

## Our Departed

spiritual joy: they are two of its elements.

We must remind ourselves that the Departed will regard life with other eyes than ours. From our lower standpoint, still in the mists of the valley, suffering seems an unmixed calamity, and we had made a world without the possibility of pain or sin. With their clear vision looking from the heights they will not make moan over this Gethsemane with its bitter cryings and bloody sweat. What even we dimly feel to be a good in the midst of our conflict, is to them a perfect and triumphant principle, because they behold the end of all things. They see life whole, not only Abraham's exile, but also Abraham's portion: not only St. Stephen's stones, but also St. Stephen's crown: not only St. Paul's long martyrdom, but also St. Paul's unspeakable reward. From their