

GO TEACH.

"Speak but the word, O Master, and Thy will
Of perfect healing shall be done; for I
Am also one who with authority
Do bid my servants go and come, and lo
They do my bidding."

Is it so, indeed,
And do the servants of the mighty God
Obey Him, as these slaves their earthly lord?
And nature bows beneath the will of God;
But we,—whose souls have heard the Holy call,—
"Go teach my Gospel unto all the world,"
How do we take the message?

There are some
Who loiter on the way, as if the time
Were long indeed until the Master come,
And souls died not each hour, for lack of that
They carried to their help, and sin's quick growth
Of weeds chokes up the path, and night draws on,
And some believe not that when Jesus said,
"Go into all the world and teach." He meant
To lay a care, such as He bore Himself,
For this His wayward earth, upon His Church,
To rouse a longing in all hearts to be
Themselves the bearers of the joyful news;
Or, if a path were plainly marked elsewhere,
To make some sacrifice of ease or wealth
Seem light, to smooth their path who carry forth
The Word in danger and in solitude;
And to inspire a prayer for those who lie
In darkness, black as any starless night.
And so they stir not hand nor voice, and hear
The Gospel music in their souls grow faint,
And know not that themselves have closed the stops,
And sent away the strength, which God commands
Breathe through the lives of those who do obey.
And some have taken up the simple words
And wound them in such wrappings as man makes,
When he seeks ignorantly for a God
Whose ways and thoughts run level with his own,
That they who may receive the bulky gift
Can find therein, no heaven-sent words of love,
For many folds of men's imaginings
Have hidden the holy meaning out of sight.

Lord give us strength to bear Thy message forth
By what we are, by what we have, and do,
And what we pray for; in simplicity
And faith and diligence, that we may be
The servants of our Master, who doth bid
His servants with authority go forth
And take His Word of healing to the world.

S. G.