Can it be
 That they have had their will ?
 Thou hanging, Lord, on yonder tree,
 And we surviving still ?
 Is this to be the course and close,
 Of all Thy conflicts past ?
 A brief, dark path through wrongs and woes,
 To such a death at last ?

‘ Yes, past all reach of ill Thou art,—
 I see no living sign ;
 And O, that this sad struggling heart,
 Were now as still as Thine !
 I groan—Thou canst not heed my groan,
 Nor answer when I ‘plain—
 Ah ! I shall never hear the tone
 Of that blest voice again.

‘ O hallowed head ! compelled to bow
 Beneath unnumbered scorns ;
 O dear, dishonoured, glorious brow,
 Now crushed beneath the thorns ;
 O eyes, where heaven seemed once to reign
 Can ye grow glazed and dim ?
 O Death, by Him for others slain,
 Canst thou have power o’er Him ?

‘ How couldst thou, brutal soldier, dare
 To pierce that breast Divine ?—
 There never dwelt a feeling there,
 But love to thee and thine.

How could ye harm one tender limb
Of His, ye murderous crew,
And know, that while ye tortured Him,
He prayed for you, for you ?

' It must be right, I feel it must,
Though all is darkness now ;—
Lord, teach my trembling heart to trust
And help my will to bow !
'Tis hard upon that cross to gaze,
Nor feel the Tempter's power.
O God ! sustain me through the maze
Of this mysterious hour !

' Yes ! mystery o'er the whole doth hang,
To be unravelled still.
Who could on Him inflict a pang,
Without the sufferer's will ?
He, whom the slumbering dead have heard,
Whose voice the winds could tame,
Could not He crush them with a word,
If such had been His aim ?

' But I remember well, when hope
Seemed most our hearts to cheer,
What hints and warnings He would drop,
Of pain and trial near.
He, doubtless, was intent to give
A lesson here from high ;
And as He taught us how to live,
Would teach us now to die !

' Yet surely 'twas a loftier task,
That drew Him from the skies,
And ne'er could mere example ask,
So dire a sacrifice ;—
And surely these were all to tend
At last to brighter bliss,
Not prematurely here to end,
In double night like this.

' All prophecy proclaims a time
When Satan's rule shall cease,
When earth shall pass from woe and crime,
To endless love and peace,—
When death and hell, with all their hosts,
Shall quail before their Lord,
And more than was in Adam lost
Shall be in Christ restored.

' Yes, Lord of lords and King of kings,
 For such Thou art to me,
 My soul through doubt and darkness clings
 With trembling faith to Thee,—
 I feel some brighter morn shall yet
 Our shattered hopes surprise,
 And glory's sun, that now is set,
 Again in glory rise.

' The great Messiah still Thou art,
 Confirmed by every sign ;
 And this may all be but a part,
 Of some sublime design.
 What God ordains must needs be best,—
 What He permits is right ;
 On Him, on Him my soul I rest,
 And wait for further light.

' One mournful task is left me too,—
 Thy dear remains to tend ;
 With honours due Thy bier to strew,
 And watch Thee to the end.
 Then let me to Thy lifeless clay
 Still sadly, fondly cling,
 And wait, and weep, and hope, and pray,
 For what the day may bring.'—

She said, and seemed to ease her breast,
 In these complaints and prayers ;
 Then rose, and went to seek the rest,
 And mingle tears with theirs.
 She went the spices to provide,
 His last sad rites to pay,—
 Then by the tomb sat down and sighed,
 ' Oh, when will it be day ?'

THE DYING CHRISTIAN TO HIS SOUL

BIRD of my breast, away !
 The long-wished hour is come !
 On to the realms of cloudless day,
 On to thy glorious home !

Long has been thine to mourn,
 In banishment and pain.
 Return, thou wand'ring dove, return,
 And find thy ark again !

Away, on joyous wing,
Immensity to range ;
Around the throne to soar and sing,
And faith for sight exchange.

Lo ! to the golden gate
What shining thousands come !
My trembling soul, for thee they wait,
To guard and guide thee home.

Hark ! from on high they speak,
That bright and blessed train,
' Rise, Heaven-born spirit, rise, and seek
Thy rest in heavenly gain.

' Sweet are the songs above,
Where hearts are all in tune ;
They feed upon unfailing love,
And bask in glory's noon.

' Their struggles all are still,
Their days of darkness o'er ;
At rapture's fount they drink at will,
And drink for evermore.

' Flee, then, from sin and woe ;
To joys immortal flee ;
Quit thy dark prison-house below,
And be for ever free !'

I come, ye blessed throng,
Your tasks and joys to share ;
O, fill my lips with holy song,
My drooping wing upbear.

Friends of my heart, adieu !
I cannot weep to-day ;
The tears that Nature prompts for you
Are dried in glory's ray.

I see the King of kings,
His glorious voice I hear.
O, who can dwell on earthly things
With Heaven so bright and near ?

JANUARY 1, 1847

WHAT solemn footfall smote my startled ear ?
 Heard I the step of the departing year ?
 Saw I her shadowy form flit slowly by,
 To join her sisters in eternity ?—
 Sweeping down thither, as the autumn's blast
 Sweeps summer's leaves, the records of the past,
 The joys and griefs, the bustle and the strife,
 The shadows and realities of life ?
 Hear me, stern daughter of old Time, O hear !—
 Is there no plea may stay thy strong career ?
 O pause in pity ! pause and to my prayer
 Grant a brief converse with the things that were—
 I know the retrospect has much to pain,
 Much to be mended could all come again ;
 Still, without one last look we must not sever,
 Sad is the word that bids us part for ever !
 Beam, then, again on me, dear, kindly faces,
 And smile your best, old times and well-known places ;
 Bright looks, soft tones, high thoughts, and fancies fair,
 Return, return, and be what once you were !
 All that was precious in the year that's past,—
 Too sweet to lose, too beautiful to last—
 Sunshine, and song, and fragrance, things that threw
 O'er life's dull path a brighter tint and hue ;
 Hopes realized, desires fulfilled ;—success
 Crowning long toils ; the burthens of distress
 Lightened, will subjugated, self denied,
 Ills overcome by long endurance, pride
 Taught to be greatly humble,—all that wakes
 The approving voice of conscience, all that makes
 Heaven's windows open o'er us, converse sweet,—
 And sweeter meditation ; all,—all fleet
 Back into being.—Burst oblivion's chain,
 And be awhile realities again !—
 Blest be the powers that can the past restore ;—
 They come, they come, warm breathing as of yore !
 I hear remembered voices, seem to dwell
 Once more with forms I've known and loved so well.
 Distinct, beyond my fondest hopes, they rise,
 The shadows dimming the realities.
 Beautiful witcheries ! O would I might
 Hold them thus ever, durable as bright !
 But, like the splendours of a sunset sky,
 E'en while I gaze their glories wane and die.

And, as they fade, uprising in their rear
A host of darker verities appear ;
Sorrows and sins of various shades and hues,
That claim their notice in the year's review.
And shall they be rejected ? shall my eyes
Be shut to life's too stern realities ?
And shall the records of the past be seen,
Not as they were, but as they should have been ?
No ! small the gain and brief the joy that lives,
In the poor dreams such self-delusion gives ;
And honest conscience scorns to take a tone,
Or speak a flattering language not her own ;
And wherefore seek to bribe her, wherefore fear
Her rough but salutary voice to hear,
When every morning, now rejected, grows
To overwhelming thunder at the close ?

The close ! the close ! How like a death-knell seems
That solemn word to wake me from my dreams !
One little year ; yea, less than one like this,
May bring me to the close of all that is.
Far down Time's chequered stream I've voyaged on,
And seen my fellows drop off, one by one ;
And now the widening waters seem to near
Eternity's dark ocean ; on my ear
Sound the deep heavings of that shoreless sea,
And awe my soul into solemnity !
Darkling I hover round the world to come,
And voices thence are heard to call me home ;
And stretching on into the dread expanse,
I fain would lift the curtain, and advance.
One little step, I know, would bear me through,
And give the secrets of the dead to view ;
But till that step is taken, mortal sense,
Ask as it may, gets no response from thence.
Thought may at times, when all around me sleep,
Launch sounding forth into that silent deep ;
But without star to guide or light to cheer,
Soon back to land my trembling course I steer.
E'en bold conjecture onward fears to fare,
And reason shrinks to find no footing there ;
Till conscious Nature, baffled and o'erawed,
Sinks suppliant on the mercy of her God,
Turns from self-confidence to faith and prayer,
Clings to His Word, and finds her refuge there.

Thrice happy we, not left to grope our way
From truth to truth, by Nature's feeble ray,

Where one false step were ruin. Happier still
 Our wills conforming to the Heavenly Will ;
 Ready, as God may prompt, to think, and feel,
 And take His impress, as the wax the seal ;
 At His blest feet content to sit and learn,
 Or walk by faith, till faith to sight shall turn ;
 Beneath the Saviour's cross to stand and scan
 All He has done, and all He claims for man ;
 Learn from His life, and on His death repose,
 And grow in love and duty to the close.

On the year's threshold, on the narrow strand
 That parts the past and future, here I stand,
 Without control o'er either : one is flown
 Beyond recall ;—a dark and dread unknown,
 The other stretches onward,—what to be,
 Seen but by Him who fills eternity.
 The present, and scarce that, is still my own ;—
 Oh, be it consecrate to Heaven alone !
 Be mine, while all things shift and change around,
 To cleave to Him in whom no change is found,
 To rest on the Immutable, to cling
 Closer and closer 'neath the almighty wing ;
 His voice in all its varied tones to hear,
 And in all aspects feel Him ever near ;
 Be mine with Him to walk, on Him depend,—
 Then, come what may, it all to good must tend !

THE POET'S PLEA

DEAL gently with the poet. Think that he
 Is made of finer clay than other men,
 And ill can bear rough handling ; and while we,
 Of sturdier natures, laughed at, laugh again,
 And self-complacently shake off
 The world's unmerited contempt and scoff—
 As easily as from his scaly side
 Leviathan shakes off the drippings of the tide ;—
 Not so the poet. On his keener sense
 Light harms smite often with an edge intense.
 A stony look, a lip of scorn, may crush
 His young aspirings ; chill the stir and flush
 Of waking inspiration ; and control
 Down into commonplace the darings of his soul.

Lightly his spirit touch !
 The lyre is delicate ; the cords are fine ;
 And fine must be the finger, that from such
 Wins melody divine.
 The strings, that gentler skill to music wakes,
 A clash impetuous breaks.
 And images, that, in the musing mind,
 As in a placid lake, lie mirrored and defined,
 If ruffling winds along the surface stray,
 Scattered and broken, pass like rack away.
 Stored thoughts and treasured feelings, that in turn
 Were ready to leap forth, and breathe, and burn
 In verse, as fancy called them, once dispersed,
 Bide, like the Sibyl's leaves, unscanned and unrehearsed.

And, Desolater, who shall say
 Of what thy rashness may have 'reft mankind ?
 Take the sweet poetry of life away
 And what remains behind ?
 O, who his seventy years would delve and plod,
 And tug through life's dull tide the weary oar,
 Were all his heritage what earth's poor clod
 Can yield, and nothing more ?
 Perhaps the poet had that moment caught
 Some hallowed truth, some spirit-stirring thought
 That, like the waking of a trumpet blast,—
 Form age to age might thrillingly have passed.
 Perhaps some happy fancy, some fair dawn
 Of beauty, on his mind may just have shone ;—
 Some touch of holy tenderness, whose spell
 Might melt and mend all hearts whereon it fell.
 He was, perhaps, aloft among the stars,—
 Perhaps beyond them ; leaning on the bars,
 The golden bars, that Heaven enclose,
 List'ning the music that within—
 A vocal glory, fell and rose
 From lips of chaunting seraphim ;
 Intent to carry down from thence,
 All that could enter mortal sense,
 Dulled as it is by sin ;—
 And thou didst call him down from tasks like these,
 To mix with common life's poor, tame formalities !

Go, man of earth, and do thy work ! obey
 Thy five good senses ! Traffic, drudge, design !
 To small civilities due homage pay !—
 The poet has his province, and thou thine

He dwells within a sphere thou canst not enter,
 Nearer the throne, fast by the mighty centre ;
 And hears what cannot reach the unchastened ear
 Of those who stand outside, among the million here.
 To thee and thine belong the Gentile courts,
 To which the uncircumcized crowd resorts.
 He finds admittance to the inmost shrine,
 Which none can hope to reach till led by hands Divine.
 Keep, then, thy place. Thou hast good work to do ;
 Not they alone the temple service share
 Who tend the altar. Those are needful too,
 Who hew the wood and draw the water there.
 The daily drudgery of life demands
 A due relay of honest heads and hands ;
 They have their use ; shall have their pay besides.
 The world is just, and for her own provides.
 To thrive in pelf, in pomp and place to shine ;
 These are her gifts, and these shall, man of earth, be thine.
 But trench not on the poet's chartered rights,
 He walks his own domain with haughty brow :
 His heavenly communings, his eagle flights
 Are not for such as thou.

High thoughts, warm feelings, the perennial spring
 Of inward gladness, rapture's thrill and glow,
 The heart in flower, the fancy on the wing,—
 Thou must not hope to know.
 These are the poet's dower. Of these possess,

He smiles, and bids earth's minion take the rest !

But spare, ye men of fact, ye sapient band,
 With critic lore, our desperate ears to stun.
 Carp not at that you do not understand ;
 Nor spend your shafts in shooting at the sun.
 The rich creations, which the poet flings
 In rainbow radiance from his passing wings,
 You may not duly relish, rightly scan ;
 Yet think, wise sirs, there may be those who can ;
 And kill not his fine frenzies with your frown,
 Nor to your standard seek to dwarf him down.
 You prize the useful. Be it so. Yet tell,
 In what consists this useful ? The All-wisc,
 In furnishing the world in which we dwell,
 Stints not His gifts to mere necessities ;
 Nor deems it waste to tint the bird's bright wing.
 Yea, give him voice to sing ;
 To beautify the flower, and to its bloom
 To superadd perfume.

Things need not be fantastic nor unreal
 Because they are ideal.
 Nay, every object in the world of dreams
 Is what to each it seems.
 And that, which quickens into action all
 Of good in man that has survived the Fall,
 Refines each baser sense, and helps to call
 From all that is, the good, the beautiful ;
 That bids Experience half her ills withhold,
 And turns whate'er it touches into gold ;—
 Can that be useless ? that, whose hallowing leaven
 Imparts to this poor world whate'er it has of Heaven ?
 O empty cavillers ! why not assign
 New laws to Nature, teach the stars to shine ?
 Soar through the clouds, proud gazer at the sun,
 And leave the owls and bats at noonday to doze on !

Yet not the worldly, nor the dull alone,
 Refuse Heaven's favoured one his homage due :
 Minds of a larger grasp and loftier tone
 Oft wrong the poet too.
 Oh, the half-hearted praise ;
 The chilling toleration, men can give
 To powers, that mortals from the dust can raise
 Among the gods to live !
 Who shall the boons declare
 With which the poet sows our fallen earth ?
 The holy thoughts, and sweet emotions there,
 That owe to him their birth ?
 High sentiments, now grown
 Familiar household terms mankind among,
 Are oft but sparklets of the soul, once thrown
 From some poetic tongue ;
 Rich emanations of some pregnant mind,
 Bright gems of thought in happy words enshrined ;
 That lend to common life a higher tone,
 And touch within men's hearts chords to themselves un-
 known.
 And shall the poet, like a kindled torch,
 For us and ours in self-devotion burn,
 And taunts that blister, and rebukes that scorch,
 Be dealt him in return ?
 Shall all his thoughtful toil,
 His midnight watchings, solitude, and pain,
 Ask the cheap mead of one approving smile,
 And ask in vain ?
 Shall we prefer to sit
 In cold, stern dignity, in Censure's chair,

When we with him on social wing might flit
 Through ocean, earth, and air ?
 When we might rise and reign
 In each high privilege to genius given,
 Bright, living links of the electric chain
 Connecting earth with Heaven ?
 O senseless choice ! that frowns and stands apart,
 When both might sweetly mingle, heart with heart !
 O poor exchange, the critic's carps and sneers,
 For poetry's full soul, her raptures, and her tears !

Make large allowance, then, for Nature's child ;
 School him not tamely down to rule and line.
 Let the fine savage roam his native wild ;
 Nor fetter Fancy's chartered libertine.
 The stale observances to dullness dear,—
 O chide not, if beyond their pale he rove,
 And rise from Lar and the Penates here,
 To walk the Heavens with Jove.
 Be his to pierce the wild wood's tangled maze,
 And find or force new bypaths of his own.
 The fruits are gathered by the beaten ways ;
 The flowers are trampled down.
 Be his aloft to soar
 Within the winnow of archangel's wing,
 And hear beneath his feet the thunder's roar,
 And the grim whirlwinds sing.
 Within the hearts of men,
 Be his each secret chamber to unbar,
 And drag the struggling passions from their den,
 To yoke them to his car.
 Free, let him range the globe from land to land,
 And some new lore from every object win :
 Or by the flood of ages thoughtful stand,
 And hear earth's empires one by one drop in.
 Calm let him sit by Nature's mighty wheel,
 To watch her workings, and her ways reveal
 Or launch abroad her silent depths to sound,
 And bring up wonders from the world around.
 Grand his ambitions ! Be his scope as grand !
 They only greatly do who greatly dare ;
 Why snatch the club from Hercules's hand
 To place the distaff there ?
 No ! let him dally with the lightnings ; fling
 Forth, if he will, upon the tempest's wing ;
 Ride the careering billow without rein,
 And stroke with playful hand its foamy mane ;
 And scorning by the servile shore to creep,

Forth let him steer to seek new worlds across the deep.
 Yct should the worst befall, should wrongs assail,
 Should envy harass, or indifference chill,
 Should evil days and evil tongues prevail,
 Be strong, O genius ! much is left thee still.
 The bypath through the meads is warm and sweet ;
 Soft evening breezes from the orchards play ;
 Crushed herbs give out their odours 'neath thy feet,
 And flashing brooks dance by thee all the way.

The small shrill people of the grass,
 Chirp welcomes as they see thee pass ;
 The flowers unlock their hearts, and thence

Breathe odorous secrets forth to thy quick sense.
 Dryads and fauns in woodland spaces,
 Push through the leaves their laughing faces ;
 And bending boughs to thee make suit,
 And to thy hand present their tributary fruit.

Thine are the living fountains,
 That down the rocks in liquid silver run ;
 Thine are the giant mountains,
 That lift their broad green shoulders to the sun.
 The clouds that sail the summer sky,
 Or o'er their shadows anchor high ;
 The stars that round the matron moon,

People with glory the blue vault of June,
 All, all are thine ! From off her ample breast,
 Sweet Nature, flinging wide her folded vest,
 Gives thee her very self unveiled to see,
 And freely talks her inmost soul to thee.
 Yea, and should these all fail thee, still thou hast
 Thy solace ; hast thy white, auspicious days,
 When thoughts, like showering meteors, bright and fast,
 Flash on thy soul, self-clad in aptest phrase.
 Thou hast thy glorious visions of the night,
 Mysterious converse with the mighty dead ;
 Angelic visitants, from realms of light,
 Ascending and descending o'er thy head.

There may be toil. While here,
 Man in his sweat, his daily bread must eat ;
 Yet faint not. There is much thy work to cheer,
 The very pains of poetry are sweet,

The streams which others' thirst supply
 Shall not be to their owner dry ;
 And precious draughts from thence shall bless,
 And stay thy spirit through the wilderness.
 A light shall guide thee better than the rules
 The world employs to school her knaves and fools.
 A happy instinct bears the poet through ;

And while he speaks and writes, he lives the poet too.
 And as thou sitt'st and singest all apart,
 Feeling it recompense to vent
 The throbbing pulses of a pent-up heart,
 And make the soul's mute yearnings eloquent ;
 Those Argosies of thought and rhyme,
 Thou launchest on the stream of Time,
 Floating to unborn generations down,
 Shall blessings bear to them, and to thyself renown.
 That which is truly noble cannot die !
 Eternal as its hallowed course on high !
 Heroes and conquerors have their day ;
 Kings with their empires pass away.
 Things, which to marble we entrust,
 Shall with it moulder into dust.

But one true flash of living mind,
 At Heaven's own altar kindled and refined,
 Shall travel, like a beacon light,
 From intellectual height to height,
 Unquenched, unquenchable ! seas cannot drown,
 Mountains o'erwhelm it, legions tread it down ;
 A moment lost, 'tis sure again to rise,
 And lead, from strength to strength, till onward to the
 skies.

Yet think, O mortal, think, while thus endowed
 With more than mortal privilege and power,
 Think how they lift thee o'er the ignoble crowd,
 Who walk by sense, and live but for the hour.
 Gifts that have had their birth
 Beyond the everlasting hills on high,
 Sent down to dwell awhile in hearts on earth,
 Should still tend upward to their native sky.
 Husks, that the swine do eat,
 Earth's bursting bubbles, must not thee delight,
 With Heaven's own manna falling at thy feet,
 And Canaan's promised glories full in sight.

 No ! be it thine to rise
 In nobler scorn of every meaner thing,
 Self-buoyant, like the bird of paradise
 That sleeps and wakes for ever on the wing.
 The vestal fire must not be left to wane,
 Nor lightly desecrate to use profane.
 Thou walk'st this earth the delegate of Heaven ;
 And much shall be required where much is given.
 Not that the tone need always be sublime ;
 The light and graceful have their place and time.
 But for the loose, the impious, or the base,

Exists no privilege of time or place.
 O, scorn them, scorn them ! To thyself be true !
 Breathe not a thought thou e'er shalt wish unsaid ;
 Naught that may haunt and sadden life's review,
 Or cast a shadow o'er thy dying bed.
 Thine is a lofty mission. Nothing less
 Than God to glorify, and man to bless ;
 To raise poor grovelling Nature from the mire,
 To give her wings, and teach her to aspire ;
 To nurse heroic moods ; meek worth to cheer ;
 To dry on Sorrow's cheek the trembling tear ;
 And still be ready, let who will deride,
 To take the lists on injured Virtue's side.

This is thy calling. Tasks like these
 Claim and repay the soul's best energies.
 Nor need'st thou fear, while thus employed,
 That life should seem a burthen or a void.
 Joys shall be thine man makes not nor unmakes ;
 Cheer, which the fickle world nor gives nor takes ;
 Unhoped-for streams that in the desert rise,
 And sunshine bursting through the cloudiest skies !

From light to light thy steps shall tend,
 Thy prospects ever brightening to the end ;
 Thy soul acquiring as it goes
 The tone and feelings that befit the close.
 Such path, O gifted one, be thine to tread !
 And when the Judge of quick and dead,
 To each His sentence shall assign,
 ' Well done, thou faithful servant ! ' shall be thine !
 And thou shalt rise the tasks of Heaven to share,
 Join the blest choir, and feel no stranger there.
 And ' power and honour to the Lamb ! ' shall seem
 To thee no new and uncongenial theme.
 The strains, to which thy earthly powers were given,
 Shall be renewed and perfected in Heaven ;
 And more than e'er blest poet's dream shall be
 The poet's portion there throughout eternity !

TO A FIELD FLOWER FOUND BESIDE A FAVOURITE
 ARBOUR EARLY IN SPRING

HAIL, lovely harbinger of spring !
 Hail, little modest flower !
 Fanned by the tempest's icy wing,
 Dashed by the hoary shower.

Thy balmy breath, thy softened bloom,
 Was ever welcome here ;
 But at this hour of wintry gloom,
 Thy smile is doubly dear.

The storm that o'er thy mossy bed,
 Subdues the towering tree,
 Flies harmless o'er thy sheltered head,
 And wears no scowl for thee ;
 But resting in security,
 Thou teachest haughty souls,
 The blessings of obscurity,
 Where ruin's whirlwind rolls.

The tulip flaunts in rich array ;
 The rose is passing sweet ;
 But, ah ! with summer's golden day,
 Their gaudy charms retreat :
 But while the lingering winter lowers,
 And saddens all the green,
 Thou, herald mild of brighter hours,
 Thy soothing smiles are seen.

Thy gems are strewed in every place,
 On every bank they fling
 An early wreath, with artless grace,
 Around the brows of spring ;
 In woodland wilds, in gardens gay,
 In vale, on mountain drear ;
 The first to meet the sunny ray,
 And hail the waking year.

O ! thou art Nature's fondest care,
 The foster-child of spring !
 The virgin twines thee in her hair,
 To dance at village ring.
 The bee, in thy soft bosom, stays
 His winglet's wild career ;
 The lark his morning song of praise
 Pours in thy dewy ear !

Dear little timorous, gentle flower,
 Sweet pilgrim of the storm,
 Still, still beneath my sheltering bower,
 Recline thy paly form !
 No plundering grasp, no heedless bruise,
 Shall harm one bud of thine :
 And gaudier sweets while others choose,
 The primrose shall be mine.

SONG

SWEETEST daughter of the year,
Smiling June, I hail thee here.
Hail thee with thy skies of blue,
Days of sunshine, nights of dew.
Hail thee with thy songs and flowers,
Balmy air and leafy bowers,
Bright and fragrant, fresh and clear,
Smiling June, I hail thee here.

Yet, sweet June, it is not these,
Perfumed gales and whispering trees,
Blossoms shed with liberal hand,
Like a star-shower o'er the land,
Waves at rest and woods in tune ;
'Tis not these, delicious June,
Give thee such a charm for me,
Move me thus to welcome thee.

'Tis that Agnes on thy skies
Opened first her brighter eyes ;
That the flower of all thy flowers
Woke to life within thy bowers ;
Gave thy charms a higher tone,
Lent thee honours not thy own ;
And for this, thy brightest boon,
Take thy tribute, lovely June.

MAY FLOWERS

SWEET babes, dressed out in flowers of May,
And fair and innocent as they ;
A lovely type in them we see,
Of what you are, and what must be.
Like them you rise, like them you bloom,
Like them you hasten to the tomb.
Ye human flowers, smile on, smile on !
Your hours of bliss will soon be gone.

Soon manhood with its cares and crimes,
Shall cloud these early sunny times,
And call you from your sports and flowers,
To passions and pursuits like ours.
And what are all that men pursue,
But flowerets, gathered flowerets, too ?
Howe'er they tempt, howe'er they please.
More fleeting and less fair than these.

Enjoyments, honours, talents, sway,
 Wealth, beauty, all must pass away ;
 A cloud must come across their sky,
 A frost but nips them, and they die.
 One flower alone, when all are gone,
 Shall bloom for aye unfading on—
 'Tis Grace—the treasure seek and prize ;
 It grows to glory in the skies.

A. M. M. L.

DIED FEBRUARY, 1821, AGED ONE MONTH

A FEW bright moons the babe who slumbers here
 Smiled on her parents, and that innocent smile
 Was daylight to their eyes. They thought her fair,
 And gentle, and intelligent, and dared
 To lean their hearts upon her. There are ways
 And looks of hers that long will dwell with them,
 And there are bright anticipations held,
 How fondly and feelingly resigned !
 Her very helplessness endeared her to them,
 And made her more their own.—But this is done ;—
 The wintry wind passed o'er the opening flower,
 And nipped it in the bud—and it is gone.

Still there is comfort left. It still is joy
 That they can lift their weeping eyes to Heaven,
 And think that one of theirs is settled there ;
 Can know, beyond the shadow of a doubt,
 That she is safe with Him who bears the lambs
 Within His bosom, and, no longer babe
 But angel, now beholds her Father's face,
 And shares the fullness of eternal joy.

Sweet spirit, since now the ministry of love
 From God to erring man is thine, O draw
 The souls of those who loved thee to the place
 Where thou art gone before them ; make them feel
 That earth is not their home ; O fix their thoughts
 On Heaven, on Him who once on earth took up
 Babes such as thou, and blessed them, and bade all
 Who looked for Heaven become like babes, like thee—
 Pure, innocent, lowly, loving, and new-born.

TALES IN VERSE ON THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE history of 'Tales on the Lord's Prayer' is as follows: Mr. Charles Ollier, author of 'Inesilla,' etc., proposed to Mr. Lyte the idea of illustrating the petitions of the Lord's Prayer by a series of short tales. The idea struck him as a happy one, and being at the time incapacitated by ill-health from pursuing his professional labours, he willingly undertook the task, and as he had much leisure, he resolved to attempt it in verse rather than in prose. When, however, the first rough sketch of the work was drawn up, the author was enabled to resume his usual avocations, and being called to a sphere of laborious exertion, he neglected the tales and consigned them to his writing-desk, where they would in all probability have still slumbered but for the kind importunities of those who had seen them in their unfinished state, and who urged their publication. The author likewise felt it to be due to the gentleman with whom the work originated that he should either publish what he had prepared or relinquish wholly the design, and thus afford his friend the opportunity of putting it into other hands, or of following it up himself. Under these circumstances he resolved to send his little volume to the press. He cannot assent to the maxim of a writer of the day, of whose talents he has the highest admiration, that the first intention of the poet should be to please. The author's first and great ambition in his little work is to do good, and he only aims at pleasing in order that he may be the more extensively useful. This object will, he trusts, plead his excuse with those who may think that things of grave import are sometimes handled by him in too light and playful a style. He begs of them to consider that there is a great difference between tales and sermons, and hopes that they will not condemn without considering the design and tendency of the whole piece. A favourable notice appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine*, No. 165, p. 686 :

'Have you seen a little volume entitled "Tales in Verse," by the Rev. H. F. Lyte, which seems to have reached a second edition? Now that is the right kind of religious poetry. Mr. Lyte shows how the sins and sorrows of man flow from

irreligion, in simple yet strong domestic narrative, told in a style and spirit reminding one sometimes of Goldsmith, and sometimes of Crabbe. A volume so humble in its appearance and pretensions runs the risk of being jostled off the highways into bypaths; and, indeed, no harm if it should; for in such retired places it will be pleasant reading—pensive in the shade and cheerful in the sunshine. Mr. Lyte has reaped

“The harvest of a quiet eye,
That broods and sleeps on its own heart;”

and his Christian tales will be read with interest and instruction by many a fireside. He ought to give us another volume.’

TALE FIRST

‘Our Father, which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name.’

HARFORD

’Twas Sabbath morning; and the pleasant sun
From a blue sky looked smiling out upon
The day of God,—inviting man to come
And walk the fields and muse, where even the dumb
Were eloquent in praise, and dewy eyes
Looked up their beauteous worship to the skies
From every bank and hedgerow, and the trees
Gave song or incense to each passing breeze
To waft on to high heaven; for buxom June
Now pranked the fields, and set the woods in tune;
And Nature, priestess-like, in full attire
Stood forth, and called on man to lead her choir.

I envy not his feelings who is dead
To such an invitation; who can tread
With unimpassioned step, at such an hour,
On such a day, the dewy herb and flower
All redolent of God—can look on earth
Young, green, and smiling as it came at birth
Fresh from His hand, nor feel as then was felt,
When every eye and tongue and spirit dwelt
On Him, when morning stars sang joy and love,
And all the sons of God shouted above
A new-born world, where the Creator viewed
His six days’ works, and lo they all were good!
I envy not the man who thus can share
Morn’s pleasant sun, wild music, and free air,

Nor note the present Deity, who stands
 There in His temple not built up with hands,
 Whose footprints and whose handlings may be traced
 On every side now fresh and uneffaced,
 And who from all around receives the praise,
 Which man, most favoured, most neglects to raise.

'Twas Sabbath morning ; but not thus the sun
 Reached amidst London's vapours dense and dun
 The hero of my tale, and struggling through
 The garret's skylight pane of yellow hue,
 Shot on his bed a slanting sickly ray,
 That just gave notice of returning day,
 And roused him up, and called him forth to pass
 That morn with Nature on the open grass.
 I will not say indeed the Sabbath brought
 To him these high emotions ; that he thought
 Of mingling offerings now with bird or flower ;
 That on such day, at such unwonted hour
 He left his comfortable couch, and strode
 So resolute along the City Road,
 And sought escape from pavements, rails and bricks,
 Before Bow bells rang out the hour of six.

He passed each nuisance of town's Sabbath morn :
 The coach's rattling wheel and stunning horn ;
 The loitering groups collecting in the street,
 With oath and jeer that blessed day to greet ;
 The drunkard reeling from the licensed sink,
 Where his week's hire is spent in one night's drink ;
 The tawdry harlot shrinking from the light ;
 And other prowlers of the lawless night,
 Still found where man his Maker would dethrone,
 And shut out God's creation with his own.
 Disgusting all : and yet he passed them by
 With small offence to either ear or eye ;
 For daily use had dulled the finer sense,
 That gives such sights and sounds due influence.
 Sam Harford had behind a counter lived
 For thirty years ; was wealthy, fat, and wived.
 Early and late still constant at his stand
 With ready smile and bow, and yard in hand,
 A magic wand, whose touch had influence
 To turn whole bales to shillings, pounds, and pence.
 None more adroit to wield the shears or quill,
 To measure, pack, or item up a bill,
 Or deal neat phrases to each customer—
 As, ' Pray sit down, ma'am,' ' Pleasant morning, sir.'

His travel through the day was seldom more
 Than now and then from counter to the door,
 To just look out, and rub his hands, and then
 Back like a pendulum to his place again.

Sam Harford's thoughts were like his steps—they moved
 One plain small circle, whence they rarely roved.
 The world and the world's business occupied
 His mind, and left small space for aught beside.
 He knew he had a soul, but why or how
 Had never brought one wrinkle o'er his brow ;
 He thought there was a God, and had heard tell
 Of Christ, and future being, Heaven and Hell ;
 But these were matters distant all and dim ;
 He *was*, and that was quite enough for him.
 He deemed the Bible a good book, and those
 That had the time might read it if they chose ;
 Sunday was useful too, to check and state
 The week's accounts, and keep his ledger straight.
 But as for church, prayers, sermons, and the rest,
 He thought the parson managed such things best ;
 He therefore left them wholly to his care,
 And paid his tithes, and kept all matters square.

Still Harford's mind showed one redeeming trait—
 This man of tills and ledgers, strange to say,
 Loved Nature, loved the earth and skies. A ride
 On Sunday coach, a row up with the tide
 On the broad Thames were life to him. Each void
 Of business was in one small spot employed,
 Where a few smoke-dried flowers with sickly smile,
 And doubtful fragrance overpaid his toil ;
 And on his busiest hours of care and din
 Would rural hopes and visions oft break in.
 And he would pause and think how sweet it were
 To change the dingy town for the fine air
 And green fields of the country, and retire
 To his own villa a substantial squire.
 Perhaps in every human bosom lurks
 A yearning toward Nature and her works,
 Which neither cooping, smoking, use, or art,
 Can stifle quite, or banish from the heart.
 This leads the pale mechanic forth to pass
 His listless Sabbath stretched along the grass ;
 This throngs the parks, and fills the one-horse chair,
 That wheels the cit through summer dust and glare
 His sweltering Sunday ride ; and this could lure
 Even Harford forth upon this morning's tour,

To roam at will for one whole day, and share
His fill of rural musing and fresh air.

Now pavements, footways, walls, and lamps are passed,
And on the open turf he stands at last,
And breathes and gazes. 'Tis a lovely scene,
So fresh, so bright, so fragrant and so green !
The sun up in the sky ; the crops all growing ;
The cattle browsing round ; the hawthorns blowing ;
The meads in flower ; the large leaves on the trees ;
The bees all out and busy ; and the breeze
Just stealing from the bean-field, where he lies
Bathing his wings in balm ; the butterflies
Hovering about like winged flowers ; the swallow
Skimming the lake that in the grassy hollow
Trembles in cowering loveliness.—The whole
Reached even Harford's unpoetic soul ;
He thought it vastly pleasant, and again
Would *fetch* a Sunday ramble now and then.

But time went on : and even scenes like these,
When limbs are weary lose their power to please.
Harford, I've said, was fat ; had truded some miles ;
And climbed o'er sundry hills and gates and stiles ;
And now uprose before him steep and high,
Another hill his nerves and breath to try.
He sat down, wiped his brow, and called to mind
The desk and day-book he had left behind :
' The scene indeed was pretty, and all that,
But not to spend a day in looking at.'
And what had next occurred I cannot tell,
Had not the chiming of a distant bell
Broke on his servile musings apropos,
And roused him up to cross the rise, and know
What was it and from whence. It was the sound
Which calls to Sunday prayers the parish round ;
And as he climbed the hill, more clear and clear
The joyous music rose upon his ear,
Till in a group of elms below was spied
A tall white spire, and there from every side,
Up to the house of God, a chequered train,
They gathered in by every path and lane :
Young lads, and knots of talking girls, and pairs
Of decent parents with their little heirs
Scampering before to pull the kingcups ; one,
The youngest, chubbiest, riding blithe upon
The father's arm. The labouring man bedight
In plain smock-frock of more than usual white,

Heaving along each slow and ponderous limb,
 As if he carried them, and not they him.
 Old goody here in silken cloak of black ;
 There farmer with his dame on Dobbin's back ;
 And then their maid, who runs, and rights the while
 Her ribboned head, in haste to reach the aisle
 Ere prayer begins. And, noted o'er the rest,
 With book in hand, white tippet, and brown vest,
 The little damseis of the Sunday-school,
 Pacing in marshalled file beneath the rule
 Of staid instructress.—On they swarm, and all
 Enter the porch before him, great and small.
 The bell is ceased ; the busy crowd is gone ;
 And Harford stands reflective and alone.

The sun now lorded it aloft in heaven,
 And from before his burning face had driven
 The bird and brute, who slunk into the glade,
 And, meek and silent, through the leafy shade
 Eyed the strong monarch. Not a living sound
 Or object crossed the solitude around ;
 Save when by chance a bee that way came humming,
 Or the dry grasshopper at hand was strumming
 His monotone ; or from the house of prayer
 The voice of worship floated up the air
 Dim, but most sweet, like the faint memory
 Of some fair vision.—Harford felt as he
 Were a strange outcast there ; for once he felt
 A wish to bend the knee where others knelt,
 And lift his voice with theirs. He onward prest
 To enter in and worship with the rest ;
 And reached the porch just as the psalm was done,
 And prayer alternate was again begun.

It might do good to any heart to share
 The simple, solemn scene that met him there,
 So peaceful, so devotional ; where eye,
 And lip, and heart, seemed all in harmony,
 All turned to one high object—to their God ;
 As if they felt Him present, and were awed,
 Yet not o'erwhelmed. Humility was there
 To check bold zeal, and love to temper fear,
 And all appeared in singleness of heart,
 To come as to a Father, to impart
 Their wants and woes, to tell Him all their cares,
 Place in His hands themselves and their affairs,
 Pour their thanksgivings forth for mercies past,
 And humbly beg His blessing to the last.

It was a goodly presence ; and the blood
 Thrilled in the veins of Harford as he viewed
 Their patriarchal worship. ' Sure,' he thought,
 ' God is in this place, and I knew it not !'
 How suitable the forms of prayer and praise,
 In all their antique simpleness of phrase,
 For hearts indeed in tune ! And how much more
 They spoke than when he heard them jabbered o'er
 'Mid whisper, cough, and yawn, and rustling gown,
 And all the nuisances of church in town.
 Religion here appeared in truth to be,
 A spirit-soothing, sweet reality :
 And as he gazed and listened, o'er his soul
 Unwonted thoughts and feelings 'gan to roll ;
 And wants and wishes never felt till now
 Yearned at his heart, and bathed his anxious brow.

But still went on the service. Prayers were ended ;
 And to the pulpit from the desk ascended
 The man of God, the delegate of Heaven,
 The shepherd of the fold, to whom was given
 To break for them the bread of life, to guide
 The wandering, soothe the wounded, wake and chide
 The slothful and the wayward. On his tongue,
 As if athirst to hear, the audience hung ;
 Till from his lips the text appropriate came—
 ' Our Heavenly Father, hallowed be Thy Name.'

His air was gravity with mildness blended,
 His language strong, yet simple, and descended
 As soft at first as snow upon the stream.
 But as he followed up his lofty theme,
 He kindled like a torch as he went on ;
 His manner grew more earnest ; and his tone
 And features seemed new meaning to acquire,
 Till living thoughts leaped forth in words of fire ;
 And round him shone a glory and a grace,
 Like that which Israel's prophet on his face,
 Awful and bright, from Sinai once did bring,
 And told with whom he had been communing.

He showed how God was Father of all men ;
 First by mere virtue of creation ; then
 By force of benefits transcended far
 Beyond what any earthly parents are.
 He showed with what solicitude and care
 He watched and kept us, sinners as we were ;
 Bade earth give up her increase to our hand,
 And seasons come and go at our demand ;

Bade light and gladness round our senses play,
 And health and plenty spring up in our way.
 And then His pardoning, long-enduring love,
 His angels sent to tend us from above,
 His Jesus dying on the cross for sin,
 His Heaven wide opened to receive us in ;
 As if the Father's bliss was incomplete,
 Unless the child might have a part in it.
 He turned him next to ask how much was owed,
 From children such as we to such a God.
 Should we not love Him, cherish Him, who thus
 So loved, so cherished, pitied, pardoned us ?
 Was His the Spirit we should lightly grieve ?
 Was His the service we should loathe and leave ?
 Or should not rather all within us burn
 To do some little, make some poor return,
 For so much done ? Ah ! should not all our aim
 Be still to hallow and exalt His Name ?

' But set aside the claims of gratitude,
 The gift of life, and every living good,
 The love of self were plea enough to draw
 And bind our hearts to Him and to His law.
 His glory and our interests are tied
 And linked in bonds which nothing can divide ;
 And on what head may blessedness descend,
 If not on his who calls the Almighty friend ?
 His yoke indeed is easy, and more light
 Than on the bird the wing that speeds his flight,
 Bearing its bearer ; and His laws are those
 Which Wisdom of her own accord had chose
 For her own good, and these His love employs
 To speed and fit us for eternal joys,
 Making a duty of our interest ;
 Leading us thus through blessings to be blest,
 And then in sorrow, sickness, pain, and strife,
 And all the chances of heartbreaking life,
 How sweet it is to peacefully look up,
 And know a Father fills the bitter cup !
 To feel 'tis mercy lifts the chastening rod,
 To drive us from all other rest—to God !

' When fortune frowns, friends fail, and hopes are riven,
 Where should he fly who knows not Him nor Heaven ?
 Where should he turn when earth grows dark around,
 To whom all other is forbidden ground ?
 Where should he turn ? From God he cannot turn.
 Fly from His smile, we meet Him dark and stern.

Refuse Him for a Father, He will come
 A King, a Judge, to strike the apostate dumb.
 Seek we the screen of night ? Those thousand eyes
 Are His that watch us from the silent skies.
 Plunge in the grave ? The grave must ope her womb,
 And judgment follow, and eternal doom.
 Where then to fly ? There is no refuge where
 The godless may betake him but despair !
 Ah, rather seek Him, seek Him ! He is good,
 Apt to forgive, and willing to be sued ;
 More mild, more merciful, more wise and great,
 Than heart can wish, or fancy can create :
 He gave His Son to wash our guilt away ;
 And loves to pardon more than we to pray ;
 The future He can mend, the past atone ;
 Believe, repent, reform, and be His own.

' If any here has yet to lift his eye,
 And feel he hath a Father in the sky,
 Has trodden still that dark and downward way
 Whose course is madness, and whose end dismay,
 Here let him pause. The God whom he has held
 So long in lightness will not be repelled ;
 He will not give him up : He will not lose
 His child, His creature ; but even now pursues
 His wanderings, haply to perdition's brink,
 And calls him while he may to stop and think ;
 To fly to Him from that devouring gulf,
 Who loves him better than he loves himself ;
 Turn from despair to His protecting breast,
 Hallow Him, serve Him, bless Him, and be blest.

' And should some yearning spirit here exclaim,
 How should I hallow as I ought His Name ?—
 Are there not laws of His to keep and do ?
 Rise not His temples in our land to woo
 Our footsteps in ? Can nothing for His sake
 Be found to yield, resist, or undertake ?
 Loves He not prayer ? Delights He not in praise ?
 Commands He not to train up in His ways
 The infant mind ? And do not thousands groan,
 Children of His, and brothers of our own,
 Whom we may aid ? Or if our lot denies
 Of outward goods a worthy sacrifice,
 We all have hearts to proffer—give Him them :—
 The simple offering He will not contemn.'

'Tis done. The blessing given, the service closed ;
 The rustics to their homes in peace disposed ;

And Harford to the city moves again,
 A wiser and a better man than when
 He walked that way at morn. His full heart swelled
 Within him now ; and from its fountain welled
 The unwonted tear : and though words came not, these
 Breathed purer eloquence to Him who sees
 The spirit's fine vibrations. He discerned
 Melting contrition there, and shame that spurned
 Its own misdoings ; awe and humble love
 That longed, yet feared, to lift an eye above,
 And say, ' My Father ! '—God beheld the whole,
 And sent His Spirit to assure his soul ;—
 Then praise burst forth, and struggling tears found vent
 And his heart burned within him as he went.

