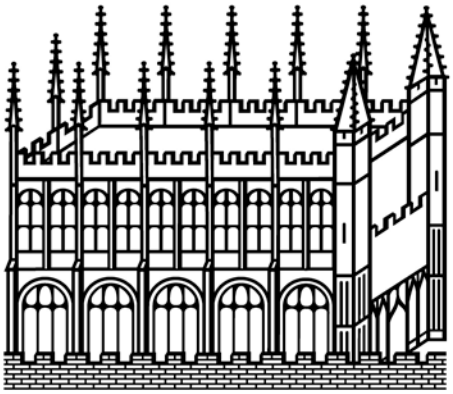


Bodleian Libraries

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

This book is part of the collection held by the Bodleian Libraries and scanned by Google, Inc. for the Google Books Library Project.

For more information see:

http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/dbooks



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 2.0 UK: England & Wales (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0) licence.

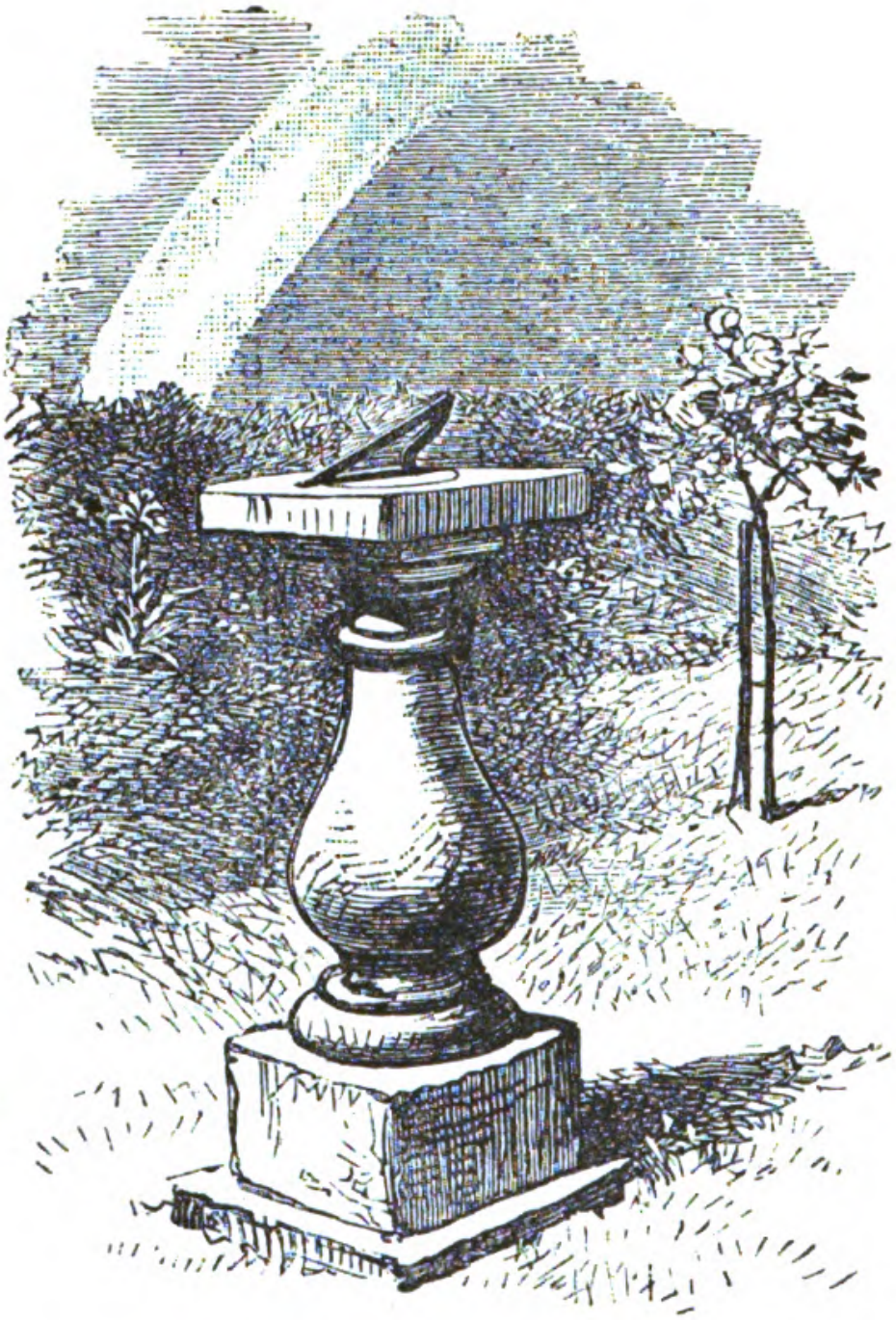
Golden Wishes for Every Day in the Year

By George Wells





Union P. 2658



Golden Wishes

BY

GEORGE WELLS

DEDICATED, WITH THE AUTHOR'S ESTEEM
TO EDWIN HODDER, ESQ.

A BOOK FOR THE AUTOGRAPHS OF FRIENDS
AND A RECORD OF THEIR BIRTHDAYS
WITH A LOVING WISH OR THOUGHT
FOR EACH DAY IN THE YEAR

LONDON
FREDERICK WARNE AND CO.
BEDFORD STREET, STRAND
NEW YORK: 20, LAFAYETTE PLACE
1885

3 5 3 . 9 . 6 .



LONDON:--PRINTED BY EDMUND EVANS,
RACQUET COURT, FLEET STREET.

LINES IN A BIRTHDAY BOOK.

"OUR friends!" There lives a potent spell
In this loved phrase on which we dwell!
It summons up the tender Past
In mem'ries never overcast!
From gentle childhood, through our youth:
Through prime and age—in love and truth
Our friends have ever brought us joy
Amid the shades of Life's alloy!
In childhood oft the ready tear
Was dried by loving hands, while fear
Gave place to trustful, happy smile,
Before sweet efforts to beguile.
Have we not known in youthful days
Dear friends who gave judicious praise
And sympathy to urge us on
When courage waned, or strength was gone
In some hard task, or noble dream
Inspired by Heaven's golden beam?
Close friends, with whom we mingled oft,
The waves of Memory will waft
Before our sight and loving ken,
By a few scratches of the pen,
Inscribing names, still ever dear
Day after day, year after year;
And so on, through Life's ev'ry phase,
We find some friend of other days!—

Some hands that wrote now chilled may be
In Death's mystic solemnity?
But still we see bright eyes once more,
And hear sweet voices as of yore!
Some may have sailed to distant lands,
And ne'er again will clasp our hands—
Yet shall our souls communicate,
And meet again at Heaven's gate!
Still Heav'n be thanked some friends are nigh
To solace, when in grief we sigh,
Or share our gladsomeness and mirth!
Oh, may we recognise their worth,
And never cause a moment's pain
To those loved ones who yet remain!

GEORGE WELLS.

January 1.

THE old, old year into the Past hath gone:
The smiling Future beckons kindly on:
For Heaven's gracious guidance ever pray,
And God will aid thy steps in Life's rough way.
Till years are merged in One Eternal Day,
And thou the Victory o'er Time hast won!

January 2.

THE mem'ries of departed years are fraught with joy and woe;
The mystic Future's journey it is not our lot to know;
O may you tread a pleasant path adorned with Love's sweet flow'rs,
That Mem'ry may record a Past replete with golden hours!

January 3.

AS joy-bells herald the glad New Year,
We smile while shedding a ling'ring tear
O'er the old year passed away!
O may Love ring in your heart a chime
Of peaceful sweetness throughout all time—
Ev'ry sorrow to allay!

January 4.

THE hoary head of the old year hath disappeared:
His pleasant looks his cheerful features have endeared:
Yet may his younger frère a smile still sweeter wear,
And show himself to thee a truly Happy Year!

January 5.

THE winter remains, and the wind chilling blows,
Yet kind summer may reign in thy heart
If Life its bright radiance for thee will disclose,
And the joys of true friendship impart!

January 6.

THOUGH in the dark and sombre days
The mists obscure the sun's bright rays,
And happy hours seem ever fled:
Think not the sweet spring days are dead!
Those vernal joys will all revive
And happiness again shall live.

January 7.

GLAD is Youth's journey through Life's pleasant vale,
Steps never falter and pow'rs never fail.
Yet thou must toil up the mountain-side steep,
Ere on the summit Heaven's joys thou canst reap!
Mayst thou accomplish with ease the ascent,
Threading Life's perils without accident!

January 8.

LIKE some clear rill thy years go rippling by,
And, as the sun shines, light and shadow play,
And the rill smiles, or dons a sombre grey—
As joys and griefs bring laughter or a sigh
Unto thy heart! O may the shade of gloom
But seldom hide the sunbeams that illume!

January 9.

THE years steal on, and fade as shadows flee!
Gone—never more will they return to thee!
Yet still 'tis thine to live the present well,
And with sweet hope on future days to dwell:
Mayst thou look onward, quietly content,
Using aright the blessings Heav'n hath sent!

January 10.

TIME has marched another round,
Leaving us his smiles and tears.
May the smiles for thee abound
In the tale of future years,
Till in thee we gladly trace
Joy's reflex, and Love's sweet grace!

January 11.

SWIFT as the sunshine skims the dial's face
Speed the brief days of man's allotted race—
Clouds interrupt the record of the hours;
Oft the time-plate is wet with passing show'rs.
May but few shadows hang o'er thee their pall,
And all thy tears be dried ere they can fall!

January 12.

SHOULD dark misfortune on thee frown,
And cares oppress thy soul,
O may thy spirit ne'er break down,
But, with a sweet control,
May Love thy saddened thoughts beguile,
Till thou once more canst gladly smile!

January 13.

THOUGH wrecked by Life's uncertain Tide
Ne'er mayst thou, like a stranded shell,
Be left ashore, but may Heav'n guide
A helping hand to thee, and quell
The boist'rous waves, when once again
Thou mayst embark upon the Main!

January 14.

MORE closely than the ivy clings,
May friends e'er cleave to thee;
And purer than earth's deepest springs
May their allegiance be!
Their love shall be a sweet convoy
To thee, through Life's grief, toil, and joy!

January 15.

STRIVE on till good and worthy deeds
Make thy life's course a glorious way!
Sow well and wisely perfect seeds
That will bear fruit some future day:
Choose carefully congenial soil—
The harvest shall repay thy toil!

January 16.

IF thou perchance hast marched in barren ways
And on the desert thou art wont to gaze,
Look forward ! see ! sweet springs and verdure smile !
A few more steps—'tis but a little while !—
And thou, poor pilgrim, faint with toil, oppressed,
On fresh greensward thy wearied limbs shalt rest !

January 17.

INCESSANT rolls the year around
In smooth and silent groove ;
May all your days with joy be crowned
As through the world you move !
That as the seasons change and flee,
Each one may bring felicity !

January 18.

WAYST thou be temperate in youth
And e'er uphold the glorious Truth :
As years flow on be kind and just—
By love ward off each foeman's thrust !
In age be generous, patient, wise,
Till Life dawns bright beyond the skies !

January 19.

NE'ER be ashamed when blushes tinge thy cheek:
Sweet Virtue's self thus silently would speak !
O may her pure complexion e'er be thine,
And truth within thine eyes translucent shine !
The surest ways to earthly happiness
Are those that kindly Heaven deigns to bless !

January 20.

NE'ER may you be to Nature blind,
But may her beauties all unfold
For you! May all your friends be kind
And faithful! May you ever hold
A perfect trust and faith in Heav'n:—
Thus shall true joy on earth be giv'n!

January 21.

WHAT though rude Boreas doth blow
With icy breath? His strength must fail
And gentle zephyrs, soft and low,
Shall then caress the wearied vale:
So all thy grief and woe at length must die,
And smiling Peace shall lure away each sigh!

