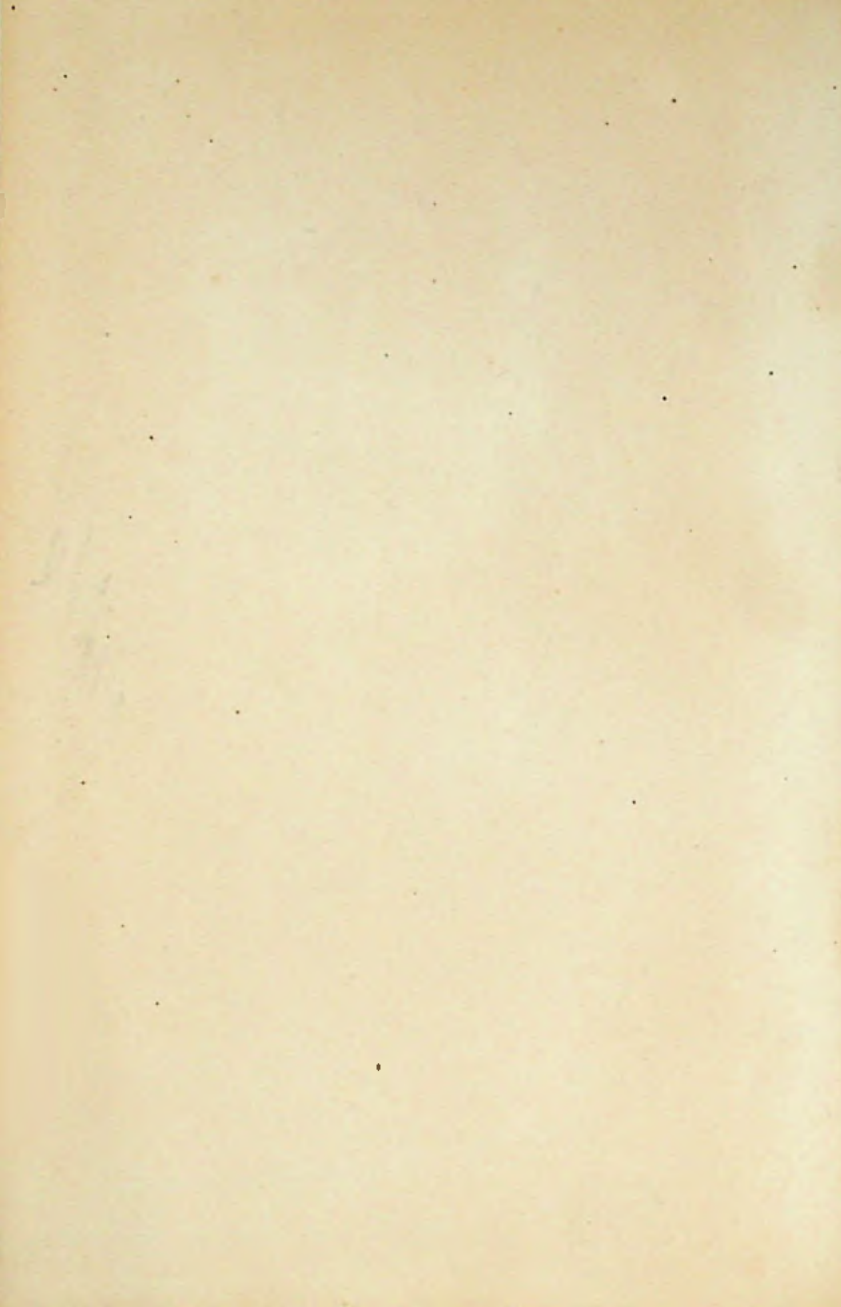






ПОКЛО



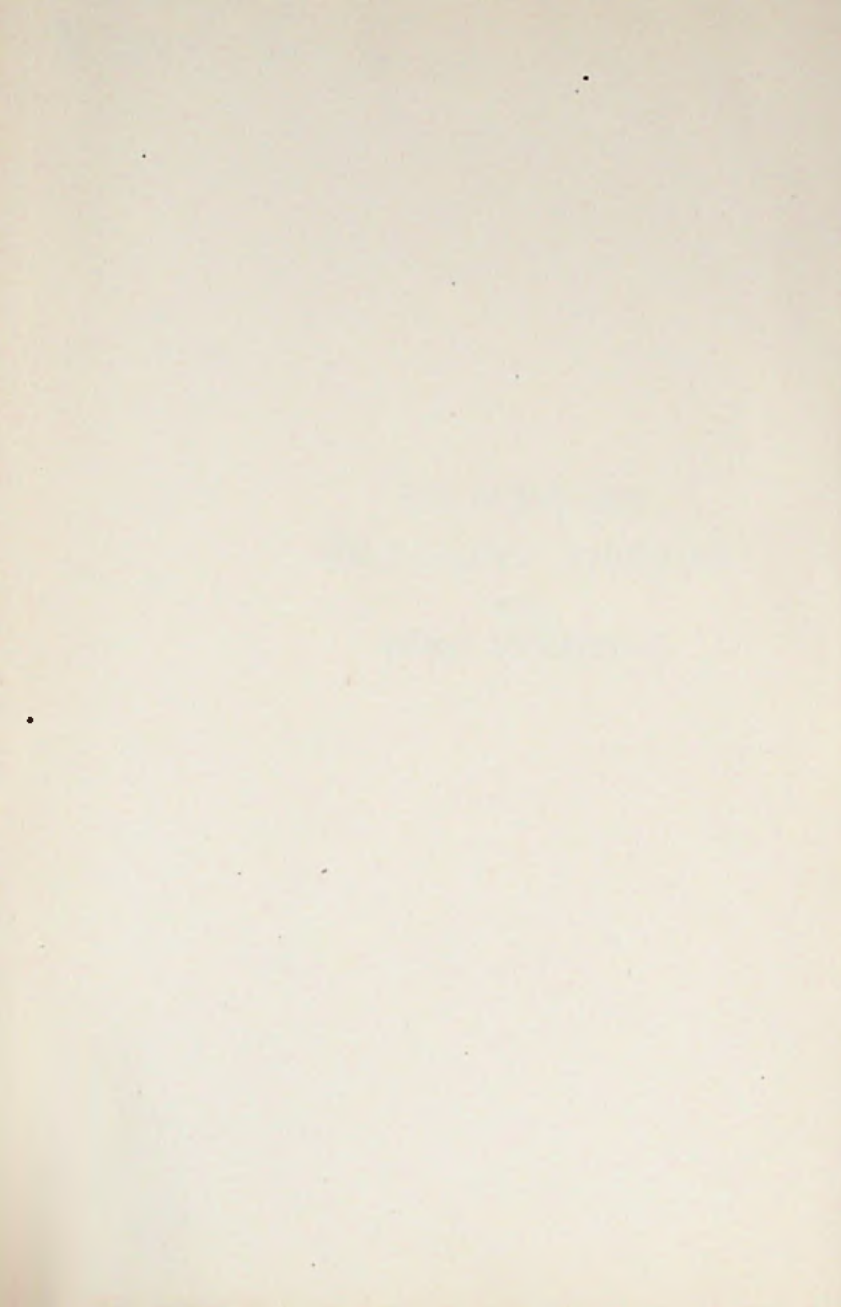




305 972

821.111 - 1(082.2)

PALGRAVE'S  
GOLDEN TREASURY  
WITH  
ADDITIONAL POEMS









ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

*From the picture by G. F. Watts, R.A., O.M., in the possession of  
Lady Henry Somerset*

THE  
GOLDEN TREASURY

OF THE BEST SONGS AND LYRICAL  
POEMS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

*SELECTED AND ARRANGED WITH NOTES*

BY

FRANCIS TURNER PALGRAVE

TOGETHER WITH ONE HUNDRED ADDITIONAL POEMS  
(TO THE END OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY)



HUMPHREY MILFORD

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

London    Edinburgh    Glasgow    Copenhagen  
New York    Toronto    Melbourne    Cape Town  
Bombay    Calcutta    Madras    Shanghai

1924

O.S.A.



НАРОДНА БИБЛИОТЕКА

„Радоје Домановић”

Инв. бр.: 305 972

Сигнатура: 821.111-1 (052.2)

Printed in England

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
DEDICATION . . . . .	vii
PREFACE . . . . .	ix
BOOK I . . . . .	1
BOOK II . . . . .	42
BOOK III . . . . .	109
BOOK IV . . . . .	169
ADDITIONAL POEMS . . . . .	315
NOTES . . . . .	461
INDEX OF WRITERS . . . . .	477
INDEX OF FIRST LINES . . . . .	488





Εἰς τὸν λεμῶνα καθίσας,  
ἕδραπεν ἕτερον ἐφ' ἑτέρῳ  
αἰρούμενος ἄγρευμ' ἀνθίων  
ἀδομήνῃ Ψυχᾷ

НАРОДНА БИБЛИОТЕКА

„Радоје Домановић”

Инв. бр.: 305 972

Сигнатура: 821.111-1(082.2)

## TO ALFRED TENNYSON

### POET LAUREATE

THIS book in its progress has recalled often to my memory a man with whose friendship we were once honoured, to whom no region of English Literature was unfamiliar, and who, whilst rich in all the noble gifts of Nature, was most eminently distinguished by the noblest and the rarest,—just judgement and high-hearted patriotism. It would have been hence a peculiar pleasure and pride to dedicate what I have endeavoured to make a true national Anthology of three centuries to Henry Hallam. But he is beyond the reach of any human tokens of love and reverence; and I desire therefore to place before it a name united with his by associations which, whilst Poetry retains her hold on the minds of Englishmen, are not likely to be forgotten.

Your encouragement, given while traversing the wild scenery of Treryn Dinas, led me to begin the work; and it has been completed under your advice and assistance. For the favour now asked I have thus a second reason: and to this I may add, the homage which is your right as Poet, and the gratitude due to a Friend, whose regard I rate at no common value.

Permit me then to inscribe to yourself a book

which, I hope, may be found by many a lifelong fountain of innocent and exalted pleasure ; a source of animation to friends when they meet ; and able to sweeten solitude itself with best society,—with the companionship of the wise and the good, with the beauty which the eye cannot see, and the music only heard in silence. If this Collection proves a storehouse of delight to Labour and to Poverty,—if it teaches those indifferent to the Poets to love them, and those who love them to love them more, the aim and the desire entertained in framing it will be fully accomplished.

F. T. P.

MAY : 1861.





## PREFACE

THIS little Collection differs, it is believed, from others in the attempt made to include in it all the best original Lyrical pieces and Songs in our language, by writers not living,—and none beside the best. Many familiar verses will hence be met with ; many also which should be familiar :—the Editor will regard as his fittest readers those who love Poetry so well that he can offer them nothing not already known and valued.

The Editor is acquainted with no strict and exhaustive definition of Lyrical Poetry ; but he has found the task of practical decision increase in clearness and in facility as he advanced with the work, whilst keeping in view a few simple principles. Lyrical has been here held essentially to imply that each Poem shall turn on some single thought, feeling, or situation. In accordance with this, narrative, descriptive, and didactic poems—unless accompanied by rapidity of movement, brevity, and the colouring of human passion—have been excluded. Humorous poetry, except in the very unfrequent instances where a truly poetical tone pervades the whole, with what is strictly personal, occasional, and religious, has been considered foreign to the idea of the book. Blank verse and the ten-syllable couplet, with all pieces markedly dramatic, have been rejected as alien from what is commonly understood by Song, and rarely conforming to Lyrical conditions in treatment. But it is not anticipated, nor is it possible, that all readers shall think the line accurately drawn.

Some poems, as Gray's *Elegy*, the *Allegro* and *Penseroso*, Wordsworth's *Ruth* or Campbell's *Lord Ullin*, might be claimed with perhaps equal justice for a narrative or descriptive selection: whilst with reference especially to Ballads and Sonnets, the Editor can only state that he has taken his utmost pains to decide without caprice or partiality.

This also is all he can plead in regard to a point even more liable to question;—what degree of merit should give rank among the Best. That a Poem shall be worthy of the writer's genius,—that it shall reach a perfection commensurate with its aim,—that we should require finish in proportion to brevity,—that passion, colour, and originality cannot atone for serious imperfections in clearness, unity, or truth,—that a few good lines do not make a good poem,—that popular estimate is serviceable as a guidepost more than as a compass,—above all, that Excellence should be looked for rather in the Whole than in the Parts,—such and other such canons have been always steadily regarded. He may however add that the pieces chosen, and a far larger number rejected, have been carefully and repeatedly considered; and that he has been aided throughout by two friends of independent and exercised judgement, besides the distinguished person addressed in the Dedication. It is hoped that by this procedure the volume has been freed from that one-sidedness which must beset individual decisions:—but for the final choice the Editor is alone responsible.

It would obviously have been invidious to apply the standard aimed at in this Collection to the Living. Nor, even in the cases where this might be done without offence, does it appear wise to attempt to anticipate the verdict of the Future on our contemporaries. Should the book last, poems by Tennyson, Bryant, Clare, Lowell, and others, will no doubt claim and obtain their place among the best. But the Editor trusts that this will be effected by other hands, and in days far distant.

Chalmers' vast collection, with the whole works of all accessible poets not contained in it, and the best

Anthologies of different periods, have been twice systematically read through; and it is hence improbable that any omissions which may be regretted are due to oversight. The poems are printed entire, except in a very few instances (specified in the notes) where a stanza has been omitted. The omissions have been risked only when the piece could be thus brought to a closer lyrical unity: and, as essentially opposed to this unity, extracts, obviously such, are excluded. In regard to the text, the purpose of the book has appeared to justify the choice of the most poetical version, wherever more than one exists: and much labour has been given to present each poem, in disposition, spelling, and punctuation, to the greatest advantage.

For the permission under which the copyright pieces are inserted, thanks are due to the respective Proprietors, without whose liberal concurrence the scheme of the collection would have been defeated.

In the arrangement the most poetically-effective order has been attempted. The English mind has passed through phases of thought and cultivation so various and so opposed during these three centuries of Poetry, that a rapid passage between Old and New, like rapid alteration of the eye's focus in looking at the landscape, will always be wearisome and hurtful to the sense of Beauty. The poems have been therefore distributed into Books corresponding, I to the ninety years closing about 1616, II thence to 1700, III to 1800, IV to the half century just ended. Or, looking at the Poets who more or less give each portion its distinctive character, they might be called the Books of Shakespeare, Milton, Gray, and Wordsworth. The volume, in this respect, so far as the limitations of its range allow, accurately reflects the natural growth and evolution of our Poetry. A rigidly chronological sequence, however, rather fits a collection aiming at instruction than at pleasure, and the Wisdom which comes through Pleasure:—within each book the pieces have therefore been arranged in gradations of feeling or subject. The development of the symphonies of Mozart and Beeth-

oven has been here thought of as a model, and nothing placed without careful consideration. And it is hoped that the contents of this Anthology will thus be found to present a certain unity, 'as episodes,' in the noble language of Shelley, 'to that great Poem which all poets, like the co-operating thoughts of one great mind, have built up since the beginning of the world.'

As he closes his long survey, the Editor trusts he may add without egotism, that he has found the vague general verdict of popular Fame more just than those have thought, who, with too severe a criticism, would confine judgements on Poetry to 'the selected few of many generations.' Not many appear to have gained reputation without some gift or performance that, in due degree, deserved it: and if no verses by certain writers who show less strength than sweetness, or more thought than mastery in expression, are printed in this volume, it should not be imagined that they have been excluded without much hesitation and regret,—far less that they have been slighted. Throughout this vast and pathetic array of Singers now silent, few have been honoured with the name Poet, and have not possessed a skill in words, a sympathy with beauty, a tenderness of feeling, or seriousness in reflection, which render their works, although never perhaps attaining that loftier and finer excellence here required, better worth reading than much of what fills the scanty hours that most men spare for self-improvement, or for pleasure in any of its more elevated and permanent forms.—And if this be true of even mediocre poetry, for how much more are we indebted to the best! Like the fabled fountain of the Azores, but with a more various power, the magic of this Art can confer on each period of life its appropriate blessing: on early years Experience, on maturity Calm, on age, Youthfulness. Poetry gives treasures 'more golden than gold,' leading us in higher and healthier ways than those of the world, and interpreting to us the lessons of Nature. But she speaks best for herself. Her true accents

if the plan has been executed with success, may be heard throughout the following pages :—wherever the Poets of England are honoured, wherever the dominant language of the world is spoken, it is hoped that they will find fit audience.

---

## NOTE

In this reprint one hundred additional poems are given representing the latter half of the nineteenth century. None but Mr. Palgrave could have grouped the newer poems in 'the most poetically-effective order,' as he conceived it, so they have been added in the chronological order of their authors' birth. A few dates in the original selection have been corrected. With regard to copyright poems, Messrs. William Blackwood & Sons have kindly permitted the inclusion of George Eliot's 'O may I join the choir invisible ; Messrs. Chatto & Windus, Arthur O'Shaughnessy's ode ; Mr. William Reeves and Mr. Bertram Dobell, James Thomson's lyric 'As we rush, as we rush in the train' (from 'Sunday at Hampstead') ; and Mrs. Henley and Mr. Nutt, W. E. Henley's 'Out of the night that covers me.'





# THE GOLDEN TREASURY

## BOOK FIRST

### 1

#### SPRING

Spring, the sweet Spring, is the year's pleasant king ;  
Then blooms each thing, then maids dance in a ring,  
Cold doth not sting, the pretty birds do sing,  
Cuckoo, jug-jug, pu-we, to-witta-woo !

The palm and may make country houses gay,  
Lambs frisk and play, the shepherds pipe all day,  
And we hear aye birds tune this merry lay,  
Cuckoo, jug-jug, pu-we, to-witta-woo !

The fields breathe sweet, the daisies kiss our feet,  
Young lovers meet, old wives a-sunning sit,  
In every street these tunes our ears do greet,  
Cuckoo, jug-jug, pu-we, to-witta-woo !  
Spring ! the sweet Spring !

T. NASH

### 2

#### SUMMONS TO LOVE

Phoebus, arise !  
And paint the sable skies  
With azure, white, and red :  
Rouse Memnon's mother from her Tithon's bed  
That she may thy career with roses spread :  
The nightingales thy coming each where sing :

Make an eternal spring !  
 Give life to this dark world which lieth dead ;  
 Spread forth thy golden hair  
 In larger locks than thou wast wont before,  
 And emperor-like decore  
 With diadem of pearl thy temples fair :  
 Chase hence the ugly night  
 Which serves but to make dear thy glorious light.

—This is that happy morn,  
 That day, long-wishéd day  
 Of all my life so dark,  
 (If cruel stars have not my ruin sworn  
 And fates my hopes betray),  
 Which, purely white, deserves  
 An everlasting diamond should it mark.  
 This is the morn should bring unto this grove  
 My Love, to hear and recompense my love.  
 Fair King, who all preserves,  
 But show thy blushing beams,  
 And thou two sweeter eyes  
 Shalt see than those which by Penéus' streams  
 Did once thy heart surprise.  
 Now, Flora, deck thyself in fairest guise :  
 If that ye winds would hear  
 A voice surpassing far Amphion's lyre,  
 Your furious chiding stay ;  
 Let Zephyr only breathe,  
 And with her tresses play.  
 —The winds all silent are,  
 And Phoebus in his chair  
 Ensafroning sea and air  
 Makes vanish every star :  
 Night like a drunkard reels  
 Beyond the hills, to shun his flaming wheels :  
 The fields with flowers are deck'd in every hue,  
 The clouds with orient gold spangle their blue ;  
 Here is the pleasant place—  
 And nothing wanting is, save She, alas !

W. DRUMMOND OF HAWTHORNDEN



## 3

## TIME AND LOVE

## I

When I have seen by Time's fell hand defaced  
 The rich proud cost of out-worn buried age ;  
 When sometime lofty towers I see down-razed,  
 And brass eternal slave to mortal rage ;

When I have seen the hungry ocean gain  
 Advantage on the kingdom of the shore,  
 And the firm soil win of the watery main,  
 Increasing store with loss, and loss with store ;

When I have seen such interchange of state,  
 Or state itself confounded to decay,  
 Ruin hath taught me thus to ruminatè—  
 That Time will come and take my Love away :

—This thought is as a death, which cannot choose  
 But weep to have that which it fears to lose.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 4

## II

Since brass, nor stone, nor earth, nor boundless sea,  
 But sad mortality o'ersways their power,  
 How with this rage shall beauty hold a plea,  
 Whose action is no stronger than a flower ?

O how shall summer's honey breath hold out  
 Against the wreckful siege of battering days,  
 When rocks impregnable are not so stout  
 Nor gates of steel so strong, but time decays ?

O fearful meditation ! where, alack !  
 Shall Time's best jewel from Time's chest lie hid ?  
 Or what strong hand can hold his swift foot back,  
 Or who his spoil of beauty can forbid ?

O ! none, unless this miracle have might,  
 That in black ink my love may still shine bright.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## THE PASSIONATE SHEPHERD TO HIS LOVE

Come live with me and be my Love,  
 And we will all the pleasures prove  
 That hills and valleys, dale and field,  
 And all the craggy mountains yield.

There will we sit upon the rocks  
 And see the shepherds feed their flocks,  
 By shallow rivers, to whose falls  
 Melodious birds sing madrigals.

There will I make thee beds of roses  
 And a thousand fragrant posies,  
 A cap of flowers, and a kirtle  
 Embroider'd all with leaves of myrtle.

A gown made of the finest wool,  
 Which from our pretty lambs we pull,  
 Fair lined slippers for the cold,  
 With buckles of the purest gold.

A belt of straw and ivy buds  
 With coral clasps and amber studs :  
 And if these pleasures may thee move,  
 Come live with me and be my Love.

Thy silver dishes for thy meat  
 As precious as the gods do eat,  
 Shall on an ivory table be  
 Prepared each day for thee and me.

The shepherd swains shall dance and sing  
 For thy delight each May-morning :  
 If these delights thy mind may move,  
 Then live with me and be my Love.

C. MARLOWE

## 6

## A MADRIGAL

Crabbed Age and Youth  
 Cannot live together :  
 Youth is full of pleasance,  
 Age is full of care ;  
 Youth like summer morn,  
 Age like winter weather,  
 Youth like summer brave,  
 Age like winter bare :  
 Youth is full of sport,  
 Age's breath is short,  
 Youth is nimble, Age is lame :  
 Youth is hot and bold,  
 Age is weak and cold,  
 Youth is wild, and Age is tame :—  
 Age, I do abhor thee ;  
 Youth, I do adore thee ;  
 O ! my Love, my Love is young !  
 Age, I do defy thee—  
 O sweet shepherd, hie thee,  
 For methinks thou stay'st too long.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 7

Under the greenwood tree  
 Who loves to lie with me,  
 And tune his merry note  
 Unto the sweet bird's throat—  
 Come hither, come hither, come hither !  
     Here shall he see  
     No enemy  
 But winter and rough weather.

Who doth ambition shun  
 And loves to live i' the sun,

Seeking the food he eats  
 And pleased with what he gets—  
 Come hither, come hither, come hither !  
     Here shall he see  
     No enemy  
 But winter and rough weather.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 8

It was a lover and his lass  
     With a hey and a ho, and a hey-nonino !  
 That o'er the green cornfield did pass  
 In the spring time, the only pretty ring time,  
 When birds do sing hey ding a ding :  
     Sweet lovers love the Spring.

Between the acres of the rye  
 These pretty country folks would lie :

This carol they began that hour,  
 How that life was but a flower :

And therefore take the present time  
     With a hey and a ho, and a hey-nonino !  
 For love is crownéd with the prime  
 In spring time, the only pretty ring time,  
 When birds do sing hey ding a ding :  
     Sweet lovers love the Spring.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 9

## PRESENT IN ABSENCE

Absence, hear thou my protestation  
     Against thy strength,  
     Distance, and length ;  
 Do what thou canst for alteration :

For hearts of truest mettle  
Absence doth join, and Time doth settle.

Who loves a mistress of such quality,  
He soon hath found  
Affection's ground  
Beyond time, place, and all mortality.  
To hearts that cannot vary  
Absence is Presence, Time doth tarry.

By absence this good means I gain,  
That I can catch her,  
Where none can watch her,  
In some close corner of my brain :  
There I embrace and kiss her ;  
And so I both enjoy and miss her.

ANON.

## 10

## ABSENCE

Being your slave, what should I do but tend  
Upon the hours and times of your desire ?  
I have no precious time at all to spend  
Nor services to do, till you require :

Nor dare I chide the world-without-end hour  
Whilst I, my sovereign, watch the clock for you,  
Nor think the bitterness of absence sour  
When you have bid your servant once adieu :

Nor dare I question with my jealous thought  
Where you may be, or your affairs suppose,  
But like a sad slave, stay and think of nought  
Save, where you are, how happy you make those ;—

So true a fool is love, that in your will  
Though you do anything, he thinks no ill.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 11

How like a winter hath my absence been  
 From Thee, the pleasure of the fleeting year !  
 What freezings have I felt, what dark days seen,  
 What old December's bareness everywhere !

