

**A CLUSTER OF
POEMS, FOR THE
HOME AND THE HEART**

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A cluster of poems, for the home and the heart by A. Means

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A. MEANS

**A CLUSTER OF
POEMS, FOR THE
HOME AND THE HEART**



A. Means

A CLUSTER OF POEMS,
FOR THE
HOME AND THE HEART,

GATHERED BY THE AUTHOR AT LEISURE HOURS.

From Nature's gorgeous expanse
Around him,
Her shining worlds
Above him,

Her glowing deeps
Below him,
And from her whispering galleries
Within him.

BY
REV. A. MEANS, D. D., LL. D.
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DEDICATION.

PROMPTED BY A LONG-STANDING PERSONAL ATTACHMENT,

AND BY

VIVID MEMORIES OF THE "AULD LANG SYNE;"

AS WELL AS BY A HIGH ESTIMATE OF

THE MAN, THE MINISTER, and THE BISHOP,

THIS LITTLE VOLUME IS

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED BY THE AUTHOR,

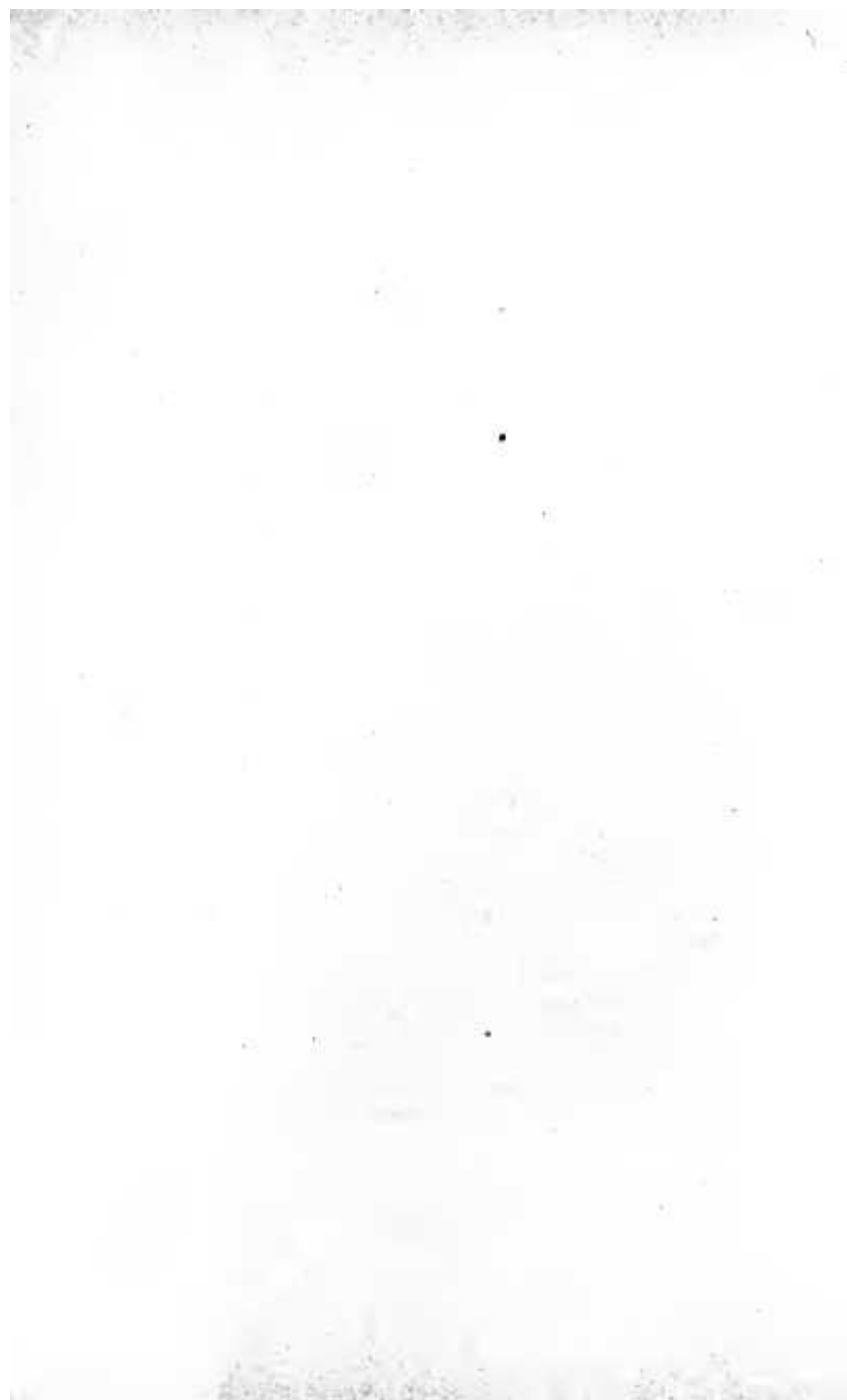
TO THE

REV. GEORGE F. PIERCE, D.D., LL.D.,

BISHOP OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH.

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Preface.

These poetic effusions are the products of leisure hours, gained, through many years past, from the pursuit of heavier and more imperative duties, and are now respectfully and deferentially submitted to the public, at the repeated requests of many friends. Among them will be found Epie, Lyric, and Elegiac Poems, with Sacred Melodies, Sunday School Odes, and a few compositions, designed, when written, as Ministerial Solos, for public and special occasions, and at a time when this element of public worship was more frequently employed than at the present day.

It will be seen that the author has not thought it advisable to arrange and classify these different styles of poetic composition under the several heads to which they may technically belong, but has largely distributed them throughout the volume, as likely to afford the consecutive reader a more agreeable variety than he might expect to enjoy by a methodical aggroupment of each different species of poetry. They are thus presented, then, with the sincere wish and ardent hope, that amid the diversity of themes which they embrace, they may, at least in some slight degree, contribute to please, cheer, and elevate some minds, and excite pure and sublime emotions in some hearts.

In conclusion: as the writer has, from boyhood, ever honored and esteemed the sex of his *mother*, he may be allowed to add, that he has sought to throw a sanctity and loveliness around the character of *woman*—to spring within her new aspirations for a still nobler position in society upon earth, and to charm her with the claims and awards of heaven.

Such as the contents of this volume are, however, they are humbly consecrated to the cause of God and humanity.

