

# **LATTER-DAY POEMS**

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Latter-day poems by William Cowie

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**WILLIAM COWIE**

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BY  
WILLIAM COWIE



SYRACUSE NEW YORK  
WOLCOTT'S BOOKSHOP  
1904

## PREFACE

I KNOW that some of these poems, in slip or manuscript form, have given pleasure to some people, and it is in the hope that they will give pleasure to more that I venture to put this book before the public. Some of them—"Where the Rest have Gone," "Going to Church" and "Consistent Dying," for instance—will probably not give pleasure but the reverse of it to the strictly orthodox in religious matters; to these good and respected people I say that it was never in my mind wantonly or unnecessarily to attack or belittle the faith of any one, but only to express honestly my own views. I have a very sincere respect for a sincere believer, no matter what may be my opinion of the belief itself; nor do I forget that that opinion of mine may be of very small consequence. If it be thought that I have sometimes aimed at individuals, I answer that it was never the individual but rather the *type* I had in mind. Possibly some of the pieces might pru-



## Preface

dently have been excluded on the score of too much "subjectivity," but I have often observed that verses of which I thought highly were the least liked by other people, and *vice versa*, so I put them all in and let them speak for themselves. I hope that one or two of them will carry their own suggestion that they are not to be taken in the most deadly seriousness.

W. C.

SYRACUSE, March, 1904.

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