

IMMANUEL'S LAND

by David Harsha, 1856.

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PREFACE.

The design of this essay is to afford a glimpse of Immanuel's land; to exhibit some of the powerful attractions of that world of glory. To those who are asking the way to Zion, with their faces toward there, the author knows that his present theme will be at all times refreshing. Future felicity in Heaven is the most cheering subject that can be presented for the contemplation of the Christian in this valley of tears. What can be more delightful than for the weary pilgrim who is fast hastening to mansions in the skies, to meditate on the glories of his

future home?

There is much in this subject to animate us in the thorny pathway to immortality. It affords hope in life's darkest hour; it points with its glorious light to the realms of bliss, where no tear is ever shed and where no sorrow ever enters. There is much in Immanuel's land to engage our hearts in holy meditation while we sojourn as strangers and pilgrims here. The bright mansions of our Father's house- the many crowns of glory laid up for us there- the joyous rest that remains for our weary souls- the sweet employment of the redeemed in glory- the endeared society in the heavenly home; all are presented to attract us to heaven- to induce us to set our affections on things above.

Then, let us fix our hearts more steadfastly upon heavenly joys- upon the glories of Immanuel's land. In handling this delightful subject, the Word of God has been our guide. To this blessed volume we are indebted for all the revelations that have been made of the glory of the celestial world. In the Bible we obtain a glimpse of the glorious land. May He whose infinite love fitted up those bright abodes of bliss, bless our present effort to the souls of men, in leading them to lay up their treasures in Heaven, and to choose that better part which shall never be taken away from them.

Heavenly meditation is a delightful work, in which our souls should be daily engaged, until we enter the portals of glory, and begin our unending song in the paradise of God. O! may that sweet hour soon come.

"O! soon may Heaven unclose to me!
O! may I soon that glory see!
And my faint, weary spirit, stand
Within that happy, happy land!"

1. THE PLACE

"I go to prepare a **place** for you." John
14:2

There is a world of rich delight,
Where warm affections glow;
Where reigns the everlasting light,
Where crystal waters flow.
There happy saints securely dwell
From Satan's deadly power;
Their bliss no mortal tongue can tell,
Unfolding every hour.
They dwell with Jesus, and behold
The beauties of his face;
Secure in the celestial fold,
And crowned by sovereign grace.
From earth and all its empty joys,
Blest Jesus, set me free;
How vain the worldling's gilded toys,
Compared with heaven and thee!
You are my hope, my way, my bliss,
My glory, and my crown;
Descend O blessed Prince of Peace,
And make my heart your throne."

How full of consolation are the Holy Scriptures! They animate the Christian in his pilgrimage on earth; they point out the way of salvation through a crucified Jesus; they lead the ransomed sinner to the gates of the celestial city, and seat him amid the untold and inconceivable glories of Paradise! The Scriptures urge us to set our affections on the glories of the Christian's eternal home. To those in whose hearts Christ

is formed the hope of glory, how beautiful, how tender, how soul-reviving is the language of inspiration! It is written, "If you then are risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sits on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."

In compliance with the sacred command we shall endeavor, through divine assistance, to raise our thoughts to those scenes of bliss which the redeemed perpetually enjoy before the throne of God and the Lamb. We shall contemplate the place itself, where all the precious flock of Christ are to dwell through an endless day. In connection with this we shall notice a few of the powerful attractions of that blessed abode.

Heaven is a place as well as a state. Among the last words of our Redeemer before He left this valley of tears, we find this cheering declaration and promise, "I go to prepare a **place** for you. And if I go and prepare a **place** for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also." Precious words from a loving Friend! But follow Him to the land of promise. Christ has now gone to prepare that place for us! O what a place will Jesus prepare for his dear children! What a place will infinite love make! How attractive will it be! Well may we confess our utter inability to portray the regions of glory, and exclaim with an enraptured Apostle, "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those

who love Him."

Language fails to describe the beauties of Immanuel's land, and the human mind to conceive its blessedness. "All the glories of kingdoms, all the beauties of gardens, all the splendor of palaces, yes all the riches of creation, form but a faint sketch of the sublime original." We cannot know what heaven really is until we enter into 'the holy place' and sit down under the shadow of the tree of life in the midst of the Paradise of God. Then shall we see in the light of glory that it is a happy region; a happy home indeed.

Heaven is a holy place where the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, unveils His glorious perfections in full effulgence. In that blessed place, the Lamb of God, the Savior of sinners, dwells in His glorified humanity. There triumphant saints are gathered home to Christ. There they are made pillars in the temple of God and go out no more. There the host of heaven dwell in the blissful presence of the King of glory.

This blessed place should attract us. We should look beyond this present fleeting world. We should endeavor to raise our eyes to Canaan's happy shores, and obtain a glimpse of those everlasting hills from where our help comes from. Let the Christian ascend the mount of meditation, and by the help of God's Word, survey those fair regions which lie beyond the Jordan of death.

"My, soul, on Pisgah's mount ascend,
where Moses once admiring stood.
There view the promised land extend

beyond the swelling Jordan's flood.
By faith survey the landscape o'er,
Where living waters gently flow;
'Till earth usurp your love no more,
'Till all you're your kindling passions
glow."

What glorious prospects are presented to the Christian pilgrim when he, by faith, gazes on the heights of Mount Zion above! There stands the New Jerusalem, the city of our God, in dazzling glory. Through its golden streets the river of life rolls its bright waters; and on the banks of that crystal stream, grows luxuriantly the tree of life, loaded with the richest fruits. To those fountains of immortality the Lamb conducts His white robed followers, and in tasting of joys the purest and noblest, in feasting on the banquet of redeeming love, the saints spend the ages of glory.

On those 'walls of jasper' and 'streets of gold' the sunbeams are always shining; but no earthly sun illuminates the celestial city. The glory of God enlightens it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. Our Heavenly Father is there, and His glory is manifested there. Jesus our elder Brother is there and He is the center of heavenly attraction; of heavenly glory.

Heaven is a chosen spot; selected by Christ; prepared from the foundation of the world for the eternal abode of the righteous. To the heirs of immortality, Christ will at last pronounce this joyful invitation, "Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

Thus a place is already prepared for the

redeemed; a place rendered infinitely attractive by a display of divine power, wisdom, goodness, and love. The beauty of heaven should attract us. It is a place of perpetual loveliness; a kingdom of unfading glory. The earthly Canaan had many attractions, but what was that to the heavenly? It is the Canaan above that is so glorious! It is that 'pleasant land and goodly heritage' which stretches beyond the swellings of Jordan, that is so attractive to the Christian. Every child of God longs to reach those bright shores of a purer climate, where everlasting glory bursts upon the weary pilgrim!

Respecting the earthly Canaan, Moses' prayer was, 'I beg you, let me go over and see that good land that is beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon.' How much more should every Christian earnestly strive and pray that 'an entrance may be administered unto him abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.'

The earthly Paradise was a charming spot, where grew every tree that was pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden; and there issued a crystal stream to water the lovely region, and to fertilize a blooming world. How delightful to have dwelt in such a home as this. But Immanuel's land, the everlasting home of God's children, shines far more glorious than ever shone the earthly Paradise.

How consoling to think that every child of God shall finally be brought to that celestial world, to gaze with wondering eyes on its untold glories! What

gratitude do we owe to God for providing such an inheritance for us! To Him we should continually raise our hearts in grateful songs of praise. We should call upon our souls and all that is within us to bless His holy name. We should exclaim with the Apostle, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fades not away; reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time."

Under many pleasing views, heaven is attractively set forth by the sacred writers. To accommodate their descriptions to our capacities they adopt various emblems, drawn from sublunary scenes. These figurative expressions but faintly exhibit the glory of the land of immortality. But they will suffice us for the present. Indeed, in our present state of existence, we could not possibly bear the full effulgence of that glory, which will burst upon the ransomed soul when mortality is swallowed up in life.

1. Heaven is represented as A COUNTRY, "a better country." Of the Patriarchs it is said that they 'sought a country,' that they 'desired a better country, that is, a heavenly one; wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared for them a city.' Heaven is that 'pleasant land' to which all Christian pilgrims are traveling. We are now in a wilderness world, where the winds of adversity

blow upon us, and the tempests of sorrow sweep along our pathway. But this present world is not our home. Our march is heavenward; to the glorious land. Guided by the Captain of our salvation, we are coming up from the wilderness, and our feet shall soon stand on the glorious mount of God. Our conversation is in heaven, our future inheritance lies there, and we are looking on it as our eternal home. No wonder then that it should appear so attractive in our eyes. No wonder that we should long to behold the good land which is afar off.

All true believers desire that 'better country.' They feel that they are strangers and pilgrims here. They look beyond this present world to those regions of perpetual delight where they expect to spend countless ages. The hope of salvation animates them in every earthly trial, and the promises of God's Word elevate their view above this crumbling world. Their hearts overflow with joy unspeakable, and full of glory, when they are assured of the blessed truth that their eyes see the King of heaven in His beauty, and the celestial Canaan in its glory!

