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## PREFACE

$\mathrm{N}^{\text {Othing in thes little book }}$ was written for publi. CATION.
the poems are printed by REQUEST THAT THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM MAY HAVE THEM.

IF SOME OF THE VERSES MIGHT BE AS HELPFUL TO OTHERS AS THEY HAVE BEEN TO THE WRITER, IT WOULD BE A GREAT JOY TO HER.


"BE CONTENT TO NOTHING AT ALL, IF IT BE GON'S WILL."

COME to me Lord! all earthly things are fading, Youth has departed, strength is failing fast ; Mine is no more the dear delight of aiding Those who are toiling in Thy vineyard-vast, And all-absorbing in its needs; -1 stand Apart and watch, as through the goodly land Others are stwing, where I loved to sow, Others are reing, where I hoped to reap, Tending my plants, that fair and stately grow, Guarding the ireasures that I fain would keep. Speak to me, Lord! I weary of inaction, And there is naught that I can do for Thee; Send out Thy voice, and by its sweet attraction Draw from this world my thoughts to heaven and Thee.

Is it because earth's joys and comforts fail thee That thou art seeking Me, ungrateful child? Because the trials of thine age assail thee, Thou criest thus to Me in accents wild?
Who gave thee youth, and strength and any power Thou hadst of toiling in this field of Mine?
Whose was the seed that grew to fruit or flower, And whose the plants thou call'st so proudly thinc? All these were Mine; I did not need thy labour, That has no value but as proof of love; Love, that, unselfishly, can see a neighbour Treading the path where it was wont to move. Love that goes forth to labour at my sending, Love that contented, stands when I say "Rest," Love that can yield up all, submissive bending, And in its self-forgetfulness be blest. Cease then thy murmurs; here is work for thee, Work that means patience, perseverance, strife ; Work that will bring thee daily nearer Me, Work that will end but with the end of life.


"THEN SHALL THE EARS OF THE DEAF BE
UNSTOPPED"
CANNOT hear, dear Lord, as once I heard,
Sweet sound of music or the song of bird;
I cannot hear the gentle voice of friend
In low, sweet tones its loving message send;
I cannot hear the murmur of the breeze
That stirs the dancing leaves upon the trees;
I cannot hear the ripple of the stream That glides before me like a voiceless dream ; The thousand sounds that every rustic hears

Fall all unnoticed on my deafened ears;
And more-I cannot hear, oh! dearest Lord, The preacher's voice expound Thy Sacred Word. I cannot hear with this my outward sense; But Christ, Lord Christ, our Shield ind our Defence Speak to my heart in words of comfort, speak Words that shall in my soul sweet music make ;
 With holy thoughts, with dreams of heaven and Thee, With whispers of the glory that shall be ; With the faint fluttering of angel wings, With echoes of the song the seraph sings, With loving thoughts on kindly actions bent; So shall my days be passed in calm content, Till health and strength and life itself be spent. Then grant the rest from sin and earthly pain, The purifying from each spot and stain, Till waking in the Presence we adore, I hear, as I have never heard before.

## ADVANCING AGE

ALONE, yet not alone ; near me doth stand My Guardian Angel, with protecting hand, To guide and guard me on my downward way, To closely watch my footsteps lest I stray; To check each selfish or repining thought, And whisper words with consolation fraught; To lead my heart and mind from things of earth. (So dearly cherished, though so little worth); To dwell in heaven where is His own bright home, Where all Christ's loving children hope to come. Alone, not lonely, for within me rise Sweet memories of many a past delight, Of tender voices-of beloved eyesWhose looks and tones once made my life so bright.
Of many a glad permitted usefulness, Of many a trial, many a sore distress,

9




Be near me still, dear Lord, while strength
And hearing fail me, and approaching night And hearing fail arkly my descending way. Forsake me not, be near me still I pray ; Strengthen the feeble heart, keep firm the will, And in the hour of death be with me still; And may this weak and sinful soul of mine Be precious in Thy sight, O Lord Divine.