January 22.

WAYST thou have wisdom to aspire
To nought that hangs beyond thy reach;
But may each moderate desire
Be satisfied! Let Patience teach
Her axiom, "Be slow and sure,"
And thou thine object shalt secure!

January 23.

WAY flow'rs of sweet contentment, peace,
And virtue shed a choice perfume
About thee ever! Thus Life's gloom
Shall fade away, while griefs shall cease
To weigh thy spirit down! Each woe
Shall seem to fall with lighter blow!

January 24.

THOUGH Winter still enthrals the earth,
And Nature sleeps, the Spring's glad birth
Shall crown with beauty wood and hill;
Then may a grateful feeling thrill
Thy heart, and lead thy feet to Heav'n,
Where ever-vernal joys are giv'n!

January 25.

FROM year to year 'tis but a bound
That fleet-limbed Time takes lightly:
Hope ardent lives till age hath crowned
The life that dawned so brightly:
May age bring thee a sweet content—
A retrospect of days well spent!

January 26.

BE grateful if one streak of light
Illumes the clouds o'erhead,
For 'tis a promise that the night
Of woe will soon be dead!
And gloriously the morning's beam
Will shed o'er thee its golden gleam!

January 27.

THY steps the great Creator still will lead:
On ev'ry side His angels will attend!
When in Life's devious pathways thou shalt tread,
Sweet visions may thy Father to thee send!
Yon gilded skies foreshade a brighter Heav'n,
When blissful joys shall to thy soul be giv'n!

January 28.

ANOTHER point toward Heav'n's supernal goal,
Unto that mystic, blissful, radiant bourn,
Near realms on which the sun shall never dawn
Thou hast approached! The Land where reigns the soul!
May ev'ry future step upon the way
Far clearer make the Light of Heaven's Ray!

January 29.

THE years speed swiftly by;
May each upon its way
Bring blessings from on High,
Illumed by Love's clear ray,
Till birthdays dawn for thee no more
And bliss is thine on Heav'n's bright shore!

January 30.

MAY Heav'n ever guide thee
Throughout earthly life,
And, watchful beside thee,
Preserve thee from strife,
Till Time for thee shall pass away
In Heav'n's refulgent, glorious Day!

January 31.

MAY ev'ry birthday sweetly bring,
A thousand proofs of love;
A pure and perfect crystal spring
Of bliss from Heav'n above!

February 1.

I BREATHE the fond wish that Life's azure sky
May cloudless appear wherever thou art !
May Heav'n e'er protect thee and seem ever nigh,
Until from its temple thy soul shall depart !

February 2.

MAY holiness and peace e'er thy soul bless,
And Fortune smile on thee with soft caress !
May many virtues form for thee a crown !
Ne'er may thy heart with grief be long cast down !
Thus ev'ry day the sun will shine awhile
Thine earthly journey sweetly to beguile !

February 3.

ON firm foundations mayst thou ever build !
With prudent forethought may thy mind be filled,
To plan thy noble works and to complete
Each edifice, that no defect may meet
The eagle eye of Heaven's enemies,
Who watchful wait on smallest faults to seize !

February 4.

THE truest joy upon the earth,
The jewel rare of priceless worth,
Is foretaste of the Heav'nly bliss!
And this, the heart's best happiness,
I wish for thee till life mundane
Shall end in Heav'n's triumphant reign!

February 5.

WHEN darksome clouds the heavens' beauty hide,
And frenzied tempests threat'ning round thee roar,
May Heav'n a pilot send to thee, to guide
Thy barque in safety to the friendly shore!
May Hope's fair star shine out, and vigil keep,
Till thou hast crossed the dang'rous foaming deep!

February 6.

GUARD well thy heart, for great temptations come
Eager to make a virtuous spirit roam
In devious ways! The father of all guile
Leads souls astray, with grim triumphant smile!
Uplift thine eyes, upon the guide-posts look!—
To shun the snares, consult God's Holy Book!

February 7.

THOUGH wishing thee all wealth, the mortal's best estate
Is opportunity and time! Ne'er over-rate
The precious number of the hours that may be thine!
Waste not a moment brief, while yet the sunbeams shine,
For darkness swiftly comes to hang its murky pall!
So haste thee, end thy toil ere Night's first shadows fall!

February 8.

MAYST thou control the passions of thy breast;
Drive them by force—they may not be caressed:
Keep firm thy grasp: to watch them never cease,
And thou shalt know repose and sweetest peace
In after days! Like some fair rivulet
Thy life shall flow till thy last sun hath set!

February 9.

SAFE in the vale thy Father hath led thee—
May He protect thee ascending the height!
Mayst thou each day His Light overhead see,
And 'mid the gloom round the pathway at night!
Each year thou'rt nearer Heav'n's vernal plateau,
Where the sweet waters of Life freely flow!

February 10.

INCLEMENT blows the wintry wind,
Yet may Love's summer fill thy breast
With genial warmth, while actions kind
Cheer thee like zephyrs from the west!
O mayst thou never lack a friend
Till earthly life and friendships end!

February 11.

ONWARD, onward, backward never!
Let this aye thy motto be.
Upward soaring, let endeavour
From earth's fetters set thee free!
Till to life a tinge is giv'n
Of perfection born of Heav'n!

February 12.

THE richest jewel of existence—peace—
Will Heav'n on thee in bounteousness bestow,
If thou wilt from th' antic pation cease
Of evil that may ne'er its shadow throw!
Imaginary ill will like a spectre creep
To curse thy wakeful hours, and haunt thy sleep!

February 13.

MAY love be with thee ev'rywhere
Through light or gloomy shade!
Its joys shall wean thee from despair
When woe thy heart hath frayed.
It maketh ev'ry burden light,
And ev'ry dark'ning shadow bright!

February 14.

MAY Heav'n ordain that thou shalt keep
Tender thy heart, in Life's rough way,
Although clouds fall and wild storms sweep
Thou shalt preserve thy youth, though grey
Old age light spreads its silver sheen -
Thy brow shall ever look serene !

February 15.

MAY worry never take a hold on thee ;
For, like a worm that steals the rose's heart,
Its many-pointed fangs with cruel smart
Shall gnaw thy soul till Life accursed shall be !
May health and joy preserve and animate,
And free thee from each brooding sorrow's weight !

February 16.

LIFE'S pain and wrong are hard to bear,
But Heav'n will e'er the burden share :
God will not let thy shadowed days
Pass unillumed by some bright rays ;
And He will change thy gloomy night
To Heav'n's refulgent, lasting Light !

February 17.

MAY future days like fresh and verdant aisles
Of woodland ever to thy heart appear,
That when thy present life seems parched and sere,
Thou mayst look forward to those vernal smiles
Inviting thee to rest thy wearied feet,
And quaff Hope's nectar in the cool retreat !

February 18.

AS restless as the ocean tide,
In measured even flow,
The years move on with stately stride:
Our birthdays come and go!
May thine, returning yet again,
Bring joy and gladness in its train!

February 19.

THY birthday returneth again;
May peace in thy heart ever reign!
May thy life's azure sky
As each year rolleth by
Pleasant augury ever contain!

February 20.

TRUE blessings may thy birthday bring,
And Love's sweet flow'rs around thee cling!
Thy friends this wish are echoing—
God bless thy Natal Day!

February 21.

THE flaky snow a white shroud casts
Upon the earth, and cutting blasts
Benumb, e'en as Affliction's wind
And icy mantle chill the mind:
But, as beneath the sun the snow fast melts away,
May all thy griefs dissolve before Hope's cheering ray!

February 22.

ALL happiness be thine upon this day,
And through the years to come! Mayst thou alway
Remember that each day is one more page
Of thy life's history! From youth to age
May no dark blot sully the record fair,
That thou mayst gladly scan it year by year!

February 23.

VIRTUE is a path which never deviates,
Leading to sweet peace and Heaven's smiling gates:
Garments of pure white, and Honour's priceless crown
Ev'ry virtuous pilgrim soon may make his own!
In this gladsome way, O, may thy feet be led!—
Angels by thy side the hallowed path will tread!

February 24.

SO keen and bright the frosty day
Exhilarates and cheers the heart!
Be this glad tone with thee alway,
And health its blessèd joy impart!
May wrinkles never find a place
Of rest upon thy placid face!

February 25.

DARK is the night, yet countless starry eyes
Watch over thee, from yonder azure skies!
Far, far beyond, unseen by mortal sight,
Heav'n's glorious rays stream out into the night.
Think thou on this, and know One Eye can see
Thee, child of Heav'n! Thy Father guardeth thee!

February 26.

MAYST thou each fault swiftly discern :
To promptly overcome it learn :
To probity ever adhere,
And in all good to persevere !
Thus earthly life shall thee prepare
For Heav'n's existence, pure and fair !

February 27.

BE thine the sweet affection of the poor,
While richer men regard thee with respect !
May all assaults of hate 'gainst thee be checked
And overthrown by friendly smiles ! The door
Of men's hearts shall by love and kindness open wide,
When ruder means to win them have in vain been tried !

February 28.

MAY Heav'n endue thee with a wise desire
For good and holy living ! May the fire
Of earthly passions ne'er lead thee astray,
But die out slowly on thy Heav'nward way !
Then shall thy happiness through life increase,
And thou shalt breathe an atmosphere of peace !

February 29.

THE morn of Life may dull and clouded be ;
Cold mists and vapours may weigh heavily ;
But know the Sun is striving with warm ray
To clear the air, and chase the damps away !
Throughout the day may many hours be bright,
And when Night falls may Heav'n give thee its Light !

March 1.

MAY good thoughts ever you attend
As through Life's devious paths you wend
Your peaceful way; and may sweet love,
Both from dear friends and Heav'n above,
Bring joy unto your heart and soul,
And make the glad years swiftly roll!

March 2.

IF it perchance should be thy lot
To meet Affliction's glances stern,
May gladness to thy heart return,
And all past sorrows be forgot;
That nought may cloud thy present day,
Nor dim the Future's dawning ray!

March 3.

YOUTH is a journey of joy through a vale
Ending where mountains frown dark on the way—
Boldly ascend, and if strength in thee fail,
Angels shall bear thee to Heav'n's glorious Day!
Yet, if thou faint not, with age thou shalt gain
Safely the summit where ends earthly pain!

March 4.

AMID this Life's e'er-changing scene
May ev'ry friend on whom you lean
Prove worthy of the sacred trust !
Ne'er may you feel a foeman's thrust—
Be it the sting of tongue or sword—
And peace shall be your heart's reward !

March 5.

THY barque has been launched on the wide, trackless sea
Of this Life, with its pleasures and pain !
I pray that no storm-clouds may hover o'er thee,
That thy barque may ride safe o'er the main !
May Heav'n ever bless thee, and be thy true guide
Till safe in the Haven at length thou shalt ride !

March 6.

PUSH on, though obstacles thy course impede,
Thou shalt with patience gain the precious meed !
Heav'n will all righteous effort ever bless,
And help thee onward to the goal, Success !
Or if on earth thou shalt strive but in vain,
In worldly loss thou shalt Heav'n's treasures gain !

March 7.

ON Nature gladly gaze around
Ere wak'ning Spring the woods hath crowned
With budding leaf ! Soon birds will sing
To greet the birth of joyous Spring !
Mayst thou through life the Spring-light see
Whene'er Grief's Winter visits thee !

March 8.

WOULDST thou, when round thee misery is rife,
Desire a shield of callousness? Nay, Life
Is but a school, and thou shouldst ever strive
To keep the heart's benevolence alive!
For oft the path to Heav'n and true contentment leads
Through sympathy with some poor mourner's woes and needs!

March 9.