Heaven is a promised land. We are journeying unto the place of which the Lord said, 'I will give you.' God's Word is true. Every saint that has lived on earth shall be brought to this heavenly world, where Jesus reigns in all His glory. Cheer up then, you drooping saints! View that happy world where your Savior reigns, and where you are shortly to reign with Him!

2. Heaven is described as A GLORIOUS

CITY, a city that has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. But who can perfectly paint the splendor of that city, whose light is the glory of God?

'Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth is Mount Zion.' Where will you begin to enumerate the attractions of that celestial city, the abode of the redeemed? Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God. We can gain but a glimpse of its glories now, in the light of God's Word, but they will be seen and told through all eternity. With the eye of faith let us now view the city of our God, the New Jerusalem, set on Zion's holy hill.

How dazzling does it appear. Its walls of jasper, its gates of pearls, its streets of gold, the city itself 'of pure gold like unto clear glass.' When the splendor of 'that great city, the holy Jerusalem,' was manifested to the beloved John, rapt in heavenly vision on the isle of Patmos, he describes it as 'having the glory of God, and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every gate was of one pearl. The street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.' How brightly shines the heavenly Jerusalem, irradiated by the glory of God! No city on earth ever shone like this!

Nineveh and Babylon, 'the glory of kingdoms,' were once splendid cities; but that City of Light, whose foundations were laid before earth rose from chaos; whose builder and maker is God Himself, far outshines them all in

unutterable splendor. Yes, and when all earthly cities shall have been buried in everlasting ruin, when this terrestrial globe shall have passed away in one awful conflagration, the celestial city of Zion shall shine in eternal glory, while ransomed sinners walk in golden streets!

Let the Christian pilgrim who has set out from the city of Destruction to the city of Immanuel, often contemplate his glorious home. Attracted by its glory, let him look into it, and long to be among its shining inhabitants, who sound on golden harps the praises of redeeming love. Standing at the gates of the celestial city, let him gaze, with John Bunyan, on its splendor, as those pearly gates are opened wide to admit the transfigured pilgrims. "Now just as the gates were opened to let in the men, I looked in after them, and behold the city shone like the sun; the streets, also, were paved with gold, and in them walked many men with crowns on their heads, palms in their hands, and golden harps to sing praises with. There were of those who had wings; and they answered one another without intermission, saying, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.' And after that, they shut up the gates; which when I had seen, I wished myself among them."

Of that city of glory, John declares, "I saw no temple therein; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it." There was a temple in the earthly Jerusalem, but there is none in the heavenly. Nor is any required there. Sweet, intimate communion with God and the Lamb will be enjoyed there without a medium. The glorious

manifestation of the divine presence will forever dispense with the use of all means of communication between God and His people. Here we worship Him in earthly temples, by the means which He has appointed; but there we shall dwell in His immediate presence, and drink at the Fountain of Life!

The celestial city is so gloriously illuminated by the effulgence of God that it has no need of a natural luminary to shine in it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. The divine presence sheds such a radiance there that it lights up all heaven in everlasting glory. Jesus, the Sun of Righteousness, shines there; and in His light we shall see light. Truly light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun. But no light is so sweet as this, and no sun so pleasant to behold as the Sun of Righteousness shining in His meridian splendor! In that celestial city, there shall be no night. Eternal day beams with unclouded splendor in the city of Immanuel. No natural or moral darkness shall ever overspread the landscape of glory. "Your sun shall no more go down, neither shall your moon withdraw itself; for the Lord shall be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning shall be ended."

But look again at that celestial city. Emanating from God's eternal throne, the river of life flows through its midst. "And he showed me a pure river of the water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and the Lamb." The heavenly Jerusalem is enriched with

'the river of God, which is full of water.'
This is the stream that makes
Immanuel's land to bloom with immortal
joys. This is the river of pleasure; the
river whose streams shall make glad the
city of God, the holy place of the
tabernacle of the most High. There, the
inhabitants of Zion may bathe in the
pure fountains of immortality, 'close by
the throne of God,' and drink freely of
those swelling streams of purest joy
which flow through the realms of glory.

In the city of our God is the tree of life,
of whose delicious fruit the saints eat,
and under whose ambrosial bowers,
they dwell in eternal repose, and
celestial bliss. "In the midst of the street
of it, and on either side of the river, was
there the tree of life, which bore twelve
kinds of fruits, and yielded her fruit
every month; and the leaves of the tree
were for the healing of the nations."

There is much in the heavenly
Jerusalem to attract you; many crowns
of glory; many mansions of bliss; many
songs of praise; much that the eye has
never seen, the ear never heard, nor
the human mind never conceived. Strive
then to obtain an interest in Jesus, that
you may 'have right to the tree of life,
and may enter in through the gates into
the city.' How cheering is the promise of
the Savior, "To him that overcomes will
I give to eat of the tree of life, which is
in the midst of the Paradise of God!"
Then fight the good fight of faith, lay
hold on eternal life, and you will come
off more than a conqueror through Him
that loved you and gave Himself for
you.

3. Heaven is represented as A

GLORIOUS BUILDING, the building of God, the future happy home of the Christian. "For we know," says the Apostle, "that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." Confident of reaching this blessed home, the believer is enabled to exclaim with the Psalmist, "Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Heaven is the eternal Father's house, in which are many mansions; the home of the redeemed, where congregated nations sing the song of Moses and the Lamb.

When Christ would comfort His sorrowful disciples He sets forth heaven under the endearing emblem of a home; a Father's house, adorned with many spacious mansions. "In my Father's house," says the Savior, "are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you." There is something peculiarly attractive in this description of heaven. How sweet is even an earthly home; but how endeared will be that home above, where we shall meet with our Heavenly Father, with our elder Brother, with our dear Christian friends, who went to glory before us; with the whole household of faith! In that house not made with hands, there are 'many mansions' for our enjoyment. There is ample room and provision for all God's children in the upper sanctuary, everything to render them happy, unspeakably happy through all eternity!

May the reader so live in the faith of the gospel, that when his clay tabernacle is ready to crumble into dust, his immortal

spirit, guided by the angels of God, may take its joyful flight to the mansions of glory, and dwell forever in those realms of bliss, where beauty smiles eternally, and pleasure never dies!

2. THE BLESSEDNESS

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8.

"At your right hand there are pleasures for evermore." Psalm 16:11.

"In those blest regions of delight,
Where Jesus is unveiled to sight,
No mortal tongue can e'er express
The ransomed sinner's blessedness."

The blessedness of heaven is a powerful attraction to draw souls to it. And it is presented in all its charms in the world of God- presented to you- to me. Then let us seek it. If we are true believers in Jesus, we soon enjoy all that unspeakable blessedness which the Bible now presents to the Christian's view. The blessedness of the redeemed in glory will consist in the exemption from all evil, and in the enjoyment of all good. There will be nothing to hurt or destroy, in all God's holy mountain.

All will be blessed there in the possession of the greatest good. Every enjoyment in heaven will conspire to increase and perpetuate the blessedness of the saints in light. Those happy souls whose robes have been washed white in the blood of Immanuel, and who are presented faultless before the throne of God, "shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the

Lamb who is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters, and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

The redeemed in glory shall be placed far above the reach of a sinful world, and shall dwell securely in heavenly bliss. There, they shall flourish in our God's holy place. There, they shall be crowned with blessedness, and glory and immortality. How attractive does the blessedness of heaven appear, as presented in the Holy Scriptures! No heart can conceive it- no tongue can express it. It is a boundless ocean of eternal delights! Here on earth, the Christian tastes but drops from the ocean above; but soon he shall stand on the "crystal sea of glass" before the throne, and drink endless pleasures in.

Blessed Jesus! Prepare us all for serving you in mansions above- for participating in those joys which are in your presence- in those pleasures which are at your right hand forever. "In your presence is fullness of joy; at your right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

In attempting to speak of the blessedness of heaven, we may, in the first place, conceive of it NEGATIVELY. "Not only what is in heaven should attract us to it, but what is not there." (Nevins) And do you ask what is not there- We answer, there is no sin- no sorrow- no tears- no pain- no disease- no death, in heaven.

1. No SIN there. Sin reigns in this world; but in heaven its very existence will be eradicated. There the children of God

shall never complain of a body of sin and death. Those immortal forms that surround the throne of God are all sinless beings. Sin will never shed its baneful influence in the Paradise above. Satan can find no admittance there. None of his fiery darts will be cast in glory.

2. No SORROW there. In heaven there will be no more "sorrow." It is here in this present world, within us, all around us. Who has not felt the withering touch of sorrow- This is a world of sorrow. Here, one wave of trouble after another sweeps over us until we close our eyes in death. "In the world," says the Savior, "you shall have tribulation." It is expressly declared, that "we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." How often have we tasted this bitter fruit of sin! How often have our hopes been blasted; our expectations disappointed! How often have we been called to mourn the loss of near and dear relatives! Here our hearts are almost constantly filled with some kind of sorrow.

But, dear fellow-pilgrim, cheer up! There lies a bright prospect before us. Has not your eye caught a glimpse of yonder golden plains beyond the grave, where no sorrow ever comes, and where you hope to dwell with Jesus, in endless glory! Then go on your way rejoicing in tribulation. Heaven will make amends for all your momentary sorrow here. You will soon forget all sublunary grief in that land of blessedness, where sorrow is no more.

