

Inside the Gates.

"Oh, what do you think the angels say?"

Said the children up in heaven;

"There's a dear little girl coming home to-day,
She's almost ready to fly away

From the earth we used to live in;

Let's go and open the Gates of Pearl,
Open them wide for the new little girl,"

Said the children up in heaven.

"God wanted her here, where his little ones meet,"

Said the children up in heaven;

"She shall play with us in the golden street!

She had grown too fair, she had grown too sweet

For the earth we used to live in;

She needed the sunshine, this dear little girl,
That gilds this side of the Gates of Pearl,"

Said the children up in heaven.

"So the King called down from the angel's dome,"

Said the children up in heaven;

"My little darling, arise and come

To the place prepared in thy Father's home,

The dome that my children live in.

Let's go and watch at the Gates of Pearl,

Ready to welcome the new little girl,"

Said the children up in heaven.

"Far down on the earth do you hear them weep?"

Said the children up in heaven;

"For the dear little girl has gone to sleep!

The shadows fall and the night-clouds sweep

O'er the earth we used to live in;

But we'll go and open the Gates of Pearl!

Oh, why do they weep for their dear little girl?"

Said the children up in heaven.

"Fly with her quickly, O angels dear!"

Said the children up in heaven;

"See—she is coming! Look there! Look there!

At the jasper light on her sunny hair,

Where the veiling clouds are riven!

Ah—hush—hush—hush—all the swift wings furl!

For the King himself at the Gates of Pearl

Is taking her hand, dear, tired little girl,

And leading her into heaven."