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"The Institution of the dear love of comrades"

—WALT WHITMAN.

The Whitman Club of Bon Echo

Founded by FLORA MACDONALD

Neither master nor servant am I. —WALT WHITMAN.

Walt Whitman

By Flora MacDonald

Ingersoll said at the grave of Walt Whitman:—"Thousands and millions will walk down into the 'dark valley of the shadow' holding Walt Whitman by the hand." This was literally true as Horace Crossed the Bar holding Walt by the hand. The Mystic, the Prophet, Poet, Seer, Philosopher, Individualist, Democrat was in the hour of need the Supreme Friend.

Walt Whitman placed friendship on a higher pedestal and a firmer foundation than it had ever been. He held open the door of Immortality and gave us a glimpse of everlasting friendship. He extended his friendship to all and what he realized in Horace and Horace realized in him—"All will come up to and pass beyond." Walt Whitman has been the great positive spiritualizing force, absolutely refuting the conclusions of materialistic science by including all their findings and infusing them with the divine fire of an immortal soul.

He does not separate matter and spirit. He glorifies each by each. He does not make them equal, he makes them identical—He so fills all space with the Glory of God that there is no room left for anything else and we all become permeated with this Glory. He transforms, transmutes, translates, and transfigures, and protests against anything less than Immortality.

It is not that each day, more and more Walt Whitman is coming into "His Own" but that through him each day more and more we are all coming into "Our Own." Life is one everlasting miracle and Whitman is its great apostle.