3. No TEARS there. "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." No

expression of grief is there- no "crying"; no mourning. There, "sorrow and mourning shall flee away." Happy world, where all the redeemed are, with cheerful countenances, rejoicing in God their Savior! There no tears bedew the cheek. What a striking contrast is there between heaven and earth in this respect. This world, with all its fancied happiness, is nothing in reality but a valley of tears; and you have not to live many years before you experience the sad truth of this.

Here sin has entered, and sorrow has entered, and tears flow; but in the celestial Jerusalem "the voice of weeping shall be no more heard, neither the voice of crying." There, dear Christian, "you shall weep no more; the days of your mourning shall be ended." Here on earth, the people of God are called to shed many tears. "You feed them with the bread of tears, and give them tears to drink in great measure." How consoling, in such a valley of tears as this, to think of heaven! How attractive does that joyful land appear to the mourning Christian! He knows that God will there gently wipe away all his tears. The tears of the righteous will soon cease to flow. In a little while "the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces." O, what a happy thought, to think that it is God himself who will wipe away every tear of sorrow in glory! Surely the Christian ought to rejoice now.

4. In heaven there will be no PAIN nor DISEASE. "Neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away." Of that celestial world, "the inhabitants shall never say, I am

sick." Pain and disease ravage this fallen world. "The whole creation groans and travails in pain together." Here even the righteous "is chastened also with pain upon his bed, and the multitude of his bones with strong pain;" but there God will remove from him all pain and sickness forever. Here the children of God are often laid on beds of affliction, and "wearisome nights are appointed unto them;" there blooming health shall cheer their souls, and they shall experience pain and disease no more. What a great blessing to be eternally free from all pain and sickness! To the sons and daughters of affliction how attractive should that world appear, where a kind Heavenly Physician not only wipes away every tear, but heals all diseases and frees from all pain! "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits: who forgives all your iniquities; who heals all your diseases!"

5. Heaven is A LAND OF IMMORTALITY. Jesus Christ has abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. In those happy regions beyond Jordan's stream, there is no death. "And there shall be no more death." Immortal life will be enjoyed by all the blessed inhabitants of Immanuel's land. How animating in a dying world like this, to think of a glorious immortality! How unlike this land of death, is heaven! There all is blooming immortality.

Here, in the midst of life we are in death; we are surrounded with the dying and the dead; thousands fall within our view. The young, the beautiful and the vigorous, are not exempted from the painful stroke of the

'king of terrors'. There, death it self is swallowed up in victory.

Here on earth, the dearest ties that bind us to earth are cut asunder. Death does not even spare our nearest and dearest relatives. His icy hand is often stretched over the face of a beloved wife- an affectionate husband- a smiling babe- a tender son or daughter- a loving sister or brother- a dear parent. But in heaven, death shall strike its darts no more. How reviving to the Christian who is mourning the loss of pious relatives, to think that in those joyful regions of bliss, he shall meet his dear departed friends who now sleep in Jesus. Then shall we ever be with the Lord in his temple of glory, where parting is no more, and where there is no more painful separation of kindred souls in death.

Let the mourning Christian take comfort from this blessed hope. The 'last enemy' (death) will soon be destroyed. God is just ready to say of his people, "I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death;" and of death, "O death, I will be your plague! O grave, I will be your destruction!" "This corruptible must" soon "put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory." As we enter the portals of glory and place our feet on the blessed shores of immortality, we may triumphantly exclaim, "O death, where is your sting! O grave, where is your victory!" "And there shall be no more death."

We come now to notice the POSITIVE

BLESSEDNESS of heaven. And what is there that is so attractive? In heaven, there is not only the absence of all evil, but the actual enjoyment of the highest good- of unspeakable blessedness! There is the tree of life, in the midst of the Paradise- the hidden manna- fullness of joy- rivers of pleasures- crowns of glory that fade not away- eternal life- society the most pure; perfect and lovely- sweet communion with God- the glorious presence of the blessed Savior. And this is enough- enough to satisfy the most capacious desire.

What heart can conceive, or what tongue can describe, the blessedness contained in this single verse of Scripture: "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sits on the throne shall dwell among them." This blessedness awaits all the children of God. Happy thought! In heaven the saints will be perfectly blessed, in the full enjoyment of God through all eternity! The eternal God will be the inexhaustible source of all their blessedness. From the fountain of Infinite Love they will derive the purest bliss. In the ocean of divine blessedness and glory, they shall bathe forever and ever.

The blessedness of the saints will be derived directly from God, the fountain of all goodness. He will supply the needs of all his people. He will crown their heads with immortal bliss. What blessedness must fill the ransomed soul when it is brought to dwell in the presence of Him, "who alone has immortality, dwelling in that light which

no man can approach unto; whom no man has seen, nor can see: to whom be honor and power everlasting. Amen."

O, to bask in the full beams of His light, whose glory kindles up the realms above in inconceivable splendor! What must those blessings be which a God of love will confer upon his blood-bought flock! How innumerable, how invaluable, how soul-ravishing will they be! In heaven, the blessedness of the saints will flow in an eternal stream from God, their Savior. There, every soul will be filled with all the fullness of God. O, what rivers of blessedness will flow from the Eternal Fountain!

The redeemed will enjoy all that unspeakable blessedness, arising from a display of the divine glory— from sweet, unrestrained communion with God— from the manifestation of a Savior's love— from the enjoyment of that love through eternity. What more does an immortal soul desire? What more can it enjoy?

This single attraction, the enjoyment of God in Christ through a blessed eternity, should draw every soul to glory. Such a blessedness, eternity alone can unfold. This blessing will enrich your soul to all eternity.

If you have found the "pearl of great price," all the bliss of heaven will be yours! the pleasures at God's right hand! fullness of joy in his presence! a right to the tree of life! In a word, the inheritance of all things! "He that overcomes shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." "All things are yours; whether Paul, or

Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours, and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's."

Blessed with the presence of Christ, the saints shall enjoy that GLORIOUS REST which remains for them. Wearing the crowns of glory which a Savior's love placed upon their brow, they shall participate in the ecstatic joys of heaven. They shall eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God. Yes,
"The tree of life shall bless their sight,
With golden fruit their taste delight
Beneath its green and spreading
boughs,
The harp shall lull them to repose;
And in seraphic pleasures deep,
Their powerful senses ever steep."

They shall eat of the hidden manna, and receive a white stone; and on the stone a new name written, which no man knows, except him who receives it. They shall be clothed with white clothing, and their names shall not be blotted out of the book of life. They will encompass the throne of God with everlasting songs of praise; they shall even sit with Christ on his throne. "To him that overcomes will I grant to sit with me on my throne, even as I also overcame, and have sat down with my Father on his throne."

The Lamb in the midst of the throne, is the immediate source of heaven's blessedness! Christ will ever remain the glorious Head of his living members- his mystical body, the church. He will supply their every need. He will provide for them rich blessings- the blessings of eternal salvation. "They shall feed in the

ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places. They shall not hunger or thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them; for he that has mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them."

The Lamb not only feeds them with heaven's richest fruits, but also guides them to fountains of bliss- springs of living water. "The Lamb who is in the midst of the throne, shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters." Blessed lot of the righteous! Happy is that people, that is in such a case; yes, happy is that people whose God is the Lord! In contemplating such blessedness, well may we exclaim with the inspired Penman, "Happy are you, O Israel: who is like unto you, O people, saved by the Lord."

Heaven is a place of ETERNAL BLESSEDNESS. No change from happiness to misery is experienced there. None of the vicissitudes of earth shall be there. One perpetual scene of bliss crowns all. One wide, unbounded field of expanding blessedness spreads away, far away before every soul clad in glory.

In heaven, there will be AN ETERNAL PROGRESSION IN KNOWLEDGE AND HAPPINESS. Every new discovery of the ways and works of the Almighty, will roll new tides of glory and blessedness around the ransomed soul. O, what powerful attractions are these! Should they not draw you to glory? What are all the pleasures of a dying world compared with one hour's enjoyment of heavenly blessedness? How worthless! May you possess more permanent joys

than those of earth. May it be your happiness to reign with Christ forever and ever. May God grant that every reader of this little volume may be brought to enjoy that blessedness which is reserved for the righteous, in another and a better world; and to his glorious name be everlasting praise! Amen.

3. THE JOY

"In your presence is **fullness of joy.**"
Psalm 16:11

"There, in your blissful presence, reigns
Immortal joy serene;
No wintry storms are heard to roar,
Nor desolation seen.

"Around you flow unmixed delights,
The rivers deep and wide;
While from the ocean of your love,
Proceeds an endless tide.

"You of all joy the center are;
Oh! never from my soul depart;
Blest Jesus! let your saving love,
Like dew, drop gently from above."

