

NOW LAMPMAN'S HOUSE IS GONE

Arthur S. Bourinot

Now Lampman's house is gone,* his verse remains
That has outsoared all mortar, brick and stones:
The soul lives on, the earth inters the bones.
The apathy, the ignorance that stains
The interminable pages of man's history, gains
Him naught—irretrievable tradition tossed,
Places, touched by the spirit of great men, lost
Without salvation or a nation's pains.

Tradition is the complement of trade.
If one must place it on a worldly base,
It is a nation's soul, a saving grace
That lifts it up above the lowest grade,
Reigning triumphant in the heart of man,
Builder of nations since the world began.

* The house in Ottawa where Lampman died was recently torn down to make way for a Government building.