

RESOLUTIONS OF GRANDEUR

The wisest men among the rest
Are those whose sins have been confessed;
The strongest men, the men of steel,
Know how to bow their heads and kneel;
The richest men, the really great,
Have learned to humbly pray and wait.

The most attractive girls to see
Have pledged themselves to purity;
The sweetest women, fair of face,
Perfume themselves with words of grace;
And maidens win the beauty prize
With godly fear before their eyes.

If men and women rise to fame,
When poorly planted, empty, lame,
They soar and sparkle just a day,
Then fall, and fan-crowds walk away.
They turn all heads one shining hour:
The taste, so sweet, becomes so sour.

But righteous reputation casts
A silhouette of light that lasts,
While shadows of the famous fade,
As night engulfs pride's deadly shade.
Let holy virtue guide and rule:
The world's renown is for the fool.

— *David L. Hatton, 11/12/1993*