POEMS BY THE WAYSIDE

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Poems by the Wayside by Ida Plumley Bartlett

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IDA PLUMLEY BARTLETT

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BY

Ida Plumley Bartlett



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INTRODUCTION

It is not the glory attained by the mighty hero on the battlefield, nor yet the fame achieved by the silvertongued orator in his mystle flights of fancy, that moves and stirs the deeper and more enduring emotions of the human heart, but the quiet, brave and coursgeous influence of a friend, who, while nobly living a sincere life of earnest activity, both at her own fireside, and far beyond into public welfare interests, never deems her labor well done without reaching out to help and encourage those by the wayside to rise and attain what it is possible for them to become.

In the midst of pressing duties, and in the quietness of the night season have these little verses taken form in the heart and mind of a loyal wife and mother, an affectionate teacher and friend; one whose ideals have always been of the highest, whose sense of right and wrong of the keenest, whose every aim has been to right the wrong to the fullest extent of her power and strength wherever possible.

Well might the poet have had this little book in mind when he wrote,

"Read from some humbler poet Whose songs gushed from his beart As showers from the clouds of summer, Or tears from the eyelids start, Who through long days of labor And nights devoid of ease, Still heard in his soul the music Of wonderful melodies, Such songs have power to quiet The restless pulse of care, And come like the benediction That follows after prayer."

Grace Miner Weston

In Memory of My Mother Lucinda Hinds Plumley

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TO THE MOTHERS WHOSE SOMS WENT OUT IN THE THIRD REGIMENT.

Dear mothers of New Hampshire, Who today have said adieu,

Who have pressed the hand and imprinted a kiss

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On the lips of our boys in blue;

Though your hearts were well-nigh breaking,

You bravely whispered, "God Speed," And each said, "I am proud of my noble boy.

Who responds to his country's need."

And he says, 'I'll defend the dear old flag,

Whatever the cost may be; And I will ever be found faithful On the land and on the sea.'

" 'And then remember, dear mother, That we do not go alone, For Jesus is on the battlefield, As well as in the home.

"He has promised to be with us, Even to the end of the world, And I am sure he will stand by the boys

in blue When "Old Giory" is unfurled.

" 'He who noteth the fall of the sparrow, And counteth the sands of the sea Will surely be our leader

While we make the Cubans free.

"'When we return to the Granite state The flag may be tattered and torn, But we'll come as men, and bring a flag That has never dishonor borne. May 17, 1998

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