THE RETURNING DOVE



- 2. O send us down some earnest that thy love, so tried, so proved, thro' absence does not cease; we watch, we wait for the returning Dove to bring us back the olive-branch of peace.
- 3. The waters seem assuaged but thy word has bid us for thine own permission stay, we dare not venture forth, till thou, O Lord, send down thy Dove to lead us on our way.
- 4. Once we could touch thee, hear thee, read thy face, and the deep meaning of its tender care, thou wert beside us then in every place, thou art above us now O Saviour! where?
- 5. We want thee as of old, or nearer still, we want thee hidden here in every heart, all time, all space, all thoughts, all souls to fill, and never more from us or ours depart.
- 6. And thou didst promise thou wouldst come again, nor leave us 'comfortless' on earth to mourn, and thou didst go to get good gifts for men, best gift of Heaven! O Saviour Christ! return!
- 7. Come be thyself 'the Comforter' we need, all that we feel we want is thee alone;O pardon! if we know not what we plead, give us whatever makes thee most our own.
- 8. It cannot grieve The Spirit, if our love still long thy once familiar face to see; come on the quivering pinions of the Dove, as once that Dove came lightning down on thee.

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