And yet this time removed was summer's time :  
 The teeming autumn, big with rich increase,  
 Bearing the wanton burden of the prime  
 Like widow'd wombs after their lords' decease :

Yet this abundant issue seem'd to me  
 But hope of orphans, and unfather'd fruit ;  
 For summer and his pleasures wait on thee,  
 And, thou away, the very birds are mute ;

Or if they sing, 'tis with so dull a cheer,  
 That leaves look pale, dreading the winter's near.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 12

## A CONSOLATION

When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes  
 I all alone bewEEP my outcast state,  
 And trouble deaf heaven with my bootless cries,  
 And look upon myself, and curse my fate ;

Wishing me like to one more rich in hope,  
 Featured like him, like him with friends possest,  
 Desiring this man's art, and that man's scope,  
 With what I most enjoy contented least ;

Yet in these thoughts myself almost despising,  
 Haply I think on Thee—and then my state,  
 Like to the lark at break of day arising  
 From sullen earth, sings hymns at heaven's gate ;

For thy sweet love remember'd, such wealth brings,  
 That then I scorn to change my state with kings.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 13

## THE UNCHANGEABLE

O never say that I was false of heart,  
 Though absence seem'd my flame to qualify :  
 As easy might I from myself depart  
 As from my soul, which in thy breast doth lie ;

That is my home of love ; if I have ranged,  
 Like him that travels, I return again,  
 Just to the time, not with the time exchanged,  
 So that myself bring water for my stain.

Never believe, though in my nature reign'd  
 All frailties that besiege all kinds of blood,  
 That it could so preposterously be stain'd  
 To leave for nothing all thy sum of good :

For nothing this wide universe I call,  
 Save thou, my rose : in it thou art my all.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 14

To me, fair Friend, you never can be old,  
 For as you were when first your eye I eyed  
 Such seems your beauty still. Three winters cold  
 Have from the forests shook three summers' pride ;

Three beauteous springs to yellow autumn turn'd  
 In process of the seasons have I seen,  
 Three April perfumes in three hot Junes burn'd,  
 Since first I saw you fresh, which yet are green.

Ah ! yet doth beauty, like a dial-hand,  
 Steal from his figure, and no pace perceived ;  
 So your sweet hue, which methinks still doth stand,  
 Hath motion, and mine eye may be deceived :

For fear of which, hear this, thou age unbred,—  
 Ere you were born, was beauty's summer dead.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 15

## DIAPHENIA

Diaphenia like the daffadowndilly,  
 White as the sun, fair as the lily,  
 Heigh ho, how I do love thee !  
 I do love thee as my lambs  
 Are belovéd of their dams ;  
 How blest were I if thou would'st prove me.

Diaphenia like the spreading roses,  
 That in thy sweets all sweets encloses,  
 Fair sweet, how I do love thee !  
 I do love thee as each flower  
 Loves the sun's life-giving power ;  
 For dead, thy breath to life might move me.

Diaphenia like to all things blesséd  
 When all thy praises are expresséd,  
 Dear joy, how I do love thee !  
 As the birds do love the spring,  
 Or the bees their careful king :  
 Then in requite, sweet virgin, love me !

H. CONSTABLE

## 16

## ROSALINE

Like to the clear in highest sphere  
 Where all imperial glory shines,  
 Of selfsame colour is her hair  
 Whether unfolded, or in twines :  
 Heigh ho, fair Rosaline !  
 Her eyes are sapphires set in snow,  
 Resembling heaven by every wink ;  
 The Gods do fear whenas they glow,  
 And I do tremble when I think  
 Heigh ho, would she were mine !



Her cheeks are like the blushing cloud  
That beautifies Aurora's face,  
Or like the silver crimson shroud  
That Phoebus' smiling looks doth grace ;

Heigh ho, fair Rosaline !

Her lips are like two budded roses  
Whom ranks of lilies neighbour nigh,  
Within which bounds she balm encloses  
Apt to entice a deity :

Heigh ho, would she were mine !

Her neck is like a stately tower,  
Where Love himself imprison'd lies,  
To watch for glances every hour  
From her divine and sacred eyes :

Heigh ho, for Rosaline !

Her paps are centres of delight,  
Her breasts are orbs of heavenly frame,  
Where Nature moulds the dew of light  
To feed perfection with the same :

Heigh ho, would she were mine !

With orient pearl, with ruby red,  
With marble white, with sapphire blue  
Her body everyway is fed,  
Yet soft in touch and sweet in view :

Heigh ho, fair Rosaline !

Nature herself her shape admires ;  
The Gods are wounded in her sight ;  
And Love forsakes his heavenly fires  
And at her eyes his brand doth light :

Heigh ho, would she were mine !

Then muse not, Nymphs, though I bemoan  
The absence of fair Rosaline,  
Since for a fair there's fairer none,  
Nor for her virtues so divine :

Heigh ho, fair Rosaline ;

Heigh ho, my heart ! would God that she were mine !

T. LODGE

## 17

## COLIN

Beauty sat bathing by a spring  
 Where fairest shades did hide her ;  
 The winds blew calm, the birds did sing,  
 The cool streams ran beside her.  
 My wanton thoughts enticed mine eye  
 To see what was forbidden :  
 But better memory said, fie !  
 So vain desire was chidden :—  
     Hey nonny nonny O !  
     Hey nonny nonny !

Into a slumber then I fell,  
 When fond imagination  
 Seeméd to see, but could not tell  
 Her feature or her fashion.  
 But ev'n as babes in dreams do smile,  
 And sometimes fall a-weeping,  
 So I awaked, as wise this while  
 As when I fell a-sleeping :—  
     Hey nonny nonny O !  
     Hey nonny nonny !  
                     THE SHEPHERD TONIE

## 18

## TO HIS LOVE

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day ?  
 Thou art more lovely and more temperate :  
 Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,  
 And summer's lease hath all too short a date :

Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,  
 And often is his gold complexion dimm'd :  
 And every fair from fair sometime declines,  
 By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimm'd.

But thy eternal summer shall not fade  
 Nor lose possession of that fair thou owest ;  
 Nor shall death brag thou wanderest in his shade,  
 When in eternal lines to time thou growest ;

So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,  
 So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 19

## TO HIS LOVE

When in the chronicle of wasted time  
 I see descriptions of the fairest wights,  
 And beauty making beautiful old rhyme  
 In praise of ladies dead, and lovely knights ;

Then in the blazon of sweet beauty's best  
 Of hand, of foot, of lip, of eye, of brow,  
 I see their antique pen would have exprest  
 Ev'n such a beauty as you master now.

So all their praises are but prophecies  
 Of this our time, all, you prefiguring ;  
 And for they look'd but with divining eyes,  
 They had not skill enough your worth to sing :

For we, which now behold these present days,  
 Have eyes to wonder, but lack tongues to praise.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 20

## LOVE'S PERJURIES

On a day, alack the day !  
 Love, whose month is ever May,  
 Spied a blossom passing fair  
 Playing in the wanton air :  
 Through the velvet leaves the wind,  
 All unseen, 'gan passage find ;

That the lover, sick to death,  
 Wish'd himself the heaven's breath.  
 Air, quoth he, thy cheeks may blow ;  
 Air, would I might triumph so !  
 But, alack, my hand is sworn  
 Ne'er to pluck thee from thy thorn :  
 Vow, alack, for youth unmeet ;  
 Youth so apt to pluck a sweet.  
 Do not call it sin in me  
 That I am forsworn for thee :  
 Thou for whom e'en Jove would swear  
 Juno but an Ethiopè were,  
 And deny himself for Jove,  
 Turning mortal for thy love.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 21

## A SUPPLICATION

Forget not yet the tried intent  
 Of such a truth as I have meant ;  
 My great travail so gladly spent,  
     Forget not yet !

Forget not yet when first began  
 The weary life ye know, since when  
 The suit, the service none tell can ;  
     Forget not yet !

Forget not yet the great assays,  
 The cruel wrong, the scornful ways,  
 The painful patience in delays,  
     Forget not yet !

Forget not ! O, forget not this,  
 How long ago hath been, and is  
 The mind that never meant amiss—  
     Forget not yet !

Forget not then thine own approved  
 The which so long hath thee so loved,  
 Whose steadfast faith yet never moved—  
 Forget not this!

SIR T. WYAT

## 22

## TO AURORA

O if thou knew'st how thou thyself dost harm,  
 And dost prejudice thy bliss, and spoil my rest ;  
 Then thou would'st melt the ice out of thy breast  
 And thy relenting heart would kindly warm.

O if thy pride did not our joys controul,  
 What world of loving wonders should'st thou see !  
 For if I saw thee once transform'd in me,  
 Then in thy bosom I would pour my soul ;

Then all my thoughts should in thy visage shine,  
 And if that aught mischanced thou should'st not moan  
 Nor bear the burthen of thy griefs alone ;  
 No, I would have my share in what were thine :

And whilst we thus should make our sorrows one,  
 This happy harmony would make them none.

W. ALEXANDER, EARL OF STERLINE

## 23

## TRUE LOVE

Let me not to the marriage of true minds  
 Admit impediments. Love is not love  
 Which alters when it alteration finds,  
 Or bends with the remover to remove :—

O no ! it is an ever-fixéd mark  
 That looks on tempests, and is never shaken ;  
 It is the star to every wandering bark,  
 Whose worth 's unknown, although his height be taken.

Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks  
 Within his bending sickle's compass come ;  
 Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,  
 But bears it out ev'n to the edge of doom :—

If this be error, and upon me proved,  
 I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 24

## A DITTY

My true-love hath my heart, and I have his,  
 By just exchange one to the other given :  
 I hold his dear, and mine he cannot miss,  
 There never was a better bargain driven :  
 My true-love hath my heart, and I have his.

His heart in me keeps him and me in one,  
 My heart in him his thoughts and senses guides :  
 He loves my heart, for once it was his own,  
 I cherish his because in me it bides :

My true-love hath my heart, and I have his.

SIR P. SIDNEY

## 25

## LOVE'S OMNIPRESENCE

Were I as base as is the lowly plain,  
 And you, my Love, as high as heaven above,  
 Yet should the thoughts of me your humble swain  
 Ascend to heaven, in honour of my Love.

Were I as high as heaven above the plain,  
 And you, my Love, as humble and as low  
 As are the deepest bottoms of the main,  
 Whereso'er you were, with you my love should go.

Were you the earth, dear Love, and I the skies,  
 My love should shine on you like to the sun,  
 And look upon you with ten thousand eyes  
 Till heaven wax'd blind, and till the world were done.

Whereso'er I am, below, or else above you,  
 Whereso'er you are, my heart shall truly love you.  
 J. SYLVESTER

## 26

## CARPE DIEM

O Mistress mine, where are you roaming ?  
 O stay and hear ! your true-love's coming  
     That can sing both high and low ;  
 Trip no further, pretty sweeting,  
 Journeys end in lovers' meeting—  
     Every wise man's son doth know.

What is love ? 'tis not hereafter ;  
 Present mirth hath present laughter ;  
     What's to come is still unsure :  
 In delay there lies no plenty,—  
 Then come kiss me, Sweet-and-twenty,  
     Youth's a stuff will not endure.  
 W. SHAKESPEARE

## 27

## WINTER

When icicles hang by the wall  
 And Dick the shepherd blows his nail,  
 And Tom bears logs into the hall,  
 And milk comes frozen home in pail ;  
 When blood is nipt, and ways be foul,  
 Then nightly sings the staring owl  
     Tuwhoo !  
 Tuwhit ! tuwhoo ! A merry note !  
 While greasy Joan doth keel the pot.

When all around the wind doth blow,  
 And coughing drowns the parson's saw,  
 And birds sit brooding in the snow,  
 And Marian's nose looks red and raw ;  
 When roasted crabs hiss in the bowl—  
 Then nightly sings the staring owl  
 Tuwhoo !

Tuwhit ! tuwhoo ! A merry note !  
 While greasy Joan doth keel the pot.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 28

That time of year thou may'st in me behold  
 When yellow leaves, or none, or few, do hang  
 Upon those boughs which shake against the cold,  
 Bare ruin'd choirs, where late the sweet birds sang.

In me thou see'st the twilight of such day  
 As after sunset fadeth in the west,  
 Which by and by black night doth take away,  
 Death's second self, that seals up all in rest.

In me thou see'st the glowing of such fire,  
 That on the ashes of his youth doth lie  
 As the death-bed whereon it must expire,  
 Consumed with that which it was nourish'd by :

—This thou perceiv'st, which makes thy love more  
 strong,

To love that well which thou must leave ere long.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 29

## REMEMBRANCE

When to the sessions of sweet silent thought  
 I summon up remembrance of things past,  
 I sigh the lack of many a thing I sought,  
 And with old woes new wail my dear time's waste ;



Then can I drown an eye, unused to flow,  
 For precious friends hid in death's dateless night,  
 And weep afresh love's long-since-cancell'd woe,  
 And moan the expense of many a vanish'd sight.

Then can I grieve at grievances foregone,  
 And heavily from woe to woe tell o'er  
 The sad account of fore-bemoanéd moan,  
 Which I new pay as if not paid before :

—But if the while I think on thee, dear friend,  
 All losses are restored, and sorrows end.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 30

## REVOLUTIONS

Like as the waves make towards the pebbled shore  
 So do our minutes hasten to their end ;  
 Each changing place with that which goes before,  
 In sequent toil all forwards do contend.

Nativity, once in the main of light,  
 Crawls to maturity, wherewith being crown'd,  
 Crooked eclipses 'gainst his glory fight,  
 And Time that gave, doth now his gift confound.

Time doth transfix the flourish set on youth,  
 And delves the parallels in beauty's brow ;  
 Feeds on the rarities of nature's truth,  
 And nothing stands but for his scythe to mow :

And yet, to times in hope, my verse shall stand  
 Praising Thy worth, despite his cruel hand.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 31

Farewell ! thou art too dear for my possessing,  
 And like enough thou know'st thy estimate :  
 The charter of thy worth gives thee releasing ;  
 My bonds in thee are all determinate.

For how do I hold thee but by thy granting ?  
 And for that riches where is my deserving ?  
 The cause of this fair gift in me is wanting,  
 And so my patent back again is swerving.

Thyself thou gav'st, thy own worth then not knowing,  
 Or me, to whom thou gav'st it, else mistaking ;  
 So thy great gift, upon misprision growing,  
 Comes home again, on better judgement making.

Thus have I had thee as a dream doth flatter ;  
 In sleep, a king ; but waking, no such matter.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 32

## THE LIFE WITHOUT PASSION

They that have power to hurt, and will do none,  
 That do not do the thing they most do show,  
 Who, moving others, are themselves as stone,  
 Unmovéd, cold, and to temptation slow,—

They rightly do inherit Heaven's graces,  
 And husband nature's riches from expense ;  
 They are the lords and owners of their faces,  
 Others, but stewards of their excellence.

The summer's flower is to the summer sweet,  
 Though to itself it only live and die ;  
 But if that flower with base infection meet,  
 The basest weed outbraves his dignity :

For sweetest things turn sourest by their deeds ;  
 Lilies that fester smell far worse than weeds.

W. SHAKESPEARE

33

## THE LOVER'S APPEAL

And wilt thou leave me thus ?  
 Say nay ! say nay ! for shame,  
 To save thee from the blame  
 Of all my grief and grame.  
 And wilt thou leave me thus ?  
 Say nay ! say nay !

And wilt thou leave me thus ?  
 That hath loved thee so long  
 In wealth and woe among :  
 And is thy heart so strong  
 As for to leave me thus ?  
 Say nay ! say nay !

And wilt thou leave me thus,  
 That hath given thee my heart  
 Never for to depart  
 Neither for pain nor smart :  
 And wilt thou leave me thus ?  
 Say nay ! say nay !

And wilt thou leave me thus,  
 And have no more pity  
 Of him that loveth thee ?  
 Alas ! thy cruelty !  
 And wilt thou leave me thus ?  
 Say nay ! say nay !

SIR T. WYAT

34

## THE NIGHTINGALE

As it fell upon a day  
 In the merry month of May,  
 Sitting in a pleasant shade  
 Which the grove of myrtles made,

НАРОДНА БИБЛИОТЕКА

„Радоје Домановић”

Инв. бр.: 305 972

Сигнатура: 821.111-1 (082.2)

Beasts did leap and birds did sing,  
 Trees did grow and plants did spring,  
 Everything did banish moan  
 Save the Nightingale alone.  
 She, poor bird, as all forlorn,  
 Lean'd her breast against a thorn,  
 And there sung the dolefull'st ditty  
 That to hear it was great pity.  
 Fie, fie, fie, now would she cry ;  
 Tereu, tereu, by and by :  
 That to hear her so complain  
 Scarce I could from tears refrain ;  
 For her griefs so lively shown  
 Made me think upon mine own.  
 —Ah, thought I, thou mourn'st in vain,  
 None takes pity on thy pain :  
 Senseless trees, they cannot hear thee,  
 Ruthless beasts, they will not cheer thee ;  
 King Pandion, he is dead,  
 All thy friends are lapp'd in lead :  
 All thy fellow birds do sing  
 Careless of thy sorrowing :  
 Even so, poor bird, like thee  
 None alive will pity me.

R. BARNEFIELD

35

Care-charmer Sleep, son of the sable Night,  
 Brother to Death, in silent darkness born,  
 Relieve my languish, and restore the light ;  
 With dark forgetting of my care return.

And let the day be time enough to mourn  
 The shipwreck of my ill adventured youth :  
 Let waking eyes suffice to wail their scorn,  
 Without the torment of the night's untruth.

Cease, dreams, the images of day-desires,  
 To model forth the passions of the morrow ;

Never let rising Sun approve you liars  
To add more grief to aggravate my sorrow :

Still let me sleep, embracing clouds in vain,  
And never wake to feel the day's disdain.

S. DANIEL

## 36

## MADRIGAL

Take, O take those lips away  
That so sweetly were forsworn,  
And those eyes, the break of day,  
Lights that do mislead the morn :  
But my kisses bring again,

Bring again—

Seals of love, but seal'd in vain,  
Seal'd in vain !

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 37

## LOVE'S FAREWELL

Since there 's no help, come let us kiss and part,—  
Nay I have done, you get no more of me ;  
And I am glad, yea, glad with all my heart,  
That thus so cleanly I myself can free ;

Shake hands for ever, cancel all our vows,  
And when we meet at any time again,  
Be it not seen in either of our brows  
That we one jot of former love retain.

Now at the last gasp of love's latest breath,  
When his pulse failing, passion speechless lies,  
When faith is kneeling by his bed of death,  
And innocence is closing up his eyes,

—Now if thou would'st, when all have given him over,  
From death to life thou might'st him yet recover !

M. DRAYTON

## 38

## TO HIS LUTE

My lute, be as thou wert when thou didst grow  
 With thy green mother in some shady grove,  
 When immelodious winds but made thee move,  
 And birds their ramage did on thee bestow.

Since that dear Voice which did thy sounds approve,  
 Which wont in such harmonious strains to flow,  
 Is reft from Earth to tune those spheres above,  
 What art thou but a harbinger of woe ?

Thy pleasing notes be pleasing notes no more,  
 But orphans' wailings to the fainting ear ;  
 Each stroke a sigh, each sound draws forth a tear ;  
 For which be silent as in woods before :

Or if that any hand to touch thee deign,  
 Like widow'd turtle still her loss complain.

W. DRUMMOND

## 39

## BLIND LOVE

O me ! what eyes hath love put in my head  
 Which have no correspondence with true sight :  
 Or if they have, where is my judgement fled  
 That censures falsely what they see aright ?

If that be fair whereon my false eyes dote,  
 What means the world to say it is not so ?  
 If it be not, then love doth well denote  
 Love's eye is not so true as all men's : No,

How can it ? O how can love's eye be true,  
 That is so vex'd with watching and with tears ?  
 No marvel then though I mistake my view :  
 The sun itself sees not till heaven clears.

O cunning Love ! with tears thou keep'st me blind,  
 Lest eyes well-seeing thy foul faults should find !

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 40

## THE UNFAITHFUL SHEPHERDESS

While that the sun with his beams hot  
 Scorchéd the fruits in vale and mountain,  
 Philon the shepherd, late forgot,  
 Sitting beside a crystal fountain,  
 In shadow of a green oak-tree  
 Upon his pipe this song play'd he :  
 Adieu Love, adieu Love, untrue Love,  
 Untrue Love, untrue Love, adieu Love ;  
 Your mind is light, soon lost for new love.

So long as I was in your sight  
 I was your heart, your soul, and treasure ;  
 And evermore you sobb'd and sigh'd  
 Burning in flames beyond all measure :  
 —Three days endured your love to me,  
 And it was lost in other three !  
 Adieu Love, adieu Love, untrue Love,  
 Untrue Love, untrue Love, adieu Love ;  
 Your mind is light, soon lost for new love.

Another Shepherd you did see  
 To whom your heart was soon enchained ;  
 Full soon your love was leapt from me,  
 Full soon my place he had obtained.  
 Soon came a third, your love to win,  
 And we were out and he was in.  
 Adieu Love, adieu Love, untrue Love,  
 Untrue Love, untrue Love, adieu Love ;  
 Your mind is light, soon lost for new love.

Sure you have made me passing glad  
 That you your mind so soon removéd,  
 Before that I the leisure had  
 To choose you for my best belovéd :

For all your love was past and done  
 Two days before it was begun :—  
 Adieu Love, adieu Love, untrue Love,  
 Untrue Love, untrue Love, adieu Love ;  
 Your mind is light, soon lost for new love.

ANON.

## 41

## A RENUNCIATION

If women could be fair, and yet not fond,  
 Or that their love were firm, not fickle still,  
 I would not marvel that they make men bond  
 By service long to purchase their goodwill ;  
 But when I see how frail those creatures are,  
 I muse that men forget themselves so far.

To mark the choice they make, and how they change,  
 How oft from Phoebus they do flee to Pan ;  
 Unsettled still, like haggards wild they range,  
 These gentle birds that fly from man to man ;  
 Who would not scorn and shake them from the fist,  
 And let them fly, fair fools, which way they list ?

Yet for disport we fawn and flatter both,  
 To pass the time when nothing else can please,  
 And train them to our lure with subtle oath,  
 Till, weary of their wiles, ourselves we ease ;  
 And then we say when we their fancy try,  
 To play with fools, O what a fool was I !

E. VERE, EARL OF OXFORD

## 42

Blow, blow, thou winter wind,  
 Thou art not so unkind  
 As man's ingratitude ;  
 Thy tooth is not so keen  
 Because thou art not seen,  
 Although thy breath be rude.



Heigh ho ! sing heigh ho ! unto the green holly :  
 Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly :  
     Then, heigh ho ! the holly !  
     This life is most jolly.

Freeze, freeze, thou bitter sky,  
 Thou dost not bite so nigh  
 As benefits forgot :  
 Though thou the waters warp,  
 Thy sting is not so sharp  
 As friend remember'd not.

Heigh ho ! sing heigh ho ! unto the green holly :  
 Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly :  
     Then, heigh ho ! the holly !  
     This life is most jolly.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 43

## MADRIGAL

My thoughts hold mortal strife ;  
 I do detest my life,  
 And with lamenting cries  
 Peace to my soul to bring  
 Oft call that prince which here doth monarchize :  
 —But he, grim grinning King,  
 Who caitiffs scorns, and doth the blest surprise,  
 Late having deck'd with beauty's rose his tomb,  
 Disdains to crop a weed, and will not come.

W. DRUMMOND

## 44

## DIRGE OF LOVE

Come away, come away, Death,  
 And in sad cypres let me be laid ;  
     Fly away, fly away, breath ;  
 I am slain by a fair cruel maid.

My shroud of white, stuck all with yew,  
     O prepare it !  
 My part of death, no one so true  
     Did share it.

Not a flower, not a flower sweet  
 On my black coffin let there be strown ;  
 Not a friend, not a friend greet  
 My poor corpse, where my bones shall be thrown :  
 A thousand thousand sighs to save,  
     Lay me, O where  
 Sad true lover never find my grave,  
     To weep there.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 45

## FIDELE

Fear no more the heat o' the sun  
     Nor the furious winter's rages ;  
 Thou thy worldly task hast done,  
     Home art gone and ta'en thy wages :  
 Golden lads and girls all must,  
 As chimney-sweepers, come to dust.

Fear no more the frown o' the great,  
     Thou art past the tyrant's stroke ;  
 Care no more to clothe and eat ;  
     To thee the reed is as the oak :  
 The sceptre, learning, physic, must  
 All follow this, and come to dust.

Fear no more the lightning-flash  
     Nor the all-dreaded thunder-stone ;  
 Fear not slander, censure rash ;  
     Thou hast finish'd joy and moan :  
 All lovers young, all lovers must  
 Consign to thee, and come to dust.

W. SHAKESPEARE

46

## A SEA DIRGE

Full fathom five thy father lies :  
 Of his bones are coral made ;  
 Those are pearls that were his eyes :  
 Nothing of him that doth fade,  
 But doth suffer a sea-change  
 Into something rich and strange.  
 Sea-nymphs hourly ring his knell :  
 Hark ! now I hear them,—  
 Ding, dong, bell.

W. SHAKESPEARE

47

## A LAND DIRGE

Call for the robin redbreast and the wren,  
 Since o'er shady groves they hover  
 And with leaves and flowers do cover  
 The friendless bodies of unburied men.  
 Call unto his funeral dole  
 The ant, the field-mouse, and the mole  
 To rear him hillocks that shall keep him warm  
 And (when gay tombs are robb'd) sustain no harm ;  
 But keep the wolf far thence, that 's foe to men,  
 For with his nails he'll dig them up again.

J. WEBSTER

48

## POST MORTEM

If thou survive my well-contented day  
 When that churl Death my bones with dust shall cover,  
 And shalt by fortune once more re-survey  
 These poor rude lines of thy deccaséd lover ;

Compare them with the bettering of the time,  
 And though they be outstripp'd by every pen,  
 Reserve them for my love, not for their rhyme  
 Exceeded by the height of happier men.