Duly is Harford now each Sabbath day,
 With wife and children, seen in neat array
 Amidst his neighbours at the house of prayer,
 And none more fervent or attentive there.
 From worldly interests his eye is turned,
 To those by Wisdom prized, by faith discerned ;
 He feels that wealth is best employed when spent
 In His high service who the boon hath lent :
 And if his earthly gains are 'minished,
 He has a heavenly treasure in their stead ;
 And lives to bless the day when forth he trod,
 To ramble in the fields,—and met with God.

TALE SECOND

'Thy kingdom come.'

THE MISSIONARY

' RISE, King of Glory, rise, resume Thy throne,
 And make the empires of the earth Thy own :
 Awake, appear, to strike the scoffer dumb,
 Assert Thy sway and bid Thy kingdom come.
 How far shall guilt and violence advance ?
 How long deface Thy fair inheritance ?
 How long shall man Thy dignities invade,
 And push Thee from the world which Thou hast made ?
 O glorify Thyself ! Our toils are vain,
 And only mock the cause they would sustain.
 But let that voice which through primeval night,
 Said from on high, ' Be light ' and there was light,

Let that almighty voice again be heard,
 To call the nations to their rightful Lord,
 And prayer and praise on every wind shall rise,
 And Thou be served on earth as in the skies !'

Such were the vows that on the lonely side
 Of Mississippi rose at eventide,
 And mingled with the jackal's plaintive whine
 And with the plash of rushing crocodile,
 With the flamingo's scream, and with the breeze
 Whose wild wing strayed thro' the magnolia-trees,
 And with the river walking on his way
 Through nations. There before a hut of clay
 Knelt an old man, and lifted up his prayer
 To the Great Spirit, in whose service there
 He long had laboured, zealous to proclaim
 To Indian wastes his Master's saving name,
 Assert the honours of the dread ' I am,'
 And meeken down the wolf into the lamb.

Nor were his toils in vain. Behold yon green
 Savannah, reaching down the woods between
 To the broad flood, and 'mid the wilderness,
 Smiling as sweet as Hope amid distress.
 There neat enclosures rise, and cattle graze,
 And vineyards bloom, and spots of rice and maize
 Dapple the slope, and from a hundred huts
 The smoke in wreathy column upward juts ;
 And where the buskined hunter roved erewhile
 Now harvests wave, and hanging gardens smile ;
 And where the wolf was howling in his den
 Ascends the social hum of busy men,
 And Christian worship swells to God around,
 In language newly hallowed with the sound.

O'er that old man were forty summers flown,
 Since from far lands to this wild spot alone
 He came, and built his hut, and lodged his store
 Among the prowlers of this lonely shore.
 Those white locks then were jet, and that meek eye,
 Which twinkles yet with immortality,
 Looked living fire ; and round his form and face
 Glowed high romance, and dignity, and grace.
 No common man, and with no common aim,
 To his bold task the missionary came :
 And left whatever else was bright or dear,
 To walk with God, and spread His Gospel here.
 And lurked there no regret in that bright eye ?
 Stole from his bosom no half-stifled sigh ?

So young, so warm, so feeling as he was,
 Thus quitting all, and taking up his cross,
 'Mid savage lands and men to live and die,
 No friend but God, no home but in the sky ?
 No ! He had known the world, had proved the worth
 Of all that wears the stamp and hue of earth ;
 Had played deep with Experience, and had quaffed
 From her stern cup a large and bitter draught :
 And finding all was frail and false around,
 He turned betimes to build on stabler ground :
 Steered his poor skiff from life's tempestuous sea,
 And sought a haven in Eternity.

In sooth he ill was fitted for the strife,
 The storms, the buffetings, the stabs of life,
 His ardent spirit was not formed to bear ;
 And his had been a stepson's portion there.
 In early youth of both his parents reft,
 To all the snares of rank and affluence left,
 The boy grew up into a world of sin,
 With scarce a friend to guide his way therein.
 His glowing mind to wild luxuriance ran ;
 His years passed on without an aim or plan :
 Till into life he stepped at last, as wild,
 As simple, and confiding as a child.

Yet deem him not, untutored as he was,
 A thing of sense, a lump of clay and dross.
 His heart was warm and open as the spring,
 A rich-toned lyre that thrilled through every string,
 Alive to bliss, and prone to melt and move,
 At each appeal of friendship and of love.
 He banqueted on music ; and his taste
 Was quick to all of beautiful and chaste.
 He looked on Nature with a painter's eye,
 And caught the soul of speaking poesy.
 And though possessed of no outstanding trait
 Which burthened memory cannot put away,
 No character energetic, bold, defined,
 That haunts, and fills, and triumphs o'er the mind ;
 Yet see him, hear him, and anon there stole
 A spell around that riveted the soul ;
 And a mysterious interest gradual grew,
 Till all about him strange observance drew,
 And round his influence breathed, and spread a tone
 O'er other minds congenial with his own.

Such, and so circumstanced, it was his lot
 To dwell with those who knew and prized him not.

His sphere was narrow. Fate had set him down
 On the dull confines of a country town,
 Where he was made the idol and the dupe
 Of creatures to whose arts he scorned to stoop.
 Thence friends thronged round him, and professions loud,
 And greeting smiles attended him. The cloud
 Fled from all brows before him ; and he moved
 In every circle courted and beloved.
 The ladies thought him sweetly sentimental :
 Their mothers canvassed o'er his handsome rental.
 And though all thought him odd—nay, some said mad—
 None could esteem his face or person bad,
 And then how fine a property he had !
 Sure a good spouse and jointure must await
 The maid that might secure her such a mate.

Thus many a sigh was breathed, and not in vain.
 There was one blue-eyed girl among the train,
 Retiring, gentle, graceful, fair and tall,
 Who bore the prize away from midst them all.
 Little she said ; but, oh, that eye !—that eye !—
 What did it not in its blue archery ?
 He shrunk before it ;—yet returned to ask
 Permission in its milder light to bask ;
 Was heard,—received,—and nothing now there needs
 But fix the day, and draw the marriage deeds.

I say not how the hours from hence were spent ;
 I pass each sigh, and look, and blandishment,
 The air-built castle, the sequestered walk,
 With trembling arm-in-arm, and all the talk
 'Bout poetry, and trees, and flowers, and skies,
 And young Love's thousand hopes and phantasies ;—
 Nor can I tell how they had matched for life,
 What husband he had made, and she what wife :
 For when all else was settled, and there now
 Remained but just the priest, and ring, and vow.
 News came, that one, on whom, as on his soul,
 He rested, and resigned to him the whole
 Of his affairs, was fled, and with him bore
 The bulk of all his patron owned before.

Pursuit was made,—in vain,—and clear away
 The perjured villain carried off his prey ;
 And home his dupe returned, less keenly feeling
 His loss of substance than the traitorous dealing
 Of one so loved. He felt that he had leant
 Upon a faithless reed, that broke, and went

Into his heart. A sweet dream was dispelled ;
 A thousand beauteous fancies all were quelled :
 The world lost half her lustre ; her fair dress
 Was rent, and through appeared her nakedness.
 The tendrils of his heart, that wont to stretch
 And twine round every object they could catch,
 Were nipped, his sympathies were chilled, and fled
 The curdling life-blood to its fountain-head.

But there was more to suffer. Ah ! the crew
 Were mean and base with whom he had to do !
 Much had been proffered, and it was not much
 To look for some concern, some kindly touch
 Of sympathy to mitigate his shock :
 But all fell off, like waves from round a rock.
 They that were yesterday all cringe and bow
 Stared in his face or swaggered past him now.
 At once their smiles and welcomes and respect
 Grew cold civility, or proud neglect.
 He seemed a dead weight on their hands : his pelf
 Was gone, and he a cipher in himself.
 But there was yet one breast where he might hide
 His outcast head, though all were false beside ;
 One faithful friend, one gentle comforter,
 That would not shrink from him ; and O, it were
 An Eden still to gather up the wrecks
 Of his past wealth, and fly from all the checks
 And wrongs of a bad world, and be with her
 Beyond the reach of knave or flatterer,
 Nestling in some sweet cottage far removed
 From man's intrusion, loving and beloved !
 On with such thoughts his pathway he pursued
 Up to the well-known door, his darker mood
 Clearing and brightening as he went. At last
 He reached the threshold, and would thence have passed
 On to her presence as he wont ; but there
 A servant stops him ere he mounts the stair,
 And begs, with many a scrape and bow, to say,
 That his young mistress can't be seen to-day.

A letter followed cold and brief, expressing
 Her thanks for past attentions, and professing
 A high esteem ; but she regretted much
 That circumstances were no longer such
 As would admit their union ; and in fine,
 She begged all future visits to decline.

It was enough. He now had known the worst :
 He wept not, though his heart was nigh to burst :

He raved not, cursed not, though to both inclined ;
 But calmly turned his back upon mankind.
 He made the woods his mate, and to the breeze
 Poured out his spirit's baleful reveries.
 He walked the mountain-tops ; and loved to lie
 And follow the light clouds along the sky,
 And shape and name them in his moods : he pried
 Into the cups of flowers ; and o'er the side
 Of streams would lean and watch the fish at play :
 Or at the close of evening roam away
 Among the dews, and linger till the sky
 Grew beautiful with stars, and sounds from high
 Came to him through the stillness of the night,
 And his soul mingled with the Infinite,
 And rose from earth ; and here it was that first
 Upon his intellectual darkness burst
 The majesty of God : amid the woods,
 The solemn rocks, blue skies, and sounding floods
 He grew familiar with Him, learnt to trace
 His power, His love, His wisdom, and His grace,
 From suns and planets down to the poor blade
 That trembled at his foot. His spirit made
 A friend of God ; and with the flowers and birds,
 Breathed up a worship which no earthly words
 Could adequately utter ; till with Him
 Conversing, this poor earth grew dark and dim ;
 And the large spirit bursting every bond,
 Rose on immortal wing and soared beyond
 The bounds of time and space, and joyed to roam.
 And drink the glories of its native home ;
 And heavenly longings swelled within his breast.
 And his heart thirsted for eternal rest.

' A few more suns and moons,' he thought, ' and then
 A long farewell to earth and earthly men ;
 A full release from guilt, and guile, and woe,
 And all the spirit weeps or fears below.
 O, it is joy to think the day shall be
 When all chains will drop off, and we be free ;
 When every cloud shall pass from off our sky,
 And every tear be wiped from every eye !
 Roll on, ye seasons, bring that blessed time
 Unstained with grief, unspotted with a crime !
 O, wheel this ruin of a world away,
 And usher in that long bright Sabbath-day ! '

There are fond hearts that cannot do without
 Some object upon which they may pour out

Their overflowing love, and his was one ;
 And now that earthly objects all were gone,
 He turned for such to Heaven ; and there he gazed
 Till every feeling was refined and raised
 From earth, and he appeared to stand the last
 Lone being of some generation past,
 Longing and reaching to a better place,
 With little wish to linger on his race ;
 For he had other aims and views than they
 Through whose strange land his transient journey lay.
 His eye was fixed on God ; and there had dwelt
 So long and earnestly, he almost felt
 Identified with Him. God was his bliss ;
 God's glory was his glory ; God's cause his ;
 He had no being but in God ; no rest
 Nor happiness apart from Him. He blest
 The very flower that breathed its balm on high,
 And would not trample on it. In his eye
 The poorest leaf grew precious, for it bore
 The impress of Almighty Hands : nay, more,
 The very scorn and hatred he had felt
 To faithless men before began to melt
 Down into love and pity ; for they were
 Children of God's and objects of His care,
 Although they knew Him not, they loved Him not —
 There was a desolation in that thought—
 He could not brook to think there should be one
 Who knew not Him his soul so hung upon :
 And when he turned his eyes the world around,
 And thought how many were to whom the sound
 Of their Creator's name was all unknown,
 His heart bled in him, and he longed to own
 An angel's voice. He saw from every shore
 Ten thousand hands outstretching to implore
 His guidance, pleading for the sacred bread
 On which his own more favoured spirit fed ;
 And God's sweet promise fired him, ' blessed they
 Who feed My sheep, and gather those that stray.'

Then came the voice of prophecy, and told
 Of whiter days, when all should be one fold,
 Under one Shepherd ; when the brows that bled
 Beneath the plaited thorns should wear instead
 The crown of glory, and descend to reign
 O'er earth subjected to her God again.
 Then Eden's hours once more on golden wing
 Should visit man, creation laugh and sing,
 The billows clap their hands, and to the skies

On every wind glad hallelujahs rise,
 Sorrow and sin, and violence, and fraud
 Disperse before one kindling look from God,
 And the redeemed around their Saviour prove
 On earth a foretaste of the joys above.

Musing on themes like these, his soul took fire,
 And sprung up in him an intense desire
 To bear the Cross to foreign lands, and dare
 A missionary's toils and dangers there.
 A momentary pause, a passing swell
 Of heart ; a line to her he loved so well :
 Then rose his sail before the vagrant wind,
 And calm he left his native land behind.

' Beloved and lovely ' (thus his letter ran),
 ' Hear the last words of a devoted man.
 I write not to implore, reproach, or grieve :
 I simply send to say that I forgive :
 Blest if that word from any pang may free
 A heart I would not have distressed through me,
 A heart round which I wish more joys to twine
 Than thy repulse once seemed to snatch from mine.
 But this is over now. My soul, though late,
 Has found a nobler aim, a higher mate ;
 God is the object of my love ; and I
 Go forth to distant lands to lift on high
 His glorious ensign. We no more shall meet,
 Till thou shalt see me to their Judge's feet
 Leading my little flock. O may this be
 A joyful meeting to both thee and me !
 May we be joined in better bonds than e'er
 Our fondest thoughts anticipated here !
 Farewell ! my prayer shall rise when far away
 For thy dear sake to Him I there obey ;
 And, ah ! do thou at times a thought bestow
 On him who scarce knows how to let thee go,
 So loved, so lost ;—I feel I must not dwell
 On themes like these ; once more farewell, farewell !'

The bounding deep is passed, and lo, he stands
 A stranger now on transatlantic lands,
 'Mid giant lakes, and streams, and woods, and plains,
 Where Nature in eternal grandeur reigns ;
 And as he passes through them to his charge,
 He feels his spirit mount, his thoughts enlarge ;
 And ' here indeed,' he cries, ' are works of Thine
 Worthy Thyself, my God ! These depths of pine

Are pathless but to Thee ; to Thee these floods
 Lift up their voices. In their various moods
 Of terrible or tranquil they portray
 Thy image, show Thy majesty, and say,
 ' Behold Omnipotence ! And thou, bright eye
 Of heaven, thou sun, that walkest there on high
 A king indeed, methinks one look at thee
 Were all enough to set the spirit free,
 And chase the mists of error, and declare
 The God whose minister thou standest there !'

So spake fond Hope, so thought romantic youth,
 But sage Experience told a sterner truth ;
 And many a toilsome day and sleepless night
 Checked his enthusiast zeal, and set it right.
 He learnt a simpler, soberer way to try,
 And point by plainer precepts to the sky.
 He settled 'mid a fierce uncultured train,
 Wild as the wind and lawless as the main ;
 And sought in vain for many a darkling year,
 To charm the deaf dull adder in their ear :
 To raise to human what before was brute,
 And lead the wanderers to their Saviour's foot.
 He found them dark, the slaves of sin and sense,
 Preoccupied with thoughts and aims intense,
 Snatching from danger's lap their daily bread,
 And hourly shaking hands with pain and dread,
 Strong in delusion, proud, self-satisfied,
 Married to earth, and spurning all beside.
 Yet patience, perseverance, faith and prayer,
 Found in the end their promised blessing there ;
 And precept upon precept, line on line,
 Awoke at length a sense of things Divine :
 Gave conscience a new sanction, and o'erawed
 The rising passions with a present God.
 Upon the night of many a heathen mind,
 The Sun of Righteousness arose and shined,
 And ushered in that morn serene and bright,
 Whose noon goes on into eternal light.
 Rapine and force their wonted seats forsook,
 The spear was changed into the pruning-hook,
 The heart of stone grew flesh, and 'mid the wild
 The arts and charities sprung up and smiled.
 Old Mississippi saw with proud surprise,
 The cot and vineyard on his side arise :
 And smoothed his wave, and lingered in his race,
 Young Culture's footsteps on his banks to trace,
 To kiss the all unwonted flowers, and hear

The voice of Christian worship swelling near ;
 Then sullen flung him onward to the main,
 To meet no more such sights and sounds again.

And, ah ! what felt our missionary there ?
 How looked he on the children of his care ?
 With what sensations did he watch and trace
 The gradual progress of reclaiming grace ?
 And see the savage scene beneath his eye
 Rise into life and form, and harmony ?
 'Twas bliss, but not for human tongue to show ;
 'Twas pride akin to that which angels know
 Tending their charge to Heaven, all unallied
 To earth, and shaming every joy beside.
 Here in an Eden of his own he moved,
 And led the worship of the God he loved ;
 Brought the blind sight, and language to the dumb,
 And saw the kingdom of his Father come.
 Here undisturbed he mused on things above,
 And praised amid His works the God of love ;
 To Him his voice arose with morning's light,
 And when above his lonely hut at night
 The wind made solemn music in the trees,
 God came down to him walking on the breeze,
 And brought him awful joy. And thus afar
 From earthly heed or hindrance, care or jar,
 His life ran smoothly onward. God from high
 Looked on his labours with approving eye,
 The Spirit loved within his breast to dwell,
 And angels often whispered ' All is well.'
 With late and gentle call he was removed
 Hence to the home he sought, the God he loved.
 He closed his eyes to rest one happy night,
 To ope them wondering in eternal light.
 Still may be seen on Mississippi's side
 The little hut the good man occupied ;
 The old oak spreading o'er the grassy mound,
 From which he taught his people standing round.
 And still the pious traveller loves to stay,
 And kneel down by his lowly grave to pray,
 And hear his converts tell with honest pride
 How holily he lived, how calmly died.

TALE THIRD

'Thy will be done.'

THE WIDOW

'HERE, peep in through the window. I will pull
 This knot of woodbine back that hangs too full
 Across the leaded lattice. Do not fear,
 Our presence will not interrupt her here.
 She cannot note us : to her aged sight
 Nature is blankness now, and day is night ;
 And all her thoughts are occupied. See, where
 She kneels in yonder nook in quiet prayer.
 And mark that lifted face, which beams as bright
 As if an angel, hovering near, shook light
 Down from his wings upon it. Looks it not
 Most beautifully tranquil ? Then her cot,
 You note how orderly and neat 'tis kept,
 The tiled floor crisp with sand, the hearth clean swept,
 The dresser with its well-washed range of delf,
 Her five good volumes set out on their shelf,
 And then the four old chairs with backs so tall,
 And all the Bible prints around the wall—
 It is a pretty picture. Take one gaze ;
 Then turn we hence a moment while she prays ;
 And as we go and come, receive from me
 The old blind widow's simple history !'

We crossed the little court, and entered in
 Through a latched wicket in a privet screen,
 The fence of a small garden, where there grew
 Sweet marjoram, and thyme, and mint, and rue,
 And star-eyed marigolds ; and in one spot,
 Of bashful flowers a solitary knot.
 Here the black currants good for colds appear,
 And there a few old plums and apples rear
 Their mossy trunks. The rest is planted thick
 With cabbage and potato, bean and leak,
 In useful alternation. At the end
 Where yonder group of long lithe osiers bend,
 Out wells a little spring, and onward passes
 Hiding itself among the flags and grasses,
 From whence with playful foot it leaps anon,
 And o'er the neighbouring fields runs laughing in the sun.
 Hard by the well a little arbour stood,
 Here we sat down, and thus my friend pursued.

' That poor old widowed thing we just have seen,
Of all the country-side was once the queen ;
With temper, form, and manners that could move
Each maid to envy, and each youth to love.
Her father, a substantial churl, had piled
A goodly portion for his only child ;
And 'twas his fondest wish on earth to see
His darling Jessy married suitably.

' Young Richard Gray was handsome, frank, and boon,
Pleasant as Nature in her own sweet June ;
In all the neighbouring hamlets none could tell
A blither tale, or dance, or sing as well.
Happy the maid who might on holiday,
Walk on the green and chat with Richard Gray ;
And merry 'twas in alehouse or in fair,
When rattling Richard laughed and revelled there.
Dressed out on Sunday in his best attire,
He looked and moved as brave as any squire.'

' So thought poor Jessy, in whose simple ear,
Richard had breathed what she had blushed to hear ;
He met her oft in lane and field and grove,
And whispered there the music of his love.
Her sire indeed the growing friendship saw,
And sternly tried to check it and o'erawe.
" Marry a clown ? my child ? who might aspire
To win and wear a captain or a squire ?—
Look on an idle, dangling, thriftless sot ?
Break with him, girl, this moment ; or if not
Take your own course ! ay, do ! and starve and rot."

' But there were words which soon sent these aside.
" Come, lovely Jessy, come and be my bride !
My little cot stands white upon the hill,
The roses clamber round its porch at will ;
Before, my garden and its blossomed trees
All bright with flowers and musical with bees ;
Behind, my little farm and sheep and kine ;
Come, lovely Jessy, come, they all are thine !
Fly from a frowning father, and with me,
Come live and love, secure and fond and free."

' She went,—they wedded,—and all things awhile,
Save an offended father, seemed to smile.—
Richard was kind, and for his Jessy's sake,
Gave up his jollities at fair and wake ;
He laboured hard all day, and home at night
Returned to lay before her with delight

His earnings, and sit down in peace to share
 The frugal meal prepared by Jessy's care.
 And then in chatting, working, reading, fled
 The evening swiftly till the hour of bed ;
 When down in peaceful sleep betimes they lay,
 To wake up to their wonted toils with day.

' Thus all went well, and Jessy shortly came
 To add a mother's to a spouse's name.
 And a fair boy, bounding with health and grace,
 Looked up his father in her happy face.
 The crops were good, the cattle thrived, the rent
 Was paid, and all was comfort and content.—

' Why must I paint this picture's dark reverse ;
 Why show how canker-like a father's curse
 Clung to them ? First a rainy season came,
 And lodged their corn ; and then their horse fell lame ;
 Their best cow died in calf, provisions too
 Grew scarce and dear ; and there was nought to do.—
 And as his substance 'minished, with it fled
 Poor Richard's ease ; and gloom and care instead
 Grew on him, soured his temper, checked his tongue,
 And o'er his brow a cloudy blackness hung.
 His house grew cheerless to him, and his farm
 Presented nought but ruin and alarm ;
 While idleness, the sufferer's restless curse,
 Hung on him too, and made all crosses worse :
 Moody and dark he sauntered from his home,
 In fretful discontent to sigh and roam.
 His former haunts and habits by degrees
 Won on him, promising a transient ease ;
 Till in the alehouse soon he daily sought
 A desperate refuge from himself and thought !

' Jessy with dread beheld the change, and tried
 By every art to charm this mood aside ;
 Made light of every ill, plied all her wiles,
 Locked up her cares, and tasked her face to smiles.
 She placed her little babe upon his knees,
 Hung on his neck, looked up, and sought to seize
 His wandering vacant eye—in vain, in vain ;—
 Instead of answering tenderness again,
 Disgust in harsh impatience ill concealed,
 Repulsed her efforts and her spirit chilled ;
 And forth anon she saw him blindly go,
 To seek his cups and leave her to her woe.
 Still she forbore, nor by one look expressed
 The storm of feelings working in her breast.

She spoke not, chided not ; but conscious shame
 Read in her kindest acts reproach and blame ;
 And brutal violence, the more inflamed
 By sense of wrongs inflicted and unblamed,
 Burst out on her in language loud and high—
 Which, save in quiet tears, found no reply !

' Month after month rolled on, and brought no change,
 Till neighbours shunned them, and old friends grew strange ;
 Her father in his anger sternly smiled,
 On the just meed of a rebellious child,
 And he, who should have been her stay, her friend,
 Looked but to frown, or spoke to reprehend.
 Where could she turn for comfort ? Ah, it came
 But cold and cheerless through a husband's blame ;
 And less she deemed it to abide the press
 Of boding thoughts, and wrongs, and loneliness
 Than words that wounded him. She therefore kept
 Her feelings down, and plied her hands, and wept.

' One night her husband o'er his cups delayed,
 And she, as oft accustomed now, afraid
 And anxious for his safety, took the road,
 To find and lead him to his lone abode.
 She dared not seek the alehouse, and support
 Its drunken inmates' coarse and ribald sport ;
 But still he must not walk alone where lay
 The long canal beside his reeling way.
 And here, her little Richard in her hand,
 Beneath the silent moon she took her stand
 Most desolate, and heard at times from far
 Their loud wild laughter, and their brutal jar.
 She looked upon her infant, and the whole
 Of her lone state came rushing on her soul.
 She thought of father, husband, wrong, and crime,
 Herself, her helpless offspring, and the time
 When she for common food might hear him cry,
 Nor have wherewith to soothe his agony.
 She saw the waters sleeping 'neath her there,
 Breathing, and bright ; the frenzy of despair
 Came o'er her ; here was shelter, here was rest
 For her and hers ; there now remained no breast
 To feel her loss, nor would her baby stay,
 Like the young bloom that opens on the spray
 In March, ere yet a leaf is on the trees,
 To screen the trembler from the bitter breeze.
 Strong was the conflict of that trying hour,
 And hard she struggled with the tempter's power ;

But God at length controlled the desperate strife
 And led her back again to peace and life.
 Even as in frantic agony she stood,
 Strange contrast, o'er that still and placid flood,
 And strained her wondering infant to her breast,
 And on his lips her last wild kiss impressed,
 A light broke in on her, a sudden ray
 Of hope and comfort (how she scarce could say),
 That showed at once her madness and her sin,
 And calmed and settled all the storm within.
 She deemed herself it was the child she held
 Who named the name of God, and with it quelled
 Her agonies ; who with a random word,
 Remembered from the task he daily heard
 From her own lips, his erring mother taught,
 And bade her turn for comfort where she ought,
 Sending her dark and wandering thoughts away
 To Him, the widow's friend and orphan's stay.
 She paused, she trembled, on her teacher looked
 With awe and shame, owned God and stood rebuked ;
 Saw the full horror of her guilty aim,
 And home returning in an altered frame,
 In penitence and prayer a course began,
 Which on to lasting peace and full submission ran.

' Within her home now Jessy sits no more
 In lonely desolation as before.
 A Friend is hers who leaves not nor forsakes,
 A peace the friendless world nor gives nor takes ;
 God has looked in upon her mental night,
 The clouds are passed away, and all is light.
 She sees a plan unveiled to earthly eyes,
 Finds all her ills but blessings in disguise,
 Learns on her God to rest with faith and prayer,
 And trust her cause to His paternal care ;
 Content in His appointed path to run,
 And meekly say, " My Father's will be done."

' But sickness seized at length the man of drink,
 And nailed him to his bed, and forced him think.
 The long delusion from his spirit passed,
 And his true state rushed full on him at last.
 Robbed of excuse, and stripped of all disguise,
 His guilty self rose up before his eyes ;
 And crimes and wrongs in fast succession came,
 And fanned his inward fever into flame.
 He spurned all solace, and refused all aid,
 And night and day against himself inveighed :

He called upon his injured wife and child,
 And bade them curse him, till his brain ran wild.
 They brought him medicines, but he took them not ;
 The body's pangs were in the mind's forgot ;
 And every soothing word and act from them
 Seemed but anew his baseness to condemn.

' In vain his faithful partner o'er him hung,
 Love in her looks, and comfort on her tongue ;
 In vain his infant round him smiled and played,
 His angry conscience would not be allayed ;
 " Curse me," he cried ; " the worst that ye can do,
 Is all too little for my wrongs on you."—
 A friend of mine beheld him ere he died ;
 His consort's words and prayers had then supplied
 A ray of peace, and taught the poor distrest
 To seek his refuge in a Saviour's breast.
 There never died a deeper penitent ;
 And charity may hope the prayers he sent
 For mercy to his God were heard in Heaven :
 But by himself he never was forgiven ;
 And his last bitter words and tears in life,
 Deplored his conduct to his generous wife.
 But it is time we seek her cot again,
 And learn from her own lips what may remain.'

We rose, and to the cottage bent our way,
 And found her there in the same neat array,
 Seated and knitting in a window, where
 The sun looked warmly on her, and the air
 Flung in at times a perfume as it flew.
 She heard the sound of our approach, and knew
 The steps were friendly, and with pleasant smile
 Rose to receive and greet us ; in awhile
 We freely talked together, and my friend
 Induced her thus her simple tale to end.

' It was,' she said, ' a heavy thing to lose
 A friend so dear, so needful, when his views
 Were now corrected, and his heart reclaimed,
 And his new efforts might have still redeemed
 Our sinking cause from ruin. But 'twas not
 For me to strive, where God had dealt the lot.
 They seized our little stock for debt, and sent
 A writ to drive us from our tenement ;
 And sad and helpless as I was (for then
 The time was near when I must feel again
 A mother's pangs and fears) I took the road,
 And left with aching heart my loved abode ;

And to the parish workhouse turned to share,
 Their coarse hard lodging and unwilling fare,
 And take the common pittance of the place,
 Without one soothing word or friendly face.
 And here 'mid want and sorrow, noise and strife,
 My second infant struggled into life ;
 And a wild fever followed close, and cast
 A shroud round thought and feeling ; present, past,
 And future, all were dark for many a day ;
 And when the strange delusion passed away,
 Ah me ! I heard my babe for nurture cry,
 And found my withered breast could none supply.
 It was a trying season, and my cup
 Required but one drop more to fill it up ;
 And this too came : my angry father came
 To curse me at my hour of grief and shame ;
 Yes, sir, my father came to curse me here ;—
 But ah ! he could not do it. God was near
 To check and change his purpose ; and one look
 At me and my affliction staggered, shook,
 Subdued him ; tears burst forth without control,
 And all the father rushed into his soul.
 He fell upon my neck, and sobbed " My child " ;
 And my poor heart within me leaped and smiled.

' Thus in my anguish God forsook me not,
 But in His own good time assistance brought.
 My father took me to his home once more,
 And life flowed swift and smoothly as of yore,
 A quiet bypath of my own I trod,
 And read my Bible and conversed with God :
 And taught my little ones, and saw them rise
 Two pleasant plants beneath my widowed eyes.
 Peace crowned my nights, and pleasure winged my days,
 And half my prayers were gladdened into praise.

' But bliss like this is not for earthly breast ;
 And God was kinder than to let me rest,
 In any object short of Him and Heaven ;
 And when at length a darker lot was given,
 Though flesh and blood recoiled, the spirit stood
 Strong in her sense that He was wise and good.
 I knew myself an heir of sin and pride,
 And felt it useful for me to be tried ;
 What He ordained 'twas not for me to shun,
 Nor say my will, and not my God's, be done.
 My father now was dead, and all he had
 Devolved on us ; and soon my elder lad,

Bright as the morn and active as the wind,
 Took charge of all his grandsire left behind ;
 Worked, marketed, farmed, bargained, sold, and bought,
 And joy and increase to our dwelling brought.
 'Twas balm indeed to a fond mother's heart,
 To see her child so nobly play his part ;
 And blind with joy, and drunk with empty pride,
 I saw no foes nor dangers at his side ;
 I feared no snares to one so young as he,
 Even in such dealings, scenes, and company.
 My frank, my generous, my manly son !
 Why should I tell you how he was undone ?
 Why call the steps by which he fell to view,
 And bid each wound within me bleed anew ?
 I saw my error, and his change too late,
 But had no power to save him from his fate :
 He rushed on blindly in his father's way,
 And prayers and efforts were in vain to stay.—
 The soldiers of a passing regiment
 At last seduced him, and before he went
 He came to ask my blessing.—Here I took
 My last embrace, my last foreboding look
 Of my poor boy ; and gave with many a prayer
 A little favourite Bible to his care,
 And bade him keep and read it for my sake,
 The last best gift a mother's love could make.—
 Then, sir, I gave him up to God ; and forth
 He went, to bless my eyes no more on earth.

' Excuse these tears ; they give my heart relief ;
 And God forbids not unrepining grief.
 The very Saviour wept when He was here ;
 And nature claims the comfort of a tear.
 I would not strive against my Father's will,
 Nor reckon aught that comes from Him an ill ;
 But ah ! I felt, I feel the chastening rod !
 And it smote hard though in the hand of God.
 Five years went by, nor heard I of his fate.—
 At last, one night, a man came to my gate,
 A war-worn veteran, but of aspect mild,
 Who brought, he told me, tidings of my child.

' Sir, I must weep, my feelings must have vent.—
 This man had marched, had slept in the same tent,
 With my boy Richard. He had been his friend,
 And shared his toils and dangers to the end.
 He was a Christian and a man of prayer,
 Who loved his God, and served Him everywhere.

My wanderer's follies he had seen with pain,
 And warned him from them kindly, but in vain ;
 Yet joined he not the common laugh and jeer,
 Nor mocked the precepts he refused to hear.
 Thus things continued, till the corps were sent
 On foreign service on the Continent ;
 And there 'mid exile, danger and distress,
 A graver mood on Richard 'gan to press ;
 His eyes were opened to the path he trod,
 And his heart yearned to find a friend in God.
 He sought his pious comrade's company,
 And read his Bible much, and spoke of me ;
 O sir ! that Bible my own hands had given,
 And sure my prayers brought down that grace from Heaven.
 At length in deadly strife they met their foes,
 And my poor boy was missing at the close ;
 And when they found him he was cold and dead,
 And by his side his little Bible spread.—
 The old man kept and brought the book to me,
 And, O, my soul within me thrilled to see
 My child's own life-blood still the pages stain,
 A mournful pledge that we should meet again.

' Well, sir, I wept ; but they were blessed drops,
 And bright with high remembrances and hopes :
 I looked too on the youth that still was left,
 And felt with him I was not quite bereft.
 For he was mild and docile, kind and good,
 The light and comfort of my solitude.
 He loved his home, and o'er a favourite book,
 Would spend whole evenings in our chimney nook.
 Our little garden 'neath his culture throve,
 And the moss-rose and woodbine learned to rove
 Upon our cottage wall ; my joys and fears,
 My prayers, my occupations, smiles and tears,
 He shared with daily love, and sense beyond his years.
 But now it pleased my God again to lay
 His hand on me, and take my sight away ;
 And anxious for the welfare of my son,
 Whom my fond eyes no more could look upon,
 I forced my heart to give him up, and bade
 A kind relation teach my boy his trade.
 He wept to leave me ; but I hid my pain,
 And talked of joy when we should meet again.—
 And we did meet,—but not with joy ;—a year
 Was scarce elapsed ere tidings smote my ear
 That George was sick, and that his native air
 Was recommended for him. To my care

They sent him. O sir, what I felt to trace
 His hollow voice, his wasted form and face !
 How have I sat beside his bed, and stayed
 His burning brow, and watched, and wept, and prayed,
 And talked of hope, when there was hope no more ;
 And whispered comfort, while my heart ran o'er
 With desolation. But his spirit rose
 Above this little world of crimes and woes,
 And asked no earthly comfort. Many days
 Before he died he dwelt within the rays
 Of Heaven ; he saw his Saviour face to face,
 And stood with angels at the throne of grace ;
 And spoke such blessed words to all around,
 Grief stood rebuked, and love in awe was drowned.
 Bright as the closing of a summer's day,
 Soft as a Sabbath hymn he passed away.
 The soul, they said, departing to its place,
 Left a still marble smile upon his face,
 A sweet assurance of the bliss he gained,
 A pledge of peace to those that yet remained.

' Here, sir, my story closes. I was left
 A poor lone thing, of all, save God, bereft.
 I now had nought to do but weep and pray,
 And kiss the hand that gave and took away.
 I know Him good and wise, and scarce would dare
 To wish that things were other than they are.
 All that I loved are gathered safe above,
 Better and happier far than earthly love,
 However warm, could wish them. There they live
 In all the bliss the Father's self can give,
 Or the Redeemer earn ; and I shall there
 Meet them again, bright, blooming as they were,
 To praise the God we served together here,
 And dry in glory's rays each earthly tear.
 My eyes behold no more this world of sin,
 But brighter worlds light up my eyes within.
 And here in my lone cot I sit, and try
 My soul to keep, my God to glorify,
 Take what He gives with thankfulness of heart,
 And feel His mercies more than my desert,
 And calmly wait His own good time, to say,
 " Come to thy rest, poor pilgrim, come away." '

TALE FOURTH

' Give us this day our daily bread.'

EDWARD FIELD

UPON a rise near Sydney Grange is seen
 A small neat house with lawn of velvet green ;
 A shrubbery skirts and screens it from the wind,
 And a snug garden woos the sun behind.
 Here with his wife and rosy children twain,
 A man and maid, and chattels few and plain,
 Some years ago from distant town or shire,
 Came Mister Field, or Edward Field, Esquire,
 The neighbouring village gossips o'er their tea
 Have not yet settled his precise degree.
 Farmer he was not ; stock nor land he kept,
 A few small fields around his house except ;
 Nor yet like neighbouring squires he entertained,
 Nor drank, nor swore, nor dogs nor hunters trained,
 But still he was the parson's friend and guest,
 And all the poor around his bounty could attest.

Well, Squire or Mister Field (just call him which
 You please) inhabited this quiet niche ;
 Milked his three cows, and made his bread and beer,
 On just four hundred annual pounds in clear.
 Sleek were his kine. His yard was peopled thick
 With turkey, guinea-fowl, and hen and chick,
 All of choice kinds ; and o'er his lawn there went
 Six sheep, kept less for use than ornament.
 O'er a neat paddock gate all free and tame,
 Neighed his one horse in answer to his name.
 I pass swine, ducks, and things of like degree,
 He kept them out of sight, and so shall we.

His wife, good Mrs. Field, Heaven bless her face !
 Was one might well adorn a higher place ;
 Accomplished, mannered, lady-like and fair,
 Though not quite all that some fine ladies are.
 She read few novels, seldom screamed or fainted,
 Dangled no reticule, was flounced nor painted ;
 And thought her hands were made for something more
 Than nursing up in kid, or running o'er
 Piano keys. She could both mend and make,
 Wash and get up small linen, boil and bake ;
 And her made wines, her puddings, and preserves,—
 What tongue can speak of them as each deserves ?

Her dress was simple ; but you might suppose
 The Graces helped her to put on her clothes.
 Her house, too, perfect neatness ; yet not such
 As makes one half afraid to step or touch ;
 And all things there appeared to go or stand,
 Rather by secret clockwork than command ;
 Then in the healing art how vast her skill !
 How deep her lore in herb and salve and pill !
 Buchan and Reece right well she understood,
 And even in Thomas dipped, and Underwood.
 The ailing poor for miles around confessed
 The sovereign virtues of her medicine chest ;
 And lean the village doctor grew, and bare,
 Since Mrs. Field began to practise there.

Her husband had his avocations too :
 He kept, I've said, a garden, where he grew
 The earliest peas in all the country round,
 And fruit for size and flavour far renowned.
 Here were his bees in hives of curious form,
 And there his green-house, to keep off the storm
 From favourite flowers of every scent and hue,
 Tended by him, and ranged in order due.
 To bud and graft he was supremely skilled,
 And aye a pruning-knife his pocket filled.

His other tasks were various. On his land
 He commonly employed a labouring hand.
 His poultry likewise 'twas his due delight
 Himself to serve with barley morn and night.
 He taught his boy and girl ; and taught them so
 That will and duty hand in hand might go.
 For he had still for them a smile in store,
 A playful word, or tale of pleasing lore :
 A happy knack, that tired not while it taught,
 And rarely failed to gain the end he sought.
 A school then in the village he maintained,
 Where boys to write, and girls to sew were trained ;
 And where on Sunday all the neighbouring young,
 Hymns, catechisms, and collects said or sung.
 The poor there claimed his frequent inquest too,
 For truest suffering oft is least in view ;
 And not content to notice and redress,
 The loud, bold plaint of petulant distress,
 He loved affliction to its home to trace,
 And by inspection learn its real case ;
 See who might dress or baby-clothes require,
 Or Madame's Thursday soup, or wine, or fire.

He was not one whose charity found vent,
In very fine but empty sentiment ;
None of the simpering, soft, poetic crew,
Who talk, and feel, and weep, but never do.
Where'er were wants to succour, woes to share,
There was his haunt, though none might see him there.
He loved to seat him in the poor man's cot,
And hear the annals of his humble lot,
Joy round the widow's lonely heart to shed,
And weep and pray beside the sick straw bed.
And ' what sweet tears they were, pure, bright, as flow
From angel's eyes o'er earthly sin and woe !'
' What luxury of sorrow ' (he would say),
' And how unskilled in true enjoyment they
Who ne'er the full uplifted eyes have viewed,
Nor drank the wild warm voice of gratitude ;
Seen the poor children's smile their steps attend,
And the dog bark not at his master's friend,
And all the simple joys that God hath given,
To light the steps of charity to Heaven !'
Then, there were other lighter rambles, when
He and his boy went up the neighbouring glen,
Old Walton for their guide, and from the brook
Wiled the lithe trout, but not with baited hook.
Or all together in a one-horse chair,
They went at times to breathe the fresh sea air,
In summer, picking shells along the sand,
Or watching while the ocean o'er the strand,
His lordly crest smoothed down, his thunders mute
Crept like a tame thing up to lick their foot.
Or when at eve along the fields they strayed,
Just when the cattle ventured from the shade ;
When the tall grove upon the neighbouring rise,
Stood in relief before the western skies ;
And pleasant murmurs on the ear would come,
Of lowing kine, and rooks returning home ;
And every breeze brought in some varied sweet ;
And grass more soft than sleep wooed on their feet :
Till dancing insects humming round their way,
And the wild thrush's lessening roundelay,
And stars faint twinkling through the twilight blue,
Warned them in home from darkness and the dew.

On other evenings, when rough weather brings
Us friends with fires, rugs, shutters, and such things ;
And when the Vicar, or some neighbour friend
Dropped not in on them to take tea, and spend
An hour in chat ; nor when the county news

Came once a week, nor monthly the reviews :—
 The children then would either draw or write,
 Or cut out forms in paper blue and white,
 Or sing together at their mother's side ;
 Or while the female part their needles plied,
 The others read aloud ; perchance with Cook,
 From isle to isle their way through ocean took ;
 Or else with Bruce or Park the desert thrud,
 Or learned what other ages felt and did :
 And traced the lore of England, Greece, and Rome,
 With safer guides than Gibbon or than Hume.
 Thus bedtime stole upon them unawares ;
 And the night closed, as morning ope'd, with prayers.

Such was the dwelling, such the simple life
 Of Edward Field, his children, and his wife.
 Here from the world, its toils, and snares, he fled
 To serve his God, and eat his daily bread.
 Retired, but active ; useful, though forgot ;
 The world owed much to him that owned him not.
 His aim was not men's notice, but their good,
 To have his actions felt, enjoyed, not viewed.
 And like the tree that bows its head the lower
 The heavier it is hung with fruitful store,
 He lived humility ;—unlike to those
 Who wear it in their manners, looks, and clothes,
 Who tell their frailties, spread their sins abroad
 To man who disbelieves them, not to God :
 Then triumph in their hypocritic sham,—
 'How humble must the world suppose I am !'
 His heart was humble, for he knew its state :
 He had no claims to guard and vindicate ;
 Made no pretensions, took offence at none,
 And notice oft but for endurance won ;
 As in the grass the wild thyme we discover,
 Smelling most fragrant when most trampled over.
 The judgment of the vulgar, small, or great,
 In praise or blame with him had little weight
 He chose his path in life, and walked right on,
 And yet, if possible, offended none.
 Ambitious of no martyr's lot and name
 From gibbets, racks, and fires of worldly fame :
 Nor swift to take the lists, and hew and hack
 In controversial parry and attack,
 Where seldom aught is gained, though much is spent
 Of temper, time, and breath, and argument.
 His object Heaven, and God his Judge alone,
 Busy, yet quiet, moved the Christian on.

Like home-bound vessel through life's voyage hied,
 Leaving no track along the closing tide :
 Took what of joy he might with safety there,
 And for his perfect bliss looked on elsewhere.

Who now would think this simple plain good man
 Had once been joined to fashion's lightest clan ?
 Had chased ambition's wildest meteor down,
 And shared the idlest follies of the town ?
 Yet such had Edward Field. The earliest air
 He breathed was in a smoky London square ;
 Where, in a dingy brick and mortar pile,
 His high-born parents lived in handsome style,
 Kept their state coach, with many a liveried knave,
 And large sad parties once a fortnight gave ;
 Using a world of pother and address,
 To make themselves and others comfortless.

