

THE
INFANT'S PRAYER-BOOK;

WITH
TEXTS AND SIMPLE HYMNS
FOR INFANT MINDS.

BEING
A HELP TO YOUNG MOTHERS IN LEADING THEIR LITTLE
ONES TO GOD AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

BY MRS. C. P. TRAILL.

*"Suffer little children to come unto me, and
forbid them not."*

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Ms.
Graces May Graces
from A young friend
on the occasion of her Baptism
Dec 30th 1894.
S. J. Nichol.
Toronto.

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PREFACE.

As in the early period of infancy little children require simple food for the nourishment of their bodies, so in like manner does the young child require simple instruction for the nourishment and growth of the soul.

Many young mothers confess that they find a difficulty in teaching their little ones to pray in words adapted to their infant minds.

It is with the view of helping the mother, or nurse, in this matter, that this little work has been written and arranged by one who has been the mother of a large family, and has known by experience how precious is the practice of prayer in leading the young child in the paths of obedience, of honesty, and of truth. "The fear and the love of

God is truly the beginning of wisdom," and this the little one must be taught by easy steps.

The prayers in the first section are suited to the comprehension of the *very* young child. The verses and text such as can be easily learned and remembered.

The second part is adapted to children from the ages of six to eight, or nine years of age. The scripture texts and hymns are selected with care and adapted to the occasion, and are such as are brief and may be committed to memory with ease.

The beautiful hymns at the end of the book were eagerly learned by the writer, and her sisters, at a very tender age. Young children are great lovers of really good sacred poetry; and will usually select the best, if they are left to make their own choice.

The good seed early sown may, in after years, by God's grace, spring up and bear

good fruit. Happy will those parents be who live to reap the harvest sown by their means. Their children shall rise up, and call them blessed.

That this little book may aid them in the good work of leading the little ones to their Saviour, and their God, is the earnest desire of the writer.

CATHARINE PARR TRAILL.

Lakefield, North Douro.

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THE INFANT'S PRAYER-BOOK.

MORNING PRAYERS

FOR VERY YOUNG CHILDREN.

Almighty God, I thank Thee for having taken care of me through the night ; keep me this day from all harm, and from all sin, for Jesus Christ's sake.—Amen.

God bless my dear father and mother, [or papa and mamma] brothers and sisters, [if the child have neither of these relatives, these words may be omitted], and all my dear friends.—Amen.

TEXT.

“I laid me down and slept, and rose up again, for the Lord sustained me.”—*Psalm* iii. 5.

HYMN.

Lord, I am but a sinful child,
Yet Thou wilt hear my prayer ;
O take Thy little one this night,
Beneath Thy loving care.

ANOTHER MORNING PRAYER.

I laid me down and slept, and Thou,
O Lord, didst take care of me. Accept the
thanks of a little child ; and bless me this
day, and keep me from all evil, for my dear
Saviour's sake.—Amen.

Pray God bless, &c., &c.

TEXT.

“Early in the morning will I direct my
prayer unto Thee.”—*Psalm* v. 3.

HYMN.

Lord, keep a little child this day,
Beneath Thy loving care,
And make me gentle, meek, and mild,
As holy angels are.

A MORNING PRAYER
FOR AN OLDER CHILD.

O Lord God, my Heavenly Father, who of Thy great goodness hast brought me to the light of this day, give me the help of Thy Holy Spirit, that I fall into no wilful sin; but teach me to know Thee, and love Thee, with all my heart and with all my soul; and accept my prayers for my dear Saviour's sake—Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.—Amen.

HYMN.

Now that the daylight fills the sky,
I lift my heart to God on high;
That He, in all I do or say,
May keep my soul from sin this day.

(Or this:)

Wake, and lift up thyself, my heart,
And with the angels bear a part;
Who all night long unwearied sing,
High "Glory to the Almighty King."
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.—Amen.

AN EVENING PRAYERFOR A LITTLE CHILD.

O Lord, my God, I pray Thee to take care of me while I sleep this night, for Jesus Christ's sake.—Amen.

Bless dear papa and mamma, and all my dear friends, for Christ's sake.—Amen.

TEXT.

He will give His angels charge over thee, both when thou wakest and when thou sleepest.

HYMN.

Lord, I have passed another day,
And come to thank Thee for thy care;
I pray Thee, Lord, for Jesus' sake,
To listen to my evening prayer.

ANOTHER PRAYER.

O Lord, I pray Thee to forgive me for all my faults of the past day, for my dear Saviour's sake. Make me a better child, and grant, that when I die, I may go to Heaven, for Jesus Christ's sake.—Amen.