O then vouchsafe me but this loving thought—  
 'Had my friend's muse grown with this growing age,  
 A dearer birth than this his love had brought,  
 To march in ranks of better equipage :

But since he died, and poets better prove,  
 Theirs for their style I'll read, his for his love.'

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 49

## THE TRIUMPH OF DEATH

No longer mourn for me when I am dead  
 Than you shall hear the surly sullen bell  
 Give warning to the world, that I am fled  
 From this vile world, with vilest worms to dwell ;

Nay, if you read this line, remember not  
 The hand that writ it ; for I love you so,  
 That I in your sweet thoughts would be forgot,  
 If thinking on me then should make you woe.

O if, I say, you look upon this verse  
 When I perhaps compounded am with clay,  
 Do not so much as my poor name rehearse,  
 But let your love even with my life decay ;

Lest the wise world should look into your moan,  
 And mock you with me after I am gone.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 50

## MADRIGAL

Tell me where is Fancy bred,  
 Or in the heart, or in the head ?  
 How begot, how nourished ?

Reply, reply.

It is engender'd in the eyes,  
 With gazing fed ; and Fancy dies  
 In the cradle where it lies :  
 Let us all ring Fancy's knell ;  
 I'll begin it,—Ding, dong, bell.  
           —Ding, dong, bell.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 51

## CUPID AND CAMPASPE

Cupid and my Campaspe play'd  
 At cards for kisses ; Cupid paid :  
 He stakes his quiver, bow, and arrows,  
 His mother's doves, and team of sparrows ;  
 Loses them too ; then down he throws  
 The coral of his lip, the rose  
 Growing on 's cheek (but none knows how) ;  
 With these, the crystal of his brow,  
 And then the dimple on his chin ;  
 All these did my Campaspe win :  
 At last he set her both his eyes—  
 She won, and Cupid blind did rise.  
     O Love ! has she done this to thee ?  
     What shall, alas ! become of me ?

J. LYLYE

## 52

Pack, clouds, away, and welcome day,  
 With night we banish sorrow ;  
 Sweet air blow soft, mount larks aloft  
 To give my Love good-morrow !  
 Wings from the wind to please her mind  
 Notes from the lark I'll borrow ;  
 Bird prune thy wing, nightingale sing,  
 To give my Love good-morrow ;  
     To give my Love good-morrow  
     Notes from them both I'll borrow.

Wake from thy nest, robin redbreast,  
 Sing birds in every furrow ;  
 And from each hill, let music shrill  
 Give my fair Love good-morrow !  
 Blackbird and thrush in every bush,  
 Stare, linnet, and cock-sparrow !  
 You pretty elves, amongst yourselves  
 Sing my fair Love good-morrow ;  
 To give my Love good-morrow  
 Sing birds in every furrow !

T. HEYWOOD

### PROTHALAMION

Calm was the day, and through the trembling air  
 Sweet-breathing Zephyrus did softly play—  
 A gentle spirit, that lightly did delay  
 Hot Titan's beams, which then did glister fair ;  
 When I (whom sullen care,  
 Through discontent of my long fruitless stay  
 In princes' court, and expectation vain  
 Of idle hopes, which still do fly away  
 Like empty shadows, did afflict my brain),  
 Walk'd forth to ease my pain  
 Along the shore of silver-streaming Thames ;  
 Whose ruddy bank, the which his river hems,  
 Was painted all with variable flowers,  
 And all the meads adorn'd with dainty gems  
 Fit to deck maidens' bowers,  
 And crown their paramours  
 Against the bridal day, which is not long :  
 Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.

There in a meadow by the river's side  
 A flock of nymphs I chancéd to espy,  
 All lovely daughters of the flood thereby,  
 With goodly greenish locks all loose untied  
 As each had been a bride ;

And each one had a little wicker basket  
 Made of fine twigs, entrailéd curiously,  
 In which they gather'd flowers to fill their flasket,  
 And with fine fingers cropt full feateously  
 The tender stalks on high.  
 Of every sort which in that meadow grew  
 They gather'd some ; the violet, pallid blue,  
 The little daisy that at evening closes,  
 The virgin lily and the primrose true :  
 With store of vermeil roses,  
 To deck their bridegrooms' posies  
 Against the bridal day, which was not long :  
 Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.

With that I saw two swans of goodly hue  
 Come softly swimming down along the lee ;  
 Two fairer birds I yet did never see ;  
 The snow which doth the top of Pindus strow  
 Did never whiter show,  
 Nor Jove himself, when he a swan would be  
 For love of Leda, whiter did appear ;  
 Yet Leda was (they say) as white as he,  
 Yet not so white as these, nor nothing near ;  
 So purely white they were  
 That even the gentle stream, the which them bare,  
 Seem'd foul to them, and bade his billows spare  
 To wet their silken feathers, lest they might  
 Soil their fair plumes with water not so fair,  
 And mar their beauties bright  
 That shone as Heaven's light  
 Against their bridal day, which was not long :  
 Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.

Eftsoons the nymphs, which now had flowers their fill,  
 Ran all in haste to see that silver brood  
 As they came floating on the crystal flood ;  
 Whom when they saw, they stood amazéd still  
 Their wondering eyes to fill ;  
 Them seem'd they never saw a sight so fair  
 Of fowls, so lovely, that they sure did deem  
 Then heavenly born, or to be that same pair

Which through the sky draw Venus' silver team ;  
 For sure they did not seem  
 To be begot of any earthly seed,  
 But rather angels, or of angels' breed ;  
 Yet were they bred of summer's heat, they say,  
 In sweetest season, when each flower and weed  
 The earth did fresh array ;  
 So fresh they seem'd as day,  
 Even as their bridal day, which was not long :  
     Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.

Then forth they all out of their baskets drew  
 Great store of flowers, the honour of the field,  
 That to the sense did fragrant odours yield,  
 All which upon those goodly birds they threw  
 And all the waves did strew,  
 That like old Peneus' waters they did seem  
 When down along by pleasant Tempe's shore  
 Scatter'd with flowers, through Thessaly they stream,  
 That they appear, through lilies' plenteous store,  
 Like a bride's chamber-floor.  
 Two of those nymphs meanwhile two garlands bound  
 Of freshest flowers which in that mead they found,  
 The which presenting all in trim array,  
 Their snowy foreheads therewithal they crown'd ;  
 Whilst one did sing this lay  
 Prepared against that day,  
 Against their bridal day, which was not long :  
     Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.

'Ye gentle birds ! the world's fair ornament,  
 And Heaven's glory, whom this happy hour  
 Doth lead unto your lovers' blissful bower,  
 Joy may you have, and gentle heart's content  
 Of your love's complement ;  
 And let fair Venus, that is queen of love,  
 With her heart-quelling son upon you smile,  
 Whose smile, they say, hath virtue to remove  
 All love's dislike, and friendship's faulty guile  
 For ever to assoil.



Let endless peace your steadfast hearts accord,  
 And blessed plenty wait upon your board ;  
 And let your bed with pleasures chaste abound,  
 That fruitful issue may to you afford  
 Which may your foes confound,  
 And make your joys redound  
 Upon your bridal day, which is not long :  
 Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.

So ended she ; and all the rest around  
 To her redoubled that her undersong,  
 Which said their bridal day should not be long :  
 And gentle Echo from the neighbour ground  
 Their accents did resound.  
 So forth those joyous birds did pass along  
 Adown the lee that to them murmur'd low,  
 As he would speak but that he lack'd a tongue,  
 Yet did by signs his glad affection show,  
 Making his stream run slow.  
 And all the fowl which in his flood did dwell  
 'Gan flock about those twain, that did excel  
 The rest, so far as Cynthia doth shend  
 The lesser stars. So they, enrangéd well,  
 Did on those two attend,  
 And their best service lend  
 Against their wedding day, which was not long :  
 Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.

At length they all to merry London came,  
 To merry London, my most kindly nurse,  
 That to me gave this life's first native source,  
 Though from another place I take my name,  
 An house of ancient fame :  
 There when they came whereas those bricky towers  
 The which on Thames' broad aged back do ride,  
 Where now the studious lawyers have their bowers,  
 There whilome wont the Templar-knights to bide,  
 Till they decay'd through pride ;  
 Next whereunto there stands a stately place,  
 Where oft I gainéd gifts and goodly grace

Of that great lord, which therein wont to dwell,  
 Whose want too well now feels my friendless case ;  
 But ah ! here fits not well  
 Old woes, but joys to tell  
 Against the bridal day, which is not long  
 Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.

Yet therein now doth lodge a noble peer,  
 Great England's glory and the world's wide wonder,  
 Whose dreadful name late thro' all Spain did thunder,  
 And Hercules' two pillars standing near  
 Did make to quake and fear :  
 Fair branch of honour, flower of chivalry !  
 That fillest England with thy triumphs' fame  
 Joy have thou of thy noble victory,  
 And endless happiness of thine own name  
 That promiseth the same ;  
 That through thy prowess and victorious arms  
 Thy country may be freed from foreign harms,  
 And great Eliza's glorious name may ring  
 Through all the world, fill'd with thy wide alarms  
 Which some brave Muse may sing  
 To ages following,  
 Upon the bridal day, which is not long :  
 Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.

From those high towers this noble lord issuing  
 Like radiant Hesper, when his golden hair  
 In th' ocean billows he hath bathed fair,  
 Descended to the river's open viewing  
 With a great train ensuing.  
 Above the rest were goodly to be seen  
 Two gentle knights of lovely face and feature,  
 Becoming well the bower of any queen,  
 With gifts of wit and ornaments of nature,  
 Fit for so goodly stature,  
 That like the twins of Jove they seem'd in sight  
 Which deck the baldric of the Heavens bright ;  
 They two, forth pacing to the river's side,  
 Received those two fair brides, their love's delight ;

Which, at th' appointed tide,  
 Each one did make his bride  
 Against their bridal day, which is not long :  
 Sweet Thames ! run softly, till I end my song.  
 E. SPENSER

## 54

## THE HAPPY HEART

Art thou poor, yet hast thou golden slumbers ?  
 O sweet content !  
 Art thou rich, yet is thy mind perplexéd ?  
 O punishment !  
 Dost thou laugh to see how fools are vexéd  
 To add to golden numbers, golden numbers ?  
 O sweet content ! O sweet, O sweet content !  
 Work apace, apace, apace, apace ;  
 Honest labour bears a lovely face ;  
 Then hey nonny nonny, hey nonny nonny !

Canst drink the waters of the crispéd spring ?  
 O sweet content !  
 Swimm'st thou in wealth, yet sink'st in thine own  
 tears ?  
 O punishment !  
 Then he that patiently want's burden bears  
 No burden bears, but is a king, a king !  
 O sweet content ! O sweet, O sweet content !  
 Work apace, apace, apace, apace ;  
 Honest labour bears a lovely face ;  
 Then hey nonny nonny, hey nonny nonny !

T. DEKKER

## 55

This Life, which seems so fair,  
 Is like a bubble blown up in the air  
 By sporting children's breath,  
 Who chase it everywhere  
 And strive who can most motion it bequeath.  
 And though it sometimes seem of its own might

Like to an eye of gold to be fix'd there,  
 And firm to hover in that empty height,  
 That only is because it is so light.  
 —But in that pomp it doth not long appear ;  
 For when 'tis most admired, in a thought,  
 Because it erst was nought, it turns to nought.

W. DRUMMOND

## 56

## SOUL AND BODY

Poor Soul, the centre of my sinful earth,  
 Fool'd by those rebel powers that thee array,  
 Why dost thou pine within, and suffer dearth,  
 Painting thy outward walls so costly gay ?

Why so large cost, having so short a lease,  
 Dost thou upon thy fading mansion spend ?  
 Shall worms, inheritors of this excess,  
 Eat up thy charge ? is this thy body's end ?

Then, Soul, live thou upon thy servant's loss,  
 And let that pine to aggravate thy store ;  
 Buy terms divine in selling hours of dross ;  
 Within be fed, without be rich no more :—

So shalt thou feed on death, that feeds on men,  
 And death once dead, there 's no more dying then.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 57

## LIFE

The World's a bubble, and the Life of Man  
 Less than a span :  
 In his conception wretched, from the womb  
 So to the tomb ;  
 Curst from his cradle, and brought up to years  
 With cares and fears.  
 Who then to frail mortality shall trust,  
 But limns on water, or but writes in dust.

Yet whilst with sorrow here we live opprest,

What life is best ?

Courts are but only superficial schools

To dandle fools :

The rural parts are turn'd into a den

Of savage men :

And where 's a city from foul vice so free,

But may be term'd the worst of all the three ?

Domestic cares afflict the husband's bed,

Or pains his head :

Those that live single, take it for a curse,

Or do things worse :

Some would have children : those that have them,  
moan

Or wish them gone :

What is it, then, to have, or have no wife,

But single thralldom, or a double strife ?

Our own affections still at home to please

Is a disease :

To cross the seas to any foreign soil,

Peril and toil :

Wars with their noise affright us ; when they cease,

We are worse in peace ;—

What then remains, but that we still should cry

For being born, or, being born, to die ?

LORD BACON

### THE LESSONS OF NATURE

Of this fair volume which we World do name  
If we the sheets and leaves could turn with care,  
Of Him who it corrects, and did it frame,  
We clear might read the art and wisdom rare :

Find out His power which wildest powers doth  
tame,

His providence extending everywhere,  
His justice which proud rebels doth not spare,  
In every page, no period of the same.

But silly we, like foolish children, rest  
 Well pleased with colour'd vellum, leaves of gold,  
 Fair dangling ribbands, leaving what is best,  
 On the great Writer's sense ne'er taking hold ;

Or if by chance we stay our minds on aught,  
 It is some picture on the margin wrought.

W. DRUMMOND

## 59

Doth then the World go thus, doth all thus move ?  
 Is this the justice which on Earth we find ?  
 Is this that firm decree which all doth bind ?  
 Are these your influences, Powers above ?

Those souls which vice's moody mists most blind,  
 Blind Fortune, blindly, most their friend doth prove ;  
 And they who thee, poor idol Virtue ! love,  
 Ply like a feather toss'd by storm and wind.

Ah ! if a Providence doth sway this all  
 Why should best minds groan under most distress ?  
 Or why should pride humility make thrall,  
 And injuries the innocent oppress ?

Heavens ! hinder, stop this fate ; or grant a time  
 When good may have, as well as bad, their prime !

W. DRUMMOND

## 60

## THE WORLD'S WAY

Tired with all these, for restful death I cry—  
 As, to behold desert a beggar born  
 And needy nothing trimm'd in jollity,  
 And purest faith unhappily forsworn,

And gilded honour shamefully misplaced,  
 And maiden virtue rudely strumpeted,  
 And right perfection wrongfully disgraced,  
 And strength by limping sway disabled,

And art made tongue-tied by authority,  
 And folly, doctor-like, controlling skill,  
 And simple truth miscall'd simplicity,  
 And captive Good attending captain Ill :—

—Tired with all these, from these would I be gone,  
 Save that, to die, I leave my Love alone.

W. SHAKESPEARE

## 61

## SAINT JOHN BAPTIST

The last and greatest Herald of Heaven's King  
 Girt with rough skins, hies to the deserts wild,  
 Among that savage brood the woods forth bring,  
 Which he more harmless found than man, and mild.

His food was locusts, and what there doth spring,  
 With honey that from virgin hives distill'd ;  
 Parch'd body, hollow eyes, some uncouth thing  
 Made him appear, long since from earth exiled.

There burst he forth : All ye whose hopes rely  
 On God, with me amidst these deserts mourn,  
 Repent, repent, and from old errors turn !  
 —Who listen'd to his voice, obey'd his cry ?

Only the echoes, which he made relent,  
 Rung from their flinty caves, Repent ! Repent !  
 W. DRUMMOND

THE GOLDEN TREASURY  
BOOK SECOND

62

ODE ON THE  
MORNING OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY

This is the month, and this the happy morn  
Wherein the Son of Heaven's Eternal King  
Of wedded maid and virgin mother born,  
Our great redemption from above did bring ;  
For so the holy sages once did sing  
That He our deadly forfeit should release,  
And with His Father work us a perpetual peace.

That glorious Form, that Light unsufferable,  
And that far-beaming blaze of Majesty  
Wherewith He went at Heaven's high council-table  
To sit the midst of Trinal Unity,  
He laid aside ; and, here with us to be,  
Forsook the courts of everlasting day,  
And chose with us a darksome house of mortal clay.

Say, heavenly Muse, shall not thy sacred vein  
Afford a present to the Infant God ?  
Hast thou no verse, no hymn, or solemn strain  
To welcome Him to this His new abode,  
Now while the heaven, by the sun's team untrod,  
Hath took no print of the approaching light,  
And all the spangled host keep watch in squadrons  
bright ?



See how from far, upon the eastern road,  
 The star-led wizards haste with odours sweet :  
 O run, prevent them with thy humble ode  
 And lay it lowly at His blessed feet ;  
 Have thou the honour first thy Lord to greet,  
 And join thy voice unto the angel quire  
 From out His secret altar touch'd with hallow'd fire.

## THE HYMN

It was the winter wild  
 While the heaven-born Child  
 All meanly wrapt in the rude manger lies ;  
 Nature in awe to Him  
 Had doff'd her gaudy trim,  
 With her great Master so to sympathize :  
 It was no season then for her  
 To wanton with the sun, her lusty paramour.

Only with speeches fair  
 She woos the gentle air  
 To hide her guilty front with innocent snow ;  
 And on her naked shame,  
 Pollute with sinful blame,  
 The saintly veil of maiden white to throw ;  
 Confounded, that her Maker's eyes  
 Should look so near upon her foul deformities.

But He, her fears to cease,  
 Sent down the meek-eyed Peace ;  
 She, crown'd with olive green, came softly sliding  
 Down through the turning sphere,  
 His ready harbinger,  
 With turtle wing the amorous clouds dividing ;  
 And waving wide her myrtle wand,  
 She strikes a universal peace through sea and land.

No war, or battle's sound  
 Was heard the world around :  
 The idle spear and shield were high uphung ;  
 The hooked chariot stood  
 Unstain'd with hostile blood ;  
 The trumpet spake not to the arméd throng ;

And kings sat still with awful eye,  
As if they surely knew their sovran Lord was by.

But peaceful was the night  
Wherein the Prince of Light  
His reign of peace upon the earth began :  
The winds, with wonder whist,  
Smoothly the waters kist  
Whispering new joys to the mild ocean—  
Who now hath quite forgot to rave,  
While birds of calm sit brooding on the charmed wave.

The stars, with deep amaze,  
Stand fix'd in steadfast gaze,  
Bending one way their precious influence ;  
And will not take their flight  
For all the morning light,  
Or Lucifer that often warn'd them thence ;  
But in their glimmering orbs did glow  
Until their Lord Himself bespake, and bid them go.

And though the shady gloom  
Had given day her room,  
The sun himself withheld his wonted speed,  
And hid his head for shame,  
As his inferior flame  
The new-enlighten'd world no more should need :  
He saw a greater Sun appear  
Than his bright throne, or burning axletree, could  
bear.

The shepherds on the lawn  
Or ere the point of dawn  
Sate simply chatting in a rustic row ;  
Full little thought they then  
That the mighty Pan  
Was kindly come to live with them below ;  
Perhaps their loves, or else their sheep  
Was all that did their silly thoughts so busy keep.

When such music sweet  
Their hearts and ears did greet

As never was by mortal finger strook—  
Divinely-warbled voice  
Answering the stringéd noise,  
As all their souls in blissful rapture took :  
The air, such pleasure loth to lose,  
With thousand echoes still prolongs each heavenly  
close.

Nature that heard such sound  
Beneath the hollow round  
Of Cynthia's seat the airy region thrilling,  
Now was almost won  
To think her part was done,  
And that her reign had here its last fulfilling ;  
She knew such harmony alone  
Could hold all heaven and earth in happier union.

At last surrounds their sight  
A globe of circular light  
That with long beams the shamefaced night array'd ;  
The helméd Cherubim  
And sworded Seraphim  
Are seen in glittering ranks with wings display'd,  
Harping in loud and solemn quire  
With unexpressive notes, to Heaven's new-born Heir.

Such music (as 'tis said)  
Before was never made  
But when of old the sons of morning sung,  
While the Creator great  
His constellations set  
And the well-balanced world on hinges hung ;  
And cast the dark foundations deep,  
And bid the weltering waves their oozy channel keep.

Ring out, ye crystal spheres !  
Once bless our human ears,  
If ye have power to touch our senses so ;  
And let your silver chime  
Move in melodious time ;  
And let the base of heaven's deep organ blow ;

And with your ninefold harmony  
 Make up full consort to the angelic symphony.

For if such holy song  
 Enwrap our fancy long,  
 Time will run back, and fetch the age of gold ;  
 And speckled vanity  
 Will sicken soon and die,  
 And leprous sin will melt from earthly mould ;  
 And Hell itself will pass away,  
 And leave her dolorous mansions to the peering  
 day.

Yea, Truth and Justice then  
 Will down return to men,  
 Orb'd in a rainbow ; and, like glories wearing,  
 Mercy will sit between  
 Throned in celestial sheen,  
 With radiant feet the tissued clouds down steering ;  
 And Heaven, as at some festival,  
 Will open wide the gates of her high palace hall.

But wisest Fate says No ;  
 This must not yet be so ;  
 The Babe yet lies in smiling infancy  
 That on the bitter cross  
 Must redeem our loss ;  
 So both Himself and us to glorify :  
 Yet first, to those ychain'd in sleep  
 The wakeful trump of doom must thunder through the  
 deep ;

With such a horrid clang  
 As on mount Sinai rang  
 While the red fire and smouldering clouds outbrake :  
 The aged Earth aghast  
 With terror of that blast  
 Shall from the surface to the centre shake,  
 When, at the world's last session,  
 The dreadful Judge in middle air shall spread His  
 throne.

And then at last our bliss  
Full and perfect is,  
But now begins ; for from this happy day  
The old Dragon under ground,  
In straiter limits bound,  
Not half so far casts his usurpéd sway ;  
And, wroth to see his kingdom fail,  
Swinges the scaly horror of his folded tail.

The oracles are dumb ;  
No voice or hideous hum  
Runs through the archéd roof in words deceiving :  
Apollo from his shrine  
Can no more divine,  
With hollow shriek the steep of Delphos leaving :  
No nightly trance or breathéd spell  
Inspires the pale-eyed priest from the prophetic cell.

The lonely mountains o'er  
And the resounding shore  
A voice of weeping heard, and loud lament ;  
From haunted spring and dale  
Edged with poplar pale  
The parting Genius is with sighing sent ;  
With flower-inwoven tresses torn  
The nymphs in twilight shade of tangled thickets  
mourn.

In consecrated earth  
And on the holy hearth  
The Lars and Lemurés moan with midnight plaint ;  
In urns and altars round  
A drear and dying sound  
Affrights the Flamens at their service quaint ;  
And the chill marble seems to sweat,  
While each peculiar Power forgoes his wonted seat.

Peor and Baalim  
Forsake their temples dim,  
With that twice-batter'd god of Palestine ;

And moonéd Ashtaroth  
 Heaven's queen and mother both,  
 Now sits not girt with tapers' holy shine ;  
 The Lybic Hammon shrinks his horn,  
 In vain the Tyrian maids their wounded Thammuz  
 mourn.

And sullen Moloch, fled,  
 Hath left in shadows dread  
 His burning idol all of blackest hue ;  
 In vain with cymbals' ring  
 They call the grisly king,  
 In dismal dance about the furnace blue ;  
 The brutish gods of Nile as fast,  
 Isis, and Orus, and the dog Anubis, haste.

Nor is Osiris seen  
 In Memphian grove, or green,  
 Trampling the unshower'd grass with lowings loud :  
 Nor can he be at rest  
 Within his sacred chest ;  
 Nought but profoundest hell can be his shroud ;  
 In vain with timbrell'd anthems dark  
 The sable stoléd sorcerers bear his worshipt ark.

He feels from Juda's land  
 The dreaded infant's hand ;  
 The rays of Bethlehem blind his dusky eyn ;  
 Nor all the gods beside  
 Longer dare abide,  
 Nor Typhon huge ending in snaky twine :  
 Our Babe, to show his Godhead true,  
 Can in His swaddling bands control the damnéd crew.

So, when the sun in bed  
 Curtain'd with cloudy red  
 Pillows his chin upon an orient wave,  
 The flocking shadows pale  
 Troop to the infernal jail,  
 Each fetter'd ghost slips to his several grave ;  
 And the yellow-skirted fays  
 Fly after the night-steeds, leaving their moon-loved  
 maze.

But see, the Virgin blest  
 Hath laid her Babe to rest ;  
 Time is, our tedious song should here have ending :  
 Heaven's youngest-teem'd star  
 Hath fix'd her polish'd car,  
 Her sleeping Lord with hand-maid lamp attending :  
 And all about the courtly stable  
 Bright-harness'd angels sit in order serviceable.

J. MILTON

## 63

## SONG FOR SAINT CECILIA'S DAY, 1687

From Harmony, from heavenly Harmony  
 This universal frame began :  
 When Nature underneath a heap  
 Of jarring atoms lay  
 And could not heave her head,  
 The tuneful voice was heard from high  
 Arise, ye more than dead !  
 Then cold, and hot, and moist, and dry  
 In order to their stations leap,  
 And Music's power obey.  
 From harmony, from heavenly harmony  
 This universal frame began :  
 From harmony to harmony  
 Through all the compass of the notes it ran,  
 The diapason closing full in Man.

What passion cannot Music raise and quell ?  
 When Jubal struck the chorded shell  
 His listening brethren stood around,  
 And, wondering, on their faces fell  
 To worship that celestial sound.  
 Less than a god they thought there could not dwell  
 Within the hollow of that shell  
 That spoke so sweetly and so well.  
 What passion cannot Music raise and quell ?

