

***EMILY  
DICKINSON***

***POEMS  
BY EMILY  
DICKINSON,  
THIRD  
SERIES***

**Emily Dickinson**

# **Poems by Emily Dickinson, Third Series**

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## **PREFACE.**

The intellectual activity of Emily Dickinson was so great that a large and characteristic choice is still possible among her literary material, and this third volume of her verses is put forth in response to the repeated wish of the admirers of her peculiar genius. Much of Emily Dickinson's prose was rhythmic, —even rhymed, though frequently not set apart in lines.

Also many verses, written as such, were sent to friends in letters; these were published in 1894, in the volumes of her *Letters*. It has not been necessary, however, to include them in this Series, and all have been omitted, except three or four exceptionally strong ones, as "A Book," and "With Flowers."

There is internal evidence that many of the poems were simply spontaneous flashes of insight, apparently unrelated to outward circumstance. Others, however, had an obvious personal origin; for example, the verses "I had a Guinea golden," which seem to have been sent to some friend travelling in Europe, as a dainty reminder of letter-writing delinquencies. The surroundings in which any of Emily Dickinson's verses are known to have been written usually serve to explain them clearly; but in general the present volume is full of thoughts needing no interpretation to those who apprehend this scintillating spirit.

**M. L. T.**

AMHERST, *October*, 1896.

# **I. LIFE.**

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## **POEMS.**

### **I.**

#### **REAL RICHES.**

'T is little I could care for pearls  
Who own the ample sea;  
Or brooches, when the Emperor  
With rubies pelteth me;  
Or gold, who am the Prince of Mines;  
Or diamonds, when I see  
A diadem to fit a dome  
Continual crowning me.

### **II.**

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#### **SUPERIORITY TO FATE.**

Superiority to fate  
Is difficult to learn.

'T is not conferred by any,  
But possible to earn  
    A pittance at a time,  
Until, to her surprise,  
The soul with strict economy  
Subsists till Paradise.

### **III.**

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## **HOPE.**

Hope is a subtle glutton;  
He feeds upon the fair;  
And yet, inspected closely,  
What abstinence is there!  
    His is the halcyon table  
That never seats but one,  
And whatsoever is consumed  
The same amounts remain.