May God bless all my dear friends, and keep me and them from all harm this night, for Christ's sake.—Amen.

TEXT.

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and all that that is within me, bless His holy name!—
Psalm ciii. 1.

HYMN.

Through the day, Thy hand hath led me,
And I thank Thee for Thy care;
Thou hast clothed, and warmed, and fed me,
Listen to my evening prayer.

ANOTHER EVENING PRAYER.

FOR AN OLDER CHILD.

O Lord, the great and Holy God! Who livest in the highest Heaven—Who art about my path, and about my bed; and from whom nothing is hid; give me grace to live as in Thy sight, and humbly to walk in Thy way. Let me ever bear in mind that it was for sin that my dear Saviour died on the cross, and shed his precious blood to save sinners from everlasting woe.

O Lord, my God, forgive me my sins, for the love of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, to Whom, with Thee, and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory.—Amen.

TEXT.

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God.—*1 Peter* iii. 18.

HYMN.

Through the day Thy love hath spared us;
 Now we lay us down to rest;
 Through the silent watches guard us,
 Let no foe our peace molest:
 Jesu, Thou our guardian be,
 Sweet it is to rest in Thee.

ANOTHER PRAYER.

Lord, keep me under Thy care this night ;
and, when I wake, let me praise Thy holy
name, and thank Thee that I have been
safely kept from all harm when I was weak,
and helpless, and could not take care of
myself.

TEXT.

And they brought unto Him infants that
He should touch them : and when His disci-
ples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus
called them unto Him, and said "Suffer
little children to come unto Me, and forbid
them not.—*Matt.* xix. 13, 14.

HYMN.

Let my sins be all forgiven ;
Bless the friends I love so well ;
Take me, when I die, to Heaven,
Happy there, with Thee to dwell.

Fane Taylor.

EVENING HYMN.

Jesus, tender Shepherd, hear me,
Bless Thy little lamb to-night ;
Thro' the darkness be Thou near me,
Guard my head till morning light.

Let my sins be all forgiven,
Bless the friends I love so well ;
Take me, when I die, to Heaven,
Happy there, with Thee to dwell.

All this day Thy hand hath led me,
And I thank Thee for Thy care ;
Thou hast warmed, and clothed, and fed me,
Listen to my evening prayer.

Fane Taylor.

Another :

And now another day is gone,
I'll sing my Maker's praise ;
My comforts every hour make known
His providence and grace.

But how my childhood runs to waste,
My sins, how great their sum ;
Lord, give me pardon for the past,
And strength for days to come.

I lay my body down to sleep,
Let angels guard my head ;
And through the hours of darkness keep,
Their watch around my bed.

Watts.

“Little children, let us not love in word
only, but in deed, and in truth.”—*1 John*
iii. 18.

SELECTED HYMNSFOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

Do no sinful action,
Speak no angry word ;
Ye belong to Jesus,
Children of the Lord.

Christ is pure and holy,
Christ is good and true ;
And His little children,
Must be holy, too.

Ye are new-born Christians,
Ye must learn to fight
With the bad within you,
And to do the right.

Christ is your own Master,
Christ is good and true ;
And His little children,
Must be holy, too.

“Be ye holy, for I am holy.”—*1 Peter* i. 16.

HYMN.

God is in heaven, and can He hear
A little prayer like mine ?
Yes, thoughtful child, thou need'st not fear,
He listeneth to thine.

God is in heaven, and would He know
If I were doing wrong ?
Yes, that he would, He looks at Thee
All day, and all night long.

God is in heaven, and would He know
If I should tell a lie ?
Yes, if you spoke it very low,
He'd hear thee in the sky.

God is in heaven, and may I hope
To go there when I die ?
Yes, Christ will send an angel down,
To bear Thee to the sky.

“Blessed are the dead which die in the
Lord.”—*Rev.* xiv. 13.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

A few words, to make plain its meaning to a young child.

"Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed &c."—[Let the mother here tell the child that Almighty God is his Heavenly Father, and the giver of life and all things; that His name is to be spoken with reverence; for He is a Holy God.]

"Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."—[That we here pray that God may reign as a king in the hearts of all people, so that His will may be done on earth by men, as it is in heaven above, where saints, and angels, and archangels obey Him.]

"Give us this day our daily bread."—[We here ask our daily supply of food from our Heavenly Father; also for food to nourish our souls, even the Word of God; that we may know Him, and our blessed Lord—the Son of God—who is the bread of life.]

"And forgive us our trespasses, &c."—
[We must not bear anger in our hearts, if we hope God to forgive us our misdeeds and faults; so must we learn also to forgive those that offend us in word or deed. We must bear no malice nor hatred in our hearts, if we would be children of God.]