OUR TVINS
WO little heads of hair Flaxen and brown; Two little foreheads With : ly a frown;
Two pair of bris it eyes, A brown and a blue,

Seeking to pierce
This world's mysteries through ;
Two pair of coral lips
Parting to smile,
Edges of pearly teeth
Shewing the while;
Four little arms
For a ready embrace ;
Four little restless feet,
Eager to race;
Two little loving hearts,
Tender and true;
Two lit le minds
To which all things are new-
Two little treasures
In trust to us given ;
Two little souls
To be nurtured for heaven.


## LITTLE LILIAS

EST, little baby, in thy Saviour's arms, Though mine be empty; free from all alarms, From all temptations, from all chance of $\sin$, From the world's ceaseless and distracting din. No disappointment, sorrow, pain or care Can reach thee in the land where all is fair. With thy Baptismal robe of innocence Unsullied, God's own Hand hath drawn thee hence To share the sweet companionship of those The Lamb who follow, wheresoe'er He goes.

Not mine to watch my fair, unfolding flower, And see in it new beauties every hour ; Not mine to see the growth of every sense, And mark the quickening of intelligence; Not mine to train the little, fearful feet To stand-to walk; nor mine with joy to greet

The first few faltering accents; which to hear Is sweetest music to a mother's ear; Nor mine to teach my darling day by day To bend the head, and fold the hands and pray.

Yet, Oh, my heart! be still, nor dare repine ; His love, His care, are better far than mine; He leads my darling in the pastures green, He shews her things that "Eye hath never seen." Lie teaches, guides, enlightens her, that so The infant soul to perfectness may grow. He guards my treasure, and a day may come When I shall see her in her heavenly home. Dear Lord, be with Thy servant, lest she stray, Or weak, or weary, falter on the way; So keep my feet in this Thy day of grace, That I, too, see one day Thy glorious face.

FAIR dwellers in a safe and sheitered fold, Why do ye early rise while others sleep?
Why wander through the dark and gloomy wold O'er stony wastes, and up the mountain steep, Round lofty rocks, and through dark marshes toiling, Your brows with heat, your hands with labour soiling; Ever se steadfast in the onward track, Never delaying, never looking back ?

Fresh are the pastures that we journey seeking,
Cool are the waters that we long to taste; Nothing must daunt us, for our Lord is speaking, Naught may delay us, for He bids us haste; Nor deem our way all barren, gloomy waste; Many a sunbeam lights it, rare and precious, As in obedience we press calmly on; Draughts from the fountains by the way refresh

Early, to strengthen us for labour, drawn. Falls on our ears one sweet voice ever calling, "I am the Way, My loved ones follow Me"; And so we trust He'll keep our feet from falling, Encompassed by temptations though we be.

Dear are the burdens we for Him are bearing, With the sweet solace of His boundless love Round and about us, as the day is wearing, While we draw nearer to the home above, Where dwells the Lord, who claims our love and duty. No pen can picture that Most Glorious Face;

No words portray the King in all His Beauty, Ineffable in glory and in grace.
In his sweet patience He has watched and striven Early and late with us His wandering sheep, Entreating that our hearts be wholly given His to be ever, His to safely keep.


Shoul, we not graterully and gladly hear Him, Ardently longing to obey His call; Rising up quickly, and in drawing near Him Offer up thankfully ourselves, our all?

Stayed not by earthly ties,
Though they are sweet;
Luxuries, comforts,
Lay at His Fect.
Sacrifice Pride, and Ambition and Ease, Seeking in all things Him only to please;
Thinking no labour hard,
Seeking for no reward,
Save that our service, our prayers and our love
The Master will deign to accept and approve.
Ah! what the joy if faithful to the end Through much temptation, free from wilful sin, One day before the Great White Throne we bend, Pardoned, accepted, called to enter in Through gates of pearl, into the Safer Fold, Forever the Good Shepherd to behold.

## SISTER BERTHA

sHE gave herself to God; all her young life

And bright attractiveness; for she was fair And dowered with many a gracious gift, besides The sweet mysterious one of maguetism, Which drew all liearts to her. She could have shone In worldly circles, but she craved alone The love of God, and so she turned away From all earth's gay allurements and delights, And in the spirit of true devotion, made Her self-surrender absolute. It was a precious gift, and God accepted her, And we, her Sisters, looked for added strength From such an ager, earnest life of pure And high devotion. She had thought To serve the Master, she so dearly loved In ministering to His sick and poor, And in the children, whose young hearts she won So readily ; for her all toil was glaciness, And all worship rest and joy.

