



## Before Thine Altar.

SWEETEST Lord, before Thine Altar  
 I would linger night and day,  
 Though, perhaps, I oft may falter,  
 Never let me from Thee stray.

Keep me near Thee when the shadow  
 Of the cross comes nearer still ;  
 Teach me that Thy sweetest bidding  
 Is to do Thy holy will.

Oh, be near me when the cloud wreaths  
 Weave their garlands 'round my way ;  
 Bring me closer to Thine Altar,  
 Hold me, keep me, there for aye.

Let me lay my little heart  
 At Thy Tabernacle door ;  
 Let my pleading, sweetest Jesus,  
 Be to love Thee more and more.

JANE LAVIALLE.