To Eton, thence to Oxford, was he whirled,
 To make acquaintance there, and see the world.
 And then *pro forma* to the Continent
 The graduate dunce was with his tutor sent,
 To just learn how to dress, and cook, and stare,
 And say of places, ' O yes ! I've been there !'
 Thence must he pass through fashion's usual paces,
 Learn the right manners, jargon, and grimaces,
 Acquire the one sublime indifference
 To all that smacks of feeling, thought, or sense.
 In friendless intimacy day by day,
 With grinning things must languish life away :
 Must go to bed at four and rise at two,
 Then ride out in the Park as others do ;
 Or lounge at five in Bond Street, with a score
 Of just such stiff, starched, stayed poor creatures more.
 To dinner then at eight, and thence away,
 To formal route, the club-house, or the play,
 For which till the fifth act he never starts,
 And talks aloud through all the finest parts.

From thence in time his genius onward passed,
 And left this wooden life behind at last.
 But who, all inexpert, may think to trace
 Each new gradation of his hopeless race ?
 Now in his tandem, now in ring or pit,
 A gudgeon here, and there a blood and wit,
 He did in fact what others like him do,
 And found in all as much enjoyment too.

Meanwhile his parents their own path pursued,
 And with complacency his progress viewed ;
 Saw their three hundred friends each fortnight still,
 And took their share of scandal and quadrille ;
 Still smiled and simpered with the same dull set,
 Kept up appearances, and ran in debt.
 Yet while so smooth and fair in public eyes,
 They doffed at home the cumbersome disguise ;
 And fretful words were heard, and frowns were seen,
 And angry squabbles with short truce between.
 At last one night at cards Miss Farley said
 ' You've heard the news, that Mrs. Field is dead.'
 ' Good Heavens ! poor Mrs. Field !' another cried.
 ' Diamonds are trumps,—do tell us how she died.'

The hatchment now was hung up o'er the door,
 The family their decent mourning wore ;
 The spouse went through the usual routine,
 And for due time in public was not seen :
 And to speak truth, in spite of every cross,
 And every pet and humour, felt his loss.
 He had no longer one to scold and flout,
 To order dinner, and to nurse his gout.
 The servants too had all things their own way,
 And bills besieged him which he could not pay.
 Beset with all these complicated ills,
 Vexation, ennui, pilferers, duns, and bills,
 He saw no better speedier antidote,
 And so one morning coolly cut his throat.
 His property was so secured, no dun
 Could claim, he knew, a farthing from his son ;
 And on his table this advice was found,
 ' Pay them, my boy, a penny in the pound.'

Edward was shocked, astonished ; and decreed
 To make no profit of this fearful deed.
 A generous spirit that too long had slept
 Awoke within him, scorning to accept
 At the red purchase of a parent's blood,
 And tradesmen's ruin, such ill-gotten good,
 And with a nobleness foreseen by few
 He sold up all, and gave to each his due.
 A monied man of fashion now no more,
 A different path must Edward Field explore ;
 And though it was at first some pain to meet
 His old friends tittering by him in the street,
 And though his pride some passing shocks received,
 His mind upon the whole felt lightened and relieved.

He took to letters, and began to mix
 With graver men, and talk of politics,
 With authors and new books became acquainted,
 And Mister Murray's drawing-room frequented ;
 Wrote articles for magazine reviews,
 And was in high request among the blues ;
 Kept common-place book, talked in learned strain,
 And praised his rivals to be praised again.
 Fired with his progress he new courage took,
 And sat him down at last to write a book ;
 A pamphlet by Ignotus. O what paper,
 What pens and ink were spent upon the labour !
 What brows were knitted, and what nails were bitten,
 Before this mighty work was planned and written !
 And lo ! in cover blue it now appears,
 To set the wondering public by the ears,
 To fill the world with envy and delight,
 And make the critics bark that cannot bite.
 What questions will be asked ! what tart replies,
 And brisk rejoinders from all sides will rise !
 But weeks, now fortnights, now whole months go by,
 And no critique, rejoinder, or reply ;
 The world alas ! jogs on the very same,
 And neither readers buy nor rivals blame !
 At last a friend in some obscure review
 Gave it a fillip ; but it would not do.
 Puffs and advertisements in vain are penned,
 Copies in vain sent round to foe and friend ;
 And the whole matter ere six months were shotten
 Was born, and dead, and buried, and forgotten.

So much for authorship. His next design
 For wealth and fame was in another line.
 Lord Littleworth, Prime Minister of State,
 Had been his father's friend and intimate :
 And many handsome offers once had made
 If he would bring his son up to the trade.
 He met poor Edward's application now
 With many a flattering smile and courtly bow,
 And bade him dance attendance with a bevy
 Of would-be placemen at his Lordship's levee.
 Long were to tell his harassments and trials,
 Mid marble looks, smooth lies, and kind denials.
 Long were to tell his various dirty jobs
 In public and in private ; and the throbs
 Of wounded honour rankling in his breast,
 And scorn and wrath that dared not be expressed,
 And hopes and fears so tempered as to keep

The heart half drowned, half floating in the deep.
 Suffice to say a year or two went by,
 And still promotion failed, and still was nigh :
 When an event occurred to calm his fever,
 And burst his bonds, and set him free for ever.

It chanced that Edward, when at Oxford, had
 Among his college friends a lively lad,
 Who afterwards assumed the sacred gown,
 And held a living threescore miles from town ;
 And when his friend he happened there to meet
 He often asked him down to his retreat ;
 And Edward now was in a mood and station,
 To take advantage of the invitation.
 He found the Rector living on the skirt
 Of a neat village, safe from noise and dirt,
 With sister, wife, and rosy children seven,
 Enjoying earth, and looking on to Heaven ;
 In a fair house with pleasant glebe embraced,
 Where grace and comfort well were matched by taste.
 There Duty walked ; there decent Order dwelt :
 There Quiet nestled, and Religion knelt.
 There might the needy for assistance turn,
 And there the erring ever look and learn.
 Amid his books, his children, and the poor,
 Loving and loved, the good man dwelt secure ;
 A sun within his little system shone,
 Still bright, and brightening all he looked upon.
 Mild on his face good nature seemed to sleep,
 Forth at each call in smiles to wake and leap :
 And kindness, cheerfulness, and strong good sense
 To higher graces added influence.

With him now Edward sat, and chatted o'er
 Their various boyish feats and whims of yore ;
 Talked of the scenes and facts of other years,
 And what was come of these and those compeers.
 With him around the village Edward strolled
 To see and minister to sick and old,
 And learn their simple histories, and gain
 Truths that are rarely heard in prouder fane.
 Oft with the ladies too abroad he walked
 Along the pleasant fields, and sweetly talked
 Unheeding, till the evening round them fell,
 And roosting blackbirds twitted through the dell :
 Or else with music or with books at home
 Taught bedtime all unconsciously to come.
 And then the little farm and garden too

Were rife with occupation sweet as new ;
 The children also twined them round his heart,
 As in their play and tasks he bore a part ;
 Nay, even the very family devotions,
 So ill according with his former notions,
 Grew grateful in the end ; and when he knelt
 On Sabbath in the decent church, he felt
 An awe and interest all unknown before,
 A new reality religion wore ;
 And as the man of God its truths proclaimed,
 Rebuked, alarmed, exhorted, urged, and shamed.
 His altering mood bore witness to the word,
 And listening conscience echoed all she heard.

This simple, useful, unambitious life,
 Unwarped by passion, undisturbed by strife,
 To Edward's fluttering heart was new and strange ;
 Yet sense approved, and taste enjoyed, the change.
 Weeks rolled away, and still the Rector pressed,
 And Edward still remained his willing guest ;
 And as the time of parting nearer drew,
 The more his heart revolted to renew
 His former wretched course, and bid his friends adieu.
 'Here man,' he thought, 'his destiny fulfils,
 And finds the goods of life with half its ills.
 Here mind and heart have both their ample play
 And chance grows stable 'neath religion's sway.
 Ah, happy life ! where simple joys abide,
 And calm content makes up for all beside !
 Where man exalted, hallowed, and refined,
 Lives for his God, himself, and humankind !
 How shall I leave thee ? how return to trace
 My former round of folly and disgrace,
 And stand again a blot on fair creation's face ?'
 And then a conscious shame upon him grew
 And his heart sickened at the bleak review,
 And awful thoughts arose of God offended,
 With strong compunctions and forebodings blended.
 A sense of wasted years for ever flown,
 And deeds of shame no more to be undone,
 And all the fearful images that press
 On the lone hours of trembling consciousness.
 It was a time of trial, harsh, but good ;
 His heart was 'neath it humbled and subdued.
 Remorse became repentance ; and despair .
 Changed her dark groan at last for faith and prayer :
 A sweet assurance o'er his spirit crept,
 And at his Saviour's feet he wept,—he wept.

Each day confirmed the temper ; and he passed
 From strength to strength, till all was Heaven's at last.
 His former views and sentiments were gone
 And every past ambition lost in one,
 And that unearthly ; for beneath the sky
 He now found little to detain his eye.
 Life seemed a passage to a place of rest ;
 A road the lightest-laden travelled best.
 He had no wish to fix his dwelling there,
 Or take too largely of its cumbering care ;
 As much of earthly goods he still possessed
 As nature craved, or wisdom would request.
 Enough had to a faithless world been given ;
 It now was time to live for self and Heaven.

His friends with joy beheld the change ; and none
 Beheld it with more interest than one,
 Of whom, though tempted much, I've little sung,
 The Rector's gentle sister, fair and young,
 Bright and unearthly as a star of light,
 Pure !—But I check my fancy in her flight.
 I've said before that she could mend and make,
 Wash and get up small linen, boil and bake,
 Could keep the heart, and keep the house beside,
 And elegant with useful well divide.
 Their dwelling, mode of life, and all the rest,
 My rhyme already hath at large expressed.

TALE FIFTH

'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us.'

THE BROTHERS

SOME years ago, remote in Erin's isle,
 There dwelt in good old hospitable style,
 In huge stone house and large enclosed demesne,
 Shane, master, squire, nay prince of Castleshane,
 O'er miles of naked, ill-farmed acres round
 His woods and walls in lonely grandeur frowned ;
 And hundreds there of ragged, trembling knaves
 Lived on his looks, and joyed to be his slaves.
 His cellars with the best of wines o'erflowed,
 And groaned his table 'neath its smoking load ;
 And poor relations round it day by day
 Ate, joked, and sang, and swore their hours away.

The priest and parson met in friendship there ;
And all were welcome, so they drank their share.

Shane was a county magistrate ; but took
His law from his own brain, and not from book.
And when a puzzling case came up, his worship
Settled the matter by a general horsewhip.
To Dublin every year in state he went
To attend the Castle and the Parliament,
And learn improvements in the useful arts,
And bring down Scottish stewards, ploughs, and carts.
Each guest that came must see and praise in full
His drilled potatoes and Merino wool,
And all his undertakings and expenses,
In breeds, plantations, crops, and drains, and fences.
But these, and much else of his state and glory,
I now must pass and hasten to my story.

Shane (for he scorned all adjunct to a name
Which straight from Erin's ancient monarchs came)
Was married twice, and had from either spouse
A young supporter of his regal house.
An heir indeed had been for years delayed,
While daughter after daughter came instead ;
And when at length his prayer was heard, his wife
Paid for the infant blessing with her life.
The widower's vacant eye was after caught
By the fair English governess, who taught
His elder girls, and tempted, yet denied
His suit so well, she was at length his bride ;
And ere twelve months had o'er their union sped,
The wife had born a son, the sire was dead.
The land was on the elder youth entailed,
But the young widow on her spouse prevailed
To leave by will both property and heir
To his dear wife's sole management and care.

Strange changes now were seen at Castleshane ;
Gone were the dinners, claret and champagne.
No errant friends or poor relations there
Put up their steeds, and took their welcome fare.
The old domestics all were turned away,
The tenants' rents demanded to a day.
Sold were the ploughs, the cattle, horse and hound,
The whole demesne let out to farmers round,
The ancient timber felled, and broken up the ground ;
And to complete the wreck, when all beside
Was gone, the lady too to England hied ;

And a stern agent to the castle sent
 To screw the tenants, and transmit the rent.
 The boys were put to school, to college then,
 And grew apace, and ripened into men :
 But as their minds unfolded day by day,
 The more diverse they showed in every trait.
 Edmund the elder from his earliest youth
 Was free and fearless, full of warmth and truth,
 Frank, unsuspecting, sensitive, and kind,
 And graced alike in person and in mind.
 His brother James was secret, smooth, and sly ;
 He spoke nor acted but with reasons why :
 He weighed each look and word with nicest skill,
 And checked and feigned all passions at his will.
 He early learned his interests, and the art
 To wind him round his brother's honest heart ;
 And watched his moods and motions, and indulged
 In hopes and views that might not be divulged.
 While Edmund lives, he best can help his ends ;
 But Edmund dead, and all to James descends.

On thoughts like these he brooded, till they grew
 A part of his existence ; gave a hue
 And turn to all within him ; sent their root
 Deep in his soul, and upward bore their fruit ;
 Grew with his growth, and strengthened with his
 strength,

Till in one foul ambition all at length
 Was lost ; one viper passion filled his breast,
 And, like the prophet's rod, devoured the rest.
 No pains were spared, no practice was untried,
 No tempting lure unsought and unapplied ;
 And his fell spirit, like a stream up pent,
 But gained new strength with each impediment.
 Yet on through baffled project, plot, and snare,
 Young Edmund walked secure, though unaware :
 Till came at last the proud eventful age,
 That burst the tedious bonds of pupillage.

Time passed, and still o'er Edmund's easy soul
 The son and mother held their strong control.
 James, now a lawyer, kept his brother's deeds,
 Received his rents, and furnished all his needs :
 While the base mother fed his appetites,
 And kept him quiet, while they filched his rights.
 This was, however, a precarious game,
 And soon might end, perhaps, in loss and shame ;
 But could poor Edmund once aside be thrown,
 Then all for ever were by law their own.

At length the troublous year of ninety-eight
 Arrived ; and on the Castleshane estate,
 Oppressed, deserted, as the tenants were,
 They blindly rushed into rebellious snare ;
 Held nightly meetings, laws and arms defied,
 And rents and taxes to a man denied.
 The case was urgent, and confirmed a vow
 Which Edmund long had formed, but which till now
 Had always met some hindrance, to go o'er
 Their real state in person to explore,
 Hear their complaints, their grievances reform,
 And quell, if possible, the rising storm ;
 And 'Come, my friend, my brother, and my guide,
 Assist me in the generous task,' he cried.

They went. The kingdom wheresoe'er they came
 Boiled like a crater, ere it bursts in flame ;
 Rolled like the ocean when a storm is near ;
 And haste, and trouble, and suspense, and fear
 Sat in all faces. Fierce debate was heard ;
 And fiercer thoughts indulged, that breathed no word,
 But kept their angry energy to aid
 The avenging arm, the liberating blade.
 Edmund, although in England nursed and trained,
 Still for his native land a love retained ;
 And oft had stood the champion of her wrongs
 From foreign prejudice, and sneering tongues ;
 And argument and declamation here
 Found quick reception in his partial ear.
 His country's claims, and injuries, and woes
 Before him through enlarging medium rose ;
 And Liberty her strong appeal addressed
 To a misjudging, though a generous, breast.

Now was the time for James. With villain eye
 He watched his brother's moods, nor failed to ply
 His spirit with incentives, and to wind
 The chains of error fast around his mind.
 From step to step he led his victim on,
 Till fear and moderation both were gone ;
 And forth he stood in Freedom's fancied cause,
 An open rebel to his King and laws.
 Meanwhile, intelligence was duly sent
 Of each proceeding to the Government,
 And means soon used their projects to avert,
 And bring the leaders up to their desert.
 Edmund with sudden consternation learned
 All his fond aims detected and o'erturned.

He saw the danger rushing on his head,
 One desperate effort at resistance made,
 Failed ; but escaped pursuit by James's timely aid.
 Think not the wolf had now begun to feel ;
 Think not that any generous appeal
 Had reached the heart of James. He only thought
 Of what might best advance his fiendish plot.
 If Edmund had to open war proceeded,
 There was a chance his cause might have succeeded ;
 If made a prisoner, as matters were,
 The law had power, and there were pleas, to spare ;
 And on himself the office and the stain
 Of traitor and accuser must remain.
 Besides, he saw another readier way
 To gain his objects. In a secret bay
 Near Castleshane a lawless privateer,
 With his connivance, anchored twice a year.
 Thither 'twas easy Edmund to ensnare,
 And quietly dispose of him when there.
 He knew the crew were fit for any deed,
 At least, when (as they should be) duly feed.

The pirates put to sea, their grand concern
 Their sanguinary recompense to earn.
 But as they came to put their plans in force,
 Among them rose strange scruples and remorse.
 A something in their victim's case and air
 Won on their hearts, all ruffian as they were ;
 And when the bloody deed was to be done,
 They slunk back from the office one by one.
 At last three fellows, bolder than the rest,
 Took it upon them. Edmund now had guessed,
 From certain looks and whisperings, that some plot
 Was hatching, though he scarce conjectured what.
 But when the villains to the cabin came,
 Stealthy and armed, at once he saw their aim,
 And rose, and rushed upon them for his life.
 The foremost was struck down ; another's knife
 Just grazed him as upon the deck he sprung,
 And snatching up a random weapon, flung
 Back on his hot pursuers, and engaged
 Hand to hand boldly with them. Fiercely raged
 The unequal conflict ; back retired the crew,
 And stood aloof the deadly sport to view.
 Edmund, meanwhile, fought backward o'er the deck,
 Till at the poop he held all three at check ;
 And dealt his blows so ably round him there,
 He soon brought one to ground. The other pair

Pressed the more hard on him, all efforts plied,
 And wounds were shared and dealt on either side ;
 But a good cause gave weight to Edmund's blade
 And soon another at his feet was laid.
 The last assassin fled : and from the rest
 A general shout his gallantry confessed.
 The captain then stepped forth, disclosed the whole,
 Doubt and amaze bewildering Edmund's soul ;
 Till, all made clear, the feelings struggling there
 Passed on through wrath and scorn to blank despair.
 He bared his breast. ' Come on, come on,' he cried ;
 ' Here in my heart your murderous weapons hide :
 Obey the traitor : let him have his will.'
 ' Nay, cheer up,' cried the captain ; ' take not ill
 Our usage : 'twas a job we never loved,
 Though bribes like his might better men have moved.
 But it shall ne'er be said, that one of us
 Killed any man for hire in cold blood thus.
 Cast in your lot with us, my lad, and dare
 A bold sea-pirate's joys and gains to share.
 Thou lovest freedom. We are of the free,
 The untamed rovers of the rolling sea.
 Quit the false land, its traitors, and its slaves,
 And take with us the fortune of the waves.'
 Alas, he had no choice ; for death was now
 On shore, life and the deep before his prow.
 He cursed the treacherous caitiff, joined their cheer,
 And roamed the world a reckless buccaneer.

No more was heard of him. The contest closed,
 And Ireland was to sullen peace composed ;
 And James, as heir at law, the objects gained
 At which he had so long and basely strained.
 But rumours somehow rose, that all had not
 Been managed well and fairly as it ought.
 The neighbouring gentlemen were cool and shy,
 And shunned him, though they gave no reason why.
 A closer scrutiny he feared to face,
 So wisely let the lands, and left the place.

He left the place, but could not leave behind
 The heavy burthen of a rankling mind.
 Fly whom he might, himself he could not fly ;
 His worst accuser, conscience, still was nigh ;
 Made all his riches poor, his splendour dim,
 And flattery but a tuneless taunt to him.
 From place to place, from scene to scene he pressed,
 And found in restless change his only rest ;

No friend nor home in the wide world enjoyed,
And all beyond was madness or a void.

Thus matters stood with each. Time travelled on.
At last, when many years were passed and gone,
To a small parish down in Devon came
A reverend priest of meek and holy frame.
He lived retired, and a strange mystery hung
Around him. Who he was, and whence he sprung
None knew ; or how, or where his youth was spent.
Yet there was somewhat in each lineament
That caught the notice he desired to shun,
And told discernment he had seen and done
More than he chose to mention. On his face
Toil more than time had left its harrowing trace :
The hue of other climes was there displayed ;
And words at times dropped from him, that betrayed
A knowledge from strange scenes and manners brought,
And ill consorting with his present lot.

Yet be he who he might, each sterner trait
Religion's influence much had smoothed away.
A moonlight stillness in his looks was seen,
And all his air was thoughtful and serene.
A trace of melancholy thrid the whole,
Entending, chilling not, where'er it stole.
Perhaps dark recollections o'er him came,
Constraining self what God forgave to blame ;
Perhaps he long had erred from him, and now
Resolved his penitent for aye to bow ;
Retaining still a deep and humbling sense
Of what he had been, and should feel from thence.
Howbeit among his little flock he moved,
Active, though sad, though distant, yet beloved ;
Straight by the line of even duty steered,
And fearing God, no other object feared.

This man was injured Edmund. Here he came
Altered in views, in features, lot, and name ;
Came to repay by such a life as this
A morn of trouble with a noon of peace.
The long-lost wanderer by his God was found ;
The broken spirit by its Saviour bound.
Heaven had recalled him from his fierce career
Of lawless daring, and had sent him here
To give to God the remnant of his days,
And lead in others to his hallowed ways.

The little town where Edmund thus abode
Lay, as it happened, on the public road

To a large watering-place upon the coast,
 Where Fashion yearly sent her restless host.
 One day a carriage, journeying thither, met
 Close to the town a frightful overset.
 A well-dressed man who sat alone within
 Was wounded much, and to the village inn
 Was brought, and there in great distress and pain
 Now lay, and all assistance seemed in vain.
 The faculty at last gave up the case,
 And now the priest was summoned in their place.

Edmund approached, upon the stranger looked,—
 It was his brother James.—But he rebuked
 His strong emotions, and his face withdrew.
 ‘Leave,’ said the man, ‘the chamber to us two.’
 They went. ‘Sir,’ he continued, ‘I have learned
 Much of thy worth and goodness, and have yearned
 To lay my case before thee, and receive
 What comfort thou a dying man canst give.
 I feel it is no season to dissemble,
 When in a few hours longer I must tremble
 At God’s dread bar, and all the truth display
 In the broad light of everlasting day.
 These, sir, are things I’ve tried to disbelieve,
 But am constrained to shudder and receive :
 The frail supports such reasonings can supply
 May serve whereon to live, but not to die.
 I want, I feel it, now a surer stay ;
 And haply, sir, thy long experience may
 Suggest such comfort ; only with me deal
 In candour, nor compose where thou shouldst heal.
 Thou seest a wretch before thee who has erred
 Deeply and grossly : if thou hast a word
 Of peace for such, say on ; I need not add
 How sounds like these a dying ear will glad.’

Edmund a moment paused. His soul was moved
 Within him ; but the mood he soon reproved,
 And calm replied, ‘Tis well to know our guilt :
 A sickness to be healed must first be felt.
 None are exempt from sin ; but grace is sent
 To all that look to Jesus and repent.’

‘But mine, sir—mine is a peculiar case,
 Beyond the reach of ordinary grace.
 No venial errors, common to mankind,
 Have stained my life, and now oppress my mind.
 But guilt so black, that tears of blood might fail
 To rase it. Memory sickens, Hope turns pale
 To look at it. And here upon the verge

Of that dark ocean, whose next rising surge
 May sweep me in, I tremble now, nor find
 Whereon to rest before me or behind.
 If, then, thou ownest aught of stronger power
 To comfort such a wretch, at such an hour,
 O speak it !'

'Sir, this language makes me bold,'
 Said Edmund, 'and were all more plainly told,
 Some mitigating feature might arrest
 Another's eye ; the case itself suggest
 Its own peculiar comfort : but be sure,
 Whate'er thy guilt, it is not past a cure.
 The Saviour died that none might feel despair
 Who turn to Him with penitence and prayer.'

'Suppose, then, sir, the blackest and the worst
 Of all that's mean, base, devilish, and accurst.
 Suppose the use of every trick and art
 That mars and desecrates the human heart ;
 A show of candour o'er a knot of wiles,
 A soul of hell beneath a face of smiles,
 Worth undermined, and confidence betrayed,
 And love and truth with wrong and hate repaid.
 Suppose one mammon project long pursued,
 And sealed at last with perfidy and blood—
 Suppose the victim of all this to be
 A brother.—O ! the kindest ! best !—and he
 Duped, beggared, outlawed, murdered—all by me !—
 Is there still hope ?'

'Thy guilt indeed is great ;
 But God forbids me to set bounds or date
 To His redeeming mercy. So the thief
 Who on the cross found pardon and relief !
 To the same Saviour be thy prayer up sent,
 For sure thy language says thou dost relent.'

'Relent ! O yes ! If days and nights of tears ;
 If sorrow eating on my joyless years ;
 If this false head, all prematurely grey ;
 If pangs that cannot rest, and dare not pray ;
 If Heaven grown black above, and earth beneath
 Become one gloomy vault, one waste of death ;
 If taunt and scorn descried in every face,
 And hunting me forlorn from place to place ;
 If to seem less among my fellow-men
 Than the poor scribble of some idle pen ;
 If envy of the meanest thing that crawls,
 The idiot's leer, the maniac's chains and walls ;
 If death desired, yet dreaded—'

' Hold, O, hold !

Enough, enough to mortal ear is told.
Turn to thy God. With Him for mercy plead :
All is not lost while He can hear and heed.
My heart bleeds for thee. Lift with me thy prayer.
Why shouldst thou yield to Satan and despair ?'

' I cannot pray. I dare not look on high,
My brother's form is there to meet my eye.
His voice is there my conscious plea to drown.
Yes ! his least glance will hurl me headlong down
From Heaven, will be enough my soul to scare
Down to its place of judgment and despair.
See where he stands ! my murdered brother ! see,
He turns his still reproachful eyes on me !'

' O ! calm this mood ! thy wandering thoughts recall !
Thy brother ? O ! he pities, pardons all !
Has he not sinned himself to be forgiven ?
How could he look up to his God in Heaven,
And ask the mercy which himself denied ?
Has he not seen thee ? has he not descried
Thy deep remorse, thy bitterness of soul ?
He has, he has. He knows, forgives the whole.
He was not wont to own a mood like this :
And anger cannot dwell where Jesus is.'

' Ah, could I think it so !'

' Then look on me.
This face is not so changed but thou mayst see
A brother's likeness in it.—Yes, I live !—
Live to console, to cherish, to forgive !'

There have been looks of power ; and souls have shook
And shrunk and quailed before one awful look.
The eye of Marius struck the slave to stone,
Who came to slay him fettered and alone.
A look from Christ pierced Peter like a sword
In Pilate's hall, when he denied his Lord.
The hosts of Pharaoh in the deep were awed
And checked, and scattered by one look from God.
As strong, as thrilling, though with love they gushed,
The looks of Edmund on his brother rushed.
He started up as lightly from the bed
As if his pain and weakness all were fled ;
Held back and glared awhile in Edmund's face,
Then dropped exhausted in his spread embrace.
' He lives ! thank God ! thank God !' he faintly cried,
Then back upon the pillow sank, and died.

THE SPIRIT OF THE PSALMS

IN the preface Mr. Lyte said that 'poetry and music are never better employed than when they unite in the celebration of the praises of God.' 'Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs' have accordingly constituted a prominent part of the public worship of the Church in all ages. The Israelites, when delivered from their Egyptian pursuers, expressed in this way their gratitude and joy. The daily services of the Temple at Jerusalem were replete with vocal and instrumental music. Our Lord closed the celebration of His last supper with a hymn. The Apostles frequently inculcated this devotional exercise on their converts; and it was while Paul and Silas were practising it in prison that God came down to cheer and deliver them. The early Christians, as we are informed by a pagan writer, were accustomed to sing in their assemblies 'a hymn to Christ as to God,' and at the great Protestant revival of Christianity the Psalms of David, says Bishop Burnet, translated into metre, 'were much sung by all who loved the Reformation; and it was a sign by which men's affections to that work were measured, whether they used to sing these or not.'

The inspired compositions of the 'sweet singer of Israel' have, indeed, been the great fount from which suitable matter for this part of Divine worship has always been drawn. His lyre is one of many strings, tuned to the expression of every variety of devotional feeling. He speaks of the glories of God in strains which mere human powers could never have reached, and tracks religious experience through its various moods in tones which find a response in every Christian heart. These exquisite productions have accordingly formed the grand staple of the devotions of God's servants; and their universal applicability shows how truly the Church is one in spirit in all ages, and how harmoniously its members may be expected to mingle hearts and voices around the throne above.

To transfer these songs of Zion into other tongues and to adapt them to public worship has been a favourite object with Christian poets, and some of the greatest names in the literature of our own country stand connected with efforts of this

kind. The spirit, however, of these beautiful compositions has, it is allowed, but too generally evaporated in the process of transfusion ; and notwithstanding some happy occasional specimens, a good metrical translation of the Psalms is still a desideratum in our language.

The author of this little volume has not had the temerity to hope that he could supply this deficiency. The failure of so many with talents far superior to his own would sufficiently deter him from such an enterprise. Instead, therefore, of attempting a new version of the Psalms he has contented himself with endeavouring to condense the leading sentiments of each into a few verses for congregational singing. The modern practice of using only three or four verses at a time would render the great majority of the Psalms, if literally translated, unfit, on the score of length, for public worship ; and a few ill-connected verses detached from the rest can scarcely give a more just view of the harmonious whole than a few bricks can of the building of which they may have formed a part. The author has, therefore, simply endeavoured to give the spirit of each Psalm in such a compass as the public taste would tolerate, and to furnish, sometimes, when the length of the original would admit of it, an almost literal translation, sometimes a kind of spiritual paraphrase, and at others even a brief commentary on the whole Psalm. He feels, in truth, that, in order to render the Psalms fully applicable to a Christian audience, considerable liberties must be allowed in the way of adaptation. They ought, he thinks, to be made to express all that David himself would have expressed, had he lived under the superior light which we enjoy, and beheld, not the mere twilight of the yet unrisen Sun of Righteousness, but, like ourselves, the splendour of HIS meridian day. What, therefore, he darkly intimates respecting Christ and His Gospel (and the Psalms are full of such intimations), the author has, in many instances, endeavoured to unfold and expand ; and, adapting the whole in some degree to present times, usages, and circumstances, he has sought to preserve the spirit of the originals, while he has somewhat altered the letter.

To these compositions of his own he has added the best and most popular passages of the ordinary New Version used by the Church of England. Many of these possess in themselves considerable beauty and fitness ; and, sanctioned as they are by authority, and familiarized by custom, he doubts not that they will prove an acceptable accompaniment. He has freely altered the words where he thought he could improve them. In many cases the language is so much changed that the original may be hardly discernible.

How far his little work may serve its purpose and satisfy its readers, time must determine. The author must candidly

own that it by no means satisfies himself. There is a poverty, a flatness, in his translations, which are not to be found in the Divine originals.

Be the reception, however, of this volume what it may, the pains he has employed on it have not, he feels, been altogether thrown away. The composition of it has brought benefits to himself, for which he is bound to record his acknowledgments to God. The hours that he has spent over his task have been among the most pleasing and profitable of his life. It has sweetly filled up the intervals of laborious ministerial duty and solaced many of the trials to which human life is ever subject. The author cannot lose the savour of those precious moments which he has spent in its composition. And to Him who has made this task so pleasant and so profitable he would humbly consecrate the work, entreating Him to prosper it, if likely to contribute to His glory and the good of souls; and, if not, to make the author still thankful for past mercies, and to pardon this presumption of his in aiming at things beyond his reach.

PSALM I. (FIRST VERSION)

How blest are they who fear to walk,
Where sinners tempt, and scorners talk,
Who in the Word of God delight,
And feed upon it day and night !

Like trees with water at their root,
They spread their leaves, and bear their fruit :
And thus may we unwithering rise,
And ripen daily for the skies !

Thrice happy he whom God approves ;
From strength to strength he onward moves ;
While from His face the scoffer flees,
Like chaff before the driving breeze.

The good and bad are mingled here ;
But ah, the sifting time is near !
The good shall then to glory go ;
The sinner sink to endless woe.

PSALM I. (SECOND VERSION)

BLEST is the man who fears and flies,
The broad and downward way,
Where impious scorn its God defies,
And vice allures to slay.

Blest, who in God's unerring law,
 Finds guidance and delight ;
 Walks by His Word with daily awe,
 And ponders it by night.

Like trees with water at their root,
 The heirs of glory rise ;
 Their boughs are hung with holy fruit,
 Their verdure never dies.

Beneath the wings of heavenly love,
 On earth they safely dwell ;
 And soar to endless joys above,
 When sinners sink to hell.

PSALM I. (THIRD VERSION)

UPHOLD me, Lord, too prone to stray,
 Uphold me in Thy narrow way ;
 From sin and sorrow bid me flee,
 And turn from all who turn from Thee.

The cloud and pillar of Thy Word,
 My comfort be, my guide, O Lord ;
 By day, by night, at hand to bless,
 And lead me through the wilderness !

So shall I flourish like a tree,
 Planted, and watched, and nursed by Thee,
 With streams of grace around its roots,
 And bending low with holy fruits.

So shall I go from light to light,
 Till prayer is praise, and faith is sight ;
 And while the sinner's doom I see,
 Adore the grace that rescued me !

PSALM II. (FIRST VERSION)

WHY do the people rage,
 Devising frantic things ?
 Why do the kings of earth engage,
 Against the King of kings ?
 ' Come, let us burst His yoke,' they say.
 ' And cast His hateful bonds away !'

God on His heavenly throne,
 Laughs at their impious aims ;
 He made the nations for His own,
 And thus His will proclaims,
 ' On Zion's hill My King shall sit ;
 Perish, ye rebels, or submit !'

Ere time its course began,
 I issued My decree,
 ' This day, My Son, the Son of Man,
 Have I begotten Thee.
 To Thee the world and all that live,
 Thy blood-bought heritage, I give !'

Hear, then, ye monarchs, hear !
 Ye great, a greater own !
 Bow down with holy joy and fear,
 Before Messiah's throne !
 Upon Him life and death depend ;
 O blest who find in Christ a friend !

PSALM II. (SECOND VERSION)

THE powers of earth and hell combine,
 With Jesus war to wage ;
 God laughs to scorn their mad design,
 And foils their impious rage.

Vain are the brutal pains they spend,
 His purpose to defeat ;
 Their wrongs and insults only tend,
 His conquests to complete.

He triumphed on the accursed tree,
 He burst the guarded grave ;
 Then rose on high, by God's decree,
 The world to sway and save.

Kings of the earth, your Monarch learn ;
 O kiss the Son of God ;
 Nor bid His golden sceptre turn,
 Into an iron rod.

PSALM III.

THY promise, Lord, is perfect peace,
 And yet my trials still increase ;
 Till fears at times my soul assail,
 That Satan's rage must yet prevail.

Then, Saviour, then I fly to Thee,
 And in Thy grace my refuge see ;
 Thou heardst me from Thy holy hill,
 And Thou wilt hear and help me still.

Beneath Thy wings secure I sleep ;
 What foe can harm while Thou dost keep ?
 I wake and find Thee at my side,
 My Omnipresent Guard and Guide !

O, why should earth or hell distress,
 With God so strong, so nigh to bless ?
 From Him alone salvation flows ;
 On Him alone, my soul, repose !

PSALM IV. (FIRST VERSION)

God of all my righteousness,
 Guide through every past distress,
 Show Thy mercy, hear my cry,
 Save, O save me, ere I die.
 Hark, the awful voice Divine !
 ' Flee from sin and thou art Mine ;
 Godly men to God are dear !
 Serve Thou Him, and He will hear.

' Stand in awe, nor dare to sin,
 Commune much with self within,
 Wake at night with God to talk,
 Rise at morn with Him to walk ;
 On His grace thy soul recline,
 Bring thy offering to His shrine,
 Plead thy Saviour's righteousness,
 God will hear, and God will bless.'

Many cry, in fretful mood,
 ' Who will show us any good ?'
 Lord, Thy face lift up on me,
 I have every good in Thee.
 Worldlings, take your corn and wine ;
 I am blest, the Lord is mine ;
 Glad I wake, and safe I sleep,
 Lord, with Thee my soul to keep.

PSALM IV. (SECOND VERSION)

O GOD of my righteousness, Hearer of prayer,
 Almighty to help and defend,
 Thine arm has upborne me through foe and through snare,
 O bear me up still to the end !

I heard the poor worldling in trouble exclaim,
 ' This earth is a desert to me !'
 But, Father of Mercies, be Thou but the same,
 I'm rich, amid ruin, with Thee.

I look through the clouds, as they gather on high !
 I know there is sunshine above ;
 And earth and its joys cannot cost me a sigh,
 While heir of Thy heavenly love.

I lie down on this for my pillow at night,
 And slumber unharmed and unawed :
 Afflictions are blessings, and darkness is light,
 While I have a friend in my God.

PSALM IV. (THIRD VERSION)

LORD of my life, my hopes, my joys,
 My never-failing Friend,
 Thou hast been all my help till now,
 O help me to the end !

While worldly minds impatient grow,
 More prosperous times to see,
 O let the glories of Thy face,
 Shine brighter, Lord, on me !

So shall my heart o'erflow with joy,
 More lasting and more true
 Than theirs, possessed of all that they,
 So eagerly pursue.

Then down in peace I'll lay my head,
 And take my needful rest ;
 No other guard I ask or need,
 Of Thee, O Lord, possessed.

PSALM V. (FIRST VERSION)

LORD, in our hearts the feelings read,
 Which words can ill express :
 O, 'tis a pleasant task to plead,
 With one so prompt to bless !

To Thee, O Lord, our voice shall rise,
 Each morn with homage due :
 To Thee we lift our waking eyes ;
 Lift Thou our spirits too !

Into Thy house 'tis good to come,
 And muse on all Thy love,
 And look on to a better home,
 In Thy fair house above.

O by a safe and easy path
 Thy pilgrims thither lead !
 For stubborn foes reserve Thy wrath,
 Thy people guard and feed.

PSALM V. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD, hear our Sabbath song of praise,
 Accept our Sabbath prayer ;
 Again before Thy gracious throne,
 For mercy we repair.

How pleasant to Thy courts to come,
 Our sacred debt to pay !
 O may we ever meet Thee here,
 On this Thy holy day !

Make plain Thy way before us, Lord,
 And guide us safe along :
 'Tis sweet to trust our all to Thee,
 While dangers round us throng.

God never will desert the soul,
 That on His grace depends :
 But with His favour all His saints,
 As with a shield, defends.

PSALM VI. (FIRST VERSION)

CORRECT us, Lord, we know it good ;
 Correct, but not in angry mood ;
 A Father's chastening let us prove,
 And temper discipline with love.

Remember man is but a worm,
 And smooth Thy wave and stay Thy storm ;
 Amid the clouds Thy bow display,
 And interchange our night with day.

Thy name is mercy ; hear our prayer,
 And send us comfort for despair ;
 Behold us trembling o'er the grave,
 And come to succour, come to save.

He comes ! new light around us springs ;
 He comes with healing in His wings !
 The needful cross no more we shun,
 But bow, and say, ' Thy will be done.'

PSALM VI. (SECOND VERSION)

GENTLY, gently lay Thy rod,
 On my sinful head, O God.
 Stay Thy wrath, in mercy stay,
 Lest I sink before its sway.

Heal me, for my flesh is weak ;
 Heal me, for Thy grace I seek ;
 This my only plea I make,
 Heal me for Thy mercy's sake.

Who within the silent grave,
 Shall proclaim Thy power to save ?
 Lord, my trembling soul relieve,
 Speak, and I shall rise and live.

Lo ! He comes ! He heeds my plea !
 Lo ! He comes ! the shadows flee !
 Glory round me dawns once more ;
 Rise, my spirit, and adore !

PSALM VII.

LORD, my God, in Thee I trust ;
 Save, O save, Thy trembling dust,
 From the roaring lion's power,
 Seeking whom he may devour ;
 From a thousand waves that roll,
 Shipwreck o'er my sinking soul ;
 God Omnipotent, I flee
 From them all to Thee, to Thee.

Thou my inmost wish canst read,
 Thou canst help my utmost need ;
 Let the world Thy goodness see,
 Let them mark Thy grace in me.
 Lay the wicked in the dust,
 Raise the feeble, guide the just ;—
 Searcher of the heart, I flee
 From myself to Thee, to Thee.

God is righteous, God is strong ;
 Much abused, He suffers long ;
 Yet if still His love we spurn,
 Love at last to wrath will turn.
 O, the frown of the I AM !
 O, the fury of the Lamb !--
 God of grace and hope, I flee
 From all else to Thee, to Thee.

PSALM VIII. (FIRST VERSION)

O LORD, how good, how great art Thou,
 In heaven and earth the same !
 There angels at Thy footstool bow,
 Here babes Thy grace proclaim.

When glorious in the mighty sky,
 Thy countless worlds I see,
 ' O what is man, ' I wondering cry,
 ' To be so loved by Thee ?'

To him Thou hourly deign'st to give,
 New mercies from on high ;
 Didst quit Thy throne with him to live,
 For him in pain to die.

Close to Thy own bright Seraphim,
 His favoured path is trod,
 And all beside are serving him,
 That he may serve his God.

O Lord, how good, how great art Thou,
 In heaven and earth the same !
 There angels at Thy footstool bow,
 Here babes Thy grace proclaim.

PSALM VIII. (SECOND VERSION)

EXALTED Jesus, Heavenly King,
 Angels to Thee their offerings bring ;
 And yet Thou scornest not the praise,
 The simple song that children raise.

(When in the nightly sky I see,
 The worlds upheld and formed by Thee,
 How wondrous seems the love Divine,
 That condescends to me and mine.)

And hast Thou deigned from high to come,
 And make this fallen world Thy home ?
 Yea, bow Thee to the cross and grave,
 And die a sinful worm to save ?

Crown Him with praises, all that live,
 To Him your ceaseless homage give ;
 Praises and homage well are due,
 To Him who gave Himself for you.

Exalted Saviour, risen Lord,
 Jesus, by all in heaven adored,
 Set up with man Thy fallen throne,
 And make all hearts on earth Thy own.

PSALM VIII. (THIRD VERSION)

O THOU to whom all creatures bow,
 Whom all Thy works proclaim,
 Through heaven and earth how great art Thou,
 How glorious is Thy name !

In heaven Thy praise is ever sung,
 Nor fully uttered there :
 On earth Thou makst the infant tongue,
 Thy love and truth declare.

Lord, when Thy glorious works on high,
 Employ our wondering sight,
 The moon that nightly rules the sky,
 The stars of feebler light,—

Lord, what is man, that Thou shouldst love,
 And hold him in such worth,
 Next to Thy angel hosts above,
 And high o'er all on earth ?

O Thou to whom all creatures bow,
 Whom all Thy works proclaim,
 In heaven and earth how great art Thou,
 How glorious is Thy name !

PSALM IX. (FIRST VERSION)

OUR hearts shall bless Thee, O Most High,
 In Thee rejoice, on Thee rely.
 O, how unequal all our aims,
 To utter half our Saviour's claims !

High on Thy glorious throne above,
 Thou sitt'st, the God of might and love,
 The meet to raise, the proud to tame,
 And save the souls that know Thy name.

That name of love, how sweet it sounds !
 It drops like balm in sorrow's wounds ;
 It puts to shame each guilty fear ;
 And says, ' Be strong, thy God is near !'

O Refuge of the poor and weak,
 More prompt to hear than we to seek,
 Still be Thine arm our souls beneath,
 Still lift us from the gates of death !

(The wicked soon shall sink to hell,
 Thy servants rise with Thee to dwell ;
 Till then, O Lord, our succour be,
 And lead us safe to heaven and Thee.)

PSALM IX. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD, I will praise Thee ; all my heart,
 Thy wonders shall proclaim :
 My lips shall tell how good Thou art,
 While they can speak Thy name.

When countless foes against me rose,
 Thy word dispersed them all :
 My soul, upon thy God repose,
 He will not let thee fall !

O Refuge of the poor and weak,
 A Light of the distrest,
 Thou hearest still when sinners seek,
 And givest still the best.

Here on Thy grace my soul shall dwell,
 And trust for all to Thee.
 O when the wicked sink to hell,
 Arise and rescue me !

PSALM X.

O LORD, why hidest Thou Thy face,
 While dangers round me close ?
 Return in all Thy power and grace,
 And save me from my foes.

The haters of Thy Word and name,
My firmness fiercely prove ;
And through Thy servant's fall would aim,
A wound at Him I love.

Arise, O Lord, their rage control,
Awe down the swelling wave :
Arise to help the poor in soul,
And snatch him from the grave.

Thy grace prepares the heart to pray,
And hears its humble plea :
Arise to be the trembler's stay,
Arise to rescue me !

PSALM XI.

My trust is in the Lord ;
What foe can injure me ?
Why bid me like a bird,
Before the fowler flee ?
The Lord is on His heavenly throne,
Omnipotent to save His own.

The wicked may assail,
The tempter sorely try,
All earth's foundations fail,
All Nature's springs be dry ;
Yet God is in His holy shrine,
And I am strong while He is mine.

