

*Shall We Meet*

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*Beyond The River?*

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BY H. L. HASTINGS,

EDITOR OF "THE CHRISTIAN."

[*Boston.*]

COMPLETE EDITION.

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WITH

A CATALOGUE OF BOOKS

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.



MULTÆ TERRICOLIS LINGUÆ, CŒLESTIBUS UNA.

BOSTON:

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## PUBLISHER'S NOTE.

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This little poem was written in New York about the year 1858, and sent in a letter to an only brother. A portion of it has been set to music several times, millions of copies of it have been printed, and it has been sung in every quarter of the globe.

In this edition the lines are given entire, and a list of books by the author is appended, for the benefit of those who may desire to read more from the same source.

A tune has been composed, with the original refrain—

“Shall we meet? Shall we meet?  
Say, Brother, shall we meet?”

for insertion in a forthcoming “Hymnal for the Churches of Christ;” in which it is also intended to insert numerous other hymns from the same pen.

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BY H. L. HASTINGS.

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Shall we meet beyond the river,  
Where the surges cease to roll?  
Where, in all the bright forever,  
Sorrow ne'er shall press the soul?  
Shall we meet with those departed,  
Who have bowed beneath death's wave?  
Shall we meet the holy myriads,  
Who are ransomed from the grave?  
Shall we meet in glory's morning,  
After time's dark, gloomy night?  
Shall we hail its radiant dawning,  
Scattering sorrow with its light?  
Shall we meet where all time's shadows  
To oblivion flee away?  
Shall we meet amid the brightness  
Of an everlasting day?  
Shall we meet with all the ransomed,  
When our pilgrimage is past?  
Shall we reach that blessed mansion  
We so long have sought, at last?  
Shall we meet beyond the desert,  
Far beyond the weary road?  
Shall we meet in joy immortal,  
Shall we in our flesh see God?  
Shall we meet in that blest harbor,  
When our stormy voyage is o'er?  
Shall we meet and cast the anchor,  
By the fair celestial shore?  
Shall we rest from all our labors  
'Mid the swelling of the tide?  
Shall we meet and rest forever,  
By our blessed Saviour's side?

Shall we meet in realms of glory,  
With the ransomed and the blest?  
Shall we meet with all the holy,  
When they enter into rest?  
Shall we meet with those whose brightness  
Shall the noonday sun outshine?  
Who shall bear the Saviour's likeness  
In its majesty divine?  
Shall we meet with many a loved one,  
That was torn from our embrace?  
Shall we listen to their voices,  
And behold them face to face?—  
All the cherished and the longed for,  
Those whose graves are moist with tears?  
Those whose absence made life weary  
Through the dark and tedious years?  
Shall we meet those buds of promise  
Blighted by death's chilling hand?  
Shall we see their fadeless beauty  
Blooming in the goodly land?  
Shall our hearts no more lie bleeding  
'Neath the strokes of sorrow's rod?  
Shall love's bands no more be sundered,  
In the paradise of God?  
Shall we meet with those invited  
To the marriage of the Lamb?  
Who shall then put on their glory,  
And forget their earthly shame?  
Shall we meet the shining myriads  
Who the songs of glory sing?  
Shall our voices join their praises  
To the everlasting King?  
Shall we meet with Christ our Saviour,  
When he comes to claim his own?  
Shall we know his blessed favor,  
And sit down upon his throne?  
Will he bid us share his glory,  
Where no shame shall ever be?  
Will he bid us sing his praises,  
On that radiant crystal sea?

Shall we meet the shining angels  
Who have guarded us while here?  
Shall we listen to their welcomes,  
And return their words of cheer?  
Shall we be their bright companions,  
Far beyond this land of tears?  
Shall we share their holy raptures  
Through the lapse of endless years?

Shall we meet in yonder city,  
Where the towers of crystal shine,  
Where the walls are all of jasper,  
Built by workmanship divine?  
Where the music of the ransomed  
Rolls in harmony around,  
And creation swells the chorus,  
With its sweet melodious sound?

Shall we meet by life's pure river,  
Where pellucid waters glide?  
Where the healing leaves and flowers  
Deck the shores on either side?  
Where salvation's blessed harpings  
Float in holy melody?  
Where the monthly fruits are ripening  
On life's fair immortal tree?

Shall we meet, oh! lonely pilgrim,  
When the burden we lay down?  
Shall we change our cross of anguish  
For the bright, unfading crown?  
Do we love our Lord's appearing?  
Shall we gladly see his face?  
Shall it beam with smiles of welcome?  
Shall he bring us endless grace?

Shall we meet, O weary wanderer,  
Say, O will you meet me there,  
When earth's glory shall be darkness,  
And its joy shall be despair?  
When before the throne of judgment  
We shall all together stand  
Will you pray and strive to meet me  
With the blest at Christ's right hand?

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