

NOS MORITURI TE SALUTAMUS

AN ODE TO THE HARVARD CLASS OF 2057 FROM THE HARVARD CLASS OF 1957

WE ARE ASSEMBLED, SIDE BY SIDE
UNDER THE BOUGHS WE HUMBL Y STRIDE
WITH CANE IN HAND, OR EVEN ROLL
FOR WHAT WILL BE OUR FINAL STROLL

FULL WELL WE'VE USED OUR MORTAL LEAVE
HAVE BRAVEL Y STRUGGLED TO ACHIEVE
FROM FIRST AWAKENINGS TO OUR REST
WHAT BOTH FOR US AND OURS IS BEST

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, IN OUR STRIDE
WE SET OUR ENERGIES ASIDE
INSTRUCT, UPLIFT, IMPROVE, WE THOUGHT
WOULD GOOD RESULTS FOR ALL BE WROUGHT

AND YET WE FIND THE SCOURGE OF MAN
DOES CARRY ON WHERE'ER IT CAN
TOO MANY RICH, TOO MANY POOR
AND TOO MUCH POWER IS THE LURE

BUT AS THE EMPIRES COME AND GO
WE DO RETAIN A STEADY GLOW
IN SONG AND DANCE, SPORT, MUSIC, ART
IN BOOKS, AND LEARNING PLAYS ITS PART

PROVIDENT NATURE WILL PROVIDE
BOTH FOOD AND BEAUTY WILL ABIDE
IF WE DON'T TAMPER TO EXCESS
WITH THIS, OUR ONLY EARTH'S, LARGESSE

WE LEAVE TO YOU A HERITANCE
AND TRUST THAT YOU WILL, TOO, ENHANCE
THIS LEGACY, SO HARD ATTAINED
WITH JOYFUL UTTERANCE PROCLAIMED!

GOTTFRIED BRIEGER
HARVARD '57