But God,
Who sees not as we see, had other plans For her and us. And first He laid her down Upon a bed of suffering, that her faith And patience might be proved. And then, The trial borne with sweet submission, And the pain with brave endurance, He exalted her to rest and joy in Paradise.

And have we lost the help We looked for from that brave yourg life? Ah, no! She knows our struggles, needs, perplexities, And, in her disembodied state, is free To plead for us more earnestly. And may Her bright example, like a shining light Along the path we still must tread, incite Each one of us to greater holiness, More fervent prayer, more burning fire of love; Till, one glad day, the task appointed done, We, too, may hear the Grarious call, to dwell Forever with the Lord.


BY a beautiful rose of crimson dye I paused, for surely I heard a sigh, And I bent above her, and whispered "Why ?"
" I sigh," the flower sadly said,
" Because my colour, so deeply red, Tells of the' Sacred Blood that was shed;
"And because of the many that come and go So few are touched by that bitter woe; So few love Him who loved them so."

I asked a lily, on stem so slender, Bending and swaying lest storms should rend her, "What is the thought 'neath that face so tender ?"
" One of my kin with the angel went, Who, with a wondrous message was sent To a maiden, who heard it with meek content;
"And I am fain in humility
Like to the maiden-mother to be, Though far less fair and pure than she."
" Little Forget-me-not, blue as the skies, What is the message I read in your eyes, Open with infantile, sweet surprise?"
"Forget not Him Who drew infant breath, Who came from Heaven to earth beneath That souls might be saved from eternal death;
" Forget not Him, Who, throned above, Still remembers you in His Love; Hinit Who will ne'er forgetful prove."
"O stately Daffodil, fashioned in gold, What is the secret your bright leaves hold?




And I am a child whose wondering sight Is ever finding, with fresh delight, New paths that lead to the Infinite.
"AND THERF SHALL IN NO WISE ENTER INTO IT ANYTHING THAT DEFILETH."
-Rev. XXI: a7

$\bigcirc$
NCE a saint his death awaited,
Weak and weary, sore oppressed;
Yet with holy joy elated, Peacefully lay down to rest.

Slept, and dreamed of Paradise, Dreamed he walked a crystal street; Flowers and shrubs of purest crystal Glanced and glittered round his feet.

Flashed the trees; their branches crystal, Crystal-clear their leaves and fruits; And the sparkling ground discovered, Not concealed, their crystal roots.
And he gazed, amazement growing, As 'neath crystal arches strayed Men and women, all of crystal, In transparent robes arrayed.

But when he would fain have spoken To a damsel, who drew near, Of dismay her face gave token, And she fled as if in fear.



So each one he would have greeted
With a glance of horror fled, Till at length the saint, dejected, Dropped upon his breast his head.
Then he saw he, too, was crystal,
But within his breast a spot
All the brilliancy disfigured
With a dark, repulsive blot.
And in shame and quick confusion, O'er the place his clasped hands drew;
All in vain; the hands were crystal,
And the ugly spot showed through.
Then he waked, and swiftly conscience, What the dream had meant, confessed; For a grudge against another

He had harboured in his breast.

So he sought and gained forgiveness, And when next he laid him down
'Twas to know a rude awakening, And to win a martyr's crown.
"MINISTERING SPIRITS"

$\square$NE sultry day in summer, When the air was close and still, And all who could refreshment sought, By sea, or stream, or hill;

A little child of the people
Played in the city street, With never a thought of danger

To check the wand'ring feet.

Farther, and ever farther, From the shelter of home it strayed, And in the very midst of the street The innocent baby played.

All of a sudden a cloud of dust, And the trample of horses' feet, As a waggon, whose driver had lost control, Came rattling down the street.

And no one thought of the baby
Till 'twas too late for aid,
And the heavy wheels had rapidly passed O'er the spot where the little one played.
Then a policeman lifted The little form on his arm, And the blue eyes opened widely Without a trace of alarm.
" Where is the beautiful lady?" Said the child, with a smile so rare That those who saw it felt in their hearts They had never seen aught so fair.
"I saw her this very minute, And she lifted the waggon-wheel, And, although it went right over me, Not one bit did I feel."