THROUGHOUT earthly life may sweet flow'rs of Love spring
All around thee, and blessings outpour,
Till God in His Love bids thy spirit to wing
Its glad flight to the bright Heav'nly shore!

March 10.

ONE more year of Life is yours;
May your woes like vernal show'rs
Brighter make your sunny days,
Till entranced on Heav'n you gaze!

March 11.

IF Life should bring thee griefs to bear,
Remember others daily share
The crosses that Heav'n sendeth down;
And thou, too, canst obtain the crown
Held forth to each, as the reward
Of vict'ries won without the sword!

March 12.

MAYST thou all promises fulfil:
May rectitude its laws instil
Into men's hearts, that they may keep
Their vows to thee, that thou mayst reap
The fruit of faith ne'er pledged in vain,
And truth unsullied by a stain!

March 13.

EACH day may ev'ry act of thine
Enhance thy soul's bright purity,
Till lustrous with a light Divine
Men may a guileless spirit see—
Transparent, like some polished gem,
Whose crystal beauty ne'er grows dim!

March 14.

MAY Heav'n e'er give thee wisdom so to tread
Life's varied vale, that thou mayst take due warning
From falt'ring and false steps of those ahead,
Who walk in Sin's dark snares! Their bitter mourning
Oft vainly rises! Yet our God is kind;
And souls repentant will swift succour find!

March 15.

IF sometimes shadows fall on thee,
Let ev'ry birthday call to mind
That Heav'nly Land, where thou wilt find
A home in which no cloud can be;
Where shines that Light with Ray supreme,
With universal, shadeless gleam!

March 16.

THINK well on ev'ry purpose ere you act !
Lest by a vain regret your heart be racked
For deeds of folly which your peace destroy,
And e'en the joys of loved ones can alloy !
Your friends and kin take part in your disgrace,
Or share the honour of your well-won race !

March 17.

HEARTS will glow in exultation
For another year begun :
May earth's clouds of tribulation
Ne'er obscure the Heav'nly Sun !
May you all bygone woes forget !
May future days ne'er bring regret !

March 18.

LOVE'S guardian angels watch o'er thee
Through gloomy night or smiling day !
That thou mayst know true sympathy
Is thine when Life seems dull and grey,
To cheer thee when misfortunes frown,
And raise thy spirit when cast down !

March 19.

IF fierce head winds thy barque assail,
Take courage, never turn and flee !—
As sailors utilize the gale,
Life's winds can be employed by thee
To waft thee safely o'er the main,
The port of Peace at last to gain !

March 20.

IN mossy dells, near brooks that softly flow,
Our wearied limbs oft on the sward we throw;
And our fatigue is for the time forgot:
O may the heart, in some sweet friendship, find
A resting place, a peaceful hallowed spot,
Freed from the world, and all its cares that bind!

March 21.

LIFE'S pleasure must have certain cost—
Oft so much gained is so much lost;
So let thy prayer ascend to Heav'n,
That wise discernment may be giv'n,
That thou mayst pure, sweet joys select,
And tastes depraved may swift be checked!

March 22.

MAY you journey safe from strife,
Ever free from earthly care,
Till you gain Eternal Life,
And in Heav'n's bright glory share!

March 23.

BE this thy thought of joy and pain
Amid Life's gloom or gladsome ray—
That Heaven never sends in vain
Its messengers! Thou canst not say
That cross or shadow came for nought—
That joys have not Heav'n's purpose wrought!

March 24.

STRUGGLE forward, ever move
Onward, dangers new to prove!
Mark the pitfalls in the vale;
Mountain steeps boldly assail;
For Heav'n above, beyond the starry sphere,
Holds the reward for souls who persevere!

March 25.

THE first spring buds burst forth in flow'r,
While sunshine gilds each joyous hour,
Exhilarating heart and soul:
May thy face bloom with happy smile,
That shall the cares of earth beguile
While sorrows yield to thy control!

March 26.

MAY Life be a valley of pleasure to thee
Bright skirted with golden hills,
And watered by pure and pellucid rills,
That sparkle and laugh merrily
Through groves where the nightingale happily trills
His sweet song in a glad ecstasy!

March 27.

LOOK back on Life's eventful page
And scan the griefs and pleasures gone;
The many battles lost and won;
The calm's sweet peace, the storm's wild rage!
Then live your future life anew,
And let the Past e'er counsel you!

March 28.

FAIR, clear and bright, the azure skies
Smile as they see the morn arise,
Commemorating the glad day
That gave thee birth! As bright alway
Be ev'ry future year of life—
Replete with joy, and free from strife!

March 29.

HE who will never strive, will never win!
The spirit, if it dormant lies within,
Must sink into a deathly lassitude;
The soul must starve without its proper food!
Rouse then thy faculties e'er they decay!
March thro' the world and none shall say thee nay!

March 30.

KIND Nature brings her vernal dress
To clothe the earth in loveliness,
With joy thy heart to fill!
O may Heav'n's beam illume alway,
In future days, bright, black, or grey,
Dispersing ev'ry ill!

March 31.

ENDEAVOUR e'er thy soul to train
To bear the pang of this world's pain;
Be ever grateful for one ray
That helps to chase Night's gloom away.
Then if the heav'ns perchance bright floods of light reveal
A deep transcendent joy shall o'er thy spirit steal!

April 1.

MYSTIC voices, o'er the wave,
Sound in peace or while storms rave ;
Some are sweet and some are sad,
As thy heart is grieved or glad !
May they speak of peace to thee
As they murmur o'er the sea !

April 2.

MAY flow'rs of love thy path adorn
And fragrant blossom round thy feet,
That when the way grows dark or worn
Their odours may in sweetness greet,
And turn thy thoughts from ev'ry pain,
Till peace shall in thy bosom reign !

April 3.

A YEAR of hope its race hath run,
And who can tell what is in store ?
O may that Light beyond the Sun
Into thy heart its Glory pour,
Illuming with a gentle pow'r,
And making blissful ev'ry hour !

April 4.

MAY ev'ry joy be thine,
And Friendship's sun e'er shine
On thee, I pray ;
May Love illume thy heart
Through Life where'er thou art,
And cheer alway !

April 5.

ANOTHER year hath sped its flight ;
May this one bring thee gladness !
May all thy days be fair and bright,
Undimmed by clouds of sadness !

April 6.

AS through the world you wend your way,
If into devious paths you stray,
Unto your Heav'nly Father cry,
And He will haste to make reply !
O may He ev'ry roughness smoothe
And sweetly all your sorrows soothe !

April 7.

I WILL not forget thee though scenes may change
As years roll on in Life's wide range !
Though fail other friendships, thy name shall still
With pleasant thoughts my mem'ry fill ;
Where'er thou art, whate'er thy lot,
One friend, at least, forgets thee not !

April 8.

LOVE'S fragrant rose shall bloom,
Diffusing incense sweet
To cheer thee through the gloom
That thou must sometimes meet;
Until with Light the path appears
To shine, throughout the coming years!

April 9.

AS gentle ivies upward spring,
In soft caresses round the tree,
May tender virtues rise and cling,
And shed their beauty over thee,
Till, with a lovable sweet grace,
Heav'n's halo shines around thy face!

April 10.

THE Spring's sweet breath blows once again,
Refreshing after Winter's reign;
As bursts in flow'r the violet blue
Reflecting Heav'n's cerulean hue,
Thy soul shall dream of that bright shore
Where Spring shall reign for evermore!

April 11.

ANOTHER year has flown from view,
The new one bright uncloses;
As Life speeds on may thorns be few
About thy path of roses!

April 12.

THE fair blue sky peeps through the pines,
And, through the arched way, brightly shines
The golden sun's warm rays!
O may Love's beam thy life illume
Through seasons of Affliction's gloom,
And cheer thy heart always!

April 13.

TIME speeds forth on rapid wing
Bringing change to ev'rything;
May his flight give joy to thee!
May each year still happier be!
Till dawns for thee the living Day
That ne'er in Night shall fade away!

April 14.

ANOTHER year its course has run;
'Twill in thy life be seen no more.
In hope a new one has begun,
To bring thee nearer Heaven's shore!
When the appointed tale is told,
O mayst thou that bright country see,
Where all is fresh and nought is old,
And bliss shall reign eternally!

April 15.

HAPPY may thy birthday be,
And each hour on earth be bright!
May thy life's dark shadows flee
Melted in Heav'n's radiant Light!

April 16.

AS the years flee fast away
May sweet mem'ries cling to thee,
Bringing oft a cheering ray,
Of the gold that used to be;
Till the sum of earthly bliss
Ends in Heav'nly happiness!

April 17.

MAY happiness thy birthday crown,
And in the future with thee stay,
To nullify Affliction's frown
That hovers o'er us day by day;
But if perchance shall fall some woe,
Heav'n strengthen thee to bear the blow!

April 18.

AS placid as the meadow stream,
May life appear to thee;
Reflecting ev'ry sunny gleam,
To weave for thee a golden dream
Of blest serenity!

April 19.

I WISH thee a bright Birthday morn,
With the joys that true Friendship can bring!
May blessings thy pathway adorn,
And round thee sweet Love ever cling!

April 20.

MAY this thy natal day be glad!
I pray that Heav'n may send to thee,
To banish clouds that make thee sad,
A blissful, calm tranquillity!

April 21.

AS o'er the stones the brooklet flows,
Till smooth the roughest pebble grows,
May Love's clear streamlet, ever near,
Tone down the points of ev'ry care,
And give thee deep repose!

April 22.

GOD set the Iris bow on high,
A type of Mercy in the sky.
Look thou upon the sign, and know
That, 'mid the floods of troublous woe,
Thou shalt not overwhelmèd be!
The arc of promise shines for thee!

April 23.

THE latent germs awake from sleep:
The dormice from their hiding creep:
The busy promise of the Spring
Inspires the woodland choirs to sing!
O may thy life be bright and fair,
And Spring attend thee ev'rywhere!

April 24

IN devious ways we heedless stray along,
Beguiled by many a potent charmer's song,
Till, tripping in the shade, we prostrate lie,
And, but for Heav'n, unaided we should die!
If thou shouldst ever fall into the snare,
May Heav'n thy soul deliver from despair!

April 25.

AS pure and fresh as the vernal mead
Outspread on Heav'n's fair shore,
May Life's path be, where'er you tread,
Till Heav'n throws wide its door
To welcome you to bliss serene,
To vales of joy for ever green!

April 26.

AS ev'ry season passeth by,
May hope and joy be thine,
That blissfully the hours may fly,
While Love's warm rays benign
Shall elevate and bless thy soul
As Time's bright wavelets onward roll!

April 27.

SHOULD in the horizon clouds appear,
Do not anticipate nor fear
The storm that may not fall;
The clouds may nought of wrath contain,
But shed, instead, refreshing rain
O'er you and over all!

April 28.

WHENEVER dawns thy natal day,
May sweetest joy thy bosom fill,
That ev'ry grief may pass away,
And Love its tranquil peace instil:
May Heav'n throughout all earthly gloom
Thy path with radiant Light illume!

April 29.

THE streamlet peacefully flowing;
The zephyrs fitfully blowing;
A blue and tranquil sky;
A calm, unruffled summer sea!
Such peace as this I wish for thee
As years glide slowly by!

April 30.

THROUGHOUT Life's morning, noon, and eve,
May it ne'er be your lot to grieve
In anguish unavailing!
And may kind Heav'n when falls the Night
Bring quickly near the Morning Light—
The Radiance never-failing!

May 1.

AS softly flit the clouds in air
O'er Summer's azure sky,
May Life's few shades of troublous care
O'er thee in lightness fly,
That though erstwhile they dim thy face,
Departing, they may leave no trace!

May 2.

