

I was born in the City of Wickedness.\* My parents lived at the time of my birth on one of the most prominent streets of the city, called Broadway.† The City of Wickedness is an exceedingly large one, being the capital of the Kingdom of Darkness.‡ It is in this place that King Satan's power centres, here he has his forces entrenched, and not only bears tyrannical rule over his own subjects, but from this quarter sends out invading detachments to all parts of the world, for it is here that all his schemes are devised, and arrangements made, and enterprises organized, which have for their object the destruction of human happiness. He has ten immense armies always ready for his service, and thus protects his kingdom from being overthrown. My father belonged to this force and served under the command of the king himself for some time, and was persuaded by him to train up his children for the same service, so in due time I too found a place in the ranks, and was subject to the discipline of the king's army. Notwithstanding the majesty of this king he was of a mean spirit and a very poor paymaster. He promised big wages to his servants, but seldom paid them, as a rule sending his soldiers a war-faring at their own charges. They were often told he was a liar,§ but they would not believe it.

Because of the poor wages paid to us we were all very poor, but this was not to be wondered at, since his children fared no better than his servants.

\* Psalm li. 5.

† Matt. vii. 13.

‡ John iii. 19.

§ John viii. 44.