The trumpet's loud clangor  
 Excites us to arms,  
 With shrill notes of anger  
 And mortal alarms.  
 The double double double beat  
 Of the thundering drum  
 Cries ' Hark ! the foes come ;  
 Charge, charge, 'tis too late to retreat ! '

The soft complaining flute  
 In dying notes discovers  
 The woes of hopeless lovers,  
 Whose dirge is whisper'd by the warbling lute.

Sharp violins proclaim  
 Their jealous pangs and desperation,  
 Fury, frantic indignation,  
 Depth of pains, and height of passion  
 For the fair disdainful dame.

But oh ! what art can teach,  
 What human voice can reach  
 The sacred organ's praise ?  
 Notes inspiring holy love,  
 Notes that wing their heavenly ways  
 To mend the choirs above.

Orpheus could lead the savage race,  
 And trees uprooted left their place  
 Sequacious of the lyre :  
 But bright Cecilia raised the wonder higher :  
 When to her Organ vocal breath was given  
 An Angel heard, and straight appear'd—  
 Mistaking Earth for Heaven !

*Grand Chorus*

As from the power of sacred lays  
 The spheres began to move,  
 And sung the great Creator's praise  
 To all the blest above ;



So when the last and dreadful hour  
 This crumbling pageant shall devour,  
 The trumpet shall be heard on high,  
 The dead shall live, the living die,  
 And Music shall untune the sky.

J. DRYDEN

## 64

## ON THE LATE MASSACRE IN PIEMONTE

Avenge, O Lord! Thy slaughter'd Saints, whose  
 bones  
 Lie scatter'd on the Alpine mountains cold;  
 Even them who kept Thy truth so pure of old  
 When all our fathers worshipt stocks and stones  
 Forget not: In Thy book record their groans  
 Who were Thy sheep, and in their ancient fold  
 Slain by the bloody Piemontese, that roll'd  
 Mother with infant down the rocks. Their moans

The vales redoubled to the hills, and they  
 To Heaven. Their martyr'd blood and ashes sow  
 O'er all the Italian fields, where still doth sway  
 The triple tyrant: that from these may grow  
 A hundred-fold, who, having learnt Thy way,  
 Early may fly the Babylonian woe.

J. MILTON

## 65

HORATIAN ODE UPON CROMWELL'S  
RETURN FROM IRELAND

The forward youth that would appear,  
 Must now forsake his Muses dear,  
 Nor in the shadows sing  
 His numbers languishing.

'Tis time to leave the books in dust,  
 And oil the unused armour's rust,  
 Removing from the wall  
 The corslet of the hall.

So restless Cromwell could not cease  
 In the inglorious arts of peace,  
     But through adventurous war  
 Urgéd his active star :

And like the three-fork'd lightning first,  
 Breaking the clouds where it was nurst,  
     Did thorough his own side  
 His fiery way divide :

For 'tis all one to courage high  
 The emulous, or enemy ;  
     And with such, to enclose  
 Is more than to oppose.

Then burning through the air he went  
 And palaces and temples rent ;  
     And Caesar's head at last  
 Did through his laurels blast.

'Tis madness to resist or blame  
 The face of angry heaven's flame ;  
     And if we would speak true,  
 Much to the Man is due

Who, from his private gardens, where  
 He lived reservéd and austere  
     (As if his highest plot  
 To plant the bergamot),

Could by industrious valour climb  
 To ruin the great work of time,  
     And cast the Kingdoms old  
 Into another mould.

Though Justice against Fate complain,  
 And plead the ancient Rights in vain—  
     But those do hold or break  
 As men are strong or weak.

Nature, that hateth emptiness,  
 Allows of penetration less,  
     And therefore must make room  
 Where greater spirits come.

What field of all the civil war  
 Where his were not the deepest scar ?  
 And Hampton shows what part  
 He had of wiser art,

Where, twining subtle fears with hope,  
 He wove a net of such a scope  
 That Charles himself might chase  
 To Carisbrook's narrow case ;

That thence the Royal actor borne  
 The tragic scaffold might adorn :  
 While round the arméd bands  
 Did clap their bloody hands ;

He nothing common did or mean  
 Upon that memorable scene,  
 But with his keener eye  
 The axe's edge did try ;

Nor call'd the Gods, with vulgar spite,  
 To vindicate his helpless right ;  
 But bow'd his comely head  
 Down, as upon a bed.

—This was that memorable hour  
 Which first assured the forcéd power :  
 So when they did design  
 The Capitol's first line.

A Bleeding Head, where they begun,  
 Did fright the architects to run ;  
 And yet in that the State  
 Foresaw its happy fate !

And now the Irish are ashamed  
 To see themselves in one year tamed :  
 So much one man can do  
 That does both act and know.

They can affirm his praises best,  
 And have, though overcome, confest  
 How good he is, how just  
 And fit for highest trust ;

Nor yet grown stiffer with command,  
 But still in the Republic's hand—  
     How fit he is to sway  
     That can so well obey !

He to the Commons' feet presents  
 A Kingdom for his first year's rents.  
     And (what he may) forbears  
     His fame, to make it theirs :

And has his sword and spoils ungirt  
 To lay them at the Public's skirt.  
     So when the falcon high  
     Falls heavy from the sky,

She, having kill'd, no more does search  
 But on the next green bough to perch,  
     Where, when he first does lure,  
     The falconer has her sure.

—What may not then our Isle presume  
 While victory his crest does plume ?  
     What may not others fear  
     If thus he crowns each year !

As Caesar he, ere long, to Gaul,  
 To Italy an Hannibal,  
     And to all states not free  
     Shall climacteric be.

The Pict no shelter now shall find  
 Within his parti-colour'd mind,  
     But from this valour, sad  
     Shrink underneath the plaid—

Happy, if in the tufted brake  
 The English hunter him mistake,  
     Nor lay his hounds in near  
     The Caledonian deer.

But Thou, the War's and Fortune's son,  
 March indefatigably on ;  
     And for the last effect  
     Still keep the sword erect :

Besides the force it has to fright  
 The spirits of the shady night,  
 The same arts that did gain  
 A power, must it maintain.

A. MARVELL

## LYCIDAS

*Elegy on a Friend drowned in the Irish Channel*

Yet once more, O ye laurels, and once more  
 Ye myrtles brown, with ivy never sere,  
 I come to pluck your berries harsh and crude,  
 And with forced fingers rude  
 Shatter your leaves before the mellowing year.  
 Bitter constraint, and sad occasion dear  
 Compels me to disturb your season due,  
 For Lycidas is dead, dead ere his prime,  
 Young Lycidas, and hath not left his peer :  
 Who would not sing for Lycidas ? he knew  
 Himself to sing, and build the lofty rhyme.  
 He must not float upon his watery bier  
 Unwept, and welter to the parching wind,  
 Without the meed of some melodious tear.

Begin then, Sisters of the sacred well  
 That from beneath the seat of Jove doth spring,  
 Begin, and somewhat loudly sweep the string.  
 Hence with denial vain and coy excuse :  
 So may some gentle Muse  
 With lucky words favour my destined urn ;  
 And as he passes, turn  
 And bid fair peace be to my sable shroud.

For we were nursed upon the selfsame hill,  
 Fed the same flock by fountain, shade, and rill.  
 Together both, ere the high lawns appear'd  
 Under the opening eye-lids of the morn,  
 We drove a-field, and both together heard  
 What time the gray-fly winds her sultry horn,

Battening our flocks with the fresh dews of night,  
 Oft till the star, that rose at evening bright,  
 Towards heaven's descent had sloped his westering  
 wheel.

Meanwhile the rural ditties were not mute,  
 Temper'd to the oaten flute ;  
 Rough Satyrs danced, and Fauns with cloven heel  
 From the glad sound would not be absent long ;  
 And old Damoetas loved to hear our song.

But, O the heavy change, now thou art gone,  
 Now thou art gone, and never must return !  
 Thee, Shepherd, thee the woods, and desert caves  
 With wild thyme and the gadding vine o'ergrown,  
 And all their echoes, mourn :  
 The willows and the hazel copses green  
 Shall now no more be seen  
 Fanning their joyous leaves to thy soft lays :—  
 As killing as the canker to the rose,  
 Or taint-worm to the weanling herds that graze,  
 Or frost to flowers, that their gay wardrobe wear  
 When first the white-thorn blows ;  
 Such, Lycidas, thy loss to shepherds' ear.

Where were ye, Nymphs, when the remorseless deep  
 Closed o'er the head of your loved Lycidas ?  
 For neither were ye playing on the steep  
 Where your old bards, the famous Druids, lie,  
 Nor on the shaggy top of Mona high,  
 Nor yet where Deva spreads her wizard stream :  
 Ay me ! I fondly dream—  
 Had ye been there—for what could that have done ?  
 What could the Muse herself that Orpheus bore,  
 The Muse herself, for her enchanting son,  
 Whom universal nature did lament,  
 When by the rout that made the hideous roar  
 His gory visage down the stream was sent,  
 Down the swift Hebrus to the Lesbian shore ?

Alas ! what boots it with uncessant care  
 To tend the homely, slighted, shepherd's trade

And strictly meditate the thankless Muse ?  
 Were it not better done, as others use,  
 To sport with Amaryllis in the shade,  
 Or with the tangles of Neacra's hair ?  
 Fame is the spur that the clear spirit doth raise  
 (That last infirmity of noble mind)  
 To scorn delights, and live laborious days :  
 But the fair guerdon when we hope to find,  
 And think to burst out into sudden blaze,  
 Comes the blind Fury with the abhorréd shears  
 And slits the thin-spun life. ' But not the praise '  
 Phoebus replied, and touch'd my trembling ears ;  
 ' Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil,  
 Nor in the glistening foil  
 Set off to the world, nor in broad rumour lies :  
 But lives and spreads aloft by those pure eyes  
 And perfect witness of all-judging Jove ;  
 As he pronounces lastly on each deed,  
 Of so much fame in heaven expect thy meed.'

O fountain Arethuse, and thou honour'd flood  
 Smooth-sliding Mincius, crown'd with vocal reeds,  
 That strain I heard was of a higher mood :  
 But now my oar proceeds,  
 And listens to the herald of the sea  
 That came in Neptune's plea :  
 He ask'd the waves, and ask'd the felon winds,  
 What hard mishap hath doom'd this gentle swain ?  
 And question'd every gust of rugged wings  
 That blows from off each beakéd promontory :  
 They knew not of his story ;  
 And sage Hippotadés their answer brings,  
 That not a blast was from his dungeon stray'd ;  
 The air was calm, and on the level brine  
 Sleek Panopé with all her sisters play'd.  
 It was that fatal and perfidious bark  
 Built in the eclipse, and rigg'd with curses dark,  
 That sunk so low that sacred head of thine.

Next Camus, reverend sire, went footing slow,  
 His mantle hairy, and his bonnet sedge

Inwrought with figures dim, and on the edge  
 Like to that sanguine flower inscribed with woe:  
 ' Ah ! who hath reft,' quoth he, ' my dearest  
 pledge !'

Last came, and last did go  
 The pilot of the Galilean lake ;  
 Two massy keys he bore of metals twain  
 (The golden opes, the iron shuts amain) ;  
 He shook his mitred locks, and stern bespake :  
 ' How well could I have spared for thee, young swain,  
 Enow of such, as for their bellies' sake  
 Creep and intrude and climb into the fold !  
 Of other care they little reckoning make  
 Than how to scramble at the shearers' feast,  
 And shove away the worthy bidden guest.  
 Blind mouths ! that scarce themselves know how to  
 hold

A sheep-hook, or have learn'd aught else the least  
 That to the faithful herdman's art belongs !  
 What recks it them ? What need they ? They are  
 sped ;

And when they list, their lean and flashy songs  
 Grate on their scrannel pipes of wretched straw ;  
 The hungry sheep look up, and are not fed,  
 But swain with wind and the rank mist they draw  
 Rot inwardly, and foul contagion spread :  
 Besides what the grim wolf with privy paw  
 Daily devours apace, and nothing said :  
 —But that two-handed engine at the door  
 Stands ready to smite once, and smite no more.'

Return, Alphéus, the dread voice is past  
 That shrunk thy streams ; return, Sicilian Muse,  
 And call the vales, and bid them hither cast  
 Their bells and flowerets of a thousand hues.  
 Ye valleys low, where the mild whispers use  
 Of shades, and wanton winds, and gushing brooks  
 On whose fresh lap the swart star sparely looks ;  
 Throw hither all your quaint enamell'd eyes  
 That on the green turf suck the honey'd showers  
 And purple all the ground with vernal flowers.



Bring the rathe primrose that forsaken dies,  
 The tufted crow-toe, and pale jessamine,  
 The white pink, and the pansy freak'd with jet,  
 The glowing violet,  
 The musk-rose, and the well-attired woodbine,  
 With cowslips wan that hang the pensive head,  
 And every flower that sad embroidery wears :  
 Bid Amaranthus all his beauty shed,  
 And daffodillies fill their cups with tears  
 To strew the laureat hearse where Lycid lies.  
 For so to interpose a little ease,  
 Let our frail thoughts dally with false surmise ;  
 Ay me ! whilst thee the shores and sounding seas  
 Wash far away,—where'er thy bones are hurl'd,  
 Whether beyond the stormy Hebrides  
 Where thou perhaps, under the whelming tide,  
 Visitest the bottom of the monstrous world ;  
 Or whether thou, to our moist vows denied,  
 Sleep'st by the fable of Bellerus old,  
 Where the great Vision of the guarded mount  
 Looks towards Namancos and Bayona's hold,  
 —Look homeward, Angel, now, and melt with ruth :  
 —And, O ye dolphins, waft the hapless youth !

Weep no more, woful shepherds, weep no more,  
 For Lycidas, your sorrow, is not dead,  
 Sunk though he be beneath the watery floor ;  
 So sinks the day-star in the ocean-bed,  
 And yet anon repairs his drooping head  
 And tricks his beams, and with new-spangled ore  
 Flames in the forehead of the morning sky :  
 So Lycidas sunk low, but mounted high  
 Through the dear night of Him that walk'd the  
 waves ;

Where, other groves and other streams along,  
 With nectar pure his oozy locks he laves,  
 And hears the unexpressive nuptial song  
 In the blest kingdoms meek of joy and love.  
 There entertain him all the saints above  
 In solemn troops, and sweet societies,  
 That sing, and singing, in their glory move,  
 And wipe the tears for ever from his eyes.

Now, Lycidas, the shepherds weep no more ;  
 Henceforth thou art the Genius of the shore  
 In thy large recompense, and shalt be good  
 To all that wander in that perilous flood.

Thus sang the uncouth swain to the oaks and rills,  
 While the still morn went out with sandals grey ;  
 He touch'd the tender stops of various quills,  
 With eager thought warbling his Doric lay :  
 And now the sun had stretch'd out all the hill  
 And now was dropt into the western bay :  
 At last he rose, and twitch'd his mantle blue :  
 To-morrow to fresh woods, and pastures new.

J. MILTON

#### ON THE TOMBS IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Mortality, behold and fear  
 What a change of flesh is here !  
 Think how many royal bones  
 Sleep within these heaps of stones ;  
 Here they lie, had realms and lands,  
 Who now want strength to stir their hands,  
 Where from their pulpits seal'd with dust  
 They preach, ' In greatness is no trust.'  
 Here 's an acre sown indeed  
 With the richest royallest seed  
 That the earth did e'er suck in  
 Since the first man died for sin :  
 Here the bones of birth have cried  
 ' Though gods they were, as men they died !'  
 Here are sands, ignoble things,  
 Dropt from the ruin'd sides of kings ;  
 Here 's a world of pomp and state  
 Buried in dust, once dead by fate.

F. BEAUMONT

68

## THE LAST CONQUEROR

Victorious men of earth, no more  
 Proclaim how wide your empires are ;  
 Though you bind-in every shore  
 And your triumphs reach as far  
 As night or day,  
 Yet you, proud monarchs, must obey  
 And mingle with forgotten ashes, when  
 Death calls ye to the crowd of common men.

Devouring Famine, Plague, and War,  
 Each able to undo mankind,  
 Death's servile emissaries are ;  
 Nor to these alone confined,  
 He hath at will  
 More quaint and subtle ways to kill ;  
 A smile or kiss, as he will use the art,  
 Shall have the cunning skill to break a heart.  
 J. SHIRLEY

69

## DEATH THE LEVELLER

The glories of our blood and state  
 Are shadows, not substantial things ;  
 There is no armour against fate ;  
 Death lays his icy hand on kings :  
 Sceptre and Crown  
 Must tumble down,  
 And in the dust be equal made  
 With the poor crooked scythe and spade.

Some men with swords may reap the field,  
 And plant fresh laurels where they kill :  
 But their strong nerves at last must yield ;  
 They tame but one another still :

Early or late  
 They stoop to fate,  
 And must give up their murmuring breath  
 When they, pale captives, creep to death.

The garlands wither on your brow ;  
 Then boast no more your mighty deeds ;  
 Upon Death's purple altar now  
 See where the victor-victim bleeds :  
 Your heads must come  
 To the cold tomb ;  
 Only the actions of the just  
 Smell sweet, and blossom in their dust.

J. SHIRLEY

WHEN THE ASSAULT WAS INTENDED  
 TO THE CITY

Captain, or Colonel, or Knight in arms,  
 Whose chance on these defenceless doors may seize,  
 If deed of honour did thee ever please,  
 Guard them, and him within protect from harms.

He can requite thee ; for he knows the charms  
 That call fame on such gentle acts as these,  
 And he can spread thy name o'er lands and seas,  
 Whatever clime the sun's bright circle warms.

Lift not thy spear against the Muses' bower :  
 The great Emathian conqueror bid spare  
 The house of Pindarus, when temple and tower  
 Went to the ground : and the repeated air  
 Of sad Electra's poet had the power  
 To save the Athenian walls from ruin bare.

J. MILTON

## 71

## ON HIS BLINDNESS

When I consider how my light is spent  
 Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,  
 And that one talent which is death to hide  
 Lodged with me useless, though my soul more bent

To serve therewith my Maker, and present  
 My true account, lest He returning chide,—  
 Doth God exact day-labour, light denied ?  
 I fondly ask :—But Patience, to prevent

That murmur, soon replies ; God doth not need  
 Either man's work, or His own gifts : who best  
 Bear His mild yoke, they serve Him best : His state

Is kingly ; thousands at His bidding speed  
 And post o'er land and ocean without rest :—  
 They also serve who only stand and wait.

J. MILTON

## 72

CHARACTER OF A HAPPY LIFE

How happy is he born and taught  
 That serveth not another's will :  
 Whose armour is his honest thought  
 And simple truth his utmost skill !

Whose passions not his masters are,  
 Whose soul is still prepared for death,  
 Not tied unto the world with care  
 Of public fame, or private breath ;

Who envies none that chance doth raise  
 Or vice ; Who never understood  
 How deepest wounds are given by praise ;  
 Nor rules of state, but rules of good :

Who hath his life from rumours freed,  
Whose conscience is his strong retreat ;  
Whose state can neither flatterers feed,  
Nor ruin make accusers great ;

Who God doth late and early pray  
More of His grace than gifts to lend ;  
And entertains the harmless day  
With a well-chosen book or friend ;

—This man is freed from servile bands  
Of hope to rise, or fear to fall ;  
Lord of himself, though not of lands ;  
And having nothing, yet hath all.

SIR H. WOTTON

## 73

## THE NOBLE NATURE

It is not growing like a tree  
In bulk, doth make Man better be ;  
Or standing long an oak, three hundred year,  
To fall a log at last, dry, bald, and sere :  
A lily of a day  
Is fairer far in May,  
Although it fall and die that night—  
It was the plant and flower of Light.  
In small proportions we just beauties see ;  
And in short measures life may perfect be.

B. JONSON

## 74

## THE GIFTS OF GOD

When God at first made Man,  
Having a glass of blessings standing by ;  
Let us (said He) pour on him all we can ;  
Let the world's riches, which disperséd lie,  
Contract into a span.

So strength first made a way ;  
 Then beauty flow'd, then wisdom, honour, pleasure :  
 When almost all was out, God made a stay,  
 Perceiving that alone, of all His treasure,  
 Rest in the bottom lay.

For if I should (said He)  
 Bestow this jewel also on my creature,  
 He would adore My gifts instead of Me,  
 And rest in Nature, not the God of Nature :  
 So both should losers be.

Yet let him keep the rest,  
 But keep them with repining restlessness :  
 Let him be rich and weary, that at least,  
 If goodness lead him not, yet weariness  
 May toss him to My breast.

G. HERBERT

## 75

## THE RETREAT

Happy those early days, when I  
 Shined in my Angel-infancy !  
 Before I understood this place  
 Appointed for my second race,  
 Or taught my soul to fancy aught  
 But a white, celestial thought ;  
 When yet I had not walk'd above  
 A mile or two from my first Love,  
 And looking back, at that short space  
 Could see a glimpse of His bright face ;  
 When on some gilded cloud or flower  
 My gazing soul would dwell an hour,  
 And in those weaker glories spy  
 Some shadows of eternity ;  
 Before I taught my tongue to wound  
 My conscience with a sinful sound,  
 Or had the black art to dispense  
 A several sin to every sense,

But felt through all this fleshly dress  
Bright shoots of everlastingness.

O how I long to travel back,  
And tread again that ancient track !  
That I once more might reach that plain,  
Where first I left my glorious train ;  
From whence th' enlighten'd spirit sees  
That shady City of Palm-trees !  
But ah ! my soul with too much stay  
Is drunk, and staggers in the way :—  
Some men a forward motion love,  
But I by backward steps would move ;  
And when this dust falls to the urn,  
In that state I came, return.

H. VAUGHAN

TO MR. LAWRENCE

Lawrence, of virtuous father virtuous son,  
Now that the fields are dank and ways are mire,  
Where shall we sometimes meet, and by the fire  
Help waste a sullen day, what may be won

From the hard season gaining ? Time will run  
On smoother, till Favonius re-inspire  
The frozen earth, and clothe in fresh attire  
The lily and rose, that neither sow'd nor spun.

What neat repast shall feast us, light and choice,  
Of Attic taste, with wine, whence we may rise  
To hear the lute well touch'd, or artful voice

Warble immortal notes and Tuscan air ?  
He who of those delights can judge, and spare  
To interpose them oft, is not unwise.

J. MILTON



## 77

## TO CYRIACK SKINNER

Cyriack, whose grandsire, on the royal bench  
 Of British Themis, with no mean applause  
 Pronounced, and in his volumes taught, our laws,  
 Which others at their bar so often wrench ;

To-day deep thoughts resolve with me to drench  
 In mirth, that after no repenting draws ;  
 Let Euclid rest, and Archimedes pause,  
 And what the Swede intend, and what the French.

To measure life learn thou betimes, and know  
 Toward solid good what leads the nearest way ;  
 For other things mild Heaven a time ordains,

And disapproves that care, though wise in show,  
 That with superfluous burden loads the day,  
 And, when God sends a cheerful hour, refrains.

J. MILTON

## 78

## HYMN TO DIANA

Queen and Huntress, chaste and fair,  
 Now the sun is laid to sleep,  
 Seated in thy silver chair  
 State in wonted manner keep :  
 Hesperus entreats thy light,  
 Goddess excellently bright.

Earth, let not thy envious shade  
 Dare itself to interpose ;  
 Cynthia's shining orb was made  
 Heaven to clear when day did close :  
 Bless us then with wishéd sight,  
 Goddess excellently bright.

Lay thy bow of pearl apart  
 And thy crystal-shining quiver ;  
 Give unto the flying hart  
 Space to breathe, how short soever :  
 Thou that mak'st a day of night,  
 Goddess excellently bright !  
 B. JONSON

## WISHES FOR THE SUPPOSED MISTRESS

Whoe'er she be,  
 That not impossible She  
 That shall command my heart and me ;

Where'er she lie,  
 Lock'd up from mortal eye  
 In shady leaves of destiny :

Till that ripe birth  
 Of studied Fate stand forth,  
 And teach her fair steps to our earth ;

Till that divine  
 Idea take a shrine  
 Of crystal flesh, through which to shine :

—Meet you her, my Wishes,  
 Bespeak her to my blisses,  
 And be ye call'd, my absent kisses.

I wish her beauty  
 That owes not all its duty  
 To gaudy tire, or glist'ring shoe-tie :

Something more than  
 Taffata or tissue can,  
 Or rampant feather, or rich fan.

A face that's best  
 By its own beauty drest,  
 And can alone command the rest :

A face made up  
 Out of no other shop  
 Than what Nature's white hand sets ope.

Sidneian showers  
 Of sweet discourse, whose powers  
 Can crown old Winter's head with flowers.

Whate'er delight  
 Can make day's forehead bright  
 Or give down to the wings of night.

Soft silken hours,  
 Open suns, shady bowers ;  
 'Bove all, nothing within that lowers.

Days, that need borrow  
 No part of their good morrow  
 From a fore-spent night of sorrow :

Days, that in spite  
 Of darkness, by the light  
 Of a clear mind are day all night.

Life, that dares send  
 A challenge to his end,  
 And when it comes, say, ' Welcome, friend.'

I wish her store  
 Of worth may leave her poor  
 Of wishes ; and I wish——no more.

—Now, if Time knows  
 That Her, whose radiant brows  
 Weave them a garland of my vows :

Her that dares be  
 What these lines wish to see :  
 I seek no further, it is She.

'Tis She, and here  
 Lo ! I unclothe and clear  
 My wishes' cloudy character.

