

TRUTH

A. L. FRASER

Chaste and clear-eyed, and with an honest face,
Plain, dignified, and gentle in thy mien,
Since Plato's day much honoured hast thou been,
While Beauty lent to thee the charming grace
Of stately speech, and Science learned to trace
Thine ordered movement in each changing scene
Of earth and sky and sea—Nature's demesne,
And mind reserved for thee the noblest place.

Firm hast thou met the assaults of centuries,
Though bigotry oft claimed thee for her own;
Martyrs in dungeons were thy devotees—
In Galilee thy very soul was shown.
Error will yet be beaten to its knees,
And time reserve for thee the world's high throne.