



## COLONEL JAMES F. RISHER

Let me live, Oh Mighty Master,  
Such a life that men may know,  
Tasting triumph and disaster,  
Joy and not too much of woe.

Let me love and fight and laugh,  
And when I'm beneath the clover,  
Let this be my epitaph:

Here lies one who took his chances  
In this busy world of men,  
Battled luck and circumstances,  
Fought and fell, and fought again.

Won sometimes but did no crowing,  
Lost sometimes but didn't wail.  
Took his beatings but kept going,  
Never let his courage fail.

He was fallible and human,  
Therefore loved and understood  
By both his fellow men and women,  
Whether good or not so good.

Kept his courage undiminished,  
Never lay down on a friend.  
Played the game until it finished.  
Lived a hero to the end.

—Unknown—