When the Christian has passed the valley of life, and is done with mortal care and grief, the Savior will welcome him home to glory with this joyful invitation, "Enter into the joy of your Lord." Then begins the heavenly joy of the believer. He rests with Jesus and enters into the joy of his Lord. And what is this joy? What is there about it that is so attractive? It is a joy unspeakable and full of glory. The pen cannot describe it, nor the tongue declare it. It is the joy of being with Christ- the joy of possessing the heavenly inheritance- a fullness of joy. The joy of heaven is full,

satisfying, and eternal. It is ecstatic joy. It transports the ransomed soul with ineffable delights!

This joy is to be found in the blissful presence of Christ. Blessed Jesus! You are the source and center of heavenly joy. Enable me to fix my heart upon you. Bestow upon me, your unworthy servant, the joys of your salvation. Let me not wander one moment from the path of life. Guide me safely through the wilderness, over Jordan, until, landed on Canaan's happy shores, I see you face to face, and in your presence, taste, through eternal ages, the joys of a redeemed soul.

"In your presence," cries the Psalmist, "is fullness of joy." There is an abundance to lift every soul. There will be no lack of joy in heaven. The saints will always "be joyful in glory."

How ravishing will be the joys of the redeemed in the mansions of glory! What ineffable joy will fill the soul of the believer, when he sits down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, in the kingdom of God- when he reigns with Immanuel on his throne- when he views all heaven's bliss as his! Amid such joys as these, surely his enraptured soul must be lost in wonder, love, and praise. But the joy of the glorified saint in the presence of Christ is beyond human comprehension or knowledge.

"His joys are all alike unknown,
As, seated on Immanuel's throne,
He drinks the living streams of bliss
And views all heaven's joys as his."

Let us contemplate the joy of the saint

who is presented faultless before the presence of God. There is a glorious day approaching, when "the redeemed of the Lord shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away." Then shall ransomed sinners begin their songs of joyfulness in the celestial Zion. Then shall all their tears be wiped away, and eternal joy and gladness fill their happy souls.

There are three sources from which joy will be brought to the saint in his glorified and exalted state; a contemplation of the past, the present, and the future.

1. CONTEMPLATION OF THE PAST.

When he arrives at the realms of glory and looks back upon his past sufferings, how will joy arise in his heart! With pleasure will he contemplate the way through which the Lord has led him. Now he sees that all his earthly trials, and afflictions, and sorrows, and tears have come to an end. He has gotten safely over the tempestuous ocean of life and reached the blessed haven of Immanuel's land. This reflection will afford him unspeakable joy. He views with a joyful heart all the former dealings of God with his soul. Though, during his pilgrimage on earth, he was often ready to exclaim with the afflicted Patriarch when contemplating the providences of God with regard to himself, "All these things are against me!" Yet now he sees that "all things" have worked together for his good.

In heaven, Christ will make everything

plain to the believer. "You don't understand now what I am doing," says the Savior, "but you shall know hereafter." The blessed "hereafter" has come when the Christian will know why so many calamities befell him on earth; why so many afflictions were sent upon him, why so many sorrows were strewn around his pathway to immortal bliss. All was fitting him for glory. Every trial, every affliction was lifting him higher towards heaven. Now that he has reached the blessed shores of glory, he will joyfully exclaim, in the view of the past, "O, Lord, you have led me forth by the right way!"

2. Look again at the joy of the saint with Christ as he VIEWS HIS PRESENT GLORIOUS STATE. How will his heart overflow with seraphic joy and love, when he sees his Redeemer, who is to him the most attractive of all objects, and the blessed source of his joys! If "you love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him, you trust him; and even now you are happy with a glorious, inexpressible joy," what will be the joy when he shall see him as he is, face to face, in the heavenly kingdom, in all his matchless beauty!

Of this joy we can know but little. It passes human thought. All the preciousness and loveliness of the Savior will then appear to view. This will fill the soul with unutterable joy. The enraptured saint will be enabled to exclaim without fear or hesitation, "My Beloved is mine and I am His; He is the chief among ten thousand and altogether lovely!"

The presence of the Savior will be a source of unspeakable joy to the Christian. Nothing will cause the heart to rejoice more than this blissful sight of a glorified Redeemer. Christ cheered his sorrowful disciples with this blessed hope. "I will see you again," he says, "and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man takes from you." From the blessed Jesus will emanate swelling streams of joy to refresh and invigorate the people of God. How sweet is this thought!

Has heavenly joy any attractions for my readers? Is not this single consideration the joy arising from a sight of Christ and his glory, sufficient to lead them to inquire the way to Zion? What more powerful attraction could present itself to allure sinners to glory?

But there are innumerable 'rivulets of joy' that issue from this fountain. The presence and society of the glorious Savior is a boundless ocean of joy; while the enjoyment of heavenly bliss, the communion with saints and angels, are the streams of pleasure that are lost in this fathomless abyss! As the saint views his present condition, he sees that it is one of perfect blessedness. What emotions of joy must thrill through his soul when he sees himself encircled with divine glory, when he views all the present bliss of heaven as his, when he is made a partaker of all the soul-ravishing enjoyments and delights of paradise!

3. But this is not all. As he VIEWS THE FUTURE, one perpetual scene of blessedness lies before him! Ages of glory in endless succession, in which he

is to possess fullness of joy in the presence of God, roll away before his blissful imagination. What ineffable joy must spring up in his heart as he contemplates eternal bliss! He sees before him an ocean of glory without a shore, and without a storm. An eternity of glory must surely fill his soul with inexpressible joy! With the greatest delight will he meditate on eternity. This is the crowning glory of the whole. The anticipation of the future will afford the saint present felicity; and as he sails over the boundless ocean he will rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory!

Concerning his people, a God of infinite love has said, "Everlasting joy shall be unto them." The joys of the redeemed in glory have no end. Those happy souls before the throne of God fear no termination to their heavenly felicity. Well may the poet exclaim:
"Could you, so rich in rapture, fear an end;
That ghastly thought would drink up all your joy,
And quite unparadise the realms of light."

Thus we have briefly noticed heavenly joy, but the half is not told! O, that every reader may be attracted by those unspeakable joys which are in the presence of God. Let him contemplate these joys, let him anticipate them, and he will look beyond the fleeting delights of an evil world, to those pleasures which are at God's right hand forever. Earth will then lose its attractions, and heaven be ever in his eye.

Let the Christian take courage in his pilgrimage- let the joy of the Lord be his

strength. Let him remember, that though this world is a 'night of weeping', yet there is a bright morning coming- a morning of everlasting joy. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." Let the weeping Christian remember that he will soon reap in joy- that he shall rejoice in God, his unfailing portion through a glorious eternity. "Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goes forth and weeps, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

May a bleeding Savior be your all and in all; and when his glory shall be revealed, may you, among countless millions, be one who shall be glad also with exceeding joy. Rest in Jesus, and in a little while all will be well.

"And now, all glory to God, who is able to keep you from stumbling, and who will bring you into his glorious presence innocent of sin and with great joy. All glory to him, who alone is God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Yes, glory, majesty, power, and authority belong to him, in the beginning, now, and forevermore. Amen." Jude 1:24-25

"Joy is a fruit that will not grow
In nature's barren soil;
All we boast till Christ we know,
Is vanity and toil.
"But where the Lord has planted grace,
And made his glories known;
There fruits of heavenly joy and peace
Are found, and there alone.
"A bleeding Savior seen by faith,
A sense of pard'ning love;
A hope that triumphs over death,

Give joys like those above.
"To take a glimpse within the veil,
To know that God is mine;
Are springs of joy that never fail,
Unspeakable! Divine!
"These are the joys which satisfy,
And sanctify the mind;
Which make the spirit mount on high,
And leave the world behind.
"No more, believers, mourn your lot,
But if you are the Lord's;
Resign to those who know him not.
Such joys as earth affords."

THE GLORY

"I have given them **the glory** that you gave me." John 17:22

"The ransomed soul, in glory clad,
Shines brighter than meridian sun
The weary pilgrim, now so sad,
There finds his toilsome journey done.
Cheer up, O saint, oppressed with grief,
With joy expand your drooping wing;
Jesus affords the kind relief;
Jesus extracts the envenomed sting.
Soon you will reach the blest abode,
Where happy pilgrims ever reign;
Soon shall you see the face of God,
And all the bliss of heaven obtain."

Heaven is a glorious place. Its glory should attract us. How delightful to think of heavenly glory ! How it raises the soul above earth! Let us soar on high and view the glory of the New Jerusalem, and of the saints in light. We have seen that the glory of God and the Lamb irradiates the celestial world. There, the Sun of Righteousness always shines, and his beams gladden the hearts of a ransomed host. There God smiles, and the nations of the saved

walk in the light of his countenance.
There is one perpetual noontide of glory
in the mansions above. There is glory-
"an exceeding and eternal weight"-
reserved in heaven for those who love
God.

When the whole assembly of the
redeemed shall stand on Mount Zion,
they will shine as the sun in eternal
glory. "Then shall the righteous shine
forth as the sun in the kingdom of their
Father." Then "those who are wise, shall
shine as the brightness of the
firmament; and those who turn many to
righteousness, as the stars forever."
Glory shines in Immanuel's land. The
city, the mansions, the inhabitants, are
all glorious. Every believer in Jesus will
be crowned with everlasting glory.
Though we could not bear the
effulgence of heaven's glory, should it
now beam upon us, yet we know that
when we awake to immortality, that
glory shall be revealed in us. We know
that when Christ, our glorious Head,
shall appear, we shall be like him; for
we shall see him as he is.

