

I Love Thee.

From the "Republican"

I've sought to estimate the height

And depth of all the pure esteem,
Which sways, with a controlling might,

By every thought, and wish, and dream;
But, boundless as the starry plain
That spreads beyond the finite gaze,
The mind can never ascertain,

Nor comprehend its mighty ways.

||

I know not whence it came, nor how

The thrilling hopes should be construed,
Which animate my spirit now

Amid its dreamy solitude;

But this I know, the purest aim

That elevates my constant heart,

Arises from the sacred flame,

Which these undying hopes impart.

||

Nor can I find in all the lengths

Of pleasant themes, the world reveals,

An emblem of sufficient strength.