

# *My Symphony*

*To live content with small means.  
To seek elegance rather than luxury,  
and refinement rather than fashion.*

*To be worthy not respectable,  
and wealthy not rich.*

*To study hard, think quietly, talk gently,  
act frankly, to listen to stars, birds, babes,  
and sages with open heart, to bear all cheerfully,  
do all bravely, await occasions, hurry never.*

*In a word, to let the spiritual,  
unbidden and unconscious,  
grow up through the common.*

*This is to be my symphony.*

*William Ellery Channing*

*(1818 - 1901)*