

ing, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb," Rev. vii. 9, 10. And who are they that send forth such strains? They that had come "out of great tribulation, and had washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb," ver. 14. They were once upon earth; once men of like passions with yourself; once beginning their religious course as you now are;

Once they were mourning here below,
And wet their couch with tears;
They wrestled hard, as we do now,
With sins, and doubts, and fears."

There is not a burden that oppresses your heart, but what oppressed theirs; there is not a fear that agitates your mind, but what agitated theirs; there is not a temptation that assails you, but what assailed them; there is not an obstacle that terrifies you, but what terrified them; they were once as ignorant, as weak, as sinful, as timid, as discouraged, as you; there is not a sorrow, a perplexity, or a danger with which you are painfully familiar, but they passed through before you. But there they are in heaven, more than conquerors over all these things through him that loved them. He that saved *them* has engaged to save you; nor is his ear heavy, nor his arm shortened. "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doeth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is