

Prayer

BY AN UNKNOWN CONFEDERATE SOLDIER

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for health, that I might do greater things,
I was given infirmity that I might do better things.
I asked for riches, that I might be happy,
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I asked for—but everything
I had hoped for.

Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers
were answered.

I am among all men, most richly blessed.

