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Sabbath in the Country

BY C. JENNIE SWAINE

With dawn the Sunday beauty steals
Across the Summer hills,
And peace, unto the world unknown,
The sacred silence fills.
In sighing breeze and singing bird,
Lord of the morn, Thy voice is heard.

The hands from week day labor free
Find time to gather flowers,
And hearts let fall their burdens all,
While playing 'neath the bowers.
Know ye how sweet are prayers that
rise,
From blossoming sod to vaulted skies.

O fields aglow with clover blooms;
O hill of rustling corn,
My thoughts wings back its way to you
With every Sabbath morn,
Yet near, and far, and everywhere,
Lord of the Sabbath, Thou art there.

Softly the sweet-toned Sabbath bells
Send out their peal on peal,
Until a host of worshippers
By sacred altars kneel.
The breath of roses fills the air,
Sweet incense of the house of prayer.

The city has its towering spires,
Its temples, rich and grand,
But sweetly steal, o'er country ways,
The Sabbaths of the land,
My heart with tender longing fills,
For Sabbaths 'mid my native hills.

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