O to be like the blessed Jesus! What
heart can desire more? If we are His
people we shall soon be like him. Our
bodies shall shine like his— like that
wondrous Personage whose original
glory once beamed on Mount Tabor,
when his face shone as the sun, and
when this clothing was white as the
light. In heaven, the wonders of Mount
Tabor will ever be exhibited; and there
the pure radiance of the Savior's glory
will always beam upon redeemed
millions!

Who can conceive this blessedness?

How desirable, how attractive does it appear to an immortal mind! From those heights of bliss, every soul will be ready to exclaim with Peter, "Lord, it is good for us to be here." But more than that. The saints will be made partakers of the Redeemer's glory." "I have given them the glory that you gave me" "The Lord will give glory." Amazing love! that Christ should exalt his followers to such bliss, and crown them with such glory!

But who can describe the glory of the saints with Christ, contrasted with which, the splendor of this world is darkness itself! On what John saw in the revelation of the heavenly world, and of the redeemed in glory, an eloquent living writer (Stephen Tyng) has the following beautiful and glowing expressions: "The glory of the meridian sun- the intense brightness of the furnace- the pure radiance of the light- the transparent beauty of the rainbow- an ocean of gold, translucent as the crystal- precious stones, of every hue, and of the richest forms- fountains, ever sparkling with living water- streams, with an unceasing flow of perfect purity- trees of unchanging verdure, clothed with endless varieties of beautiful fruit- living beings, of the noblest and most exalted aspect, clad in garments which earthly art in vain would imitate- music, of the tenderest influence and of the most overwhelming power; sometimes the single melody of a heavenly harp and voice, and again flowing forth in a volume of harmony, like approaching thunders, or the majestic waterfall, or the mysterious rolling of the sea- a state of being, in its aspect of loveliness, feebly illustrated by the most perfect bridal beauty and purity of earth. All

these, and many like them, are efforts to express to man the things which he saw and heard. But they are all in vain. One sentence of his own conclusion sums up his acknowledged inability to describe the glory of the saints with Christ- Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is."

To see Christ as he is- to behold his glory- to be made a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed- this is heaven; this is the glory of the saints. It is to this glory that God is "bringing many sons." It is to "eternal glory" that we are called. God is leading his people to his temple of glory- to that city where there is no night, and where they need no candle, neither the light of the sun; for the Lord God gives them light, And they shall reign forever and ever! There, a gracious God will bestow upon us the "riches of his glory," and we shall shine to all eternity, in the garments of glory and of beauty. We shall inherit a glorious kingdom, and wear a glorious crown. Our bodies shall be fashioned like unto Christ's "glorious body;" and we shall obtain an exceeding and eternal weight of glory in the smile and presence of God.

In view of our future glory, how insignificant do these present afflictions appear? "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us." Let the afflicted Christian remember, that his momentary trials and sufferings here, are preparing for him a weighty crown of glory hereafter. "For our

present troubles are quite small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last forever!" How animating is this hope of a glorious immortality! O joyful hope! It cheers us amid the surrounding gloom of life; it illuminates our pathway to the tomb; it sheds its radiance beyond the grave; it enables the believer to exclaim, when he is just finishing his earthly course, and about to embark upon the boundless ocean of eternity, "And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness that the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that great day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his glorious return."

Then, let us run with patience, the race that is set before us, and soon we shall reach the goal of immortal blessedness; then shall the glory of heaven gladden our blissful sight, and the streams of Paradise refresh our weary souls. Let every reader be attracted by the glory of heaven. Let him look to a bleeding Savior for salvation, and press onward with eagerness to receive the crown of glory that fades not away!

THE REST

"There remains therefore a **rest** to the people of God." Hebrews 4:9

"We seek a rest beyond the skies,
In everlasting day;
Through floods and flames the passage
lies,
But Jesus guards the way.
The swelling flood and raging flame,
Hear and obey his word;

Then let us triumph in his name,
Our Savior is the Lord."

There is something peculiarly attractive in the description of heaven as a place of rest. Here is something that tends powerfully to lead the soul upwards. This fleeting scene of trouble is overlooked when the land of rest is in view.

Heaven is a state of rest- rest reserved for the righteous. How cheering is the blessed truth, "There remains therefore a rest to the people of God." How desirable, how delightful is rest to the weary traveler; to those who are almost overwhelmed with the cares and anxieties and afflictions, incident to human life! How refreshing to the sons and daughters of affliction- to those whose bodies are "chastened with pain"- is the enjoyment of rest. But what is the rest of earth to that of heaven? O, how delightful will it be for the Christian, after the storms of life to enter the desired haven of eternal rest!

"They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven." Every believer will be enabled to shout, as he steps on the shores of glory, "This is my rest forever! here will I dwell, for I have desired it." What a rest is here presented to our view, to animate us in our lonely pilgrimage! A rest from sin and suffering from toil and pain; but not from praise. A rest in the arms of Infinite Love; a rest in Abraham's bosom, with Jesus, the sinner's friend. A rest perfect, complete, and eternal. This is the saint's rest. O blessed rest! where all are resting in eternal love- blooming in eternal joy. Let this attract you.

"There the wicked cease from troubling,
and there the weary are at rest."

You can find no rest in this world. To the Christian, life is a continual battle-field; without are fightings, within are fears. "For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against the evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against those mighty powers of darkness who rule this world, and against wicked spirits in the heavenly realms." We are commanded to "put on the whole armor of God, that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil;" and exhorted to fight the good fight of faith. There is no rest for the Christian here; it is above- in our Father's house- in the mansions of glory.

How animating to think that our rest is near at hand- that our warfare will soon be over- that our pilgrimage will soon be ended! Every day is bringing us nearer our blessed home. That joyful morning will soon dawn, when the soldiers of the cross shall honorably lay aside their weapons, and, with the garlands of victory on their brow, enter triumphantly upon that rest which remains for the people of God.

How long and loud will be those songs of victory that shall ring from rank to rank, through that mighty host, who have been more than conquerors through the blood of the Lamb, and who are now brought to enjoy sweet, eternal rest in the bosom of God! How sweet will heaven be to the weary Christian pilgrim when he finds his toilsome journey ended; when from the heights of glory he looks back on a world of

sorrow through which he has passed!
To the afflicted saint, that "rest" will
become sweeter when he reflects on his
past sufferings. There, he finds that all
his tears are wiped away, and not one
joy is lacking in the presence of his
Savior, and in the smile of his God.

Heaven is now presented to us weary
pilgrims with this powerful attraction-
Rest. Would you enjoy it? Does your
heart aspire after heaven's blessed rest?
Then believe in Jesus; rest in him now,
and you will soon rest with him in the
Paradise of God. Remember that this
present world is not your rest. "For this
world is not our home; we are looking
forward to our city in heaven, which is
yet to come." We are strangers and
pilgrims on the earth. This is not our
home. We are coming up from the
wilderness with our faces Zionward; we
are traveling to the celestial city. Our
path is rough; but the Savior sustains
us. Our pilgrimage lies through a
wilderness, but faith cheers us with a
view of the glorious rest of the
redeemed in our Father's house- in
mansions of blessedness.

And how reviving to think that faith shall
soon be turned into sight! Let this
consideration animate us amid the
conflicts of life. In a little while we shall
obtain a joyous entrance upon the rest
above. The storms of life's ocean will
soon carry us into the haven of peace,
where there is no trouble. We shall soon
rest with Christ. Then our pilgrimage will
have ended, and our eternal rest have
begun. From the temple of God there
shall be no more going out. There, the
saints shall enjoy the everlasting rest-
the Sabbath of eternity. Let us be

admonished to seek the saint's rest now. The language of inspiration is, "Get up, go away! For this is not your resting place, because it is defiled, it is ruined, beyond all remedy."

Your Savior, pilgrim Christian, has prepared for you a nobler rest than this polluted world. In his Father's house are many spacious mansions, where your happy spirit, after tasting the bitter cup of life's sorrow, shall rest in eternal blessedness. No restlessness will be experienced in the realms of glory. Nor sorrow, nor trouble of any kind will be there. There, the redeemed rest from their labors and cares, and doubts and fears, and spiritual conflicts. For them there is an eternal calm- a rest of perfect satisfaction in the enjoyment of God their Savior. O, what a world is that, where not a wave of trouble shall roll over the soul, where all are resting in the enjoyment of Him, who is "a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in the desert, and the shadow of a great rock in a hot and weary land."

Heavenly rest should attract us. "Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience." "Return unto your rest, O my soul: for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you." In view of such a glorious rest beyond the grave, well may we exclaim, "Blessed are those who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, they are blessed indeed, for they will rest from all their toils and trials; for their good deeds follow them!" "For all who enter into God's rest will find rest from their labors, just as God

rested after creating the world."

Blessed Jesus! enable me to rely, with cheerful hope, on your dying love, until I reach the blissful mansions, and enter upon my joyful rest.

"Then shall I bathe my weary soul,
In seas of heavenly rest;
And not a wave of trouble roll
Across my peaceful breast."

