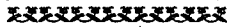


AMERICAN WOMEN POETS

of the Nineteenth Century



An Anthology

Edited by Cheryl Walker

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Lucretia Davidson

~~E'en now, as weary of the tedious way,  
Thy head on Ocean's bosom thou dost lay;  
In his blue waves thou hid'st thy shining face,  
And gloomy darkness takes its vacant place.~~

The Sun

[In Continuation]

~~Darting his rays the sun now glorious rides,  
And from his path fell darkness quick divides;  
Vapor dissolves and shrinks at his approach.  
It dares not on his blazing path encroach;  
Down droops the flow'ret, and his burning ray  
Scorches the workmen o'er the new-mown hay.  
O lamp of Heaven, pursue thy glorious course,  
Nor till gray twilight, aught abate thy force.~~

LINES

Written under the Promise of Reward

Whene'er the Muse pleases to grace my dull page,  
At the sight of *reward*, she flies off in a rage;  
Prayers, threats, and entreaties I frequently try,  
But she leaves me to scribble, to fret, and to sigh.

She torments me each moment, and bids me go write,  
And when I obey her, she laughs at the sight;  
The rhyme will not jingle, the verse has no sense,  
And against all her insults I have no defense.

Lucretia Davidson

I advise all my friends, who wish me to write,  
To keep their rewards and their praises from sight;  
So that jealous Miss Muse won't be wounded in pride,  
Nor Pegasus rear, till I've taken my ride.

BYRON

His faults were great, his virtues less,  
His mind a burning lamp of heaven;  
His talents were bestowed to bless,  
But were as vainly lost as given.

His was a harp of heavenly sound,  
The numbers wild, and bold, and clear;  
But ah! some demon, hovering round,  
Tuned its sweet chords to Sin and Fear.

His was a mind of giant mould,  
Which grasped at all beneath the skies;  
And his a heart, so icy cold,  
That virtue in its recess dies.

SHAKESPEARE

Shakespeare! "with all thy faults (and few have more)  
I love thee still," and still will con thee o'er.  
Heaven, in compassion to man's erring heart,  
Gave thee of virtue, then of vice a part,