

PARTING HAND. L.M.

"But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another." -- 1 Thes. 4:9.

G Major John Blain, 1818.

Arr. - William Walker, 1835.

1. My Christian friends, in bonds of love, whose hearts in sweetest union join,
Your friendship's like a drawing band, yet we must take the parting hand. Your com-p'ny's sweet, your union dear; Your words de-light-ful to my ear, Yet

2. How sweet the hours have passed a-way since we have met to sing and pray. O could I stay with friends so kind, How would it cheer my drooping mind! But
How loath we are to leave the place where Je-sus shows His smil-ing face.

3. And since it is God's holy will,
We must be parted for a while,
In sweet submission, all as one,
We'll say, our Father's will be done.

My youthful friends, in Christian ties,
Who seek for mansions in the skies,
Fight on, we'll gain that happy shore,
Where parting will be known no more.

4. How oft I've seen your flowing tears,
And heard you tell your hopes and fears!
Your hearts with love were seen to flame,
Which makes me hope we'll meet again.

Ye mourning souls, lift up your eyes
To glorious mansions in the skies;
O trust His grace -- in Canaan's land
We'll no more take the parting hand.

5. And now my friends, both old and young,
I hope in Christ you'll still go on;
And if on earth we meet no more,
O may we meet on Canaan's shore.

I hope you'll all remember me
If on earth no more I see;
An interest in your prayers I crave,
That we meet beyond the grave.

6. O glorious day! O blessed hope!
My soul leaps forward at the thought
When, on that happy, happy land,
We'll no more take the parting hand.

But with our blessed holy Lord
We'll shout and sing with one accord,
And there we'll all with Jesus dwell,
So, loving Christians, fare you well.

when I see that we must part, You draw like cords around my heart.

du - ty makes me un-der-stand That we must take the part - ing hand.