And the babe was safe and uninjured, Though across the little breast
Was a mark that by the waggon-wheel Had clearly been impressed.

Who doubts that the "beautiful lady" That shielded the child from harm Was its own bright guardian angel, Shewn to assuage alarm ?
 Our hearts were as free from guile, We, too, might see such visions

As waked that wondrous smile.
For us might the dread be lifted Of many a crushing weight, And hardly a mark be left on the soul By the wheel of the car of fate.

## - PHOENIX

ISHALL arise! Though flesh and spirit fail, Though the world fade before my dark'ning eyes, Though death doth shake this tabernacle frail, "I shall arise!"
While near my couch, my dear ones bending low, In vain would check their bursting tears and sighs, This thought sustains and strengthens me-"I know I shall arise."
Life smiled on me; prosperity was mine,
And I had won a far more precious prize; Yet in this hope I calmly all resign, "I shall arise."
Ashes to ashes ; yea, and dust to dust,
And so this perishable body dies; But Lord, to Thee my soul I do entrust, "I shall arise." "One who was very near death, suddenly opening his eyes, pronounced this word distinctly.

 From trees and fruits, and flowers ever fair ; From living waters, sparkling clear and cold, From forms, and sights, and sounds of beauty rare.
"He shall go no more out " from fellowship

" PASSION OF CHRIST, STRENGTHEN' ME."

PASSION of Christ !" Oh words of awful meaning, And can I speak them coldly, carelessly,Without deep shame, and tears of penitence For sin which bore such bitter, bitter fruit?
"Passion of Christ I" Oh life-long calm endurance Of sin, indifference, ingratitudeOf gifts abused, and disappointed hopesAnd sad foreknowledge of the bitter end !
" Passion of Christ !" In sad Gethsemane By agony and bloody sweat revealed, By treaclie ous kiss and seizure of rough hands, By ruthless dragging to the judgment hall, By mockery, by insults, and by blows Intensified ; the Holy Body torn By cruel, shameful scourging, so that faint It falls beneath the burden of the tree.



IAnd I lay in the misty borderland That is neither waking or sleeping.
And in my dreams the Evil One Came in and sat by my side;
I was conscious of only a wond'ring thought That I was not terrified.

But scarcely a moment had time to pass
When the air was gently stirred

They did not look at the Tempter-
They spoke not, they made no sign, But he rose at once, and vanished, Saying, "Here is nothing of mine."

And I saw of his attendants
In number only two,
Mere shadows of something evil, And quickly lost to view.

But the Angels went onward and upward, In beautiful bright array;
Their grave, sweet faces all intent On the work that before them lay.

I strove in vain to count them, So great was the shining host, And while I still was trying I was in slumber lost.




FILTHY rags! impure, unwholesome, Apt to spread infection dire, Through the germs that lurk within them, Fit for nothing but the fire.

Why are scores of fingers busy With the toul, unsightly mass, Separating, cutting, bringing Order from confusion crass?

Now machinery in motion Cleanses, tears to fragments small, Heat of steam, and teeth of iron Crushing, purifying all.

Once again the cleansing process By the scalding, searching steam, And the filthy rags that entered Issue a translucent stream.

Fixed and deftly shaped and moulded,
Now 'tis paper smooth and fair, Destined on its spotless surface God's own Holy Word to bear.

So we 1 rn a needed lessonNone created to despise.
Whom we may regrard as worthless God beholds with other eyes.

Sets machinery in motion, Heat of suffering, teeth of pain, All the grood within them latent Bringing to the light again.

Cleansed through penitence and pardon, Patiently they suffer loss, Joyfully enduring all things



Till, with hearts and lives transmuted,
'Tis their mission to proclaim All the Love of Him who bought them, All the Glory of His Name.
"IF' A MAN DIE, SHALL HE LIVE AGAIN?"

A
SK for answer yonder oak;
Through the enclosing shell it broke,
Pierced the earth that o'er it lay, Striving upwards towards the day.