His flock to Him is dear,
He watches them from high ;
He sends them trials here,
To fit them for the sky :
But safely will He tend and keep,
The humblest, feeblest of His sheep.

His foes a season here,
May triumph and prevail ;
But, ah ! the hour is near,
When all their hopes must fail :
While like the sun His saints shall rise,
And shine with Him above the skies.

PSALM XII.

HELP, Lord, the godly fail !
 Help, Lord, the faithful flee !
 And double hearts and tongues prevail,
 That taunt Thy saints and Thee.

With sophistries and lies,
 They cheat the simple soul,
 Teach men Thy Gospel to despise,
 And spurn Thy mild control.

But ah ! there is a voice,
 In this dark growth of crimes,
 That bids prophetic hearts rejoice,
 In hope of brighter times.

The Word these fools oppose,
 Can well their scoffs endure,
 As silver from the furnace flows,
 More precious and more pure.

Their rage but sooner brings,
 The Lord to earth again ;
 And safe beneath almighty wings,
 His Church shall rest till then.

PSALM XIII. (FIRST VERSION)

How long, O God of grace,
 Wilt Thou refuse my prayer ?
 How long withdraw Thy glorious face,
 And leave me to despair ?

Without a smile, a word,
 Of Thy supporting breath,
 My soul must sink, must perish, Lord,
 And sleep the sleep of death.

Shall foes of Thine exclaim,
 We have at length prevailed ?
 And must Thy servants own with shame,
 That prayer with Thee has failed ?

No, I will trust Thy love,
 And hope for brighter days :—
 And lo ! e'en now the clouds remove,
 And prayer bursts into praise.

PSALM XIII. (SECOND VERSION).

How long, my God, the God of grace,
Wilt Thou withdraw Thy shining face ?
How long shall I Thy Word explore,
Nor gather thence one comfort more ?

O hear me, send me life and light,
Before I sink in endless night !
Nor let my foes my ruin see,
And triumph o'er my God in me.

Shall any such have room to say,
Thou dost not hear when sinners pray ?
Shall any penitent complain,
That he has sought Thy face in vain ?

No ! weak and prostrate in the dust,
Thy mercy still shall be my trust :
And lo ! I have not sued in vain,
Salvation's morning breaks again.

Light dawns upon my soul's despair,
I feel, I feel the power of prayer ;
My heart again its praise can pour ;
O shall I ever doubt Thee more ?

PSALM XIII. (THIRD VERSION)

How long wilt Thou forget me, Lord ?
Must I for ever mourn ?
For ever weep an absent God,
And sigh for His return ?

How long shall darkness cloud my soul,
And fears my heart oppress ?
How long shall enemies insult,
And I have no redress ?

O hear, and to my longing eyes,
Restore Thy wonted light ;
Nor let my sun of comfort set,
In everlasting night.

O come, and change my sighs to songs,
My grief to lasting joy ;
O save my life, and bid me still,
That life for Thee employ.

PSALM XIV. (FIRST VERSION)

'No God for me!' the fool exclaims,
 And half believes the wish he frames.
 'Twere well there was no God for them,
 Whom God exists but to condemn.

Plunged in the desperate depths of sin,
 Debased without, corrupt within,
 What wonder men should wish to fly,
 An awful omnipresent eye?

Yet Jesus from His throne above,
 Holds out the sceptre of His love,
 And offers peace to them, to all
 That contrite at His feet will fall.

Rise, Sun of Righteousness, and fling,
 A brighter morning from Thy wing;
 The mourner cheer, the captive free,
 And win Thy wanderers all to Thee.

PSALM XIV. (SECOND VERSION)

O THAT the Lord's salvation
 Were out of Zion come,
 To heal His ancient nation,
 To lead His outcasts home!

How long the holy city
 Shall heathen feet profane?
 Return, O Lord, in pity,
 Rebuild her walls again.

Let fall Thy rod of terror,
 Thy saving grace impart;
 Roll back the veil of error,
 Release the fettered heart.

Let Israel home returning,
 Her lost Messiah see;
 Give oil of joy for mourning,
 And bind Thy Church to Thee.

PSALM XV.

WITHIN Thy courts, before Thy face,
 Lord, who shall find a dwelling-place ?
 Thy choicest converse who shall prove,
 And feed most largely on Thy love ?

That man alone whose upright walk,
 Whose righteous aims and hallowed talk,
 Bespeak a soul by grace renewed,
 And quick to all of right and good.

That man alone whose hand nor tongue
 Will do a fellow-creature wrong ;
 Who by his Saviour's precept moves,
 And loved by Him, his brother loves.

That man who sinners hold abhorred,
 And honours those that feared the Lord ;
 Who bow not down to power or pelf,
 And lives for others more than self.

This man the power of grace displays ;
 The Christian shines in all his ways ;
 He walks with Christ on earth below,
 And on from light to light shall go.

PSALM XVI. (FIRST VERSION)

O LORD, I am but sinful dust,
 Yet humbly hope in Thee :
 Their idol gods let others trust ;
 The God of gods for me !

A thousand varied gifts of His,
 Around me daily shine ;
 Yet richer still my portion is,
 The Lord Himself is mine !

His counsel is my faithful guide,
 His arm my strong defence.
 Whom should I fear, when at my side
 I feel Omnipotence ?

Through Him my heart with joy o'erflows,
 In this dark vale of tears ;
 On Him my flesh shall calm repose,
 When death itself appears.

He, by a new and living way,
 Shall bear me safe above ;
 To share with Him eternal day,
 And sing eternal love.

PSALM XVI. (SECOND VERSION)

PILGRIMS here on earth and strangers,
 'Neath a weary load we bend :
 O how sweet, 'mid toils and dangers,
 Still to have a heavenly Friend !
 Christ has suffered,
 And to sufferers grace will send.

By as deadly foes assaulted,
 By as strong temptations tried,
 Still His footsteps never halted,
 On from strength to strength He hied.
 What could move Him,
 With Jehovah at His side ?

To the shameful cross they nailed Him,
 And that cross became His throne :
 In the tomb they laid and sealed Him ;
 Lo, the Godhead bursts the stone,
 And, ascending,
 Claims all empire as His own.

Saviour, from Thy heavenly glories,
 Here an eye of mercy cast ;
 Make our pathway plain before us,
 Smooth the wave, and still the blast.
 Thou hast helped us ;
 Bear us safely home at last.

PSALM XVII.

SUPPORT me, Lord ; my hope Thou art,
 Imperfect though my prayer :
 But Thou hast searched and tried my heart ;
 O read my wishes there !

Fain would I walk in paths of Thine,
 But Thou my Help must be.
 How soon would Nature's powers decline,
 If not sustained by Thee !

New dangers now upon me press,
 New tempters seek my fall ;
 Arise, Almighty God of grace,
 And bear me safe through all !

O give me to behold Thy face,
 Exempt from sin's control ;
 And, waking, all Thine image trace,
 Reflected in my soul !

PSALM XVIII. (FIRST VERSION)

WHOM should we love like Thee,
 Our God, our Guide, our King,
 The Tower to which we flee,
 The Rock to which we cling ?
 O for a thousand tongues to show,
 The debt that we to mercy owe !

The storm upon us fell,
 The floods around us rose,
 The depths of death and hell,
 Seemed on our souls to close :
 To God we cried in strong despair ;
 And God was nigh to help our prayer.

He came, the King of kings,
 He bowed the sable sky,
 And on the tempest's wings,
 Rode glorious down from high ;
 The earth before her Maker shook,
 The mountains quaked at His rebuke

Above the storm He stood,
 And awed it to repose ;
 He drew us from the flood,
 And scattered all our foes :
 He set us in a spacious place,
 And there upholds us by His grace.

Whom should we love like Thee,
 Our God, our Guide, our King,
 The Tower to which we flee,
 The Rock to which we cling ?
 O for a thousand tongues to show,
 The debt that we to mercy owe !

PSALM XVIII. (SECOND VERSION)

O God of truth and grace,
 My Saviour and my Guide,
 Be with me on my earthly race,
 And lead me to Thy side.

Strength to the weak Thou art ;
 O send me health Divine ;
 And arm my sinful, sinking heart,
 With righteousness of Thine.

Thy way is good and just ;
 Thy word is tried and true :
 Ye tremblers, in your Saviour trust ;
 His arm will bear you through.

He lives ; for ever blest,
 My Rock and Refuge be !
 He lives to give His people rest,
 He lives to rescue me.

PSALM XVIII. (THIRD VERSION)

No change of times shall ever shock,
 My firm dependence, Lord, on Thee ;
 In danger Thou hast been a Rock,
 A Fortress in distress to me.

And still the same Thou art, my God,
 Supreme in wisdom, love, and power ;
 My Refuge still from foes abroad,
 At home my Safeguard and my Tower.

Praise to the Lord ! He heareth prayer,
 I seek with joy His mercy-seat.
 Thou wilt not leave me to despair,
 Nor spurn Thy suppliant from Thy feet.

Through Thee my darkness shall be light,
 Through Thee my weakness shall be strong ;
 O guide my wandering steps aright,
 And be Thy grace my daily song.

PSALM XIX. (FIRST VERSION)

LORD, the heaven Thy glory speaks ;
From ten thousand orbs it breaks ;
Day to day Thy wonders tells,
Night to night the chorus swells.

Silent though they seem to be,
Yet they find a voice for Thee ;
And to all throughout the earth,
Talk of Him who gave them birth.

Monarch-like, the morning sun,
Joys his daily course to run,
Flinging from his mighty wings,
Glory to the King of kings.

Duly as his tributes fail,
Moon and stars take up the tale :
O how blind those hearts must be,
Who in all find nought of Thee !

PSALM XIX. (SECOND VERSION)

WELL Thy works proclaim Thee, Lord ;
Better still Thy living Word :
All of God that man can bear,
Shines in softened glory there.

There Thy holy will we read,
There upon Thy grace we feed,
There find guidance for our way,
And correction when we stray.

Full, and free, and deep, and wide,
Flows the glorious Gospel tide,
And appropriate balm bestows,
For all human wants and woes.

Let it flow, O Lord, for me ;
Let it fit my soul for Thee ;
Try me, prove me, and reveal,
Him who came to wound and heal.

Cleanse me, change me, Lord, within !
 Keep me from presumptuous sin !
 Till Thy spirit dwell and shine,
 In each thought and word of mine.

PSALM XIX. (THIRD VERSION)

HEAVEN speaks Thy glory, Lord ;
 Sun, moon, and stars display Thy skill :
 Yet in Thy pure and perfect Word,
 We read Thee clearer still.

O let that Word go forth,
 As freely as the circling sun,
 Till all that walk this fallen earth,
 Are to their Saviour won.

Sun of the soul, arise !
 Arise ! and bid our darkness flee ;
 Make everywhere the simple wise,
 And draw all hearts to Thee !

The shadows deeper fall,
 The night of error, sense, and sin :
 Rise, Sun of Glory, rise o'er all,
 And bid the day begin !

PSALM XIX. (FOURTH VERSION)

THE heavens declare Thy glories, Lord,
 From every star they blaze ;
 And day to day, and night to night,
 Roll on their Maker's praise.

Their sacred lesson to no realm
 Or people is confined ;
 'Tis Nature's language, and addressed
 Alike to all mankind.

But where Thy Gospel, Lord, is heard,
 It spreads a clearer light :
 It warms the heart, converts the soul,
 And brings the blind their sight.

Lord, let Thy guiding, cleansing grace,
 To us be freely given ;
 Till every thought and word of ours,
 Is tuned to Thee and heaven.

PSALM XX.

THE Lord in trouble hear thee,
 And help from Zion send ;
 The God of grace be near thee,
 To comfort and befriend !
 Thy human weakness strengthen,
 Thy earthly wants supply,
 Thy span of nature lengthen,
 To endless life on high !

Above His own anointed,
 His banner bright shall wave :
 Their times are all appointed ;
 The Lord His flock will save :
 Through life's deceitful mazes
 Their steps will safely bear ;
 Accept their feeble praises,
 And hear their every prayer.

Go on, thou heir of glory !
 No ill can thee betide ;
 The prize is full before thee,
 Thy Guardian at thy side.
 Who trust in mortal forces,
 Shall disappointed be ;
 But God a sure Resource is,
 And God shall succour thee.

PSALM XXI. (FIRST VERSION)

LORD, Thy best blessings shed,
 On our loved monarch's head ;
 Round her abide :
 Teach her Thy holy will,
 Shield her from every ill,
 Guard, guide, and speed her still,
 Safe to Thy side.

Grant her, O Lord, to be,
 Wise, just, and good, like Thee,
 Blessing and blest.
 With every virtue crowned,
 Honoured by nations round,
 Midst earthly monarchs found,
 Greatest and best.

Long let her people share,
 Here her maternal care,
 Long 'neath her smile.
 May every good increase,
 May every evil cease,
 And freedom, health, and peace,
 Dance round our isle.

Under Thy mighty wings,
 Keep her, O King of kings !
 Answer her prayer :
 Till she shall hence remove,
 Up to Thy courts above,
 To dwell in light and love,
 Evermore there.

PSALM XXI. (SECOND VERSION)

THE Lord who died on earth for men,
 Now fills His Father's throne ;
 He loves us as He loved us then,
 And watches o'er His own.

For them He offers daily prayer,
 And all His prayers are heard ;
 He tends them with unceasing care,
 And feeds them from His Word.

Their every wish, and want, and woe,
 To Him are fully known ;
 They share His trials here below,
 And soon shall share His throne.

He guards and blesses them from high,
 While they are toiling here.
 With such a Friend above the sky,
 What have His flock to fear ?

PSALM XXII. (FIRST VERSION)

MY Saviour, how Thy soul was awed,
 When, hanging on the tree,
 Thou criedst aloud, ' My God, my God,
 Hast Thou forsaken Me ?'

When angry foes around Thee strove,
 And faithless friends forsook ;
 And earth below, and heaven above,
 Wore one dark threatening look.

Beneath Thy cross, Lord, let me lie,
 Thy bleeding love to view ;
 And weep, and watch, and pray that I.
 May ne'er those wounds renew.

Beneath Thy cross O let me lie,
 And mark what Thou hast won,
 And hear Thy last triumphant cry,
 ' 'Tis done ! the work is done !'

Lord, let my soul that triumph share ;
 I look to Thee to save.
 Where is thy sting, O Death ? and where
 Thy victory, O Grave ?

PSALM XXII. (SECOND VERSION)

O WHAT a conquest Jesus won,
 When, on the fatal tree,
 His great atoning work was done,
 And earth from guilt set free !

' 'Tis finished !' He exulting cried,
 The mighty Slayer slain ;
 The wrath of God is pacified,
 And man may hope again !

O rich reward for every groan !
 O victory complete !
 To call a ransomed world His own.
 And hail it to His feet.

Yes, the great work shall onward go ;
 The sure decree is past ;
 The nations to their Lord shall flow,
 And all be Christ's at last.

O hasten, Lord, those blessed times !
 Lead all Thy wanderers home !
 Convert this world of woes and crimes,
 And bid Thy kingdom come !

PSALM XXII. (THIRD VERSION)

LORD, I am Thine ; brought into life,
 By Thy creative word :
 And when upon the breast I hung,
 I was Thy care, O Lord.

Thy guardian mercy watched and kept,
 My giddy youthful days ;
 And hither hast Thou led me on,
 Through life's bewildering ways.

Withdraw not, then, Thy grace from me,
 When foes and snares are nigh :
 O send me help, Thy help, on which
 My soul can best rely.

O Thou who hitherto hast kept,
 Still keep me to the end !
 With Thee my Guide, with Thee my Guard,
 I ask no other Friend.

PSALM XXIII. (FIRST VERSION)

THE living Lord my Shepherd is ;
 What can I want while I am His ?
 In greenest fields my soul He feeds,
 My steps by stillest waters leads.

He guides me in His holy way,
 He brings me back whene'er I stray ;
 The vale of death without a fear
 I walk, for He is kind and near.

Yes, Thou art with me night and day,
 Thy rod my guide, Thy staff my stay :
 By Thee my table still is spread,
 Thy oil of joy anoints my head.

Where'er I rest, where'er I go,
 I meet Thy mercies here below.
 When to Thy presence shall I soar,
 To see and praise Thee evermore ?

PSALM XXIII. (SECOND VERSION)

GLORIOUS Shepherd of the sheep,
 May I dare to call me Thine,
 One whom Thou wilt tend and keep,
 Safe beneath Thy wings Divine ?
 Ah ! with Thee so kind, and near,
 What have I to wish or fear ?

Where the heavenly pastures grow,
 Where the living waters glide,
 Led and fed by Thee below,
 I have nought to ask beside ;
 Nought but thankfulness of heart,
 To proclaim how good Thou art.

Keep me in Thy righteous ways,
 Guide me with Thy holy wand,
 Through this life's perplexing maze,
 Through the vale of death beyond ;
 Gracious Thou, and happy I,
 With so great a Friend so nigh.

In the desert then I'm fed,
 Manna round me rains from high ;
 Holy oil anoints my head,
 And my cruse is never dry ;
 Then from grace I pass to grace,
 Soon to meet Thee face to face.

PSALM XXIII. (THIRD VERSION)

THE Lord Himself, the mighty Lord,
 Vouchsafes to be my Guide ;
 The great Good Shepherd tends my soul ;
 My wants are all supplied.

In pastures green He makes me feed,
 Recalls me when I stray,
 Refreshes me with streams of grace,
 And leads me in His way.

I pass with Him the vale of death,
 From fear and danger free ;
 His friendly rod and staff are there,
 To guide and succour me.

My cup is full, my table spread,
 His mercy crowns my days :
 His house shall ever be my home,
 And all my life be praise.

PSALM XXIV. (FIRST VERSION)

THE earth is all Thy own, O Lord ;
 Called into being at Thy word,
 At Thy command the waters fled,
 And the young world rose fair instead.

Who in Thy courts shall find a place ?
 Who but the subjects of Thy grace ?
 The humble faithful souls, that flee,
 For all their righteousness to Thee.

Lift up your heads, ye heavenly gates :
 Behold the King of Glory waits !
 Rich with the spoils of earth He comes,
 And leads His people to their homes.

Lift up your heads, yea, lift them high !
 The King of Glory mounts the sky.
 What King of Glory ? Christ the Lord !
 He comes to triumph, and reward !

PSALM XXIV. (SECOND VERSION)

JUDGMENT'S awful hour is past,
 Sinners have received their doom,
 And the sons of God at last,
 Rise to their eternal home.
 Lift your heads, ye heavenly gates !
 He that conquered death and sin,
 With His ransomed thousands waits ;
 Open and receive Him in !

Long for Him they bore below
 Grief, temptation, toil, and pain ;
 Now they rise from scorn and woe,
 With their risen Lord to reign.
 Endless joys await them now,
 Angels on their steps attend,
 Crowns of glory on their brow,
 God their Omnipresent Friend.

Lift, ye heavenly gates, your heads,
 Let the heirs of glory in !
 Christ on high His people leads ;
 Let their welcome song begin !
 Lord, we walk the desert here ;
 Nought but gloom around we see ;
 O vouchsafe our course to cheer,
 With a glimpse of heaven and Thee !

PSALM XXIV. (THIRD VERSION)

THIS spacious earth is all the Lord's,
 The Lord its maker is ;
 And every heart and hand therein,
 By sovereign right are His.
 But who shall take their station, who,
 The nearest to His throne ?
 They, they whose nature grace has changed,
 Whom Christ has made His own.

Lift up your heads, eternal gates !
 Unfold to entertain
 The King of Glory ; lo, He comes,
 With all His ransomed train !
 Who is the King of Glory, who ?
 The Lord for strength renowned ;
 In battle mighty o'er His foes,
 Eternal Victor crowned !

Lift up your heads, ye heavenly gates ;
 Unfold to entertain
 The King of Glory ; lo, He comes,
 O'er heaven and earth to reign !
 Who is the King of Glory, who ?
 The Lord who died for men,
 And from His conquests now returns,
 To claim His throne again.

PSALM XXV. (FIRST VERSION)

O GOD, we lift our souls to Thee ;
 From all our foes a Refuge be.
 O leave not us, leave none to shame,
 Whose trust is in Thy saving name.

Direct our blindness in Thy way,
 Our weakness let Thine arm upstay :
 Thy grace in Christ can never fail ;
 Let that, and not our sins, prevail.

The Lord is good ; the Lord is strong ;
 He leads the humble safe along ;
 To them His secret love reveals,
 And on their hearts His covenant seals.

Our eyes are ever, Lord, to Thee ;
 Our Saviour and Supporter be !
 O, heal our wounds, our sins forgive,
 And bid us now arise and live.

PSALM XXV. (SECOND VERSION)

THY goodness and Thy truth,
 O Lord, recall to mind ;
 And graciously continue still,
 As Thou wert ever, kind.

Let all my former sins,
 Be blotted out by Thee,
 And for a dying Saviour's sake,
 In mercy think of me.

The riches of His grace,
 The righteous Lord displays,
 In bringing wandering sinners home,
 And teaching them His ways.

He never those deserts,
 Who His direction seek,
 But in His paths securely leads,
 The humble and the meek.

PSALM XXVI.

JUDGE me, O Lord, and try my heart,
 For Thou that heart canst see ;
 And bid each idol thence depart,
 That dares compete with Thee.

Though weak and cleaving to the dust,
 My soul adores Thee still ;
 Thy grace and truth are all my trust ;
 O mould me to Thy will !

Thy altar, Lord, I would embrace,
 With hands by Christ made clean.
 I love Thy house, I love the place,
 Where Thy bright face is seen.

O guide me in Thy love and fear ;
 My soul on Thee I cast :
 I would not walk with sinners here,
 To share their doom at last.

PSALM XXVII. (FIRST VERSION)

THE Lord my strong Salvation is,
 My Helper ever near ;
 While He is mine and I am His,
 What has my soul to fear ?

One wish, one ardent wish, is mine ;
 Lord, grant my humble plea !
 To dwell for ever near Thy shrine,
 And find my all in Thee.

O give me at Thy side a place,
 Secure from every harm ;
 Where I may daily view Thy face,
 And feel Thy helping arm.

From light to light, from strength to strength,
 My soul enlarge and raise ;
 Till from all bonds I burst at length,
 To endless joy and praise.

PSALM XXVII. (SECOND VERSION)

FATHER, we hail the word of grace,
 That issues from Thy throne on high.
 ' Seek ye,' it cries, ' your Saviour's face ' ;
 ' We seek it, Lord,' our hearts reply.

Our Help through trials past Thou wert,
 Our Hope through dangers yet unknown ;
 Though father, mother, all desert,
 They still are ours in Thee alone.

Shine on our path and make it plain ;
 Conduct us safe through all our foes ;
 Their wiles defeat, their rage restrain,
 And lead us, feed us, to the close.

Our burthened souls would often faint,
 Without a glimpse of Thee and home ;
 But Christ supports His trembling saint :
 O wait on Him, and joy will come !

PSALM XXVII. (THIRD VERSION)

WHOM shall I fear ? The living God,
 My strong Salvation is !
 I smile on all my foes around,
 And tell them I am His.

My face in need, ye tremblers, seek,
 The Lord in mercy cries.
 Thy glorious face I'll always seek,
 My willing heart replies.

That face from me, O, hide not now,
 Nor forth Thy suppliant cast ;
 Thou hast been all my Help before,
 O leave me not at last !

Thou wilt not, Lord, Thou never wilt ;
 Thy love is all-divine.
 Father and mother may forsake,
 The Lord is ever mine.

O wait on God, in patience wait,
 And He will make Thee strong :
 The heart that humbly waits on Him,
 Shall never want Him long.

PSALM XXVII. (FOURTH VERSION)

WHOM should I fear, since God to me,
 Is saving health and light ?
 Since strongly He my life supports,
 What can my soul affright ?

Continue, Lord, to hear my voice,
 Whene'er to Thee I cry :
 In mercy all my prayer receive,
 Nor my requests deny.

When us to seek Thy glorious face,
 Thou kindly dost advise,
 Thy glorious face I'll always seek,
 My grateful heart replies.

Then, hide not Thou Thy face, O Lord,
 Nor me in wrath reject.
 My God and Saviour, leave not him,
 Thou didst so oft protect !

PSALM XXVIII.

LORD, I pray with confidence,
 Since I pray to Thee ;
 Thou, the sufferer's sure Defence,
 Thou wilt succour me.
 See me trembling o'er the grave ;
 Come to comfort, come to save !

To Thy throne I lift mine eyes,
 Lift my hands and heart.
 Hear, O hear, my feeble cries ;
 Health and hope impart :
 Leave me not to sink with those,
 Who my God and me oppose.

Ah, He hears, my Saviour hears,
 Blessed be His name !
 In His love I dry my tears,
 And His grace proclaim.
 Saints, with mine your thanks record ;
 Look at me, and praise the Lord.

O what blessedness is theirs,
 Who on Him rely !
 Who like Him can answer prayers,
 And all wants supply ?
 Lord, Thy people tend and feed,
 And at last to glory lead.

PSALM XXIX. (FIRST VERSION)

GLORY and praise to Jehovah on high :
 Glory from all thro' the earth and the sky !
 Angels, approach Him in homage and duty,
 Fall at the feet of your heavenly King ;
 Saints, to His presence O throng in the beauty,
 Of holy devotion, His mercies to sing !
 Glory and praise to Jehovah on high !
 Glory from all through the earth and the sky !

The voice of Jehovah, majestic and loud,
 In thunder comes forth from His palace of cloud.
 That voice o'er the silence of ocean is breaking ;
 It rolls o'er the waters, it bursts on the shore ;
 The forests are bending, the mountains are quaking,
 And earth and her creatures stand still and adore.
 Glory and praise to Jehovah on high !
 Glory from all through the earth and the sky !

The voice of Jehovah more sweetly is heard,
 By saints in His temple attending His word.
 He speaks not to them in the whirlwind or thunder ;
 He comes not to threaten, denounce, or reprove ;
 He comes with glad tidings of joy and of wonder,
 He bids them be blest in Immanuel's love.
 Glory and praise to Jehovah on high !
 Glory from all through the earth and the sky !

PSALM XXIX. (SECOND VERSION)

GIVE glory to the Lord,
 His holy name revere ;
 The wonders of His voice record,
 That all who live may hear.

The voice of God is strong,
 The voice of God is grand ;
 It rolls the sounding deep along,
 It breaks upon the land.

The voice of God can shake,
 This solid earth around :
 The voice of God the rock can break,
 That in the heart is found.

Around His heavenly throne,
 Ten thousand thousand sing ;
 O'er the vast flood He sits alone,
 The world's Eternal King.

Omnipotent His arm,
 Unchangeable His love,
 He keeps His people here from harm,
 And bears them safe above.

PSALM XXIX. (THIRD VERSION)

AWFUL is Thy voice, O God,
 Terrible Thy lifted rod.
 Trembling Nature sinks before Thee,
 Souls are humbled and adore Thee.

At a word of Thine this earth,
 Started beauteous into birth,
 Seas have opened, rocks have shaken,
 And the dead shall hear and waken.

Let that quick and powerful word,
That dread voice, to-day be heard,
Rocks within our bosom breaking,
Souls from death to life awaking.

Yet before the sound shall cease,
Let it melt to love and peace ;
Sweetly soothing every terror,
Gently winning back from error.

Saviour, make us, keep us Thine,
Crown us with Thy grace Divine ;
From Thy fullness here provide us,
And at last to glory guide us.

PSALM XXX.

LORD, Thou hast heard my prayer, and Thou
Shalt hear in turn my praises now ;
Thy grace hath healed and set me free :
Whom should I now adore but Thee ?

Thine anger for a moment burns,
Then wrath relents, and life returns ;
Distress may through the night endure,
But joy at morn comes bright and sure.

Thy smile is life ; Thy frown is death ;
Eternity hangs on Thy breath ;
I stand or fall by Thy decree,
And am just what Thou makest me.

' My rock stands strong,' I proudly cried ;
Thou hiddest Thy face, my comforts died :
Again I sought Thee from the grave,
And Thou wert prompt to help and save.

Thou spak'st ; my terrors passed away ;
My night became a glorious day ;
My heart was full, my tongue was free :
Whom should they now adore but Thee ?

PSALM XXXI. (FIRST VERSION)

LORD, I look for all to Thee,
Thou hast been a Rock to me :
Still Thy wonted aid afford,
Still be near, my Shield and Sword ;
I to Thee my soul commit,
Ah ! Thy blood has ransomed it.

Faint and sinking on my road,
 Still I cling to Thee, my God ;
 Bending 'neath a weight of woes,
 Harassed by a thousand foes,
 Hope still chides my rising fears,
 Joy still mingles with my tears.

On Thy word I take my stand,
 All my times are in Thy hand ;
 Make Thy face upon me shine,
 Take me 'neath Thy wings Divine :
 Lord, Thy grace is all my trust,
 Save, O save, Thy trembling dust.

O what mercies still attend,
 Those who make the Lord their Friend ;
 Sweetly, safely, shall they bide,
 'Neath His eye, and at His side.
 Lord, may this my station be !
 Seek it, all ye saints, with me.

PSALM XXXI. (SECOND VERSION)

My spirit on Thy care,
 Blest Spirit, I recline ;
 Thou wilt not leave me to despair,
 For Thou art love Divine.

In Thee I place my trust,
 On Thee I calmly rest ;
 I know Thee good, I know Thee just,
 And count Thy choice the best.

Whate'er events betide,
 Thy will they all perform ;
 Safe in Thy breast my head I hide,
 Nor fear the coming storm.

Let good or ill befall,
 It must be good for me,
 Secure of having Thee in all,
 Of having all in Thee.

PSALM XXXII. (FIRST VERSION)

BLEST is the penitent who feels,
 His sins are all forgiven ;
 Thrice blest the soul whom Jesus heals,
 And fills with hopes of heaven.

Before His feet in dumb despair,
 A culprit long I lay ;
 But when I prayed He heard my prayer,
 And turned my night to day.

O seek Him, all ye sinners round,
 Fall low before His face !
 O seek Him while He may be found,
 And share like me His grace !

'Tis ours to pray, 'tis His to bless ;
 The Lord is ever nigh,
 To guide us through the wilderness,
 And land us safe on high.

PSALM XXXII. (SECOND VERSION)

BLEST is the man, how blest,
 Ye ransomed sinners say,
 Whose guilt to Christ is all confessed,
 And washed by Him away.

Faith in a risen Lord,
 Has conquered death and sin ;
 The spirit on his heart is poured,
 And hallows all within.

O happy hour when I
 Was thus to Jesus brought,
 Confessed my guilt, and found Him nigh,
 To grant the peace I sought.

Thy work, O Lord, complete ;
 O set me fully free ;
 And lead up many to Thy feet,
 To sing Thy grace with me.

PSALM XXXIII. (FIRST VERSION)

YE righteous, in the Lord rejoice ;
 To Him your songs are due.
 Well may you give Him heart and voice,
 Who gave Himself for you.

His word how faithful, how profound !
 His works how good and right !
 O praise the Lord, till all around,
 Shall in His praise unite.

He spread the starry sky abroad,
 He forth the ocean poured ;
 Tremble, thou earth, before thy God,
 Who made thee with a word.

His counsels ever constant stand ;
 On Him, my soul, depend.
 How blest the people of His hand,
 How blest in such a Friend !

PSALM XXXIII. (SECOND VERSION)

YE righteous, in the Lord rejoice,
 To Him your best returns are due ;
 Well may you give Him heart and voice,
 While He vouchsafes His grace to you.
 O sing His wondrous works and ways,
 And emulate His gifts with praise !

His acts are mighty, true His word ;
 Creation with His love o'erflows ;
 He spake, and heaven her Maker heard,
 He called, and lo, the earth arose.
 Let them, let all that live, be awed,
 Be still, before one look from God.

But ye, blest souls, rejoice, rejoice,
 Whom God vouchsafes to make His own,
 O happy in His love and choice,
 Who sees and tends you from His throne.
 Who can support and rescue, who,
 Like Him whose eye is over you ?

When mortal powers grow vain and weak,
 When earthly hopes are low and dim ;
 There still is one who heeds the meek,
 And bids them rest for all on Him.
 O Lord, our Lord for ever be ;
 O bless the souls that trust in Thee.

PSALM XXXIV. (FIRST VERSION)

At every time, in every place,
 The Lord my song shall be ;
 Ye mourners, mark my altered case,
 And sing His praise with me.

I sought Him in my hour of grief,
 And found Him good and true.
 He gave my troubled soul relief ;
 He holds the same for you.

Angelic guards His saints embrace ;
 O taste, and sweetly prove,
 The riches of redeeming grace,
 The depths of heavenly love.

O fear the Lord, all other fears,
 Will quickly then subside.
 He who the hungry lion hears,
 Will for His flock provide.

PSALM XXXIV. (SECOND VERSION)

THE praises of the Lord,
 My tongue shall ever pour ;
 My soul His mercies shall record,
 Till all that hear adore :
 Till every sinking heart around,
 Shall wake and gladden at the sound.

O praise the Lord with me,
 With me His grace proclaim ;
 He heard my fainting, trembling plea,
 And to my rescue came :
 He snatched me from the jaws of hell,
 And bade His angels round me dwell.

Ye sinners, taste and see,
 What grace the Lord can send ;
 O come and learn how blest is he,
 Who calls Jehovah Friend !
 O fear the Lord, ye saints, and ne'er
 Have aught on earth beside to fear.

Who walk with Him shall find,
 Of good a rich supply ;
 He lives the broken heart to bind,
 He hears His people's cry ;
 Though trials may their course attend,
 The Lord will save them in the end.

PSALM XXXIV. (THIRD VERSION)

THROUGH all the changing scenes of life,
 In trouble and in joy,
 The praises of my God shall still,
 My heart and tongue employ.

Of His deliverance I will boast,
 Till all that are distressed,
 From my example comfort take,
 And charm their griefs to rest.

O magnify the Lord with me,
 With me exalt His name ;
 When in distress on Him I called,
 He to my rescue came.

O make but trial of His love,
 Experience will decide,
 How blest are they, and only they,
 Who in His truth confide.

Fear Him, ye saints, and you will then,
 Have nothing else to fear :
 Make you His service your delight,
 He'll make your wants His care.

PSALM XXXV.

O PLEAD my cause, blest Saviour, plead,
 I trust it all to Thee.
 Thou who didst once for sinners bleed,
 A sinner save in me.

Assure my weak desponding heart,
 My threatening foes restrain ;
 O tell me Thou my helper art,
 And all their rage is vain.

When round Thy cross they rushed to kill,
 How was their fury foiled :
 Their madness only wrought Thy will,
 And on themselves recoiled.

The great salvation there achieved,
 My hope shall ever be ;
 My soul has in her Lord believed,
 And He will rescue me.

PSALM XXXVI. (FIRST VERSION)

O THOU whom thoughtless men contemn,
 And yet who ne'er neglectest them,
 My soul would Thee adore.
 Thy love the heaven of heaven transcends,
 Thy faithfulness, Thy truth extends,
 Beyond where thought can soar.

Thy justice like the mountains stands,
 Vast are the wonders of Thy hands,
 Thy judgments deep and broad ;
 And all Thy creatures, man and beast,
 Down from the loftiest to the least,
 Thy bounty share, O God.

But blest o'er all the heirs of grace,
 The favoured souls that find a place,
 Beneath a Saviour's wing.
 How from Thy table are they fed,
 How drink they from the fountain head,
 The mercies of their King !

The springs of life are all with Thee ;
 Light in Thy light alone we see,
 Creator, Father, Friend.
 Still on our souls Thy graces shed,
 Still feed us with Thy living bread,
 And keep us to the end.

PSALM XXXVI. (SECOND VERSION)

MY God, what monuments I see,
 In all around of Thine and Thee !
 I view Thee in the heavens above ;
 More high than these is heavenly love.

I mark the strong eternal hill,
 Thy faithfulness is stronger still.
 I gaze on ocean deep and broad,
 More deep Thy counsels are, O God.

O give me 'neath Thy wings to rest,
 To lean on Thy parental breast,
 To feed on Thee, the living Bread,
 And drink at mercy's fountain-head.

The springs of life are all Thine own,
 They flow from Thine eternal throne :
 Light in Thy light alone we see.
 O save us, for we rest on Thee !

PSALM XXXVI. (THIRD VERSION)

THY mercy, Lord, the sinner's hope,
 The highest orb of heaven transcends :
 The sacred truth's unmeasured scope,
 Through all eternity extends.

Thy justice like the hills remains,
 Unfathomed depths Thy judgments are,
 Thy providence the world sustains,
 The whole creation is Thy care.

Thy saints shall to Thy courts be led.
 To banquet on Thy love's repast,
 And drink as from a fountain-head,
 Of joys that shall for ever last.

The streams of life with Thee abound ;
 Thy presence is eternal day.
 O shower Thy gifts the world around,
 Thy glorious face to all display !

PSALM XXXVII. (FIRST VERSION)

WHY should I fret though sinners thrive ?
 Their doom will, ah, too soon arrive ;
 And one bright glimpse of heavenly day,
 Thy servants' sufferings well repay.

O trust the Lord, my soul, and He,
 In darkest hours will comfort thee.
 Thy way to Him in faith commit,
 His grace will shape and prosper it.

Clad in His righteousness Divine,
 Thou soon shalt as the noonday shine ;
 Shalt in His favour bask below,
 And on from grace to glory go.

The meek, O Lord, the meek shall prove,
 The sweetness of Thy saving love :—
 With them to me a place be given,
 Near Thee on earth, near Thee in heaven.

PSALM XXXVII. (SECOND VERSION)

O God of love, how blest are they,
Who in Thy ways delight !
Thy presence guides them all the day,
And cheers them all the night.

Whene'er they faint, a mighty arm,
Is nigh them to uphold ;
And sin or Satan cannot harm,
The feeblest of Thy fold.

The Lord is wise, the Lord is just,
The Lord is good and true ;
And they who on His promise trust,
Will find it bear them through.

His word will stay their sinking hearts ;
Their feet shall never slide :
The heavens dissolve, the earth departs ;
They safe in God abide.

PSALM XXXVIII.

REBUKE us, Father, but in love :
Let all Thy chastenings mercies prove ;
With every stroke Thy grace impart,
And let them move, not break, the heart.

Thy hand is heavy, but our sin,
Is heavier still our souls within :
It whelms, it sinks us to the grave ;
Arise, Redeemer, help and save !

Our hearts are open, Lord, to Thee ;
Our inmost wish Thine eye can see :
Thou know'st our dangers, foes, and snares,
And will not scorn our humble prayers.

In Thee we hope, on Thee we rest ;
O give us what Thou seest the best !
Our guide through every trial past,
O lead us safely home at last !

PSALM XXXIX. (FIRST VERSION).

TEACH us, O Lord, how brief our date,
 How few our fleeting years ;
 How worthless is our best estate,
 In this poor vale of tears.

Our life indeed is but a span,
 Dependent on Thy breath :
 And all the pomps and gains of man,
 But gild the road to death.

We turn from these, we turn from all,
 That binds our hearts to dust :
 Down at Thy footstool, Lord, we fall ;
 Thy grace is all our trust.

O free our souls from guilt and fear,
 Let fall Thy angry rod.
 We are, Thou know'st, but strangers here ;
 Be Thou our home, O God.

PSALM XXXIX. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD, at Thy feet I bow ;
 In Thee I live, to Thee I die.
 How great, how changeless, Lord, art Thou !
 How weak and sinful I !

This life, this eager life,
 What is it, but a fleeting breath ?
 A little hour of toil and strife,
 That hurries on to death.

Remove the veil, O God ;
 My true condition make me see ;
 That I may spurn this earthly clod,
 And soar to heaven and Thee.

Shall this poor passing show,
 These shadowy joys, detain my soul ?
 Shall these be all my portion ? No !
 I quit for Thee the whole.

With Thee to bless and cheer,
 The wilderness I safely roam,
 A pilgrim and a stranger here,
 But hastening on to home.

PSALM XXXIX. (THIRD VERSION)

LORD, let me know my term of days,
 How soon my life must end ;
 And all the train of ills disclose,
 Which this frail state attend.

My life, Thou know'st, is but a span.
 A cipher sums my years ;
 And every man in best estate,
 But vanity appears.

Then why should I on worthless toys,
 With anxious care attend ?
 On Thee alone my steadfast trust,
 Shall ever, Lord, depend.

Lord, hear my cry, accept my tears,
 Regard my humble prayer,
 Who sojourn like a stranger here,
 As all my fathers were.

PSALM XL. (FIRST VERSION)

IN deep distress to God I prayed,
 My soul upon His promise stayed.
 And, O His grace ! He heard my prayer,
 And came and snatched me from despair.

He drew me from the fearful pit,
 Upon a rock He set my feet,
 Upholds my goings in His ways,
 And fills my mouth with thankful praise.

Ye sinners round, my rescue see,
 And to His footstool throng like me,
 And prove, by sweet experience prove,
 The freeness, fulness of His love.

O God of grace, to all below,
 How large, how rich, Thy mercies flow !
 And this the crown of all beside,
 That Thy dear Son for sinners died.

He came Thy counsels to fulfil,
 He came to do and teach Thy will :
 On Him I rest my hope and plea ;
 Lord, for His sake deliver me !

PSALM XL. (SECOND VERSION)

I WAITED suppliant on the Lord,
 He heard at last my soul's desire,
 He raised me from the pit abhorred,
 He freed me from the clogging mire.

Upon a rock He set my feet,
 He taught me in His ways to go,
 He filled my mouth with praises meet,
 And bade my heart with love o'erflow.

My happy change, ye wanderers, see,
 And quit the paths you long have trod ;
 And turn to Him, and find with me,
 How sweet it is to hope in God.

Ill can my grovelling powers sustain,
 The tribute that to Thee belongs ;
 But when Thy holy face I gain,
 I hope to give Thee worthier songs.

PSALM XL. (THIRD VERSION)

' I COME, I come,' the Saviour cries,
 ' The wrath of God to brave.'
 My sinful soul, awake, arise,
 And fly to Christ to save.

' I come,' he cries, ' to you, to all,
 New righteousness to give.'
 My soul, before Him contrite fall ;
 Believe, adore, and live.

'Tis Thine, O Lamb of God, 'tis Thine,
 For sinners to atone ;
 O touch with grace this soul of mine,
 O break this heart of stone !

Beneath Thy cross O let me sit,
 Thy dying love to see !
 And make me feel, while sharing it,
 The same strong love to Thee.

PSALM XLI. (FIRST VERSION)

BLEST is the man whose spirit shares,
A suffering brother's wants and cares :
The Lord will visit him in grief,
And bring his trials sweet relief.

The sinners' Friend delights to see,
His people kind and good as He ;
And bids them each with each unite,
To make their common burthen light.

That burden well the Saviour knows ;
He bore on earth our sins and woes ;
By friends betrayed, by foes assailed,
Yet love Divine o'er all prevailed.

That love, O Lord, still let us share,
Still lead us on through foe and snare,
Till we Thy face unclouded see,
And lose ourselves and earth in Thee.

PSALM XLI. (SECOND VERSION)

HAPPY the man whose tender care,
Relieves the poor distressed ;
When troubles compass him around,
The Lord will give him rest.

His heart with blessings God will crown,
His life in peace prolong,
And disappoint the will of those,
Who seek to do him wrong.

If he in languishing estate,
Through pain and sickness lie,
The Lord will easy make his bed,
And inward health supply.

The Lord will give him grace to pray,
And answer his request ;
And through a Saviour's merits bless,
The man who others blest.

PSALM XLII. (FIRST VERSION)

As thirsts the wild deer in the chase,
 So thirst I, Lord, to see Thy face.
 For God, the living God, I pine ;
 When shall His smile again be mine ?

Tears are my portion night and day ;
 ' Where is thy God ? ' my tempters say.
 The taunt would drive me to despair,
 Could I not ease my soul in prayer.

I turn to brighter days gone by,
 When I was blest, and God was nigh,
 When 'mid His servants I could raise,
 The loudest, gladdest song of praise.

Then why, my soul, mistrust Him now ?
 The Lord is good, be faithful thou :
 His nature changes not like thine ;
 Believe, and soon His face will shine.

PSALM XLII. (SECOND VERSION)

O God, my spirit sinks again,
 I founder 'midst a stormy main ;
 Deep calls to deep, and wave to wave,
 And none at hand to help and save.

To Thee, O Lord of life, to Thee,
 Through waves and storms I trembling flee.
 Without Thee morning brings no day,
 And night no rest with Thee away.

Why do I seek Thee, Lord, in vain ?
 Thy saving grace O why restrain ?
 Why still that question of despair,
 ' Where is thy God, vain boaster, where ?'

Be calm, my soul, and meekly bow :
 The Lord is good, be faithful thou.
 He shifts and changes not like thee ;
 Believe, and thou His face shalt see.

PSALM XLII. (THIRD VERSION)

LONE amidst the dead and dying,
 Lord, my spirit faints for Thee ;
 Longing, thirsting, drooping, sighing,
 When shall I Thy presence see ?

