

39.

BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL.

Child, ere thou wander forth to play,
The Lord's own words be duly said
That thou from sin and danger dread
Delivered be to-day.

The spirit dark that works within,
Will whisper evil to thy heart,
Will turn thee from the better part,
And tempt thy soul to sin.

Thou canst not tell what danger near,
What sorrow never dreamed before,
This one short day may have in store,
What sudden pain or fear.

As I have seen a boat go down
In quiet waters suddenly,
When not a wave was on the sea,
Nor in the sky a frown.

But happy still in all distress,
The child that to his father flies,
The heart that on its God relies
For strength and holiness.

God's glorious Angels watch him round,
God's Spirit on his soul is shed ;
In vain the tempter's snares are spread,
He walks on guarded ground.

Why should he dread misfortune's blast,
Why should he tremble at the foe,
Or fear for pain, or shame, or woe ?
His heart is anchored fast.

Like lily flower that to and fro
Is tossed upon the waters wide,
What cares it for the changeful tide,
Its root is firm below.