

Let Something Good Be Said
James Whitcomb Riley(1849-1916)
French Oliver, 1908.

When o'er the fame of friend or foe,
The shadow of disgrace shall fall; instead
Of words of blame, or fatal blow
Let something good be said.

Refrain

And so I charge ye by the thorny crown,
And by the cross on which the Savior bled,
And by your own soul's hope of fair renown:
Let something be good said.

Forget not grace, no sinner yet
May fall so low but Christ can lift his head,
While cheeks of shame with tears are wet;
Let something be good said.

Refrain

No generous heart may turn aside
To deeds of love if they in sin be dead,
But may awaken glorified,
If something good be said.

Refrain

If cruel words embitter thee,
Turn to the cross on Calvary, where said
The Savior: "O forgive," and see
That something good be said.

Refrain