

TO A GOOD FRIEND

When I remember how we two are friends
My heart is filled with comfort and content;
In this my searching was not vainly spent,
And life for many stripes has made amends.
Not for to-day our help and kindness is,
Not for a year, nor for the mortal span,
Time cannot end this good that time began;
Thus in the scale is grief outweighed by bliss.
Oh fortunate, to draw twin pearls unspoiled
Wan from the wilful waters of men's war;
Oh blest, the world, the flesh, the devil foiled,
To bind them on our brows forevermore,
The while our souls from petty cares assoiled
Raise up their heads immortal, seeing far!