O how altered my condition !
 Late I led the joyous throng ;
 Beat my heart with full fruition,
 Flowed my lips with grateful song.

Now the storm goes wildly o'er me,
 Waves on waves my soul confound :
 Nought but boding fears before me,
 Nought but threatening foes around.

Save me, save me, O my Father !
 To Thy faithful word I cling.
 Thence, my soul, thy comfort gather,
 Hope, and thou again shalt sing.

PSALM XLII. (FOURTH VERSION)

As pants the hart for cooling streams,
 When heated in the chase,
 So pants my soul, O Lord, for Thee,
 And Thy refreshing grace.

For Thee, the Lord, the living Lord,
 My thirsty soul doth pine.
 O when shall I behold Thy face,
 Thou Majesty Divine ?

I sigh to think of happier days,
 When Thou, O Lord, wert nigh ;
 When every heart was tuned to praise,
 And none so blest as I.

Why restless, why cast down, my soul ?
 Trust God, and thou shalt sing
 His praise again, and find Him still
 Thy health's eternal spring !

PSALM XLIII.

JUDGE me, O Lord ; to Thee I fly ;
 New foes and fears my spirit try ;
 Plead Thou my cause, my soul sustain,
 And let the wicked rage in vain.

The mourner's refuge, Lord, Thou art ;
 Wilt Thou not take Thy suppliant's part ?
 Wilt Thou desert, and lay me low,
 The scorn of each insulting foe ?

Send forth Thy light and truth once more ;
 To Thy blest house my steps restore :
 Again Thy presence let me see,
 And find my joy in praising Thee.

Arise, my soul, and praise Him now :
 The Lord is good, be faithful thou.
 His nature changes not like thine ;
 Believe, and soon His face will shine.

PSALM XLIV.

LORD, we have heard our fathers tell,
 The wonders of Thy hand ;
 How all their foes before Thee fell,
 And they possessed the land.

They conquered not by spear or sword,
 Or aught that was their own ;
 And we, like them, Almighty Lord,
 Would rest on Thee alone.

But ah, Thou seem'st to cast us off,
 And put our hopes to shame :
 And yet amidst defeat and scoff,
 We trust Thee still the same.

Arise, great God, no longer sleep ;
 Thy grace no more withhold.
 Redeem, restore Thy scattered sheep,
 And save us as of old.

PSALM XLV. (FIRST VERSION)

IN loftier mood of loftier things
 I speak : anointed King of kings,
 Thy glories shall the theme supply ;
 Fairer than all of mortal race,
 Rich in the plentitude of grace,
 And crowned with honours from on high ;
 Gird on, great Prince, Thy conquering sword ;
 Send forth Thy soul-subduing word.

Ride on ; in truth and meekness ride !
 What foe Thy terrors may abide,
 What friend Thy love and power mistrust ?
 Thy throne, O God, for ever stands ;
 A righteous sceptre fills Thy hands ;
 O'er all Thou reignest good and just,
 How fair art Thou, how fair Thy bride,
 In golden vesture at Thy side !

Thy queen, the Church, O still may she,
 Forsake all else and follow Thee,
 Trampling o'er earth, and self, and sin ;
 Holy, and great, and good, and wise,
 Like morning let her spread and rise,
 Glorious alike without, within.
 Let her fill earth with praise and love,
 To praise Thee better soon above !

PSALM XLV. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD of the realms above,
 Our Saviour and our King,
 How shall our souls return Thy love,
 And all Thy glories sing ?

O love Divine indeed,
 O rich surpassing grace,
 Which brought the Godhead down to bleed,
 For man's apostate race !

Great King of Glory, gird
 Thy sword upon Thy thigh !
 Speed on, speed on Thy conquering word,
 Till all that live comply !

The world is all Thine own ;
 O spread Thy sway abroad,
 Till every heart becomes Thy throne,
 And owns a present God !

PSALM XLVI. (FIRST VERSION)

GOD is our Refuge, tried and proved,
 Amid a stormy world ;
 We will not fear though earth be moved,
 And hills in ocean hurled.

The waves may roar, the mountains shake,
 Our comforts shall not cease :
 The Lord His saints will not forsake ;
 The Lord will give us peace.

A gentle stream of hope and love,
 To us shall ever flow ;
 It issues from His throne above,
 It cheers His Church below.

When earth and hell against us came,
 He spake, and quelled their powers ;
 The Lord of Hosts is still the same,
 The God of grace is ours.

PSALM XLVI. (SECOND VERSION)

THE Lord is our Refuge, the Lord is our Guide ;
 We smile upon danger with Him at our side :
 The billows may blacken, the tempest increase,
 Though earth may be shaken, His saints shall have peace.

A voice still and small by His people is heard,
 A whisper of peace from His life-giving word.
 A stream in the desert, a river of love,
 Flows down to their hearts from the fountain above.

Be near us, Redeemer, to shield us from ill ;
 Speak Thou but the word, and the tempest is still.
 Thy presence to cheer us, Thine arm to defend,
 A worm grows almighty with Thee for a Friend !

The Lord is our Helper ; ye scorners, be awed !
 Ye earthlings, be still, and acknowledge your God.
 The proud He will humble, the lowly defend ;
 O happy the people with God for a Friend !

PSALM XLVII. (FIRST VERSION)

SHOUT, ye people, clap your hands,
 To the Saviour's glory sing ;
 Wake, ye dark and distant lands,
 Wake to hail your God and King.

Lo, His Church shall flourish on,
 Till the world shall own His sway.
 Forth to conquest Christ is gone ;
 Who His glorious course shall stay ?

Praise, then, to the mighty Lord,
 Praise to our triumphant King !
 All that live, with glad accord
 To His feet your honours bring.

Princes, humbly bow the knee ;
 Nations, to His footstool flow.
 Lord He is in heaven, and He
 Shall be Lord of all below !

PSALM XLVII. (SECOND VERSION)

YE that love the Saviour's name,
 Shout, your King is on His throne,
 Terrible His foes to tame,
 Mighty to protect His own.
 He hath triumphed o'er the grave,
 He is risen strong to save.

Onward shall His empire flow,
 Over all that live and move,
 Till His will is done below,
 As within His courts above,
 Satan, sense, and sin subdued,
 Evil all reduced to good.

Shout, ye people of the Lord,
 Ye shall rise with Him to reign ;
 Christ His servants shall reward,
 Dry their tears, and burst their chain.
 All that live, your homage bring,
 Praise, O praise, your Saviour King.

PSALM XLVIII. (FIRST VERSION)

GREAT is the Lord ; His praise be great !
 Ye lands, your tributes bring :
 And, Britain, thou, His chosen seat,
 Be first to praise thy King.

God in thy borders well is known,
 A strong and faithful Friend :
 O rest thou still on Him alone,
 And He will still defend.

Here in Thy courts again we stand,
 Thy grace, O Lord, to see :
 Soon let it shine on every land,
 And win all hearts to Thee.

But, Lord, be Britain still Thy choice ;
 Still walk around her towers :
 Still let her sons in Thee rejoice,
 And cry ' The Lord is ours !'

PSALM XLVIII. (SECOND VERSION)

FAIR, O Lord, Thy dwellings are,
 All beside excelling far,
 Bright abodes of peace and love,
 Types on earth of those above.

Here Thy Gospel voice is heard,
 Here we feed upon Thy word,
 Here Thy grace is shed abroad,
 Here we feel a present God.

Here Thy mysteries are known,
 Here is reared Thy earthly throne,
 Hence our prayers accepted rise,
 And our praises reach the skies.

Lord, Thy Church shall onward flow,
 Till it fills the world below ;
 Undisturbed by countless foes,
 Prospering in the midst of woes.

Still to us propitious be ;
 Shine on those who trust in Thee :
 Living, dying, be our Guide,
 Till we safely reach Thy side.

PSALM XLIX.

JEHOVAH speaks ; let earth be awed,
 And deep attention give.
 Ye sinners, hear the way to God !
 Ye dead, arise and live !

Trust not in earthly wealth and show—
 Vain, vain their power to save :
 Gold cannot buy release from woe,
 Or ransom from the grave.

Worlds cannot reach the mighty price,
 Of one immortal soul.
 No, Lord ; Thy blood and sacrifice,
 Alone can make us whole.

In Thee be our salvation sure,
 No other wealth we seek :
 We're rich in Thee, however poor ;
 And strong, however weak.

PSALM L. (FIRST VERSION)

'Tis He ! 'tis He ! the Son of God !
 He sends His awful voice abroad :
 Let earth her Lord revere !
 With thousand saints behold Him come ;
 The world before her Judge is dumb,
 And waits her doom to hear.

He calls to heaven, He calls to earth ;
 The nations from their tombs come forth,
 And throng before His face.
 'Approach, ye, first,' the Saviour cries,
 'Whose boast is in My sacrifice,
 And covenant of grace.'

'My people, hear !' your God will speak :
 'No empty rites and forms I seek,
 No specious act or word :
 Mine eye is on the heart within,
 And there the service must begin,
 That satisfies the Lord.

' Where secret wickedness I see,
 The fawning lips or bending knee,
 But move My scorn and hate !'
 Lord, on our souls this truth impress,
 And make us all that we profess,
 Ere yet it be too late !

PSALM L. (SECOND VERSION)

O THAT day of dread and wonder,
 When to judgment Christ shall come !
 When a voice of more than thunder,
 Sounding through the silent tomb,
 Shall awaken,
 All to their eternal doom !

Midst the crowds who then assemble,
 Naked at their Judge's throne,
 Who of all the most shall tremble ?
 They that now among His own,
 Dwell and worship,
 But whom Christ has never known.

Empty forms and loud profession,
 Offerings heaped upon His shrine,
 Where there is no heart impression,
 Cannot please the eye Divine.
 All is worthless,
 Till the spirit, Lord, is Thine.

Light a flame of love within us ;
 Tune our souls to prayer and praise ;
 To Thine own blest image win us ;
 Guide us in Thy righteous ways.
 Here convert us,
 And at last to glory raise.

PSALM LI. (FIRST VERSION)

HAVE mercy on me, Lord !
 My countless sins forgive !
 I cast me on Thy plighted word ;
 O bid me rise and live !

Upon my guilt I dwell ;
 It haunts me day and night.
 And shouldst Thou send me straight to hell,
 I here must own it right.

In sin I was brought forth,
 Defiled in every part ;
 And Thou requirest spotless worth,
 And perfectness of heart.

O let the precious blood,
 That on the cross was spilt,
 Pour on my soul its healing flood,
 And wash out all my guilt.

Renew my fallen heart,
 My broken peace restore ;
 And inward light and strength impart,
 That I may fall no more.

PSALM LI. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD, I have sinned ; but, O forgive,
 Nor cast me quite away.
 Restore my soul, and bid me live,
 And be my future stay.

O let me from my fall arise,
 More watchful and more strong ;
 Light up my dim and tearful eyes,
 And fill my mouth with song.

On Christ's prevailing sacrifice,
 I all my hopes recline.
 A broken spirit Thou dost prize ;
 And such, O Lord, be mine !

Give me a meek, dependent heart,
 For all my days to come ;
 Nor let Thy Spirit e'er depart,
 Till I am safe at home.

PSALM LI. (THIRD VERSION)

HAVE mercy, Lord, on me,
 As Thou wert ever kind.
 I cast my guilty soul on Thee ;
 Let me Thy mercy find !

O let me hear once more,
 Thy kind, forgiving voice !
 A word of Thine can life restore,
 And bid despair rejoice.

Blot out my deadly sin ;
 Bid all my fears be still ;
 Create my soul anew within,
 And mould me to Thy will.

O do not quite forsake,
 Nor cast me from Thy sight ;
 Nor let Thy injured Spirit take,
 His everlasting flight.

PSALM LII.

IN vain the powers of darkness try,
 To work the Church's ill.
 The Friend of sinners reigns on high,
 And foils them at His will.

Though mischief in their hearts may dwell,
 And on their tongues deceit ;
 A word of His their pride can quell,
 And all their rage defeat.

Let worldlings pant for worldly wealth ;
 Its worth His people see.
 The Lord is their desire and health ;
 The Lord will strengthen me.

My trust is in His grace alone ;
 His mercy is my home.
 How sweet His blessings past to own,
 And hope for more to come !

PSALM LIII.

LORD, what a world of sense and sin,
 I find around me and within !
 And in Thy breast what thoughts must rise,
 When Thou look'st hither from the skies !

Thy glorious work so overthrown,
 Thy children all rebellious grown,
 Thy followers faint and few, and those
 Encompassed by unnumbered foes.

O that Thy Gospel were gone forth,
 From East to West, from South to North !
 Thy people back to Zion come,
 And all Thy outcasts gathered home !

Arise, great Sun of Righteousness !
 Arise, the world to light and bless !
 From realm to realm advance and shine,
 Till every heart and hand are Thine !

PSALM LIV.

SAVE me by Thy glorious name ;
 Lord, that name is Love !
 Help through Christ I humbly claim,
 Help from Thee above.
 Hear, O hear, my suppliant voice ;
 Hear, and bid my heart rejoice.

Foes to Christ and every good,
 Fiercely throng on me :
 Soon my soul must be subdued,
 Without aid from Thee.
 But with Thee to make me strong,
 Lord, they shall not triumph long.

Lo, He comes, He takes my part !
 All my struggles cease.
 Rise in praise, my grateful heart,
 Bless the Prince of Peace.
 God Himself has set me free ;
 God my worship ever be !

PSALM LV. (FIRST VERSION)

O God of mercy, hear my cry,
 Behold me in the dust.
 What should I be, or whither fly,
 If Thou wert not my trust ?

O that my weary soul had wings ;
 How swiftly would I flee,
 From earthly men and earthly things,
 To dwell, my God, with Thee !

I look within, I look abroad ;
 The blight on all has passed :
 E'en friends, that seemed the friends of God,
 Prove foes too oft at last.

How sweet it is to turn from all,
 Thy converse, Lord, to claim !
 At morn and noon and eve to call,
 And find Thee still the same !

Ye saints, to God your burthens bring,
 And He your strength will be.
 To earthly props let others cling ;
 The Lord, the Lord for me !

PSALM LV. (SECOND VERSION)

O HAD I, my Saviour, the wings of a dove,
 How soon would I soar to Thy presence above !
 How soon would I flee where the weary have rest,
 And hide all my cares in Thy sheltering breast !

I flutter, I struggle, I pant to get free ;
 I feel me a captive while banished from Thee :
 A pilgrim and stranger the desert I roam,
 And look on to heaven, and long to be home.

Ah, there the wild tempest for ever shall cease ;
 No billow shall ruffle that haven of peace ;
 Temptation and trouble alike shall depart,
 All tears from the eye, and all sin from the heart.

Soon, soon may this Eden of promise be mine ;
 Rise, bright Sun of Glory, no more to decline,
 Thy light, yet unrisen, the wilderness cheers ;
 O what will it be when the fullness appears !

PSALM LVI.

LORD, be merciful to me,
 To Thy sheltering side I flee ;
 Foes around me fiercely throng,
 Faith is weak, and fear is strong.
 Whither shall Thy trembler fly ?
 Whither, but to Thee, Most High ?

Yes, to Thee my soul shall turn ;
 Thou wilt not my pleadings spurn.
 On Thy word my hopes abide ;
 I before its strength have tried :
 Trusting, yielding all to Thee,
 What can shake or injure me ?

Foes my faltering steps may view ;
 Thou, O Lord, wilt note them too.
 Thou wilt number all my tears,
 Check my wanderings, calm my fears.
 Tended and sustained by Thee,
 What can shake or injure me ?

Here to Thee myself I give ;
 Thou hast called, and bade me live,
 Ah, the work of grace complete ;
 Guide, support my failing feet :
 Lead me on from strength to strength,
 Till I reach Thy face at length.

PSALM LVII. (FIRST VERSION)

SHOW mercy, mercy, King of kings !
 On Thee our souls we cast.
 Protect us 'neath Thy sheltering wings,
 Till life's dark storm is passed.

O be the same Almighty Arm,
 That held us up till now,
 Outstretched to keep us still from harm ;
 For who can save but Thou ?

Reign, glorious God, through earth and sky,
 Let all Thy grace adore ;
 Win every heart, fix every eye,
 On Thee for evermore.

Awake, awake, my slumbering powers,
 Be first the song to raise !
 While God on me such mercy showers,
 I well may give Him praise.

PSALM LVII. (SECOND VERSION)

BE glorified, O God !
 Above the heavens exalted high ;
 By men throughout the earth adored,
 By angels in the sky !

My heart, my thankful heart,
 Thy mercies, Lord, would fain proclaim ;
 Would tell the world how good Thou art,
 And bid them sing the same.

Awake, my slumbering powers,
 My tenderest thoughts, awake, arise !
 Say what a glorious God is ours,
 How holy, kind, and wise !

O let Thy praises, Lord,
 As widely as Thy bounties flow !
 In heaven by angels be adored,
 By all mankind below !

PSALM LVII. (THIRD VERSION)

THY mercy, Lord, to us extend,
 On Thee alone our hopes depend ;
 Thy sheltering wings around us cast,
 Till life's rude storm be overpast.

Our hearts, O God, our hearts are fixed ;
 Our fears with holy joy are mixed ;
 And with our hearts our voice we raise,
 To Thee in grateful songs of praise.

Thy praises, Lord, we will resound,
 To all the listening nations round :
 Thy truth beyond the clouds extends,
 Thy love the highest heaven transcends.

Be Thou, O God, exalted high ;
 And as Thy glory fills the sky,
 So let it be on earth displayed,
 Till Thou art here as there obeyed !

PSALM LVIII.

CHRISTIANS, are the words you speak,
 Like your Master's, kind and meek ?
 Do you judge your fellow-men,
 As you would be judged again ?

Do you in your conduct prove,
 Children of a God of love,
 Good and gentle, just and true,
 As your Lord has been to you ?

Ah, the bitterness of sin,
 Lurks the fallen heart within,
 And from thence unceasing flows,
 Poisoning, blighting as it goes !

Lord, the slanderer's malice blast :
 Let it come to nought at last,
 Let Thy rescued people cry,
 ' Yea, there is a God on high !'

PSALM LIX.

LORD, a thousand foes surround us :
 Come to succour and defend.
 Hell's dark hosts cannot confound us,
 While our souls have such a Friend.
 Let their legions round us gather ;
 Be but Thou us nigh to aid ;
 Strong in Thee, Almighty Father,
 We can meet them undismayed.

Holiest, greatest, best, and wisest,
 Who shall dare to cope with Thee ?
 When to conflict Thou arisest,
 Ah, how soon the boldest flee !
 Thou Thy people's wrongs resentest ;
 On Thy saving arm we rest :
 Thou with grace our prayers preventest ;
 Thou wilt choose and give the best.

To our help, then, rise and hasten ;
 Check, if not destroy, the foe.
 If he must be left to chasten,
 Let him not our hopes o'erthrow.
 Safe through suffering and temptation,
 Lead us to Thy fold at last,
 To adore Thy full salvation,
 And our crowns before Thee cast.

PSALM LX. (FIRST VERSION)

WHY hast Thou cast us off, O Lord ?
 Return, return, Thy Church to aid ;
 We sink beneath Thy chastening rod !
 O heal the breaches Thou hast made !
 How long wilt Thou Thy people prove ?
 How long the cup of trembling give ?
 Unfurl the banner of Thy love ;
 Proclaim Thy grace, and bid us live.

'Tis sweet in trouble's gathering night,
 To muse on Thy unfailing word,
 To think of all Thy love and might,
 And, trembling, trust in Thee, O Lord.

Vain is the help that earth affords,
 Vain all that human hands bestow :
 But Thou be with us, Lord of lords,
 And soon we rise o'er every foe.

PSALM LX. (SECOND VERSION)

THROUGH foes and dangers, sin and death,
 A pilgrim band we move,
 To Canaan's promised land, beneath
 The flag of heavenly love.

Almighty, omnipresent grace,
 Goes with us all the way ;
 And nothing can impede our race,
 With Christ to guide and stay.

The empire of the world is His ;
 By Him from Satan won.
 He speaks the word, and, lo, it is ;
 He wills, and all is done !

Though we are weak, the Lord is strong ;
 On Him our hopes depend.
 We cannot dwell in darkness long,
 While blest with such a Friend !

PSALM LXI. (FIRST VERSION)

LORD, to our prayer attend ;
 Our Help and Refuge be,
 Remote and reft of every friend,
 We turn for all to Thee.

O, lead us to the Rock,
 Where we may safe remain :
 Our Shield from many a former shock,
 Defend us now again.

Within Thy shrine we rest ;
 Beneath Thy wings we flee ;
 Among the holy and the blest,
 Our place and portion be.

O let us there be found,
 Through all our future days :
 Let mercy, Lord, to us abound,
 To Thee redoubled praise !

PSALM LXI. (SECOND VERSION)

WHEN sinks my heart in gloom and grief,
 And earth no aid supplies,
 One hope remains, one sure relief—
 To heaven I lift my eyes.

The Lord omnipotent is there,
 The Rock no power can move,
 The Ear that thrills to every prayer,
 The Heart that flows with love.

My Shield, my Tower, Thou, Lord, hast been,
 My Refuge still Thou art :
 Thy spreading wings shall be my screen,
 When all beside depart.

My soul on Thee would calm repose,
 In Thee her portion claim ;
 And choose her heritage with those,
 Who fear Thy holy name.

O on my cold and barren heart,
 Thy graces largely pour ;
 And daily more of zeal impart,
 To love and praise Thee more.

PSALM LXII.

ON God, on God my soul relies ;
 From Him shall my salvation rise ;
 He is my Rock, my Strong Defence ;
 What power shall ever hurl me thence !

My foes may rage, my foes may hate :
 On God, thy God, my spirit, wait !
 He is thy Rock, thy Sure Defence :
 Believe, and none shall hurl thee thence !

Let all that live on God depend,
 And find Him an Almighty Friend ;
 Pour out their hearts before His throne,
 And rest for all on Him alone.

How poor are all in heaven and earth,
 When matched with Him who gave them birth !
 Friends, yea, and foes alike must own,
 That might and love are God's alone.

PSALM LXIII. (FIRST VERSION)

O MY God, the God of grace,
 Early will I seek Thy face,
 In this weary waste of woe,
 Where no healing waters flow !

O to stand before Thy shrine,
 Basking in Thy light Divine !
 O to feed upon Thy love,
 As Thy angels feed above !

Better, Lord, than life to me,
 Is one quickening smile from Thee,
 Life indeed is all a void,
 In Thy service unemployed.

Blest with Thee my spirit glows,
 And my heart with song o'erflows.
 Thoughts of Thee at dead of night,
 Turn my darkness into light.

Thou till now my help hast been ;
 Still Thy wings shall be my screen :
 Hard Thy footsteps I pursue ;
 Send me grace, and bear me through.

PSALM LXIII. (SECOND VERSION)

O GOD of love, my God Thou art ;
 To Thee I early cry :
 Refresh with grace my thirsty heart,
 For earthly springs are dry.

Thy power, Thy glory let me see,
 As seen by saints above.
 'Tis sweeter, Lord, than life to me,
 To share and sing Thy love.

I freely yield Thee all my powers,
 Yet ne'er my debt can pay ;
 The thought of Thee at midnight hours
 Turns darkness into day.

Lord, Thou hast been my Help, and Thou
 My Refuge still shalt be.
 I follow hard Thy footsteps now—
 O when Thy face to see ?

PSALM L XIII. (THIRD VERSION)

O GOD, my gracious God, to Thee
 My morning prayer shall offered be :
 For Thee my thirsty soul doth pant.
 My fainting flesh implores Thy grace,
 Within this dry and barren place,
 Where souls refreshing waters want.

When down I lie sweet sleep to find,
 Thou, Lord, art present to my mind,
 And when I wake at dead of night,
 Because Thou still dost succour bring,
 Beneath the shadow of Thy wing,
 I rest with safety and delight.

O to my longing eyes once more,
 That view of glorious power restore,
 Which Thy majestic house displays.
 Because to me Thy wondrous love,
 Than life itself doth dearer prove,
 My lips shall always speak Thy praise.

My life, while I that life enjoy,
 In blessing God I will employ,
 In pouring out my soul on high ;
 And feel the while, that they who share,
 Earth's richest gains or proudest fare,
 Have no such happy lot as I.

PSALM LXIV.

HEAR, O Lord, our supplication ;
 Let our souls on Thee repose !
 Be our Hope, our Strong Salvation,
 'Mid ten thousand threatening foes.

Lord, Thy saints have many troubles,
 In their path lies many a snare :
 But before Thy breath, like bubbles,
 Melt they soon in idle air.

Cunning are the foe's devices,
 Bitter are his words of gall ;
 Sin on every side entices ;
 Lord, conduct us safe through all.

Be our foes by Thee confounded,
 Let the world Thy goodness see ;
 While, by might and love surrounded,
 We rejoice, and trust in Thee.

PSALM LXV. (FIRST VERSION)

PRAISE for Thee, Lord, in Zion waits ;
 Prayer shall besiege Thy temple gates ;
 All flesh shall to Thy throne repair,
 And find through Christ salvation there.

Our spirits faint ; our sins prevail ;
 Leave not our trembling hearts to fail.
 O Thou that hearest prayer, descend,
 And still be found the sinner's Friend.

How blest Thy saints ! how safely led,
 How surely kept, how richly fed !
 Saviour of all in earth and sea,
 How happy they who rest in Thee.

Thy hand sets fast the mighty hills,
 Thy voice the troubled ocean stills ;
 Evening and morning hymn Thy praise,
 And earth Thy bounty wide displays.

The year is with Thy goodness crowned,
 Thy clouds drop wealth the world around ;
 Through Thee the deserts laugh and sing,
 And Nature smiles and owns her King.

Lord, on our souls Thy influence pour ;
 The moral waste within restore.
 O let Thy love our springtide be,
 And make us all bear fruit to Thee.

PSALM LXV. (SECOND VERSION)

GOD of the seasons, come again
 To bless the circling year !
 Give us clear shining after rain,
 And bid the spring appear !

Breathe on this fallen world of ours,
And wake it into life ;
And send us genial suns and showers,
For winter's stormy strife.

'Tis Thine to rear the tender crop,
Thy wandering flocks to feed ;
And plenteous in Thy footsteps drop,
Supplies for every need.

The year is with Thy goodness crowned,
The valleys laugh and sing,
The little hills rejoice around,
And earth adores her King.

God of the year, while thus the rest,
Thy genial influence share,
Shine into every wintry breast,
And make a springtide there.

PSALM LXV. (THIRD VERSION)

FOR Thee, O Lord, our constant praise,
In Zion waits, Thy chosen seat ;
Thy promised altars there we'll raise,
And all our zealous vows complete.

O Thou, that to our humble prayer,
Didst ever bend a listening ear,
To Thee shall all mankind repair,
And at Thy gracious throne appear.

Our sins, though numberless, in vain
To stop Thy flowing mercy try ;
While Thou o'erlook'st the guilty stain,
And washest out the crimson dye.

Blest is the man who, near Thee placed,
Shall in Thy heavenly presence live !
And blest are we, allowed to taste,
The joys Thy earthly temples give.

From light to light, from grace to grace,
Vouchsafe our faltering steps to bear,
And lead us up before Thy face,
To know and praise Thee better there.

PSALM LXVI. (FIRST VERSION)

YE distant lands, in God rejoice,
 Approach, adore, and sing !
 Revere His name, obey His voice,
 And own Him for your King.

O God of mercy, God of might,
 Soon, soon let all that be,
 Around Thy glorious throne unite,
 And yield their hearts to Thee !

Thy wondrous acts to us of old,
 Surpass our power to tell ;
 Approach, ye nations, and behold,
 He is your God as well.

O bless the Lord, ye people, bless ;
 With us His love proclaim,
 He brought us help in our distress,
 He offers you the same.

PSALM LXVI. (SECOND VERSION)

'Tis Thine, O Father, to assign
 To each his needful cross ;
 Our souls by trials to refine,
 And purge away the dross.

We know Thee only good, whate'er
 May be withheld or given ;
 And dare not call the lot severe,
 That helps us on to heaven.

It is not ill, it is not woe,
 That comes from such a Friend.
 Through toils and dangers on we go,
 To gladness in the end.

O ye that doubt and suffer, come
 Our bettered state to view ;
 He raised the rod, and drove us home ;
 He means the same to you !

PSALM LXVI. (THIRD VERSION)

Low in Thy holy house,
 Before Thee, Lord, I fall :
 Well may I pay Thee thankful vows,
 To whom I owe my all.

O ye that love the Lord,
 Come, see His grace to me :
 Before His throne my plaint I poured ;
 He spake, and I was free.

Great Hearer of my prayer,
 My praise Thou now shalt hear.
 O guard me still through every snare !
 O guide me in Thy fear !

I yield my all to Thee,
 Though poor the best I bring.
 Ye saints around, O join with me,
 To glorify our King !

PSALM LXVII. (FIRST VERSION)

BE merciful to us, O God ;
 Upon Thy people shine ;
 And spread Thy saving truth abroad,
 Till all that live are Thine.

Give light and comfort to Thy own ;
 And O that light extend,
 Till Thy prevailing name is known,
 To earth's remotest end.

Let all the nations praise thee, Lord ;
 Let all their homage bring.
 From sea to sea be Thou adored,
 Redeemer, Judge, and King.

Let all the nations praise Thee, Lord ;
 Then earth her fruits shall give :
 Thy blessing shall on all be poured,
 And all to Thee shall live.

PSALM LXVII. (SECOND VERSION)

GOD of mercy, God of grace,
 Show the brightness of Thy face :
 Shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
 Fill Thy church with light Divine ;
 And Thy saving health extend,
 Unto earth's remotest end.

Let Thy people praise Thee, Lord ;
 Be by all that live adored ;
 Let the nations shout and sing,
 Glory to their Saviour King ;
 At Thy feet their tributes pay,
 And Thy holy will obey.

Let the people praise Thee, Lord ;
 Earth shall then her fruits afford ;
 God to man His blessing give,
 Man to God devoted live ;
 All below, and all above,
 One in joy, and light, and love.

PSALM LXVII. (THIRD VERSION)

To bless Thy chosen race,
 In mercy, Lord, incline ;
 And cause the brightness of Thy face,
 On all Thy saints to shine.

That so Thy wondrous way,
 May through the earth be known ;
 Till all that live their tributes pay,
 And Thy salvation own.

O let the nations join,
 Their Saviour to proclaim ;
 Let all the world, O Lord, combine
 To praise Thy glorious name.

O let them shout and sing,
 In awe and holy mirth,
 Till heaven repeat that God is King,
 And join the hymns of earth.

PSALM LXVIII. (FIRST VERSION)

ARISE, O God : let all Thy foes,
 Be scattered and o'erthrown :
 Arise, O God, and interpose,
 To shield and save Thine own.

O Thou, the widow's, orphan's Friend,
 The contrite sinner's Plea ;
 To Thee we pray, on Thee depend,
 For who can help like Thee ?

In Sinai's wilderness of yore,
 How strong to save wert Thou !
 Protector of our sires before,
 Protect their children now.

The same Thou art in every age,
 As faithful, strong, and true ;
 And we are on our pilgrimage ;
 O bear us safely through !

PSALM LXVIII. (SECOND VERSION)

THE Son of Man is gone on high ;
 He fills His Father's throne again ;
 He captive leads captivity,
 And wields the gifts of God for men.

O Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove,
 Of gifts Divine the first and best,
 Descend on wings of peace and love,
 And fix Thy home in every breast.

Health, light, and comfort, every good,
 That man can wish or God can lend,
 Are all the purchase of Thy blood,
 Our dying, ever-living Friend !

In life, in death, to Thee we cling ;
 To Thee with all our wants we come.
 O keep us here beneath Thy wing !
 O guide us soon and safely home !

PSALM LXVIII. (THIRD VERSION)

RISE, King of Glory, rise !
 Resume Thy heavenly throne ;
 The vaunting sinner to chastise,
 And bless and save Thy own,
 Halleluiah !
 Shout, ye dumb ; ye tremblers, sing ;
 Christ, the sinner's Friend, is King.

Through Sinai's wilderness,
 He led our sires of old ;
 And He is still as prompt to bless,
 As strong to guard His fold.
 Halleluiah !

We are in the desert too :
 Saviour, bear us safely through.

For us He came to die ;
 For us He rose again ;
 And freely offers now from high,
 The gifts He won for men.
 Halleluiah !

Jesus here was might and love ;
 Jesus is the same above.

O praise our Saviour King ;
 Before Him humbly fall.
 To Him let all their tributes bring,
 Whose bounty flows to all.
 Halleluiah !

Mighty Thou, and happy we,
 Blest and shielded, Lord, by Thee !

PSALM LXIX. (FIRST VERSION)

SAVE me, Lord, the waters roll,
 Loud and threatening on my soul.
 Foes without, and fears within,
 Doubt, temptation, sense, and sin,
 Rush at once on helpless me,
 And I have no friend but Thee.

Lord, I look to Thee alone ;
 All my heart to Thee is known.
 O behold me where I wait,
 Knocking at Thy mercy's gate.
 Let no foe of Thine maintain,
 That Thou mayst be sought in vain.

Keen reproach for Thee I bear,
 Still I yield not to despair ;
 Still to Thee my spirit flies ;
 Still on Thee my hope relies.
 Blest with Thee, whate'er befall,
 Thou art still my All-in-all.

Poor and feeble though I be,
 Yet how rich, O Lord, in Thee !
 O Thy great salvation give,
 Send Thy grace, and bid me live.
 Send Thy grace, that all may own,
 Thou art God, and Thou alone !

PSALM LXIX. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD, I would stand with thoughtful eye,
 Beneath Thy fatal tree,
 And see Thee bleed, and see Thee die,
 And think ' what love to me !'

Dwell on the sight, my stony heart,
 Till every pulse within,
 Shall into contrite sorrow start,
 And hate the thought of sin.

Didst Thou for me, my Saviour, brave,
 The scoff, the scourge, the gall,
 The nails, the thorns, the spear, the grave,
 While I deserved them all ?

O help me some return to make,
 To yield my heart to Thee,
 And do and suffer for Thy sake,
 As Thou didst then for me !

PSALM LXX.

HASTE, O Lord, my spirit faints ;
 Hear my weak, but earnest plea :
 Saviour of Thy trembling saints,
 Haste, O haste, to rescue me !

Fierce and many on my soul,
 Rush the threatening powers of hell.
 Roll them back, Redeemer, roll,
 As the rock the ocean's swell.

Shame, confusion, fear, and grief,
 Visit, Lord, Thy foes alone !
 Light, and comfort, and relief,
 Beam for ever on Thine own !

Help the weak, the fallen raise ;
 Fill the meek with joy and love :
 Guide us through this earthly maze ;
 Lead us safe at last above.

PSALM LXXI. (FIRST VERSION)

IN Thee, O Lord, my trust I place ;
 They cannot fail who rest on Thee.
 Thou hast upheld me by Thy grace,
 O to the close my Refuge be !

Brought into life by Thee at first,
 My childhood's Guide, my manhood's Friend ;
 By Thee till now sustained and nursed,—
 Why should I doubt Thee to the end ?

The Guardian of my earliest hours,
 The Strengtheners of my feeble frame,
 Will not desert my sinking powers,
 But love and tend me still the same.

Strong in Thy righteousness I stand ;
 On in Thy might I hope to move ;
 And each new blessing from Thy hand,
 Shall wake from me new praise and love.

PSALM LXXI. (SECOND VERSION)

WHILE foes on me with envy gaze,
 The Lord supports me still.
 His honour, therefore, and His praise,
 My mouth shall always fill.

His righteous acts and saving health,
 My tongue shall still declare,
 Unable to recount them all,
 Though summed with utmost care.

While God vouchsafes me His support,
 I'll in His strength go on :
 All other righteousness disclaim,
 And mention His alone.

Then joy shall fill my mouth, and songs
 Employ my cheerful voice.
 My grateful heart, by God redeemed,
 Shall in His light rejoice.

PSALM LXXII.

EXALT, O God, Thy glorious Son !
 Throughout the world His will be done ;
 Set up on earth His promised throne ;
 And make all hearts and hands His own !

Soft as the dews from heaven descend,
 He comes, He comes, the sinner's Friend !
 The fall'n to raise, the meek to bless,
 And reign o'er all in righteousness !

As bright and lasting as the sun,
 From sea to sea His sway shall run ;
 Kings to His footstool shall repair ;
 And nations find their refuge there.

Prayer to His throne shall daily rise,
 His praises sound through earth and skies ;
 His grace on all that live be poured,
 And all but live to serve the Lord.

Thrice welcome to the King of kings,
 Who comes with healing in His wings !
 From age to age, from shore to shore,
 His name be praised for evermore !

PSALM LXXIII. (FIRST VERSION)

YES, God is righteous, God is good ;
 My soul this truth too long withstood ;
 But ah, I see my error now,
 And at His feet submissive bow.

I saw the vile in triumph drest,
 The good by countless ills oppressed.
 ' Is this,' I said, ' Thy saint's reward ?
 Is this to serve and trust the Lord ?'

But when the end of each I viewed,
 It checked at once my murmuring mood ;
 And taught how light all ills must be,
 That lead us, Lord, at last to Thee !

My God, around me ever stand !
 O guide my steps ! O hold my hand !
 O let Thy grace my wants relieve,
 Thy glory then my soul receive !

Whom have I, Lord, in heaven but Thee ?
 On earth is none so dear to me.
 When faints my flesh, when fails my heart,
 Thou, Thou my strength and portion art.

PSALM LXXIII. (SECOND VERSION)

GREAT Source of my being, my Guardian and Guide,
 Through guilt and neglect still the same at my side,
 My soul on Thy mercy through life would depend,
 And love Thee and trust Thee the same to the end.

The hand that has borne me so well through the past,
 Can lead me on safely to glory at last ;
 Through life's daily changes on Thee I repose,
 For Thou art unchanging in love to the close.

O what is in heaven with Thee to compare ?
 'Twould lose all its brightness if Thou wert not there.
 Or what were this earth with its fairest and best,
 If Thou didst not lend them a relish and zest ?

My spirit all weakness, my nature all sin,
 With little to rest on without and within ;
 'Tis sweet to look up to a Helper Divine,
 O what can I want, while the Saviour is mine ?

PSALM LXXIII. (THIRD VERSION)

LORD, Thou art good : I know it well.
 : To Thee alone the praise is due.
 If I have stood while others fell,
 It is Thy grace has borne me through.

Thy presence still my strength supplied,
 Thy hand did every want relieve.
 Thy counsel to the end will guide,
 Thy glory then my soul receive.

Whom, Lord, in heaven, but Thee alone,
 Have I whose favour I require ?
 Throughout the wide world there is none,
 That I before Thee could desire.

My trembling flesh, and aching heart,
 May often fail to succour me ;
 But Thou wilt inward strength impart,
 And my eternal portion be.

PSALM LXXIV. (FIRST VERSION)

CAST not, O Lord, Thy Church away !
 Cease not Thy people to befriend !
 Thou hast been Britain's Guide and Stay ;
 O bless and shield her to the end.

The walls wherein Thou long hast dwelt,
 The hallowed house of praise and prayer,
 Still let Thy presence there be felt,
 Still shed Thy choicest blessings there.

Unnumbered foes upon us press ;
 But, Lord, we look through all to Thee.
 We think of Sinai's wilderness,
 We think of Egypt's traversed sea.

Thy wonders round us daily stand,
 The world Thy glory wide displays :
 Suns rise and set by Thy command,
 And seasons roll Thy varying praise.

O Saviour of Thy Church of old,
 Our Guide through every former ill,
 Forsake not now Thy suffering fold,
 But guard, and guide, and save us still.

PSALM LXXIV. (SECOND VERSION).

OF every earthly stay bereft,
 Beset by many an ill,
 One hope, one precious hope, is left,
 The Lord is faithful still.

His Church through every past alarm,
 In Him has found a Friend.
 And, Lord, on Thine almighty arm,
 We now for all depend.

Thy mercies hourly round us shine,
 The world Thy power displays ;
 The day is Thine, the night is Thine,
 The seasons roll Thy praise.

Thy holy covenant shall stand,
 For ages bright and sure.
 And tell us God is still at hand,
 To shield, to save, to cure.

On Thee, O Lord, our hopes recline ;
 O still Thy comforts give.
 Defeat our enemies and Thine,
 And bid Thy tremblers live !

PSALM LXXV.

LORD, at Thy feet our thanks we pay,
 For all Thy love has borne and done,
 For all Thy mercies day by day,
 And most of all for Christ Thy Son.

The world beneath her load of sin,
 In hopeless, helpless ruin lay ;
 When He, the Lord of life, stepped in,
 And snatched from death and hell the prey.

Be humbled, then, ye sons of pride ;
 Rest in His merits, not your own :
 Cast every feebler prop aside,
 And look for all to Christ alone.

'Tis Thine, O Lord, to judge and save ;
 We live or die by Thy decree ;
 Whate'er beside we want or have,
 Lord, we are rich, if found in Thee.

PSALM LXXVI.

GOD in His Church is known,
 His name is glorious there ;
 He there sets up His earthly throne.
 And hears His people's prayer.

The powers of death and hell,
 In vain her peace oppose ;
 A word of His the storm can quell,
 And scatter all her foes.

The Lord to judgment came ;
 Earth trembled and was still.
 'Tis His, 'tis His, the proud to tame
 And shield the meek from ill.

The fury of His foes,
 Fulfils but His decree.
 Ye saints, on Him your hopes repose,
 And He your strength will be.

PSALM LXXVII. (FIRST VERSION)

HEAR, O Lord, our supplications,
 Look upon our soul's distress ;
 On through trials and temptations,
 To Thy sheltering side we press.
 Friend of sinners,
 Hear our prayer, O hear and bless !

Musing on Thy grace and favour,
 Through so many years gone by,
 Can the Lord cast off for ever ?
 Can His mercies fail ? we cry.
 He hath blessed us !
 Can the fount of love run dry ?

No ! it is our own delusion ;
 God must still the same abide.
 Contradiction or confusion,
 Cannot, Lord, in Thee reside.
 Thou hast promised !
 In that promise we confide.

By Thy many ancient wonders,
 By Thy deeds in Egypt's sea,
 Canaan's conquest, Sinai's thunders,
 Lord, our God, we trust in Thee.
 Israel's Shepherd,
 Still Thy people's Guardian be !

PSALM LXXVII. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD, Thou hast ever heard my cry ;
 To Thee in trouble now I fly :
 To Thee pour out my secret pain ;
 O shall I seek Thee, Lord, in vain ?

For Thee I sigh the livelong night,
 For Thee I look at morning light ;
 Ah, morning dawns not, Lord, on me,
 Till blest by one bright smile from Thee.

Can sovereign mercy cease to love ?
 Can truth eternal faithless prove ?
 No, Lord, it is my faithless heart,
 That cannot read Thee as Thou art.

O help my musing eye to trace,
 Thy works of providence and grace !
 What to Thy Israel once wert Thou !
 What to Thy suffering people now !

The waters saw Thee then, and fled ;
 Earth heard Thy voice, and shook with dread :
 And still Thou walk'st the troubled wave,
 As prompt to help, as strong to save.

PSALM LXXVIII.

How good, how faithful, Lord, art Thou !
 How false and stubborn we !
 O teach us at Thy feet to bow,
 And yield our all to Thee.

Our fathers at their darkest hours,
 From Thee found strong relief ;
 O let their mercies, Lord, be ours,
 But not their unbelief !

The rocks were cleft their thirst to slake,
 The skies rained down their food ;
 And still Thy word they daily brake,
 And still Thy will withstood.

The same kind Father, Lord, Thou art ;
 The same dark rebels we ;
 O touch with grace each erring heart,
 And win us all to Thee.

PSALM LXXIX.

Low in the dust, O Lord, we lie,
 O'erwhelmed beneath Thy chastening rod ;
 Yet to Thy throne we humbly cry,
 Yet look for all to God, our God !

How long shall we Thy succour crave,
 And Thou refuse Thy grace Divine ?
 Arise, Thy suffering Church to save,
 And scatter all her foes and Thine !

Our past neglect no more reprove,
 Our countless sins forget, forgive ;
 Shine forth once more a God of love ;
 Break off our bonds, and bid us live.

Accept the captive's lonely plea ;
 The contrite sinner's hopes restore.
 Be Thine to guide, to guard, to free ;
 Be ours to praise Thee evermore.

PSALM LXXX. (FIRST VERSION)

SHEPHERD of Israel, God of grace,
 Thy saving health display.
 Shine from Thy holy dwelling-place,
 And turn our night to day !

Shine on our inward darkness, shine ;
 Convert our hearts to Thee.
 We cast us on Thy grace Divine ;
 Arise, and set us free.

Beneath Thy chastening frown we pine,
 And seem to sue in vain.
 Shine on our souls, blest Spirit, shine,
 And all will smile again.