THOUGH morning break dull, cold, and grey,
Think not that day is drear!
When dawns the sun with genial ray
The mists will disappear,
And all the landscape, bathed in light
Shall to sweet joy thy soul invite!

May 3.

HEAV'N bless thee on thy natal day;
Each year may Friendship smile on thee:
Real joys and all prosperity
Be thine upon this earth alway!
May God His blessings still outpour,
And bring thee safe to Heaven's shore!

May 4.

SEA nymphs chant their wondrous strain,
Of the ocean secrets telling ;
To some hearts their song is pain,
Hope's decease oft sadly knelling !
May they sing of joy to thee,
In a gladsome melody !

May 5.

LIFE'S Spring is bright with sunny smiles,
Glad traversing the woodland aisles !
Yet Summer hath its joys for you,
And Autumn sports its varied hue !
While Winter, with its gentle, hoary rime,
Foreshades the Heav'nly Spring—the end of Time !

May 6.

THE whirlpool of evil is mighty and vast ;
Within its swift vortex ne'er mayst thou be cast!
Its strength may divert and impede thy life's course,
But Heav'n's counter-current exerts potent force
To save thee from peril and draw thee to shore,
Where never is heard the dread maelström's loud roar !

May 7.

DUTY and Peace e'er journey side by side,
As two clear streamlets to the ocean glide,
Until at length they flow along as one,
Reflecting back the Light of Heaven's Sun !
Let thy barque sail upon this crystal stream,
For ever lit by the Celestial Beam !

May 8.

E'EN yet, while thunder fills the air,
And echoes through the woodland aisle,
Forget not God is ev'rywhere,
And soon in gracious love will smile!
In seasons of the soul's dismay
Heav'n's smile can chase the clouds away!

May 9.

SPEED on in Life's swift busy race;
Persist in ev'ry course of right;
Assail all Vice with Virtue's might;
Resist the foeman face to face!
For vict'ry in the deadly strife
Shall bring thee Heav'n's eternal Life!

May 10.

WHENCE comes the gold of Life's best happiness,
In wealth or wisdom, mundane pomp, or pride?
No, 'tis not these that bring us joy's caress,
They give no gladness that can long abide!
Then let ambition centred be in Heav'n!
Earth's tinsel shun that true gold may be giv'n!

May 11.

THY tent o'er Life's expansive plain
Hath moved another point ahead!
May bounteous Heav'n in love ordain
That thou shalt safe across be led!
May oases green, cool, and fair,
Refresh thee in the sultry glare!

May 12.

AS fair as morning's dawn may Life e'er be,
With but few clouds to overshade the sky.
In all thy days mayst thou few sorrows see,—
E'er living as thou wouldst that thou shouldst die!
And peaceful sleep when Heav'n shall call thee hence—
Oh may this be thy life's experience!

May 13.

MAY Heav'n to thee true wisdom give,
That thou mayst in contentment live;
When rarely thou shalt take offence:
When wealth is in a competence:
When thou wilt ne'er perfection seek
In man,—a vessel prone to break!

May 14.

MAY Hope bloom sweetly in thy heart
With varied, purest, choicest flow'rs—
Love, peace, and gladness shall impart
A happy tone to Life's brief hours;
All troubles Hope shall yet beguile,
And vanquish gloom with one bright smile!

May 15.

WOULDST thou in all thy works improve?
Then let the thought of Heav'n above
Inspire each act! The righteous man
Perfects the work his hands began,
Attending to minute detail!—
Do likewise, and thou shalt not fail!

May 16.

THOUGH lightnings flash their gleaming darts,
As loudly roars the thunder's voice,
Oft the impending storm departs,
While we in sunny peace rejoice!
Oh may Life's tempests pass o'er thee,
And peace be thine continually!

May 17.

SWEET flow'rs of May thy birthday greet,
While birds the happy dawning meet
With cheerful sounding lays:—
O may all life be fair and bright
For thee, while earth's true joys unite
To gladden thee always!

May 18.

OUR childhood's Spring is e'er a happy time;
So may it be with thee in youth and prime,
When, fresh with vigour, pleasant is our toil,
And strong and bold we face the world's turmoil;
This be thy lot as years roll slowly by,
Till age brings peace and Heav'n's Eternity!

May 19.

AS some sweet harp its tuneful lays
Sings forth to cheer the aching heart,
May all thy life, in countless ways,
A soothing peacefulness impart
To all who look upon thy cheerful, placid face—
Reflecting something of a pure celestial grace!

May 20.

AS years roll on, with light and shade
Attending thee upon Life's way;
May thy joys never pall nor fade
But like Spring's bloom be fresh and gay
Till in the vernal Heav'nly Glade
Thy soul, refreshed, shall live for aye!

May 21.

IF thou, perchance, hast striven but to fail,
After long struggling, pause not to bewail
Thine ill-starred fate, but yet fresh courage take,
And from thy heart its clogging trammels shake!
And thou shalt gain, altho' the fight be hard,
Success, the gratifying, just reward!

May 22.

MAY thy days dawn in happiness,
And fade away in holy peace;
And may the phantom of distress
From its dread pow'r thy soul release,
That it may soar to Heav'n above,
In grateful and adoring love!

May 23.

AS sweet and pure as some bright crystal stream
That takes its course betwixt fair banks of flow'rs,
And clear reflects the sunset's rosy gleam,
May thy life be! As fleeting April show'rs
May Sorrow's rain of tears e'er pass away,
And make more radiant still the sun's warm ray!

May 24.

MAY peaceful happiness and health
Be thine throughout a long bright life;
With neither poverty nor wealth
To tempt men or engender strife!
And, as a friend, may kindly Death
Relieve thy last expiring breath!

May 25.

AS ev'ry Birthday comes on looking back,
May Mem'ry paint the past with roseate hues,
That scenes of Life that seemed of old so black
May then appear as lovely, peaceful views!
And you shall in sweet resignation find
That all your clouds with silver have been lined!

May 26.

WITH brilliant rays of promise may
The dawning be of ev'ry day;
And as the golden sunbeams cease
To light the West, may sweetest peace
Its holy, soothing pow'r impart,
And flood with gratitude thy heart!

May 27.

MAY ev'ry Birthday dawn for thee
In innocent felicity;
And mayst thou see, on looking back
At the past year, no spectres black
Of evil deeds, to haunt thy peace;
But may Heav'n all thy joys increase!

May 28.

HEAV'N give thee wisdom so to look within
Thy heart, that thou mayst see what passions reign
Unduly there, and give thee needful strength
To cast them out, until thou canst at length
Pursue thy course of life freed from each bane
That sought o'er thee the mastery to win!

May 29.

HEAV'N grant thee life-long happiness,
Secure from pain and grief's distress!
Ne'er may the pangs of jealousy
Inflict their cruel pain on thee!
If once the iron pierce thy soul,
The wound will baffle all control!

May 30.

MAY just and holy principles be thine,
For they shall surely heart and soul refine,
And bring to thee a soothing, peaceful joy
As pure as gold thrice purged from its alloy!
With faith in Heav'n they shall thy soul prepare
To walk with angels, and their bliss to share!

May 31.

O'ER the sea float mystic voices,
One laments while one rejoices!
What is now the sound you hear?
If you smile 'tis mirth replying;
If you grieve, 'tis sorrow sighing;—
Joy and woe are ever near!

June 1.

UPON the shore of Truth's bright ocean stand,
For, searching, thou mayst find some priceless gem
That shall befit the richest diadem!
Perchance a pearl from Wisdom's thrifty hand?
Search for the treasures sages left behind—
Thou shalt at least some minor jewels find!

June 2.

INCONSTANT is the world in which men trust!
Each glitt'ring bauble like a bubble breaks:
What seemed true gold will prove but gilded rust;
From Fortune's dream man oft in madness wakes!
Seek thou Heav'n's crystal Fount that sweetly flows,
A never-failing balm for earthly woes!

June 3.

LIKE some swift eagle soaring high
To meet the sun's bright majesty,
Let thy soul upward rise to Heav'n
To seek the Light so freely giv'n!
That all thy life on earth may be
Illumined by eternity!

June 4.

THY worthy deeds with smiles perform,
That men may love thee while approving,
And bless thee as thro' life thou'rt moving,
Regarding thee with glances warm!
Virtue should wear no angry frown,
But smile while holding forth the Crown!

June 5.

UPON the moral Scylla thousands strike:
The young, the old, the rich and poor alike!
O mayst thou in the channel safely keep,
And ne'er be wrecked upon Life's treach'rous deep!
Both Charybdis and Scylla e'er avoid,
Lest thou shouldst draw too near and be destroyed!

June 6.

MAY Heav'n thy spirit so prepare
That thou shalt never feel despair
Before Affliction's sombre frown:
Heav'n's messengers, oft grief and pain,
Are never sent to us in vain,
And brighter make the Golden Crown!

June 7.

WOULDST thou enjoy a long and pleasant life?
Then seek a perfect equanimity:
Refrain from all that would engender strife,
Till thy heart beats in blest tranquillity:
And thou shalt know on earth a placid joy
That evil shall strive vainly to destroy!

June 8.

THIS world can never wholly satisfy:
The golden beams of promise fade and die!
But thou canst work and love with all thy strength
Till joy and tranquil peace be thine at length!
To thee may this dear, priceless meed be giv'n—
To live and die illumed by Light from Heav'n!

June 9.

MAY all thy hopes on pinions spread,
Ne'er fall, to perish in the dust;
But soar sublimely overhead
To Heaven's Gate, in perfect trust!
Although fruition be deferred,
The pray'r of faith is ever heard!

June 10.

LET all thy courtesies at home begin:
Reserve them not the stranger's heart to win,
Lest, like exotics, they should, dying, fade
When left exposed to daily cold and shade:
But nurture them in home's pure bracing air
Till they, like field-flow'rs, flourish anywhere!

June 11.

ASPIRE to win a noble name:
To gain an ever-living fame
That writes itself, in trust and love,
Upon men's hearts! Where'er you move
Through life, let this your motto be—
"Truth, justice, love, sincerity!"

June 12.

FEAR not to walk thro' earthly Life; its ills
Are often our own making! Heaven wills
That hearts may grow ripe fruit, or noisome weeds.
Our angels are our good or evil deeds!—
Man's will decrees which angels shall attend
His solemn pathway, to the journey's end!

June 13.

ART thou by blighted hopes or pain embittered ever?
Have aspirations lived only to die?—
Heav'n ofttime disappoints to stimulate endeavour,
Refining the heart's gold by dark adversity!
As trees are fertilised by dead leaves, in the glade,
The soul is vitalised by ardent hopes decayed!

June 14.

SPEAK nought but kindly words of any one!
All evil comment on the absent shun,
Lest, like a mis-thrown boomerang, its flight
Recoils on thee in unabated might,
To strike thee to the dust, or bring thee shame!—
Discharge love-shafts and true shall be thine aim!

June 15.

BE thy lot rich, or be it poor,
May Heaven bless thee more and more;
May Slander's evil, with'ring bane
Ne'er bring thy heart a moment's pain!
Though envious tongues vex and assail,
Thy Father's care will never fail!

June 16.

WHEN thou art mournful in some grief,
And yearning for Heav'n's kind relief,
O swiftly may the blissful balm
Descend, thy troubled soul to calm :
And so in ev'ry earthly woe
May healing streams from Heaven flow !

June 17.

I WISH for thee, amid Life's struggles, e'er
The faculty to rightly judge ! Compare
All things according to their real worth !
While justice governs thy decision, Earth
Shall be to thee a realm of happiness,
Whilst all thy fellow-men respect and bless !

June 18.

I WOULD that thou couldst walk through Life
Secure from evil, woe, and strife !
And such faith might to thee be giv'n
In all the promises of Heav'n
That thou might'st never fear the grave,
But in implicit trust be brave !