Such worth as this is  
 Shall fix my flying wishes,  
 And determine them to kisses.

Let her full glory,  
 My fancies, fly before ye ;  
 Be ye my fictions :—but her story.

R. CRASHAW

### THE GREAT ADVENTURER

Over the mountains  
 And over the waves,  
 Under the fountains,  
 And under the graves ;  
 Under floods that are deepest,  
 While Neptune obey ;  
 Over rocks that are steepest  
 Love will find out the way.

Where there is no place  
 For the glow-worm to lie ;  
 Where there is no space  
 For receipt of a fly ;  
 Where the midge dares not venture  
 Lest herself fast she lay ;  
 If love come, he will enter  
 And soon find out the way.

You may esteem him  
 A child for his might ;  
 Or you may deem him  
 A coward from his flight ;  
 But if she whom love doth honour  
 Be conceal'd from the day,  
 Set a thousand guards upon her,  
 Love will find out the way.

Some think to lose him  
 By having him confined ;  
 And some do suppose him,  
 Poor thing, to be blind ;

But if ne'er so close ye wall him,  
Do the best that you may,  
Blind love, if so ye call him,  
Will find out his way.

You may train the eagle  
To stoop to your fist ;  
Or you may inveigle  
The phoenix of the east ;  
The lioness, ye may move her  
To give o'er her prey ;  
But you'll ne'er stop a lover :  
He will find out his way.

ANON.

## 81

## CHILD AND MAIDEN

Ah, Chloris ! could I now but sit  
As unconcern'd as when  
Your infant beauty could beget  
No happiness or pain !  
When I the dawn used to admire,  
And praised the coming day,  
I little thought the rising fire  
Would take my rest away.

Your charms in harmless childhood lay  
Like metals in a mine ;  
Age from no face takes more away  
Than youth conceal'd in thine.  
But as your charms insensibly  
To their perfection prest,  
So love as unperceived did fly,  
And center'd in my breast.

My passion with your beauty grew,  
While Cupid at my heart  
Still as his mother favour'd you  
Threw a new flaming dart :

Each gloried in their wanton part ;  
 To make a lover, he  
 Employ'd the utmost of his art—  
 To make a beauty, she.

SIR C. SEDLEY

### COUNSEL TO GIRLS

Gather ye rose-buds while ye may,  
 Old Time is still a-flying :  
 And this same flower that smiles to-day,  
 To-morrow will be dying.

The glorious Lamp of Heaven, the Sun,  
 The higher he's a-getting  
 The sooner will his race be run,  
 And nearer he's to setting.

That age is best which is the first,  
 When youth and blood are warmer :  
 But being spent, the worse, and worst  
 Times, will succeed the former.

Then be not coy, but use your time ;  
 And while ye may, go marry :  
 For having lost but once your prime,  
 You may for ever tarry.

R. HERRICK

### TO LUCASTA, ON GOING TO THE WARS

Tell me not, Sweet, I am unkind  
 That from the nunnery  
 Of thy chaste breast and quiet mind,  
 To war and arms I fly.

True, a new mistress now I chase,  
 The first foe in the field ;  
 And with a stronger faith embrace  
 A sword, a horse, a shield.

Yet this inconstancy is such  
 As you too shall adore ;  
 I could not love thee, Dear, so much,  
 Loved I not Honour more.

COLONEL LOVELACE

## 84

## ELIZABETH OF BOHEMIA

You meaner beauties of the night,  
 Which poorly satisfy our eyes  
 More by your number than your light,  
 You common people of the skies,  
 What are you, when the Moon shall rise ?

Ye violets that first appear,  
 By your pure purple mantles known  
 Like the proud virgins of the year  
 As if the spring were all your own,—  
 What are you, when the Rose is blown ?

Ye curious chanters of the wood  
 That warble forth dame Nature's lays,  
 Thinking your passions understood  
 By your weak accents ; what 's your praise  
 When Philomel her voice doth raise ?

So when my Mistress shall be seen  
 In sweetness of her looks and mind,  
 By virtue first, then choice, a Queen,  
 Tell me, if she were not design'd  
 Th' eclipse and glory of her kind ?

SIR H. WOTTON

## TO THE LADY MARGARET LEY

Daughter to that good Earl, once President  
Of England's Council and her Treasury,  
Who lived in both, unstain'd with gold or fee,  
And left them both, more in himself content.

Till the sad breaking of that Parliament  
Broke him, as that dishonest victory  
At Chaeronea, fatal to liberty,  
Kill'd with report that old man eloquent ;—

Though later born than to have known the days  
Wherein your father flourish'd, yet by you,  
Madam, methinks I see him living yet ;

So well your words his noble virtues praise,  
That all both judge you to relate them true,  
And to possess them, honour'd Margaret.

J. MILTON

## THE LOVELINESS OF LOVE

It is not Beauty I demand,  
A crystal brow, the moon's despair,  
Nor the snow's daughter, a white hand,  
Nor mermaid's yellow pride of hair :

Tell me not of your starry eyes,  
Your lips that seem on roses fed,  
Your breasts, where Cupid tumbling lies  
Nor sleeps for kissing of his bed :—

A bloomy pair of vermeil cheeks  
Like Hebe's in her ruddiest hours,  
A breath that softer music speaks  
Than summer winds a-wooing flowers.



These are but gauds : nay what are lips ?  
 Coral beneath the ocean-stream,  
 Whose brink when your adventurer slips  
 Full oft he perisheth on them.

And what are cheeks, but ensigns oft  
 That wave hot youth to fields of blood ?  
 Did Helen's breast, though ne'er so soft,  
 Do Greece or Ilium any good ?

Eyes can with baleful ardour burn ;  
 Poison can breath, that erst perfumed ;  
 There's many a white hand holds an urn  
 With lovers' hearts to dust consumed.

For crystal brows there's nought within ;  
 They are but empty cells for pride ;  
 He who the Syren's hair would win  
 Is mostly strangled in the tide.

Give me, instead of Beauty's bust,  
 A tender heart, a loyal mind  
 Which with temptation I would trust,  
 Yet never link'd with error find,—

One in whose gentle bosom I  
 Could pour my secret heart of woes,  
 Like the care-burthen'd honey-fly  
 That hides his murmurs in the rose,—

My earthly Comforter ! whose love  
 So indefeasible might be  
 That, when my spirit wou'd above,  
 Hers could not stay, for sympathy.

G. DARLEY.

### THE TRUE BEAUTY

He that loves a rosy cheek  
 Or a coral lip admires,  
 Or from starlike eyes doth seek  
 Fuel to maintain his fires ;

As old Time makes these decay,  
So his flames must waste away.

But a smooth and steadfast mind,  
Gentle thoughts, and calm desires,  
Hearts with equal love combined,  
Kindle never-dying fires :—  
Where these are not, I despise  
Lovely cheeks or lips or eyes.

T. CAREW

## TO DIANEME

Sweet, be not proud of those two eyes  
Which starlike sparkle in their skies ;  
Nor be you proud, that you can see  
All hearts your captives ; yours yet free :  
Be you not proud of that rich hair  
Which wantons with the lovesick air ;  
Whenas that ruby which you wear,  
Sunk from the tip of your soft ear,  
Will last to be a precious stone  
When all your world of beauty 's gone.

R. HERRICK

Go, lovely Rose !  
Tell her, that wastes her time and me,  
That now she knows,  
When I resemble her to thee,  
How sweet and fair she seems to be.

Tell her that 's young  
And shuns to have her graces spied,  
That hadst thou sprung  
In deserts, where no men abide,  
Thou must have uncommended died.

Small is the worth  
 Of beauty from the light retired ;  
 Bid her come forth,  
 Suffer herself to be desired,  
 And not blush so to be admired.

Then die ! that she  
 The common fate of all things rare  
 May read in thee :  
 How small a part of time they share  
 That are so wondrous sweet and fair !

E. WALLER

## 90

## TO CELIA

Drink to me only with thine eyes,  
 And I will pledge with mine ;  
 Or leave a kiss but in the cup  
 And I'll not look for wine.  
 The thirst that from the soul doth rise  
 Doth ask a drink divine ;  
 But might I of Jove's nectar sup,  
 I would not change for thine.

I sent thee late a rosy wreath,  
 Not so much honouring thee  
 As giving it a hope that there  
 It could not wither'd be ;  
 But thou thereon didst only breathe  
 And sent'st it back to me ;  
 Since when it grows, and smells, I swear,  
 Not of itself but thee !

B. JONSON

## 91

## CHERRY-RIPE

There is a garden in her face  
 Where roses and white lilies blow ;  
 A heavenly paradise is that place,  
 Wherein all pleasant fruits do grow ;

There cherries grow that none may buy,  
Till Cherry-Ripe themselves do cry.

Those cherries fairly do enclose  
Of orient pearl a double row,  
Which when her lovely laughter shows,  
They look like rose-buds fill'd with snow :  
Yet them no peer nor prince may buy,  
Till Cherry-Ripe themselves do cry.

Her eyes like angels watch them still ;  
Her brows like bended bows do stand,  
Threat'ning with piercing frowns to kill  
All that approach with eye or hand  
These sacred cherries to come nigh,  
—Till Cherry-Ripe themselves do cry !  
ANON.

## 92

## THE POETRY OF DRESS

## I

A sweet disorder in the dress  
Kindles in clothes a wantonness :—  
A lawn about the shoulders thrown  
Into a fine distraction,—  
An erring lace, which here and there  
Enthral's the crimson stomacher,—  
A cuff neglectful, and thereby  
Ribbands to flow confusedly,—  
A winning wave, deserving note,  
In the tempestuous petticoat,—  
A careless shoe-string, in whose tie  
I see a wild civility,—  
Do more bewitch me, than when art  
Is too precise in every part.

R. HERRICK

93

II

Whenas in silks my Julia goes  
 Then, then (methinks) how sweetly flows  
 That liquefaction of her clothes.

Next, when I cast mine eyes and see  
 That brave vibration each way free ;  
 O how that glittering taketh me !

R. HERRICK

94

III

My Love in her attire doth show her wit,  
 It doth so well become her :  
 For every season she hath dressings fit,  
 For Winter, Spring, and Summer.  
 No beauty she doth miss  
 When all her robes are on :  
 But Beauty's self she is  
 When all her robes are gone.

ANON.

95

## ON A GIRDLE

That which her slender waist confined  
 Shall now my joyful temples bind :  
 No monarch but would give his crown  
 His arms might do what this has done.

It was my Heaven's extremest sphere,  
 The pale which held that lovely deer :  
 My joy, my grief, my hope, my love  
 Did all within this circle move.

A narrow compass ! and yet there  
 Dwelt all that's good, and all that's fair :  
 Give me but what this ribband bound,  
 Take all the rest the Sun goes round.

E. WALLER

TO ANTHEA WHO MAY COMMAND HIM  
 ANYTHING

Bid me to live, and I will live,  
 Thy Protestant to be :  
 Or bid me love, and I will give  
 A loving heart to thee.

A heart as soft, a heart as kind,  
 A heart as sound and free  
 As in the whole world thou canst find,  
 That heart I'll give to thee.

Bid that heart stay, and it will stay,  
 To honour thy decree :  
 Or bid it languish quite away,  
 And 't shall do so for thee.

Bid me to weep, and I will weep  
 While I have eyes to see :  
 And having none, yet I will keep  
 A heart to weep for thee.

Bid me despair, and I'll despair,  
 Under that cypress tree :  
 Or bid me die, and I will dare  
 E'en Death, to die for thee.

Thou art my life, my love, my heart,  
 The very eyes of me,  
 And hast command of every part,  
 To live and die for thee.

R. HERRICK

## 97

Love not me for comely grace,  
 For my pleasing eye or face,  
 Nor for any outward part,  
 No, nor for my constant heart,—  
     For those may fail, or turn to ill,  
     So thou and I shall sever :  
 Keep therefore a true woman's eye,  
 And love me still, but know not why—  
     So hast thou the same reason still  
     To doat upon me ever !

ANON.

## 98

Not, Celia, that I juster am  
     Or better than the rest ;  
 For I would change each hour, like them,  
     Were not my heart at rest.

But I am tied to very thee  
     By every thought I have ;  
 Thy face I only care to see,  
     Thy heart I only crave.

All that in woman is adored  
     In thy dear self I find—  
 For the whole sex can but afford  
     The handsome and the kind.

Why then should I seek further store,  
     And still make love anew ?  
 When change itself can give no more,  
     'Tis easy to be true.

SIR C. SEDLEY

## TO ALTHEA FROM PRISON

When Love with unconfined wings  
 Hovers within my gates,  
 And my divine Althea brings  
 To whisper at the grates ;  
 When I lie tangled in her hair  
 And fetter'd to her eye,  
 The birds that wanton in the air  
 Know no such liberty.

When flowing cups run swiftly round  
 With no allaying Thames,  
 Our careless heads with roses crown'd,  
 Our hearts with loyal flames ;  
 When thirsty grief in wine we steep,  
 When healths and draughts go free—  
 Fishes that tipple in the deep  
 Know no such liberty.

When, linnet-like confined, I  
 With shriller throat shall sing  
 The sweetness, mercy, majesty  
 And glories of my King ;  
 When I shall voice aloud how good  
 He is, how great should be,  
 Enlargéd winds, that curl the flood,  
 Know no such liberty.

Stone walls do not a prison make,  
 Nor iron bars a cage ;  
 Minds innocent and quiet take  
 That for an hermitage :  
 If I have freedom in my love  
 And in my soul am free,  
 Angels alone, that soar above,  
 Enjoy such liberty.

COLONEL LOVELACE



## 100

TO LUCASTA, ON GOING BEYOND THE  
SEAS

If to be absent were to be  
 Away from thee ;  
 Or that when I am gone  
 You or I were alone ;  
 Then, my Lucasta, might I crave  
 Pity from blustering wind, or swallowing wave.

Though seas and land betwixt us both,  
 Our faith and troth,  
 Like separated souls,  
 All time and space controls :  
 Above the highest sphere we meet  
 Unseen, unknown, and greet as Angels greet.

So then we do anticipate  
 Our after-fate,  
 And are alive i' the skies,  
 If thus our lips and eyes  
 Can speak like spirits unconfined  
 In Heaven, their earthy bodies left behind.  
 COLONEL LOVELACE

## 101

## ENCOURAGEMENTS TO A LOVER

Why so pale and wan, fond lover ?  
 Prythee, why so pale ?  
 Will, if looking well can't move her,  
 Looking ill prevail ?  
 Prythee, why so pale ?

Why so dull and mute, young sinner ?  
 Prythce, why so mute ?  
 Will, when speaking well can't win her,  
 Saying nothing do't ?  
 Prythce, why so mute ?

Quit, quit, for shame ! this will not move,  
 This cannot take her ;  
 If of herself she will not love,  
 Nothing can make her :  
 The D—l take her !

SIR J. SUCKLING

## A SUPPLICATION

Awake, awake, my Lyre !  
 And tell thy silent master's humble tale  
 In sounds that may prevail ;  
 Sounds that gentle thoughts inspire :  
 Though so exalted she  
 And I so lowly be  
 Tell her, such different notes make all thy harmony.

Hark ! how the strings awake :  
 And, though the moving hand approach not near,  
 Themselves with awful fear  
 A kind of numerous trembling make.  
 Now all thy forces try,  
 Now all thy charms apply ;  
 Revenge upon her ear the conquests of her eye.

Weak Lyre ! thy virtue sure  
 Is useless here, since thou art only found  
 To cure, but not to wound,  
 And she to wound, but not to cure,  
 Too weak too wilt thou prove  
 My passion to remove ;  
 Physic to other ills. thou'rt nourishment to love.

Sleep, sleep again, my Lyre !  
 For thou canst never tell my humble tale  
 In sounds that will prevail,  
 Nor gentle thoughts in her inspire ;  
 All thy vain mirth lay by,  
 Bid thy strings silent lie,  
 Sleep, sleep again, my Lyre, and let thy master die.  
 A. COWLEY

## 103

## THE MANLY HEART

Shall I, wasting in despair,  
 Die because a woman's fair ?  
 Or my cheeks make pale with care  
 'Cause another's rosy are ?  
 Be she fairer than the day  
 Or the flowery meads in May—  
 If she be not so to me  
 What care I how fair she be ?

Shall my foolish heart be pined  
 'Cause I see a woman kind ;  
 Or a well disposéd nature  
 Joinéd with a lovely feature ?  
 Be she meeker, kinder, than  
 Turtle-dove or pelican,  
 If she be not so to me  
 What care I how kind she be ?

Shall a woman's virtues move  
 Me to perish for her love ?  
 Or her merit's value known  
 Make me quite forget mine own ?  
 Be she with that goodness blest  
 Which may gain her name of Best ;  
 If she seem not such to me,  
 What care I how good she be ?

'Cause her fortune seems too high,  
 Shall I play the fool and die ?  
 Those that bear a noble mind  
 Where they want of riches find,  
 Think what with them they would do  
 Who without them dare to woo ;  
     And unless that mind I see,  
     What care I though great she be ?

Great or good, or kind or fair,  
 I will ne'er the more despair ;  
 If she love me, this believe,  
 I will die ere she shall grieve ;  
 If she slight me when I woo,  
 I can scorn and let her go ;  
     For if she be not for me,  
     What care I for whom she be ?

G. WITHER

## MELANCHOLY

Hence, all you vain delights,  
 As short as are the nights  
 Wherein you spend your folly :  
 There 's nought in this life sweet  
 If man were wise to see't,  
 But only melancholy,  
 O sweetest Melancholy !  
 Welcome, folded arms, and fixéd eyes,  
 A sigh that piercing mortifies,  
 A look that 's fasten'd to the ground,  
 A tongue chain'd up without a sound !  
 Fountain heads and pathless groves,  
 Places which pale passion loves !  
 Moonlight walks, when all the fowls  
 Are warmly housed save bats and owls !

A midnight bell, a parting groan !  
 These are the sounds we feed upon ;  
 Then stretch our bones in a still gloomy valley ;  
 Nothing's so dainty sweet as lovely melancholy.

J. FLETCHER

## 105

## TO A LOCK OF HAIR

Thy hue, dear pledge, is pure and bright  
 As in that well-remember'd night  
 When first thy mystic braid was wove,  
 And first my Agnes whisper'd love.

Since then how often hast thou prest  
 The torrid zone of this wild breast,  
 Whose wrath and hate have sworn to dwell  
 With the first sin that peopled hell ;  
 A breast whose blood's a troubled ocean,  
 Each throb the earthquake's wild commotion !  
 O if such clime thou canst endure  
 Yet keep thy hue unstain'd and pure,  
 What conquest o'er each erring thought  
 Of that fierce realm had Agnes wrought !  
 I had not wander'd far and wide  
 With such an angel for my guide ;  
 Nor heaven nor earth could then reprove me  
 If she had lived, and lived to love me.

Not then this world's wild joys had been  
 To me one savage hunting scene,  
 My sole delight the headlong race  
 And frantic hurry of the chase ;  
 To start, pursue, and bring to bay,  
 Rush in, drag down, and rend my prey,  
 Then—from the carcass turn away !  
 Mine ireful mood had sweetness tamed,  
 And soothed each wound which pride inflamed :—  
 Yes, God and man might now approve me  
 If thou hadst lived, and lived to love me !

SIR W. SCOTT

## 106

## THE FORSAKEN BRIDE

O waly waly up the bank,  
 And waly waly down the brae,  
 And waly waly yon burn-side  
 Where I and my Love went to gae !  
 I leant my back unto an aik,  
 I thought it was a trusty tree ;  
 But first it bow'd, and syne it brak,  
 Sae my true Love did lichtly me.

O waly waly, but love be bonny  
 A little time while it is new ;  
 But when 'tis auld, it waxeth cauld  
 And fades awa' like morning dew.  
 O wherefore should I busk my head ?  
 Or wherefore should I kame my hair ?  
 For my true Love has me forsook,  
 And says he'll never loe me mair.

Now Arthur-seat sall be my bed ;  
 The sheets shall ne'er be prest by me :  
 Saint Anton's well sall be my drink,  
 Since my true Love has forsaken me.  
 Marti'mas wind, when wilt thou blaw  
 And shake the green leaves aff the tree ?  
 O gentle Death, when wilt thou come ?  
 For of my life I am wearie.

'Tis not the frost, that freezes fell,  
 Nor blawing snaw's inclemencie ;  
 'Tis not sic cauld that makes me cry,  
 But my Love's heart grown cauld to me.  
 When we came in by Glasgow town  
 We were a comely sight to see ;  
 My Love was clad in the black velvét,  
 And I mysell in cramasic.

But had I wist, before I kist,  
 That love had been sae ill to win ;  
 I had lockt my heart in a case of gowd  
 And pinn'd it with a siller pin.  
 And, O ! if my young babe were born,  
 And set upon the nurse's knee,  
 And I mysell were dead and gane,  
 And the green grass growing over me !  
 ANON.

## 107

## FAIR HELEN

I wish I were where Helen lies ;  
 Night and day on me she cries ;  
 O that I were where Helen lies  
 On fair Kirconnell lea !

Curst be the heart that thought the thought,  
 And curst the hand that fired the shot,  
 When in my arms burd Helen dropt,  
 And died to succour me !

O think na but my heart was sair  
 When my Love dropt down and spak nae mair !  
 I laid her down wi' meikle care  
 On fair Kirconnell lea.

As I went down the water-side,  
 None but my foe to be my guide,  
 None but my foe to be my guide,  
 On fair Kirconnell lea ;

I lighted down my sword to draw,  
 I hackéd him in pieces sma',  
 I hackéd him in pieces sma',  
 For her sake that died for me.

O Helen fair, beyond compare !  
 I'll make a garland of thy hair  
 Shall bind my heart for evermair  
 Until the day I die.

O that I were where Helen lies !  
 Night and day on me she cries ;  
 Out of my bed she bids me rise,  
     Says, ' Haste and come to me ! '

O Helen fair ! O Helen chaste !  
 If I were with thee, I were blest,  
 Where thou lies low and takes thy rest  
     On fair Kirconnell lea.

I wish my grave were growing green,  
 A winding-sheet drawn ower my een,  
 And I in Helen's arms lying,  
     On fair Kirconnell lea.

I wish I were where Helen lies ;  
 Night and day on me she cries ;  
 And I am weary of the skies,  
     Since my Love died for me.  
ANON.

## 108

## THE TWA CORBIES

As I was walking all alane  
 I heard twa corbies making a mane ;  
 The tane unto the t'other say,  
 ' Where sail we gang and dine to-day ? '

'—In behint yon auld fail dyke,  
 I wot there lies a new-slain Knight ;  
 And naebody kens that he lies there,  
 But his hawk, his hound, and lady fair.

' His hound is to the hunting gane,  
 His hawk to fetch the wild-fowl hame,  
 His lady 's ta'en another mate,  
 So we may mak our dinner sweet.

' Ye'll sit on his white hauc-bane,  
 And I'll pick out his bonny blue een :  
 Wi' ae lock o' his gowden hair  
 We'll theek our nest when it grows bare.



' Mony a one for him makes mane,  
 But nane sall ken where he is gane ;  
 O'er his white banes, when they are bare,  
 The wind sall blaw for evermair.'

ANON.

## 109

## TO BLOSSOMS

Fair pledges of a fruitful tree,  
 Why do ye fall so fast ?  
 Your date is not so past,  
 But you may stay yet here awhile  
 To blush and gently smile,  
 And go at last.

What, were ye born to be  
 An hour or half's delight,  
 And so to bid good-night ?  
 'Twas pity Nature brought ye forth  
 Merely to show your worth,  
 And lose you quite.

But you are lovely leaves, where we  
 May read how soon things have  
 Their end, though ne'er so brave :  
 And after they have shown their pride  
 Like you, awhile, they glide  
 Into the grave.

R. HERRICK

## 110

## TO DAFFODILS

Fair Daffodils, we weep to see  
 You haste away so soon :  
 As yet the early-rising Sun  
 Has not attain'd his noon.

Stay, stay,  
 Until the hasting day  
 Has run  
 But to the even-song ;  
 And, having pray'd together, we  
 Will go with you along.

We have short time to stay, as you,  
 We have as short a Spring ;  
 As quick a growth to meet decay  
 As you, or any thing.  
 We die,  
 As your hours do, and dry  
 Away  
 Like to the Summer's rain ;  
 Or as the pearls of morning's dew  
 Ne'er to be found again.

R. HERRICK

### III

#### THOUGHTS IN A GARDEN

How vainly men themselves amaze  
 To win the palm, the oak, or bays,  
 And their incessant labours see  
 Crown'd from some single herb or tree,  
 Whose short and narrow-vegg'd shade  
 Does prudently their toils upbraid ;  
 While all the flowers and trees do close  
 To weave the garlands of Repose.

Fair Quiet, have I found thee here,  
 And Innocence thy sister dear ?  
 Mistaken long, I sought you then  
 In busy companies of men :  
 Your sacred plants, if here below,  
 Only among the plants will grow :  
 Society is all but rude  
 To this delicious solitude.

No white nor red was ever seen  
So amorous as this lovely green.  
Fond lovers, cruel as their flame,  
Cut in these trees their mistress' name :  
Little, alas, they know or heed  
How far these beauties her exceed !  
Fair trees ! where'er your barks I wound,  
No name shall but your own be found.

When we have run our passion's heat  
Love hither makes his best retreat :  
The gods, who mortal beauty chase,  
Still in a tree did end their race :  
Apollo hunted Daphne so  
Only that she might laurel grow :  
And Pan did after Syrinx speed  
Not as a nymph, but for a reed.

