

THE IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL.

When from the dust God first made man,
The breath of life in him he breath'd ;
A living soul was God's great plan,
A perfect work he then achiev'd.

The Evil Spirit saw in him
The one who for his place was made,
He quickly led him on to sin—
With cunning all his plans were laid.

One fruit God man forbade to eat,
Death he should suffer if he did ;
With pride the devil man did cheat,
And in the serpent's beauty hid.

The spirit neither eats nor talks,
These to the body both belong,—
And when in evil paths man walks
The body leads the soul along.

The body now for sin must die,
It turns to dust from whence it came ;
The breath of God it soars on high,
Man's spirit lives for joy or shame.

As Rachel's soul departing was
She named her child "Benoni,"
A man of sorrows she foresaw
Would die to save and purify. *

Elijah on the widow's son
Three times did stretch himself and cry,
Let this child's soul return, anon
The child reviv'd, again to die. †

Genesis xxxv. 18.

† 1 Kings xviii. 22.