

THE KEY OF LIFE

[*Gluttony comes.*]

DEATH

Gluttony, be thou a mesh,
Snaring all the grosser flesh.

[*Anger comes.*]

DEATH

Anger, go forth like a flood,
Drown the world in pain and blood.

[*Sloth comes.*]

DEATH

Sloth, be thou a clogging slime,
Make men lose salvation's time.

[*Then Death extends his wide, black wings, and
chants exultingly :*]

Now shall my dominions
Be the captive world.
Now my outstretched pinions,
Like a flag unfurled,
Mock in exultation
God upon His throne ;
And of all creation
I am lord alone.

[*Suddenly, a trumpet gives three loud sharp
blasts, and, in a burst of light, an Angel
appears holding a drawn sword over Death,
who, at sight of the Angel, crouches down,
grovelling on the ground, with the Seven
Deadly Sins prostrate around him.*]