What wondrous life is this I lead !  
Ripe apples drop about my head ;  
The luscious clusters of the vine  
Upon my mouth do crush their wine ;  
The nectarine and curious peach  
Into my hands themselves do reach ;  
Stumbling on melons, as I pass,  
Ensnared with flowers, I fall on grass.

Meanwhile the mind from pleasure less  
Withdraws into its happiness ;  
The mind, that ocean where each kind  
Does straight its own resemblance find ;  
Yet it creates, transcending these,  
Far other worlds, and other seas ;  
Annihilating all that's made  
To a green thought in a green shade.

Here at the fountain's sliding foot  
Or at some fruit-tree's mossy root,  
Casting the body's vest aside  
My soul into the boughs does glide ;

There, like a bird, it sits and sings,  
 Then whets and claps its silver wings,  
 And, till prepared for longer flight,  
 Waves in its plumes the various light.

Such was that happy Garden-state  
 While man there walk'd without a mate :  
 After a place so pure and sweet,  
 What other help could yet be meet !  
 But 'twas beyond a mortal's share  
 To wander solitary there :  
 Two paradises 'twere in one,  
 To live in Paradise alone.

How well the skilful gardener drew  
 Of flowers and herbs this dial new !  
 Where, from above, the milder sun  
 Does through a fragrant zodiac run :  
 And, as it works, th' industrious bee  
 Computes its time as well as we.  
 How could such sweet and wholesome hours  
 Be reckon'd, but with herbs and flowers !

A. MARVELL

## 112

## L'ALLÉGRO

Hence, loathéd Melancholy,  
 Of Cerberus and blackest Midnight born  
 In Stygian cave forlorn  
 'Mongst horrid shapes, and shrieks, and sights un-  
 holy !  
 Find out some uncouth cell  
 Where brooding Darkness spreads his jealous wings  
 And the night-raven sings ;  
 There under ebon shades, and low-brow'd rocks  
 As ragged as thy locks,  
 In dark Cimmerian desert ever dwell.

But come, thou Goddess fair and free,  
 In heaven yelep'd Euphrosyne,

And by men, heart-casing Mirth,  
Whom lovely Venus at a birth  
With two sister Graces more  
To ivy-crownéd Bacchus bore :  
Or whether (as some sager sing)  
The frolic wind that breathes the spring  
Zephyr, with Aurora playing,  
As he met her once a-Maying—  
There on beds of violets blue  
And fresh-blown roses wash'd in dew  
Fill'd her with thee, a daughter fair,  
So buxom, blithe, and debonair.

Haste thee, Nymph, and bring with thee  
Jest, and youthful jollity,  
Quips, and cranks, and wanton wiles,  
Nods, and becks, and wreathéd smiles  
Such as hang on Hebe's cheek,  
And love to live in dimple sleek ;  
Sport that wrinkled Care derides,  
And Laughter holding both his sides :—  
Come, and trip it as you go  
On the light fantastic toe ;  
And in thy right hand lead with thee  
The mountain nymph, sweet Liberty ;  
And if I give thee honour due  
Mirth, admit me of thy crew,  
To live with her, and live with thee  
In unprovéd pleasures free ;  
To hear the lark begin his flight  
And singing startle the dull night  
From his watch-tower in the skies,  
Till the dappled dawn doth rise ;  
Then to come, in spite of sorrow,  
And at my window bid good-morrow  
Through the sweetbriar, or the vine,  
Or the twisted eglantine :  
While the cock with lively din  
Scatters the rear of darkness thin,  
And to the stack, or the barn-door,  
Stoutly struts his dames before :  
Oft listening how the hounds and horn  
Cheerly rouse the slumbering morn,

From the side of some hoar hill,  
 Through the high wood echoing shrill.  
 Sometime walking, not unseen,  
 By hedge-row elms, on hillocks green,  
 Right against the eastern gate  
 Where the great Sun begins his state  
 Robed in flames and amber light,  
 The clouds in thousand liveries dight,  
 While the ploughman, near at hand,  
 Whistles o'er the furrow'd land,  
 And the milkmaid singeth blithe,  
 And the mower whets his scythe,  
 And every shepherd tells his tale  
 Under the hawthorn in the dale.

Straight mine eye hath caught new pleasures  
 Whilst the landscape round it measures ;  
 Russet lawns, and fallows grey,  
 Where the nibbling flocks do stray ;  
 Mountains, on whose barren breast  
 The labouring clouds do often rest ;  
 Meadows trim with daisies pied,  
 Shallow brooks and rivers wide ;  
 Towers and battlements it sees  
 Bosom'd high in tufted trees,  
 Where perhaps some Beauty lies,  
 The Cynosure of neighbouring eyes.

Hard by, a cottage chimney smokes  
 From betwixt two aged oaks,  
 Where Corydon and Thyrsis, met,  
 Are at their savoury dinner set  
 Of herbs, and other country messes  
 Which the neat-handed Phillis dresses ;  
 And then in haste her bower she leaves  
 With Thestylis to bind the sheaves ;  
 Or, if the earlier season lead,  
 To the tann'd haycock in the mead.

Sometimes with secure delight  
 The upland hamlets will invite,  
 When the merry bells ring round,  
 And the jocund rebecks sound  
 To many a youth and many a maid,  
 Dancing in the chequer'd shade ;

And young and old come forth to play  
 On a sun-shine holy-day,  
 Till the live-long day-light fail :  
 Then to the spicy nut-brown ale,  
 With stories told of many a feat,  
 How Faery Mab the junkets eat ;  
 She was pinch'd, and pull'd, she said ;  
 And he, by Friar's lantern led ;  
 Tells how the drudging Goblin sweat  
 To earn his cream-bowl duly set,  
 When in one night, ere glimpse of morn,  
 His shadowy flail hath thresh'd the corn  
 That ten day-labourers could not end ;  
 Then lies him down the lubber fiend,  
 And, stretch'd out all the chimney's length,  
 Basks at the fire his hairy strength ;  
 And crop-full out of doors he flings,  
 Ere the first cock his matin rings.

Thus done the tales, to bed they creep,  
 By whispering winds soon lull'd asleep.  
 Tower'd cities please us then  
 And the busy hum of men,  
 Where throngs of knights and barons bold,  
 In weeds of peace high triumphs hold,  
 With store of ladies, whose bright eyes  
 Rain influence, and judge the prize  
 Of wit or arms, while both contend  
 To win her grace, whom all commend.  
 There let Hymen oft appear  
 In saffron robe, with taper clear,  
 And pomp, and feast, and revelry,  
 With mask, and antique pageantry ;  
 Such sights as youthful poets dream  
 On summer eves by haunted stream.  
 Then to the well-trod stage anon,  
 If Jonson's learned sock be on,  
 Or sweetest Shakespeare, Fancy's child,  
 Warble his native wood-notes wild.

And ever against eating cares  
 Lap me in soft Lydian airs  
 Married to immortal verse,  
 Such as the meeting soul may pierce

In notes, with many a winding bout  
 Of link'd sweetness long drawn out,  
 With wanton heed and giddy cunning,  
 The melting voice through mazes running,  
 Untwisting all the chains that tie  
 The hidden soul of harmony ;  
 That Orpheus' self may heave his head  
 From golden slumber, on a bed  
 Of heap'd Elysian flowers, and hear  
 Such strains as would have won the ear  
 Of Pluto, to have quite set free  
 His half-regain'd Eurydice.

These delights if thou canst give,  
 Mirth, with thee I mean to live.

J. MILTON

## 113

## IL PENSEROSO

Hence, vain deluding Joys,  
 The brood of Folly without father bred !  
 How little you bestead  
 Or fill the fix'd mind with all your toys !  
 Dwell in some idle brain,  
 And fancies fond with gaudy shapes possess  
 As thick and numberless  
 As the gay notes that people the sunbeams,  
 Or likest hovering dreams,  
 The fickle pensioners of Morpheus' train.

But hail, thou goddess sage and holy,  
 Hail, divinest Melancholy !  
 Whose saintly visage is too bright  
 To hit the sense of human sight,  
 And therefore to our weaker view  
 O'erlaid with black, staid Wisdom's hue ;  
 Black, but such as in esteem  
 Prince Memnon's sister might beseeem,



Or that starr'd Ethiop queen that strove  
 To set her beauty's praise above  
 The sea-nymphs, and their powers offended :  
 Yet thou art higher far descended :  
 Thee bright-hair'd Vesta, long of yore,  
 To solitary Saturn bore ;  
 His daughter she ; in Saturn's reign  
 Such mixture was not held a stain :  
 Oft in glimmering bowers and glades  
 He met her, and in secret shades  
 Of woody Ida's inmost grove,  
 While yet there was no fear of Jove.

Come, pensive nun, devout and pure,  
 Sober, steadfast, and demure,  
 All in a robe of darkest grain  
 Flowing with majestic train,  
 And sable stole of cypres lawn  
 Over thy decent shoulders drawn :  
 Come, but keep thy wonted state,  
 With even step, and musing gait,  
 And looks commercing with the skies,  
 Thy rapt soul sitting in thine eyes :  
 There, held in holy passion still,  
 Forget thyself to marble, till  
 With a sad leaden downward cast  
 Thou fix them on the earth as fast :  
 And join with thee calm Peace, and Quiet,  
 Spare Fast, that oft with gods doth diet,  
 And hears the Muses in a ring  
 Ay round about Jove's altar sing ;  
 And add to these retired Leisure  
 That in trim gardens takes his pleasure :—  
 But first, and chiefest, with thee bring  
 Him that yon soars on golden wing  
 Guiding the fiery-wheeled throne,  
 The cherub Contemplation ;  
 And the mute Silence hist along,  
 'Less Philomel will deign a song  
 In her sweetest saddest plight,  
 Smoothing the rugged brow of Night,  
 While Cynthia checks her dragon yoke  
 Gently o'er the accustom'd oak.

—Sweet bird, that shunn'st the noise of folly,  
 Most musical, most melancholy !  
 Thee, chauntress, oft, the woods among  
 I woo, to hear thy even-song ;  
 And missing thee, I walk unscen  
 On the dry smooth-shaven green,  
 To behold the wandering Moon  
 Riding near her highest noon,  
 Like one that had been led astray  
 Through the heaven's wide pathless way,  
 And oft, as if her head she bow'd,  
 Stooping through a fleecy cloud.

Oft, on a plat of rising ground  
 I hear the far-off curfeu sound  
 Over some wide-water'd shore,  
 Swinging slow with sullen roar :  
 Or, if the air will not permit,  
 Some still removéd place will fit,  
 Where glowing embers through the room  
 Teach light to counterfeit a gloom ;  
 Far from all resort of mirth,  
 Save the cricket on the hearth,  
 Or the bellman's drowsy charm  
 To bless the doors from nightly harm.

Or let my lamp at midnight hour  
 Be seen in some high lonely tower,  
 Where I may oft out-watch the Bear  
 With thrice-great Hermes, or unsphere  
 The spirit of Plato, to unfold  
 What worlds or what vast regions hold  
 The immortal mind, that hath forsook  
 Her mansion in this fleshly nook :  
 And of those demons that are found  
 In fire, air, flood, or under ground,  
 Whose power hath a true consent  
 With planet, or with element.  
 Sometime let gorgeous Tragedy  
 In scepter'd pall come sweeping by,  
 Presenting Thebes, or Pelops' line,  
 Or the tale of Troy divine ;  
 Or what (though rare) of later age  
 Ennobled hath the buskin'd stage.

But, O sad Virgin, that thy power  
Might raise Musaeus from his bower,  
Or bid the soul of Orpheus sing  
Such notes as, warbled to the string,  
Drew iron tears down Pluto's cheek  
And made Hell grant what Love did seek :  
Or call up him that left half-told  
The story of Cambuscan bold,  
Of Camball, and of Algarsife,  
And who had Canacé to wife,  
That own'd the virtuous ring and glass,  
And of the wondrous horse of brass  
On which the Tartar king did ride :  
And if aught else great bards beside  
In sage and solemn tunes have sung  
Of turneys, and of trophies hung,  
Of forests and enchantments drear,  
Where more is meant than meets the ear.

Thus, Night, oft see me in thy pale career,  
Till civil-suited Morn appear,  
Not trick'd and frownc'd as she was wont  
With the Attic Boy to hunt,  
But kercheft in a comely cloud  
While rocking winds are piping loud,  
Or usher'd with a shower still,  
When the gust hath blown his fill,  
Ending on the rustling leaves  
With minute drops from off the eaves.  
And when the sun begins to fling  
His flaming beams, me, goddess, bring  
To arch'd walks of twilight groves,  
And shadows brown, that Sylvan loves,  
Of pine, or monumental oak,  
Where the rude axe, with heav'd stroke,  
Was never heard the nymphs to daunt  
Or fright them from their hallow'd haunt.  
There in close covert by some brook  
Where no profaner eye may look,  
Hide me from day's garish eye,  
While the bee with honey'd thigh  
That at her flowery work doth sing,  
And the waters murmuring,

With such consort as they keep  
 Entice the dewy-feather'd Sleep ;  
 And let some strange mysterious dream  
 Wave at his wings in airy stream  
 Of lively portraiture display'd,  
 Softly on my eyelids laid :  
 And, as I wake, sweet music breathe  
 Above, about, or underneath,  
 Sent by some Spirit to mortals good,  
 Or the unseen Genius of the wood.

But let my due feet never fail  
 To walk the studious cloister's pale,  
 And love the high-embow'd roof,  
 With antique pillars massy proof,  
 And storied windows richly dight  
 Casting a dim religious light :  
 There let the pealing organ blow  
 To the full-voiced quire below  
 In service high and anthems clear,  
 As may with sweetness, through mine ear,  
 Dissolve me into ecstasies,  
 And bring all Heaven before mine eyes.

And may at last my weary age  
 Find out the peaceful hermitage,  
 The hairy gown and mossy cell  
 Where I may sit and rightly spell  
 Of every star that heaven doth show,  
 And every herb that sips the dew :  
 Till old experience do attain  
 To something like prophetic strain.

These pleasures, Melancholy, give,  
 And I with thee will choose to live.

J. MILTON

## SONG OF THE EMIGRANTS IN BERMUDA

Where the remote Bermudas ride  
In the ocean's bosom unespied,  
From a small boat that row'd along  
The listening winds received this song.  
'What should we do but sing His praise  
That led us through the watery maze  
Where He the huge sea-monsters wracks,  
That lift the deep upon their backs,  
Unto an isle so long unknown,  
And yet far kinder than our own ?  
He lands us on a grassy stage,  
Safe from the storms, and prelate's rage :  
He gave us this eternal spring  
Which here enamels everything,  
And sends the fowls to us in care  
On daily visits through the air.  
He hangs in shades the orange bright  
Like golden lamps in a green night,  
And does in the pomegranates close  
Jewels more rich than Ormus shows :  
He makes the figs our mouths to meet,  
And throws the melons at our feet ;  
But apples plants of such a price,  
No tree could ever bear them twice.  
With cedars chosen by His hand  
From Lebanon He stores the land ;  
And makes the hollow seas that roar  
Proclaim the ambergris on shore.  
He cast (of which we rather boast)  
The Gospel's pearl upon our coast ;  
And in these rocks for us did frame  
A temple where to sound His name.  
O let our voice His praise exalt  
Till it arrive at Heaven's vault,  
Which then perhaps rebounding may  
Echo beyond the Mexique bay !'  
—Thus sung they in the English boat  
A holy and a cheerful note :

And all the way, to guide their chime,  
With falling oars they kept the time.

A. MARVELL

## 115

## AT A SOLEMN MUSIC

Blest pair of Sirens, pledges of Heaven's joy,  
Sphere-born harmonious Sisters, Voice and Verse !  
Wed your divine sounds, and mixt power employ  
Dead things with inbreathed sense able to pierce ;  
And to our high-raised phantasy present  
That undisturbed Song of pure concent  
Ay sung before the sapphire-colour'd throne

To Him that sits thereon,

With saintly shout and solemn jubilee ;  
Where the bright Seraphim in burning row  
Their loud uplifted angel-trumpets blow ;  
And the Cherubic host in thousand quires  
Touch their immortal harps of golden wires,  
With those just Spirits that wear victorious palms,  
Hymns devout and holy psalms  
Singing everlastingly :

Thus we on earth, with undiscording voice  
May rightly answer that melodious noise ;  
As once we did, till disproportion'd sin  
Jarr'd against nature's chime, and with harsh din  
Broke the fair music that all creatures made  
To their great Lord, whose love their motion sway'd  
In perfect diapason, whilst they stood  
In first obedience, and their state of good.

O may we soon again renew that Song,

And keep in tune with Heaven, till God ere long

To His celestial concert us unite,

To live with Him, and sing in endless morn of light !

J. MILTON

116

ALEXANDER'S FEAST; OR, THE POWER  
OF MUSIC

'Twas at the royal feast for Persia won  
By Philip's warlike son—  
Aloft in awful state  
The godlike hero sate  
On his imperial throne ;  
His valiant peers were placed around,  
Their brows with roses and with myrtles bound  
(So should desert in arms be crown'd) ;  
The lovely Thais by his side  
Sate like a blooming eastern bride  
In flower of youth and beauty's pride :—  
Happy, happy, happy pair !  
None but the brave  
None but the brave  
None but the brave deserves the fair !

Timotheus placed on high  
Amid the tuneful quire  
With flying fingers touch'd the lyre :  
The trembling notes ascend the sky  
And heavenly joys inspire.  
The song began from Jove  
Who left his blissful seats above—  
Such is the power of mighty love !  
A dragon's fiery form belied the god ;  
Sublime on radiant spires he rode  
When he to fair Olympia prest,  
And while he sought her snowy breast,  
Then round her slender waist he curl'd,  
And stamp'd an image of himself, a sovereign of the  
world.  
—The listening crowd admire the lofty sound !  
A present deity ! they shout around :  
A present deity ! the vaulted roofs rebound !

With ravish'd ears  
 The monarch hears,  
 Assumes the god ;  
 Affects to nod  
 And seems to shake the spheres.

The praise of Bacchus then the sweet musician  
 sung,  
 Of Bacchus ever fair and ever young :  
 The jolly god in triumph comes !  
 Sound the trumpets, beat the drums !  
 Flush'd with a purple grace  
 He shows his honest face :  
 Now give the hautboys breath ; he comes, he comes !  
 Bacchus, ever fair and young,  
 Drinking joys did first ordain ;  
 Bacchus' blessings are a treasure,  
 Drinking is the soldier's pleasure :  
 Rich the treasure,  
 Sweet the pleasure,  
 Sweet is pleasure after pain.

Soothed with the sound, the king grew vain ;  
 Fought all his battles o'er again,  
 And thrice he routed all his foes, and thrice he slew  
 the slain !  
 The master saw the madness rise,  
 His glowing cheeks, his ardent eyes ;  
 And while he Heaven and Earth defied  
 Changed his hand and check'd his pride.  
 He chose a mournful Muse  
 Soft pity to infuse :  
 He sung Darius great and good,  
 By too severe a fate  
 Fallen, fallen, fallen, fallen,  
 Fallen from his high estate,  
 And weltering in his blood ;  
 Deserted, at his utmost need,  
 By those his former bounty fed ;  
 On the bare earth exposed he lies  
 With not a friend to close his eyes.  
 —With downcast looks the joyless victor sate,



Revolving in his alter'd soul  
 The various turns of Chance below ;  
 And now and then a sigh he stole,  
 And tears began to flow.

The mighty master smiled to see  
 That love was in the next degree ;  
 'Twas but a kindred sound to move,  
 For pity melts the mind to love.  
 Softly sweet, in Lydian measures  
 Soon he soothed his soul to pleasures.  
 War, he sung, is toil and trouble,  
 Honour but an empty bubble ;  
 Never ending, still beginning,  
 Fighting still, and still destroying ;  
 If the world be worth thy winning,  
 Think, O think, it worth enjoying :  
 Lovely Thais sits beside thee,  
 Take the good the gods provide thee !  
 —The many rend the skies with loud applause ;  
 So Love was crown'd, but Music won the cause.  
 The prince, unable to conceal his pain,  
 Gazed on the fair  
 Who caused his care,  
 And sigh'd and look'd, sigh'd and look'd,  
 Sigh'd and look'd, and sigh'd again :  
 At length with love and wine at once opprest  
 The vanquish'd victor sunk upon her breast.

Now strike the golden lyre again :  
 A louder yet, and yet a louder strain :  
 Break his bands of sleep asunder  
 And rouse him like a rattling peal of thunder.  
 Hark, hark ! the horrid sound  
 Has raised up his head :  
 As awaked from the dead  
 And amazed he stares around.  
 Revenge, revenge, Timotheus cries,  
 See the Furies arise !  
 See the snakes that they rear  
 How they hiss in their hair,

And the sparkles that flash from their eyes !  
 Behold a ghastly band,  
 Each a torch in his hand !  
 Those are Grecian ghosts, that in battle were slain  
 And unburied remain  
 Inglorious on the plain :  
 Give the vengeance due  
 To the valiant crew !  
 Behold how they toss their torches on high  
 How they point to the Persian abodes  
 And glittering temples of their hostile gods.  
 —The princes applaud with a furious joy :  
 And the King seized a flambeau with zeal to destroy ;  
 Thais led the way  
 To light him to his prey,  
 And like another Helen, fired another Troy !

—Thus, long ago,  
 Ere heaving bellows learn'd to blow,  
 While organs yet were mute,  
 Timotheus, to his breathing flute  
 And sounding lyre  
 Could swell the soul to rage, or kindle soft desire.  
 At last divine Cecilia came,  
 Inventress of the vocal frame ;  
 The sweet enthusiast from her sacred store  
 Enlarged the former narrow bounds,  
 And added length to solemn sounds,  
 With Nature's mother-wit, and arts unknown before.  
 —Let old Timotheus yield the prize  
 Or both divide the crown ;  
 He raised a mortal to the skies ;  
 She drew an angel down !

J. DRYDEN

# THE GOLDEN TREASURY

## BOOK THIRD

117

### ODE ON THE PLEASURE ARISING FROM VICISSITUDE

Now the golden Morn aloft  
Waves her dew-bespangled wing,  
With vermeil cheek and whisper soft  
She wooes the tardy Spring :  
Till April starts, and calls around  
The sleeping fragrance from the ground,  
And lightly o'er the living scene  
Scatters his freshest, tenderest green.

New-born flocks in rustic dance,  
Frisking ply their feeble feet ;  
Forgetful of their wintry trance  
The birds his presence greet :  
But chief, the skylark warbles high  
His trembling thrilling ecstacy ;  
And lessening from the dazzled sight,  
Melts into air and liquid light.

Yesterday the sullen year  
Saw the snowy whirlwind fly ;  
Mute was the music of the air,  
The herd stood drooping by :

Their raptures now that wildly flow  
 No yesterday nor morrow know ;  
 'Tis Man alone that joy descries  
 With forward and reverted eyes.

Smiles on past Misfortune's brow  
 Soft Reflection's hand can trace,  
 And o'er the cheek of Sorrow throw  
 A melancholy grace ;  
 While Hope prolongs our happier hour,  
 Or deepest shades, that dimly lour  
 And blacken round our weary way,  
 Gilds with a gleam of distant day.

Still, where rosy Pleasure leads,  
 See a kindred Grief pursue ;  
 Behind the steps that Misery treads  
 Approaching Comfort view :  
 The hues of bliss more brightly glow  
 Chastised by sabler tints of woe,  
 And blended form, with artful strife,  
 The strength and harmony of life.

See the wretch that long has tost  
 On the thorny bed of pain,  
 At length repair his vigour lost  
 And breathe and walk again :  
 The meanest floweret of the vale,  
 The simplest note that swells the gale,  
 The common sun, the air, the skies,  
 To him are opening Paradise.

T. GRAY

## 118

### THE QUIET LIFE

Happy the man, whose wish and care  
 A few paternal acres bound,  
 Content to breathe his native air  
 In his own ground.



Then let not what I cannot have  
 My cheer of mind destroy :  
 Whilst thus I sing, I am a king,  
 Although a poor blind boy.

C. CIBBER

## 120

ON A FAVOURITE CAT, DROWNED IN A  
 TUB OF GOLD FISHES

'Twas on a lofty vase's side  
 Where China's gayest art had dyed  
 The azure flowers that blow,  
 Demurest of the tabby kind  
 The pensive Selima, reclined,  
 Gazed on the lake below.

Her conscious tail her joy declared :  
 The fair round face, the snowy beard,  
 The velvet of her paws,  
 Her coat that with the tortoise vies,  
 Her ears of jet, and emerald eyes—  
 She saw, and purr'd applause.

Still had she gazed, but 'midst the tide  
 Two angel forms were seen to glide,  
 The Genii of the stream :  
 Their scaly armour's Tyrian hue  
 Through richest purple, to the view  
 Betray'd a golden gleam.

The hapless Nymph with wonder saw :  
 A whisker first, and then a claw  
 With many an ardent wish  
 She stretch'd, in vain, to reach the prize—  
 What female heart can gold despise ?  
 What Cat's averse to Fish ?

Presumptuous maid ! with looks intent  
 Again she stretch'd, again she bent,

Nor knew the gulf between—  
 Malignant Fate sat by and smiled—  
 The slippery verge her feet beguiled ;  
 She tumbled headlong in !

Eight times emerging from the flood  
 She mew'd to every watery God  
 Some speedy aid to send :—  
 No Dolphin came, no Nereid stirr'd,  
 Nor cruel Tom nor Susan heard—  
 A favourite has no friend !

From hence, ye Beauties ! undeceived  
 Know one false step is ne'er retrieved,  
 And be with caution bold :  
 Not all that tempts your wandering eyes  
 And heedless hearts, is lawful prize,  
 Not all that glisters, gold !