June 19.

MAY mirth and gladness constantly attend
You throughout Life ; but, while your way you wend,
May sad depression ne'er your joy succeed,
Nor obstacles your steps to Heav'n impede :
But while your earthly blessings still increase
May Heav'n bestow Its blissful, holy Peace !

June 20.

A TRUE friend is a rarity !
Man's honour and sincerity
Are virtues scarce upon the earth !
But mayst thou know the precious worth
Of loving friends encircling thee,
Not one of whom can faithless be !

June 21.

MAY all thy life so speak of Heav'n
That rich and poor alike may bless thee,
And loving lips, with smiles, caress thee !
Ne'er may thy heart in grief be riv'n,
Nor suffer slight from foe or friend ;
But peace be with thee to the end !

June 22.

HEAV'N give Its wisdom to thy heart,
That folly may for aye depart
As darkness flies before the ray
Of beauteous and refulgent Day !
May Sorrow seek thee less and less
Till Heav'n perfects thy happiness !

June 23.

AS gold must pass through the refining heat,
To remove all its worthless dross,
So hearts will be tried, from the Mercy Seat,
In the furnace of pain and loss :
But affliction shall bring thee a lasting joy
When thy spirit is cleansed from its base alloy !

June 24.

MAY Heav'n thy plans assist and bless;
May disappointment's bitterness
Ne'er turn thy hopes to rust and gall:
But may fruition soon, to all,
Its gladsome mellowness impart,
And give thee a contented heart!

June 25.

THE maelström of evil, for many an age,
Has madly whirled round in insatiable rage,
Engulfing unwary souls crossing Life's sea!
O may its swift current ne'er influence thee:
Thy hope, faith and trust on the great Pilot cast,
And thou shalt the Haven gain safely at last!

June 26.

EARTH'S joys do not too swift pursue,
They will elude and baffle you!
This Life is but a mocking shade
In fair, deceitful garb arrayed!
But seek the substance found in Heav'n!
Seek for the bliss so freely giv'n!

June 27.

THE Past is curtained over, the Future's misty veil
Conceals a wealth of pleasure or sorrow's bitter tale!
Through gloom or radiant sunshine, through joy or grievous woe,
Our path must lead to Heaven, through which we may not know!
But may the road be bright for thee
That leadeth to Eternity!

June 28.

IN some sandy coral cave
Oft lies hid rich ocean treasure ;
Guardian voices, in soft measure,
Chant their secret through the wave ;
O may you search the recesses of your soul,
And gems regain from the phantoms that control !

June 29.

AS flow'rets day by day unfold,
Disclosing beauties pure and sweet,
May all who love thy face to greet
New graces still in thee behold !

June 30.

NO better wish to-day I know
Than this—May Heav'n on thee bestow
Immunity from earthly woe
Till thou art borne to Heaven !

July 1.

ANOTHER point towards the goal!
Another stage at which the soul
Should pause while journeying on!
O may the road that still remains
Be free from sin's defiling stains
Until the prize is won!

July 2.

THE bells ring out sweet strains of peace
To charm the weary heart;
O may their music never cease
A solace to impart:
May Love's sweet chimes, within the soul,
To tranquil peace thy will control!

July 3.

MAY health its happiness on thee bestow,
And sorrow ever turn from thee aside!
May thy heart know reciprocated love
That tranquil joy may bless thee here below!
And may Heav'n be thy Guardian and thy Guide,
That bliss transcendent may be thine above!

July 4.

THY seeds of kindness scatter broadcast
In the vales of human woe!
Thy harvest shall be gathered at last
Where the living waters flow!
All seeds of promise at first must die,
To bear a hundred fold by and bye!

July 5.

OFT in the solemn hours of night:
Unconsciously in sleep we smile,
For some bright angel bends awhile
To tell the soul of Heav'n's delight!
May these impressions nought destroy
Till thou shalt realize that Joy!

July 6.

WHEN Heav'n opes wide its portals to outpour
Its choicest gifts and blessings on mankind
May you receive—more rich than golden ore—
Sweet peace and joy, with a contented mind!
And mortal ne'er could be more blessed than you
With happiness so perfect, lasting, true!

July 7.

AS fair and bright as the summer sea,
So lovely in serenity,
May all thy life be found!
That, as soft creeps an honoured age
Thy years may show a spotless page—
A joy to all around!

July 8.

LIKE some lagoon of azure hue,
Reflecting back the lovely sky,
May all thy life unruffled be,
Untouched by tempests passing by;
Till peaceful as the heavens' blue,
All earth at last appears to thee!

July 9.

THE tropics, in their lovely varied dress,
All speak of joy 'neath Nature's warm caress:
Yet 'mid these beauties, storms will oft intrude,
And thunders angry roar with menace rude!
May life's dark pow'rs at thee but seldom launch a blow,
That sweet tranquillity thou mayst for ever know!

July 10.

AS diamonds, rays of light absorb,
To shed the beams again at night,
May thy bright eye, the soul's clear orb,
Throughout life's day attract the light,
That when the dreary night shall fall,
Soft gleams may pierce the sombre pall!

July 11.

IF but the heart be pure within,
And, cheerful, strives the prize to win,
All life shall be illumed by light:
The soul shall soar to Heaven's height,
And patient at the portals wait
To be admitted through the gate!

July 12.

AS the twilight softly falls
O'er the old cathedral walls,
Solemn peals the evening hymn!
Those sweet tones, 'mid shadows dim,
Speak of heaven-born peace to me,
Such as I would wish for thee!

July 13.

WHILE journeying o'er Life's changeful main,
May violent tempests ne'er assail
Nor wreck thy barque: but may each gale
But aid thee Heaven's blest port to gain!
May clouds ne'er intercept the light
That shines to guide thee day and night!

July 14.

GOD grant thee joy and all prosperity;
But if the riches of this earth should flee,
And leave thee seeking from the cold world aid,
Be not downcast in sorrow, nor afraid:
For those possessions lost, those joys mundane,
Heaven's heritage unfading thou shalt gain!

July 15.

LIKE some luxuriant, fertile tree,
That scatters luscious fruit around,
May friends and kindred find in thee
Virtue and purity abound!
That thy sweet graces, widely spread,
In ripe profusion may be shed!

July 16.

A POEM'S changeful shade and light
Benignant influence will exert,
To raise the soul to rapture's height,
To sadden, solace, or divert !
Oh, may thy life sweet poetry reveal
That shall have power to soothe, delight, and heal !

July 17.

MAY all thine earthly life so be
Etherealized by purity,
That all who on thee gaze
May see reflected Heaven's light
In thy clear eyes, that mute invite
To Virtue's holy ways !

July 18.

AS roses expand 'neath the sun's gentle ray,
Their sweet incense diffusing around,
May Heaven's benign light flood thy heart day by day
Till with love, peace, and truth it redound,
E'er shedding an influence dearer than gold !—
Possessing such gifts thy heart ne'er shall grow old !

July 19.

IF clouded be thy natal day,
And thou canst scarce discern a ray
Of Heavenly light or love,
Remember that the sun must shine
Till 'neath its influence benign
The sky is bright above !

July 20.

NO better wish can I express,
As I behold thy Birthday here,
Than that kind Heaven may ever bless,
And light thy way whene'er 'tis drear!

July 21.

AS honeyed flowers their sweets exhale
In choice profusion on the air,
Oh, may your virtues never fail
To breathe out fragrance still more rare,
In which shall mingle Love's pure scent
To charm the soul to sweet content!

July 22.

OFT doth the thunder's dreadful voice
In threat'ning accents roar,
But soon Heaven bids the earth rejoice
In placid peace once more:
So, 'mid the storms of grief and pain,
Remember sunshine follows rain!

July 23.

BLEST is the heart that never grieves,
That never feels the pang of woes,
That peace and gladness e'er receives
From Heaven's fount that overflows
With blessings! May this joy be thine
Till Life shall be all but divine!

July 24.

ALL hail to thy birthday! May joys e'er attend
Upon thee, their solacing gladness to lend!
May life to thee ever its bounteous gifts bring,
And make all thy days fresh and bright as the Spring!
Each year brings thee nearer to Heaven's peaceful shore,
Where Spring is eternal, with bliss evermore!

July 25.

EACH year onward moves, as a stream gently flows,
Ever nearing Eternity's sea,
Where Time's march must cease, where the light ever glows
That has vanquished Death's obscurity!
Oh, mayst thou see ever that bright distant ray
To save thee from stumbling in Life's chequered way!

July 26.

THE years swiftly speed, bringing pleasures and pains;
May the joy outweigh ever the sorrow:
May Life be too brief for the bliss it contains
Ere it fades in the heavenly morrow!
May this be thy lot till age brings its sweet rime,
When Heaven's gentle slope thou shalt peacefully climb!

July 27.

A CURTAIN is drawn o'er the years that have
fled;
The future advances with joy or with pain!
May Fate ever smile and from harshness refrain!
May sunshine e'er gleam in the vault overhead,
To combat the clouds that with gloom may o'ercast
That soon as they fall their brief shade may be past!

July 28.

SHOULD sorrow e'er encompass thee,
And Hope's glad promise blighted be,
O grieve not in despair!
For woe shall purify thy heart,
And tranquil peace at length impart,
While Life looks still more fair

July 29.

LIKE odours wafted on the air
To charm the enraptured scene,
May thy good deeds, as virtues rare,
In sweetness journey hence!

July 30.

WHEN the weary day is ended,
O'er the waves come, softly blended,
Voices of some aerial clime:
Chanting "Mortals e'er are sighing,
Laughing, feasting, dancing, dying,
Till shall end the flight of Time!"

July 31.

TO grant a boon were it but mine,
I'd offer thee that gift divine—
Wisdom, with all its wondrous rays
That light the path through Life's dark ways!
May Heaven bestow this gem on thee:
It brings power and prosperity!

August 1.

FACE not too boldly the unveiled sun
Of mundane Life's prosperity !
Lest should the beams of gold rich spun
Prove blinding in intensity,
And thou shouldst wander far aside
From Heaven's strait track, without a guide !

August 2.

BOLD laughs the ocean in its bounding play,
Smiling responsive glints the sun's bright ray :
Yet in the air the muttering of the gale
Warns of swift danger ev'ry dancing sail :
Train thou thy soul the storm's menace to hear,
That when it falls thou mayst have nought to fear !

August 3.

AS now the dying sunbeams shed
Their last soft tint of golden red,
All seems to speak of perfect peace !
Such blissful sweet tranquillity
I wish, dear friend, through life for thee,
Till Heaven shall that blest calm increase !

August 4.

SERENE and blue the summer sky
Looks down on earth below;
A fleecy cloud, like Nature's sigh,
Its shade will seldom throw!
So may your life be fair and bright,
O'er which few shadows take their flight.

August 5.

MY wishes all resolve in this,
Upon thy natal day:
Heav'n give thee earth's best happiness,
And, after, bliss for aye!

August 6.

SOME happy hours of life have fled away;
The pages of the Past are closed for aye
Yet Memory can the blissful contents read:
Again in thought the pleasant vales we tread!
As thou dost on the gladsome pictures gaze,
Oh, may the skies portend still happier days!

August 7.

IF God hath brought thee safe unto this day,
And hath preserved thy footsteps in the way—
Believe that He will ever guard and guide
Till thou in Heaven shalt with Him abide!
He will uphold thee in thy worst despair;
His watchful Eye protects thee everywhere;

August 8.

IF Fate ordains that thou shalt suffer woe
Let not thy tears in sad dejection flow :
For know that, seeking, thou shalt many find
Chill'd e'en to death by sorrow's frigid wind :
Take comfort, then, this thought brings peace serene,
That ev'ry woe might greater still have been !

