

FREEDOM

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CARE not who were vicious back of
me,
No shadow of their sins on me is
shed.

My will is greater than heredity,

I am no worm to feed upon the dead.

My face, my form, my gestures and my voice,

May be reflections from a race that was.

But this I know, and knowing it, rejoice

I am myself a part of the Great Cause.

I am a spirit ! Spirit would suffice,

If rightly used, to set a chained world free.

Am I not stronger than a mortal vice

That crawls the length of some ancestral tree?