

POETRY.

HEAVEN.

"—A place of pure delight,
Of spotless joy, of harmony, of peace."

Is earth the seat of wo,
Where all is death and cheerless;
Where dangers thickly grow,
And not an eye is tearless?
Heaven is the seat of bliss,
Where constant light is beaming;
Where gladness ever is,
And eyes with joy are gleaming.

Does earth present a scene,
Of unremitted changes;
Where tyranny is seen,
And ruin often ranges?
In heaven no change is known,
No spoilers ever enter;
No lash is heard, no groan,
But bloomy pleasure centre.

Is earth a tainted soil,
Where crime's abode is seated;
Where man is miser's spoil,
And truth with shame is treated?
No sin in heaven is found,
But all is pure and spotless;
With fairest lustre crown'd,
With glory clear and blotless.

Is earth a land of death,
A lazar-house of sorrow;
That one day us gives breath,
And slays us on the morrow?
Heaven is a land of life,
With healthfulness eternal;
With peace for ever rife,
With blossoms ever vernal.

RELIGION.

When life's tempestuous surges roar,
And ills on ills combined,
Arise to engulf our dearest hopes,
Religion calms the mind.

When fortune's adverse current rolls,
And no retreat we find—
Even then amidst its lashing waves,
Religion calms the mind

When ruthless Death's relentless grasp
Has to the tomb consign'd
Our nearest, dearest, firmest friends,
Religion calms the mind

And when in contemplation's hour,
We lay the world behind,
And eye remote the monster's form,
Religion calms the mind.

When fell disease invades, and mocks
Nature and skill combined,
While dread eternity's in view,
Religion calms the mind.

Hail! heaven descended peaceful guest,
To no one clime confined;
Most distant tribes may too exclaim—
"Religion calms the mind."

O! light my soul in death's dark hour,
With heavenly visions kind;
In raptures may I then exclaim—
"Religion calms the mind."

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