T. GRAY

121

TO CHARLOTTE PULTENEY

Timely blossom, Infant fair,  
 Fondling of a happy pair,  
 Every morn and every night  
 Their solicitous delight,  
 Sleeping, waking, still at ease,  
 Pleasing, without skill to please ;  
 Little gossip, blithe and hale,  
 Tattling many a broken tale,  
 Singing many a tuneless song,  
 Lavish of a heedless tongue ;  
 Simple maiden, void of art,  
 Babbling out the very heart,  
 Yet abandon'd to thy will,  
 Yet imagining no ill,  
 Yet too innocent to blush ;  
 Like the linnet in the bush  
 To the mother-linnet's note  
 Moduling her slender throat ;

Chirping forth thy petty joys,  
 Wanton in the change of toys,  
 Like the linnet green, in May  
 Flitting to each bloomy spray ;  
 Wearied then and glad of rest,  
 Like the linnet in the nest :—  
 This thy present happy lot  
 This, in time will be forgot :  
 Other pleasures, other cares,  
 Ever-busy Time prepares ;  
 And thou shalt in thy daughter see,  
 This picture, once, resembled thee.

A. PHILIPS

### RULE, BRITANNIA

When Britain first at Heaven's command  
 Arose from out the azure main,  
 This was the charter of her land,  
 And guardian angels sung the strain :  
 Rule, Britannia ! Britannia, rule the waves !  
 Britons never shall be slaves.

The nations not so blest as thee  
 Must in their turn to tyrants fall,  
 Whilst thou shalt flourish great and free,  
 The dread and envy of them all.

Still more majestic shalt thou rise,  
 More dreadful from each foreign stroke ;  
 As the loud blast that tears the skies  
 Serves but to root thy native oak.

Thee haughty tyrants ne'er shall tame ;  
 All their attempts to bend thee down  
 Will but arouse thy generous flame,  
 And work their woe and thy renown.

To thee belongs the rural reign ;  
 Thy cities shall with commerce shine ;  
 All thine shall be the subject main,  
 And every shore it circles thine !



'The Muses, still with Freedom found,  
 Shall to thy happy coast repair ;  
 Blest Isle, with matchless beauty crown'd,  
 And manly hearts to guard the fair :—  
 Rule, Britannia ! Britannia rules the waves !  
 Britons never shall be slaves !

J. THOMSON

## 123

## THE BARD

*Pindaric Ode*

'Ruin seize thee, ruthless King !  
 Confusion on thy banners wait !  
 Tho' fann'd by Conquest's crimson wing  
 They mock the air with idle state.  
 Helm, nor hauberk's twisted mail,  
 Nor e'en thy virtues, tyrant, shall avail  
 To save thy secret soul from nightly fears,  
 From Cambria's curse, from Cambria's tears !  
 —Such were the sounds that o'er the crested pride  
 Of the first Edward scatter'd wild dismay,  
 As down the steep of Snowdon's shaggy side  
 He wound with toilsome march his long array :—  
 Stout Glo'ster stood aghast in speechless trance ;  
 'To arms !' cried Mortimer, and couch'd his  
 quivering lance.

On a rock, whose haughty brow  
 Frowns o'er old Conway's foaming flood,  
 Robed in the sable garb of woe  
 With haggard eyes the Poet stood ;  
 (Loose his beard and hoary hair  
 Stream'd like a meteor to the troubled air)  
 And with a master's hand and prophet's fire  
 Struck the deep sorrows of his lyre :  
 'Hark, how each giant oak and desert-cave  
 Sighs to the torrent's awful voice beneath !  
 O'er thee, O King ! their hundred arms they wave,  
 Revenge on thee in hoarser murmurs breathe :

Vocal no more, since Cambria's fatal day,  
To high-born Hoel's harp, or soft Llewellyn's lay.

' Cold is Cadwallo's tongue,  
That hush'd the stormy main :  
Brave Urien sleeps upon his craggy bed :  
Mountains, ye mourn in vain  
Modred, whose magic song  
Made huge Plinlimmon bow his cloud-topt head.  
On dreary Arvon's shore they lie  
Smear'd with gore and ghastly pale :  
Far, far aloof the affrighted ravens sail ;  
The famish'd eagle screams, and passes by.  
Dear lost companions of my tuneful art,  
Dear as the light that visits these sad eyes,  
Dear as the ruddy drops that warm my heart,  
Ye died amidst your dying country's cries—  
No more I weep ; They do not sleep ;  
On yonder cliffs, a griesly band,  
I see them sit ; They linger yet,  
Avengers of their native land :  
With me in dreadful harmony they join,  
And weave with bloody hands the tissue of thy line.

' Weave the warp and weave the woof  
The winding sheet of Edward's race :  
Give ample room and verge enough  
The characters of hell to trace.  
Mark the year and mark the night  
When Severn shall re-echo with affright  
The shrieks of death thro' Berkley's roof that ring,  
Shrieks of an agonizing king !  
She-wolf of France, with unrelenting fangs  
That tear'st the bowels of thy mangled mate,  
From thee be born, who o'er thy country hangs  
The scourge of Heaven ! What terrors round him  
wait !  
Amazement in his van, with Flight combined,  
And Sorrow's faded form, and Solitude behind.

' Mighty victor, mighty lord,  
Low on his funeral couch he lies !

No pitying heart, no eye, afford  
 A tear to grace his obsequies.  
 Is the sable warrior fled ?  
 Thy son is gone. He rests among the dead.  
 The swarm that in thy noon-tide beam were born ?  
 —Gone to salute the rising morn.  
 Fair laughs the Morn, and soft the zephyr blows,  
 While proudly riding o'er the azure realm  
 In gallant trim the gilded Vessel goes :  
 Youth on the prow, and Pleasure at the helm :  
 Regardless of the sweeping Whirlwind's sway,  
 That hush'd in grim repose expects his evening  
 prey.

' Fill high the sparkling bowl,  
 The rich repast prepare ;  
 Reft of a crown, he yet may share the feast :  
 Close by the regal chair  
 Fell Thirst and Famine scowl  
 A baleful smile upon their baffled guest.  
 Heard ye the din of battle bray,  
 Lance to lance, and horse to horse ?  
 Long years of havoc urge their destined course,  
 And thro' the kindred squadrons mow their way.  
 Ye towers of Julius, London's lasting shame,  
 With many a foul and midnight murder fed,  
 Revere his Consort's faith, his Father's fame,  
 And spare the meek usurper's holy head !  
 Above, below, the rose of snow,  
 Twined with her blushing foe, we spread :  
 The bristled boar in infant-gore  
 Wallows beneath the thorny shade.  
 Now, brothers, bending o'er the accurséd loom,  
 Stamp we our vengeance deep, and ratify his doom.

' Edward, lo ! to sudden fate  
 (Weave we the woof ; The thread is spun ;)  
 Half of thy heart we consecrate.  
 (The web is wove ; The work is done ;)  
 Stay, O stay ! nor thus forlorn  
 Leave me unbless'd, unpitied, here to mourn :

In yon bright track that fires the western skies  
 They melt, they vanish from my eyes.  
 But O ! what solemn scenes on Snowdon's height  
   Descending slow their glittering skirts unroll ?  
 Visions of glory, spare my aching sight,  
   Ye unborn ages, crowd not on my soul  
 No more our long-lost Arthur we bewail :—  
 All hail, ye genuine kings ! Britannia's issue, hail !

' Girt with many a baron bold  
 Sublime their starry fronts they rear ;  
   And gorgeous dames, and statesmen old  
 In bearded majesty, appear.  
 In the midst a form divine !  
 Her eye proclaims her of the Briton-Line :  
 Her lion-port, her awe-commanding face  
 Attemper'd sweet to virgin grace.  
 What strings symphonious tremble in the air,  
   What strains of vocal transport round her play ?  
 Hear from the grave, great Taliessin, hear ;  
   They breathe a soul to animate thy clay.  
 Bright Rapture calls, and soaring as she sings,  
 Waves in the eye of Heaven her many-colour'd  
   wings.

' The verse adorn again  
   Fierce War, and faithful Love,  
 And Truth severe, by fairy Fiction drest.  
   In buskin'd measures move  
 Pale Grief, and pleasing Pain,  
 With Horror, tyrant of the throbbing breast.  
 A voice as of the cherub-choir  
   Gales from blooming Eden bear,  
   And distant warblings lessen on my ear  
 That lost in long futurity expire.  
 Fond impious man, think'st thou yon sanguine cloud  
   Raised by thy breath, has quench'd the orb of day ?  
 To-morrow he repairs the golden flood  
   And warms the nations with redoubled ray.  
 Enough for me : with joy I see  
   The different doom our fates assign :

Be thine Despair and sceptred Care ;  
 To triumph and to die are mine.'  
 —He spoke, and headlong from the mountain's  
 height  
 Deep in the roaring tide he plunged to endless  
 night.

T. GRAY

## 124

## ODE WRITTEN IN MDCCXLVI

How sleep the Brave who sink to rest  
 By all their Country's wishes blest !  
 When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,  
 Returns to deck their hallow'd mould,  
 She there shall dress a sweeter sod  
 Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.

By fairy hands their knell is rung,  
 By forms unseen their dirge is sung :  
 There Honour comes, a pilgrim grey,  
 To bless the turf that wraps their clay ;  
 And Freedom shall awhile repair  
 To dwell a weeping hermit there !

W. COLLINS

## 125

## LAMENT FOR CULLODEN

The lovely lass o' Inverness,  
 Nae joy nor pleasure can she see ;  
 For e'en and morn she cries, Alas !  
 And ay the saut tear blin's her e'e :  
 Drumossie moor—Drumossie day—  
 A waefu' day it was to me !  
 For there I lost my father dear,  
 My father dear, and brethren three.

Their winding-sheet the bluidy clay,  
 Their graves are growing green to see :

And by them lies the dearest lad  
 That ever blest a woman's e'e!  
 Now wae to thee, thou cruel lord,  
 A bluidy man I trow thou be;  
 For mony a heart thou hast made sair  
 That ne'er did wrong to thine or thee.

R. BURNS

### LAMENT FOR FLODDEN

I've heard them liting at our ewe-milking,  
 Lasses a' liting before dawn o' day;  
 But now they are moaning on ilka green loaning—  
 The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away.  
 At bughts, in the morning, nae blythe lads are  
 scorning,  
 Lasses are lonely and dowie and wae;  
 Nae daffin', nae gabbin', but sighing and sabbing,  
 Ilk ane lifts her leglin and hies her away.  
 In har'st, at the shearing, nae youths now are  
 jeering,  
 Bandsters are lyart, and runkled, and grey;  
 At fair or at preaching, nae wooing, nae fleeching—  
 The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away.  
 At e'en, in the gloaming, nae younkens are roaming  
 'Bout stacks wi' the lasses at bogle to play;  
 But ilk ane sits drearie, lamenting her dearie—  
 The Flowers of the Forest are weded away.  
 Dool and wae for the order, sent our lads to the  
 Border!  
 The English, for ance, by guile wan the day;  
 The Flowers of the Forest, that fought ay the  
 foremost,  
 The prime of our land, are cauld in the clay.  
 We'll hear nae mair liting at the ewe-milking;  
 Women and bairns are heartless and wae;  
 Sighing and moaning on ilka green loaning—  
 The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away.

J. ELLIOTT

127

## THE BRAES OF YARROW

Thy braes were bonny, Yarrow stream,  
When first on them I met my lover ;  
Thy braes how dreary, Yarrow stream,  
When now thy waves his body cover !  
For ever now, O Yarrow stream !  
Thou art to me a stream of sorrow ;  
For never on thy banks shall I  
Behold my Love, the flower of Yarrow.

He promised me a milk-white steed  
To bear me to his father's bowers ;  
He promised me a little page  
To squire me to his father's towers ;  
He promised me a wedding-ring,—  
The wedding-day was fix'd to-morrow ;—  
Now he is wedded to his grave,  
Alas, his watery grave, in Yarrow !

Sweet were his words when last we met ;  
My passion I as freely told him ;  
Clasp'd in his arms, I little thought  
That I should never more behold him !  
Scarce was he gone, I saw his ghost ;  
It vanish'd with a shriek of sorrow ;  
Thrice did the water-wraith ascend,  
And gave a doleful groan thro' Yarrow.

His mother from the window look'd  
With all the longing of a mother ;  
His little sister weeping walk'd  
The green-wood path to meet her brother ;  
They sought him east, they sought him west,  
They sought him all the forest thorough ;  
They only saw the cloud of night,  
They only heard the roar of Yarrow.

No longer from thy window look—  
 Thou hast no son, thou tender mother !  
 No longer walk, thou lovely maid ;  
 Alas, thou hast no more a brother !  
 No longer seek him east or west  
 And search no more the forest thorough ;  
 For, wandering in the night so dark,  
 He fell a lifeless corpse in Yarrow.

The tear shall never leave my cheek,  
 No other youth shall be my marrow—  
 I'll seek thy body in the stream,  
 And then with thee I'll sleep in Yarrow.  
 —The tear did never leave her cheek,  
 No other youth became her marrow ;  
 She found his body in the stream,  
 And now with him she sleeps in Yarrow.  
J. LOGAN

## 128

## WILLY DROWNED IN YARROW

Down in yon garden sweet and gay  
 Where bonnie grows the lily,  
 I heard a fair maid sighing say,  
 ' My wish be wi' sweet Willie !

' Willie 's rare, and Willie 's fair,  
 And Willie 's wondrous bonny ;  
 And Willie hecht to marry me  
 Gin e'er he married ony.

' O gentle wind, that bloweth south  
 From where my Love repaireth,  
 Convey a kiss frae his dear mouth  
 And tell me how he fareth !

' O tell sweet Willie to come down  
 And hear the mavis singing,  
 And see the birds on ilka bush  
 And leaves around them hinging.



' The lav'rock there, wi' her white breast  
 And gentle throat sae narrow ;  
 There's sport eneuch for gentlemen  
 On Leader haughs and Yarrow.

' O Leader haughs are wide and braid  
 And Yarrow haughs are bonny ;  
 There Willie hecht to marry me  
 If e'er he married ony.

' But Willie's gone, whom I thought on,  
 And does not hear me weeping ;  
 Draws many a tear frae true love's e'e  
 When other maids are sleeping.

' Yestreen I made my bed fu' braid,  
 The night I'll mak' it narrow,  
 For a' the live-lang winter night  
 I lie twined o' my marrow.

' O came ye by yon water-side ?  
 Pou'd you the rose or lily ?  
 Or came you by yon meadow green,  
 Or saw you my sweet Willie ? '

She sought him up, she sought him down,  
 She sought him braid and narrow ;  
 Syne, in the cleaving of a craig,  
 She found him drown'd in Yarrow !

ANON.

### LOSS OF THE ROYAL GEORGE

Toll for the Brave !  
 The brave that are no more !  
 All sunk beneath the wave  
 Fast by their native shore !  
 Eight hundred of the brave  
 Whose courage well was tried,  
 Had made the vessel heel  
 And laid her on her side.

A land-breeze shook the shrouds  
 And she was overset ;  
 Down went the Royal George,  
 With all her crew complete.

Toll for the brave !  
 Brave Kempenfelt is gone ;  
 His last sea-fight is fought,  
 His work of glory done.  
 It was not in the battle ;  
 No tempest gave the shock ;  
 She sprang no fatal leak,  
 She ran upon no rock.  
 His sword was in its sheath,  
 His fingers held the pen,  
 When Kempenfelt went down  
 With twice four hundred men.

Weigh the vessel up  
 Once dreaded by our foes !  
 And mingle with our cup  
 The tears that England owes.  
 Her timbers yet are sound,  
 And she may float again  
 Full charged with England's thunder,  
 And plough the distant main :  
 But Kempenfelt is gone,  
 His victories are o'er ;  
 And he and his eight hundred  
 Shall plough the wave no more.

W. COWPER

### BLACK-EYED SUSAN

All in the Downs the fleet was moor'd,  
 The streamers waving in the wind,  
 When black-eyed Susan came aboard ;  
 ' O ! where shall I my true-love find ?

Tell me, ye jovial sailors, tell me true  
If my sweet William sails among the crew.'

William, who high upon the yard  
Rock'd with the billow to and fro,  
Soon as her well-known voice he heard  
He sigh'd, and cast his eyes below :  
The cord slides swiftly through his glowing hands,  
And quick as lightning on the deck he stands.

So the sweet lark, high poised in air,  
Shuts close his pinions to his breast  
If chance his mate's shrill call he hear,  
And drops at once into her nest :—  
The noblest captain in the British fleet  
Might envy William's lip those kisses sweet.

' O Susan, Susan, lovely dear,  
My vows shall ever true remain ;  
Let me kiss off that falling tear ;  
We only part to meet again.  
Change as ye list, ye winds ; my heart shall be  
The faithful compass that still points to thee.

' Believe not what the landmen say  
Who tempt with doubts thy constant mind :  
They'll tell thee, sailors, when away,  
In every port a mistress find :  
Yes, yes, believe them when they tell thee so,  
For Thou art present wheresoc'er I go.

' If to fair India's coast we sail,  
Thy eyes are seen in diamonds bright,  
Thy breath is Afric's spicy gale,  
Thy skin is ivory so white.  
Thus every beautiful object that I view  
Wakes in my soul some charm of lovely Sue.

' Though battle call me from thy arms  
Let not my pretty Susan mourn ;  
Though cannons roar, yet safe from harms  
William shall to his Dear return.  
Love turns aside the balls that round me fly,  
Lest precious tears should drop from Susan's eye.'

The boatswain gave the dreadful word,  
 The sails their swelling bosom spread ;  
 No longer must she stay aboard ;  
 They kiss'd, she sigh'd, he hung his head.  
 Her lessening boat unwilling rows to land ;  
 ' Adieu ! ' she cries ; and waved her lily hand.  
J. GAY

## 131

## SALLY IN OUR ALLEY

Of all the girls that are so smart  
 There 's none like pretty Sally ;  
 She is the darling of my heart,  
 And she lives in our alley.  
 There is no lady in the land  
 Is half so sweet as Sally ;  
 She is the darling of my heart,  
 And she lives in our alley.

Her father he makes cabbage-nets  
 And through the streets does cry 'em ;  
 Her mother she sells laces long  
 To such as please to buy 'em :  
 But sure such folks could ne'er beget  
 So sweet a girl as Sally !  
 She is the darling of my heart,  
 And she lives in our alley.

When she is by, I leave my work,  
 I love her so sincerely ;  
 My master comes like any Turk,  
 And bangs me most severely—  
 But let him bang his bellyful,  
 I'll bear it all for Sally ;  
 She is the darling of my heart,  
 And she lives in our alley.

Of all the days that 's in the week  
 I dearly love but one day—

And that 's the day that comes betwixt  
 A Saturday and Monday ;  
 For then I'm drest all in my best  
 To walk abroad with Sally ;  
 She is the darling of my heart,  
 And she lives in our alley.

My master carries me to church,  
 And often am I blamed  
 Because I leave him in the lurch  
 As soon as text is named ;  
 I leave the church in sermon-time  
 And slink away to Sally ;  
 She is the darling of my heart,  
 And she lives in our alley.

When Christmas comes about again  
 O then I shall have money ;  
 I'll hoard it up, and box it all,  
 I'll give it to my honey :  
 I would it were ten thousand pound,  
 I'd give it all to Sally ;  
 She is the darling of my heart,  
 And she lives in our alley.

My master and the neighbours all  
 Make game of me and Sally,  
 And, but for her, I'd better be  
 A slave and row a galley ;  
 But when my seven long years are out  
 O then I'll marry Sally,—  
 O then we'll wed, and then we'll bed,  
 But not in our alley !

H. CAREY

## A FAREWELL

Go fetch to me a pint o' wine,  
 An' fill it in a silver tassie ;  
 That I may drink before I go  
 A service to my bonnie lassie :

The boat rocks at the pier o' Leith,  
 Fu' loud the wind blows frae the Ferry,  
 The ship rides by the Berwick-law,  
 And I maun leave my bonnie Mary.

The trumpets sound, the banners fly,  
 The glittering spears are rankéd ready ;  
 The shouts o' war are heard afar,  
 The battle closes thick and bloody ;  
 But it's not the roar o' sea or shore  
 Wad make me langer wish to tarry ;  
 Nor shout o' war that's heard afar—  
 It's leaving thee, my bonnie Mary.

R. BURNS

## 133

If doughty deeds my lady please  
 Right soon I'll mount my steed ;  
 And strong his arm, and fast his seat  
 That bears frae me the need.  
 I'll wear thy colours in my cap,  
 Thy picture at my heart ;  
 And he that bends not to thine eye  
 Shall rue it to his smart !  
     Then tell me how to woo thee, Love ;  
     O tell me how to woo thee !  
 For thy dear sake, nac care I'll take  
 Tho' ne'er another trow me.

If gay attire delight thine eye  
 I'll dight me in array ;  
 I'll tend thy chamber door all night,  
 And squire thee all the day.  
 If sweetest sounds can win thine ear,  
 These sounds I'll strive to catch ;  
 Thy voice I'll steal to woo thyself,  
 That voice that nane can match.

But if fond love thy heart can gain,  
 I never broke a vow ;

Nae maiden lays her skaith to me,  
 I never loved but you.  
 For you alone I ride the ring,  
 For you I wear the blue ;  
 For you alone I strive to sing,  
 O tell me how to woo !  
 Then tell me how to woo thee, Love ;  
 O tell me how to woo thee !  
 For thy dear sake, nae care I'll take,  
 Tho' ne'er another trow me.

GRAHAM OF GARTMORE

## 134

## TO A YOUNG LADY

Sweet stream, that winds through yonder glade,  
 Apt emblem of a virtuous maid—  
 Silent and chaste she steals along,  
 Far from the world's gay busy throng :  
 With gentle yet prevailing force,  
 Intent upon her destined course ;  
 Graceful and useful all she does,  
 Blessing and blest where'er she goes ;  
 Pure-bosom'd as that watery glass,  
 And Heaven reflected in her face.

W. COWPER

## 135

## THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

Sleep on, and dream of Heaven awhile—  
 Tho' shut so close thy laughing eyes,  
 Thy rosy lips still wear a smile  
 And move, and breathe delicious sighs !  
 Ah, now soft blushes tinge her cheeks  
 And mantle o'er her neck of snow ;  
 Ah, now she murmurs, now she speaks  
 What most I wish—and fear to know !

She starts, she trembles, and she weeps !  
 Her fair hands folded on her breast :  
 —And now, how like a saint she sleeps !  
 A seraph in the realms of rest !

Sleep on secure ! Above control  
 Thy thoughts belong to Heaven and thee :  
 And may the secret of thy soul  
 Remain within its sanctuary !

S. ROGERS

## 136

For ever, Fortune, wilt thou prove  
 An unrelenting foe to Love,  
 And when we meet a mutual heart  
 Come in between, and bid us part ?

Bid us sigh on from day to day,  
 And wish and wish the soul away ;  
 Till youth and genial years are flown,  
 And all the life of life is gone ?

But busy, busy, still art thou,  
 To bind the loveless joyless vow,  
 The heart from pleasure to delude,  
 To join the gentle to the rude.

For once, O Fortune, hear my prayer,  
 And I absolve thy future care ;  
 All other blessings I resign,  
 Make but the dear Amanda mine.

J. THOMSON

## 137

The merchant, to secure his treasure,  
 Conveys it in a borrow'd name :  
 Euphelia serves to grace my measure,  
 But Cloe is my real flame.



My softest verse, my darling lyre  
 Upon Euphelia's toilet lay—  
 When Cloe noted her desire  
 That I should sing, that I should play.

My lyre I tune, my voice I raise,  
 But with my numbers mix my sighs ;  
 And whilst I sing Euphelia's praise,  
 I fix my soul on Cloe's eyes.

Fair Cloe blush'd : Euphelia frown'd :  
 I sung, and gazed ; I play'd, and trembled :  
 And Venus to the Loves around  
 Remark'd how ill we all dissembled.

M. PRIOR

## 138

When lovely woman stoops to folly  
 And finds too late that men betray,—  
 What charm can soothe her melancholy,  
 What art can wash her guilt away ?

The only art her guilt to cover,  
 To hide her shame from every eye  
 To give repentance to her lover  
 And wring his bosom, is—to die.

O. GOLDSMITH

## 139

Ye banks and braes o' bonnie Doon  
 How can ye bloom sae fair !  
 How can ye chant, ye little birds,  
 And I sae fu' o' care !

Thou'll break my heart, thou bonnie bird  
 That sings upon the bough ;  
 Thou minds me o' the happy days  
 When my fause Luvè was true.

Thou'll break my heart, thou bonnie bird  
 That sings beside thy mate ;  
 For sae I sat, and sae I sang,  
 And wist na o' my fate.

Aft hae I roved by bonnie Doon  
 To see the woodbine twine,  
 And ilka bird sang o' its love ;  
 And sae did I o' mine.

Wi' lightsome heart I pu'd a rose,  
 Frae aff its thorny tree ;  
 And my fause luver staw the rose,  
 But left the thorn wi' me.

R. BURNS

140

THE PROGRESS OF POESY

*A Pindaric Ode*

Awake, Aeolian lyre, awake,  
 And give to rapture all thy trembling strings.  
 From Helicon's harmonious springs  
 A thousand rills their mazy progress take :  
 The laughing flowers that round them blow  
 Drink life and fragrance as they flow.  
 Now the rich stream of Music winds along  
 Deep, majestic, smooth, and strong,  
 Through verdant vales, and Ceres' golden reign ;  
 Now rolling down the steep amain  
 Headlong, impetuous, see it pour :  
 The rocks and nodding groves re-bellow to the roar.