August 9.

HOPE leads thee on afar to gaze
Upon the Future's mystic days.
Oh, may Heaven's radiant golden Light
Shine out, and pierce the darkest night !
That though grim shadows threat'ning loom,
Peace may be thine amid the gloom !

August 10.

IF in the vast blue canopy,
That hangs its glory over thee,
A cloud appears with frowning mien,
Let not thy brow be less serene
But thank God that there still is given
To thee a wide-spread view of Heaven !

August 11

AS Nature's beauteous, varied flowers
Combine to form a lovely wreath,
May all thy Birthdays' joyous hours
Gild Life's fair journey, till the breath
Of Heaven shall animate thy soul,
When Time for thee hath ceased to roll !

August 12.

LIKE some pellucid mountain stream
That stainless travels to the sea,
May all thy life e'er spotless seem,
While journeying to Eternity!
Reflecting back the light of Heaven,
While tranquil peace to thee is given!

August 13.

A CROWN of gold of lustrous yellow:
The choicest fruit with ripeness mellow
Perfection's type may truly be!
May thy life be a golden mission:
Thy soul mature to sweet fruition,
For Heaven's pure Eternity!

August 14.

WHEN wearied by thy weight of care,
And thou art tempted to despair,
Cast not thy burthen sadly down,
For yonder, glows the promised crown!
Fight on! Too great would be thy loss;
No crown is won without the cross!

August 15.

MAY virtues shine about thy path,
And every joy increase;
That e'en when darkness heralds death
Thou mayst know perfect peace!
The Christian light shall, like a star,
Pierce through the gloomy vale afar!

August 16.

AS sparkling jewels rich and rare
Adorn a golden diadem,
May Christian graces, pure and fair,
Thy soul with their sweet lustre gem!
And may their beauty never wane
Nor be obscured by earthly stain!

August 17.

WHEN tempests roar in potent wrath,
And vivid lightnings scatter death,
Remember how the Master's will
Rebuked the wild and angry deep,
Till, calmed, the waters fell asleep!
Those words still echo, "Peace, be still!"

August 18.

AS lesser stars around a planet turn,
Their gentle lustre shedding as they burn,
May virtues e'er thine earthly life attend,
And to thy soul's pure light their beauty lend,
Until the beam of everlasting day
Thy spirit shall illuminate for aye!

August 19.

THE rainbow spreads its peaceful rays
Of promise in the sky.
Whene'er thou shalt upon it gaze
O think of One on High
Who that fair bow in mercy sent,
And blesses still the penitent!

August 20.

INTERLACED with every beauty,
May thy life a garland be,
Carried in the path of duty,
Fresh with heav'nly purity!
When the flowers fade and die,
They shall bloom again on High!

August 21.

AS the lovely blooming rose
Fills with incense all the air,
May thy virtues, yet more rare,
Graces sweeter still disclose,
That thou mayst in love endear
Friendly hearts afar and near.

August 22.

THE golden sun sinks in the west,
Retiring to his well-won rest,
Oh, may his beams from day to day
Illume with happiness thy way,
Until his last ray gleams for thee
To light thee to Eternity!

August 23.

LIKE some sweet cathedral hymn,
In the twilight sad and dim,
Voices float across the sea,
May they solace bring to thee,
Breathing, 'mid the world's distress,
Hope of future happiness!

August 24.

AFTER each dark night of storm,
When the sunbeams rise up warm,
Some dark wreck bestrews the shore,
Human hope lives there no more!
May you shipwrecked never be
On Life's wild tempestuous sea!

August 25.

'TIS easy to be joyous when the heart is light,
When with the radiant sunshine all the earth is bright;
But thou art bless'd indeed,
If thou canst yet succeed
In still remaining happy through chill sorrow's night!

August 26.

GAY Pleasure's crystal goblet we may drain,
Yet we may seek for happiness in vain!
But if we mingled in the alluring draught
A grateful thought of Heaven ere we quaffed,
A potent elixir would then be ours,
To brace and strengthen all our earthworn powers!

August 27.

HOW many barques are loaded with a goodly freight
And proudly glide upon the fickle sea of Fate!
Full many strew their wrecks, the voyage scarce begun,
And others ruined sink with half the passage run!
O may thy barque, though battered on the troubled main,
At length on Heaven's shore a port in safety gain!

August 28.

ALTHOUGH this Life hath much of pain and sorrow,
Thou canst each day a wealth of gladness borrow.
If thou wilt seek and taste the Heavenly spring,
Then happiness will, on celestial wing,
Attend thy soul, a faithful minister,
While swift shall fly all shadows sinister!

August 29.

DMAYST thou never lack a friend,
Who will be true in every phase
Of Life, and ready e'er to lend
Both heart and arm 'gainst enemies;
To succour, pray, and sympathise
Whene'er the storms of Life arise!

August 30.

NOT all the glories of the earth:
Not all its gems of unknown worth,
Could compensate for Heaven's loss!
So in the narrow path e'er strive
In blameless rectitude to live:
E'er scorning earthly dross!

August 31.

AS Life's bright tide flows day by day,
May peace and joy with thee abide;
And as the wavelets ebb away,
May all thy griefs upon them ride,
Till they are borne far, far from thee
And lost for ever in the sea!

September 1.

MAY Hope for you a happy prospect weave,
And when in sorrow oft you stricken grieve,
If you but trust your Father will relieve!
When worldly joys, like Autumn's sere leaves, die,
A lasting ecstacy awaits on High—
Not for brief years, but for Eternity?

September 2.

VOICES o'er the sea come floating,
Borne upon the fresh'ning wind;
Some dark grief and wreck denoting,
Others sweet and wondrous kind:
May they speak of joy to thee,
Through thy life continually!

September 3.

LIKE the brilliant hues of western sky,
As the mighty Sol sinks down to die,
May the days of life appear to thee!
And when years o'er thee have lightly rolled,
May thy face reflect the glorious gold
Of a boundless, bright Eternity!

September 4.

THOUGH storms their dreadful wrath outpour,
And lash the foam with angry roar,
Their influence clears and cools the air :
So shall the gales of grief and woe—
Though furious for the time they blow—
Bring peace to thy life's atmosphere !

September 5.

MAY life appear upward from youth
A book of holy, solemn truth :
That thou mayst in its pages find
The guide to Heavenly joy enshrined.
That when age brings the gloomy night
Thy last hours may be filled with light !

September 6.

THE will-o'-wisps through life abound,—
Of their dread wiles beware !
Heaven's guiding light may e'er be found
If thou wilt seek it there !
Let not sin's fatal flame allure,
And peace and joy shall aye endure !

September 7.

MAY Fortune kindly smile on thee,
And Hope's anticipations be
Fulfilled in verity !
May Heaven e'er be thy goal of faith
Through busy Life, till welcome Death
Shall bring the victor's wreath !

September 8.

MAY Life prosaic never seem to be,
But Fancy paint fair pictures e'er for thee !
Though oft the scenes depicted are ideal,
The happiness they give will prove more real ;
And baffled shall retreat the shades of gloom
Before the beams of gladness that illume !

September 9.

I WOULD not ask for riches on thee to be outpoured :—
Gold cannot purchase gladness ! The miser's precious hoard
Has ever brought him sorrow, and bitterness and care !
I wish for thee contentment, that jewel priceless, rare !
Possessing this rich blessing, thy joys shall be of Heaven,
And happiness shall ever unto thy soul be given !

September 10.

THY hopes are launched through life afar,
Fruition, like a dawning star,
Can scarcely yet be seen !
But when the night most dark appears,
Joy shall dispel thine inmost fears
With blissful ray serene !

September 11.

THOUGH barbèd shafts of ruthless hate and scorn
Be hurled in frenzied fury 'gainst thy breast,
By Virtue's might their baneful wings are shorn:
By Innocence their venom is suppressed!
Thus shalt thou walk in blest security,
With nought but Love's caress to vanquish thee!

September 12.

MAY all the world be filled with light
To make for thee existence bright;
May each brook seem a silver stream,
And Life's career a golden dream
From which thou shalt in Heaven awake!
This be my wish for thy dear sake.

September 13.

SHOULD e'er it be thy lot to toil in vain:
To seek relief, yet find it not, from pain:
To be heart-worn and weary, aching, sad,
There is but one thing that can make thee glad,—
Thou shalt resist with smiles each worldly thrust
If thou wilt only in thy Father trust!

September 14.

MAY evil never to thee gain access,
Though in a happy guise or pleasure's dress!
Though wronged thyself, oh ne'er commit a wrong.
For dread remorse will haunt thee thy life long,
And peace will flee thy soul where joy hath been.
Forgive, that heart and mind may rest serene.

September 15.

WHEN doubts assail thy troubled soul,
And fancies roam beyond control,
And Faith uncertain wanes;
Let all your grim delusions cease
In this grand thought, pregnant with peace,
"The Lord Eternal reigns!"

September 16.

WHEN poignant sorrows round thee lurking wait,
And irate seems the countenance of Fate,
Oh, gaze afar upon Life's ocean wide,
And mark the wrecks that strew the restless tide;
Then thou shalt thank thy Father-God in Heaven
For all the mercies He to thee hath given.

September 17.

IF thou hast with deep anguish striven
And hopeless cast thine eyes to Heaven,
Obscured by cloudy veil,
Remember that behind the shroud,
Heav'n's glorious Light illumes the cloud,
Though yet the beams are pale.

September 18.

WHEN darkly looms the threat'ning sky,
All eager in destructive pow'r,
Think of thy Father-God on high,
Who bids the fiercest tempest cower.
He shall His Sov'reign Will assert,
And, in deep love, the storm avert.

September 19.

THOUGH the tide hath fled, and the shore around
Looks all deserted, grey, and dull,
Soon the flood will turn, with its bosom crowned
With joyous light till the bay is full.
So may thy thirsty heart with happy peace o'erflow,
To hide the barren Past of bitterness and woe !

September 20.

THOUGH Autumn bid the woods their foliage shed,
And render gaunt and bare the view o'erhead,
Preparing for the year a mournful bier
Of Nature's cast-off robes so sad and drear,
The regal Spring will don a gala dress,
And flood the earth with golden happiness.

September 21.

SHOULD gladness ebb away with Life's bright tide,
And leave you standing on a desert shore,
Despair not, but in patience yet abide !
The bounding flood will joyous flow once more,
And bring you richer blessings on its silver wave
More precious than the Past for which you crave.

September 22.

AS crystal streamlets softly flow
Unsullied in their purity,
Till lost in some vast trackless sea,
May thy Life's tide translucent show
No stain, but smoothly onward go
To Heav'n's boundless Eternity !

September 23.

THOUGH bounding billows thee assail
Upon Life's ocean wide,
Heaven's gracious aid will never fail
The suppliant, but will guide
The trusting one to anchorage,
Secure from every storm's wild rage.

September 24.

IT is not always Spring nor Winter rime —
The year cannot be ever in its prime;
So thou canst not expect on earth all joy—
Thy lot must tempered be with some alloy.
But when thine earthly tale of years is told,
The lustrous gold of Heav'n thou shalt behold.

September 25.

IF Fortune's bright-hued waters ebb away,
And light seems taken from surrounding day,
Fear not! the fickle tide may swift return.
E'en now thy faith the wavelets may discern,
And faster than the ebb shall be the coming flow,
Well laden with Life's joys -reflecting Heaven's glow.

September 26.

WHENE'ER affliction blows its bitter blast,
And all the heavens with clouds are overcast,
Remember that God tempereth the wind
To the shorn lamb, and much more will be kind
In every thought of care concerning thee!
Face, then, thy griefs and bear them manfully!

September 27.