THE EMPLOYMENT

"They are before the throne of God and **serve him** day and night in his temple."
Rev. 7:15

"And they **sang** a new song." Rev. 5:9

There is much in the employment of heaven to engage our hearts and warm our affections. Heavenly employment is the most delightful work in which the soul ever engaged. The redeemed will be filled with ecstasy while engaged in celestial work. The 'rest' of heaven which we have been describing, is not a state of inactivity. O, blessed rest, where "they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."

The mansions of glory will be filled with the sweetest melody. The employment in which the redeemed in glory are engaged, is one that should attract every sinner. It is one of everlasting praise and adoration. How delightful to spend eternity in praising God- in contemplating his wonderful works- in admiring his redeeming love! When all the redeemed are brought home to

glory, they shall serve God day and night in his temple. They shall sing the song of Moses and the Lamb through a glorious eternity!

In heaven the saints will be meditating on the wonders of creation, providence, and redemption. There the power, wisdom, and goodness of God, as manifested in the works of a vast universe, will be brought to full view. In contemplating Jehovah's mighty empire, all those radiant inhabitants of heaven's mansions shall cast their crowns before the throne of God, and cry, "You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created everything, and it is for your pleasure that they exist and were created."

Even while on earth, what pleasures are to be derived from the contemplation of nature. With what delight have the minds of Bacon and Boyle, of Newton and Herschel, surveyed the magnificence of creation's works. But in heaven, the Christian, with a knowledge infinitely surpassing that possessed by any of these eminent characters, shall range with exquisite pleasure amid the beauties of Paradise. He shall spend eternal ages in contemplating those wonderful works which an omnipotent arm has scattered in endless variety and beauty around him, and which declare the glory of God, and exhibit his power, wisdom, goodness, and love.

The beauty of the celestial universe, the charms of science, and the pleasures of religion, will forever attract the redeemed in glory. To those who have a proper estimate of the value and importance of natural and divine

knowledge, how attractive does that world appear where all are engaged in contemplating the most delightful subjects that can be presented to an immortal mind! In heaven, knowledge will have arrived at perfection. Here on earth, we see through a glass darkly; there, face to face. Here, we know but in part; there, we will know even as we are known.

In heaven, the providence of God over his church and people, and every particular saint, will be beautifully exhibited, causing each heart to exclaim, "You have done all things well." But above all, redemption will be the chief theme of the redeemed before the throne. That glorious work, executed on Calvary by the Son of God, will employ the souls of ransomed saints in holy meditation through the blessed Sabbath of eternity!

With what wonder shall that happy multitude look into this mystery of love to fallen man— the redemption of the soul! With what astonishment will they gaze upon a crucified Savior, bearing the print of the nails and of the spear on his glorious form. How will seraphic love and gratitude rise in the bosoms of those who have been washed in the blood of Jesus, when they behold Him in the midst of the throne as the Lamb who was slain for them! A crucified Jesus will be eternally admired as the Lamb slain for the redemption of sinners. He will receive the homage and praise of all the redeemed through eternity. Eternity itself will be too short in which to speak his praise; or tell his preciousness, or proclaim the vastness of his dying love on Calvary!

This everlasting song in which all voices shall unite in melodious strains, will be sung in the realms of glory: "Worthy! Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing! Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto him who sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, forever and ever!" In the contemplation of redemption, the souls of the redeemed will be lost in wonder, love, and praise. How overpowering will be the display of divine love that shall then shine in the glorious plan of salvation! The eternal love of the Father, in giving his Son, his only-begotten Son, to die for sinners! The amazing love of the Son, in exchanging the throne of glory for the cross of Calvary! The wonderful love of the Holy Spirit, in applying redemption to the soul, will then appear in full resplendency!

How brightly will that love which was once manifested on Calvary shine in the habitation of the redeemed, while glorified saints are employing their noble powers in its sublime contemplation! Redemption will furnish eternal employment for the Christian in that brighter world- his happy home. Eternal ages of glory can never unravel the mystery of redeeming love! Redemption is a theme on which the soul may unceasingly dwell with rapturous delight, and discover brighter and brighter displays of divine love and glory to all eternity! How sweet will be the study of redemption in heaven! "Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with

the greatest care." That glorious salvation which, "is all so wonderful that even the angels are eagerly watching these things happen," will ever be the delightful and soul-ravishing theme of the redeemed in glory, while eternal ages roll away!

The employment of heaven will include in it UNENDING PRAISE. Eternal songs will resound through the mansions of glory. The saints will be employed in praising God- in admiring the beauty and glory of Him who died on Calvary for their redemption. One theme, one song will employ every soul in glory. It is the wondrous theme- the new song of redemption, that will draw from their lips the loudest notes of praise. "And they sang a new song with these words: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it. For you were killed, and your blood has ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.'" "And they were shouting with a mighty shout, 'Salvation comes from our God on the throne and from the Lamb!'" "And they were singing the song of Moses, and the song of the Lamb."

Such is the delightful employment of the heavenly world. Should not this blessed work attract you? Do you not long to join with the redeemed above in those celestial songs of praise to him who died for man? O, then, be entreated to choose a loving Savior now; and the happy hour will soon arrive when you shall raise your joyful voice in glory, and unite with the ransomed of the Lord in that sweet song which has no dying cadence, and with which the arches of heaven shall entirely resound- "All

praise to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. He has made us his kingdom and his priests who serve before God his Father. Give to him everlasting glory! He rules forever and ever! Amen!"

"Oh, holy, holy, holy Lord!
Whom angel hosts adore;
When shall I join in raptured strains?
The bright celestial choir?
In pity view a sinful worm,
A prisoner here below;
A pilgrim journeying through the land,
Of darkness, sin, and woe.
Ten thousand voices round your throne,
Unite in hymns divine;
'Salvation to the Lamb!' they cry,
As high in bliss they shine.
Fain would I now begin the song,
To you my God and Friend;
Then mingle with the choirs above,
In praise which never shall end!"

THE SOCIETY

"You have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to thousands of **angels** in joyful assembly. You have come to the assembly of **God's firstborn children**, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to **God himself**, who is the judge of all people. And you have come to the spirits of the redeemed in heaven who have now been made perfect. You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which graciously forgives instead of crying out for vengeance as the blood of Abel did."
Hebrews 12:22-24

The society of Immanuel's land forms a principal part of celestial happiness. Were a saint to be excluded from the society of the upper sanctuary, he could not be happy though surrounded by all the glories of the heavenly Jerusalem. Heaven is a state of sweet, uninterrupted communion. There the redeemed will meet in blissful harmony, no more to separate. There, they shall meet with the people of God who have lived in every age of the world; there they shall converse with those bright angelic beings that never sinned; and there they shall have the blissful society and glorious presence of Him whom their souls love above every sublunary object- they shall be forever with the Lord.

The contemplation of heavenly society should lead every reader to seek the happy shores of that world where all the inhabitants are united in one sweet bond of affection and love. We shall briefly notice the PURE AND PERFECT SOCIETY THAT THE REDEEMED ARE TO ENJOY THROUGH COUNTLESS AGES, in Immanuel's land.

1. In heaven, the saints shall have the society of their REDEEMED BRETHREN of every age and nation. There, we shall sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, in the kingdom of Immanuel. We shall meet with the excellent of the earth. We shall be associated with Patriarchs and Prophets- with Apostles and Martyrs- with all the lovers of the Savior. And what a blessed society will this be, where every heart is full of love and every tongue flowing with praise!

Can a doubt be entertained that the saints will know one another in glory? Surely not. If the disciples knew Moses and Elijah standing on Mount Tabor, may we not expect to know them too, when standing on the Mount of God? Paul tells the Thessalonians that they are his hope, and joy, and crown of rejoicing at the coming of the Lord; and when he would comfort those who were mourning the loss of pious friends, he sets before them the blessed hope of meeting them on that great and joyous morning when the dead in Christ shall burst the fetters of the grave and arise to immortality.

Nothing will be lacking to perfect the happiness of the redeemed in glory. We may then anticipate the most delightful associations- the most intimate acquaintances. O how delightful will it be to converse with Moses and Elijah, with David and Isaiah, with Paul and the twelve Apostles of the Lamb; to hear from their own lips the tale of their wonderful history! How joyful will such society be! When we land on the shores of glory we shall enjoy the society of all those faithful ambassadors of the cross of Jesus, who proclaimed salvation to a dying world. There we shall be associated with such men as Luther, Calvin, Baxter, Flavel, Owen, Watts, Doddridge, Edwards, Payson, Chalmers and McCheyne; men who were so strongly attached to the cause of Christ, and so entirely devoted to his service. All the ransomed of the Lord shall dwell together in one happy home!

In the word of God heaven is represented as a social state: "After this I saw a great multitude, too great to

count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white and held palm branches in their hands." We shall have the most endeared society in the world of glory. We shall meet again, on the peaceful shore, those dear friends with whom we took sweet council together, and went to the house of God in company, until death parted us. How joyful will that meeting be, when we shall mingle again with our Christian relatives in the Celestial Sanctuary! "All who are victorious will become pillars in the Temple of my God, and they will never have to leave it. And I will write my God's name on them, and they will be citizens in the city of my God—the new Jerusalem that comes down from heaven from my God. And they will have my new name inscribed upon them."

