

For Once I was a Young Man

♩. = 60



For once I was a young ma-n, wi-th Am-bi-tion on my mind. My



eyes we-re fixed u- pon my goals, yet I kn-ew not I was blind. And la-ter as my



Co-ur- a- ge sw- el- led with- i- n my breast, I told m- y kin o- f



my great de- eds bu- t none were much im- pressed.

2 - Then I learned the gift of Loyalty,
And was zealous to the way,
Twas then my family left me
I'd driven them away.

3 - As middle-age crept onward,
I was Proud of all I'd done,
And talked but no-one listened
I walked as others run.

4 - I became a Prosperous man,
with money in my purse,
But valued coin above my friends
Prosperity was my curse.

5 - Older now, I kept myself,
Vigilant and true,
And criticized all that was wrong
And hurt those ones I knew.

6 - Now in my frail dotage,
I reflect upon my life,
Yet am not Wise enough to see
My days were filled with strife.

7 - The Virtues are not yardsticks,
To measure life's great span,
Live with them in balance
Or you'll die a lonely man.