

The Wonders of the Deep.
Written for Daughter Eliza.

87th Selection,
II. Part, 1st &
last 3 verses.
118th Hymn.



8th Anne's Church,
Ampolis, March
11th 1849.

8th Anne's, 7th
after Trinity -
1850.

Naval Academy,
2^d in Lent,
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Salisbury, Wilt.

* and, although, fool hardness is a sin; a weak timidity, in any line of Duty, is, also a sin; and hence, a Christian Marine, or Soldier, wears a crown of uncommon brightness. It is as much required, ^{it is true} however, to remain, in a safe harbor, in a tempest; as it is, to leave one, at other times, knowing that Ponts will be met on the Great Deep! And, though we must not venture on the Ocean, in the light skiff, which skims the peaceful Lake; we are not at liberty, to omit any art, or science, or skill, that we possess, to escape the Gale, instead of running more deeply into it. ^{But} God has not exempted His Creators from the Duty of overcoming Difficulties; and, we are without excuse, only when we, unnecessarily, create them.

Psalm CVII. 23 & 24th. "They that go down to the Sea, in Ships, and occupy their business in great waters; these men see the Work of the Lord, & His Wonder in the Deep."

The Sea is put between Station, and Land, and Redoubt, that men should venture to cross it; and hint their ^{social} bonds with strength, proportioned to the deeper feelings of the soul, when the Ship groans under the Surge, and the Mariners cry unto God for safety. Christ

placed His ^{own} Foot, on the troubled water, and held
His trembling Disciple, there, not to tempt His
Creatures to presumption, but to encourage
their reliance on His protection. ~~We must~~
~~not leave a safe harbor in a tempest, nor~~
~~brave the ocean in the stiff that skin~~
~~the peaceful lake.~~ ^{and again;} When Jesus was prompted
by Satan, to cast himself from the pinnacle
of the Temple; he would not do it, though he
had Almighty Power; ~~and, that Countryman was~~
~~a fool who threw his penny form, for a~~

~~vain conceit, from the brow of the Cataract!~~
Our confidence in the Saviour's arm, extends, then,
to all efforts, upon which we can invoke
His ^{however interesting they may be, (first last)} Blessings, ~~and~~, if men had continued to creep
timidly along the shore, the world would have
been limited, like the "happy valley," in utter
ignorance of what lay beyond that rugged
mountain. | Let us appreciate, then, the brave,
who "go down to the sea in ships," where
they are mindful of Him, who blessed ^{both} sojourners
and sailors, as well as other classes of men.

~~God will not exact from either, beyond what is
due, in the awful service, they are called to
perform. The Christian Marine, will wear a
Crown, corresponding with the perils that he
endures, when his trustful spirit escapes from
the waves, to the upper world!~~

In our touching service for the Burial
of the Dead at Sea, we say, "We commit his
body, to the Deep! Who can number, the multi-
tude, that shall leap from the liquid grave,
at last; and show the Powers that hold them,

While the world was ripening for destruction!
~~Perish~~ The Property Sunk in the Sea, ^{almost} equals
the sum of all that men now possess on land.
The lives, that have gone down with this wealth;
bear a similar proportion to the bodies,
which, from the beginning have been buried
in the Dust. Hundreds of vessels, add to the
number, every year; and, though human
skill, & power, are diminishing the Risk,
God laughs our attempts to scorn! How is it,
then, that our Race, from day to day, from month to

month, and from year ^{continue to} to year, hunt, the same dis-
-appointments! Is it, because the blue water
leave no trace, when the previous victim,
hopes to his Recompense! cto, Brothers;
for, the foot-prints of wickedness on the
Continents, are grooved deeply as the paths
of icebergs in the rocks; yet, they cannot
not the eager Pursuers of sensual pleasure
^{even here} as they speed over the same slippery places!
^{to their destruction!}

