

Words written on a Gold Staff by B. H., and brought by him  
to Army Reed. Also a few lines of Comfort & love from  
Sr. Betsy Darrow - Copied May 26<sup>th</sup> 1861.

With this Golden Staff boldly persevere on,  
Tho' trials surround thee arise & be strong,  
While afflictions & sorrows successfully roll,  
Let this Heavenly Gift be a Balm to thy soul.  
Tis thy Mothers pure love, her Blessing & power,  
I will support & sustain thee in many an hour,  
Of sorrow & grief, O then never fear  
In God put thy trust His power is near.

So good & worthy sister with these few  
lines that I have written with my own hand  
on this Gold Staff of Heavens strength & power,  
do receive from me once more & again, my  
never failing love, & unceasing thanks, for  
your unwearied exertions, your unflinching  
faithfulness, yea & constant carefulness to feel, to  
know, & to do the best, the most prudent, & just  
way & manner to prove yourself true to your trust  
in the toilsome service & afflicting series of time,  
that my sudden exit so unavoidably increased  
upon you, & some other worthy souls.