

Mary Stewart Collect : <sup>first written</sup> Mary Stuart.

By 1910 she spelt her name Stewart  
What is there about this prayer which  
makes it so universally popular? You  
notice it does not begin as the usual  
prayer in that, it does not address  
God as Father in Heaven or God almighty  
Nor does it ask for pardon for errors  
or sins, nor yet thank Him for blessings  
or mercies, yet it may be safely used  
by any race or religion. It cannot  
offend any people be they Jew or Gentile  
R. Catholic or Prot.

Mary's first petition is "Keep us O Lord from  
pettiness, let us be large in word,  
thought and deed." How we keep  
clear of pettish people. Those who  
always must be praised and fussed  
over, who want to weep on our shoulder  
over imaginary slights & carry a chip  
on their shoulder all the time, daring  
one to knock it off so they can put it  
on again. The next part asking to be large  
in thought word and deed. Most of  
us older ones remember this verse:  
Kind hearts are the gardens, kind thoughts  
are the roots, kind words are the blossoms  
Kind deeds are the fruits. This seems to  
be the solution of that plea.