It has never been my privilege to witness
the Wonders of the Deep; yet, a landman

may have an interest, in the Treasures, gain-
-ered there. The Redeemer recognizes no
Division of land and water. The same
Hell, is below Earth and Sea; and the
same Heaven smiles over both. God has spread
His Universe before us all, ^{in order} to affect our
hearts and mind, with impressions of His
Power and Goodness. The Ocean, especially, has
always attracted the attention of men; by its
alternations of storm and calm; now inviting
the timid to glide over its peaceful surface;

and now, warning the Daring, to flee from its furious collisions. Stone can fail to mark its liquid level, which is ruffled by the gentlest Zephyr; but is able to bear the heaviest burdens. Were God to let it move, with a little more weight, in any one direction, Kingdoms would be sunk; but, He has made the fleeing sand, which buries Cities, a sufficient barrier; and no shores stand so firm as those where the waves beat a substance almost as unstable as themselves. ~~Rivers & Lakes, would not, otherwise, exist; the valleys &~~

~~hills would lose their verdure, and Mountains themselves would no longer be clothed with flocks. Who accu-
cumulated these countless particles, and mixed them with salt, fitted to attract the Sun's rays, and to elaborate the pure supplies for our health and comfort? It is He who blends the elements of the atmosphere, in portions so exact, that to increase or diminish either, would diffuse death instead of life.~~

Behold, then, this Grand Regulator of Heat and Cold; once thought the Enemy to human in-

intercourse; but now confessed the surest bond, of
Being One, that know the blessing, of the Prince
of Peace. He who spread the clouds & storms,
there; set the Rainbow, to gild them; & paint
the Morning & Evening, with Purple. All this
Grandeur and Beauty, should fill the souls of
Mariners, with the moral sublime; and suggest
great thoughts, and holy purposes, and lift their
aspiration, to the author of spiritual blindness.
Who would, that the old poet, deemed Water,
the best Element, so grand a symbol, is the

Ocean, of God's unchangeable, perpetuity, life-giving
beneficence. And here, we see the Reason, ^{too} why
He gave us rational natures, susceptible to
such influences from Elevated Objects. While the
sea and sky expand the mind, & swell the heart
of the Beholder; ^{so} high thoughts, and noble purposes,
raise the same feelings, in sensitive breasts;
because they indicate, in man, wisdom, &
Goodness, and Power! We pity the person, who
has not confessed, by a flood of tears, this rapture,
which generous spirits feel, in the view of some

glorious action, or the exercise of some magnanimous
forbearance. God has so moulded the machinery
of our ^{spiritual} ~~temporal~~ life; and so adjusted every movement,
to the Law of ^{his} Love, ^{in order} that we may find our
highest happiness, in contemplating what Christ
has done, and suffered, for our Sins! The Cross,
is the Greatest Object, revealed to men, because
it combines the greatest Power, and Love.
It is the Throne of the Almighty; from which,
he conquers hearts; and by which, he will
judge the world! Let every power of our souls

praise and bless his Holy name, that we can appre-
-ciate, alike, the Wonder of his Works, his Providence,
and Grace.

When Christ chose Fishermen for his Disciples, he
said, they should be conversant with the things of
the Deep. They should be "fishers of men". They
should draw sinners into the ark of the Covenant;
and, they should find them, as little inclined to
forsake the World, as fishes are of their own accord,
to come out of the Sea! ^{How} we can feel the
force of this figure of the Church, though we

were never out of sight of land. The unstable waters,
are moved mainly by the Moon, the most change-
able body in the whole sky, being never the same,
two nights in succession; and the tides and
Currents, which she rules, are almost as ca-
pricious as she; and ^{on which the ark of the For-} such is this World,
^{which is abroad} this ever-fluctuating map of Man-kind, from which
the Saviour of Sinners rescues all such as will
escape, from the bitter floods of sin, misery, and
Death! The mountains, moreover, which sport
in the seas, are types of the proud offspring, that

