The Promise of God.

" CERTAINLY I WILL BE WITH THEE."

WHAT if the flowers are fading ?
    What if the fields are bare ?
The autumn is all golden
    If God be with me there ;
I keep the summer sunshine
    Within my heart all day,
And when He walks beside me
    Flowers cover all the way.

What tho' I needs must journey
    Into a stranger's place ?
I turn from that I know not
    And look into His face ;
And so it does not matter
    How far my feet may roam,
I live within His presence,
    And always am at home.

What tho' I meet new duties
    And work too great for me,
God makes my fingers skilful,
    And He my strength will be.
I serve a gracious Master
    Who gives the help I ask,
And His appointed labor
    Is aye an easy task.

I am afraid of nothing
    While He is by my side ;
The storm may beat upon me,
    Black clouds the sun may hide,
But thunder dies in music,
    And darkness turns to light,
Since God forsakes me never,
    And keeps me in His sight.

O God, I read the story
    Of Thy great love to me
In every fresh day's dawning
    And every change I see.
I rest upon Thy promise,
    I gladly do Thy will,
Only whatever comes to me,
    Be near, be with me still.

In Patience Wait.

IN patience wait, O teacher, wait,
The seed long watched shall germinate,
When the cold soil in which 'twas sown
The warmth of God's sweet love has known.

Perchance no sign of growth appears,
Yet thou hast shed so many tears
Above the spot that holds thy seed,
Wondering if God would ever heed ;

Or if thy labors were too small
To claim His notice after all,
Could One who stooped a mite to bless
Count this, thy work of love, for less ?

Art not thou trying more to do,
More than God had for thee in view ?
He meant not that thine anxious eye
On growths beneath the soil should spy.

That is His care, He'd have thy love ;
Trust till the blade appears above
The cloven ground ; perhaps He knows
'Twill do so ere the morrow's close.

Teacher, in patience wait, since God
Lets no seed die beneath the sod,
But guards it constantly for thee,
From seed-germ to the perfect tree.