UNREADINESS



- 2. Hast thou come down with tender care thy weary people's heart to bless, and Host, and Feast dost thou prepare a Table in the wilderness?
- 3. And still, can dying souls refuse to take the bliss while yet they may, with some poor plea their sin excuse, and cold and heartless turn away?
- 4. What is it keeps me from thy side? Not the world's toil, or grief, or strife! No constant struggle to provide against the needs and storms of life!
- 5. Sunshine and calm are overhead, plenty and peace are all around, abundance, more than 'daily bread', doth thro' thy Providence abound.
- 6. And shall the joy, by thee bestowed, engross the hearts by right thine own, exalt itself into a God, and occupy the Saviour's throne?
- 7. This pleasant Home in which we live, these lawns, and glades, and bow'ry trees, whose garden-bloom and fragrance give joy to the sunbeam and the breeze;
- 8. those herds that in soft evening hours come lowing thro' the dewy grass, or in the lane, fresh filled with flowers, breathe on us perfume, as they pass.

- 9. Those fields, with ripening verdure clad, prophetic of their golden store; these hearts, with very pleasure glad of mere existence, if no more.
- 10. But above all, that holy love which makes man's home supremely dear, which should uplift his heart above, but ah! too often holds it here;
- 11. that love of husband, wife, or child, with its sweet words and gentle kiss, which o'er life's bleakness sheds the mild calm sunshine of domestic bliss, —
- 12. shall these pure joys whose only light, perfect and changeless, is in thee; thus qualify their own delight, by dimming what should cloudless be?
- 13. Teach me my God! the 'better part', when I some vain excuse would plead; what stills not my own anxious heart, how could it e'er with thee succeed?
- 14. O if the joys bestowed on earth shine but to draw our thoughts from Heav'n, not only are they little worth, but better they had ne'er been giv'n.

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