

Obedience

--By George Macdonald

I said -- "Let me walk in the fields."
He said -- "No, walk in the town."
I said -- "There are no flowers there."
He said -- "No flowers, but a crown."

I said -- "But the skies are dark;
There is nothing but noise and din."
And He wept as He sent me back--
"There is more," He said; "there is sin."

I said -- "But the air is thick,
And fogs are veiling the sun."
He answered, "Yet hearts are sick,
and souls in the dark undone."

I said -- "I shall miss the light
And friends will miss me, they say."
He answered, "Choose to-night
If I am to miss you, or they."

I pleaded for time to be given.
He said -- "Is it hard to decide?
It will not be hard in Heaven
To have followed the step of your guide."

I cast one look at the field,
Then set my face to the town;
He said -- "My child, do you yield?
Will you leave the flowers for the crown?"

Then into His hand went mine,
And into my heart came He,
And I walk in a light Divine
The path I had feared to see.

甘 願 順 服

賴若瀚譯

我說：「讓我走在田間吧！」
祂說：「不，要進城去。」
我說：「但那裡沒有花！」
祂說：「雖然沒有花，卻有冠冕。」

我說：「但那邊天際漆黑一片！
除了噪音與喧嘩之外，甚麼都沒有。」
祂泣嚙地差我去，
說：「還有！那裡充滿罪惡。」

我說：「但那裡空氣污濁，
瘴氣遮蔽日頭。」
祂說：「但他們心中的污穢更甚，
心靈昏暗無光。」

我說：「我將看不見光明，
朋友亦捨不得讓我離去！」
祂說：「你自己選擇吧，
是我更重要，還是他們？」

我求主多給我一點時間，
祂說：「是那麼難作決定嗎？
試想在天堂樂境裡，
要跟隨你的引路者，並不為難吧！」

我向田間一瞥，
又向城中觀望，
祂說：「我的好孩兒，你是否願意順服？
將艷麗的花捨下，為要得到冠冕？」

就在那時，我的手已放在祂的手中，
祂亦充滿我的心。
我在神聖的光中行走，
踏上畢生最怕踏上的征途。