

HOME-MADE VERSE

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Home-made Verse by Dwight Burdge

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DWIGHT BURDGE

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VERSE**

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Dwight Burdge

FOREWORD BY
MERLE ST. CROIX WRIGHT, D. D.



BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN
1913

FOREWORD



FOREWORD

The poems that follow were written in the last five years of the author's life, facing the prospect of a certain death, under the handicap of total blindness. They were the safeguard and the relaxation of a mind accustomed to activity, and the improvement of its final opportunity for service. As such they are in need of no apology, but with this explanation, may be more sympathetically received and understood. The fruit of talent, untechnical in form, but clever in conception and construction, they are most versatile in inspiration. Always clear, the thought and feeling are often very fine, the translation of a sane attitude towards life.

In humor and geniality, also, they show distinct success. Manifestly, we find here an efficient nature, original, courageous, capable of communicating the emotions it has experienced. Friends will be delighted with this memorial of brave accomplishment, and strangers must respect the breadth of sentiment, the ingenuity, and the just thought expressed.

While in no way claiming for

this little volume a permanent place in poetry, I feel confident that it will yield a genuine human joy and service to others, as it has to me.

Separation from the manuscript precludes quotation or mention of favorite titles, but I have read all the poems, and at least a dozen and a half of them, in part or in whole, are noteworthy, a good proportion in any poetic output.

I write this foreword in simple justice towards one not known to me, who, in life's heavy handicap, ran well, and showed true form in the defeat of death.

*MERLE ST. CROIX WRIGHT,
Contrexville, France.*

July, 1913

INTRODUCTION