

## GOD

The orthodox have held afar  
     Beyond man's ken the throne of God,  
     And timed approach thro' sundered sod  
 Alone, in faith's named Avatar.

In agonized travail of soul  
     To meet his Maker face to face  
     Man't trial, found in fear, must trace  
 His trammelled way to spirit's goal.

Such brief of error to maintain  
     Discharges life of half its joy,  
     And tricks of love's divine employ  
 The sweets of heaven's earthly reign.

God lives in essence, human souls  
     In Him find Lethean atmosphere  
     To sense the graces, stifle fear,  
 And seize upon ambition's tolls:

To grasp the wonder of the mite,  
     The miracle of blossom's fold,  
     And fearlessly of mind to hold  
 In loving awe the Infinite.

CHARLES SLOAN REID.

## IDOLATRY

God reigns! The attitude of mind  
    Outlines the Deity's strange form,  
The spirit of the raging wind,  
    Astride the lightnings of the storm,  
Within the golden orb of day,  
    The crescent moon's profile at night,  
Propitious light in moulded clay,  
    In stone gargoyle the vested might,  
The leaping flame of deathless fire,  
    The thund'ring cataract sublime,  
The crocodile in brackish mire,  
    A brazen calf the God-head's mime,  
The totem's secret, housed in faith,  
    That holds the worshipped being near,  
Ancestral urns, with 'prisoned wraith  
    The pledge of exaltation here,  
The crucifix, of Christian prayed,  
    Transfiguration's visioned scene,  
The unseen Trinity arrayed  
    In spheres beyond a star-meshed screen.  
Strange forms of nature, mind and art,  
    The gracious God is in them all,  
Projected from the faithful heart  
    Of devotee in humble thrall.

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