

THE OLD HOME.

Suns look down and kindly shine,
As when of yore,
Friends were in the old, old home—
There no more.

Were we to be gathered where
The Fathers dwelt
And search for them, and altars where
They have knelt,

Strangers would but meet our gaze—
Alters down
Would show that Faiths, once sacred held,
Are now unknown.

Yet hold we that the Shiboletths
Be not the same,
That praying hearts may still be there
To worship Him.

For God is Good, and Good is strong
To gather men
To love, and hope, and trust Him
Now, as then.

—E. AVERILL.

AN INCIDENT.

Ditching in the field one day
I threw a shovel of dirt away
And lo! it half imprisoned a snake.
And just to see how long it would take
To extricate itself, I threw
Another one on, then another too.
And then I stood, and watched the heap,
To see it move as the snake would leap
To light again; but it did not rise;
For the mound was a mountain to it in size.
Then greed suggested this evil plot;
"Come, way and let it die and rot;
And its oily flesh will enrich the mould
And make the wheat grow a hundred fold."
And so I assented, for times were tough
And get all we could, we could scarce get
enough,

And so passed on: but turned me round,
And shovelled with care that heap of ground.
Whispering within, "May some angel come
And free my soul from its shroud of gloom
As I this snake from its darksome tomb."
And with graceful motion it glided away
Rejoicing for life and the light of day.
My own heart too grew happy and light
And filled with the love of the Infinite.
And instead of base material grain
These golden thoughts sprang up in my brain—
To feel the woes of the dumb and mute;
To be a friend to the friendless brute;
To make more happy a sister or brother;
To bring more joy to the heart of another;
Is the very best way that ever was known
To bring light and heaven into our own.

EDGAR M. ZAVITZ.

Coldstream.

GOD'S SPIRIT.—The fact was, that the wind which bloweth where it listeth, whose sound is heard but from whence it cometh, had blown upon me and brought with it the awakening of a new life - a life that had to gather strength and vigor by daily contact with those who were actively engaged in church life, and, from the same source from which they gathered theirs.—[Senator] Jno. McDonald.

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