From light to light, from grace to grace,
 O bid us onward move ;
 Till we behold Thy glorious face,
 Without a cloud above.

PSALM LXXX. (SECOND VERSION)

O ISRAEL's Shepherd, Joseph's Guide,
 Our prayer to Thee vouchsafe to hear ;
 Thou that dost now Thy glory hide,
 Forth from Thy holy place appear.

Do Thou convert us, Lord : do Thou,
 The brightness of Thy face display ;
 And all the ills we suffer now,
 Like scattered clouds, shall pass away.

O Thou whom heavenly hosts obey,
 How long shall Thy fierce anger burn ?
 How long Thy suffering people pray ;
 And to their prayers have no return ?

Do Thou convert us, Lord ; do Thou,
 The brightness of Thy face display ;
 And all the ills we suffer now,
 Like scattered clouds, shall pass away.

PSALM LXXXI.

SING to the Lord our might ;
 With holy fervour sing !
 Let hearts and instruments unite,
 To praise our heavenly King.

This is His holy house,
 And this His festal day,
 When He accepts the humblest vows,
 That we sincerely pay.

The Sabbath to our sires,
 In mercy first was given ;
 The Church her Sabbaths still requires.
 To speed her on to heaven.

We still, like them of old,
 Are in the wilderness ;
 And God is still as near His fold,
 To pity and to bless.

Then let us open wide,
 Our hearts for Him to fill :
 And He that Israel then supplied,
 Will help His Israel still.

PSALM LXXXII.

GOD is the Judge, and God alone ;
 He marks us from His heavenly throne ;
 He destines with unerring skill,
 And works unmoved His sovereign will.

How long, frail man, wilt thou presume,
 To place Thee in thy Maker's room ?
 And judge and doom without dismay,
 The fellow-creatures of a day ?

From God wouldst thou compassion claim,
 To erring man show thou the same.
 To mildest judgments still be prone,
 And spare all errors but thine own.

Arise, O God ; judge Thou the earth ;
 Assert the claims of injured worth :
 Put down the boast of sinful men,
 And make all hearts Thine own again.

PSALM LXXXIII.

ASSERT Thy claims, O God !
 Arouse Thy slumbering powers !
 And crush beneath Thy conquering rod,
 Thine enemies and ours.

The crafty and the strong,
 Conspire 'gainst Thee and Thine.
 O shield Thy hidden ones from wrong,
 And blast their foes' design.

O let the same right arm,
 That helped our sires of yore,
 Preserve Thy people still from harm,
 And their faint hopes restore.

Let Thy prevailing name,
 Throughout the earth be known ;
 Put Satan and his hosts to shame,
 And glorify Thy own.

PSALM LXXXIV. (FIRST VERSION)

THY earthly dwellings, Lord, are fair,
 More fair Thy courts above.
 When shall I rise, and banquet there,
 On Thy eternal love ?

Happy the birds that round Thy shrine,
 Can daily sing and roam !
 I with their songs would mingle mine,
 And choose with them my home.

'Tis sweet into Thy house to come,
 And all Thy mercies trace :
 Within Thy arms to find a home,
 And see Thee face to face.

The spirit thus from strength to strength,
 From light to light, shall move ;
 Till earthly trials end at length,
 In joy and praise above.

O happy seasons, spent with Thee,
 Within Thy house of prayer !
 I'd rather there a servant be,
 Than reign a king elsewhere.

The Lord will grace and glory give,
 A Sun and Shield is He.
 How happy, Lord, how safe they live,
 Who trust their all to Thee !

PSALM LXXXIV. (SECOND VERSION)

PLEASANT are Thy courts above,
 In the land of light and love ;
 Pleasant are Thy courts below,
 In this land of sin and woe :
 O my spirit longs and faints,
 For the converse of Thy saints,
 For the brightness of Thy face,
 For Thy fullness, God of grace.

Happy birds that sing and fly,
 Round Thy altars, O Most High ;
 Happier souls that find a rest,
 In a Heavenly Father's breast :
 Like the wandering dove that found,
 No repose on earth around,
 They can to their ark repair,
 And enjoy it ever there.

Happy souls ! their praises flow,
 Even in this vale of woe ;
 Waters in the desert rise,
 Manna feeds them from the skies :
 On they go from strength to strength,
 Till they reach Thy throne at length,
 At Thy feet adoring fall,
 Who hast led them safe through all.

Lord, be mine this prize to win ;
 Guide me through a world of sin ;
 Keep me by Thy saving grace ;
 Give me at Thy side a place ;
 Sun and Shield alike Thou art,
 Guide and guard my erring heart ;
 Grace and glory flow from Thee,—
 Shower, O shower them, Lord, on me.

PSALM LXXXIV. (THIRD VERSION)

O LORD, how lovely is the place,
 Where saints adore Thy name !
 I long to stand before Thy face,
 And pay my vows with them.

I envy, Lord, the birds that cau,
 To Thy blest shrine repair.
 I envy more the favoured man,
 Who makes his dwelling there.

From grace to grace, from strength to strength,
 He on securely goes ;
 Till, gathered safe to Thee at length,
 No wish or want he knows.

Lord, give me in Thy house a place ;
 My Sun and Buckler be :
 And lead and feed me by Thy grace,
 Till I Thy glory see !

PSALM LXXXIV. (FOURTH VERSION),

O GOD OF HOSTS, the mighty Lord,
 How lovely is the place,
 Where Thou enthroned in glory show'st,
 The brightness of Thy face !

My longing soul faints with desire.
 To view Thy blest abode ;
 My panting heart and flesh cry out,
 For Thee the living God.

For in Thy courts one single day,
 'Tis better to attend,
 Than, Lord, in any court beside,
 A thousand days to spend.

O God, whom heavenly hosts obey,
 How highly blest is he,
 Whose hope and trust, securely placcd,
 Is still reposed on Thee !

PSALM LXXXV. (FIRST VERSION)

LORD, Thou hast set Thy people free ;
 A brighter day begins ;
 And mercy, flowing full from Thee,
 Has covered all their sins.

Thy anger, Lord, is turned to love ;
 O turn Thy people too !
 A blest revival let us prove,
 And health and joy renew.

Thy full salvation bid us see ;
 Thy perfect peace restore :
 And bind our souls with love, that we
 May ne'er desert Thee more.

The Gospel sounds ; the Lord descends ;
 The sinner's fears may cease.
 Mercy and Truth have met as friends,
 And Justice kisses Peace.

Beneath Messiah's golden reign,
 May all be soon restored ;
 The Lord with man abide again,
 And man adore the Lord.

PSALM LXXXV. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD, Thou art love Divine !
 I yield my heart to Thee !
 Fetters and darkness long were mine ;
 But grace has set me free.

The Saviour's blood is spilt ;
 The day of mercy come :
 And to His cross from shame and guilt,
 I flee, and find a home.

Thy work, O Lord, complete ;
 Thy daily grace impart.
 Direct aright my wandering feet !
 Upstay my sinking heart.

Still let me onward move,
 Rejoicing more and more ;
 Till I behold Thy face above,
 And at Thy feet adore.

PSALM LXXXV. (THIRD VERSION)

WHEN hope is low, and faith is weak,
 And earthly comforts fail to move,
 How good to hear a Father speak !
 How sweet to scan a Saviour's love !

It points me to the mighty plan,
 Matured through countless years on high,
 Brought down by Christ to fallen man,
 And finished, when He deigned to die.

O rich resource ! O plenteous grace !
 So sure, so constant, full, and free !
 Here righteousness and peace embrace,
 And heavenly truth and love agree.

Here let me sit beneath the cross ;
 Here lay my sins and sorrows down ;
 And think how light each earthly loss,
 When poised with an eternal crown.

PSALM LXXXVI. (FIRST VERSION)

THY gracious ear, O Lord, incline ;
 Our Help and Refuge be :
 Preserve our souls, for they are Thine,
 And look for all to Thee.

To Thee we lift our daily prayer.
 O shall we pray in vain ?
 Thou hast redeemed us from despair ;
 Descend and save again.

Who is like Thee, the wise, the just ?
 Your King, ye nations, own !
 All-good Thou art, and good Thou dost ;
 Thou, Thou art God alone.

Our hearts to Thee in love unite ;
 Our mouths with praises fill.
 Direct our wandering steps aright,
 And form us to Thy will.

Plenteous in grace and truth Thou art ;
 On us that grace outpour :
 And seal and fix each erring heart,
 Thine own for evermore.

PSALM LXXXVI. (SECOND VERSION)

To my complaint, O Lord, my God,
 Thy gracious ear incline.
 Hear me, distressed and destitute,
 Of all relief but Thine.

Teach me, O Lord, Thy way, and I
 From thence shall ne'er depart.
 In reverence on Thy holy name,
 Devoutly fix my heart.

Thee will I praise, my King, my God ;
 O make that praise sincere.
 And to Thyself within my heart,
 Eternal trophies rear.

Thy boundless mercies, Lord, to me,
 Surpass my power to tell ;
 Blest as I am, and crowned by Thee,
 And saved from depths of hell.

O still the same Almighty arm,
 To my assistance bring,
 Of patience, mercy, truth, and grace,
 Thou everlasting Spring !

PSALM LXXXVII.

THE Church of God below,
 Is like His church above,
 Safe shielded from her every foe,
 By heavenly power and love.

On high and holy ground,
 Her deep foundations rest ;
 And God within her courts is found,
 An omnipresent Guest.

God loves her sacred gates,
 Her solemn praise and prayer ;
 And none that humbly on Him waits,
 Shall fail to find Him there.

The Church of God below,
 Shall yet more honoured be ;
 The nations to her side shall flow,
 The world her glories see.

O blest and favoured men,
 That in her courts are born ;
 Their life but sets to rise again,
 In heaven's eternal morn.

PSALM LXXXVIII.

LORD GOD of my salvation,
 To Thee, to Thee, I cry ;
 O let my supplication,
 Arrest Thine ear on high.
 Distresses round me thicken,
 My life draws nigh the grave ;
 Descend, O Lord, to quicken,
 Descend my soul to save.

Thy wrath lies hard upon me,
 Thy billows o'er me roll,
 My friends all seem to shun me,
 And foes beset my soul.
 Where'er on earth I turn me,
 No comforter is near.
 Wilt Thou too, Father, spurn me ?
 Wilt Thou refuse to hear ?

No ! banished and heart-broken,
 My soul still clings to Thee ;
 The promise Thou hast spoken,
 Shall still my refuge be.
 So present ills and terrors,
 May future joy increase,
 And scourge me from my errors,
 To duty, hope, and peace.

PSALM LXXXIX. (FIRST VERSION)

THE mercies of my God and King,
 My tongue shall still pursue :
 O happy they who, while they sing
 Those mercies, share them too !

As bright and lasting as the sun,
 As lofty as the sky,
 From age to age Thy truth shall run,
 And chance and change defy.

The covenant of the King of kings,
 Shall stand for ever sure ;
 And 'neath the shadow of Thy wings,
 Thy saints repose secure.

Thine is the earth, and Thine the skies,
 Created at Thy will :
 The waves at Thy command arise,
 At Thy command are still.

In earth below, in heaven above,
 Who, who is Lord like Thee !
 O spread the Gospel of Thy love,
 Till all Thy glories see.

PSALM LXXXIX. (SECOND VERSION)

O how blest the congregation,
 Who the Gospel know and prize,
 Joyful tidings of salvation,
 Brought by Jesus from the skies !
 He is near them,
 Knows their wants, and hears their cries.

In His name rejoicing ever,
 Walking in His light and love,
 And foretasting, in His favour,
 Something here of bliss above ;
 Happy people !
 Who shall harm them ? what shall move ?

In His righteousness exalted,
 On from strength to strength they go ;
 By ten thousand ills assaulted,
 Yet preserved from every foe.
 On to glory,
 Safe they speed through all below.

God will keep His own anointed ;
 Nought shall harm them, none condemn.
 All their trials are appointed,
 All must work for good to them,
 All shall help them,
 To their heavenly diadem.

PSALM LXXXIX. (THIRD VERSION)

THY mercies, Lord, shall be my song,
My song on them shall ever dwell ;
To ages yet unborn my tongue,
Thy never-failing truth shall tell.

For such stupendous love as Thine,
I ne'er can pay the half I owe.
Help me, ye angel choirs Divine !
O help me, all ye saints below !

The heavens are Thine, the earth is Thine,
The wonders of Thy mighty hand :
And all that round Thee breathe and shine,
Obey Thine infinite command.

Thou dost the lawless sea control,
And check and change the restless deep ;
Thou mak'st the sleeping billows roll,
Thou mak'st the rolling billows sleep.

Thy arm is strong, Thy hand is high :
Justice and judgment round Thee wait,
And who can better tell than I,
Thou art as good as Thou art great !

PSALM XC. (FIRST VERSION)

O God of glory, God of grace,
From age to age our dwelling-place,
Before Thy throne we bow.
Ere the vast mountains rose of yore,
When they and earth shall be no more,
The same, O Lord, art Thou.

Man's generations rise and pass,
Like morning flowers, or summer grass,
The creatures of Thy breath.
Our life runs onward like a stream ;
We come and vanish as a dream,
The prey of sin and death.

Unnumbered ills beset our path,
 Our days are darkened 'neath Thy wrath ;
 And yet how heedless we !
 O touch with grace each erring heart,
 True wisdom to each soul impart,
 And win us all to Thee.

We sink, we perish 'neath Thy frown :
 O send Thy healing mercy down,
 To light our coming years !
 Then be they many, be they few,
 Thy grace will bear us safely through,
 Beyond the reach of tears.

PSALM XC. (SECOND VERSION)

THOU art, Thou wert, O Lord,
 Long ere the mountains had their birth ;
 Long ere at Thy creative word,
 Uprose this breathing earth.

Man, like a summer flower,
 Lives through his little varied day,
 The slender creature of an hour,
 That blossoms to decay.

This truth O make us see !
 O bid us, Lord, be timely wise,
 And seek a Saviour, seek from Thee,
 The life that never dies !

Forgive us every sin ;
 Fill our dark souls with joy and light ;
 And let that glorious day begin,
 That never sinks in might.

PSALM XCI. (FIRST VERSION)

THERE is a safe and secret place,
 Beneath the Wings Divine,
 Reserved for all the heirs of grace ;—
 O be that refuge mine !

The least and feeblest there may bide,
 Uninjured and unawed ;
 While thousands fall on every side,
 He rests secure in God.

The angels watch him on his way,
 And aid with friendly arm ;
 And Satan roaring for his prey,
 May hate, but cannot harm.

He feeds in pastures large and fair,
 Of love and truth Divine.
 O child of God, O glory's heir,
 How rich a lot is thine !

A hand almighty to defend,
 An ear for every call,
 An honoured life, a peaceful end,
 And heaven to crown it all !

PSALM XCI. (SECOND VERSION)

O how safe, how happy he,
 Lord of Hosts, who dwells with Thee !
 Sheltered 'neath almighty wings,
 Guarded by the King of kings !
 Thou my Hope, my Refuge art ;
 Touch with grace my rebel heart ;
 Draw me home unto Thy breast ;
 Give me there eternal rest !

Many are the ills and foes,
 Which the child of God inclose ;
 Plagues that walk the sullen night,
 Shafts that fly in noonday light,
 Here his snares the fowler plies,
 There the world's pollution tries.
 Lord, while thousands round me fall,
 Help, and I am safe from all.

How to him should evil come,
 Who has found in Thee a home ?
 Angels round him take their stand,
 Guide him with unerring hand !
 Safe he speeds his conquering way,
 Where the lion lurks to slay ;
 Treads the crested dragon down,
 Hasting to his heavenly crown.

Hark the voice of Love Divine !
 ' Fear not, trembler, thou art Mine !
 Fear not, I am at thy side,
 Strong to succour, sure to guide.
 Call on Me in want or woe,
 I will keep thee here below ;
 And, thy day of conflict past,
 Bear thee to Myself at last !'

PSALM XCII. (FIRST VERSION)

LORD, 'tis a pleasant thing to raise,
 Our hearts to Thee above ;
 In morning's ear to sound Thy praise,
 And tell the night Thy love.

Morning and night new mercies show ;
 O might our gratitude
 To Thee as warmly, freely flow,
 As Thou to us art good.

Thy works are vast, Thy counsels high,
 Beyond our power to scan.
 The summer grass, that springs to die,
 Is not more frail than man.

But Thou, Most High, art still the same ;
 And worthless though we be,
 We hope, when sinners sink to shame,
 To rise and reign with Thee.

PSALM XCII. (SECOND VERSION)

Good it is to praise the Lord,
 Good His holy name to bless ;
 Morn His mercies shall record,
 Night shall hear His faithfulness :
 Great has been His love to me ;
 O that mine might equal be !

Wake, my soul, with all thy powers,
 Speak His wondrous works and ways ;
 Say how great a God is ours,
 Fill creation with His praise ;
 Put the world around to shame,
 Till they love and sing the same.

How should they their homage give,
 Who His grace have never known ?
 How should they before Him live,
 Who must live His foes alone ?
 But the children of our King,
 They are blest, and they should sing.

Sinners in their pride should fall,
 Saints shall higher rise and shine,
 Planted by the Lord of all,
 Watered by His grace Divine,
 Monuments of truth and love
 In His courts below, above !

PSALM XCIII. (FIRST VERSION)

HIGH above created things,
 Reigns the glorious King of kings,
 Seated in approachless light,
 Self-arrayed in awe and might.

Everlasting is His throne ;
 Heaven and earth are all His own,
 Fashioned by His wondrous hand,
 Subject to His strong command.

Ocean lifts his voice on high ;
 Angry waves assault the sky,
 Calmly o'er them sits the Lord,
 And controls them by His word.

Midst the roaring of the sea,
 Sweet it is to Him to flee.
 He is faithful, He is near ;
 Wherefore should His people fear ?

PSALM XCIII. (SECOND VERSION)

THE Lord is on His throne again,
 The Lord who came to die for men,
 His earthly scorns and trials past,
 And heaven's full joy restored at last.

He clothes Himself with holy light,
 Wields in His hands eternal might ;
 The nations tremble at His nod,
 And conscious earth adores her God.

Hark, the deep winds lift up their voice,
 Far 'neath His feet the waves rejoice ;
 The elements are in His hands,
 And rest or rage as He commands.

More fierce and restless, Lord, than they,
 Man's passions too Thy word obey :
 'Tis Thine to temper and control,
 The inward workings of the soul.

Breathe on this world of sin and sense,
 O breathe Thy holiest influence :
 Bid passion's angry tumults cease,
 And reign o'er all the Prince of Peace.

PSALM XCIV.

O God of glory, wake !
 O Judge of earth, arise !
 Our foes amidst their triumphs check,
 And hear Thy people's cries.

We know Thy chastening rod
 Is not upraised to slay ;
 And thank Thee for the strokes, O God,
 That keep us in Thy way.

Our hearts are wild and vain ;
 But Thou art good and wise :
 And all Thou givst of ill and pain,
 Is blessing in disguise.

Thou wilt not cast aside
 The people of Thy love ;
 But through the waves Thine ark will guide,
 And land us safe above.

Lord, Thou hast been our Stay,
 Through years of trial past ;
 And Thou wilt help us all the way,
 To Thee and heaven at last.

PSALM XCV. (FIRST VERSION)

COME, let us to Jehovah raise,
 Our hearts and voices high ;
 Resounding back their love and praise,
 To angels in the sky.

Before Him let us daily come,
 Our daily debt to pay :
 To look on to a heavenly home,
 And serve Him by the way.

The God of gods Jehovah is,
 Before Him let us fall.
 The sea is His, the land is His ;
 He made and loves us all.

Come, let us to His voice attend,
 And for His blessing pray.
 He is our Father, Guide, and Friend,
 O prove Him such to-day.

PSALM XCV. (SECOND VERSION)

COME to His presence with song and with love,
 Praise Him on earth as the angels above.
 The King of salvation, O let us adore Him,
 With hearts and with voices our gratitude show.

Ourselves and our all let us lay down before Him ;
 They cannot repay Him the half that we owe.
 Come to His presence with song and with love,
 Praise Him on earth as the angels above.

Come to His presence, Jehovah is great :
 The armies of glory around Him await.
 He speaks, and the universe trembles to hear Him ;
 The mighty creation arose at His call.

O come to His footstool ; fall down and revere Him,
 The Maker, Upholder, and Ruler of all.
 Come to His presence with song and with love,
 Praise Him on earth as the angels above.

Come to His presence, Jehovah is good,
 His wing is our shelter, His word is our food.
 O come where His Gospel still sweetly is flowing ;
 O come where His people are heard when they pray.

Approach Him with feelings all tender and glowing,
 And taste the full joys of His temple to-day.
 Come to His presence with song and with love ;
 Praise Him on earth as the angels above.

PSALM XCV. (THIRD VERSION)

O COME, loud anthems let us raise ;
 Tune every heart to thankful praise ;
 For heart and voice we well may bring,
 To magnify salvation's King.

O let us to His courts repair,
 And humbly bow before Him there,
 Upon His name devoutly call,
 And yield to Him ourselves, our all.

Into His presence let us haste,
 To thank Him for His mercies past.
 To Him our joyful songs address,
 And ask Him still our souls to bless.

He is our God ; our Shepherd He,
 His flock and pasture sheep are we.
 O hear His word, His grace adore ;
 O praise Him, serve Him evermore !

PSALM XCVI. (FIRST VERSION)

SING to the Lord, His praises sound ;
 Sing to the Lord in joyful strains ;
 Spread the triumphant tidings round,
 And tell the world her Saviour reigns.

Your worthless gods, vain men, forgo,
 And give the God of gods His due,
 Your songs, your hearts, your all bestow,
 On Him, who gave Himself for you.

The Lord is good, the Lord is great :
 How good, how great, what tongue can tell ?
 Glory and grandeur round Him wait,
 And lo ! He comes with man to dwell.

Let heaven be glad, let earth rejoice ;
 Let rocks make answer to the wave.
 Woods, hills, and vales find all a voice,
 For Him, who comes to bless and save !

PSALM XCVI. (SECOND VERSION)

SING to the risen Lord !
A new glad anthem sing !
Let earth to heaven her joy record,
And say that Christ is King.

Proclaim it wide around,
His saving grace proclaim,
That all who live may hear the sound,
And love and praise the same.

Come to His holy seat,
Before Him humbly fall :
Adore, ye nations, at His feet,
And own Him Lord of all.

O holy, good and great,
Beyond our power to scan,
Sublimar honours on Thee wait,
Than spring from dying man.

Let all in heaven rejoice,
Let all creation sing ;
Seas, mountains, woods, find all a voice,
To say that Christ is King.

PSALM XCVI. (THIRD VERSION)

SING to the Lord a new-made song ;
Let all in one assembled throng,
The great Jehovah's might resound,
Sing to the Lord and bless His name :
From day to day His praise proclaim,
And spread His glories wide around.
To heathen lands His works rehearse,
His wonders to the universe.

Tell the wide world Jehovah reigns,
Whose power alone that world sustains,
Whose mercy will its fall restore.
Let heaven its lofty joy confess,
And heavenly mirth let earth express,
Its loud applause let ocean roar.
Its mute inhabitants rejoice,
And for His triumphs find a voice.

For joy let fertile valleys sing,
 And tuneful groves their tribute bring,
 Hills, rocks, and plains, all Nature, wake.
 He comes, He comes, mankind to bless,
 He comes in truth and righteousness,
 His empire o'er this earth to take.
 Through Him we live, on Him we call :
 Hail, glorious, gracious Lord of all !

PSALM XCVII. (FIRST VERSION)

THE Lord is King, let earth be glad ;
 He comes in heavenly glory clad,
 To fix in human hearts His throne,
 And make the mighty world His own.

Darkness and clouds around Him move,
 Himself is everlasting love.
 Ye heathen, at His footstool fall :
 Ye gods, adore the God of all !

Rejoice, ye saints ; the King of kings,
 Appears with healing in His wings.
 Rejoice, your Saviour God to view ;
 He brings but hope and peace to you.

O follow good, and evil flee ;
 His presence then your joy shall be.
 Light for His people here is sown ;
 The full fruit reaped in heaven alone.

PSALM XCVII. (SECOND VERSION)

THE Lord is on His throne on high ;
 Let all the world adore Him !
 The clouds and tempests of the sky,
 Frown dark and solemn o'er Him.
 Wide from His hand the lightnings fly ;
 Earth trembling feels her Maker nigh,
 And bows in awe before Him.

Behold your God, behold and own,
 Ye dark and senseless nations,
 That long to gods of wood and stone
 Have raised your supplications !
 Ye gods, fall down like Dagon prone,
 And to the God of gods alone
 Yield now your adorations !

He reigns His people's hearts to cheer,
 He reigns their bonds to sever.
 Long have they sought to serve Him here,
 Though vain their best endeavour.
 Now God, their Saviour God, is near,
 To bear them high from toil and fear,
 To light and joy for ever.

PSALM XCVIII. (FIRST VERSION)

SING to the Lord, His triumphs tell ;
 Let all to Jesus sing.
 Crushed are the powers of death and hell,
 And Christ alone is King.

Sound forth the glorious Gospel ; sound
 His saving name abroad ;
 Till every sinking heart shall bound,
 And own a present God !

Sing to the Lord, thou fallen world,
 Be joyful and adore :
 The curse from off thy head is hurled,
 Thy fields shall mourn no more.

Awake, ye saints ; let every voice,
 And heart its tribute bring.
 Seas, woods, and hills rejoice, rejoice,
 And say that Christ is King !

PSALM XCVIII. (SECOND VERSION)

THE Lord of heaven to earth is come,
 The Lord expected long :
 Let every heart prepare a home,
 And every voice a song.

He comes to free the fettered slaves,
 Their haughty foes to bind.
 Salvation in His banner waves,
 And waves for all mankind.

The sinner finds a Saviour now,
 His trembling Church a King.
 Ye heathen, at His footstool bow ;
 Believe, adore, and sing !

Exult, ye lame ! behold, ye blind !
 Break forth in song, ye dumb !
 Seas, woods, and mountains voices find,
 And shout, ' The Lord is come !'

PSALM XCIX.

Jehovah reigns, enthroned in state ;
 Ten thousand angels round Him wait,
 To bless and scourge at His award.
 Tremble, thou earth, before thy Lord !

High o'er this little world of sin,
 He sits, and orders all therein.
 Ye nations, own with one accord,
 The holy, holy, holy Lord !

Jehovah reigns, He loves the right ;
 And sin with judgment will requite.
 But ah, His people can declare,
 How well He hears contrition's prayer.

O Wise and Good ! Thou canst, Thou wilt,
 The guilty spare, and slay the guilt.
 Let heart and voice with one accord,
 Adore the holy, holy Lord !

PSALM C. (FIRST VERSION)

With humble love, and holy fear,
 Ye nations, to your God draw near :
 Surround His throne in joyful throngs,
 And give Him service, give Him songs !

The God of gods Jehovah is ;
 He made us all, and we are His :
 His favoured flock, His pasture sheep,
 Whom He has called, and He will keep.

Approach His courts with joy to-day ;
 Before His shrine your homage pay :
 His Gospel hear, His grace entreat ;
 And lay your all down at His feet.

The Lord is good ; His mercies flow,
 As wide as human want and woe.
 O might our grateful homage prove,
 As large and lasting as His love.

PSALM C. (SECOND VERSION)

LET all the world in joyful throngs,
Approach Jehovah's throne ;
To Him pour out their hearts and songs,
And live to Him alone.

Come to His feet, ye nations, come !
Come, own your God and King !
Come, find a safe and happy home,
Beneath His spacious wing !

A word of His has made us all ;
We are His constant care.
Down in His presence let us fall ;
And praise Him daily there.

The Lord is good, the sinners' Friend ;
Eternal is His word.
His grace and truth shall never end ;
Let all adore the Lord.

PSALM C. (THIRD VERSION)

WITH one consent let all the earth,
To God their cheerful voices raise ;
Glad homage pay with awful mirth,
And sing before Him songs of praise.

Convinced that He is God alone,
From whom both we and all proceed ;
We whom He chooses for His own,
The flock whom He vouchsafes to feed.

O enter then His temple gate !
Thence to His courts devoutly press ;
And still your grateful hymns repeat ;
And still His name with praises bless !

For He's the Lord supremely good ;
His mercy is for ever sure ;
His truth, which still has firmly stood,
To endless ages shall endure.

PSALM C. (FOURTH VERSION)

ALL people who on earth do dwell,
 Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
 Him serve with fear ; His praise forth tell ;
 Come ye before Him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed ;
 Without our aid He did us make :
 We are His flock : He doth us feed ;
 And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter, then, His gates with praise,
 Approach with joy His courts unto ;
 Praise, laud, and bless His name always,
 For it is seemly so to do.

For why ? The Lord our God is good ;
 His mercy is for ever sure :
 His truth at all times firmly stood ;
 And shall from age to age endure.

PSALM C. (FIFTH VERSION)

Before Jehovah's awful throne,
 Ye nations bow with sacred joy.
 Know that the Lord is God alone ;
 He can create, and He destroy.

His sovereign power, without our aid,
 Made us of clay and formed us men ;
 And when like wandering sheep we strayed,
 He brought us to His fold again.

We'll crowd Thy gates with thankful songs,
 High as the heavens our voices raise ;
 And earth with her ten thousand tongues,
 Shall fill Thy courts with sounding praise.

Wide as the world is Thy command ;
 Vast as eternity Thy love ;
 Firm as a rock Thy truth shall stand,
 When rolling years shall cease to move.

PSALM CI.

I SING of judgment and of grace,
 And, Lord, to Thee my song address.
 I tell Thee what I fain would be ;
 The change, I know, must spring from Thee.

Blest Spirit, in my heart abide !
 O'er every thought and step preside !
 And bid me walk in peace and love,
 With men on earth, with God above.

O keep me safe from Satan's snare !
 O make me of the world beware !
 Nor let me choose my friends from those,
 That are my kind Redeemer's foes.

The froward heart, the haughty eye,
 The slanderous tongue, be mine to fly ;
 Those whom Thou lovest I would love,
 And dwell with them below, above.

PSALM CII. (FIRST VERSION)

WHEN earthly joys glide fast away,
 When hopes and comforts flee,
 When foes oppress, and friends betray,
 I turn, my God, to Thee.

Thy nature, Lord, no change can know,
 Thy promise still is sure ;
 And ills can ne'er so hopeless grow,
 But Thou canst find a cure.

Deliverance comes most bright and blest,
 At danger's darkest hour ;
 And man's extremity is best,
 To prove almighty power.

High as Thou art, Thou still art near,
 When suppliants succour crave :
 And as Thine ear is swift to hear,
 Thine arm is strong to save.

PSALM CII. (SECOND VERSION)

It comes, the awful hour,
 Of darkness and despair !
 I feel, I feel the tempter's power,
 And flee for aid to prayer.

Frail nature sinks apace ;
 My soul draws nigh the grave ;
 Arise, Almighty God of grace,
 Arise to help and save.

Before Thy feet I bow,
 Beneath Thy wings I fly,
 All faint and desolate, but Thou,
 Wilt not disdain my cry.

Love is Thy holy name,
 The trembling sinner's plea ;
 And love, eternally the same,
 Shall raise and rescue me.

PSALM CIII. (FIRST VERSION)

ADORE my soul, the Lord,
 Adore His holy name ;
 His love to Thee record,
 And try to love the same.
 Life, health, and hope to thee He gave.
 He lives to bless ; He died to save.

The Lord His people loves ;
 The Lord His people tries :
 His anger slowly moves ;
 His willing mercy flies.
 He gives us, not what we might dread,
 But what His grace suggests instead.

Survey yon spacious sky,
 Its silent glories scan ;
 So wide, so vast, so high,
 The love of God to man.
 Far as the east from west appears,
 He drives from us our sins and fears.

He sees with Father's eye ;
 He knows His creature's frame ;
 He hears his feeble cry,
 And thinks from whence he came ;
 A child of dust, a summer flower,
 That blooms and fades within an hour.

Ye angels, praise the Lord,
 For ye in strength excel :
 Ye hear and do His word,
 And in His presence dwell.
 Ye works of His below, above,
 Join with my soul in praise and love.

PSALM CIII. (SECOND VERSION)

PRAISE, my soul, the King of Heaven ;
 To His feet Thy tribute bring !
 Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
 Who like me His praise should sing ?
 Praise Him ! praise Him !
 Praise the everlasting King !

Praise Him for His grace and favour,
 To our fathers in distress !
 Praise Him still the same for ever,
 Slow to chide, and swift to bless !
 Praise Him ! praise Him !
 Glorious in His faithfulness !

Father-like, He tends and spares us ;
 Well our feeble frame He knows.
 In His hands He gently bears us,
 Rescues us from all our foes,
 Praise Him ! praise Him !
 Widely as His mercy flows !

Frail as summer's flower we flourish :
 Blows the wind, and it is gone.
 But while mortals rise and perish,
 God endures unchanging on.
 Praise Him ! praise Him !
 Praise the high eternal One !

Angels, help us to adore Him ;
 Ye behold Him face to face :
 Sun and moon, bow down before Him ;
 Dwellers all in time and space,
 Praise Him ! praise Him !
 Praise with us the God of grace !

PSALM CIII. (THIRD VERSION)

AWAKE, my soul, awake and sing,
 The praises of thy God and King :
 His hourly benefits recall ;
 Awake, my soul, and sing them all !
 My heart, my heart, begin the song ;
 My tongue resound it loud and long ;
 And all within me join the lays,
 That speak my Benefactor's praise !

Awake, my soul, awake and sing,
 The praises of thy God and King ;
 Who raised thee hopeless from the grave,
 And freely all thy guilt forgave ;
 New health bestowed, new food supplies,
 With daily bounty from the skies :
 Lends more than eagle's eye and wing ;—
 Awake my soul, His praise to sing !

The Lord subdues the tyrant's arm,
 And shields His own from every harm.
 Long favoured Israel may declare,
 How well He hears His people's prayer.
 To melting mercy God is prone ;
 His wrath is slow, and quickly gone :
 Our crimes he doth not strictly view :
 Nor sternly bid us take our due.

High is yon azure heaven above ;
 But not so high as heavenly love.
 'Tis far from east to yonder west ;
 Our sins from us are farther cast.
 A father looks not half so mild,
 As God upon His wayward child :
 He knows His creature nought but dust ;
 And loves to show Him more than just.

Behold yon flower ; it springs, it blooms,
 And wide the morning air perfumes ;
 A sudden cloud comes o'er the skies ;
 The blast descends : the floweret dies.
 Such, such is man ; so bright his bloom ;
 So soon he hastens to the tomb ;
 The creature of a summer day,
 That springs, and blows, and fades away.

Not so his God. Unmoved is He,
 While worlds dissolve, and ages flee ;
 And as unmoved His promise stands,
 To all that keep His high commands,
 That build their hopes on grace alone,
 And make almighty strength their own.
 They, when all else shall fail or flee,
 They, Lord, shall rise and reign with Thee.

Praise Him, ye angels, and sustain,
 With your high notes my sinking strain.
 Ye starry hosts that round Him shine,
 Sun, moon, break forth in strains Divine.
 With all thy offspring, earth, arise,
 And join the chorus of the skies.
 Nor thou, my soul, be last to sing,
 The praises of thy God and King.

PSALM CIV. (FIRST VERSION)

My soul, bless the Lord,
 The glorious, the great,
 By angels adored,
 And seated in state :
 The broad ocean under,
 The sky o'er Him cast,
 He speaks in the thunder,
 He walks on the blast !

All creatures on earth,
 Upon Him await ;
 He gave them their birth,
 He gives them their date.
 To Him as a Father,
 For nurture they cry :
 He gives, and they gather ;
 Withholds, and they die.

His Spirit is food
 And life to the soul :
 By Him 'tis renewed,
 By Him 'tis made whole.
 As able to humble,
 As prompt to forgive ;
 He frowns, and we tremble,
 He smiles, and we live.

To God every day,
 My homage I'll bring :
 His will I'll obey,
 His praises I'll sing.
 In sweet meditation,
 His mercies I'll trace ;
 Enjoy His salvation,
 And hope for His face.

PSALM CIV. (SECOND VERSION)

GOD of glory, God of might,
 Seated in approachless light,
 Dwelling where the skies surround,
 Like a tent the blue profound,
 Walking on the tempest loud,
 Riding on the rolling cloud,
 Seated on creation's throne.—
 Thou art King, and Thou alone !

At the voice of Thy command,
 Rose of old the breathing land,
 And the murmuring waters fled,
 Down to their appointed bed ;
 There to rage, and there to roar,
 But to pass their bounds no more,
 Save to feed the fruitful rills,
 Leaping from ten thousand hills.

This wide world is in Thy hand ;
 Thine the sea, and Thine the land.
 When Thou breathest on the earth,
 Plant and flower awake to birth.
 Living creatures, great and small,
 Rose obedient to Thy call ;
 And dependent die or live,
 As Thou dost withhold or give.

Thou art mighty Nature's Soul ;
 By Thy will the seasons roll :
 Elements obey Thy nod :
 Sun and moon confess Thee God.
 Lord of providence and grace,
 Filling, ruling time and space,
 Praise from all that live is Thine ;
 With their hymns I mingle mine.

PSALM CV. (FIRST VERSION)

SING praises to the Lord,
 Adore His holy name ;
 His wondrous works, His saving word,
 To all the world proclaim.

The glories of our King,
 Let every lip record ;
 Let every heart rejoice and sing,
 That humbly seeks the Lord.

O seek Him for His grace !
 O seek Him for His might !
 Seek evermore His glorious face,
 And in His love delight !

His mercies to our sires,
 To us shall be renewed.
 His covenant, when time expires,
 Shall stand as it has stood.

PSALM CV. (SECOND VERSION)

O RENDER thanks, and bless the Lord ;
 Invoke His sacred name.
 Acquaint the nations with His deeds ;
 His matchless deeds proclaim.

Sing to His praise in lofty hymns ;
 His wondrous works rehearse :
 Make them the theme of your discourse,
 And subject of your verse.

Rejoice in His almighty name,
 Alone to be adored :
 Let every heart o'erflow with joy,
 That humbly seeks the Lord.

Seek ye the Lord ; His saving strength,
 Devoutly still implore :
 And where He's ever present seek
 His face for evermore.

PSALM CVI. (FIRST VERSION)

O PRAISE the Lord, for He is good :
 Let all that live His wonders know :
 Proclaim His love, that like a flood,
 Has flowed, and shall for ever flow.

Who can His mighty works declare ?
 Who can His honours duly raise ?
 Lord, for the task our hearts prepare,
 And bid our lives show forth Thy praise.

Enrol us 'midst Thy chosen race,
 Their choicest gifts to us impart ;
 And grant us, Lord, with them a place,
 Before Thy face, beside Thy heart.

Now in the wilderness we roam ;
 O Lord, our guiding Pillar be ;
 So shall we reach our promised home,
 And raise a worthier song to Thee.

PSALM CVI. (SECOND VERSION)

O RENDER thanks to God above,
 The Fountain of eternal love ;
 Whose mercy firm through ages past,
 Has stood, and shall for ever last.

Who can His wondrous works express,
 As vast as they are numberless ?
 What mortal eloquence can raise,
 His tribute of immortal praise ?

Extend to me that favour, Lord,
 Thou to Thy chosen dost afford ;
 When Thou return'st to set them free,
 Let Thy salvation visit me.

O while around Thy throne they prove,
 The fullness of eternal love,
 Their joyful chorus let me join,
 And make Thy people's triumph mine !

PSALM CVII. (FIRST VERSION)

O PRAISE the Lord, the God of grace,
The Saviour of our fallen race ;
Who saw us in the desert roam,
And sought, and bore us safely home.

He found us hungry, and He fed
Our fainting souls with living bread ;
The milk, the manna, of His word.
O that all hearts would praise the Lord !

The Lord the lonely captive cheers ;
The Lord dries up the mourner's tears :
Binds every wound, bursts every chain,
And helps when other help is vain !

There lives no grief He cannot heal ;
No curse His grace may not repeal.
The feeblest prayer by Him is heard—
O that all hearts would praise the Lord !

PSALM CVII. (SECOND VERSION)

THE seaman on the swelling sea,
Meets God in all His majesty ;
He sees Him walk the wind and wave,
And finds Him daily strong to save.

The storm awakes ; the billows rise ;
The staggering ship ascends the skies.
Thence down they sink in deep despair ;
And nought seems left them—nought but prayer.

They cry ; and lo, their cry is heard !
Their God redeems them with a word.
He speaks, and instant at His will,
The tempest and their fears are still.

Swift o'er the main the vessel glides ;
Soon in the promised haven hides :
Home, friends, and peace are now restored.
O that all hearts would praise the Lord !

PSALM CVII. (THIRD VERSION)

BLEST be the mighty Lord !
 The seas obey His will.
 He called, and lo, the billows heard !
 He spake, the storm was still !

Fierce was the swelling flood,
 And weak and helpless I.
 But God above the tempest stood,
 And made its rage comply.

Lord, still make bare Thine arm,
 When dangers on us press.
 What fears can move, what foes can harm,
 With Thee at hand to bless ?

My shattered bark O guide,
 O'er life's tempestuous sea ;
 And bring me safe through wind and tide,
 To heaven at last and Thee !

PSALM CVIII. (FIRST VERSION)

My God, my King,
 Thy praise I'll sing ;
 My heart is all Thine own.
 My highest powers,
 My choicest hours,
 I yield to Thee alone.

My voice, awake,
 Thy part to take ;
 My soul, the concert join ;
 Till all around,
 Shall catch the sound,
 And mix their hymns with mine.

But man is weak,
 Thy praise to speak ;
 Your God, ye angels, sing :
 Ye taste and see,
 More near than we,
 The glories of our King.

His truth and grace,
 Fill time and space ;
 As large His honours be ;
 Till all that live,
 Their homage give,
 And praise my God with me.

PSALM CVIII. (SECOND VERSION)

My heart its God would sing,
 But ah, my powers are small.
 Spirit of grace, Thy succour bring,
 And raise and claim them all.

At morn, at noon, at night,
 In secret and abroad,
 O make it still my chief delight,
 To thank and praise my God !

Beyond the spreading sky,
 Thy love and truth extend.
 Set up Thy glory, Lord, on high,
 And reign the sinner's Friend.

Let earth her Monarch know ;
 Set all Thy people free :
 And while Thou healest others' woe,
 Be gracious, Lord, to me.

PSALM CIX.

STRANGER and pilgrim here below,
 I turn for refuge, Lord, to Thee.
 Thou knowst my every want and woe ;
 O smite my foes, and rescue me !

Thy name is Love—for that name's sake,
 Sustain and cheer my sinking soul.
 Thou seest me low, and poor, and weak :
 O speak the word, and make me whole.

Help, Lord ! let all my foes perceive,
 'Tis Thine to comfort or condemn.
 With Thee to bless me and relieve,
 I little heed reproach from them.

Arise, then, on my soul arise !
 Thy sheltering wings around me cast !
 And all that now afflicts or tries,
 Shall work my peace, O Lord, at last.

PSALM CX. (FIRST VERSION)

JEHOVAH to Messiah said,
 At my right hand exalted be,
 Until Thine enemies are made
 Thy footstool, subjected to Thee ;
 In the midst among Thy foes,
 Thou shalt reign, and none oppose.

In Zion shall Thine empire be ;
 Thy rod of strength Thy throne of grace,
 And Zion's sons shall welcome Thee,
 And meet Thee in Thy holy place.
 Like the dew from morning's womb ;
 Bright and countless shall they come.

I swore, and heaven's courts within,
 Declared and registered the vow,
 For ever Priest, for ever King,
 The true Melchizedek art Thou.
 Prince of Peace and Righteousness,
 Thou shalt reign and Thou shalt bless.

Insulting kings shall own Thy sway,
 Opposing nations feel Thy wrath ;
 Destruction mark Thine onward way,
 And death and judgment strew Thy path.
 He who drank and hastened on,
 His the triumph, His the crown !

PSALM CX. (SECOND VERSION)

REDEMPTION'S holy work was done ;
 The Saviour back from earth returned ;
 The Father hailed His conquering Son,
 And gave the crown He well had earned.
 Ascend, He cried, and share My throne ;
 Ascend, and make all hearts Thy own !

Ascend, and fill Thy native seat,
 Eternal Prophet, Priest, and King ;
 While foes lie scattered 'neath Thy feet,
 And friends their free-will offerings bring,
 And converts at Thy word are born,
 As plenteous as the dews at morn !

Messiah hears, ascends His throne,
 Begins His mediatorial reign ;
 He claims the nations for His own ;
 He calls the world to God again ;
 And pleads with Him His promise past,
 That all shall be restored at last.

For this He sojourned long below,
 A Pilgrim in a world of sin,
 And drained Himself the cup of woe,
 A better lot for man to win :
 Upon His cross, upon His throne,
 He died, He lives for man alone !