"Lead us not into temptation."—[We pray God not to suffer us to go into any place where we may be tempted to commit sin, or follow evil examples.]

"But deliver us from evil."—[Or, from the evil one. We pray God to save and protect us from Satan; and to keep us from all evil things.]

"For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.—Amen."—[We here declare that we, and all things in heaven above, and in the earth beneath, belong to God for ever and ever. The word *Amen*, means so it is, or so let it be.]

A GRACE BEFORE MEALS.

“Lord, bless this food, and give us grateful hearts, for Jesus Christ’s sake.—Amen.”

AFTER MEALS.

“Lord, accept our thanks for this, and all Thy gifts, for Jesus Christ’s sake.—Amen.”

“Whether, therefore, ye eat, or drink, do all in the name of the Lord.”

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PART II.

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SHORT PRAYERS

FOR OLDER CHILDREN,

WITH TEXTS AND HYMNS TO BE LEARNED.

It is written, "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve."—*Matt.* iv. 10.

"Children, obey your parents, for this is well pleasing unto the Lord."—*Col.* iii. 20.

"I write unto you little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake."—1 *John* ii. 12.

PRAYERS
FOR SEVERAL OCCASIONS.

PRAYER FOR A SICK CHILD,

*To be said by the Mother or Nurse at the
Bedside.*

O Almighty God, look down upon this dear child with tender pity; ease *his* pain, and if it be Thy will, restore *him* [or her] to *his* [or her] former health and strength; or take *his* soul to thy Heavenly kingdom, where death and suffering can never come. Make *him* gentle and patient, and thankful to them that nurse *him* during the time of his sickness.

Forgive all *his* sins, for *his* dear Saviour's sake, Who died for *him*, and ever lives to plead for *him* at the mercy seat.

Hear our prayers, O Lord, for the sake of Thy blessed Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
—Amen.

TEXT.

“Praise the Lord, O my soul; and forget not all His benefits.”

“Who forgiveth all thy sin, and healeth all thy infirmities.”

“Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children, even so is the Lord merciful unto them that fear Him.”

“Praise thou the Lord, O my soul.”—
Psalm ciii. 2, 3, 13, 22.

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A PRAYER FOR A SICK CHILD

Who is unable to sleep.

Lord Jesus, I pray Thee to look down in pity upon me, a sick child, and give me ease of body, and sweet sleep; and grant that when I wake, I may praise and thank Thee for all thy mercies, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

HYMN.

When in the sleepless night I lie,
 Do Thou, O Lord, sweet thoughts supply;
 Let no ill dream disturb my rest,
 Nor powers of darkness me molest.

Should death itself my sleep invade,
 Why should I be of death afraid :
 Protected by Thy saving arm,
 Though he should strike, he cannot harm.

TEXT.

“Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me. O
 Lord make haste to help me.”—*Psalms* xl. 13.

“O spare me, that I may recover strength,
 before I go hence and be no more.”—
Psalms xxxix. 13.

HYMN.

Lord, for Jesus' sake, I pray,
 That Thou wilt take my pains away;
 And should I die before I wake,
 I pray that Thou, my soul will take,
 In Thy mercy and Thy love,
 To dwell with Christ in heaven above.
 Where with angels I may sing,
 The mercies of my God and King—
 Hallelujah—Amen—Amen.

A PRAYER FOR GOD'S GRACE.

O Lord my God! I am but a poor, weak, sinful child, and cannot of myself do any good thing. Give me Thy grace to learn to do Thy will, to walk in Thy way, and to love Thee with all my heart and soul. To love my Saviour, and follow in His steps; never forgetting that He died for my sins on the cross, that I might live after death with Thee.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, for Christ's dear sake.—Amen.

TEXT.

“If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.”

“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”—*John* xiv. 14, 15.

HYMN.

God is in Heaven, and can He hear
A little prayer like mine?
Yes, thoughtful child, thou need'st not fear,
He listeneth to thine.

TEXT.

“Remember now thy Creator, in the days
of thy youth.”—*Ecc.* xii. 1.

HYMN.

With humble heart and tongue,
Great God to Thee I pray;
O may I learn, while I am young,
To walk in wisdom's way.

**FOR GOD'S PROTECTION IN ANY TIME
OF DANGER.**

Lord, hear our prayer, and let our cry
come up unto Thee. Keep us safe under
the shadow of Thy wings till this danger
be over-past.

Guard us waking—guard us sleeping—
And when we die,
May we Lord, in Thy safe keeping,
All peaceful lie.

