

- 6 And if to-day my tide of life  
Should ebb away,  
Give me Thy Sacraments divine,  
Sweet LORD, to-day.
- 7 In Purgatory's cleansing fires  
Brief be my stay ;  
O bid me, if to-day I die,  
Go home to-day.
- 8 LORD, for to-morrow and its needs,  
I do not pray ;  
But keep me, guide me, love me, LORD,  
Just for to-day. Amen.

S. M. X.

A modified edition of this poem gradually gained popularity. It was issued in separate leaflet form by more than one publisher, and was found, No. 10, in a series of Victoria Leaflets issued by an Evangelical Protestant publisher whose place of business was near Victoria Station.

The poem, still modified, appeared in a volume entitled *To-day and other Poems*, original and selected, issued by R. J. Masters in Vauxhall Bridge Road. The title of the volume is taken from the verses in question, which form No. 1 in the collection of poems. Here verses 1 and 2 are the same as in the 1880 version. Verse 3, the third line, is changed to 'Help me to sacrifice myself' instead of 'mortify my flesh'; verse 7, the first two lines are changed to—

Cleanse and receive my parting soul,  
Be Thou my stay ;  
O bid me, &c.

Verse 8 is identical with one exception—in line 3—'hold me' instead of 'love me'. In this volume no author's name is given to the hymn. No. 2 Hymn, written by Mary Payne, is evidently intended to be a companion and is entitled 'To-night', and reads—

O Father, Who my prayer hath heard,  
And kept me since the morning's light,  
Hear me now when again I pray,  
Just for to-night.

This hymn is characterized by piety, but certainly not by poetry. It is marked by poverty of thought and irregularity of metre. The Collection as a whole belongs to the ultra-Evangelical Protestant School, and it is at least curious that a Roman Catholic hymn should have given the title to a Collection of this kind.