PSALM CXI. (FIRST VERSION)

PRAISE ye the Lord ! My spirit glows,
 To pay the grateful debt she owes :
 With heart and tongue, at home, abroad,
 Be mine to serve and praise my God.

His works are great. Let those declare
 How great, who His salvation share.
 Let age to age with joy record,
 The might and mercy of the Lord.

His ways are just ; His precepts pure ;
 They stand for ever fast and sure ;
 And, more than all, His grace is given,
 To help His saints o'er earth to heaven.

Redemption is through Christ revealed,
 By covenant ordained and sealed :
 And wise are they who onward move,
 Through holy fear to joy and love.

PSALM CXI. (SECOND VERSION)

PRAISE ye the Lord ! Her God to praise,
 My soul her utmost powers shall raise :
 'Mid private friends, and in the throng
 Of saints, His praise shall be my song.

His bounty like a flowing tide,
 Hath all His people's wants supplied ;
 His truth, confirmed through ages past,
 Shall to eternal ages last.

Just are the dealings of His hands ;
 Immutable are His commands :
 He sets His saints from bondage free.
 O may His grace deliver me !

Who wisdom's sacred prize would win,
 Must with the fear of God begin.
 Thrice happy they to whom 'tis given,
 To walk with Him o'er earth to heaven.

PSALM CXII. (FIRST VERSION)

BLEST is the man who knows the Lord,
 Who joys to work His holy will ;
 He rests on God's unchanging word,
 And finds it food and counsel still.

In prosperous times, when Satan tries,
 His grace shall strengthen Nature's powers ;
 And light break in with sweet surprise,
 To cheer affliction's darkest hours.

God's image in His child we see ;
 He feels for others' woe and pain ;
 And, loving all around him, he
 Is loved himself by God again.

His heart is fixed. He learns to rise,
 Above this little world of tears ;
 And, strong in One beyond the skies,
 He smiles at earthly foes and fears.

PSALM CXII. (SECOND VERSION)

THAT man is blest who stands in awe
 Of God, and loves His sacred law ;
 To pity the distressed inclined,
 As well as just to all mankind.

If trials come, 'tis his to feel
 That God who smites can also heal ;
 The soul that's filled with Gospel light
 Shines brightest in affliction's night.

Beset with threatening dangers round,
 Unmoved shall he maintain his ground ;
 The sweet remembrance of the just,
 Shall flourish when he sleeps in dust.

Ill tidings never can surprise,
 His heart that fixed on God relies ;
 On safety's Rock he sits, and sees
 The shipwreck of his enemies.

PSALM CXIII. (FIRST VERSION)

PRAISE ye the Lord ! His servants, raise
 Your hearts and voices in His praise :
 His presence seek, His name adore ;
 O praise the Lord for evermore !

His praise begins. I hear it run,
 From rising to the setting sun.
 From clime to clime it rolls along ;
 And heaven to earth repeats the song.

Above the earth, beyond the sky,
 The Lord in glory reigns on high.
 The best is vile, the brightest dim,
 The loftiest low, compared with Him.

Yet suppliant misery's faintest groan,
 Can reach Him on His lofty throne ;
 And all the Godhead from above,
 Flows down in melting grace and love.

Lord, to our feeble cry attend ;
 Be still the contrite sinner's Friend :
 Still mark our wants, and hear our plea,
 And bear us on to heaven and Thee.

PSALM CXIII. (SECOND VERSION)

YE saints and servants of the Lord,
 The triumphs of His grace record ;
 His sacred name for ever bless.
 Where'er the circling sun displays,
 His rising or his setting rays,
 To Him let all their praise address.

God through the world extends His sway ;
 The splendours of eternal day,
 But shadows of His glory are.
 With Him supreme in love and might,
 Who said, ' Be light,' and there was light,
 Let no created power compare.

Though 'tis beneath His state to view,
 In highest heaven what angels do,
 Yet He to earth vouchsafes His care.
 He takes the needy from his cell,
 And gives him in His courts to dwell,
 Companion to the greatest there.

Thus, Lord, to us extend Thy grace,
 Thus find us in Thy courts a place,
 Secure from earthly sin and pain.
 And having walked awhile below,
 With Christ our pilgrimage of woe,
 Then let us rise with Him to reign.

PSALM CXIV. (FIRST VERSION)

WHEN Israel forth from bondage passed,
 The Lord of Hosts before Him trod ;
 The sea beheld, and fled aghast ;
 The mountains shook, and owned their God.

Why do ye shake, ye mountains ? Why,
 Thou swelling deep, so fast retreat ?
 Earth, tremble on ; thy God is nigh !
 And who shall dare His face to meet ?

But ah, when Jesus came to earth,
 He left His royal pomps above ;
 Sweet strains of peace announced His birth,
 And fear was lost in joy and love.

His acts were acts of grace alone ;
 He came Himself for man to give ;
 He stooped to raise us to His throne ;
 He died that we might ever live.

O flee from Israel's God of awe,
 To Christ, the sinner's Hope and Plea ;
 Embrace the Gospel for the Law,
 And let the Judge thy Saviour be !

PSALM CXIV. (SECOND VERSION)

WHEN bursts the soul its earthly chains,
 And dares be greatly free,
 What hopes and terrors, joys and pains,
 Must long its portion be !

It launches on a weary road,
 Beset with ills and foes ;
 Yet leads that narrow way to God,
 And glory crowns its close.

When clouds frown o'er it wide and drear,
 When dangers round increase,
 The Lord shall through the storm appear,
 And awe its rage to peace.

Our ills are soon turned all to good,
 With Jesus for our Friend ;
 And every trial by the road,
 Shall sweeter make the end.

PSALM CXV.

Nor unto us, Almighty Lord,
 But to Thyself, the glory be.
 Created by Thine awful word,
 We only live to honour Thee.

Where is their God ? the heathen cry,
 And bow to senseless wood and stone ;
 Our God, we tell them, fills the sky,
 And calls ten thousand worlds His own.

Vain gods ! vain men ! The Lord alone,
 Is Israel's worship, Israel's Friend.
 O fear His power ! His goodness own !
 And love Him, trust Him to the end !

Who lean on Him from strength to strength,
 From light to light, shall onward move !
 Till through the grave they pass at length,
 To sing on high His saving love.

PSALM CXVI. (FIRST VERSION)

I LOVE the Lord. I'll love Him now,
 While life shall leave me power to love ;
 And call on Him, who deigned to bow,
 And heed me from His throne above ;
 Who marked the tears, and heard the cry,
 And helped the prayer, of such as I.

Long had I roamed secure and blind,
 But knew my sinful self at last ;
 And all the woes of sin assigned,
 In dark array before me past ;
 And death and hell rushed full on me,
 My portion through eternity.

To God I turned in wild distress,
 And for my soul deliverance sought :
 And He was prompt to hear and bless,
 Beyond what I had asked or thought.
 He came to earth ; He died for me ;
 And brought me life and liberty.

Rest then, my soul, securely rest !
 The Lord Himself will guard thee now.
 Upon a Saviour's bleeding breast,
 Thy weary head in peace may bow.
 He there invites thee to recline,
 And call His strength and merits thine.

O blessed change for me forlorn !
 And blessed He through endless years,
 Who thus my soul from death has borne,
 My feet from falling, eyes from tears !
 To Him those feet, those eyes shall turn,
 That soul for Him shall ever burn.

PSALM CXVI. (SECOND VERSION)

DARK was my lot ; and long it spurned
 The poor reliefs that man could give ;
 Till God my wayward spirit turned,
 And bade me see, believe, and live.
 Then flowed my tears ; then woke my tongue ;
 And loud His grace to sinners sung.

O what return can I bestow,
 Bestow, my God, on mighty Thee ?
 What can I give, that will not flow,
 In tenfold blessings back on me ?
 How rich on earth Thy cup of love !
 How richer still the fount above !

Be mine to own Thy gentle sway,
 To live, to die on Thee alone.
 Whom should I love, and whom obey,
 But Him who made me twice His own ?
 Who formed me by His living breath ?
 Who rescued me from sin and death ?

Him will I praise ; heart, hand, and tongue,
 To Him shall daily offerings bring ;
 I'll dwell His ransomed train among,
 The Lamb's high song with them to sing :
 Till I shall join a brighter choir,
 And lend a theme to every lyre.

PSALM CXVI. (THIRD VERSION)

I LOVE the Lord, the gracious Lord,
 Who heard my humble prayer,
 Who sent His bright consoling word,
 And snatched me from despair.

On Him my hopes secure shall dwell,
 Through every coming ill :
 He saved me now from death and hell,
 And He can save me still.

Rest, then, my wandering spirit, rest
 Beneath Thy Saviour's wings.
 No foe can reach thee in the breast,
 Of Him, the King of kings.

He stayed my feet when nigh to fall,
 He dried my tearful eyes ;
 And He will bear me safe through all,
 To glory in the skies.

PSALM CXVI. (FOURTH VERSION)

REDEEMED from guilt, redeemed from fears,
 My soul enlarged, and dried my tears,
 What can I do, O Love Divine,
 What, to repay such gifts as Thine ?

What can I do, so poor, so weak,
 But from Thy hands new blessings seek ?
 A heart to feel my mercies more,
 A soul to know Thee, and adore ?

O teach me at Thy feet to fall,
 And yield Thee up myself, my all ;
 Before Thy saints my debt to own,
 And live and die to Thee alone !

Thy Spirit, Lord, at large impart ;
 Expand, and raise, and fill my heart :
 So may I hope my life shall be,
 Some faint return, O Lord, to Thee.

PSALM CXVII.

O PRAISE the Lord ! ye nations, pour
 Your praises at His shrine :
 Around the world, from shore to shore,
 Roll on the strain Divine.

Let all that live their tributes bring ;
 They live through Him alone ;
 Let every breeze upon its wing,
 Waft homage to His throne.

Ye angels that behold His face,
 His love to earth proclaim :
 Ye earthly children of His grace,
 Resound it back to them.

How rich His mercy, how Divine !
 His truth how deep and broad !
 From age to age the same they shine.
 Let all adore our God !

PSALM CXVIII. (FIRST VERSION)

O BLESS the Lord, the gracious Lord,
 Eternal is His love ;
 By all on earth be Thou adored,
 And praised by all above.

To Thee I never raised mine eye,
 But Thou wert strong and near ;
 As poor and helpless still am I,
 And Thou as prompt to hear.

They hedged me in ; they sought my fall ;
 My soul they sorely thrust.
 The Lord has borne me safe through all ;
 The Lord is still my trust.

With Him I hope to rise and shine,
 Through many future days ;
 And while the mercies all are mine,
 To Him be all the praise.

PSALM CXVIII. (SECOND VERSION)

WITHIN Thy sacred gates again,
 O Lord, we now appear.
 Help us to join the favoured train,
 That meet and praise Thee here.

On Christ, that sure Foundation Stone,
 The builders cast aside,
 Thy Church, we know, shall flourish on,
 Whatever ills betide.

'Tis Thine to give us there a place,
 Our souls to raise and cheer :
 And this is, Lord, Thy day of grace,
 When Thou art wont to hear.

Descend then, Lord ; Thy people meet ;
 Descend to bless and save :
 Receive us bending at Thy feet,
 And take the best we have.

PSALM CXIX. (FIRST VERSION)

BLEST is the heart enlarged by grace,
 Enlightened by Thy word ;
 Deeply its hallowed truths impress,
 Upon my soul, O Lord.

A stranger 'mid a world of sin,
 From Thee I hourly fall.
 O light Thy lamp my breast within ;
 And guide me safe through all.

My soul cleaves to the dust. O burst
 My chains, and set me free.
 Give my fall'n heart a nobler thirst,
 And bid me live to Thee.

Still let Thy precepts guide me right,
 While here on earth I rove.
 And lead me on from faith to sight,
 To praise Thee more above.

PSALM CXIX. (SECOND VERSION)

WORD OF GOD, in mercy given,
 To the pilgrims of a day,
 To conduct our steps to heaven,
 To console us by the way,
 Blessed Gospel,
 Be through life our guide and stay.

Thine it is the soul to quicken,
 Cleaving to this earthly clod ;
 Thine, when troubles round us thicken,
 To proclaim a present God ;
 And remind us,
 Who it is that holds the rod.

What the steps of youth can order,
 Like the lamp of Truth Divine ?
 What can cheer life's gloomy border,
 But that still small voice of Thine,
 Sweetly whispering,
 Fear not, trembler, thou art Mine !

Thou, when Nature's powers are sinking,
 Heavenly health and hope canst give ;
 At Thy fount refreshment drinking,
 Dying souls arise and live.
 Bread of heaven,
 Let us all of Thee receive.

Shine on every clime and nation ;
 Soothe all human wants and woes ;
 Bear us safe through all temptation ;
 Shield us from all fears and foes.
 Glorious Gospel,
 Lead us, feed us, to the close !

PSALM CXIX. (THIRD VERSION)

My Hiding-Place, my Refuge-Tower,
 My Shield art Thou, O Lord !
 I firmly anchor all my hopes,
 On Thy sustaining Word.

Secure, substantial peace have they,
 Who truly love Thy law :
 No smiling mischief them shall tempt,
 No frowning danger awe.

Eternal and unerring rules
 Thy testimonies give :
 O bid my weak and wavering soul
 To Thee for ever live.

According to Thy gracious Word,
 From danger set me free ;
 Nor make me of those hopes ashamed,
 That I repose on Thee.

PSALM CXX.

ON God I've called in trouble's hour,
 And never called in vain.
 Again afflictions round me lower ;
 Lord, hear and help again.

A stranger's lot, a pilgrim's fare,
 Is all I meet below ;
 In every sweet I find a snare ;
 In every smile a foe.

Ah, woe is me, that I must roam
 So long this land of tears !
 When shall my spirit reach her home,
 Above all foes and fears ?

There is a peace that none can break,
 A joy that ne'er shall flee.
 When shall I lay me down to wake
 To these, O Lord, and Thee ?

PSALM CXXI. (FIRST VERSION)

My help comes down from God above,
 Who made the earth and skies :
 His arm is might, His heart is love ;
 To Him I lift mine eyes.

Preserved by Him I safe shall dwell,
 My footsteps shall not slide.
 What should I fear from earth or hell,
 While God is at my side ?

His eye is watchful o'er me still,
 And guards me day and night ;
 His hand is nigh to shield from ill,
 And guide my steps aright.

My soul with Him shall go and come,
 Secure through every snare,
 Pass on to her eternal home,
 And serve Him better there.

PSALM CXXI. (SECOND VERSION)

To Zion's hill I lift mine eyes,
 From thence expecting aid ;
 From Zion's hill and Zion's God,
 Who heaven and earth has made.

Rest then, my soul, in safety rest !
 Thy Guardian will not sleep.
 A powerful arm, a wakeful eye,
 Will Israel watch and keep.

Sheltered beneath almighty wings,
 Thou shalt securely rest ;
 Where neither sun nor moon shall thee
 By day or night molest.

At home, abroad, in peace and war,
 Thy God shall thee defend ;
 Conduct thee through life's pilgrimage,
 And crown thy journey's end.

PSALM CXXII. (FIRST VERSION)

SWEET is the solemn voice that calls,
 The Christian to the house of prayer ;
 I love to stand within its walls,
 For Thou, O Lord, art present there.

I love to tread the hallowed courts,
 Where two or three for worship meet ;
 For thither Christ Himself resorts,
 And makes the little band complete.

'Tis sweet to raise the common song,
 To join in holy praise and love ;
 And imitate the blessed throng,
 That mingle hearts and songs above.

Within these walls may peace abound !
 May all our hearts in one agree !
 Where brethren meet, where Christ is found,
 May peace and concord ever be.

PSALM CXXII. (SECOND VERSION)

O PRAY we all for Salem's peace ;
 For they shall prosperous be,
 Thou holy city of our God,
 Who bear true love to Thee.

May peace within thy sacred walls,
 A constant guest be found ;
 With plenty and prosperity
 Thy palaces be crowned !

For my dear brethren's sake, and friends
 No less than brethren dear,
 I'll pray, may peace in Salem's towers
 A constant guest appear.

But most of all I'll seek thy good,
 And ever wish thee well,
 For Sion and the Temple's sake,
 Where God vouchsafes to dwell.

PSALM CXXIII

UNTO Thee I lift my eyes,
 Thou that dwellest in the skies ;
 At Thy throne I meekly bow,
 Thou canst save, and only Thou.

As a servant marks his lord,
 As a maid her mistress' word,
 So I watch and wait on Thee,
 Till Thy mercy visit me.

Let Thy face upon me shine,
 Tell me, Lord, that Thou art mine ;
 Poor and little though I be,
 I have all in having Thee.

Here to be despised, forgot,
 Is Thy children's common lot :
 But with Thee to make it up,
 Lord, I ask no better cup.

PSALM CXXIV.

THE Lord is on our side,
 We need not feel alarm ;
 With Him to guard, with Him to guide,
 What enemy can harm ?

Before, when like a flood,
 Our foes upon us rose,
 The Lord has o'er the tempest stood,
 And awed it to repose.

The Lord maintains our cause ;
 His interposing care,
 Has snatched us from the lion's jaws,
 And burst the fowler's snare.

Though poor and helpless we,
 The Almighty to defend ;
 The world is His, and He, yea, He,
 Will help us to the end.

PSALM CXXV. (FIRST VERSION)

As firm as Zion's rock are they,
Who trust in Zion's King ;
They find a sure and lasting stay,
Beneath His sheltering wing.

The hills do not Jerusalem
More safely round enclose,
Than heavenly arms encircle them,
And shield them from their foes.

The rod upon their lot may come,
But shall not settle there,
'Twould scourge them to their heavenly home,
Not drive them to despair.

Lord, by a safe and pleasant path,
Thy flock to Zion lead ;
And while the froward feel Thy wrath,
Thy people bless and feed.

PSALM CXXV. (SECOND VERSION)

Who place on Zion's God their trust,
Like Zion's rock shall stand,
Fixed and upheld immovably,
By an almighty hand.

Look, how the hills on every side
Jerusalem enclose ;
So stands the Lord around His saints,
To guard them from their foes.

Afflictions may be theirs awhile,
But cannot long oppress ;
His smile shall turn them now to good,
And all at last redress.

The wicked shall not prosper long,
Beneath their Maker's frown ;
And the same hour that wrecks their hopes,
Shall bring His saints their crown.

PSALM CXXVI. (FIRST VERSION)

WHEN Jesus to our rescue came,
 And set our spirits free,
 It seemed at first some happy dream,
 Of all we longed to see.

Our hearts with raptures sweet and strange,
 Our lips with song o'erflowed ;
 And all around beheld the change,
 And owned the hand of God.

'The Lord,' they said, 'great things hath done.'
 'Yea, things,' we cried, 'Divine.'
 Then perfect, Lord, Thy work begun,
 And make us wholly Thine.

Thrice happy they in tears that sow,
 To reap in joy and love ;
 That drop their seed on earth below,
 And find their sheaves above.

PSALM CXXVI. (SECOND VERSION)

A CAPTIVE long 'neath sense and sin,
 In dark despair I lay ;
 The Lord upon my soul looked in,
 And turned my night to day.

I saw the glory round me break ;
 I felt the darkness flee ;
 I seemed as from a dream to wake,
 And cried, 'It cannot be.'

God's glorious ways I judged by mine,
 Nor half His goodness knew ;
 But (O the depth of love Divine !)
 I found the whole was true.

My heart was full, my tongue was fain,
 My praises flowed apace ;
 And many round me joined the strain,
 And sang with me His grace.

Behold, I cried, what God has wrought,
 Beyond my hope or claim ;
 Ye mourners, mark my altered lot,
 He offers you the same.

O holy sighs ! O happy tears !
 By contrite spirits poured.
 O sacred salutary fears,
 That drive us to the Lord !

The praying lip, the weeping eye,
 Point on to better days ;
 When tears to smiles shall change on high.
 And prayer be turned to praise.

PSALM CXXVII.

O LET the people of the Lord,
 On Him alone depend ;
 His mercies past with joy record,
 And trust Him to the end.

When He assists the house to build,
 Secure and strong it stands.
 The city He vouchsafes to shield,
 Is safe from hostile hands.

To late retire, and early rise,
 Cannot ensure success ;
 And thrift his labours vainly plies,
 Without the Lord to bless.

Children and friends, yea, every good
 We hold, are all the Lord's.
 O happy were our gratitude
 As large as His rewards !

PSALM CXXVIII.

How blest the man who fears the Lord,
 Who walks by His unerring word ;
 His labours find a full increase,
 His days are crowned with health and peace.

Domestic comfort builds her nest,
 Beneath his roof, within his breast ;
 And earth's best blessings hourly rise,
 To cheer his pathway to the skies.

But earth's best gifts are poor to those,
 The Spirit on his soul bestows ;
 The earnest here of joys above,
 The foretaste of eternal love.

Onward he goes from strength to strength,
Till heaven's bright morning breaks at length,
And calls him to his full reward—
How blest the man who fears the Lord !

PSALM CXXIX.

How many, Lord, my fall have sought,
And tried me from my birth !
The heir of heaven, I see, must not
Expect his home on earth.

Yet foes and snares have joined in vain,
My steadfastness to move ;
A monument I still remain,
Of Thine unchanging love.

The Lord is strong, the Lord is good :
Though human powers may fail,
The wicked in their fiercest mood,
'Gainst Him cannot prevail.

On Zion, Lord, arise and shine ;
Bid all her sufferings cease ;
Blight with one look her foes and Thine,
And give Thy people peace !

PSALM CXXX. (FIRST VERSION)

FROM deep distress to Thee I cry ;
O Lord, vouchsafe me a reply !
Where should a trembling sinner turn,
Shouldst Thou remain unmoved and stern ?

But there is mercy, Lord, with Thee ;
Yea, mercy e'en for guilty me.
To Thee I fly, on Thee depend,
Nor dare distrust the sinner's Friend.

The shipwrecked sailor does not watch,
More wistfully the dawn to catch,
Than waits my soul, O Lord, to trace,
The opening daylight of Thy face.

O to Thy trembling suppliant prove,
A God of hope, a God of love !
I know Thy grace is large and free,
Lord, pour it largely now on me !

PSALM CXXX. (SECOND VERSION)

FROM depths of woe to God I cry,
 And God my cry will hear :
 The Friend of sinners reigns on high,
 And suppliants need not fear.

I cast me on Thy plighted word,
 I knock at mercy's gate ;
 O hear my supplication, Lord,
 Receive me ere too late !

As seamen on the stormy main,
 As pilgrims on their road,
 Look out by night for morn again,
 So looks my soul for God.

Sweet are the dawnings of His grace,
 More sweet the perfect day.
 Rise, Sun of Righteousness, and chase
 Each lingering cloud away !

PSALM CXXX. (THIRD VERSION)

MY soul with patience waits,
 On Thee, the living Lord :
 My hopes are on Thy promise built,
 Thy never-failing word.

My longing hopes look out,
 For Thy enlivening ray,
 More than the eyes that watch all night,
 To spy the dawning day.

Let Israel trust in God !
 No bounds His mercy knows ;
 The plenteous source and spring, from whence
 Eternal succour flows.

His grace for all our wants,
 Can full supplies convey ;
 A healing spring, a spring to cleanse,
 And wash our guilt away.

PSALM CXXXI.

HUMBLE, Lord, my haughty spirit ;
 Bid my swelling thoughts subside ;
 Strip me of my fancied merit :
 What have I to do with pride ?
 Was my Saviour meek and lowly ?
 And shall such a worm as I,
 Weak, and earthly, and unholy,
 Dare to lift my head on high !

Teach me, Lord, my true condition ;
 Bring me childlike to Thy knee,
 Stripped of every low ambition,
 Willing to be led by Thee.
 Guide me by Thy Holy Spirit ;
 Feed me from Thy blessed Word :
 All my wisdom, all my merit,
 Borrowed from Thyself, O Lord !

Like a little babe, confiding,
 Simple, docile, let me be ;
 Trusting still to Thy providing,
 Casting every care on Thee.
 Thus my all to Thee submitting,
 I am Thine, and not my own ;
 And, when earthly hopes are fitting,
 Rest secure on God alone.

PSALM CXXXII.

IN this wide, weary world of care,
 How kindly God to man hath given,
 A Sabbath-day, a house of prayer,
 Fair emblems of approaching heaven !

Here pilgrims view their future home ;
 Here find refreshment by the way ;
 And here we to Thy footstool come,
 And seek Thy favour, Lord, to-day !

Arise, O Lord, Thy Church to bless ;
 Shower down Thy graces from above.
 O clothe Thy priests in righteousness !
 O crown Thy saints with light and love !

Thy chosen flock, blest Saviour, lead ;
 In every heart set up Thy shrine :
 The naked clothe, the hungry feed,
 And make us all for ever Thine.

PSALM CXXXIII.

'Tis a pleasant thing to see,
 Brethren in the Lord agree,
 Children of a God of love,
 Live as they shall live above ;
 Acting each a Christian part,
 One in lip, and one in heart.

As the precious ointment shed,
 Upon Aaron's hallowed head,
 Downward through his garments stole,
 Spreading odour o'er the whole ;
 So from our High Priest above,
 To His Church flows heavenly love.

Gently as the dews distil,
 Down on Zion's holy hill,
 Dropping gladness where they fall,
 Brightening and refreshing all ;
 Such is Christian union, shed
 Through the members from the Head.

Where Divine affection lives,
 There the Lord His blessing gives ;
 There His will on earth is done ;
 There His heaven is half begun.
 Lord, our great Example prove,
 Teach us all like Thee to love !

PSALM CXXXIV.

PRAISE to God on high be given,
 Praise from all in earth and heaven.
 Ye that in His presence stand,
 Ye that walk by His command,
 Saints below, and hosts above,
 Praise, O praise, the God of love !

Praise Him at the dawn of light,
 Praise Him at returning night ;
 Strings and voices, hands and hearts,
 In His praises bear your parts.
 Thou that madest earth and sky,
 Bless us in return from high !

PSALM CXXXV.

O PRAISE the Lord, ye saints of His !
 For ye His goodness know ;
 And sweet to grateful hearts it is,
 To pay the debt they owe.

O praise the Lord, the Strong, the Wise !
 He watches o'er His sheep,
 His will is law through earth and skies :
 And He His flock will keep.

The elements His word obey,
 The world is in His hand !
 And ills and blessings go or stay,
 As He may give command.

His love to Israel's froward race,
 His Church may still assure ;
 And all who trust His saving grace,
 Shall find their trust secure.

PSALM CXXXVI. (FIRST VERSION)

O LIFT your hearts ! O tune your tongues !
 The God of glory claims your songs :
 The Lord of lords, the King of kings,
 Who life to all and comfort brings ;
 The Strong, the Wonderful, the Wise,
 Who filled the seas, who spread the skies.
 Sing, saints below ; sing, hosts above ;
 Tell earth and heaven that God is love.

Thou God of Israel, Thou of old,
 From Egypt ledd'st Thy captive fold ;
 The sea at Thy command withdrew,
 And gave Thy flock a passage through.
 The skies rained manna on their road ;
 Streams in the burning desert flowed ;
 And all around, and all above,
 Proclaimed a present God of love.

O God of providence and grace,
 The same in every time and place,
 Thy flock on earth are wanderers now,
 And who can guide or save but Thou ?
 Through Thee refreshment round us flows,
 The desert blossoms as the rose ;
 And earth is heaven, while here we prove
 An omnipresent God of love.

PSALM CXXXVI. (SECOND VERSION)

SING praises to the Lord,
 The Wise, the Good, the Grand,
 Who formed us by His word,
 Who leads us with His hand.
 The Lord will prove
 A faithful Friend ;
 His might and love
 Will never end.

Sing praises to our God,
 Who bade the world to be,
 Who spread the skies abroad,
 And filled the sounding sea.
 The Lord will prove
 A faithful Friend ;
 His might and love
 Will never end.

Sing praise to Him whose eye,
 Beheld us near the grave :
 And sent His Son from high,
 To succour and to save.
 The Lord will prove
 A faithful Friend ;
 His might and love
 Will never end.

Sing, creatures all below !
 Sing, angels in the height !
 Ye all your tributes owe ;
 Let all in praise unite.
 The Lord will prove
 A faithful Friend ;
 His might and love
 Will never end.

PSALM CXXXVII. (FIRST VERSION)

By Babel's waters, dark and wide,
 A lonely band we sat and sighed :
 Our harps upon the willows slept ;
 We thought of Zion—thought, and wept.

Our foes the while, with taunting tongues,
 Cried, ' Sing us one of Zion's songs !'
 Yea, they who held us captive there,
 Demanded mirth from our despair.

Where should we find a heart to sing,
 On hostile ground to God our King ?
 How should our souls forgetful be,
 O Zion, of our home, and thee.

No ! let my hand forget her skill,
 My tongue in death be mute and still,
 When thou shalt cease my joy to be,
 When aught beside I match with thee !

Soon, Lord, the blessed season bring,
 When Zion from the dust shall spring ;
 Her captive children burst their chain,
 And find their long-lost home again.

PSALM CXXXVII. (SECOND VERSION)

FAR from my heavenly home,
 Far from my Father's breast,
 Fainting I cry, blest Spirit, come,
 And speed me to my rest.

Upon the willows long,
 My harp has silent hung ;
 How should I sing a cheerful song,
 Till thou inspire my tongue ?

My spirit homeward turns,
 And fain would thither flee.
 My heart, O Zion, droops and yearns,
 When I remember thee.

To thee, to thee, I press,
 A dark and toilsome road.
 When shall I pass the wilderness,
 And reach the saint's abode ?

God of my life, be near !
 On Thee my hopes I cast.
 O guide me through the desert here,
 And bring me home at last !

PSALM CXXXVII. (THIRD VERSION)

WHEN we, our wearied limbs to rest,
 Sat down by proud Euphrates stream,
 We wept with heavy thoughts oppressed,
 And Zion was our mournful theme.
 Our harps, that, when with joy we sung,
 Were wont with tuneful parts to bear,
 With silent strings neglected hung,
 On willow-trees that withered there.

Meanwhile our foes, who all conspired,
 To triumph in our slavish wrongs,
 Music and mirth of us required,
 'Come, sing us one of Zion's songs.'
 How shall we tune our voice to sing,
 Or touch our harps with skilful hands ?
 Shall hymns of joy to God our King
 Be sung by slaves in foreign lands ?

O Salem, once our happy seat,
 When I of thee forgetful prove,
 Let then my trembling hand forget,
 The speaking strings with art to move.
 If I to mention thee forbear,
 Eternal silence seize my tongue ;
 Or if I sing one cheerful air,
 Till thy deliverance is my song.

PSALM CXXXVIII. (FIRST VERSION)

OUR hearts shall praise Thee, God of love,
 Here in Thy courts below ;
 Praise Thee, as angels praise above,
 For more than they we owe.
 When did Thy people call, and Thou
 Their supplication spurn ?
 And shall our souls refuse Thee now,
 Their utmost in return ?

Though Thou art high, and we are low,
 We are Thy daily care.
 Thy hand restrains our fiercest foe,
 And heals our worst despair.

Lord, finish what Thou hast begun,
 In love and grace Divine ;
 Thy perfect will in us be done,
 And all the praise be Thine.

PSALM CXXXVIII. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD, I adore Thee ; all my heart
 To Thee in praises forth shall flow ;
 The heavens shall hear how good Thou art,
 And all the earth Thy greatness know.

I'll bow me in the sacred place,
 Where prayer and praise are duly heard :
 Here magnify Thy truth and grace,
 Here feed on Thine unfailing Word.

Whene'er I seek Thy heavenly throne,
 Strength to my soul flows promptly down.
 Ye kings of earth, your Monarch own,
 And at His feet lay every crown.

Though God is high, and we are low,
 He still is near His saints to bless ;
 He shields our souls from every foe ;
 He cheers us in our worst distress.

Lord, lead us onward to Thy feet ;
 Thy perfect will in us be done.
 And in our hearts let grace complete,
 The work that grace has there begun.

PSALM CXXXIX. (FIRST VERSION)

OMNISCIENT God, Thine eye Divine,
 My inmost soul can see ;
 And every thought and act of mine,
 Is open, Lord, to Thee.

When up I rise, when down I lie,
 Still Thou art at my side.
 Where shall I shun Thine awful eye,
 Or from Thy Spirit hide ?

If up to heaven my flight I take,
 I meet Thee face to face ;
 If down to hell, Thy terrors make
 The darkness of the place.

I plunge into the shades of night,
 But Thou art there with me ;
 And darkness kindles into light
 Before one glance from Thee.

PSALM CXXXIX. (SECOND VERSION)

FROM Thee, O Lord, I came at first,
 The creature of Thy hand ;
 Thy providence my life has nursed,
 And by Thy grace I stand.

Each member of my wondrous frame,
 Displays Thy skill and power ;
 And countless benefits proclaim,
 Thy love from hour to hour.

Down in Thine arms at night I lie ;
 Thou watchest while I sleep.
 I wake at morn ; Thou still art nigh,
 My soul to tend and keep.

Search me, O Lord ; my spirit prove ;
 From sin O set me free :
 And make my heart return the love,
 It daily shares from Thee.

PSALM CXXXIX. (THIRD VERSION)

THOU knowst me, Lord. 'Tis Thine to view,
 Whate'er I am, whate'er I do.
 When up I rise, when down I lie,
 I still am in Thine awful eye.

My inmost thought, my lightest word,
 By Thee is seen, by Thee is heard.
 Thy wonder-working hand I find,
 Around, before me, and behind.

Where from Thy presence could I flee ?
 Where find a refuge, Lord, from Thee ?
 From heaven Thou shinn'st in glory down,
 And hell is darkened by Thy frown.

On morning's wings beyond the sea,
 I fly, but cannot fly from Thee.
 I plunge me in the depths of night ;
 One look from Thee makes darkness light.

Father of mercy, God of grace,
 I cannot, would not, shun Thy face.
 No, be it rather mine to prove,
 An omnipresent God of love.

PSALM CXXXIX. (FOURTH VERSION)

ALL-SEEING God, to Thee is known,
 My rising up and lying down ;
 Thine eye my bed and path surveys,
 My public haunts, and private ways.

My secret thoughts are known to Thee,
 Yea, known ere well conceived by me.
 Thou judgest what my lips would vent,
 My yet unuttered heart's intent.

Surrounded by Thy power I stand,
 On every side I find Thy hand ;
 And every member of my frame,
 Bespeaks the Source from whence it came.

Let me acknowledge, too, O God,
 That since this maze of life I trod,
 Thine acts of grace to me surmount
 The power of numbers to recount.

Search, try, O Thou that knowst my heart,
 What ill there lurks in every part ;
 Correct me when I go astray,
 And guide me in Thy better way.

PSALM CXXXIX. (FIFTH VERSION)

COULD I, O Lord, so faithless be,
 To think of once deserting Thee,
 Where, where could I Thy influence shun,
 O whither from Thy presence run ?

If up to heaven I took my flight,
 Thou dwellest there enthroned in light :
 Or dived to hell's unhallowed plains,
 There Thine almighty vengeance reigns.

If I the morning's wings could gain,
 And fly beyond the western main,
 Thy swifter hand would first arrive,
 And there arrest Thy fugitive.

Or should I try to shun Thy sight,
 Beneath the sable wings of night ;
 One glance from Thee, one piercing ray,
 Would kindle darkness into day.

O let me rather seek to fly,
 The guilt that makes me dread Thine eye ;
 Then day and night, at home, abroad,
 'Tis joy to feel a present God.

PSALM CXL.

PRESERVE me, Lord, from those
 Who meditate my fall,
 False flattering friends, and threatening foes,
 Preserve me, Lord, from all.

The tempter's hate or guile,
 The feeblest soul may brave,
 The lion's rage, or serpent's wile,
 With Thee at hand to save.

Ere now, in hours of dread,
 I found in Thee a friend ;
 Thou coveredst my defenceless head ;
 And Thou wilt still defend.

Strength of the poor and weak,
 Still faithful, good, and true ;
 Put down the proud, uphold the meek,
 And bear Thy people through !

PSALM CXLI.

LORD, my spirit flies to Thee,
 Haste, O haste, to succour me ;
 Let my prayer accepted rise,
 Like a holy sacrifice.

Guard my lips ; let no offence,
Smite Thy hallowed ear from thence ;
And, to keep my hands from sin,
Purify my heart within.

Let the righteous kindly chide,
When they see me step aside ;
And while they my faults condemn,
Make me love and pray for them.

Many are my snares and foes ;
Vain my efforts to oppose ;
Lord, mine eyes are unto Thee ;
Haste, O haste, to succour me.

PSALM CXLII.

To Thee, O Lord, in deep distress,
To Thee my suppliant soul would press.
Ill can my burdened spirit plead,
But Thou its untold wish canst read.

I walk 'mid snares on every side,
No voice to cheer, no hand to guide :
A lonely, dark, and rugged road,
But not unknown to Thee, my God.

When earthly helpers fail or flee,
How sweet to turn, O Lord, to Thee !
And find in Thy exhaustless love,
My rest below, my hope above.

O hear, and set my spirit free,
From foes and chains too strong for me !
My drooping hopes refresh and raise,
And fill my heart with thankful praise.

PSALM CXLIII. (FIRST VERSION)

O HEAR my supplication, Lord !
O hear and succour me !
Thy finished work, Thy plighted word,
This, this is all my plea.

With judgment's stern unbending eye,
Let not my works be scanned ;
For who could bear that scrutiny ?
O who that trial stand ?

Thy mercy, Lord, large, changeless, tried,
 On this alone I call :
 My sins are great, and hell is wide ;
 Redeem me, Lord, from all !

O let the brightness of Thy face,
 Dispel this night of mine !
 I seek Thy help, I trust Thy grace :
 Arise, O Lord, and shine !

O keep me when my footsteps swerve !
 Incline me to Thy will !
 Lord, whose I am, and whom I serve,
 Bless, guide, defend me still !

PSALM CXLIII. (SECOND VERSION)

LORD, hear my prayer, in mercy hear,
 That mercy is my trust.
 Who at Thy bar could dare appear,
 If Thou wert sternly just ?

But Christ has borne His people's sin,
 And won them from the grave ;
 And from all foes around, within,
 I fly to Him to save.

My sinking soul revives to trace,
 Thy love in other days ;
 I fall before Thy throne of grace,
 And prayer turns there to praise.

O let that love still round me shine !
 Recall me when I roam !
 Strike down my enemies and Thine,
 And lead me safely home.

PSALM CXLIV.

BLESSED be the mighty Lord !
 Well He arms us for the fight.
 With Him for our Shield and Sword,
 Soon we put our foes to flight.
 Nature's powers may faint or fail ;
 God is strong, if they are frail.

Bow the heavens, Almighty God !
 Touch the mountains, they shall smoke !
 Launch Thy lightning shafts abroad !
 Break the proud oppressor's yoke !
 Dark the flood around us rolls ;
 Save, O save our sinking souls !

God is gracious ; God is strong,
 He has helped His trembling dust.
 Be His grace our daily song ;
 Be His strength our daily trust.
 Hell may rise with all its powers ;
 We are safe while God is ours.

We are safe ; yea, every good
 Man can wish, or heaven can lend,
 Light and comfort, health and food,
 All are ours with God our Friend.
 Happy who His mercies share !
 Happy in a Saviour's care !

PSALM CXLV (FIRST VERSION)

THEE will I praise, my God, my King,
 To Thee my daily homage bring.
 Begin it now, and bid it prove,
 As endless as eternal love.

Great is the Lord ; His praise be great :
 Let age to age His works repeat ;
 Let clime to clime His glories show :
 Nor half repay the debt they owe.

O full of goodness, full of grace !
 O Father of our fallen race !
 Thy meanest works Thy praise proclaim.
 Shall not we love and praise the same ?

Yes : let my powers, however weak,
 Of Thee, of Thee delight to speak :
 Till all around Thy mercies see,
 And sing and share them, Lord, with me !

Thy hand our daily wants supplies ;
 Thine ear attends to all our cries :
 Thy grace our sinking souls upstays—
 O shall our lips neglect Thy praise ?

PSALM CXLV. (SECOND VERSION)

THE Lord is great ; and greatly ought
His name to be adored ;
He rises high o'er mortal thought,
The dread, eternal Lord.

The Lord is good ; His acts of grace,
Beyond our wishes rise ;
His anger moves with slowest pace,
His willing mercy flies.

How holy is the Lord, how just !
How righteous all His ways !
How nigh to him whose humble trust,
For heavenly succour prays !

His steadfast throne, from changes free,
Shall stand for ever fast ;
And they that serve Him here shall see,
His glorious face at last.

PSALM CXLVI.

PRAISE the Lord ; my soul shall praise Him,
While I life and being own.
Praise the Lord ; I hope to raise Him,
Better anthems round His throne.

Who would haughty flesh confide in,
Soon returning dust to dust ?
Happy who their God abide in,
Happy who in Jesus trust.

Great His might, His mercy greater ;
All in heaven, and earth, and air,
Own Him for their high Creator,
Wait upon His daily care.

Thou who suffering souls relievest,
Thou who sett'st the captive free,
Wants suppliest, guilt reprievest,
Reign for ever, Lord, in me !

PSALM CXLVII.

O PRAISE the Lord, 'tis sweet to raise,
 The grateful heart to God in praise ;
 When fallen raised, when lost restored,
 O it is sweet to praise the Lord !

Great is His power, Divine His skill,
 His love Diviner, greater still ;
 The sinner's Friend, the mourner's Stay,
 He sends no suppliant sad away.

The lions roar to Him for bread,
 The ravens by His hand are fed ;
 And shall His chosen flock despair :
 Shall they mistrust their Shepherd's care ?

His Church is precious in His sight ;
 He makes her glory His delight.
 His treasures on her head are poured ;
 O Zion's children, praise the Lord !

PSALM CXLVIII. (FIRST VERSION)

PRAISE the Lord, ye hosts on high :
 Praise Him, angels through the sky.
 Sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Praise your Maker day and night.

He commanded, and you all,
 Rose obedient to His call ;
 He commandeth, and you still,
 Move submissive to His will.

Praise the Lord, thou earth below ;
 Praise Him, lightnings, hail and snow,
 Ocean, wide His glory roll ;
 Waft it, winds, from pole to pole.

Seasons, tell it as ye fly,
 Forests deep, and mountains high !
 Birds and creatures, great and small,
 Praise the Lord, the Lord of all !

Let mankind their tributes bring ;
 Monarchs, own a higher King.
 Young and old, His mercies tell ;
 Men and maids, the chorus swell.

Praise Him, saints, above the rest ;
 Praise Him, for ye know Him best.
 All His love and grace record ;
 Praise our Saviour, praise the Lord.

PSALM CXLVIII. (SECOND VERSION)

YE realms of light and love,
 Exalt your Maker's name ;
 Ye hosts that round Him move,
 His power and skill proclaim.
 Your voices raise,
 Ye cherubim,
 And seraphim,
 To sing His praise.

Thou moon, that rul'st the night,
 Thou sun, that guid'st the day,
 Ye countless orbs of light,
 To Him your homage pay.
 His praise declare,
 Ye worlds above,
 And clouds that move,
 In liquid air.

Let all adore the Lord,
 And praise His holy name,
 At whose almighty word,
 They all from nothing came ;
 And all shall last,
 From changes free,
 His strong decree,
 Stands ever fast.

Let earth her tribute pay ;
 Sing, creatures great and small,
 In air and land and sea,
 And man above them all.
 From every shore,
 Let old and young,
 With heart and tongue,
 Their God adore.

And ye, His chosen race,
 Ye more than all beside,
 Who know and share His grace,
 O spread it far and wide.
 His love proclaim,
 Till all around,
 Shall catch the sound,
 And seek the same.

PSALM CXLIX.

O PRAISE ye the Lord,
 With heart and with voice ;
 His mercies record,
 And round Him rejoice.
 Ye children of Zion,
 Your Saviour adore !
 And learn to rely on,
 His grace evermore.

Repose on His arm,
 Ye sheep of His fold.
 What terror can harm,
 With Him to uphold ?
 His saints are His treasure ;
 Their peace will He seek ;
 And pour without measure,
 His gifts on the meek.

Go on in His might,
 Ye men of the Lord :
 His Word be your light,
 His promise your sword.
 The King of Salvation
 Your foes will subdue ;
 And their degradation,
 Bring glory to you.

PSALM CL. (FIRST VERSION)

PRAISE the Lord, His glories show.
 Saints within His courts below,
 Angels around His throne above :
 Praise Him, all that share His love.

Earth, to heaven exalt the strain,
 Send it, heaven, to earth again ;
 Age to age, and shore to shore,
 Praise Him, praise Him, evermore !

Praise the Lord ; His goodness trace !
 All the wonders of His grace ;
 All that He hath borne and done,
 All He sends us through His Son.
 Strings and voices, hands and hearts,
 In the concert bear your parts.
 All that breathe, your Lord adore,
 Praise Him, praise Him, evermore !

