

I Dared Not Hope

Edwin Hatch(1835-1889)

Henry Smart, 1872.

I dared not hope that Thou wouldst deign to come  
And make this lowly heart of mine Thy home,  
That Thou wouldst deign, O King of kings, to be  
E'en for one hour a sojourner in me;  
Yet art Thou always here to help, and bless,  
And lift the load of my great sinfulness.

I dared not ever hope for such a Guide  
To walk with me my faltering steps beside,  
To help me when I fall, and when I stray  
Constrain me gently to the better way;  
Yet art Thou always at my side to be  
A Counselor and a Comforter to me.

I do not always go where Thou dost lead,  
I do not always Thy soft whispers heed;  
I follow other lights, and, in my sin,  
I vex with many a slight my Friend within:  
Yet Thou dost not, though grieved, from me depart,  
But guardest still Thy place within my heart.