

"RAISE YOUR VISOR."

Come, raise your visor, worthy Knight,
And shield your ready steel;
'Tis meet within this hall to-night,
At home, at ease to feel.

Hate, envy, fear, deceit and doubt,
Man's vilest foes since Adam's fall,
By loyal Knighthood put to rout,
Live not within the castle hall.

What nobler work, what grander theme
Was e'er bequeathed a secret band?
The weak and falling to redeem,
Blessed by an omnipresent hand.

'Tis here that caution's warning voice
Is made indelible and clear,
'Tis here true friendship may rejoice,
Untrammelled by a sense of fear.

For wrong construction has no place,
With any speech, in any zone,
Where caution is taught the human race,
And charity surrounds the home.

Then where sweet charity is found,
There caution will appeal;
And pure benevolence is bound
To linger ever near.

'Til pain and grief, disease and care,
By stronger will and gentler hand,
Their brighter robes are made to wear,
Beneath the K. P.'s mystic band.

Then kindle each fraternal fire,
Turn on true Pythian light;
Let friendship every soul inspire,
With justice, truth and might.

And when benevolence doth burn
The fuel from caution's hand,
The oil of friendship in the urn
Will perfume every land.

Until the Chancellor Supreme,
Grand Sovereign King of all,
Shall raise His visor and redeem
Us in His Castle Hall.

—H. A. STANLEY,
in "Pythian Advocate."

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