

YE LOVED ONES. (Sol. 6:1; 7:10 to 13)

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Ye Loved ones, whom the Lord did find  
Among the lowly of mankind, ~1 Cor.1:27,28  
    Increase your joy with praise and song;  
We're one year 'Nearer Home' today,  
    And we have heard our Loved one say, ~Matt.13:16  
    The journey will not be long. ~Matt.24:36

Perchance 'The Feet' are sometimes tired: ~Gal.6:9  
    The furnace may seem seven times fired, ~1 Pet.4:12  
    What then? He walketh at our side. ~2 Cor.9:8  
We know our Pattern went this way; ~1 Pet.2:21  
    We see his leading day by day,  
    And long for faith that has been tried. ~Jas.1:12

Why Yes! We're one year nearer 'home':  
    One less of wandering to roam.  
    The City Gates we almost see ~Luke 21:28,31  
And now for very joy we sing, ~Act.5:41; 2 Cor.11:2  
    As we behold our Glorious King; ~Heb.2:9; Rev.5:11 to 14  
    Our lovely Bridegroom soon to be ~Matt.25:10; Sol.5:10 to 16

But Oh! What rapture will it be  
    To hear him say to you and me, ~John 14:3  
    Come thou my Loved one to my breast. ~Sol.4:1 to 16  
No more ye'll wander sad or lone;  
    My Father's house shall be your own; ~Rom.8:17  
    This home is yours for aye possessed. ~1 Pet.1:4

Oh, will we then regret the way  
    Our Master led us day by day,  
    or think the polishing too hard? ~Heb.12:11  
When we recall the lump of clay, ~Isa.64:8  
    The mirery bed in which we lay; ~Ps.40:2  
    The praise is due to Christ our Lord. ~Phil.1:6; Ps.40:3 to 6

Today if aught your hearts should grieve,  
    His precious promises believe: ~2 Pet.1:4  
    Behold! What wonderous grace is given. ~1 John 3:1  
His invitation, Oh! How great; ~2 Thess.2:14  
    He calls us from our low estate ~2 Tim.1:9  
    To be the very Queen of Heaven. ~Ps.45:9; Rev.3:21

Does some one ask us why we sing,  
    And e'en amid earth's misery bring  
    Our hearts in such a joyful strain? ~Ps.27:6,14  
Ah! When the Lord his Bride hath taken,  
    Then Satan's kingdom shall be shaken, ~Rev.20:2  
    No more shall Death and Satan reign. ~Rev.20:14; Ps.37:9,10

The earth's redeemed may then return;  
    The willing ones he will not spurn; ~Isa.55:1  
    They shall find grace with God again. ~Heb.8:10 to 12  
And health and joy and peace and love, ~Jer.33:6  
    Will come in showers from above, ~Ezek.34:25 to 26  
    For the Bride and Bridegroom then shall reign. ~Rev.22:17

Thus they have one year less of pain:  
 One less to wander 'mid the stain  
 Of sin, with Death the headsman near. ~Rom.6:23  
 All prisoners soon shall be set free; ~Isa.61:1  
 We hail the Glorious Jubilee, ~Isa.52:7  
 When Christ shall cancel every tear. ~Isa.25:8

We'll greet each other then with cheer,  
 And pray for each a Glad New Year,  
 And may each bring forth much more fruit. ~John 15:8; 2 Cor.9:10  
 More like our blessed Lord and Head; ~Eph.5:27  
 That Self may be more nearly dead; ~Eph.4:15 to 16  
 So love shall take a deeper root. ~Eph.3:17

Then shall our joy in him increase,  
 For we may learn yet greater peace  
 Than all he hath already given. ~Phil.1:9  
 The love and joy we yet have seen,  
 Tho great, is but a taste I wean,  
 Of what's laid up for us in heaven. ~Eph.1:14  
 ~Eph 1:18; Col.1:5

What joy to us this Glad New Year:  
 Our gathering Home is drawing near,  
 We'll very soon be all at Home.  
 And if, perchance, this year shall see  
 The going Home of you or me,  
 We'll shout 'Deliverance has come'.

Or if his wisdom should decide,  
 'Twere best for us to still abide  
 Awhile amidst the fiery tests,  
 'Tis not for us to make reply: ~1 Pet.5:6  
 We made our covenant to die ~Rom.12:1; Ps.82:6,7  
 Just when and where he thinks it best. ~Ps.50:5

We know our Father knows what is best,  
 And praise him for this blessed rest,  
 So glad to know we KNOW his love. ~1 Cor 15:58  
 ~Heb.4:10,11  
 ~2 Tim.1:12  
 There's nought can harm us at his side: ~Ps.27:5  
 It is the 'Secret Place' to hide, ~Ps.91:1  
 Which neither heaven nor earth can move. ~Luke 21:33

And so in joy whate'er befall,  
 We wait to hear our Father's call,  
 To shout 'Deliverance has come.' ~Rom.8:28  
 ~Rom.8:23  
 ~Ps. 96 and 98  
 Our blessed estate we'll soon possess:  
 For each year passed doth leave one less.  
 We'll sing today, "We're nearing Home." ~Col.3:4, 16 & 17

~Heb.13:20,21

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With much love and greetings,  
 W.E. VanAmburgh.

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1901