WHEN shadows hover overhead,
Inspiring thee with gloomy dread,
Thine anxious fear dismiss!
For shade is but a potent sign
That bright above the sunbeams shine
In radiant loveliness!

September 28.

STORM and sunshine, shade and light—
Glorious day, and gloomy night,
In this world must alternate;
Thus must be the course of Fate.
Yet I pray that, day by day,
Light may chase thy shades away.

September 29.

SWEET as the lark's clear song of joy
That he to Heaven outpours,
O may thy heart its praise employ
To speed through those bright doors:
Whence may the song return to thee
To speak of Heaven continually!

September 30.

MAY ev'ry scene of life a happy aspect wear,
And all thy days be glad with sunshine bright and fair,
But should the landscape be by passing mists obscured,
May patience lend its aid that shade may be endured,
For 'neath the solar rays the mists will melt away,
And give thee greater joy in the returning day.

October 1.

SWEET Autumn days proclaiming we must fade,
As withered fall the leaves in woodland glade,
But giving promise of the verdant green
When Spring awakes with lovely bronzy sheen :
Look thou, then, forward when death's sombre Winter dreading
To Heav'n's triumphant Spring, with glory overspreading !

October 2.

LIGHT and shadow, peace and storm,
In the world will alternate.
May the glorious sunbeams warm
All thy shadows dissipate,
That through life thy heart may know
Nought of poignant grief or woe !

October 3.

IN the fair glory of the dawn's bright ray,
Glad is the promise of the coming day !
All thou desirest mayst thou see fulfilled :
On firm foundations mayst thou ever build :
That disappointment may not oft be thine,
But when thou'rt bidden cheerfully resign !

October 4.

'TIS well to have beauty of form and face
Triumphant is its fair might !
But spiritual beauty, the soul's sweet grace,
Is ever a source of delight !
Heaven grant this potent charm to thee
In all its virgin purity !

October 5.

NO better aim on earth can there be found
Than to benevolently gaze around
To seek how best we may alleviate
The lot of our poor brethren, whom grim Fate
Hath crushed, e'en to the dust, by some hard blow :
Haste, then, thine aid and sympathy bestow !

October 6.

NO matter what the casquet be
If yet, unsullied, we can see
The lustre of the priceless gem within !
So may thy soul, with clear, pure ray,
Illume its envelope of clay,
Dispelling every shade of earthly sin !

October 7.

CARE is an enemy to all mankind ;
May he no foothold in your dwelling find !
But may sweet, joyous laughter gladly peal
Within your home, that joy may e'er reveal
Its magic power to charm all clouds away,
And bring Heaven's peace a willing guest to stay !

October 8.

BE trustful: never doubt thy friends!
Suspicion Love's communion ends,
And terminates in hate!
Believe friends truthful as they seem:
Let their affection faults redeem,
And follies palliate!

October 9.

SAFELY thy Father's hand hath guided thee,
When thou ofttimes couldst scarce the pathway see!
If He hath guarded thee, in love, so long,
His Hand to hold thee up will still be strong:
O may thine eyes be ever turned to Heaven
To thank God for the mercies He hath given

October 10.

MAY innocence be ever thine,
A garland on thy brow to wear,
To guard thy footsteps ev'rywhere!
Oh, ne'er the precious gift resign!
For this fair charm to thee is given
To bear thee through the gates of Heaven!

October 11.

IF thou to Earth's bright happiness wouldst rise,
Do not life's little simple joys despise!
The pleasures that thou canst from all such steal
Make up the perfect sum of earthly weal.
O er wide expanse let not thy vision roam,
But look for calm, sweet gladness nearer home!

October 12.

WHEN floods of ocean angry roar
About thy barque, may ev'ry shore
A peaceful harbour e'er contain,
In which a shelter thou canst gain,
Emerging in the sweet, ensuing calm,
Uplifting to tbe heavens thy grateful psalm !

October 13.

IF one thou lov'st should ever part from thee,
And life appears a hollow mockery,
Fear not, but trust that Heav'n will joy restore :
For parted streams oft meet towards the shore,
And brightly flow as one in sweet and tranquil motion,
Till gathered to the waters of the boundless ocean !

October 14.

LIFE and death ; doubt and faith ;
Smiles and tears ; hopes and fears ;
Friends and foes ; joys and woes ;
Sun and rain ; health and pain ;
And so on earth for man 'twill be.
Till Heaven brings bliss eternally !

October 15.

IN happy childhood we were blessed indeed,
For little could supply our ev'ry need :
Life's trifles pleased, pence constituted wealth ;
Griefs quickly fled, routed by perfect health :
May Heav'n still give thee joy in childlike innocence,
And bless the future stages of thy journey hence !

October 16.

AS Life's fateful pages swiftly turn,
May you from each one some gladness glean !
By Heav'n's light you may those joys discern,
That by faithful, trusting eyes are seen !
Then when vision dims in honoured, peaceful age,
Thou shalt gaze for aye on Heav'n's Eternal Page !

October 17.

UPON the waves of Life's wide sea
May joys and gifts be borne to thee !
If griefs are drifting on the tide
O may they sink ere reaching shore,
Or ebb afar till seen no more,
That peace with thee may e'er abide !

October 18.

LIKE some sweet poem's rhythmic measure
That speaks of Heav'n's immortal treasure,
May thy life smoothly flow along :
That holy peace upon thy face
May shed its pure ethereal grace,
Whilst moving through Earth's busy throng !

October 19.

WHEN all the world around looks dark and cold :
When friends but lightly to their pledges hold,
And relatives, perchance, are chill and stern,
And you in vain for smiles and solace turn,
Gaze up to Heaven—your Father loves you still ;
His Peace and Joy your hungering heart shall fill !

October 20.

AS swells some sweet, melodious tune,
Enrapturing the listener's ear,
Who fain would wish it ne'er to cease,
May Heav'n's glad message, fraught with peace,
In tones enthralling, melting, clear,
To thy soul speak of Heav'n's blest noon !

October 21.

IN the gladsomeness and gaiety of youth,
When the skies are blue, and Earth breathes joy and truth,
All our troubles, pains and sorrows lightly fall
While our pleasures and enjoyments never pall !
In great mercy may kind Heaven still ordain
That thou mayst through life this faculty retain !

October 22.

I WISH for thee the peace of Heav'n inborn !
By raging strife ne'er may thy heart be torn,
Swayed by this passion's might, or that desire
For vengeance, that dread, soul-consuming fire !
Oh, what can equal blest tranquillity ?
Accept it while 'tis offered yet to thee !

October 23.

HOPE'S seed will often penetrate so deep,
That wearily expectant watch we keep,
To see the first green blade of joy arise
From the rich germ ! O may thine anxious eyes
Ne'er wait in vain the promised fruit to see,
But may the harvest soon be reaped by thee !

October 24.

A SONG of tuneful harmonies
Sheds influences of holy peace ;
So may the grace that Heav'n supplies
Thy loving attributes increase,
That e'en thy face shall soothe and calm,
And speak of Heav'n's solacing balm !

October 25.

MAY Earth's peaceful happiness ever be thine,
And all its true blessings to cheer thee combine !
May life be a vale that is pleasant to tread,
While skies bright and sunny e'er smile overhead !,
May mountains of care ne'er their darkness uprear,
Nor black clouds of sorrow to chill thee appear !

October 26.

TRAVERSING cities daily we behold
The ebb and flow of human life ! Young, old
And middle-aged speed ceaselessly along :
Some in the course of right, most in the wrong !
On Virtue's current may you ever glide
Until it mingles with Heav'n's crystal tide !

October 27.

WITH loving thoughts, in sweet accord,
We hail thy natal day !
On thee all blessings be outpoured
To cheer through life thy way !
May golden days be ever thine,
And Fortune smile on thee benign !

October 28.

ANOTHER step on in the journey of life:
One more year to the Past it is numbering:
May future days pass in sweet peace, free from strife
As the ocean, when tranquilly slumbering:
May it ne'er be thy lot to regret wasted years,
And may joy ever banish thy few April tears!

October 29.

HEAV'N grant thee so to live on earth
That thou mayst estimate the worth
Of life's best joys to be but dross,
Its dearest gifts to be but loss,
Compared with Heav'n's immortal bliss
Where thou shalt know true happiness!

October 30.

I WOULD desire for thee a path of flowers:
May Time delight thee with his golden hours;
In peaceful joys may all thy life be spent:
A happy pilgrimage of sweet content!
May every day be glad, till earthly strife
Shall end in Heav'n's eternal, blissful life!

October 31.

WHEN thou hast almost grasped some earthly bliss,
Ne'er may it like an ignis fatuus fly,
But may it wait for thee, till thou art nigh
To grasp it as a lasting happiness!
So may it be throughout thy life's career,
And all thou lov'st to thee prove still more dear!

November 1.

MAY thy heart lightly e'er receiv
The brunt of sorrow's blow!
Remember when thy soul would grieve
In bitterness of woe,
That other hearts may shattered be
By some more dread calamity!

November 2.

NE'ER may the weeds of vice or wrong
Spring up to choke thy virtue's flower!
May Heav'n endow thee with the power
To crush their growth! Yea, though their strong
And leechy coils encompass thee,
If thou wilt strive thou shalt be free!

November 3.

THE world is fair if we but see
The path by Virtue's holy light!
Live thus and joy shall come to thee:
Earth's every prospect will be bright;
Thy sacrifices ne'er shall be in vain!—
Worldly delights resign Heav'n's bliss to gain!

November 4.

WHILE walking through this earthly vale
May all thy days be long and bright,
And through the night still may some light
Illume the gloom with radiance pale!
That courage may thy heart control
And fear for ever leave thy soul!

November 5.

LET not thy life ignoble be!
Virtue's ambition summons thee
The highest mountain peaks to climb--
Thou shalt the summits gain in time!
The sacrifices thou must make
Are trifling for thine object's sake!

November 6.

THE world's swift maelström fiercely whirls!
Into its depths it madly hurls
Each victim it can grasp!
Oh, may you in the vortex ne'er
Be plunged—where, in despair,
The lost, expiring, gasp!

November 7.

MAY Heaven bless thee day by day,
And send its bright and cheering ray!
But if, perchance, sorrows should fall
Upon thee, oh, regard them all
As messengers sent from above
To purify thy soul in love!

November 8.

MAY the magnet of Mercy held forth by Heav'n
Ever govern thy life's career!
May its guidance in danger and doubt be giv'n
Till thy pathway is smooth and clear:
That thou mayst be withdrawn from destruction's road,
And be led safely home to God!

November 9.

IS thy career on earth a path of toil?
Sweet comfort in Heav'n's promise may be found!
If thou wilt bravely fight in life's turmoil,
Thy struggles shall with Heav'nly bliss be crowned;
No greater glory than to fall in victory,
And blest are those who in such conflict die!

November 10.

WHILE sailing on life's restless main
Ne'er may thy barque upon the rock
Of evil split, with mighty shock!
May Virtue's magnet e'er restrain
Thine erring course, and hold thee fast
Until thou hast the peril passed!

November 11.

HEAV'N give thee such a placid mind,
That, though the world may prove unkind,
Thy heart may know serenest peace!
To wrathful words softly reply:
With smiles subdue the flashing eye,
Aud tenfold shall thy joys increase!

November 12.

A FRIEND is he who will not flatter, but
Who ever speaks the truth, and yet will shut
His ears to tales of slander, and defend,
Unto the death, the good name of his friend!
May many such brave, noble hearts for thee
Beat in love's faithful, true sincerity!

November 13.

IF thou shouldst ever sadly sigh
And raise to Heav'n thy mournful cry,
May holy balm suffuse thy soul,
Till grief's dark billows cease to roll!
A gracious ear may Heaven lend
Whene'er thy pray'rs in faith ascend!

