WORK-A-DAY POEMS

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Work-a-day poems by Fançhon

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FANÇHON

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EV

FANCHON.

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TO THE

WORKERS OF THE WORK-A-DAY WORLD THIS LITTLE BOOK OF

POEMS

IS SYMPATHETICALLY AND EXCLUSIVELY DEDICATED BY THE

AUTHORESS,

WHO SINCERELY HOPES THEY MAY FIND IN IT

WORDS OF COMFORT AND AMUSEMENT, AND ALSO THAT,

BEING A FIRST EFFORT,

THEY WILL

KINDLY OVERLOOK ITS MANY IMPERFECTIONS.

F. E. S.

"Angel of Love and of Mercy,

Come with thy bright wings unfurl'd,

Heal them, and bless them, and lift them

Out of this work-a-day world."

—Jessie Moir.

POEMS.

SHATTERED IDOLS.

Do they come in every lifetime, Those sweet enchanting dreams Of noble aspirations, Of glorious, lovely scenes? Of a life well-spent and useful, Of a gentle, loving bride, Who knows your heart As you know hers, And is ever by your side. Of children sweet and beautiful Of loving friends and true, Oh! tell me ye who read this, Have you not dreamt them too? To many they are realised, But many more, alas ! Have only shattered idols, Fond illusions of the past. Will there come a time hereafter, To those who have felt the pain, Of sweet desires, unsatisfied, And longings ever vain; When all those fond illusions, Dreams, fancies of the past, Will be living sweet realities, In a fairer land at last?

LIFE.

What is life? How oft that question Has been whispered in the air; What is life? will still be echoed By many sad bearts in despair. What is life? Ah! who can tell us; To each it takes a different guise. What is life? we ask the idler, Living in frivolity. What is life? he answers lightly, Life is just society. What is life? we ask the outcast, Tramping sadly on his way. Life is bread, he answers grimly To a poor starving wretch, I say. Life is art, exclaims the artist; Life is learning, says the sage; Life is loving, sighs the lover; Life is fighting, cries the brave : Life is nothing, yells the madman, Rushing blindly to the grave; Life is laughing, sing the children, Blowing bubbles in the air; Life is sorrow, murmurs sadly Many a poor heart in despair; Life is like a mighty river, Sings the poet in the song,