HEAVEN

Not with the haloed saints would Heaven be For such as I;

Who have not reached to their serenity So sweet and high.

Not with the martyrs washed by holy flame Could I find place,

For they are victors who through glory came To see God's face.

Not with the perfect souls that enter there Could mine abide,

For clouded eyes from eyes all cloudless fair 'Twere best to hide.

And not for me the wondrous streets of gold Or crystal sea—

I only know the brown earth, worn and old, Where sinners be.

Unless I found those who to me belong, My dear and own,