



## The Word of God.

**N**OT in the ancient Scriptures  
May the Word of God be found,  
Nor from tongue of prophet or preacher  
Shall its utterance resound.

The Edict of the Eternal  
Through timeless nature runs ;  
It flashes with sudden beauty  
In the smiles of her wayward sons.

It glows in the mother's bosom,  
It strengthens the willing hand,  
It stays in the sufferer's silence,  
It burns in the shameful brand !

Through human lives it wanders,  
To the pure in heart unveils ;  
And childhood over it ponders—  
Nor dreameth how manhood fails !

O God, our Heavenly Father,  
Renew in Thy cleansing fire  
The child's unsullied vision,  
The strength of the heart's desire !

Withdraw the unworthy purpose,  
Unchain from the soulless task,  
That erect in Thy spacious kingdom,  
Each one of Thyself shall ask.

And Thyself shalt be known in being,  
And man shall be known like Thee,  
And Thy Word in the silence fleeing  
The music of life shall be.

T. H. F.