November 14.

LET love dictate the words that thou shalt speak
Of friend or foe! Yea, charitably seek
Rather to praise the absent than to blame!
May enmity ne'er sully thy fair name;
For if we throw dust 'gainst the wind in air,
To be befouled by it we must prepare!

November 15.

THE night adds gloom to grief and woe,
But morning's bright and ruddy glow
Impels the heart to cast its care
Aside! Oh may you if despair
Should visit you in Sorrow's dreary night,
Quickly be cheered by Joy's sweet morning light!

November 16.

HOW oft enchanting views unseen are passed
By mortals who, in worldliness engrossed,
Ne'er spare the time to gaze till, to their cost,
They find the beauteous prospect overcast!
May God e'er give thee grace to see each day
The good and beautiful in life's pathway!

November 17.

HEAV'N give a nature calm and clear to thee,
Like some spring pool in deep serenity!
But stones flung in the depths oft bring to light
The mud the waters hid far out of sight!
Strong be thy heart's foundations, firm as rock, in love,
That when missiles be thrown nought foul may rise above!

November 18.

PROSPERITY and joy be thine, I pray!
But if the smile of fortune scorns to play
About thy path, and gladness oft refrains
From greeting thee, bethink thee earth's life wanes;
And Heav'n, if thou wilt trust, will soon outpour
For thee its boundless riches evermore!

November 19.

BOLD swimmer strive, and still uplift thy head,
Nor sink beneath the floods of care! Let dread
Not paralyse thy strength! Oh, struggle on
Until the shore of Peace be nobly won!
Look up! Hope holds to thee a helping hand,
While Faith's bright tide swift bears thee to the Land!

November 20.

AS in the path of life you speed,
If justice govern every deed,
Tempered by love and charity,
Mankind will bless you—memory
Shall raise a monument sublime,
Enduring, and untouched by Time!

November 21.

MAY all thine aspirations noble be!
Oh let thy spirit soar above this world
Of sordid cares and interests, to flee
The golden vortex in which men are whirled!—
The glitt'ring dross oft brings but grief and pain
To its possessor, making loss his gain!

November 22.

THROUGHOUT thy journeying in life,
May mountains of prosperity,
From adverse winds, part shelter thee,
Whene'er earth's chequered cares are rife!
And by thy path may sweet streams flow
Of solace in life's grief and woe!

November 23.

MAY fortune never frown on thee
With fierce malignant eye;
But mayst thou in her favour be,
That life's o'erarching sky
May ever smile with happy light,
Till all the earth seems glad and bright!

November 24.

LIKE some strong lighthouse high above the ocean
Uplifted, fearing not the storm's commotion,
May thy soul, steadfast 'gainst adversity,
The world face boldly, bearing manfully
The buffetings of many a grief and woe,
Till streams again Hope's radiant golden glow!

November 25.

HAPPINESS and duty must together go,
As fraternal currents in resistless flow
Onward through life's ocean, straight to Heaven's shore,
Though opposing currents woo, or threat'ning roar!
Remember this, the course intently mark,
And on safe currents let thy soul embark!

November 26.

'TIS better far to have essayed to rise
Unto the level of the great and wise,—
E'en though but failure the aspirant greet—
Than in the dust to meanly drag the feet!
Those who have striven shall live yet to strive,
And, striving nobly, shall in honour live?

November 27.

IN all thy life's adversity
May Heav'n a refuge ever be,
Deliv'ring thee from thy distress:
Restoring thee to happiness!
Cast on thy Father every care,
And He will save thee from despair!

November 28.

SPEED on, though difficulties bar the way;
Thy perseverance Fortune soon will bless!
Thou must its price for a rich jewel pay,
As thou must with thy toil purchase success!
All things worth having nobly earned must be
If such we would enjoy contentedly.

November 29.

LET "forward" be thy watchword ev'ry day:
Look well ahead nor turn thine eyes away
From that dim light that beckons kindly on
To brighter splendour of the Heav'nly Sun.
One joy of Heav'n possesses greater worth
Than all the pleasures of our paltry earth.

November 30.

THE world is full of grief and pleasure,
Close interwoven into life.
We fain would our own portions measure
When woe within our hearts is rife.
May Heav'n e'er give thee resignation
To bear the pains of Life's probation!

December 1.

SUPERIOR to Life's troubles mayst thou rise,
And let thy spirit soar beyond the skies !
Be not seduced by worldly pleasure's snare—
The vaunted nostrum for all earthly care !—
The taste is sweet at first, but gall remains
To rack th' unwary soul with bitter pains.

December 2.

SHOULD mists of deepest woe their clammy pall
Spread o'er thy heart with cold, insidious chill,
May Heav'n's transcendent peace in bright rays fall,
Dispersing gloom and healing ev'ry ill !
May thy Life's sky be seldom overcast,
And each year be still happier than the last !

December 3.

WHENE'ER Life brings thee golden weather:
When sunshine reigns for weeks together,
And all is calm and bright,
Forget not Him who gave thee gladness,
Lest He should turn thy joy to sadness,
In sorrow's gloomy Night.

December 4.

WHENE'ER adversity's keen sword
Is turned to pierce thy throbbing heart,
May gracious Heaven ever ward
From thee the blow, and strength impart
To fight if need be to the death!
But thou must wear the breastplate, Faith.

December 5.

MAY dear friends ever bless thy life,
To comfort thee, when griefs are rife,
And smooth thy pathway day by day!
Oh, never drive such friends away
By anger, doubt, or carping blame,
But make their happiness thine aim.

December 6.

HAPPY is childhood, as a summer's day
When griefs fall lightly, passing soon away:
May all thy days be just as free from care,
And, as a child knows nought of Life's despair,
May thy heart ever hope in trusting faith,
And Heav'nly gladness shall illume thy path!

December 7.

IF you to wear the Crown aspire,
Your Cross e'er carry patiently!
Let your bold heart be filled with fire
To fight life's battle valiantly:—
For every worldly joy resigned,
A Heavenly blessing you shall find!

December 8.

IF thou wouldst happy be on earth,
Perfection seek not in thy friends,
Gauge not too closely each one's worth—
Some fault with every virtue blends;
Let love control thine estimate—
For no man is immaculate!

December 9.

AS swift before the dawn retreats the night
So grief retires before joy's happy light;
Heav'n's glorious beams our darkened path illume,
Dispelling every shade of sorrow's gloom:
Oh may this comfort e'er to thee be giv'n—
To see through life the cheering rays of Heav'n!

December 10.

AS dawns again thy happy natal day.
May Love's sun shed its brightness on thy way!
If clouds at times cast o'er their shadow dark:
Cruel blasts assail thy life's fair fragile barque,
E'er trust in God! To Him for succour pray!

December 11.

MAY Heav'n e'er give this priceless boon to you—
To be unto yourself as to all others true!
Be firm and noble in the cause of right,
And for the helpless ever strive and fight—
And while a happy peace to you is giv'n,
Your feet shall tread the blissful path to Heav'n!

December 12.

MAY thy heart, like a tuneful harp,
Swell out a perfect harmony
Of love and spotless purity,
Which worldliness can never warp!
May thy face with a sweet peace shine
That speaks of Love that is Divine!

December 13.

AS pure as waters from a mountain spring,
May all thy life in stainless action flow!
Ne'er may thy feet in idle wandering,
'Twixt vice and virtue falter to and fro;
And happiness thy noble aims will bless,
More precious than the fickle world's caress.

December 14.

THINE may appear a thorny path,
That traverses Life's pleasant vale,
But do not let thy courage fail;
For roses deck the victor's wreath
Held out to thee where ends the painful road:
There pilgrims lose for aye their galling load.

December 15.

ALTERNATING in light and shade,
Thy years speed on in silent flight—
May each glad day reluctant fade
Into the shadow of brief night,
Scarce darkened ere the sun again
Delights thee by his cheerful reign!

December 16.

MAY this be thy course throughout thy life—
To transform to peace all baneful strife:
From virtue to virtue to proceed:—
From strength to fresh strength the way shall lead!—
From knowledge to knowledge, till thy soul
Shall reach triumphant Heav'n's final goal!

December 17.

BLEST is the soul that loves not Earth,
But waits expectant for that birth
To perfect joy that Heaven gives!—
O what a bliss in that thought lives!
Eternal Life the future brings—
Perchance upon to-morrow's wings!

December 18.

GLIDE slowly out each sandy grain
Of life remaining to the year,
If gladsome days my friends have seen!
But if grief dimmed their skies serene,
Unfriendly year, swift disappear,
And with thee mem'ries of our pain!

December 19.

YEARN not for the glare of great prosperity,
For e'en as the sun, fierce blazing in the sky,
Attracts wat'ry clouds, that gloomy shadows cast,
And rain-floods discharge ere many days be past—
Wealth brings many cares and sorrows in its train:
While competency brings peace and little pain!

December 20.

AS flowers flung idly on the tide
Float swiftly on till lost at sea,
Thy gifts, if lightly cast aside,
Shall nevermore return to thee!
When they have left thy hands thou'lt yearn for them once more,
But all in vain! Through life their loss thou shalt deplore!

December 21.

O'ER life's expansive, boundless main
Thy barque is sailing! Mayst thou gain
The peaceful Harbour! Oh, avoid
The whirlpool wherein are destroyed
Full many a rich and goodly freight!
Heav'n save thee from such ruthless fate!

December 22.

ABOVE life's crags, so steep and sharp,
That pierce and wound thy weary feet,
Resounds a glad, angelic harp,
Inviting thee, with strains so sweet,
To climb the steeps, though struggling hard,
For great shall be thy soul's reward!

December 23.

LET all thy works be wrought while yet 'tis day,
For nightfall surely cometh! Who can say
At what hour darkness shall thy feet enshroud,
Or how or where thou shalt in death be bowed?
Light flees apace, O may thy toil be done
Ere fades for thee the glory of the sun!

December 24.

AS spotless as the crystal snow,
That spreads its mantle o'er the lanes
And country meads, may thy soul shine
With whitest lustre, pure, divine!
And, as all vice within thee wanes,
May noble ways and virtues grow!

December 25.

HOW blessed art thou! The Birthday of the Lord
Is also thine! O ponder on this well,
And Earth's passions strive earnestly to quell.
Let thy life show with Christ's a sweet accord!
Let love for Him burn with undying flame,
And thou shalt find peace in His holy name!

December 26.

MAY Time emblazon on his scroll
Of stainless fame, another name;
And when Death calls the muster roll
Mayst thou the honoured title claim!
Life's every trial, then, endure,
And keep thy spirit firm and pure!

December 27.

THE closing hours approach of the old year,
His agèd head is white, his face is sere,
Though cheerful yet, and will be to the last:
O may thy years as peacefully be passed
That age may find thee still with smiling eyes
That look with joy expectant to the skies!



December 28.

THY virtuous plans may Heaven bless
With the desired complete success!
If they be founded on pure ground
Thine aspirations may be crowned
With happiness or lasting fame!
But thou must work in Heaven's Name!

December 29.

MAY all thy griefs depart for aye,
As snow-drifts melt and pass away
Beneath the genial, smiling sun!
So may thy sorrows—every one
Be seen no more! May mem'ry bring
But recollections of the Spring!

December 30.

IF thou shouldst ever sadly sit alone,
While Heav'n is hid, and clouded dismally,
Think of each cloud as some bright angel's throne,
From whence his loving eye regardeth thee!
The glorious sky with radiance is bright—
Refraction of Heav'n's grand, unfading light!

December 31.

O MAY the wraith of happy years
Attend thee in thy future days!
May every mem'ry that endears
The past shine clearly out always,
That faded joys may bloom again
In times of weariness and pain!

GEORGE WELLS.





