

**THE EARLY POEMS
OF JAMES RUSSELL
LOWELL**

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The Early Poems of James Russell Lowell by James Russell Lowell & Nathan Haskell Dole

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JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL & NATHAN HASKELL DOLE

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JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

THE EARLY POEMS
OF
JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

WITH
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

BY
NATHAN HASKELL DOLE.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH	vii
APPLEDORE	1
TO THE DANDELION	4
DARA	7
TO J. F. H.	10
PROMETHEUS	12
ROSALINE	26
SONNET	31
A GLANCE BEHIND THE CURTAIN	31
A SONG	42
THE MOON	43
THE FATHERLAND	45
A PARABLE	46
ON THE DEATH OF A FRIEND'S CHILD	48
AN INCIDENT IN A RAILROAD CAR	51
AN INCIDENT OF THE FIRE AT HAMBURGH	54
SONNETS	58
THE UNHAPPY LOT OF MR. KNOTT	61
HAKON'S LAY	94
TO THE FUTURE	97
OUT OF DOORS	100
A REVERIE	103
IN SADNESS	105
FAREWELL	107
A DIRGE	112
FANCIES ABOUT A ROSEBUD	119
NEW YEAR'S EVE, 1844	122

	PAGE
A MYSTICAL BALLAD	127
OPENING POEM TO "A YEAR'S LIFE"	132
DEDICATION TO "A YEAR'S LIFE"	133
THRENODIA	133
THE SERENADE	138
SONG	141
THE DEPARTED	142
THE BOBOLINK	147
FORGETFULNESS	151
SONG	152
THE POET	153
FLOWERS	154
THE LOVER	161
TO E. W. G.	162
ISABEL	165
MUSIC	167
SONG	172
IANTHE	175
LOVE'S ALTAR	182
MY LOVE	184
WITH A PRESSED FLOWER	187
IMPARTIALITY	188
BELLEROPHON	189
SOMETHING NATURAL	195
THE SIRENS	196
A FEELING	200
THE BEGGAR	201
SERENADE	203
IRENE	204
THE LOST CHILD	207
THE CHURCH	208
THE UNLOVELY	210
LOVE-SONG	212
SONG	213
A LOVE-DREAM	216
FOURTH OF JULY ODE	218
SPHINX	220
"GOE, LITTLE BOOKE,"	223
A FABLE FOR CRITICS	225
THE VISION OF SIR LAUNFAL	326

CONTENTS.

V

SONNETS:	PAGE
I. Disappointment	342
II. Great Human Nature	342
III. To a Friend	343
IV. So may it be	343
V. O Child of Nature	344
VI. "For this true nobleness"	345
VII. To ———	345
VIII. Might I but be beloved	346
IX. Why should we ever weary?	346
X. Green Mountains	347
XI. My Friend, adorn Life's Valley	348
XII. Verse cannot say	348
XIII. The soul would fain	349
XIV. I saw a gate	349
XV. I would not have this perfect love	350
XVI. To the dark, narrow house	351
XVII. I fain would give to thee	351
XVIII. Much I had mused of Love	352
XIX. Sayest thou, most beautiful	352
XX. Poet, who sittest in thy pleasant room	353
XXI. "No more but so?"	354
XXII. To a Voice heard in Mount Auburn	354
XXIII. On Reading Spenser again	355
XXIV. Light of mine eyes!	356
XXV. Silent as one who treads	356
XXVI. A gentleness that grows	357
XXVII. When the glad soul	357
XXVIII. To the Evening-Star	358
XXIX. Reading	359
XXX. To ———, after a Snow-Storm	359
SONNETS ON NAMES:	
I. Edith	361
II. Rose	361
III. Mary	362
IV. Caroline	363
V. Anne	363

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

IN the year 1639 Percival Lowle, or Lowell, a merchant of Bristol, England, landed at the little seaport town of Newbury, Mass.

We generally speak of a man's descent. In the case of James Russell Lowell's ancestry it was rather an ascent through eight generations. Percival Lowle's son, John L. Lowell, was a worthy cooper in old Newbury; his great-grandson was a shoemaker, his great-great grandson was the Rev. John Lowell of Newburyport, who was the father of the Hon. John Lowell, by some regarded as the author of the clause in the Massachusetts Constitution abolishing slavery.

Judge Lowell's son, Charles, was a Unitarian minister, "learned, saintly, and discreet." He married Miss Harriet Traill Spence of Portsmouth, — a woman of superior mind, of great wit, vivacity, and an impetuosity that reached eccentricity. She was of Keltic blood, of a family that came from the Orkneys, and claimed descent from the Sir Patrick Spens of "the grand old ballad." Several of her family were connected with the American navy. Her father was Keith Spence, purser of the frigate "Philadelphia," and a prisoner at Tripoli.

By ancestry on both sides, and by connections with the Russells and other distinguished families, Lowell was the best type of the New England gentleman.

He was born on the 22d of February, 1819, at Elmwood, on Brattle Street, Cambridge.

This three-storied colonial mansion of wood was built in