~~prey upon the poor & humble, & defenceless of the~~
~~Earth. When Job felt, that he could not wrestle~~
~~with his adversary, without Divine aid; he~~
~~expressed the helplessness of poor human nature,~~
~~"Canst thou draw out Leviathan with a hook!"~~
~~But, Pirates, as well as honest men, enter this~~
~~field; and it enhances the Reward of the~~
~~True and the Brave, who are sent to pursue~~
~~them in the swift ships. To enlist in the band,~~
~~requires courage and resolution for the voyage.~~
~~Provision must be made for the foe, as well as~~

stone can fail to observe, that
~~for the storm. Think not to be a mere passenger.~~
~~cherish your spirit for the work. You may have~~
~~smooth seas and bright sun, but, dark days will,~~
~~surely come.~~ Men are not all tried, in the same
way; nor are all equally affected, by the same
incidents. Sensibility, is quite as unequally dis-
tributed, as the intellectual endowments. Some
are so calm and self-possessed, that their souls
are never, obviously, stirred within them; having
stronger mind, perchance, or stouter spirit, than
others, less exempt from emotion. For such as

these, the Ocean is the proper field, to bring into
action, the ^{Religious} sensibilities, that slumber in them.
Few, doubtless, could be found, like Jonah, to
~~fall~~ in a sleep, while the wind were rocking
the vessel; ~~as a cradle~~, and the Breakers
were clamouring for their prey. ^{long} These men,
see the Works of the Lord & Wonders in the
Deep! As David tells us, ^(and the Poetry of the Bible is the P. of the Poet) "they mount up to heaven;
they go down again, to the depths; their soul
is melted in them because of trouble". They must
feel, that God holds the wind, in the hollow of His

Hand; and cry mightily, unto Him, to "bring them
out of their Distress." The words from Text, are
part of a sweet Psalm, in which David
sung of Eternal Mercy, and its Delights to
Redeemed Captives; to Travellers returned from
perilous journeys to their homes; its joys to
persons restored from sickness; and above all,
to such as are saved from Ship wreck. This,
was a just crown ^{for} to his Climate, No horrors
can compare with ^{those} which draw a lurid circle
around a struggling vessel, when both storm &

fire join their terrors, to show the ill-fated, the
hopelessness of their situation! In such moments,
memory is made active enough, to read, at
a glance, a whole life of wickedness! In some
sense, Heaven and Hell, are both opened to
them. Yet, even this woman, then, cling to the
Cross, with calmness and confidence, which
speak great things for the Faith, that the
whirl wind can not shake!

God unites His Teachings, to the circumstances
of His creatures; moving them, to confess His

unchanging purpose, of saving such as will trust
in the mercy of His Beloved Son. ~~"On that day we~~
~~praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His unceasing~~
~~work, to the Church of God!"~~ Such was the
Prasmiti, devout aspiration, on this occasion,
~~that he has such clear and satisfactory views~~
~~of the Divine Compassion. The Poetry of the~~
~~Bible, is, the Prayer of the penitent heart. We~~
~~cannot doubt the sincerity, of the song, which~~
~~found out this fullness of gratitude towards God~~
~~for His instant and all-pervading care.~~

the Doctrine, that we derive, is, that wherever
a field of Duty is opened for ^{His Rational Creatures;} ~~loss of the dark~~ ^{in meekness & submission;}
~~and~~ God will, that we shall read His Word ~~is~~
and pray to His Spirit, to increase our Faith. The
Holy Ghost will give us Power to make great
Efforts. Be it in peril, or in pain, we shall be
able to rescue an exposed fellow creature;
and to brighten the Hope of Glory, for the humblest
brother of our Race, though not gifted by the favour
of Fortune, nor ^{belonging} the honours of the Multitude. Special
Reward, await such as endure special Trials. The

words apply equally well, to other men, who, by various
paths, come out of great tribulation. Few ^{ever} encounter
severe hardships, than such as delve in mines,
where vapours, quick as powder, may blast them;
or the water drown, them & their treasures
together. Yet, few ^{men} are more cheerful, at their
toil, when their hearts are fixed on God; & their tongues
carol His Praise. They are not cheered by the
morning sun; but, the Glory of God, in the Person
of Jesus, shines as brightly, for the humble seeker
of Iron & Coal, as for him, who brings up

costly corals, and godly hearts.

