

We Love the Venerable House  
Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1833.  
Lowell Mason, 1832.

We love the venerable house  
Our fathers built to God;  
In Heaven are kept their grateful vows,  
Their dust endears the sod.

Here holy thoughts a light have shed  
From many a radiant face,  
And prayers of humble virtue spread  
The perfume of the place.

And anxious hearts have pondered here  
The mystery of life,  
And prayed th'eternal Light to clear  
Their doubts and aid their strife.

From humble tenements around  
Came up the pensive train,  
And in the church a blessing found,  
That filled their homes again.

For faith, and peace, and mighty love,  
That from the Godhead flow,  
Showed them the life of Heaven above  
Springs from the life below.

They live with God their homes are dust;  
Yet here their children pray,  
And in this fleeting lifetime trust  
To find the narrow way.