

Make Jealousy but seldom conscience's banker ;  
 And let not estimate of thine own worth  
 Blind thee to else that's good upon the earth.  
 Thy parent's training of thee was intended,  
 The human faults in thee well to have mended ;  
 But ( and I say it with an honest grief,  
 And saying it am thoughtful very brief )  
 Thou surely knowest since she fell from grace,  
 That her poor steed has had but sorry pace,  
 And that her mind once envied and admired,  
 Has 'neath hot madness hopelessly retired.  
 Accept thou, son, of warning Fate's example,  
 The joys that be and privileges ample  
 Reach not for heaven lest from earth you fall ;"  
 And rang with cheers the loud applauding hall.  
 Now this was sound advice we all well know ;  
 And being sound we all should praise the flow  
 Of morals from Beriah brave and strong,  
 In the defence of right 'gainst raid of wrong.  
 But people always have their own opinions,  
 And thoughtful minds find ever ready minions  
 To swell alternatives and make one's choice  
 Most difficult ; and so with goodly voice  
 Theobald, second pledge of Marcia's love,  
 Does rise himself an orator to prove.  
 The proof was needless ; all his hearers knew  
 He had one thought and vented not a few.  
 One thought he had I say ; I'll tell it you,  
 But will not say how, when or where it grew.  
 It was his own by other folk untouched ;  
 For hands are seldom clean when filth is cluched.  
 He thought, and deeply, yet alone he thought  
 That all his sisters had unhappy lot,