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LIVR

## THE FEAR OF FUTURE YEARS

by Bernard FONLON

Of, in my cheerless hour,  
When, in my soul, 'tis stormy,  
I see dread Failure's lour  
O'erhang the years before me ;  
For, then, it seems  
The cherished dreams  
That urge my youthful strife,  
And make me strain,  
In sun and rain,  
Must end a wasted life.

Thus, in my cheerless hour,  
When, in my soul, 'tis stormy,  
I see dread Failure's lour  
O'erhang the years before me.

Great men, the stories say,  
Of, also stood uncertain  
Of what before them lay,  
Behind the Future's curtain ;  
But forging on,  
Their end they won,  
While God illumed their way ;  
And buoyed by this,  
I feel some bliss,  
For He's my Light and Stay.

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Still, in my cheerless hour,  
When, in my soul, 'tis stormy,  
I see dread Failure's lour  
O'erhang the years before me.

I see my dying bed,  
The futile years behind it,  
A life all fruitless led,  
With scarce a soul to mind it ;  
Those hopes absurd,  
In youth, that spurred,  
All shrunk like fountains dried ;  
One thing alone  
Allays my moan -  
The thought that I had tried.

Thus, in my cheerless hour,  
When, in my soul, 'tis stormy,  
I see dread Failure's lour  
O'erhang the years before me.

ENUGU,  
OCTOBER 1951.



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