Freedom To Grow

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It does not give new power to grow,
To learn what men believed;
Men kindle truly, when they know
The work men have achieved.

The soul its richest growth attains,
When from all bondage freed;
We should not bind it with the chains
Of prejudice or creed.

The revelations of past years,
Should stimulate, no bind;
No ancient thought, no hoary fears,
Can check the strong, free mind.

The victories mankind has won,
Should point to duties new;
The noble work the past has done,
Should guide to broader view.

True leaders are the men who dare
To climb alone, to see
A higher vision in clear air
From cloud and darkness free.