

THE ACTOR



MAN, with your wonderful dower,
O woman, with genius and grace,
You can teach the whole world with
your power,
If you are but worthy the place.

The stage is a force and a factor
In moulding the thought of the day,
If only the heart of the actor
Is high as the theme of the play.

No discourse or sermon can reach us
Through feeling to reason like you ;
No author can stir us and teach us
With lessons as subtle and true.
Your words and your gestures obeying
We weep or rejoice with your part,
And the player, behind all his playing,
He ought to be great as his art.