Jesus, Lord of life and light,
Keep Thy children safe this night ;
Keep our souls from sin and harm,
Let no fears our minds alarm :
Under Thy Almighty wings,
We are safe, O King of Kings !
Jesus, Saviour, hear our prayer,
Take us all beneath Thy care.

OBEDIENCE TO PARENTS.

TEXT.

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise.”—*Eph.* vi. 1, 2.

“Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long in the land, which the Lord thy God giveth thee.”—*Fifth Commandment.*

PRAYER:

O Lord, help me to keep this commandment; to love, honour, and obey my father and mother, even as my Saviour did; and to be very sorry if at any time I grieve them by wilful disobedience, or bad temper.

TEXT.

“Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.”—*Luke*, ii. 52.

“And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them,” (*i. e.*, to Joseph and Mary).—*Luke*, ii. 51.

HYMN.

O Thou, who wer't content to dwell,
In a poor home, a lowly child ;
With meek obedience noting well,
Each bidding of Thy mother mild.

**A PRAYER FOR HAVING COMMITTED
THE SIN OF THEFT.**

O Lord God, I humbly pray thee to pardon me the great sin that I have done, in taking that which was not my own. I am weak and very wicked; but for my Saviour's sake, I pray to be forgiven. Help me to keep my hands from picking and stealing; and from the sin of coveting; and be Thou merciful to my sin, for Christ's sake.

"Thou shalt not steal."—*Eighth Commandment: Exod. xx. 15.*

"Thou shalt not covet."—*Ninth Commandment: Exod. xx. 17.*

And covetousness, which is idolatry.

**A PRAYER FOR HAVING GIVEN WAY
TO ANGER.**

O Lord, my God, I have been an angry, wicked child : I pray Thee, for Thy dear Son's sake to forgive me. Thou didst give me hands to work with, and to do good with, but not to fight and strike with. Give me the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that I may repent, and be sorry for my sin.

Teach me to be meek and gentle at all times, even as my dear Saviour was when He came on earth to suffer death for sinful men ; and who bore the taunts of evil men, and reviled them not again.

HYMN.

Whatever brawls disturb the street,
There should be peace at home ;
Where sisters live, and brothers meet,
Quarrels should never come.

Birds in their little nests agree,
And 'tis a shameful sight,
When children of one family,
Fall out, and chide, and fight.

TEXT.

"Let brotherly love continue."—*Heb.*
xiii. 1.

"Be ye kind one to another; tender-
hearted, forgiving one another, even as God
for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."—*Eph.*
iv. 32.

"This is the message that ye heard from
the beginning, that we should love one
another."—*I John* iii. 11.

"He that loveth not his brother, abideth
in death."—*14th verse.*

"Whoso hateth his brother is a mur-
derer."—*15th verse.*

"Thou shalt do no murder."—*Sixth
Commandment.*

HYMN.

Lead every child that hears Thy name,
To walk in Thy pure, upright way;
To shun the paths of guilt and shame,
And humbly, like Thyself, to pray.

TEXT.

"Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day
without sin: O Lord, have mercy upon us
—Have mercy upon us—O Lord, let Thy
mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in Thee.

PRAYER FOR GRACE.

Lord Jesus, I pray Thee to make me a wise and holy Christian child, that I may love Thee, and walk in Thy ways, who art most holy. Make me one of the Lambs of Thy fold, that when I die I may live forever with Thee, and behold the glories of Thy heavenly kingdom, and the face of my Heavenly Father, who will love me for Thy sake. Wash away all my sins in Thy most precious blood, which was shed for me, and for all who will believe on Thy name.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.—Amen.

HYMN.

Gather Thy lambs within Thy arm,
 And gently in Thy bosom bear ;
 Protect them still from every harm,
 And bid them rest for ever there.

TEXT.

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want."—*Psalm xxiii. 1.*

Jesus says, "I am the Good Shepherd. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."—*John x. 11, 27.*

"I lay down my life for the sheep."—*John x. 15.*

SONG OF CREATION.

“When I laid the foundations of the earth. When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy.”—*Job xxxviii. 4, 7.*

Songs of praise the angels sang,
 Heaven with hallelujahs rang,
 When creation was begun,
 When God spake, and it was done.

Songs of praise awoke the morn,
 When the Prince of Peace was born ;
 Songs of praise awoke when He,
 Captive led captivity.

Heaven and earth must pass away,
 Songs of praise shall crown the day ;
 God will make new heavens and earth ;
 Songs of praise shall hail their birth.

“The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth ; by understanding hath He established the heavens.”—*Prov. iii. 19.*

CHRISTMAS DAY.