PSALM CL. (SECOND VERSION)

O PRAISE the Lord in that blest place,
 From whence His goodness largely flows ;
 Praise Him in heaven, where He His face,
 Unveiled in perfect glory shows.

Praise Him for all the mighty acts,
 Which He in our behalf hath done.
 His kindness this return exacts,
 With which our praise should equal run.

Let all that vital breath enjoy,
 The breath He doth to them afford ;
 In just returns of praise employ ;
 Let every creature praise the Lord.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow ;
 Praise Him, all creatures here below ;
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host ;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost !

THE BATTLE OF SALAMANCA

THE Battle of Salamanca, it will be remembered, was fought by the armies of Great Britain, Portugal, and Spain, under the command of the Marquis of Wellington, against the French, on July 22, 1812. It is evident that the young poet's soul must have been deeply stirred by the struggle, and his admiration for the noble Marquis was unbounded. The poem, which was written soon after the memorable battle took place, is dedicated 'to the most noble the Marquis of Wellesley' in lines of great strength and beauty. The reader cannot fail to see in the dedication unmistakable evidence of the author's characteristic humility. Both the dedication and the introduction are of special value in preparing the reader's mind for the mighty unfolding of thought which follows with such musical charm. 'The Battle of Salamanca' was one of his prize poems during his Trinity College career, and affords posterity a good idea of his remarkable attainments and powers at this early period.

DEDICATION

TO THE MOST NOBLE

THE MARQUIS OF WELLESLEY

AN unfledged bard, who just had broke
From birch and grammar's awful yoke,
Would spread his glad unfettered wing,
And boldly try to croak or sing.
His bardic rites devoutly paid,
His Muses daily sought for aid,
When bitten nail and swollen cheek
A modern rapture seemed to wake,
With scowling eye and muttering tongue,
For Fancy's topmost cloud he sprung,
As pride or madness led the way—
And here, behold, his first essay.

For, rushing on with epic aim,
He grasped Britannia's lists of fame,
To seek a Hero for the lays
Which, thus enrapt, he meant to raise :
A Hero round whose noble head
When Fancy's youthful hand had spread
A garland of the fairest flowers
That ever bloomed in Tempe's bowers,
Or hung their heads in airy pride
Around Castalia's mirror tide,
The voice of truth might still declare
Not half his honours gathered there——
Though wide his search, he found but one,
One man like this—'twas Wellington !

For in his warm and generous mind
Such various virtues shone combined ;
So great, yet simple seemed he still,
So fired by valour, nerved by skill.
In others' cause so feeling known,
So lavish of himself alone,
That mortals seemed on him to gaze
The phoenix of these later days,
Raised up the masterpiece of fate
For them to praise and imitate !
Like the bright arch that glows on high
When glooms and clouds invest the sky,
Mankind with veneration views
The lofty wonder's brightening hues,
And sees in his resplendent form
The queller of the blackening storm !

And could not reason, could not shame
Deter thee from that sacred theme ?
But thou, poor witing, must profane
Such greatness with thy pigmy strain ?
Perhaps thou deem'dst his name enough
To consecrate thy wretched stuff ?
Or hopedst, at worst, with him to live,
Like Mævius pinned to Virgil's sleeve ?

I own my folly, own my crimes ;
I own them weak and wicked rhymes :
Yet, as the sire with partial care
Regards his crippled son and heir,
In spite of every shapeless feature,
I own, I own, I love the creature.
But bold by desperation grown,
I spurn at half a fault alone ;

And bursting caution's barriers through,
 For refuge would retreat to you,
 Would join upon my humble page
 The brother glories of the age,
 Conscious that could my hopeless toil
 From you obtain a favouring smile,
 That critic scarce would dare aspire
 To blame what Wellesley should admire !

INTRODUCTION

O'ER Europe's fields, all ravaged and forlorn,
 While Discord's dæmon leads his funeral train,
 And every neighbouring state is doomed to mourn,
 Or dread the horrors of a tyrant's chain ;
 See the lorn Muse to Britain's sainted plain
 From scenes of death and uproar gladly flee !
 There wake her shattered chords to voice again,
 And paint, in glowing tints of ecstasy,
 The sweets of ease, the pride of conquering Liberty !

The wreaths of song, by Fancy's fingers twined,
 From witching Harmony's serener bowers,
 May charm the senses and refine the mind,—
 But lull and captivate its noblest powers.
 And, at this time, when ruin round us lowers,
 What place for syren luxury's control ?
 Oh, for that strain, whose bursting grandeur showers
 The fires of ardour on the listening soul,
 And sweeps the raptured wish to glory's arduous goal !

Ye scenes of peace, ye gentler themes, adieu !
 The last, the weakest of the minstrel throng
 Withdraws his fond, regretful thoughts from you,
 And proudly bold would dare a nobler song ;
 Would suit his numbers to the cadence strong
 Of sulphurous thunder, and, on feet of flame,
 Through groans and slaughter shuddering along,
 Would leave his nature-pointed path to fame,
 To earn his dearer wish, to earn a patriot's name !

Thrice happy could his artless descant light
 A ray of spirit through his native land,
 Redeem one bosom from despondence' night,
 Or rouse to rivalry one slumb'ring hand ;
 Assist the warrior's laurels to withstand,

In song embalmed, oblivion's dull decay ;
 The praise of generous purpose but command ;
 Oh, dare he hope so boldly for his lay,
 His dread of censure's fang such hopes would far outweigh.

Come then, my wild, enthusiastic shell,
 Pursue thy task, conform thy trembling string,
 For gratitude claims all thy soul to swell
 The laud of them who gave thee ease to sing !
 Who dashed the vulture Fury fain to spring
 On Freedom's fair asylum for its prey !
 Come then, my shell, and bid their actions ring
 Their panegyric in descriptive lay——
 Lo, thy transcendent theme, proud Salamanca's day !

 THE BATTLE OF SALAMANCA

The poem opens with one of the finest descriptions of the dawn of day that has ever been penned :

I.

'Twas summer's dawn, that silent hour
 When night from lawn and woodland bower
 Withdrew her sable shroud ;
 And morning up the eastern sky
 Arose, with placid majesty,
 In car of silver cloud.
 Old Salamanca's few tall spires
 Flashed through the mists like living fires,
 And Tormes rolled his fruitful tide,
 A sheet of wavy gold beside.
 Thence o'er the landscape scattered wild,
 The citron's silken tresses smiled
 In morning's mellow hue ;
 And here and there the leaves among
 The yellow fruitage gaily hung,
 In wreath of diamond dew.

II.

Along that fair and fertile green
 A brave and hardy host were seen
 To rest the weary head ;
 Spain, Portugal, in long array,
 'Mongst Britain's friendly squadrons lay,
 All on their grassy bed.

Nor yet the infant beams, that played
 O'er cheeks with rosy vigour crowned,
 Had melted sleep's refreshing shade,
 Which toil had deepened round :
 But still the dreams of morning stole
 From camps and cares the warrior's soul,
 Through milder, sweeter scenes to stray,
 And taste of pleasures far away.
 And now his footsteps lightly roam
 To his neat farm and cottage home ;
 And now he meets each well-known face,
 And flying to his glad embrace,
 His weeping wife, his children dear,
 And all his bosom friends, appear !——
 Till, as he counts his labours o'er,
 And vows to leave them never more !
 The shrill reveillé, rattling nigh,
 Scares the sweet vision in a sigh !

III.

The sentinel on foremost ground
 In silence trod his lonely round,
 Save when he raised his voice to tell
 His answering comrade ' all was well.'
 The scenery in its golden trim
 No robe of beauty wore for him ;
 His every thought, his eye, his soul,
 Were tranced by duty's stern control
 The adverse heights along ;
 Where Gallia's legions to and fro,
 That livelong morn were seen to go,
 A strange mysterious throng.
 Their chief, to wiles and battles bred,
 The busy bands in person led,
 Nor skill nor labour spared ;
 All anxious, from the laurel crown,
 Which years of hardly-earned renown
 Around his brows had reared ;——
 To-day that withered leaf to tear,
 Which Britain's chief had blasted there.
 Exulting Marmont ! could thine eye
 But see the bolt prepared on high,
 From that avenging hand to burst
 Upon thy nation's plans accurst,
 With every hope to shipwreck driven
 On dark disaster's wildest wave,

Nor to thy lorn entreaty given
 E'en the sad refuge of a grave,
 Wounded, pursued !—that heart of pride
 With other thoughts were now supplied !

IV.

But now the sun in godlike state
 Prepares to burst his topaz gate,
 And glad th' expecting skies ;
 And to their various tasks around,
 From grassy couch, at trumpet sound,
 The brother armies rise.
 And now from Britain's mingling bands
 A troop with silent haste advance,
 To where yon hoary mountain stands,
 Before the Orient's bright expanse :
 Yon hoary mountain wide around
 Commands the vassal field—
 Haste, warriors, haste ! that vantage ground
 To France must never yield !
 With heart of pride, and foot of speed,
 They dash the dewdrops o'er the mead ;
 And plant, in thought, their standard now
 On vast Arapiles' brow.

V.

Is it the rising King of Day,
 That shoots his beams, in bright array,
 Through the blue mists, whose wreaths invest,
 With airy coif, the mountain's crest ?
 But lo ! a standard now is spied,
 And now a burnished helm descried—
 Till from the hoary veil,
 A phalanx of the flower of France
 Along the glittering heights advance,
 With waving banner, sword, and gun,
 Bright with the newly-risen sun,
 And fifty men for every one
 That marches o'er the dale !—
 The Britons gaze, surprised, deprest,
 And slowly file across the plain,
 Upon the neighbouring mountain's breast
 To rest their weary train :

Revolving as they onward move,
 Should battle wake the trump to-day,
 How advantageous through the fray
 Still to the Gauls that hill must prove,
 That reared his giant brow on high,
 The arbiter of victory !
 And many a sigh of honest pride
 From manly bosom found its way ;
 And gloomy thought was dashed aside
 With scorn to feel dismay :
 For, though a transitory smile,
 Now Fortune deigns upon the wile
 Of Gaul's exulting bands,
 Can any bosom own despair
 When Britain's sons the combat share,
 And Wellington commands ?

VI.

Great Wellington ! thy thought inspires
 My soul with more than wonted fires,
 And bids me twine with daring aim
 A wreath round Conquest's darling name.
 Oh, that my weak, presumptuous hand
 Could wake the lyre with seraph's art !
 Oh, that my wishes could command
 A verse as fervent as my heart !
 So might I suit my humble lay
 To the high hymns that nations pay ;
 The first to Heaven, the next to thee,
 Victorious priest of Liberty !
 From warring India's eastern clime
 Thy Sun of Glory rose sublime,
 Sweeping their sable hosts away,
 Like night before the bursting day :
 And now its bright meridian rays
 O'er faint Iberia fall ;
 Confusion to the eagle gaze
 Of devastating Gaul :
 On Vimiera's trophied field
 Europe's proud victors learnt to yield ;
 And Talavera's echoes pealed
 The knell of France's dying fame !
 O'er Torres Vedras' mountain maze,
 Where Heaven and Britain joined to raise
 The ember sparks of Freedom's blaze,
 Thy sword was seen to flame ;

Like that celestial Scymitar,
 Whose fiery terrors flashed afar,
 From Eden's hallowed porch to chase,
 The afflictors of the human race !

VII.

Oh, mighty Victor, when the Muse,
 Would trace thy bounty-beaming flight,
 Her feeble wings the task refuse ;
 Nor dare to soar so proud a height ;
 But this, in admiration's fire,
 She warbles with prophetic lyre ;—
 While Lusian bosom shall inherit
 One glimmering of that noble spirit,
 Which Britain gave from Freedom's shrine,
 Prompter of deeds and thoughts divine ;
 While'er in lofty, injured Spain
 A hate of treachery shall reign,
 A hate of each distress and woe,
 That French Oppression bade her know ;—
 The fairest chaplet of applause
 From Gratitude's warm hand shall smile,
 For him who saved her dying cause,
 The Hero of the Emerald Isle !

VIII,

Yes, injured Spain, a bitter draught
 Thy wrath-devoted sons have quaffed ;
 And dearly paid their father's crimes
 In sad Columbia's ravaged climes.
 Behold thy plains with slaughter drenched,
 Thy cities flaming high ;
 The sceptre from thy Monarch wrenched,
 And by a sworn Ally !
 He comes, his hand upon his breast,
 In token of sincerity—
 But ah, he clenches 'neath his vest
 The dagger brand of treachery.
 Yield, Spaniards, yield your ancient throne,
 And bend before an upstart race ;
 This choice is yours, and this alone,
 Destruction or disgrace.

And shall a free-born people brook
 To reverence a minion's nod ;
 To tremble at a dastard's look,
 And kiss Oppression's rod ?
 Their maids deflowered, their children slain,
 Their shrines despoiled by hands profane,
 Their homes by brutal lords possest,
 Afflictions maddening every breast,
 A frenzied host—they rise,—they rise,
 The fire of vengeance in their eyes,
 While Heaven re-echoes to the cry
 Of 'Glorious death or Liberty !'

IX.

But down the Pyrenean steeps
 Lo, a dark host of terror sweeps,
 With shouts and threat'nings dire !
 Like to the desolating tide,
 That awful bursts from Etna's side,
 O'er field and city thund'ring wide
 In cataracts of fire.
 With flame and gun and battle brand
 They rush upon the fated land ;—
 Before them happy all and fair,
 Behind them ruin and despair.
 The frightened mother clasps her child,
 And seeks the desert screaming wild :
 The swain foresees the storm, and flies,
 And, as upon the distant rise
 He turns to take a parting view,
 And sighs a long and last adieu,—
 Sees the loved cottage of his sires,
 His fields, his vineyards wrapped in fires,
 Grasps his rude arms with angry hand,
 And joins his country's patriot band.
 That patriot band, securely strong,
 With generous boldness, drive along
 To strike one fatal blow ;
 But headlong rage is ill arrayed
 'Gainst prudence, strength, and ambuscade ;
 Repulsed, deluded, and betrayed,
 They melt before the foe.

X.

And now the woes of war assume
 A wider range, a darker doom,
 While havoc palls in funeral gloom
 The whole tumultuous scene :
 From sea to sea the midnight air
 Wafts the wild burthen of despair,
 The murderer's threat, the victim's prayer,
 And groan and curse between.
 'Twould seem as if the infernal band,
 Rising at wrathful Heaven's command,
 On this lost realm their fury hurled,
 To raze her image from the world !
 And must she sink in all her pride,
 Unpitied, unreprieved ?
 Will all the world forsake her side ?
 Forsake her, thus aggrieved ?
 No, wretched land, though all should fly,
 Though all should slight thy suppliant cry,
 Though all a Tyrant's rage should fear,
 There is one spot to mercy dear,
 That never spurned the plaint of woe,
 (No, not from e'en her fiercest foe,)
 'Tis Britain bids thee yet be free,
 And opes her generous heart to thee !

XI.

See o'er the deep, in solemn pride,
 The gallant fleet of England glide
 Before the whispering wind !
 While ocean lifts his glassy wave,
 To catch the image of the brave,
 As, o'er the prow reclined,
 With wistful ken he seeks afar
 The theatre of future war ;
 And, fired with dreams of trophies proud,
 Calls lingering Eurus from his cloud.—
 Blow, breezes, blow ; a thousand eyes
 O'er the green surge are sent to see
 The British red cross in the skies,
 And hail the friends of Liberty.
 Blow, breezes, blow ; in Lusitania's ear
 Resounds the trump of Gallic war—
 And who shall stem the foe's career,
 While Britain rides the wave afar ?

The breeze blows strong ; the port they reach
 Glad shouts and clarions to the beach
 Their long-wished presence greet ;
 A thousand banners rise in air,
 And all with frantic joy prepare
 The foe's approach to meet :
 Onward, as lions to their prey,
 They rush, and Wellesley leads the way !

XII.

Now might my glowing numbers tell,
 How Gaul's red spear submissive fell
 Before Britannia's might ;
 When proudly on the wings of fame
 Rose Wellington's victorious name
 From Vimiera's fight !
 How on Corunna's hill of death
 The victor spent his dying breath
 In Victory's wild huzza !
 And downcast warriors, leaning near,
 Breathed low a shuddering groan to hear,
 The clod resound upon the bier,
 Where Moore untimely lay !
 On Talavera's stubborn field
 How Gaul's o'erwhelming armies reeled,
 While trumpets rang, and cannons pealed,
 That Wellesley ruled the day !
 How Lusitania's drooping sword
 Was taught by dauntless Beresford
 To seek the freedom she deplored
 Through Albuera's fray !
 Nor, Graeme, shouldst thou unsung remain,
 Who swept Barossa's trembling plain,
 And set in Fame's proud galaxy
 A star whose lustre ne'er shall die !

XIII.

Then might I praise triumphant Hill,
 And thousand arms renowned in fight ;
 Whose very names my page would fill
 With one long blaze of glorious light.

And tell how Britain's lions sprung
 To meet the battle's tempest shock ;
 And Gallia's frantic fury flung,
 Indignant, from Busaco's rock !
 How o'er Rodrigo's midnight lines,
 Through ambushed foes, and bursting mines,
 The fearless soldier flew !
 How from Badajoz' haughty tower
 His hand, in one terrific hour,
 The Gallic standard threw !
 These and a thousand themes, that well
 Might challenge rapture's noblest shell,
 Await the daring lyre,
 Whose feeble powers would fain relate,
 In numbers boldly adequate,
 Britannia's deeds of fire ;
 Till, 'mid a rescued nation's praise,
 To Salamanca's field she came,
 To crown with Victory's brightest bays
 A course of mercy and of fame !

XIV.

And lo ! in many a rainbow hue,
 The sun has tinged the morning dew
 Along that lovely plain ;
 Where deep in wide and clotted streams
 Of carnage he shall bathe his beams
 Before he sets again.
 Where many a wounded Frenchman soon
 Shall plain his sufferings to the moon
 Throughout the livelong night ;
 And many a Briton's closing eye,
 Fixed in mute anguish on the sky,
 Shall ask the boon of those who die
 Aiding the wronged in fight.
 Yes, thousands, thousands soon must lie
 Along that fatal plain :
 Thousands, for whom affection's sigh
 Shall off be heaved in vain.
 Just Heaven ! and must the gloomy grave
 So many opening blossoms blight ?
 So many parents, widows rave,
 And orphans howl their hungry plight,
 All by the dark, unholy plan
 Of one ambitious, bloody man ?

XV.

And shall he feel no Tyrant's fears ?
 Shall no remorse his bosom chill ?
 He that has drenched the world with tears,
 Shall he be tearless still ?
 Still shall his hand, with slaughter red,
 The fiery sword of havoc wave ?
 And every region 'neath his tread
 Becomes its people's grave ?
 No, thunderbolt of angry Heaven,
 Thy mission now has ended late—
 Thy deathful course is nearly driven
 Up to its goal of fate.
 E'en now the storm begins to frown,
 Whose gathering terrors soon shall drown,
 In clouds of ruin dark and wide,
 The heaven of thy triumphant pride !
 The arm, whose tempered might repress
 Thy proudest champion's wild career ;
 Tore glory's chaplet from his crest,
 And broke his baffled spear ;
 That arm of valour soon shall roll
 Thy second minion's vaunts away—
 And brand on every Gallic soul
 The deeds of Salamanca's day !

XVI.

On yonder plain the Hero stands
 Amid his bright and busy bands,
 And, fixed in meditative trance,
 Watches the battle-cloud of France
 That on the heights, from post to post,
 Wavers, a wide, uncertain host—
 Wavers, as if in doubt, where first
 The flaming bolt of death shall burst
 In thunders o'er the plain.
 Now onward press the centre ranks,
 Sudden they halt—when, lo ! the flanks
 Advance—then wheel again.
 As, when the earthquake's terror-peal
 Through Nature's bosom rolls profound,
 The plains in billowy tumult reel,
 The mountains bow their heads around.
 The frightened wretches of the land
 In silent awe expecting stand,

Till the wild region, opening wide,
 Shall gulf them in its fiery tide !
 Thus dark and dreadful moves the foe,
 While Britain marks him from below—
 But nought her lion heart appals :
 Still ready to repel the blow,
 When or where'er it falls.

XVII.

Yet seems not mazed in mystery
 To Wellington their troubled line ;
 One ray of his sagacious eye
 Illumes their whole design.
 In vain, with aimless, flickering course,
 Still ebbs and flows the tide of fight !
 He well foresees its headlong force
 Shall pour upon his right.
 With cautious skill he straight commands
 His choicest chiefs, his bravest bands,
 There to condense their barrier line.
 ' Red arm in battle, valiant Cole,
 Be thine the torrent to control,
 The post of danger thine.
 Through Tormes' waters, Pakenham, speed—
 Spur, D'Urban, Lusitania's steed,
 And watch, from yonder flanking post,
 The movements of their mountain host.
 Be firm—be cool—remember still,
 That oft the arm of prudent skill
 Retires to strike a deeper blow.
 I know that Nature ne'er repress
 The fires that light a Briton's breast
 With much of caution's snow—
 But why offend your conscious pride
 With precepts which you all have tried,
 And lodestars found to fame of yore ?
 Only be Britons, as before ;
 And Victory's flag shall never wave
 But in your hand, or on your grave.'

XVIII.

The clock, that peals with hourly chime
 The death-bell of departed Time,
 Rung out from Salamanca's tower
 The second from the midday hour ;

When, on the right, from hostile guns,
 Hark ! the loud knell of battle tolls !
 From hill to hill the thunder runs,
 And deepens as it rolls.
 Down o'er the valley floating wide,
 Dark clouds of smoke successive move ;
 And now they climb the mountain's side,
 Where Albion's red cross waves above.
 Till, o'er men, arms, and banners bright,
 And every object on the right,
 The sulphury wave rolls black and thick ;
 Nought seen within its murky womb,
 Save where the cannon flashes quick
 Its dark-red lightning through the gloom.
 Above, the ministers of fate,
 Amid the vapours winding slow,
 Mark, as they sail in dusky state,
 Their victims on the plains below.
 A sudden west wind sweeps the glen—
 The volumed clouds are gone—
 Lo, a long host of Gallic men
 Advancing briskly on !
 Whose line within its iron embrace
 Folds half the adverse mountain's base ;
 While Britain on the crown
 Moves on her ranks to meet the foe,
 With sword advanced and bayonet low,
 Eager to hurl him down.

XIX.

Now through the village fast they fling
 That 'neath the British station lies,
 When, hark ! from front, and rear, and wing
 The scattered death-shower flies.
 They start—they gaze—no foe appears—
 Yet still the death-shot frights their ears,
 And still they fall around—
 As some lone man, who walks in haste
 At nightfall, through the woodland waste,
 Hears something rustling in the trees,
 And, shuddering from the sound,
 In every shaking bramble sees
 The prowler of the forest ground.
 So curbed the Gaul his proud career,
 And looked and trod with cautious fear,

As if at each advance his feet
 A bloody grave were sure to meet.—
 Great Wellington from high surveyed
 This bold, unequal fray ;
 He joyed to see his ambuscade
 Fill their proud squadrons with dismay :
 Yet, as the tide's repeated shock
 At length o'erwhelms th' opposing rock,
 And thousands round his warriors grew,
 He trembled for his gallant few :

XX.

And ' fly where ' Pakenham's heroes wait
 ' Upon the right,' he cried ;
 ' Tell him to grasp the sword of fate,
 And crush their rising pride—
 Oh ! righteous Heaven ! to Thee we trust
 The cause of this eventful day ;
 'Tis Thine to shield and aid the just,
 And hurl th' oppressor to dismay !
 Thine eye hath seen this nation's woes,
 Hath seen the treachery of our foes—
 Avert the hastening doom of Spain,
 And light our arms to joy again !
 Leith, Cotton, fly the van to head,
 Bradford and Cole, away ! away !
 At length my anxious prayer is sped,
 Glory or death is ours to-day.'
 While yet he speaks, upon the right,
 Ascends the awful storm of fight ;
 The shout, the clash, the trump, the gun,
 At once their listening senses stun :
 A hill, whose bulwark rose between,
 Concealed the battle's murderous scene ;
 But each succeeding blast
 That rose on Britain's anxious ear,
 Fraught with the sounds of hope and fear,
 Seemed louder than the last.
 Heard ye that shout ? 'twas victory's cry !
 Again ? the Gauls or Britons fly !
 And from behind the height
 Now the contending hosts appear,
 The troops of France dispersed in flight,
 And Pakenham thund'ring in their rear.
 Oh ! 'tis a dread and dismal sight !
 Leaders and armies winged by fright,

Weapons with carnage gleaming red,
 And horsemen charging o'er the dead,
 And every terror war can bear,
 To crown the fullness of despair !

XXI.

Now, all around, the armed plain
 Moved like a tempest-troubled main ;
 Where, here and there, a plume expressed
 Some angry billow's foaming crest.
 Rank after rank, along the field
 The serried bands of Britain pealed,
 Slow, silent, and serene ;
 While culverine and mortar flung
 Their thunder-shower of death among,
 And clouds of funeral darkness hung
 Their horrors round the scene.
 High on the cliffs that topped the storm,
 In haste, the foe was seen to form
 His long and dark array :
 As the wild dogs of Zara ken
 A lion rushing through the glen,
 And round their mangled prey
 Gather a loud and troubled throng,
 And with unreal fury long,
 To scare their foe away :
 Thus, crowding round their vantage post,
 With shouts and threats the Gallic host
 Assailed the troops below :
 While now up every cloud-wrapt height
 Rolled the grim tempest of their might,
 Upon the astonished foe !

XXII.

Nearer and nearer still they bear
 Their steely terror through the gloom ;
 While France redoubles her despair,
 To ward her coming doom.
 Musket and cannon madly sweep
 From every hill's high crest ;
 But Britain still ascends the steep,
 Unbroken, unrepressed.

Each chief before his rampant band
 Strides with reverted eye,
 While valour's falchion in his hand,
 Points their stern looks on high,
 Where to the verges of the rock
 The Gauls in hurried wonder speed,
 There hand to hand to meet the shock,
 And gaze with panic on a deed
 Which little souls might well believe
 Too much for mortals to achieve.
 For o'er each height's redoubted head,
 Firm as the rock on which they tread,
 Dark as the vision of the dead,
 The British host is seen to wheel :
 ' Charge ! ' through the phalanx loudly rings,
 Onward each foot with lightning springs,
 Down every hand in thunder flings
 The fateful gleaming of its steel.

XXIII.

They meet—they struggle—wide around
 Bursts the dread conflict's hideous crash ;
 Bayonets on bayonets dashed resound,
 Sabres on sabres clash :
 A mingled tumult roars on high,
 The drum, the trumpet's burning breath,
 The shouting victors' furious joy,
 The wounded's anguished shriek of death.
 Has any fallen ? in his stead
 Another soon, with wilder rage,
 Springs o'er the dying and the dead,
 For death or vengeance to engage.
 Huge is the carnage, wild the strife.
 And life is bravely paid with life,
 Fury with fury, shout with shout,
 The vantage wrestling long in doubt,—
 At length the British arm prevails !
 Another charge drives on amain—
 The Gauls behold—their firmness fails—
 They fly confounded o'er the plain.
 Onward the British battle flows,
 Gloomy and dreadful as before,
 O'er columns of their slaughtered foes,
 And arms and ensigns washed with gore.

Each bloody grasp with bayonet steeled,
 The fire of death in every eye,
 They thunder o'er the trembling field,
 The guardian saints of Liberty !

XXIV.

High on the left a mountain rose
 In rugged grandeur o'er the fray ;
 Which Gallia, from her baffled foes,
 That morn had made her prey :
 Vast, inaccessible, it frowned,
 The sovereign of the plains around—
 Gaul's shattered squadrons welcomed there,
 Retreat, and respite from despair.
 But scarce had gasped a moment's breath,
 When up the crags the storm of death
 Behind them madly flung :
 Gaul marked their headlong violence,
 And from her adamantine fence
 Upon her victims sprung.
 Oh ! Heaven protect our breathless group !
 What countless thousands on them troop,
 All hung'ring for their doom !
 Fly, Britain, fly the hopeless fight !
 While yet remains the choice of flight,
 Fly from thy closing tomb !
 Numbers and nature, both thy foes,
 'Tis weak, 'tis madness to oppose :
 Thy chief himself the mandate gave,
 Fly what thou durst not hope to brave !

XXV.

The British onset thus in vain
 With brightening hopes the Gauls survey,
 And turn ; and form upon the plain,
 Fierce to retrieve the desperate day.
 Is it the wild tornado's breath ?
 Is it the thunder-crash of death ?
 Or is it Britain's hosting train,
 Whose rampant chargers shake the plain ?
 'Tis they—'tis Cotton's hearts of flame,
 That rush to tear a wreath of fame
 From hostile brows in fight !

Full on the destined foe they fall—
 Where now the pride, the hopes of Gaul ?
 Low on the field, blood trampled all,
 Or scattered wide in flight !
 Yet why that shriek of lorn dismay ?
 No Briton ever shrieked through fear !
 Why does that anxious group delay,
 Behind the chase, lamenting here ?
 Alas ! around a fallen chief,
 In all the gloom of manly grief,
 They stand, and weep in vain !
 Valour's first arm is there controlled,
 The warmest heart of honour cold,
 In brave Le Marchant slain !—
 Let joyous music fill the air !
 Let pleasure light the festal dome !
 Nine children, and a wife prepare
 Their long-lost hero's welcome home !
 But ah ! that cry ! and is he fled ?
 Their hope, their prayer, their only stay ?
 Calm in his rest on glory's bed—
 But what shall comfort their dismay ?

XXVI.

But hark ! the din of fight
 Again assails the wearied ear ;
 And 'neath the fatal height,
 In horrid fray the hosts appear.
 The foe firm-placed and numerous stand ;
 But place and numbers little daunt,
 Where gleams the steel in British hand,
 And Cole is in the front.
 Breathless, impetuous, on they haste,
 Where 'gainst their rashness France has placed
 Her ordeal ridge of steely fire.
 But vain their frenzy ! still where'er
 They charge, a thousand points appear,
 To hush in death their mad career,
 And dash their baffled ire.
 And from the hill's impending banks
 Thunder on thunder thins their ranks ;
 Dark, unrevenged, the weak, the brave,
 All fill alike a bloody grave.
 And must they yield ? forbid it, pride !
 Another charge shall first be tried.

Another charge ! but scarce the sound
 Woke fire and confidence around
 Through every sinking soul,
 When from the mountain's crowded head
 A darker shower of death is sped,
 And streams of blood are seen to spread
 The breast of gallant Cole !

XXVII.

They see him fall—they check their speed—
 Nor fight nor onset longer heed !
 But, gloomy and condensed, prepare
 To meet their fate with stern despair.
 When on the right is heard a shout,
 'Spry, bring thy squadron's fire about,
 To sweep the foeman's flank, and save
 The harassed remnants of the brave.'
 Blessed as the rays of dawn appear
 To some night-foundered mariner,
 Rose through the rout on Britain's ear
 Thy voice, O Beresford !
 But joy's pale torch soon passed away—
 Instead of ardour's glad huzza,
 An answering cry of wild dismay
 From every tongue was heard.
 They turned, and dark before them stood
 The hero deluged in his blood !
 And see that band that o'er the heath
 Bear their sad burthen, mute and slow !
 And is it thou, victorious Leith,
 In all thy glory, thus laid low ?
 Brave patriot ! though thy soul was riven
 By torture's poison fang,
 Still to thy country's cause was given
 Thy warmest wish, thy sharpest pang :
 For now throughout the British train,
 Their leader lost, their efforts vain,
 A dreadful panic seemed to reign,
 And paralyse their force ;
 While hope in every Gallic soul,
 Shook from her faded fires away
 The gathering ashes of dismay,
 And on sad Britain bade them roll
 Their desolating course !

XXVIII.

And, doubtless, now the trodden heath
 Had quaffed a deeper tide of death,
 While France on Britain's shrinkless blade
 The meed of rage in turn had paid :
 Or, haply, o'er the purple plain,
 Up the steep hill of Victory,
 Had paved her way with Britons slain—
 For how could Briton flee ?
 But Wellington, who on a hill,
 Ruling the wide and woeful sight,
 (As one sent down by Heaven's command,
 With Fate's dark fiat in his hand,)
 Sublimely stood, and poured his will
 Through the long ridges of the fight,
 With heart—not fluttered nor dismayed,
 But roused to energy, surveyed
 The storm of battle turned ;
 For as a fire, whose rising light
 Grows brighter through the gloom of night,
 The Hero's spirit burned :
 And danger's mirror only brought
 The scattered brilliancies of thought
 In one broad blaze to light his soul
 The way to Glory's proudest goal !
 For scarce along the battling maze
 He cast one transient eagle gaze,
 When to his bosom sprung
 The means to succour and repel,
 And ' Clinton, to the rescue,' fell
 Portentous from his tongue.

XXIX.

As when a cloud of deathful gloom,
 The seaman's terror, o'er the steep
 Pours its fierce whirlwinds on the deep,
 Some fated vessel to entomb
 Within wild ocean's womb ;
 So the dread voice of Wellington,
 Borne through the battle's tide,
 Woke their waned strength, and rolled them on,
 To wreck the foeman's pride.
 Lo ! through the field, a radiant band,
 They come, they come ! in every hand

The levelled steel, in every eye
 The stern resolve to win or die !
 Behind their ranks the sufferers bless
 A grateful refuge from distress ;
 The rest with new-born ardour press,
 By brave example, on the foe—
 The foe that now with altered eye
 See the grim ruin driving nigh,
 And from the plain and mountain fly
 In panic from the blow.
 High on their flight the British train,
 Shouting and slaughtering, rush amain—
 While the broad sun, that now has driven
 His chariot to the verge of heaven,
 Shooting his horizontal beams
 Through smoke, and arms, and ensigns, seems
 In each reverted eye to flare
 An angry look of red despair.

XXX.

Oh ! for that voice, whose dread command
 Ordained the fiery King to stand
 O'er Gibeon's holy hill ;
 Till Heaven's bright sword had amply sped
 Its terrors on the impious head,
 And vengeance had her fill !
 For as he wanders to repose
 Behind yon western mountain's head,
 And even's crimson curtains close
 Around his golden bed ;
 High on the left, to dare their doom,
 Like spirits from the nightly tomb,
 The Gauls their lines repair ;
 And all the scattered clouds of fight,
 That, erst were drifted from the right,
 Collect their terrors there.
 But soon that cloud again shall reel,
 Before the storm of Britain's steel—
 Lo ! from the chase they proudly turn !
 And eager to the station peal,
 Where danger and where glory burn.
 A moment for their flurried breath—
 A moment for their loose array—
 And all, with Clinton, on the heath,
 Are ready for the fray.

They shout—they charge—oh ! who can stand
 The lightning brunt of Britain's hand ?
 Ere scarce a blade could drink
 Of Gallic blood, in every part,
 With hasty foot, and wildered heart,
 Into the night they shrink.

XXXI.

Rest, conquering Britons ! every sword
 Enough with slaughter has been gored.
 Rest, warriors, rest ! each weary foot
 Enough has toiled in proud pursuit.
 A lighter band, that through the day,
 Placed by their chief apart the fray,
 Have fought in wish alone,
 Now joyous, eager, fly to wrest
 One bloody wreath from Gallia's crest,
 Ere yet her steps be flown.
 And lo ! the mighty at their head !
 Great Wellington ! who comes to tread
 Their utmost hopes to ground ;—
 Like to that pyre of heavenly light,
 Which walked of old in Israel's sight,
 To guide her hallowed steps aright,
 When glooms and foes hung round.
 And now they reach the flying train—
 And now the battle roars again,
 In all its former din—
 While night, around their dizzy heads,
 Her darkest, dreariest mantle spreads,
 Heightening the terrors of the scene.

XXXII.

Distracted Gaul ! how drear to thee
 Appeared that night of destiny,
 When on thy army's broken flight
 Careered Britannia's whirlwind might.
 How oft thy soldier raised in prayer
 His eye, and shivering hand, to Heaven,
 When fright and faintness fettered there
 His feet by danger onward driven !
 When mid the rout he cannot know
 If his next man be friend or foe ;

Until perchance a sudden spear,
 Deep in his bosom, sternly tells
 The hand of the invader near ;
 Or fiery victor in his ear
 His frightful triumph yells ;
 Or when the steely spark, that flashes
 From swords whose midway fury clashes,
 Or sulphurous flame of musket shows
 A grim, blue host of angry foes,
 Rushing with more than mortal might,
 His last weak hopes of life to blight.

XXXIII.

Thus Gallia's routed legions bled ;
 And scarce one frighted soul had fled
 From that avenging night,
 But darkness lent her friendly shroud,
 And screened the remnants of the crowd
 Whose limbs had strength for flight.
 Through tangled forests dark and wide,
 Through rocks and rushing waves they hied,
 Nor ceased till Tormes rolled his tide
 Between them and their foes ;
 Who now, along the opposing banks,
 Collect their slaughter-wearied ranks
 To snatch a short repose,
 Till morn shall light their swords again
 To humbled Gallia's trembling train.

XXXIV.

And now has beat the last dull drum,
 And the last bugle blown ;
 The watchful sentry, dark and dumb,
 Parades his round alone :
 No sounds invade his listening ear,
 But Tormes' billow murmuring nigh,
 Or when at times the night winds bear
 From the far plain a hollow sigh.
 Along that carnage-covered green
 How sad, how awful is the scene !
 How opposite to that which gleamed
 On morning's eye, when trumpets screamed,

And ardent warriors, shouting high,
 Rushed wildly on for victory !
 No shouts, no trumpets now resound,
 No warriors shine in proud array ;
 But broken arms are scattered round,
 And corpses strew the bloody clay :
 No voice disturbs the ear of night,
 Save where the wounded groans his plight,
 From 'neath a heap of slain :
 And here and there a pitying throng,
 That bears some dying man along,
 Is all that walks the plain.

XXXV.

Thou, hapless lady, thou wert there,
 In all thy wildness of despair,
 Who, at the voice of rumour, fled
 Upon the wings of swift delight,
 To hail thy victor from the fight—
 But met his corpse instead !
 Distracted maid ! what pitying tongue
 Can speak her exquisite distress,
 When o'er her slaughtered lord she hung,
 And called on death her heart to bless ?
 And oh ! how many a soul must bleed
 Of lover, parent, child, and wife,
 In death's dark page, through tears to read,
 The names of those adored in life ;
 For ever lost ! for ever fled !
 And none to bear their last request,
 No hand to smooth their dying bed !
 No tear to dew their turf of rest !
 Ye mournful band ! your wounds are deep,
 And who shall chide your plaintful sigh ?
 But still remember, while you weep,
 They died, as heroes love to die !
 In Honour's arms they sunk to rest ;
 High ardour chased each pang away :
 Their deeds shall fire the soldier's breast,
 And nerve his hand in danger's day.
 Their grateful country shall enrol
 Their names on glory's lists divine.
 And God Himself shall bless the soul,
 A sacrifice from Freedom's shrine !

No widow, orphan o'er their head,
 Shall wail their wrongs, or cry for bread :
 Their wives become their country's care,
 Their children find a father there.
 Oh ! generous Britain ! round thy brow
 Thy acts of mercy seem to throw
 A heavenly crown, of purer flame,
 Than e'en thy deeds of warlike fame !

XXXVI.

Amid the dew, beneath the sky,
 On either side the stream,
 The warriors close the bloodshot eye,
 And stretch the wearied limb.
 But far diverse the thoughts that roll
 O'er either army's anxious soul !
 Far different feelings bid them view
 The Orient welkin's brightening hue !
 The Gaul, by fear forbade to sleep,
 Condemned all night to pray and weep,
 Watches with trembling eye the light,
 The harbinger of harassed flight,
 Sighs, for his trophies, now no more,
 And thinks what ills are yet in store,
 How many perils, and fatigues,
 And hungry hours, and rugged leagues,
 Ere his sad heart may hope to find
 All that is loved and left behind.
 If slumber fled the Briton's eye,
 'Twas exultation bade him fly ;
 If that he watched the coming day,
 'Twas but to chide its long delay ;
 If homeward strayed his joyous thought,
 It strayed some evening hour to hail,
 When, round the faggot, in his cot,
 The swains should wonder at his tale.
 His tale with vaunts and conquests rife,
 On march, in quarters, and in strife.

XXXVII.

If such the thoughts that then possess
 Britannia's meanest son,
 What feelings must have fired thy breast,
 Triumphant Wellington ?

While the world's anxious eye was cast,
With many a trembling wish on thee,
To see thy proudest hopes surpassed,
By this bright day of victory !
To see a chief and veteran band,
(Who boasted in their pride
From victory's very side
To have received with eager hand
Her keenest, strongest brand of doom)
With all the laurel trophies crowned
Their hands had gleaned from nations round,—
A mighty sacrifice to come ;
And yield reluctant all their bays,
To heap the altar of thy praise !
High gifted man ! whoe'er survey
The actions of that glorious day,
See hosts so oft in danger tried,
With place and number on their side,
Spite of each vantage, yielding still
To Britain's fire and Wellesley's skill,
Or friend or foeman must declare,
The hand of Fortune swayed not there !
No, mighty chief, relenting Heaven
To thee a glorious task hath given ;
Hath steeled thy arm, illumed thy mind,
And bade thee succour lost mankind ;
With thee the signal spear hath hurled,
To crush the tyrant of the world.
Hark ! how the nations round proclaim
The praises of thy deathless name,
And hymn thy battles won !
And Britain, bounding 'midst her tide,
Takes up the strain, and spreads it wide,
To tell the listening world, with pride,
The greatness of her Wellington !

CONCLUSION

The song is hushed—the visioned pomps of fight
Sink from my eye, and die upon my ear !
Lost is the shout of wrath, the cry of fright ;
Arms, flags, and battling hosts no more appear.
But loud upon the gale I seem to hear
The voice of triumph from another shore !
On Britain's Isle ascends the gladsome cheer.
Awake, my shell, thy failing chords once more,
Join in the festal hymn, and all thy task is o'er.

First, unto Thee, benignant Heaven, we pay
 The sacred anthems of our grateful pride !
 Whose mighty hand on this auspicious day
 Hath borne the sword of vengeance on our side :
 How shall our words express the votive tide
 Read in our swelling breasts our thoughts of flame !
 Oh, be Thy dread assistance still supplied
 To Britain's arm, to Britain's generous aim,
 And whet her hallowed spear the men of blood to tame

And next, O Wellington, to thee is due
 The plausive tribute, and the laurel crown !
 And them with thee, whose kindred spirits flew
 For Britain's safety to despise their own !
 Hail to the gallant sons of pure renown !
 Hail to the guardians of their native strand !
 O gracious Heaven, around their head hang down
 Thy sacred mantle—speed their generous hand
 To blast oppression's plans, and save an injured land !

Flushed with success, we saw the lawless crowd,
 (Whose every threat the nations wont to weep,
 As deed already done)—they rushed—they vowed
 To whelm our slighted legions in the deep.
 Oh feeble boast ! from Torres Vedras' steep
 Behold the furious bloodhounds kept at bay !
 Behold them fly from thence, a troubled heap,
 Distress and danger lowering round their way,
 Till their last hopes are quenched in Salamanca's fray !

Rise, Spaniards, rise, and grasp the battle brand,
 Avenge your wrongs,—redeem your trampled laws ;
 Rise, and repel the harpies of your land !
 For now the foe his iron rod withdraws ;
 And to sustain his brethren's baffled cause,
 Calls off his hordes, and leaves you time to dare,—
 Curse on the wretch who slights this happy pause,
 To rush in arms to Freedom's shrine, and swear
 His dying land to save, or her sad fate to share !

They wake—they rise—they cast their bonds away,
 Burst the vain fetters of their erring pride ;
 'Neath Britain's standard join in firm array,
 And call on Wellington their rage to guide !
 Lo ! to thy doom, proud tyrant, far and wide
 The precepts of the British Fabius fly !
 Hear'st thou the shouts that on the north wind ride ?
 Hear'st thou, dark man, thy hapless people's cry,
 To sink mid Russian snows, and curse thee as they die ?

Behold the murderers of the word's repose
Advance in mad Ambition's full career ;
The summer sun upon the pageant glows,
And visionary spoils their labours cheer,—
But famine and disaster hover near,
And midst the waste spring down upon their prey.
Ruin and dearth instead of spoils appear—
Repulsed, distressed, beset upon their way,
Thousands on thousands fall in horrible dismay.

When, righteous Heaven, will all these horrors cease ?
When will the measure of Thy wrath be spanned ?
When will Thy angel ministers of peace
Descend on earth, and wave their hallowed wand ?
Then shall the smiling Muse with raptured hand,
Tear from her patriot lyre the sanguine string,
And cowering to her long-loved Fairyland,
Strive on the golden links of peace to fling
A wreath of votive flowers, fresh culled from Fancy's
spring.

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