In Immanuel's land, there is no more parting, and there the word "Farewell" never breaks the heart. What a consolation does this blessed truth administer to the bereaved Christian! Perhaps the eyes of such are now resting on these lines; if so, we say to you, dear reader- "And now, brothers and sisters, I want you to know what will happen to the Christians who have died so you will not be full of sorrow like people who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus comes, God will bring back with Jesus all the Christians who have died." Be followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises; and very soon you will reach the peaceful shores of glory, and meet your godly

relatives in blissful harmony and adoring praise. "Therefore comfort one another with these words."

2. In the celestial world, the saints shall have the society of holy angels- AN INNUMERABLE COMPANY OF ANGELS. Those ministering spirits who watched over our footsteps on earth, will be our companions in glory. With them we shall unite in the contemplation of redemption, and join in the praises of Immanuel, singing in a mighty chorus: "The Lamb is worthy—the Lamb who was killed. He is worthy to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing."

"And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They also sang: 'Blessing and honor and glory and power belong to the one sitting on the throne and to the Lamb forever and ever.'"

3. But the crowning bliss of heaven is THE ENJOYMENT OF GOD- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In those bright realms, we shall enjoy the society of our Heavenly FATHER; we shall see his face. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." "And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads." This blissful sight and enjoyment of God is the perfection of happiness- all that the soul desires. No heart can conceive how sweet that communion between a holy God and redeemed saints will be in the mansions of bliss. There, God will be near his people in a peculiar manner, to bless them with his glorious presence- to

comfort them with the full assurance of his love, and the eternal smiles of his countenance. "I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, 'Look, the home of God is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will remove all of their sorrows, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. For the old world and its evils are gone forever.'"

Standing before his throne, and seeing his face in righteousness, we shall behold the glorious manifestation of his grace and love beaming upon us to all eternity! When we enter the portals of glory, we shall see the King of Zion in his beauty, and be perfectly blessed in the full enjoyment of his endearing society through heaven's eternal day.

"There shall I see your smiling face,
And never, never sin,
There, from the rivers of your grace,
Drink, endless pleasures in."

4. The saints shall have the society of CHRIST IN GLORY. This is the principal attraction of the heavenly world. In those blessed regions, dwells the glorious Savior with his people. "He who sits on the throne will live among them and shelter them." Oh! to dwell in the presence of him who loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood! What heart can conceive the unutterable joy! The presence of Jesus makes the heaven of the believer. It is the heartfelt desire of every renewed soul to be with Christ- to enjoy his society. The saints never feel themselves happy until they are with

Him, who is, in their estimate, the chief among ten thousand, and altogether lovely.

The presence of Jesus is the very center of heavenly bliss! It is the felicity- the glory of the saints above. In the presence our Immanuel there is fullness of joy, and pleasures for evermore. When the Christian meditates on the glories of the Savior- when he considers that this adorable Savior died for him- when he reflects that he is soon to dwell with Him in the courts of Paradise, no wonder that he should soar on the wings of faith, beyond the visions of a mortal scene, and exclaim with the Psalmist, "Whom have I in heaven but you? I desire you more than anything on earth. My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever!"

The sweet thought of the society of Jesus in glory made Paul long to be dissolved, that he might be with his Savior. "For to me, living is for Christ, and dying is even better. Yet if I live, that means fruitful service for Christ. I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: Sometimes I want to live, and sometimes I long to go and be with Christ. That would be far better for me."

The blessed hope of entering into the immediate presence of a loving Savior, made the martyrs pass through flames to the portals of bliss; and it will make every one who knows and is fully assured that his Redeemer lives, meet death with a smile. When the Christian knows that to die is only to depart and

be with Christ, no wonder that he should exclaim with his departing breath, in transports of joy, "Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly!"

The redeemed will ever enjoy the glorious presence and blissful society of the Lord Jesus, in mansions of endless felicity. "So shall we ever be with the Lord." "Where I am," says Christ, "there shall also my servant be." And again, "Father, I want these whom you've given me to be with me, so they can see my glory. You gave me the glory because you loved me even before the world began!" This is heaven, the glorious habitation of the redeemed.

To enjoy sweet communion with a glorified Savior, is to be in a state of perfect happiness. This unspeakable blessedness awaits all the friends of Jesus in a world of glory. O happy thought! When the bright morning of the resurrection shall dawn upon our enraptured souls, we shall behold, with our bodily eyes, that Savior who once left the realms of bliss and poured out his precious blood on Calvary for our redemption! How lovely and attractive will he then appear as our Redeemer! How will his glory shine in the celestial sanctuary! And how will our souls burn with seraphic love, and rise in adoration and praise when we shall behold him as he is, on his heavenly throne, radiant in glory; when we shall see his hands and feet, and side and head, which were once wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities; when we shall forever bask in the light of his life-giving countenance, and taste through eternity the sweetness of his immortal love! What fountains of joy and rivers of

pleasure will emanate from his blissful presence to exhilarate our happy spirits while eternal ages roll on!

Dear believer, in a little while your eyes shall behold the King in his beauty, and the glorious land that is afar off.

"Hail, sovereign love that first began,
The scheme to rescue fallen man;
Hail matchless free eternal grace,
That gave my soul a hiding place.
Against the God who rules the sky,
I fought with hand uplifted high,
Despised the mention of His grace,
Too proud to seek a hiding place.
Enwrapped in thick Egyptian night,
And fond of darkness more than light,
Madly I ran the sinful race,
Secure without a hiding place.
But thus the eternal counsel ran,
'Almighty Love, arrest that man!'
I felt the arrows of distress,
And found I had no hiding place.
Indignant justice stood in view,
To Sinai's fiery mount I flew,
But Justice cried with frowning face,
'This mountain is no hiding place!'
Ere long a heavenly voice I heard,
And Mercy's angel form appeared.
Who led me on with gentle pace,
To Jesus Christ, my hiding place.
On Him Almighty vengeance fell,
That must have sunk a world to hell;
He bore it for a chosen race,
And thus became their hiding place.
Should storms of sevenfold vengeance roll,
And shake this earth from pole to pole;
No flaming bolt could daunt my face,
For Jesus is my hiding place.
A few more rolling suns at most,
Shall land me safe on heaven's coast.
There I shall sing the song of grace,

To Jesus Christ, my hiding place!
A few more rolling suns, at most,
Will land you on fair Canaan's coast.
Then you shall sing the song of grace,
And see your Savior face to face."

THE PERPETUITY OF BLISS

"And they shall reign **forever and ever**." Rev. 22:5.

"O blest scenes of permanent delight!
Full, above measure! lasting, beyond
bound!

A perpetuity of bliss, is bliss."

The glory of Immanuel's land will shine with increasing splendor through eternity! The bliss of heaven is eternal. This stamps an infinite value on all celestial enjoyments. How noble are those pleasures which are to endure forever! Such are the pleasures which are at God's hand. They never fade. Forever is attached to every enjoyment in Immanuel's land. Eternity is the measure of the saint's bliss. "And they shall reign forever and ever."

That happy land which we have been describing in this little volume is an eternal world. It is an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fades not away. How different from this earthly abode are those bright mansions in our Father's kingdom! How fleeting are the pleasures of time. This world itself, with all its grandeur, is passing away. Mutability, and decay and dissolution are indelibly written on all beneath the skies. Every object around us feels the withering touch of time, and fades beneath its corroding energy. The proudest monuments of antiquity have

crumbled into dust, and the most powerful nations and cities of other days have been swept from the face of the earth, and over them oblivion hangs its dismal mantle.

But eternity is inscribed on the gates of Paradise; and an eternal weight of glory crowns all the inhabitants of Immanuel's land. There they will ever dwell in an eternity of bliss! O what ineffable delight must spring up in the souls of the redeemed in glory, when they contemplate eternity! How sweet will that solemn word be to those happy spirits before the throne! As they look forward into the boundless ocean, they see- they fear no end to their bliss. While ages of glory roll on, their happiness will be unbounded, and eternal. When millions of ages shall have run their expansive rounds, the inhabitants of Immanuel's land will still be young in immortality, and before them will still roll an eternity of glory.

The mansions of our Father's house are eternal. The blessedness- the joy- the glory- the rest- the employment- the society, of Immanuel's land are also as lasting as eternity itself. Let that solemn word eternity, impress upon your mind the importance of salvation. If you are saved, it is with an everlasting salvation; if you are lost, you are lost forever! Said a dear dying saint to the writer, as she gave her parting look, "Think often of Eternity; that short word, Eternity! Oh! what does it not comprehend?"

We would also entreat you with the utmost compassion for your immortal soul, to "think often of Eternity." Eternity is yours; you are an heir of

immortality. You must soon enjoy a perpetuity of bliss or of woe. O be entreated to forsake the world and cleave closely to Jesus! Live to Him who loved you with an everlasting love, and when death shall terminate your earthly course, the portals of heaven will open for your reception, and eternity, with all its untold glories will burst upon your ransomed spirit, and you shall be ever with the Lord!

