

Portry.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

Lead to thee, do thou repent
To the first man thou mayest meet
In land, highway, or open street--

That he and we, and all men, move
Under a canopy of love,
As broad as the blue sky above

That doubt and trouble, fear and pain
And anguish, all are shadows vain,
That death itself shall not remain.

That weary deserts we may tread,
A dreary labyrinth may thread,
Through dark ways underground be led

Yet, if we will one Guide obey,
The drearest path, the darkest way,
Shall issue out in heavenly day

And we, on divers shores now cast,
Shall meet, our perilous voyage past,
All in our Father's house at last.

And ere thou leave him, say thou this,
Yet one word more they only miss
The winning of that final bliss--

Who will not count it true that Love
Blessing, not cursing, rules above,
And that in it we live and move.

And one thing farther make him now--
That to believe these things are so,
This firm faith never to forego--

Despite of all which seems at strife
With blessing, all with curses rife--
That this is blessing, this is life

Poems by Richard Chenevix Trench

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