

**GOD'S PROMISE,**

**GENESIS IX CHAP. 13TH AND 14TH VERSES.**  
The bow that spans the azure sky,  
After every gentle shower,  
Fulfills a promise from on high;  
Given with Infinite power.

This promise was in Noah's time,  
That when clouds should lower above,  
From out of the darkness there should  
shine;  
The promise of His Love.

The stars that lit Judea's plain,  
And caused the Shepherd's praise,  
Still shines for you and I the same;  
As in those earlier days.

They brightly shine for us each night,  
With fixed and dazzling ray,  
To guide our footsteps in the right;  
And light us on our way.

And when at last this earthly sight  
Shall vanish from our view,  
This radiant bow will still shine bright;  
God's promises are true.

JAMES OWENS.

Johnville, Que., April, 1888.

**Giovanni's Lament.**

Had I never been gay, I had never been sad,  
Never mine, to companion with sorrow;  
Still the rose of to-day, that no briars forbade  
Had been mine, the sweet bloom of to-mor-  
row.

Yet, ah, why is it thus, in the joys from above,  
That to poor rated mortals are given,  
Dime Wisdom is ever unwilling to move,  
Until folly has robbed us of Heaven.

Had some angel within me but whispered my  
heart,  
Go to sleep, over-honored one, go,  
Pursue not life's pleasures too far lest they  
part,  
With the secret that honeys them so.

Ah, then I had looked upon life's roiled morn,  
Less sadly regretting the hours,  
When Earth was all Eden, and I as if born,  
For a bee, in the midst of its flowers.

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