That hides from view the holiest of all,
Rending in twain from top to bottom, shows
The mercy seat to all alike reveal'd!
Nay; ev'n the dead hear the victorious cry,
"'Tis finish'd," and, arising from the tomb,
Walk to the holy city, and declare
That Jesus, dying, has abolish'd death,
And spoil'd the grave! The angels hear the cry,
"'Tis finish'd," and with speed, to heaven's bright
They bear the joyful tidings; a glad shout [gates
Rings through the empyrean, onward still,
Throughout the universe, from sun to sun,
From star to star, resounding; hell's dark caves
Alone the echoes mournfully return.

The scene is chang'd—now lowly in the tomb
The Saviour sleeps in death; a darksome cloud
Hangs heavy o'er his chosen little band
Of faithful followers; and all his foes
Rejoice. In the grave's mouth a stone is fixt
Secure, and seal'd. A Roman guard, well arm'd,
Before the sepulchre keeps anxious watch.
And why? Lest those weak timid fishermen,