

TO A KINDLY CATECHIST.

I FULLY and firmly believe that you write
In the spirit of Christian kindness,
But one who is walking by faith, not sight,
Should scarcely accuse me of blindness.

I can still stand erect without feeling the need
Of the trammels my mind has broke loose from ;
And if ever I long for a genuine creed,
There are ninety-nine thousand to choose from.

I believe that a man who makes mammon his friend
Is sure of a good situation.
Though he fail fifty times, he turns up, in the end,
Inside of a fine habitation.

I believe if the faithful keep kicking my shins,
I must pardon them seventy times seven ;
If not, I might suddenly die in my sins
And not meet the dear brethren in heaven !

I believe in the family circle—in wife
And child.—I believe we should rate them
Above all the treasures we own in this life ;
I believe it is wicked to *hate* them.