Talk, not, then, of difficulties, and Dangers, in
any proper employment of man! The skill of the
Pilot is matured, mainly, by the Storm. He may
be the feeblest man on board; but the most
tranquil and Self=poised. Few persons, ^{indeed} condense
more meaning, in brief words, than these weather-
beaten veterans, who hold the ship's heart-strings,
in their hands; and, few have better feelings, in
their breast, when their grey hairs have come
by perils not unimproved. ~~We consider it, as~~

It is, then, a ^a
Privilege, and ^aDistinction, thus given to trainees, to
read God's Word, and to feel His admonitions, on the
troubled ocean, as well as in the trembling continent,
to hear His voice in louder thunder, and to mark
His hand in redder lightning; ^{when} ~~When Israel saw~~
~~the miracles of Moses, they cried, with one accord,~~
~~"all that the Lord hath spoke, we will do!"~~
~~What, then, should we hope to hear, for men whose~~
~~mouths have been full of cursing & blasphemy, &~~
~~who know, that their daily & hourly sins, have shape-~~
~~ened the brow of His wrath against them; who~~

nothing appear, above or around them, that they
can grasp, save the arm of the Almighty! It is strange,
that wicked men, in any line of life, can so
forget, that Death follows them; when the prin-
ce Earth is beneath their feet; but, that position,
so much nearer ^{to} sedition, as the planks are
thinner, between the two worlds, should not
make them confess their hardness of heart and
indifference! Slowness of belief, shows a higher grade of apathy!
One would think, that the young Sinner, who had
resisted the call to Penitence and Prayer, which

the training of the Church, and the pieties of Home, had
urged upon him; might be sent out upon the main,
with sanguine hopes, that the Spirit would, there,
shake his wayward inclinations; and win now ~~from~~
his affections from chaff; and store his mind and
heart, with the seed of all virtues & the earnest
of every excellence! True, God may blow upon
learning, & honour, & power, on land, as easily as
by the seas, but, here among the mountains and
valleys, we find so many refuges of lies, that we
do not realize the feebleness of our tenure!

It is not, that more wicked men, are to be seen in
a vessel, than in a fortress; but, that they must
be more sensible, that their lives are held by
one cord, in the hand of the Almighty. It may be
true, that no ship is sunk, because a monster
of iniquity is on board; but, Seamen are said
to have a superstitious feeling, when a man
of God is among them; from which, otherwise,
they are, comparatively, free! Nowhere, is the
division broad, between the pious, and the
impious. It is as at Korah, where, the Priest,

stood, with his censer, between the dying and the living.
His awful cry, is, "Depart from these wicked men! Touch
nothing of theirs; lest ye be consumed in all their sins!"
~~As wounds, that they come, under his glance,~~
~~while they wrestle against their convictions!~~ ~~They~~
~~will not submit to the striving, of the Spirit, but~~
~~struggle to escape, though it be the last warning!~~
One has been found, infatuated enough to buckle to his
breast, the very gold which sunk him to the
bottom! ~~rather than put on the armor of God, which~~
~~none can hope to wield in his own strength!~~ How

~~little does it matter, in such awful crises, whether we~~
~~be a beggar or a prince, a weaver of lace, or of rags,~~
~~a hero, whose warriors & state, men would honour with a~~
~~pompous burial, or a poor servant, whom a few~~
~~compassing friends would lay in the tomb without esta-~~
~~tation.~~ But we ask not, ~~wealth~~, for gems, nor gold,
from the Ocean; nor works of art, nor the more
beautiful products of nature; which, the briny
flow hides from human eyes! We seek more
precious memorials of God's Promises; the true &
brave, the lovely & the lost! We want manhood &

