



## Some Hampton Verses.

Alumni Reunion, 1893.

Song—Air, "Angel of Peace."

Dear Hampton we greet thee, thy children draw near,

Thy sons and thy daughters return to thy fold;  
Long years have we wrought that thy fruit may appear.

The tribute we bring thee, thou dearer dost hold

Than gems of the Orient, silver or gold.  
But where is the welcome we hastened to hear?

The strong arm is fallen, the warm breast is cold—

Our General—our Father—why art thou not here?

O Hampton, thy glory lies low in the grave,  
In silence and sorrow thy children must bow;  
He saved those who perished, himself could not save—

But list—in our torn hearts, what voice rises now?

"Not here, but arisen; lift up the sad brow.  
This word he has left you 'Go free every slave,

Grand army of Workers, God's strength shall endow.

O children of Hampton, be tender and brave!"

Dear Hampton, we hear and we answer the call;—  
Thy sons and thy daughters till life's latest breath,

To work as he worked to uplift those who fall—  
We follow him still when we do what he saith,  
"Inspiration his life, consecration his death."

So healing divine on our bruised hearts shall fall,

As a mother her sorrowing child comforteth  
God stay with his Hampton.—God go with us all!  
*H. W. Ludlow.*

Reunion Song, 1890.

Words, A. H. McNEIL, '77.

(Prepared for and sung at the Fifth Triennial Meeting of Hampton graduates at Hampton Institute, May 23d, 1890).

I.

Children of Hampton, we have come;  
We've gathered again in Mater's halls.  
We've come as in past days we have done,  
Seeking strength within her walls.  
From the land of cotton and the cane,  
From the wigwam of the western plain,  
We meet within her doors again,  
True Hampton's sons and daughters.

**Sara A. Collins, H.W. Ludlow and A.H. McNeal**

## *Some Hampton Verses*

Hampton, [Virginia]: Hampton Institute 1893

\$1000

First edition. A single leaf folded to make four pages. Slightly misfolded, a little age-toning, tiny crease at one corner, near fine. Five poems or songs, three of them by Sara A. Collins, the other two by H.W. Ludlow and A.H. McNeal respectively, prepared to be sung at the Alumni Reunion in 1893. Two of the songs by Collins ("Our Chief" and "Song for Reunion, '93") are about the illness and death of General Samuel Armstrong, the President of the College. Sara A. Collins, a teacher who graduated from Hampton in 1882 and earned a Master's Degree in social work from NYU, is best known for founding the first black social settlement house, The Colored Social Settlement in Washington, D.C., where she also started a day care center, school, and public library. She later founded another house in East Greenwich, Rhode Island. Still later, she was employed as the first black social worker at the Baltimore Health Department. She contributed poems to "The Southern Workman" between 1891 and 1937, and published two volume of verse in 1925, *Poems and Vision*. Rare. OCLC locates no copies. [BTC#424012]

Into the meeting at eventide,  
Where each heart brought one prayer,  
Came the good news from the far bedside,  
Which we dared not hope to hear.

Filled was each heart with influence sweet  
Of evening's hush and rest:  
And the gracious answer sent to meet  
The prayer ere 'twas exprest.

BY SARA A. COLLINS, CLASS OF '82.

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### Song for Reunion, '93.

Air—Auld Lang Syne.

A quarter century's offspring come  
Back to their Mater-shrine  
Bringing a large, heart-treasured sum  
Of love for auld lang syne.

Refrain:

For Hampton's auld lang syne, dear friends,  
For Hampton's auld lang syne,  
A loyal off'ring of true love  
For Hampton's auld lang syne.

We'll claps their hands and see the glow  
On comrades faces shine,—  
The lovelight warm from hearts we know  
Were true in auld lang syne

Refrain:

True hearts of auld lang syne, dear friends,  
True hearts of auld lang syne.  
We'll clasp the hands of comrades true,  
Of Hampton's auld lang syne.

Those faithful friends we gladly greet