

# Dominion Presbyterian

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## THE HOUSE OF PAIN

Florence Earle Coates, in Lippincott's Magazine.

Unto the Prison House of Pain none  
willingly repair—  
The bravest who an entrance gain  
Reluctant linger there—  
For Pleasure, passing by that door, stays  
not to cheer the sight,  
And Sympathy but muffles sound and  
banishes the light.

Yet in the Prison House of Pain  
things full of beauty blow—  
Like Christmas roses, which attain  
Perfection 'mid the snow—  
Love, entering in his mild warmth the  
darkest shadows melt,  
And often, where the hush is deep, the  
waft of wings is felt.

Ah, me! the Prison House of Pain—  
what lessons there are bought—  
Lessons of a sublimer strain  
Than any elsewhere taught—  
Amid its loneliness and gloom, grave  
meanings grow more clear,  
For to no earthly dwelling place seems  
God so strangely near.

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