HEAVENLY MEDITATION

"There is a place of sacred rest,
Far, far beyond the skies.
Where beauty smiles eternally,
And pleasure never dies.

O, my soul, rise on the wings of meditation, and survey the glories of Immanuel's land! Look beyond the dim visions of mortality- beyond the swellings of Jordan- beyond the gloomy grave, and behold, with the eye of faith, those delectable mountains where the city of our God shines in more than earthly splendor; and where millions of happy saints are to reign in glory, while infinite ages roll away. This is our happy dwelling place- our Father's house. How brightly those celestial mansions shine, irradiated by the glory of Immanuel! No cloud rests on these peaceful dwellings. There all is light and joy. Our Heavenly Father is there; and in his gracious smile there is joy unspeakable and full of glory. There we shall rest in Abraham's bosom. There we shall dwell with that Friend who "loves at all times;"- there the Savior will be in our midst, to refresh our souls with the glorious manifestations of his eternal love. He will appear in perfect beauty from Zion's

holy hill. There Sharon's lovely rose will bloom in everlasting day.

"Oh! blessed Spirit, to my heart
This dear celestial flower impart;
With joy I'll prize the Savior here,
Then go to heaven and view him there."

In glory, Christ shall appear in all the loveliness of his person and character. The presence of Him who loved us, and gave himself for us, will make a sweet, glorious heaven indeed. Clad in the spotless robes of redeeming righteousness, we shall follow the Lamb to living fountains of waters- to perennial streams of pleasures- to boundless oceans of joys; and in the enjoyment of the Savior's presence we shall be perfectly happy. Within us, all will be peace; around us, all will be glorious. Immanuel's land is a place of unfading beauty! Eternal spring blooms in the realms of endless day.

"How unlike this state below!
There the flowers unwithering grow,
There no chilling blasts annoy,
All is love, and bloom, and joy."

How sweet for the weary Christian pilgrim, while passing through this wilderness scene, to think of that blessed abode! Dear follower of Jesus, meditate much on heaven- your happy home. Think of the rapturous delight you must experience in the courts of Paradise, while vast eternity glides along! O, what ecstatic joy must reign in the ransomed family of the Lord when they are admitted to see the King in his beauty; when they come to dwell forever in the Paradise of God! With joy anticipate that glorious hour, when your

happy spirit, freed from its clay
tabernacle, shall take its flight to those
pure regions of bliss, where it shall
receive a crown of glory that fades not
away.

"Oh, glorious hour, it comes with speed!
When we, from sin and darkness freed,
Shall see the God who died for man,
And praise him more than angels can."

Live with heaven always in view.
Endeavor to obtain a glimpse of the
happy land, and in a little while you will
have reached the blissful coast. You will
soon enjoy the refreshing breezes of the
saint's rest. One step more and you will
have gained the happy shores of
Immanuel's land, where you shall tread
with your Redeemer the ceaseless round
of eternity! In view of such blessedness,
who would not exclaim in joyful tones,
"Come, Lord Jesus! Come quickly!" O,
that the happy hour was come when we
shall rest with Jesus in the Paradise of
God!

In the blessed hope of a glorious
immortality, let us look beyond this
dying world, and gaze on the glories of
our heavenly home, until hope is turned
into fruition, and faith into vision. Let us
long for the sight of that blissful city-
that happy home in which we are to
spend a glorious eternity.

"And now I entrust you to God and the
word of his grace—his message that is
able to build you up and give you an
inheritance with all those he has set
apart for himself." Hoping to meet you
on the shores of Immanuel's land,
where the Lamb who is in the midst of
the throne shall feed us, and lead us

unto living fountains of waters; where God shall wipe away all tears from our eyes; and where we shall sing the song of redeeming love through countless ages of glory. I would, until then, leave you in the tender and compassionate arms of Jesus, the Friend of Sinners.

"Jerusalem! Jerusalem!
Would God I were with thee!
Oh that my sorrows had an end,
Your joys that I might see!
Your walls are made of precious stone,
Your bulwarks, diamond square
Your gates are made of Orient pearl;
O God, that I were there!
O happy harbor of God's saints!
O sweet and pleasant soil!
In you no sorrows can be found,
No grief, no care, no toil.
No dimming cloud o'ershadows you;
No gloom nor darksome night,
But every soul shines as the sun,
For God himself gives light.
Lord, in my forehead plant your name
And take me hence away,
That I may dwell with you in bliss,
And sing your praise for aye!
Jerusalem! my happy home.
O how I long for thee,
Then shall my labors have an end,
When once your joys I see."

Addendum. This much loved poem was extracted from the letters of Samuel Rutherford (a puritan pastor in Anwoth, Scotland in the 1600's).

IMMANUEL'S LAND

The sands of time are sinking,
The dawn of Heaven breaks,
The summer morn I've sighed for,

The fair sweet morn awakes:
Dark, dark has been the midnight,
But dayspring is at hand,
And glory-glory dwelleth
In Immanuel's land.

Oh! well it is for ever,
Oh! well for evermore,
My nest hung in no forest
Of all this death-doomed shore:
Yes, let the vain world vanish,
As from the ship the strand,
And glory-glory dwelleth
In Immanuel's land.

There the Red Rose of Sharon
Unfolds its heartsome bloom,
And fills the air of Heaven
With ravishing perfume.
Oh! to behold it blossom,
While by its fragrance fanned
Where glory-glory dwelleth
In Immanuel's land.

The King there in His beauty,
Without a veil, is seen,
It were a well-spent journey,
Though seven deaths lay between.
The Lamb, with His fair army,
Does on Mount Zion stand,
And glory-glory dwelleth
In Immanuel's land.

Oh! Christ He is the Fountain,
The deep sweet well of love!
The streams on earth I've tasted,
More deep I'll drink above:
There, to an ocean fullness,
His mercy does expand,
And glory-glory dwelleth
In Immanuel's land.

Even Anwoth was not heaven;
Even preaching was not Christ;

And in my sea-beat prison
My Lord and I held tryst:
And aye my murkiest storm-cloud
Was by a rainbow spanned
Caught from the glory dwelling
In Immanuel's land.

But that He built a heaven
Of His surpassing love,
A little New Jerusalem,
Like to the one above,-
"Lord, take me o'er the water,"
Had been my loud demand,
"Take me to love's own country,
Unto Immanuel's land."

But flowers need night's cool darkness
The moonlight and the dew;
So Christ, from one who loved it,
His shining oft withdrew;
And then for cause of absence,
My troubled soul I scanned-
But glory, shadeless, shineth
In Immanuel's land.

The little birds of Anwoth
I used to count them blest,
Now, beside happier altars
I go to build my nest:
O'er these there broods no silence,
No graves around them stand,
For glory, deathless, dwelleth
In Immanuel's land.

Fair Anwoth by the Solway,
To me thou sill art dear!
E'en from the verge of Heaven
I drop for thee a tear.
Oh! if one soul from Anwoth
Meet me at God's right hand,
My Heaven will be two Heavens,
In Immanuel's land.

I've wrestled on toward Heaven,

'Gainst storm, and wind, and tide,
Now, like a weary traveler,
That leaneth on his guide,
Amid the shades of evening,
While sinks life's ling'ring sand,
I hail the glory dawning
From Immanuel's land.

Deep water crossed life's pathway,
The hedge of thorns was sharp;
Now these lie all behind me,
Oh! for a well-tuned harp!
Oh! to join Hallelujah
with yon triumphant band,
Who sing, where glory dwelleth,
In Immanuel's land.

With mercy and with judgment
My web of time He wove,
And aye the dews of sorrow
Were lustered with His love.
I'll bless the hand that guided,
I'll bless the heart that planned,
When throned where glory dwelleth
In Immanuel's land.

Soon shall the cup of glory
Wash down earth's bitterest woes,
Soon shall the desert-briar
Break into Eden's rose.
The curse shall change to blessing,
The name on earth that's banned,
Be graven on the white stone
In Immanuel's land.

Oh! I am my Beloved's,
And my Beloved is mine!
He brings a poor vile sinner
Into His "House of wine."
I stand upon His merit,
I know no other stand,
Not e'en where glory dwelleth
In Immanuel's land.

I shall sleep sound in Jesus
Filled with His likeness rise,
To live and to adore Him,
To see Him with these eyes
'Tween me and resurrection
But Paradise does stand;
Then, then for glory dwelling
In Immanuel's land!

The Bride eyes not her garment
But her dear Bridegroom's face;
I will not gaze at glory,
But on my King of Grace,
Not at the crown He giveth,
But on His pierced hand:
The Lamb is all the glory
Of Immanuel's land.

I have borne scorn and hatred,
I have borne wrong and shame,
Earth's proud ones have reproached me,
For Christ's thrice blessed name,
Where God is seal set fairest
They've stamped their foulest brand;
But judgment shines like noonday
In Immanuel's land.

They've summoned me before them,
But there I may not come,
My Lord says, "Come up hither,"
My Lord says, "Welcome Home!"
My kingly King, at His white throne,
My presence does command,
Where glory-glory dwelleth
In Immanuel's land.