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## AMBITION AND PRAISE.



*"I charge, thee, Cromwell, fling away ambition."*



AMBITION fling thou not away  
Except the baser kind ;  
Nay, rather strive to bring in play  
All virtues of thy mind.  
'Tis both the duty and the right  
Of every earnest man  
To mark afar the distant height,  
And reach it if he can.  
Let not a talent buried lie ;  
Swift follow thoug it with deed,  
For winged life is flitting by  
And instant is the need.  
Awaken every dormant power,  
Its fullest service give ;  
Relax not till the latest hour  
Life's every moment live.  
With dauntless energy of soul  
Each nerve unwearied strain  
To reach the very farthest goal  
Thy geni<sup>s</sup> may attain.  
If thou outrun the foremost van,  
Relinquish not the strife ;  
For he is nearest perfect man  
That makes the most of life.  
If honest lips with praise reward  
Thy honest word or deed,  
Conteain it not nor disregard,  
Accept it as thy need.  
Too seldom far a noble name  
A noble life repays ;  
Too many are the lips that blame,  
Too few that utter praise.  
If, in our proper thoughts we trust  
Some merit God may see,  
The praises of the good or just  
Cannot unfitting be.  
Then seek deserts of honest worth  
By honest judgments given ;  
Who wins the praises of the earth  
May win the praise of Heaven.