# A WILLING OFFERING

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A Willing Offering by Anonymous

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#### **ANONYMOUS**

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" Who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord  $t^{**}$  1 Chron. xxix, 5.

"All things come of Thee, and of Thine own bare we given Thee: "

1 Chron. xxix, 14.

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280. 6. 66.

TO

#### My Mother

THE FOLLOWING PAGES

ARE

AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

33/3/8

#### PREFACE.

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The writer of the following simple verses feels, that in offering them to others for their perusal, some apology is perhaps needed. They were never composed with any view to publication, but merely written from time to time as the thoughts occurred. They lay claim to no intrinsic value; they are only printed with the hope of realizing a small sum for the benefit of a most distressing case, in which the writer's warmest sympathies are enlisted, and the details of which may possibly interest those to whom this appeal is made. The poor sufferer is a clergyman of the Church of England, who formerly held a curacy in Kent, and was distinguished for his earnestness, devotion to God's

service, and eloquence as a preacher. He is now utterly unable to discharge the duties of his profession, being afflicted with creeping paralysis. The sad disease, advancing slowly but surely, has not only deprived him completely of speech, but also weakened the powers of his mind, so that in no way can he contribute to the support of his wife and four children. With the earnest hope of mitigating in some degree such suffering, and in simple reliance upon Him who can command a blessing, this effort has been made. Should it induce any whom He has blest with means to stretch forth a hand to the helpless, the writer's object in publishing these verses will have been attained.

### 3 Milling Offering.

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"Have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me: " Jos xix, 21.

On! ye whom God hath richly dowered
With this world's golden store,
I lay, in loving sympathy,
A sufferer at your door.
Anguish of body, mental care,
Have chronicled each day,
And fell disease, with measured step,
Creeps slowly on its way.

Whilst human skill must stand aside
And own its power is nought,
The Great Physician only holds
The remedy, love sought.
All hope on earth has well-nigh fled,
He must the burthen bear,
Yet crushing seems the sorrow, linked
So closely with despair.

And he for whom I now would plead
Hath gently nurtured been,
He little dreamed life's close should be
So dark and drear a scene.
That penury should rudely press
Within his homestead fair,
And darken with its shadow dense
The sunshine nestling there.

Ambassador of Christ he was,
Bearing his words of love,
And many a soul his crown shall be
In heaven's bright courts above.

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Those lips that breathed his Master's name No more may utterance find; And sadder still disease hath laid Its finger on the mind.

Oh! trifling is the help I crave,
A mite ye will not miss,
The overflowings of a cup
Brimming with earthly bliss.
Say will ye not a portion send
To him and his this day?
Remembering to the Lord ye lend
What He will well repay.

"A soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger:" Paov. xv, 1.

> Off the hasty speech escapes us, We may deem its influence light, Could we read the hearts around us, We should tremble at the sight.