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# GOOD ENOUGH

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My son, beware of “good enough”  
It isn’t made of sterling stuff  
It’s something any man can do  
It marks the many from the few  
It has no merit to the eye  
It’s something any man can buy  
It’s name is but a sham and bluff  
For it is never “good enough”

With “good enough” the shirkers stop  
In every factory and shop  
With “good enough” the failures rest  
And lose to men who give their best  
With “good enough” the car breaks down  
And men fall short of high renown

My son, remember and be wise  
In “good enough” disaster lies

With “good enough” have ships been wrecked  
The forward march of armies checked  
Great buildings burned and fortunes lost  
Nor can the world compute the cost  
In life and money it has paid  
Because at “good enough” men stayed

Who stops at “good enough” shall find  
Success has left him far behind

There is no “good enough” that’s short  
Of what you can do and you ought

The flaw which may escape the eye  
And temporarily get by  
Shall weaken underneath the strain  
And wreck the ship or car or train  
for this is true of men and stuff --

Only the best is “good enough”.

— Edgar A. Guest