

**THE POEMS OF
HENRY ABBEY**

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The poems of Henry Abbey by Henry Abbey

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HENRY ABBEY

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FACIEBAT.

As thoughts possess the fashion of the mood
That gave them birth, so every deed we do
Partakes of our inborn disquietude
That spurns the old and reaches toward the new.
The noblest works of human art and pride
Show that their makers were not satisfied.

For, looking down the ladder of our deeds,
The rounds seem slender: all past work appears
Unto the doer faulty: the heart bleeds,
And pale Regret comes weltering in tears,
To think how poor our best has been, how vain,
Beside the excellence we would attain.

ALONG THE NILE.

We journey up the storied Nile;
The lightsome water seems to smile;
The slow and swarthy boatman sings;
The quaint dahbeyeh spreads her wings;
We catch the breeze and sail away,
Along the dawning of the day,
Along the East, wherein the morn
Of life and truth was gladly born.

We sail along the past, and see
Great Thebes with Karnak at her knee.