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# The Law of Life

Ames Forestry Club

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## *The Law of Life*

The tree that never had to fight  
For sun and sky and air and light  
That stood out in the open plain  
And always got its share of rain  
Never became a forest king,  
But lived and died a scrubby thing.

The man who never had to toil  
Who never had to win his share  
Of sun and sky and light and air  
Never became a manly man,  
But lived and died as he began.

Good timber does not grow in ease  
The stronger wind, the tougher trees  
The farther sky, the greater length  
The more the storm, the more the strength  
By sun and cold, by rains and snows  
In tree or man good timber grows.

—*Anonymous*