



I am a poor wayfaring stranger  
A-trav'ling through this world of woe.  
But there's no sickness, toil or danger  
In that bright world to which I go.  
I'm going home to see my father  
I'm going there no more to roam;  
I'm just a-going over Jordan  
I'm just a-going over home.

I know dark clouds will gather 'round me  
I know my way is rough and steep;  
But beauteous fields lie just beyond me  
Where souls redeemed their vigil keep.  
I'm going there to meet my mother  
She said she'd meet me when I come  
I'm just a-going over Jordan  
I'm just a-going over home.

I want to wear a crown of glory  
When I get home to that bright land  
I want to shout Salvation's story  
In concert with that bloodwashed band.  
I'm going there to meet my Saviour  
To sing His praises forevermore  
I'm only going over Jordan  
I'm only going over home.

Charles Davis Tillman was responsible for publicizing the lyrics of “I Am a Poor Wayfaring Stranger” from Bever's *Christian Songster* (1858) together with two additional stanzas from Taylor's *Revival Hymns & Plantation Melodies* (1882) and popularizing the combination with the minor key tune of various African American and Appalachian nuance. The combination is so hauntingly striking and memorable that the tune itself has been widely recognized as POOR WAYFARING STRANGER or just WAYFARING STRANGER ever since Tillman spread it beyond the *Sacred Harp* tradition in his *Revival* songbook of 1891.