

Give all thou canst; high Heaven rejects the lore
 Of nicely-calculated less or more;
 So deemed the man who fashioned for the sense
 These lofty pillars, spread that branching roof,
 Self-poised and scooped into ten thousand cells, 10
 Where light and shade repose, where music dwells
 Linger—*and wandering on as loath to die;*
 Like thoughts whose very sweetness yieldeth proof
 That they were born for immortality.

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They dreamt not of a perishable home
 Who thus could build. Be mine, in hours of fear
 Or grovelling thought, to seek a refuge here;
 Or through the aisles of Westminster to roam:
 Where bubbles burst, and folly's dancing foam 5
 Melts, if it cross the threshold; where the wreath
 Of awe-struck wisdom droops: or let my path
 Lead to that younger Pile, whose sky-like dome

6-7. In works of love and piety, as in works of beauty, we should not grudge a generous outlay, but should give to the fullness of our power.

lore = *teaching, doctrine, principle.*

9. **These lofty pillars.** There are no actual pillars. The buttresses of the walls have the appearance from within of pillars.

that branching roof. The roof is of stone delicately carved.

10. **Self-poised.** The roof depends upon the buttresses of the walls alone. There are no supporting pillars along the aisles.

scooped into ten thousand cells. The hollows of the carvings.

8. **that younger Pile.** St. Paul's Cathedral, London. Westminster was begun in the 13th century. St. Paul's was built in 1675.

whose sky-like dome. Imitated from the Oriental dome of St. Peter's, Rome.