

A solemn silence reigned on all around—
E'en Nature's voices uttered not a sound ;
The evening shadows seemed of peace to tell,
And sleep upon my weary spirit fell.

A moment's pause—and then a heavenly light
Beamed full upon my wondering, raptured sight :
Angels on silvery wings seemed everywhere,
And angels' music thrilled the balmy air.

Then One, more fair than all the rest to see—
One to whom all the others bowed the knee—
Came gently to me as I trembling lay,
And, "Follow me !" He said ; "I am the Way."

Then, speaking thus, He led me far above,
And there, beneath a canopy of love,
Crosses of divers shape and size were seen,
Larger and smaller than my own had been.

And one there was, most beauteous to behold,
A little one, with jewels set in gold.
Ah ! this, methought, I can with comfort wear,
For it will be an easy one to bear :

And so the little cross I quickly took ;
But, all at once, my frame beneath it shook.
The sparkling jewels, fair were they to *see*,
But far too heavy was their *weight* for me.