

Virtue — A. Sound

VIRTUE — such as the ORATOR of Rome,
 Declared to be the freeman's brightest crown; —
 Found 'neath the straw-thatched roof, or gilded dome,
 On desert wild, or in the crowded town;
 Wherever patriot-courage strives with wrong,
 Or suffering waits for God's appointment long;
 Wherever Man or Woman finds a work,
 And ^{nobly} strives a mission to perform. —
 Whose animating voice, e'en now, doth lurk,
 In every whisper of the Winter's storm,
 Calling alike upon the weak and strong; —
 Be this the burthen of our humble song.