

managing angels, assigns it to do, rendering that life service each time better and more wisely, each time rising in the scale of rank and wisdom, or else going lower and lower till that soul is destroyed for its evil."

"Eternity" apologizes for introducing us to a heaven of eternal work and "fighting with the wild forces of nature." He says we should not be afraid of it, for "God himself is constantly at work." He makes no mention of the seventh-day rest, and roundly denounces the heaven of the ordinary preacher. "We would not be able to stand a heaven of singing and music and idleness for a year!" Of course not; but eternal work? He says his notion may help "Hope" to a better conception of a future life; but we should be inclined to think it would help him to a truer conception of the utter futility and childishness of all such idle speculations.



## DEATH.

Ah! friend of man, thou true, thou kindly friend,  
 Thou art in truth to us, the sons of woe,  
 The kindest, strongest friend we here may know;  
 For even as a mother in her arms  
 Of soft and peaceful comfort takes the child  
 That through a long and fevered night hath wept  
 And whined and tossed on couch of pain and grief,  
 And o'er him breathes the breath of peace and rest,  
 And gently lulls him into silent sleep;  
 So in thine arms of peace the child of woe,  
 Cradled in pain and nurtured in the home  
 Of toil and bitter sorrow, thou dost take,  
 And over him thy cool and holy breath  
 Doth flow as in a silent stream of peace,  
 And sleep eternal, deep, untroubled sleep,  
 Soft, gently, pining not, nor giving thought  
 Of what hath been, or what will ever be,  
 Closeth his eyelids like a cloudy veil.

—James McBeth, in "*The Opening of the Gates*."