

## "IN MEMORIUM"

Dreaming at eve, when the bright sunset glow  
Is gilding the clouds in the west.  
Dreaming of those gone before, yet we know  
They are safe in the arms of the blest.

Why dream and mourn for the friends that are gone,  
When we know they are free from all pain.  
Why not press on toward the goal they have won  
Hoping sometime to meet them again.

Jesus, Our Savior, has passed on before,  
To prepare His bright mansions above,  
For those who are worthy on reaching that shore,  
To abide in the arms of His love.

Ring the bell gently in memory of him  
Who on Christmas just four years past,  
Conceived the rebuilding of this little church  
As a place where the weary might rest.

Weeks, months and years he labored and prayed  
Amid many discouragements fancied and real.  
How much he suffered only God understood  
To have this old church look so pleasant and well.

Tenderly ring it in memory of him  
May its tones guide the erring ones here.  
To help to pursue the good work he began.  
And each and all find a welcome far and near.

Then let us strive, for the right let us stand  
That we sometime may hear His glad voice.  
And sometime may clasp those we love by the hand,  
And may all in His blessing rejoice.

How anxiously he yearned to establish his church  
And to gather the flock to his Father's fold;  
But his work was cut short, he was called from his watch  
To receive his reward at the throne of his God.

Nobly he labored, heroic he tended  
Knowing the cause he plead for was good  
And when his unceasing labors were ended  
Blessed memorial - he hath done what he could.

Ring the bell gently in memory of her  
Who in life was the first to suggest

*This was sent to me, to be recited at a concert when the chandelier, for which I was then soliciting funds, should be lighted for the first time, in the Old Union Meeting House.*

*The bell arrived at S. W. Harbor, Dec. 3, 1898 and at the Union Meeting House, Dec. 7 and placed in position in belfry Dec. 8, 1898 and was rung at midnight (12 PM) by request of Mr. A.C. Wheelwright [Andrew Cunningham Wheelwright] and rang for the first religious service on Sunday Dec., 11, 1898.*

*-Rev. C. N. Davie, pastor of the church, 1897 - 1904*

*The Book of Remembrance  
Congregational Church  
Cranberry Isles, Maine  
Transcribed by Sarah Newell, summer 2000*

*him probably refers to Rev. Charles Elliott Harwood, who was instrumental in reviving the church after it had lain dormant for almost 30 years. He died suddenly in March 1897. Rev. Davie replaced him.*

*her probably refers to Abigail C. Preble, President of the Cranberry Isles Mutual Improvement and Benevolent Society in the 1860s; she was most likely the leader of the fund drive that first built the church.*

*The chandelier in question was apparently taken down when electric lighting was installed in the church. Currently there are six electric fans, each with an electric light fixture beneath, and no sign of a chandelier.*

*--BK*

The building of this little church long ago,  
For a place where the weary find rest.

Tenderly light it, in memory of one  
May it shine as a bright beacon given,  
To help us pursue the good work she began  
And to point us the way to heaven.

Nobly she labored heroic she tended  
Knowing the course that she plead for was good,  
And when her unceasing labors were ended  
Blessed memorial - "She hath done what she could."

If we, her noble example would follow,  
In the good work that she left for us here,  
We must labor today - not wait for the morrow  
Cheered by the light of this new chandelier.