

GIRLHOOD COMPOSITION

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1 From childhood I was a verse-maker. Poetry suited
my emotions better than prose. The following is
3 one of my girlhood productions.

ALPHABET AND BAYONET

If fancy plumes aerial flight,
6 Go fix thy restless mind
On learning's lore and wisdom's might,
And live to bless mankind.
9 The sword is sheathed, 't is freedom's hour,
No despot bears misrule,
Where knowledge plants the foot of power
12 In our God-blessed free school.

Forth from this fount the streamlets flow,
That widen in their course.
15 Hero and sage arise to show
Science the mighty source,
And laud the land whose talents rock
18 The cradle of her power,
And wreaths are twined round Plymouth Rock,
From erudition's bower.

21 Farther than feet of chamois fall,
Free as the generous air,

- 1 Strains nobler far than clarion call
Wake freedom's welcome, where
- 3 Minerva's silver sandals still
Are loosed, and not effete;
Where echoes still my day-dreams thrill,
- 6 Woke by her fancied feet.