noble head, ^{*}and youth; bright lock, and beauty; flowery
Crown! For these, we hear a voice, above the loudest
roarings of the tide, "Restore the Dead, thou Sea!" Yes,
Brethren, He who said, to the Wars, "Peace, be still;"
will restore them, though the "battle = thunder"
cannot break their rest!" He will restore, the
Dead; and He will sustain the Living. He designs
that His Servants shall face Danger; or He would
not make the Sea tempestuous; nor shake the
land by Earthquake; nor spread the Globe, with
the ashes of volcanoes! We look on the Ocean,

and we think of Eternity! Its immensity; its ceaseless
reception of tribute from every part of Earth; the
stillness of its measureless abyss; and its exhaustless
supplies of living water, to plants, animals, & men;
all tell of the Care and Power, of Him, who
said, "Lay up Treasures in Heaven"; and, who Covenants,
by His own Blood, to bring again, from the Dead,
"the Treasures of the Deep!"

What more, can we urge, to induce hesitating
hearts, to throw themselves upon God's Mercy! What
more powerful notice, do you need, to add, ^{to your Eff.} the Exp.

science of those that go down to the Sea in Ships, to
you over! You must see the man, who has been saved
from shipwreck. You will, ^{then} need no proof, that his joy,
is both rational and real. It is a joy, that can be
unpuzzled, only by that of the Redeemed, who shall,
at the last, burst from their sepulchres, to be
clothed in Light! Why will you, close your eyes,
in sleep, another night, without partaking in
this "Joy and Peace in Believing!" You know, that
Sinners extend themselves on couches of ivory, in
health, at night; and the paleness of death, is

on their faces, in the morning! They lie down, in
the midst of God's bounties, unthankful; and are wrapped
in beds of flame before midnight! Even in their study
strength, in their watchful moments, they tread on
an insect, or a shell; and their steps are stopped,
when the foot of their pursuit is almost in their
grasp! ^{Sinners} ~~They~~ seem to ^{have} feel, that they have "made an
agreement with Death"; and they walk on, in
some indefinite expectation, that Repentance, & Faith,
and Holy Conversation, will secure their attention
at some future period! ^{We pray you, therefore, my Dear Sir,} ~~On this point, God has said,~~
not to postpone these duties, till the Dangers of the Deep, shall

come upon you, and find you unprepared! You must cultivate
His Spirit shall not always strive with ~~you~~;
a constant sense of your dependence on the Divine Mercy;
~~and we are only repeating to you, that to secure~~
a deep conviction of your own sinfulness in God's
Admonitions. Right; a warm belief in Heaven &
Hell; and a firm determination, by Faith in the Son
of God, to live wholly, righteously, & godly, ~~the rest~~
~~without~~ Without Faith, it is impossible to please God;
and without Repentance; the Holy Spirit will not dwell
in the heart of man, or sanctify his affections! You must
make up your mind, 'to bear the Cross, before me; and
Courage, and Patience, are needful, to meet both the
foes & the storms, that you must encounter, on the waves
of this troublesome world. Serve your spirit for the work.
You may have smooth seas & bright days; but, the dark
days will come, and no Light can be found to
comfort you, but the Word of our Salvation! God grant
you these holy hopes, and Spiritual Consolations, through
the merit of J. C. His Son our Jesus Lord!

* Geo: M. Bache, U. S. N.; one of the best men
I ever knew; was an honor to the Naval Profession;
whose crime, has been coupled by our Government,
with the Survey, of our Harbor and Bay. He was
as a brother to me, while he performed that
service, on our beautiful shores. His Remains,
are in the bitter flood. I need not tell the story
of the ill-fated Washington; but I know what I
speak; and feel what I mean, when I pray
God, that one so generous, gentle, and just,
may follow my body to its Tomb.

*The little birds, as they fly
over the water, have the sound of
chimes, and the sound of
the strings of an harp, and they
in a softer tone, which is
as sweet, as our beautiful voice. The
in the better of the world, and the
of the world, and the
and the world, and the
for that we are generous, gentle, and kind
and follow our path to the end.

