

OPENING ODE

A goodly thing it is to meet  
In friendship's circle bright,  
Where nothing stains the pleasure sweet,  
Nor dims the radiant light.  
No unkind word our lips shall pass,  
No envy sour the mind,  
But each shall seek the common weal -  
The good of all mankind.

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THE MARY STEWART COLLECT

Keep us, O Lord, from pettiness; let us  
be large in thought, in word and deed.  
Let us be done with fault finding and  
leave off self seeking.  
May we put away all pretence, and meet  
each other face to face, without  
self pity and without prejudice.  
May we never be hasty in judgment and  
always generous.  
Let us take time for all things; make  
us grow calm, serene, gentle;  
Teach us to put into action our better  
impulses, straight forward and  
unafraid;  
Grant that we may realize that it is  
the little things that create  
differences - that in the big things  
of life, we are one.  
And may we strive to touch and know the  
great human heart common to us all.

Let us not forget