Portion of Scripture to be read : *St. Luke ii., from 1st to the 21st verses.*

CHRISTMAS HYMN.

When shepherds watched their flocks by
All seated on the ground, [night,
The angel of the Lord came down ;
And glory shone around.

Fear not, said he, for mighty dread,
Had seized their troubled mind ;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
To you and all mankind.

To you, in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line,
A Saviour, which is Christ the Lord ;
And this shall be the sign :

The heavenly babe you there shall find,
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, and thus
Addressed their joyful song :
All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace ;
Goodwill, henceforth, from heaven to men,
Begin and never cease.

“ And it was revealed unto him (Simeon),
by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see
death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.”
—*Luke* ii. 26.

“ Then took he Him up in his arms, and
blessed God, and said : Lord, now lettest
thou Thy servant depart in peace, accord-
ing to Thy word ; for mine eyes have seen
Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared
before the face of all people.”—*Luke* ii.
28-30.

EASTER DAY.

Portion of Scripture to be read: *Luke* xxiv., from 1st to 13th verses.

TEXTS.

“And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye, for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

“He is not here; for He is risen, as he said: Come, see the place where the Lord lay.”—*Matt.* xxviii. 5, 6.

“Christ is risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept.

“For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

“For as in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive.”—*1 Cor.* xv. 20, 21, 22.

“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.”—*Col.* iii. 1.

“I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.”—*John* xx. 19.

EASTER HYMN.

Christ, the Lord, is risen to-day,
Sons of men and angels say :
Raise your songs of triumph high,
Sing ye heavens, and earth reply.

Christ's redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight—the battle won ;
Lo! the Sun's eclipse is o'er ;
Lo! he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal,
Christ has burst the gates of hell !
Death in vain forbids his rise,
Christ has opened Paradise !

Lives again our glorious King,
Where, O death, is now thy sting ?
Once he died, our souls to save,
Where's thy victory, O grave ?

THE OLD, OLD STORY.

Tell me the old, old story
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus, and His glory,
Of Jesus, and His love.

Tell me the story simply,
As to a little child,
For I am weak and weary,
And helpless and defiled.

Tell me the story slowly,
That I may take it in ;
That wonderful redemption,
God's remedy for sin.

Tell me the story often,
For I forget so soon ;
The early dew of morning,
Has passed away at noon.

Tell me the story softly,
With earnest tones and grave,
Remember, I'm the sinner
Whom Jesus came to save.

Tell me the story always,
If you would really be,
In any time of trouble
A comforter to me.

Tell me the same old story,
When you have cause to fear,
That this world's empty glory,
Is costing me too dear.

Yes, and when *that* world's glory
Shall dawn upon my soul ;
Te'l me the old, old story,
" Christ Jesus makes thee whole."

HYMN FOR CHRIST'S SECOND ADVENT.

Lo, He comes in clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain ;
Thousand, thousand saints attending,
Swell the triumph of His train :
Hallelujah ! Hallelujah !
Jesus comes, and comes to reign.

Now redemption, long expected,
See in solemn pomp appear ;
All his saints, by man rejected,
Rise to meet Him in the air :
Hallelujah ! Hallelujah !
Shouts of welcome, greet His ear.

Yea, Amen ! let all adore Thee,
High on Thy celestial throne :
Saviour, take Thy power and glory,
Make Thy righteous sentence known :
O come quickly ! O come quickly !
Claim the kingdom for Thine own.

TEXTS.

“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen.”—*Rev.* i. 7.

“For He cometh, for He cometh to judge the earth: He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with His truth.”—*Psalms* xcvi. 13.

“The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also, and the works that are therein, shall be burned up.”—*2 Peter* iii. 10.

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THE NEW JERUSALEM.

Jerusalem, the golden,
With milk and honey blest ;
Beneath thy contemplation,
Sink heart and voice opprest.

We know not—ah ! we know not,
What joys await us there !
What radiancy of glory—
What bliss beyond compare.

The Prince is ever with them,
The day-light is serene :
The pastures of the blessed,
Are decked in glorious sheen.

And they who with their Leader,
Have conquered in the fight,
For ever, and for ever,
Are clad in robes of white.

O sweet and blessed country,
The home of God's elect !
O sweet and blessed country,
That eager hearts expect.

JESU, in mercy bring us
To that dear land of rest ;
Who art with GOD the FATHER,
And SPIRIT, ever blest.

TEXTS.

“And he carried me away in the spirit
to a great and high mountain, and shewed
me that great city, the new Jerusalem,
descending out of heaven, from God,

“Having the glory of God: and her
light was like unto a stone most precious,
even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.”
Rev. xxi. 10, 11.