Now a noble, spreading tree,
Leaves and branches fair to see.
Yet all this beauty lay folded up In a tiny germ in the acorn cup!
 Flitting by on gauzy wing; Once a worm on earth it crept, Then in darksome cell it slept: Now a thing of beauty rare, Floats and flies in upper air: And all this color and life has risen From seeming death, in a narrow prison.

Ask the daisies, white and pure, Their bright eyes make answer sure; Ask the violets, and draw nigh, Fragrance is their sweet reply; Ask yon field of waving grain.
None the mystery can explain, But all declare with consenting breath "This fulness of life is our's through death.'

And Man-God's noblest work on earth, Can he doubt that through death he gains new birth Into a life beyond our ken, Where those that were parted meet again, Where all that is dark and mysterious here Shall be, in the light of Eternity, clear; Where Death, that we dread, itself shall die, Being swallowed up in victory?
"NOT WITH EYE-SERVICE"

I$\mathbf{N}$ the depths of some tropical forests Remote from human view,
The ground is aglow with flowers Of beautiful shape and hue.

And the trees are decked with orchids And beautiful hanging things, And flashes of brilliant colour




Wonderful hidden treasure,
So small that in the hand,
A million or two would resemble
Just so many grains of sand.
But the microscope reveals them
Of delicate color and form,
The tiny building and dwelling
Of an infinitesimal worm.

Of the innermosi shrine of your consciousness,
What is the history?
Are there any beautiful flowers
For the eye of God to see?
Fairest blossom of Purity,
Spotless kept from youth,
Brilliant, fragrant flowers
Of Love, and joy and Truth?

Are there leaves of good resolutions, Fruits of victories won By sternest self-denial, Carved in your heart of stone?

Down in the depth of your being, Are the passions laid to rest, And is there anything building Fit for the Master's quest?

Look to your life and its purpose, Your work, and its metives scan; Are you striving for God's approval And not for the praise of man?

All marvels of form and colour But faintest shadows are Of the unimagmed beauty

$\square$


Down from His Throne on high, And of all our poor endeavours Not one escapes His eye.

One day, perhaps will be opened
To us, the purpose and plan
Of the Great Creator of all things,
For worm, and flower, and man!

## CHILDREN'S HYMN

OD our Father, high in heaven, Listen to our evening prayer, We would fain, with sins forgiven,

Rest beneath thy loving care.


Countless blessings have been ours, Through the day that's over now ; Air and sunshine, food and raiment, All we have to Thee we owe.

Lord we thank Thee for each blessing, And we love Thee for Thy love, May each one the love professing By a glad obedience prove.

Now that night is closing o'er us May no evil thing draw nigh, But, the holy angels' chorus

Be our slumbers' lullaby.
May our dreams be of the Saviour,
May He sanctify our rest,
And our working hours' behaviour Be with His sweet Presence blest.

God the Father, our Creator, Dear Redeemer, God the Son, Unto both with God the Spirit Everlasting praise be done.

## LENTEN HYMN

FOR SChools

oNCE more the solemn season calls" Our slothful souls to move To penitence, to earnest prayer, And acts of Christian love.
We own, O Lord! our sinfulness, Our poor imperfect prayers.
Our wandering thoughts, the love of self The guise of good that wears.


The many idle words we speak, The little love of Thee, The wayward spirit that would fain From all restraint be free.

And yet, dear Lord, within our hearts There surely is some love ;
We long to please Thee by our lives And faithful children prove.

For this we need Thy promised help,
And so we come to Thee
Fer strength to make our new resolves
With deep reality.
For grace to keep them day by day,
To live as in Thy sight, Remembering we are called to walk
As children of the light.


That He who gave His life for us May claim us as His own, When with that only hope, we stand Before the great White Throne.
N.B. - The first line is borrowed, by request, from Hymn \&4, A. and M.
"TAKE UP THY CROSS"
"गAKE up thy Cross," the children sing, The words are noble, the music sweet, And the fresh young voices clearly ring,
And they almost long a cross to meet.
For to carry it would be gladness, Dreams the confidence of youth, With no thought that a cross means sadness, That the cross is a cross in truth.

Their sheltered lives have known no care,
And little pain or sorrow;
Their sleep has been sweet, and their dreams all fair, Of a bright and glad to-morrow.
"Take up thy cross," but never a thought That sorrow, or pain or shame, Is the form in which a cross must be wrought To be worthy of the name.

