

# Canadian Missionary Link

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## THE BALLAD OF THE SAINT

BY THEODOBIA GARRISON

The Little Cherubs whispered,  
 "What strange, new soul is this  
 Who cometh with a robe besmirched  
 Unto the Place of bliss?"  
 Then spake the Eldest Angel,  
 "The robe he wears is fair—  
 The groping fingers of the poor  
 Have held and blessed him there."

The Little Cherubs whispered,  
 "Who comes to be our guest  
 With dust about his garment's hem  
 And stains upon his breast?"  
 Then spake the Eldest Angel,  
 "Most lovely is the stain—  
 The tears of those he comforted  
 Who may not weep again."

The Little Cherubs whispered,  
 "What strange, new soul is he  
 Who cometh with a burden here  
 And bears it tenderly?"  
 Then spake the Eldest Angel,  
 "He bears his life's award—  
 The burden of men's broken hearts  
 To place before the Lord."

.. The dust upon his garment's hem,  
 My lips shall bow to it;  
 The stains upon the breast of him  
 Are gems quite exquisite.  
 Oh, little foolish Cherubs,  
 What truth is this ye miss?—  
*There comes no saint to Paradise  
 Who does not come like this.*—Quoted.