

**THE BEST SHORT POEMS OF THE
NINETEENTH CENTURY; BEING
THE TWENTY-FIVE BEST SHORT
POEMS AS SELECTED BY BALLOT
BY COMPETENT CRITICS**

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The best short poems of the nineteenth century; being the twenty-five best short poems as selected by ballot by competent critics by William S. Lord

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WILLIAM S. LORD

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The Best Short Poems of the
Nineteenth Century.

The Best Short Poems of The Nineteenth Century

BEING THE TWENTY-FIVE BEST
SHORT POEMS AS SELECTED BY
BALLOT BY COMPETENT CRITICS

COMPILED BY

WILLIAM S. LORD

Author of "Blue and Gold," "Jingle and Jangle," etc.



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1899

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TABLE 1	
Year	Number of cases
1980	10
1981	15
1982	20
1983	25
1984	30
1985	35
1986	40
1987	45
1988	50
1989	55
1990	60
1991	65
1992	70
1993	75
1994	80
1995	85
1996	90
1997	95
1998	100
1999	105
2000	110
2001	115
2002	120
2003	125
2004	130
2005	135
2006	140
2007	145
2008	150
2009	155
2010	160
2011	165
2012	170
2013	175
2014	180
2015	185
2016	190
2017	195
2018	200
2019	205
2020	210
2021	215
2022	220
2023	225
2024	230
2025	235
2026	240
2027	245
2028	250
2029	255
2030	260

THE BEST SHORT POEMS OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

1.	THE CHAMBERED NAUTILUS <i>Oliver Wendell Holmes</i>	9
2.	THE BUGLE SONG - - - - <i>Alfred, Lord Tennyson</i>	11
3.	CROSSING THE BAR - - - - <i>Alfred, Lord Tennyson</i>	12
4.	BATTLE HYMN OF THE RE- PUBLIC <i>Julia Ward Howe</i>	13
5.	THE LOST LEADER - - - - <i>Robert Browning</i>	15
6.	ON FIRST LOOKING INTO CHAPMAN'S HOMER - - - <i>John Keats</i>	17
7.	ODE ON A GRECIAN URN - <i>John Keats</i>	18
8.	"SHE WAS A PHANTOM OF DELIGHT" <i>William Wordsworth</i>	20
9.	"THE WORLD IS TOO MUCH WITH US: LATE AND SOON" <i>William Wordsworth</i>	21
10.	A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT - <i>Elizabeth Barrett Browning</i>	22
11.	LIGHT - - - - - <i>Francis William Bourdillon</i>	24
12.	TO A WATERFOWL - - - - <i>William Cullen Bryant</i>	25
13.	THE THREE FISHERS - - - <i>Charles Kingsley</i>	27
14.	LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT - - - <i>John Henry Newman</i>	28
15.	ISRAEL - - - - - <i>Edgar Allan Poe</i>	29
16.	TEARS, IDLE TEARS - - - <i>Alfred, Lord Tennyson</i>	31
17.	BREAK, BREAK, BREAK - - <i>Alfred, Lord Tennyson</i>	32
18.	THE BURIAL OF SIR JOHN MOORE - - - - - <i>Charles Wolfe</i>	33
19.	A COURT LADY - - - - - <i>Elizabeth Barrett Browning</i>	35
20.	PROSPICE - - - - - <i>Robert Browning</i>	39
21.	CONCORD FIGHT - - - - - <i>Ralph Waldo Emerson</i>	40
22.	ADOU BEN ADHEM - - - - <i>Leigh Hunt</i>	41
23.	NIGHT - - - - - <i>Percy Bysshe Shelley</i>	42
24.	NIGHT AND DEATH - - - - <i>Joseph Blanco White</i>	44
25.	DAFFODILS - - - - - <i>William Wordsworth</i>	45

Levi L. Barlow Bequest
1-3-30

NOTE.

TWO hundred representative literary people were recently asked for a list of "twenty-five of the best short poems (limit fifty lines) written in the English language in the nineteenth century." This request met with a ready response. Lists were received from prominent poets, critics, editors, educators, and others interested in poetry. These lists were carefully prepared. The names of those who so kindly gave valuable time and study in preparing them would be given had not the request been made, in a number of instances, that the list submitted be considered confidential. This emphasizes the value of the verdict as being a perfectly free expression of the minds best qualified to judge of the merits of the poetry of the period.

No individual list is given. The twenty-five poems which received the highest number of votes will, it is hoped, make an acceptable "nut-shell anthology." They are arranged in order according to the ballots cast, "The Chambered Nautilus," which received the highest vote, being number one on the list.

A supplementary list of two hundred poems is arranged alphabetically by authors. These poems received votes, but none received enough to place it among the first twenty-five.

It is, perhaps, worthy of note that when these lists were prepared Mr. Kipling had not written "Recessional," which would undoubtedly, at this time, be placed well among the first.

The names of Lowell, Longfellow and Whittier do