Ah! sooner or later, children dear, This knowledge will come to you all, But there is a stronghold when trouble is near, A safeguard in fear of fall.

The cross will be hard to flesh and blood, You may think that you cannot bear it; But he who was nailed to a cross of wood



Grateful to sight and sense their perfume sweet, Their tender beauty, and their words of love, Nor can I dream of any flower more meet On such an errand messenger to prove.

No flower so sweet-yet sweeter far to me Than e'en these lilies is the gentle thought That in the sender's breast rose lovingly, And in this graceful form expression sought.

O Love, thou " present for a mighty king!" - Love, more precious than the finest gold! O Love, whom artists paint, and poets sing, And yet by neither is thy value told!

Be kind to the fair maid of whom I write, Dwell in her heart, and all her actions move, And draw her ever toward the Infinite, The only Soarce and End of all true love.

## TO MY PIANO

O
H! beautiful cold keys, your pleasant faces
Smile a bright welcome! Fain these hands of mine
Would wake to life some of the hidden graces That sleeping lie within their ivory shrine.

Oh! glistening strings that vibrate to the touch! Your clear, sweet voices reach my inmost heart, And make me fear I love you over-much,

Since of myself ye almost seem a part.
Here, when oppressed with care the heart is saddened,
It knows that happiness and comfort lie,
And if it still refuses to be gladdened
It must be soothed by your sweet sympathy.


Ye keep my secrets, too, O prudent friends!
I, fearless, trust you with my thoughts and dreams; And many a wild imagination blends
With the clear current of your silvery streams.
Ohl when for us all earthly sights and sounds
Shall into silence and to darkness wane, Shall not our senses, freed from mortal bounds,

Know the full sweetness of the angelic strain!
Shall not each glorified and faultless voice
Join in rich chords of perfect harmony,
And in those nobler melodies rejoice
For which, while here, we only grope and sigh.
"HE LEADETH ME"
I
HAVE erred and strayed,
But one has followed with untiring feet, And eager longing, and with Patience sweet

Has near me stayed.


I would not turn
To see wh followed, though my aching heart, Refusing still to choose the better part, Did in me burn.

I would not hear
The sweet voice ever calling, calling,
"Come unto Me, I'll keep thy feet from talling, Thy soul from fear."

I fell, and was afraid That none was near me in the wilderness
To listen to the tale of my distress,
Or give me aid.
And then a voice
Breathed words of consolation in my ear "Trust but to Me and thou hast nought to fear, Make Me thy choice."


What could I say
To words so tender, in a voice so sweet? 1 longed to throw myself before His feet, And there to stay.

With many a tear My sins, and all my weakness, I confessed, And soon with His forgiveness I was blessed And freed from fear.

Now He doth lead; And I, I follow whereso'er He goes, And all my inmost thoughts to Him disclose, And every need.

A deep content Is in my heart, whene'er the end may be, Sooner or later, it is naught to me, So that His blessed will be wrought in me


"UNDER HIS SHADOW" NDER His shadow, in weariness, Resting with great relief, I thought of "the rest that remaineth" And the hours of toil seemed brief.

Under His shadow, in poverty, Resting, I softly said:
"My lord, the King of Angels, Had not where to lay His head."

Under His shadow, in sorrow, I rested with steadfast faith, For "His soul was exceeding sorrowful, Even unto death."

Under His shadow, in loneliness

- Rested, in calm content,
- For I fain would follow my Master, And this is the way He went.


For what of the cruel scourging,
What of the thorny crown?
Under His shadow, temptation Loses its power to sting ;
For the hosts of hell are marshalled In vain against our King.

Under His shadow, deserted, I rested an aching head, And a voice within me whispered: "They all forsook Him and fled."

Under His shadow, in penitence, What is this whisper low?
"Though your sins be like scarlet, They shall be white as snow."

Under His shadow, in weakness I rested, nor made complaint ; For a heavy Cross He carried, When bruised, and sore and faint.

Into the Valley of Shadows, 1 shall not fear to fare ;
For my Saviour knows its darkness, And He will meet me there.

Oh, the joy of that meeting ! The bright Eternal Day,
When in the light of His Presence Shadows shall flee away.