O Sovereign of the willing soul,  
 Parent of sweet and solemn-breathing airs,  
 Enchanting shell ! the sullen Cares  
 And frantic passions hear thy soft control.  
 On Thracia's hills the Lord of War  
 Has curb'd the fury of his car

And dropt his thirsty lance at thy command  
 Perching on the sceptred hand  
 Of Jove, thy magic lulls the feather'd king  
 With ruffled plumes, and flagging wing :  
 Quench'd in dark clouds of slumber lie  
 The terror of his beak, and lightnings of his eye.

Thee the voice, the dance, obey  
 Temper'd to thy warbled lay.  
 O'er Idalia's velvet-green  
 The rosy-crown'd Loves are seen  
 On Cytherea's day,  
 With antic Sport, and blue-eyed Pleasures,  
 Frisking light in frolic measures ;  
 Now pursuing, now retreating,  
 Now in circling troops they meet :  
 To brisk notes in cadence beating  
 Glance their many-twinkling feet.  
 Slow melting strains their Queen's approach declare :  
 Where'er she turns the Graces homage pay :  
 With arms sublime that float upon the air  
 In gliding state she wins her easy way :  
 O'er her warm cheek and rising bosom move  
 The bloom of young Desire and purple light of Love.

Man's feeble race what ills await !  
 Labour, and Penury, the racks of Pain,  
 Disease, and Sorrow's weeping train,  
 And Death, sad refuge from the storms of Fate !  
 The fond complaint, my song, disprove,  
 And justify the laws of Jove.  
 Say, has he given in vain the heavenly Muse ?  
 Night, and all her sickly dews,  
 Her spectres wan, and birds of boding cry  
 He gives to range the dreary sky ;  
 Till down the eastern cliffs afar  
 Hyperion's march they spy, and glittering shafts of  
 war.

In climes beyond the solar road  
 Where shaggy forms o'er ice-built mountains roam,  
 The Muse has broke the twilight gloom

To cheer the shivering native's dull abode,  
 And oft, beneath the odorous shade  
 Of Chili's boundless forests laid,  
 She deigns to hear the savage youth repeat  
 In loose numbers wildly sweet  
 Their feather-cinctured chiefs, and dusky loves.  
 Her track, where'er the Goddess roves,  
 Glory pursue, and generous Shame,  
 Th' unconquerable Mind, and Freedom's holy flame.

Woods, that wave o'er Delphi's steep,  
 Isles, that crown th' Aegean deep,  
 Fields that cool Ilissus laves,  
 Or where Macander's amber waves  
 In lingering lab'riths creep,  
 How do your tuneful echoes languish,  
 Mute, but to the voice of anguish !  
 Where each old poetic mountain  
     Inspiration breathed around ;  
 Every shade and hallow'd fountain  
     Murmur'd deep a solemn sound :  
 Till the sad Nine, in Greece's evil hour  
     Left their Parnassus for the Latian plains.  
 Alike they scorn the pomp of tyrant Power,  
     And coward Vice, that revels in her chains.  
 When Latium had her lofty spirit lost,  
 They sought, O Albion ! next, thy sea-encircled coast.

Far from the sun and summer-gale  
 In thy green lap was Nature's Darling laid,  
 What time, where lucid Avon stray'd,  
     To him the mighty mother did unveil  
 Her awful face : the dauntless Child  
 Stretch'd forth his little arms, and smiled.  
 This pencil take (she said), whose colours clear  
 Richly paint the vernal year :  
 Thine, too, these golden keys, immortal Boy !  
 This can unlock the gates of Joy ;  
 Of Horror that, and thrilling Fears,  
 Or ope the sacred source of sympathetic Tears.

Nor second He, that rode sublime  
 Upon the seraph-wings of Ecstasy  
 The secrets of the Abyss to spy :  
 He pass'd the flaming bounds of Place and  
 Time :  
 The living Throne, the sapphire-blaze  
 Where Angels tremble while they gaze,  
 He saw ; but blasted with excess of light,  
 Closed his eyes in endless night.  
 Behold where Dryden's less presumptuous car  
 Wide o'er the fields of Glory bear  
 Two coursers of ethereal race  
 With necks in thunder clothed, and long-resounding  
 pace.

Hark, his hands the lyre explore !  
 Bright-eyed Fancy, hovering o'er,  
 Scatters from her pictured urn  
 Thoughts that breathe, and words that burn.  
 But ah ! 'tis heard no more——  
 O ! Lyre divine, what daring Spirit  
 Wakes thee now ! Tho' he inherit  
 Nor the pride, nor ample pinion,  
 That the Theban Eagle bear,  
 Sailing with supreme dominion  
 Thro' the azure deep of air :  
 Yet oft before his infant eyes would run  
 Such forms as glitter in the Muse's ray  
 With orient hues, unborrow'd of the sun :  
 Yet shall he mount, and keep his distant way  
 Beyond the limits of a vulgar fate :  
 Beneath the Good how far—but far above the  
 Great.

T. GRAY

## THE PASSIONS

*An Ode for Music*

When Music, heavenly maid, was young,  
 While yet in early Greece she sung.  
 The Passions oft, to hear her shell,  
 Throng'd around her magic cell.  
 Exulting, trembling, raging, fainting,  
 Possess'd beyond the Muse's painting ;  
 By turns they felt the glowing mind  
 Disturb'd, delighted, rais'd, refin'd :  
 'Till once, 'tis said, when all were fired,  
 Fill'd with fury, rapt, inspir'd,  
 From the supporting myrtles round  
 They snatch'd her instruments of sound,  
 And, as they oft had heard apart  
 Sweet lessons of her forceful art,  
 Each, for Madness ruled the hour,  
 Would prove his own expressive power.

First Fear his hand, its skill to try,  
 Amid the chords bewilder'd laid,  
 And back recoil'd, he knew not why,  
 E'en at the sound himself had made.

Next Anger rush'd, his eyes on fire,  
 In lightnings own'd his secret stings ;  
 In one rude clash he struck the lyre  
 And swept with hurried hand the strings.

With woful measures wan Despair—  
 Low sullen sounds his grief beguiled,  
 A solemn, strange, and mingled air,  
 'Twas sad by fits, by starts 'twas wild.

But thou, O Hope, with eyes so fair,  
 What was thy delightful measure ?  
 Still it whisper'd promised pleasure  
 And bade the lovely scenes at distance hail !

Still would her touch the strain prolong ;  
 And from the rocks, the woods, the vale  
 She call'd on Echo still through all the song ;  
 And, where her sweetest theme she chose,  
 A soft responsive voice was heard at every close ;  
 And Hope enchanted smiled, and waved her golden  
 hair ;—

And longer had she sung :—but with a frown  
 Revenge impatient rose :  
 He threw his blood-stain'd sword in thunder down ;  
 And with a withering look  
 The war-denouncing trumpet took  
 And blew a blast so loud and dread,  
 Were ne'er prophetic sounds so full of woe !  
 And ever and anon he beat  
 The doubling drum with furious heat ;  
 And, though sometimes, each dreary pause between,  
 Dejected Pity at his side  
 Her soul-subduing voice applied,  
 Yet still he kept his wild unalter'd mien,  
 While each strain'd ball of sight seem'd bursting  
 from his head.

Thy numbers, Jealousy, to nought were fix'd :  
 Sad proof of thy distressful state !  
 Of differing themes the veering song was mix'd ;  
 And now it courted Love, now raving call'd on  
 Hate.

With eyes up-raised, as one inspired,  
 Pale Melancholy sat retired ;  
 And from her wild sequester'd seat,  
 In notes by distance made more sweet,  
 Pour'd through the mellow horn her pensive soul :  
 And dashing soft from rocks around  
 Bubbling runnels join'd the sound ;  
 Through glades and glooms the mingled measure  
 stole,  
 Or, o'er some haunted stream, with fond delay,  
 Round an holy calm diffusing,  
 Love of peace, and lonely musing,  
 In hollow murmurs died away.

But O ! how alter'd was its sprightlier tone  
 When Cheerfulness, a nymph of healthiest hue,  
     Her bow across her shoulder flung,  
     Her buskins gemm'd with morning dew,  
 Blew an inspiring air, that dale and thicket rung,  
     The hunter's call to Faun and Dryad known !  
 The oak-crown'd Sisters and their chaste-eyed  
     Queen,  
     Satyrs and Sylvan Boys, were seen  
     Peeping from forth their alleys green :  
 Brown Exercise rejoiced to hear ;  
     And Sport leapt up, and seized his beechen spear.

Last came Joy's ecstatic trial :  
 He, with viny crown advancing,  
     First to the lively pipe his hand address :  
 But soon he saw the brisk awakening viol  
     Whose sweet entrancing voice he loved the best :  
 They would have thought who heard the strain  
     They saw, in Tempe's vale, her native maids  
     Amidst the festal-sounding shades  
 To some unwearied minstrel dancing ;  
 While, as his flying fingers kiss'd the strings,  
     Love framed with Mirth a gay fantastic round :  
     Loose were her tresses seen, her zone unbound ;  
     And he, amidst his frolic play,  
     As if he would the charming air repay,  
 Shook thousand odours from his dewy wings.

O Music ! sphere-descended maid,  
 Friend of Pleasure, Wisdom's aid !  
 Why, goddess, why, to us denied,  
 Lay'st thou thy ancient lyre aside ?  
 As in that loved Athenian bower  
 You learn'd an all-commanding power,  
 Thy mimic soul, O nymph endear'd !  
 Can well recall what then it heard.  
 Where is thy native simple heart  
 Devote to Virtue, Fancy, Art ?  
 Arise, as in that elder time,  
 Warm, energetic, chaste, sublime !



Thy wonders, in that god-like age,  
 Fill thy recording Sister's page ;—  
 'Tis said, and I believe the tale,  
 Thy humblest reed could more prevail  
 Had more of strength, diviner rage,  
 Than all which charms this laggard age,  
 E'en all at once together found  
 Cecilia's mingled world of sound :—  
 O bid our vain endeavours cease :  
 Revive the just designs of Greece :  
 Return in all thy simple state !  
 Confirm the tales her sons relate !

W. COLLINS

## 142

## ODE ON THE SPRING

Lo ! where the rosy-bosom'd Hours,  
 Fair Venus' train, appear,  
 Disclose the long-expecting flowers  
 And wake the purple year !  
 The Attic warbler pours her throat  
 Responsive to the cuckoo's note,  
 The untaught harmony of Spring :  
 While, whispering pleasure as they fly,  
 Cool Zephyrs thro' the clear blue sky  
 Their gather'd fragrance fling.

Where'er the oak's thick branches stretch  
 A broader, browner shade,  
 Where'er the rude and moss-grown beech  
 O'er-canopies the glade,  
 Beside some water's rushy brink  
 With me the Muse shall sit, and think  
 (At ease reclined in rustic state)  
 How vain the ardour of the Crowd,  
 How low, how little are the Proud,  
 How indigent the Great !

Still is the toiling hand of Care ;  
 The panting herds repose :  
 Yet hark, how thro' the peopled air  
 The busy murmur glows !  
 The insect youth arc on the wing,  
 Eager to taste the honied spring  
 And float amid the liquid noon :  
 Some lightly o'er the current skim,  
 Some show their gaily-gilded trim  
 Quick-glancing to the sun.

To Contemplation's sober eye  
 Such is the race of Man :  
 And they that creep, and they that fly,  
 Shall end where they began.  
 Alike the busy and the gay  
 But flutter thro' life's little day,  
 In Fortune's varying colours drest :  
 Brush'd by the hand of rough Mischance,  
 Or chill'd by Age, their airy dance  
 They leave, in dust to rest.

Methinks I hear in accents low  
 The sportive kind reply :  
 Poor moralist ! and what art thou ?  
 A solitary fly !  
 Thy joys no glittering female meets,  
 No hive hast thou of hoarded sweets,  
 No painted plumage to display :  
 On hasty wings thy youth is flown ;  
 Thy sun is set, thy spring is gone—  
 We frolic while 'tis May.

T. GRAY

### THE POPLAR FIELD

The poplars are fell'd, farewell to the shade  
 And the whispering sound of the cool colonnade :  
 The winds play no longer and sing in the leaves,  
 Nor Ouse on his bosom their image receives.

Twelve years have elapsed since I first took a view  
Of my favourite field, and the bank where they  
grew :

And now in the grass behold they are laid,  
And the tree is my seat that once lent me a shade.

The blackbird has fled to another retreat  
Where the hazels afford him a screen from the heat ;  
And the scene where his melody charm'd me before  
Resounds with his sweet-flowing ditty no more.

My fugitive years are all hasting away,  
And I must ere long lie as lowly as they,  
With a turf on my breast and a stone at my head,  
Ere another such grove shall arise in its stead.

'Tis a sight to engage me, if anything can,  
To muse on the perishing pleasures of man ;  
Short-lived as we are, our enjoyments, I see,  
Have a still shorter date, and die sooner than we.

W. COWPER

## 144

## TO A FIELD MOUSE

Wee, sleekit, cow'rin', tim'rous beastie,  
O what a panic 's in thy breastie !  
Thou need na start awa sae hasty,  
Wi' bickering brattle !  
I wad be laith to rin an' chase thee  
Wi' murd'ring pattle !

I'm truly sorry man's dominion  
Has broken nature's social union,  
An' justifies that ill opinion  
Which makes thee startle  
At me, thy poor earth-born companion,  
An' fellow-mortal !

I doubt na, whiles, but thou may thieve ;  
What then ? poor beastie, thou maun live !

A daimen-icker in a thrave  
 'S a sma' request :  
 I'll get a blessin' wi' the lave,  
 And never miss't !

Thy wee bit housie, too, in ruin !  
 Its silly wa's the win's are strewin' :  
 And naething, now, to big a new ane,  
 O' foggage green !  
 An' bleak December's winds ensuin'  
 Baith snell an' keen !

Thou saw the fields laid bare and waste  
 An' weary winter comin' fast,  
 An' cozie here, beneath the blast,  
 Thou thought to dwell,  
 Till, crash ! the cruel coulter past  
 Out thro' thy cell.

That wee bit heap o' leaves an' stibble  
 Has cost thee mony a weary nibble !  
 Now thou 's turn'd out, for a' thy trouble,  
 But house or hald,  
 To thole the winter's sleety dribble  
 An' cranreuch cauld !

But, Mousie, thou art no thy lane  
 In proving foresight may be vain :  
 The best laid schemes o' mice an' men  
 Gang aft a-gley,  
 An' lea'e us nought but grief an' pain,  
 For promised joy.

Still thou art blest, compared wi' me !  
 The present only toucheth thee :  
 But, oh ! I backward cast my e'e  
 On prospects drear !  
 An' forward, tho' I canna see,  
 I guess an' fear !

R. BURNS

145

## A WISH

Mine be a cot beside the hill ;  
 A bee-hive's hum shall soothe my ear ;  
 A willowy brook that turns a mill,  
 With many a fall shall linger near.

The swallow, oft, beneath my thatch  
 Shall twitter from her clay-built nest ;  
 Oft shall the pilgrim lift the latch,  
 And share my meal, a welcome guest.

Around my ivied porch shall spring  
 Each fragrant flower that drinks the dew ;  
 And Lucy, at her wheel, shall sing  
 In russet-gown and apron blue.

The village-church among the trees,  
 Where first our marriage-vows were given,  
 With merry peals shall swell the breeze  
 And point with taper spire to Heaven.

S. ROGERS

146

## TO EVENING

If aught of oaten stop or pastoral song  
 May hope, chaste Eve, to soothe thy modest ear  
 Like thy own solemn springs,  
 Thy springs, and dying gales ;

O Nymph reserved,—while now the bright-hair'd sun  
 Sits in yon western tent, whose cloudy skirts,  
 With brede ethereal wove,  
 O'erhang his wavy bed,

Now air is hush'd, save where the weak-eyed bat  
 With short shrill shriek flits by on leathern wing,  
 Or where the beetle winds  
 His small but sullen horn,

As oft he rises 'midst the twilight path,  
 Against the pilgrim borne in heedless hum,—  
     Now teach me, maid composed,  
     To breathe some soften'd strain

Whose numbers, stealing through thy dark'ning vale,  
 May not unseemly with its stillness suit ;  
     As musing slow I hail  
     Thy genial loved return.

For when thy folding-star arising shows  
 His paly circlet, at his warning lamp  
     The fragrant Hours, and Elves  
     Who slept in buds the day.

And many a Nymph who wreathes her brows with  
     sedge  
 And sheds the freshening dew, and lovelier still  
     The pensive Pleasures sweet,  
     Prepare thy shadowy car.

Then let me rove some wild and heathy scene ;  
 Or find some ruin midst its dreary dells,  
     Whose walls more awful nod  
     By thy religious gleams.

Or if chill blustering winds or driving rain  
 Prevent my willing feet, be mine the hut  
     That, from the mountain's side,  
     Views wilds and swelling floods,

And hamlets brown, and dim-discover'd spires ;  
 And hears their simple bell ; and marks o'er all  
     Thy dewy fingers draw  
     The gradual dusky veil.

While Spring shall pour his showers, as oft he wont,  
 And bathe thy breathing tresses, meekest Eve !  
     While Summer loves to sport  
     Beneath thy lingering light ;

While sallow Autumn fills thy lap with leaves ;  
 Or Winter, yelling through the troublous air,  
     Affrights thy shrinking train  
     And rudely rends thy robes ;

So long, regardful of thy quiet rule,  
 Shall Fancy, Friendship, Science, smiling Peace,  
 Thy gentlest influence own,  
 And love thy favourite name !

W. COLLINS

## 147

## ELEGY

## WRITTEN IN A COUNTRY CHURCH-YARD

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,  
 The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,  
 The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,  
 And leaves the world to darkness and to me.

Now fades the glimmering landscape on the sight,  
 And all the air a solemn stillness holds,  
 Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight,  
 And drowsy tinklings lull the distant folds :

Save that from yonder ivy-mantled tower  
 The moping owl does to the moon complain  
 Of such as, wandering near her secret bower,  
 Molest her ancient solitary reign.

Beneath those rugged elms, that yew-tree's shade  
 Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap,  
 Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,  
 The rude Forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

The breezy call of incense-breathing morn,  
 The swallow twittering from the straw-built shed,  
 The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,  
 No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn  
 Or busy housewife ply her evening care :  
 No children run to lisp their sire's return,  
 Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share.

Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield,  
 Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke ;  
 How jocund did they drive their team afield !  
 How bow'd the woods beneath their sturdy stroke !

Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,  
 Their homely joys, and destiny obscure ;  
 Nor Grandeur hear with a disdainful smile  
 The short and simple annals of the Poor.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,  
 And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,  
 Await alike th' inevitable hour :—  
 The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

Nor you, ye Proud, impute to these the fault  
 If Memory o'er their tomb no trophies raise,  
 Where through the long-drawn aisle and fretted  
 vault

The pealing anthem swells the note of praise.

Can storied urn or animated bust  
 Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath ?  
 Can Honour's voice provoke the silent dust,  
 Or Flattery soothe the dull cold ear of Death ?

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid  
 Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire ;  
 Hands, that the rod of empire might have sway'd,  
 Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre :

But Knowledge to their eyes her ample page  
 Rich with the spoils of time, did ne'er unroll ;  
 Chill Penury repress'd their noble rage,  
 And froze the genial current of the soul.

Full many a gem of purest ray serene  
 The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear :  
 Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,  
 And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

Some village-Hampden, that with dauntless breast  
 The little tyrant of his fields withstood,  
 Some mute inglorious Milton here may rest,  
 Some Cromwell, guiltless of his country's blood.

Th' applause of list'ning senates to command,  
 The threats of pain and ruin to despise,  
 To scatter plenty o'er a smiling land,  
 And read their history in a nation's eyes



Their lot forbade : nor circumscribed alone  
 Their growing virtues, but their crimes confined ;  
 Forbade to wade through slaughter to a throne,  
 And shut the gates of mercy on mankind ;

The struggling pangs of conscious truth to hide,  
 To quench the blushes of ingenuous shame,  
 Or heap the shrine of Luxury and Pride  
 With incense kindled at the Muse's flame.

Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife  
 Their sober wishes never learn'd to stray ;  
 Along the cool sequester'd vale of life  
 They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

Yet e'en these bones from insult to protect  
 Some frail memorial still erected nigh,  
 With uncouth rhymes and shapeless sculpture  
 deck'd,  
 Implores the passing tribute of a sigh.

Their name, their years, spelt by th' unletter'd Muse,  
 The place of fame and elegy supply :  
 And many a holy text around she strews  
 That teach the rustic moralist to die.

For who, to dumb forgetfulness a prey,  
 This pleasing anxious being e'er resign'd,  
 Left the warm precincts of the cheerful day,  
 Nor cast one longing lingering look behind ?

On some fond breast the parting soul relies,  
 Some pious drops the closing eye requires ;  
 E'en from the tomb the voice of Nature cries,  
 E'en in our ashes live their wonted fires.

For thee, who, mindful of th' unhonour'd dead,  
 Dost in these lines their artless tale relate ;  
 If chance, by lonely Contemplation led,  
 Some kindred spirit shall inquire thy fate,—

Haply some hoary-headed swain may say,  
 Oft have we seen him at the peep of dawn  
 Brushing with hasty steps the dews away,  
 To meet the sun upon the upland lawn ;

There at the foot of yonder nodding beech  
That wreathes its old fantastic roots so high,  
His listless length at noon-tide would he stretch,  
And pore upon the brook that babbles by.

Hard by yon wood, now smiling as in scorn,  
Muttering his wayward fancies he would rove ;  
Now drooping, woful-wan, like one forlorn,  
Or crazed with care, or cross'd in hopeless love.

One morn I miss'd him on the custom'd hill,  
Along the heath, and near his favourite tree ;  
Another came ; nor yet beside the rill,  
Nor up the lawn, nor at the wood was he ;

The next with dirges due in sad array  
Slow through the church-way path we saw him  
borne,—  
Approach and read (for thou canst read) the lay  
Graved on the stone beneath yon aged thorn.

#### THE EPITAPH

Here rests his head upon the lap of Earth  
A Youth, to Fortune and to Fame unknown ;  
Fair Science frown'd not on his humble birth,  
And Melancholy mark'd him for her own.

Large was his bounty, and his soul sincere ;  
Heaven did a recompense as largely send :  
He gave to Misery all he had, a tear,  
He gain'd from Heaven, 'twas all he wish'd, a  
friend.

No farther seek his merits to disclose,  
Or draw his frailties from their dread abode,  
(There they alike in trembling hope repose,)  
The bosom of his Father and his God.

T. GRAY

148

## MARY MORISON

O Mary, at thy window be,  
 It is the wish'd, the trust'd hour !  
 Those smiles and glances let me see  
 That make the miser's treasure poor :  
 How blythely wad I bide the stoure,  
 A weary slave frae sun to sun,  
 Could I the rich reward secure,  
 The lovely Mary Morison.

Yestreen when to the trembling string  
 The dance gaed thro' the lighted ha',  
 To thee my fancy took its wing,—  
 I sat, but neither heard nor saw :  
 Tho' this was fair, and that was braw,  
 And yon the toast of a' the town,  
 I sigh'd, and said amang them a',  
 ' Ye are na Mary Morison.'

O Mary, canst thou wreck his peace  
 Wha for thy sake wad gladly dee ?  
 Or canst thou break that heart of his,  
 Whase only faut is loving thee ?  
 If love for love thou wilt na gie,  
 At least be pity to me shown ;  
 A thought ungentle canna be  
 The thought o' Mary Morison.

R. BURNS

149

## BONNIE LESLEY

O saw ye bonnie Lesley  
 As she gaed o'er the border ?  
 She's gane, like Alexander,  
 To spread her conquests farther.

To see her is to love her,  
 And love but her for ever ;  
 For nature made her what she is,  
 And ne'er made sic anither !

Thou art a queen, fair Lesley,  
 Thy subjects we, before thee ;  
 Thou art divine, fair Lesley,  
 The hearts o' men adore thee.

The deil he could na scaith thee,  
 Or aught that wad belang thee ;  
 He'd look into thy bonnie face,  
 And say ' I canna wrang thee ! '

The Powers aboon will tent thee ;  
 Misfortune sha' na steer thee ;  
 Thou'rt like themselves sae lovely  
 That ill they'll ne'er let near thee.

Return again, fair Lesley,  
 Return to Caledonie !  
 That we may brag we hae a lass  
 There 's nane again sac bonnie.

R. BURNS

## 150

O my Luvè 's like a red, red rose  
 That 's newly sprung in June :  
 O my Luvè 's like the melodie  
 That 's sweetly play'd in tune.

As fair art thou, my bonnie lass,  
 So deep in luvè am I :  
 And I will luvè thee still, my dear,  
 Till a' the seas gang dry :

Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,  
 And the rocks melt wi' the sun ;  
 I will luvè thee still, my dear,  
 While the sands o' life shall run.

And fare thee weel, my only Luve  
 And fare thee weel awhile !  
 And I will come again, my Luve,  
 Tho' it were ten thousand mile.

R. BURNS

## 151

## HIGHLAND MARY

Ye banks and braes and streams around  
 The castle o' Montgomery,  
 Green be your woods, and fair your flowers,  
 Your waters never drumlie !  
 There simmer first unfauld her robes,  
 And there the langest tarry ;  
 For there I took the last farweel  
 O' my sweet Highland Mary.

How sweetly bloom'd the gay green birk,  
 How rich the hawthorn's blossom,  
 As underneath their fragrant shade  
 I clasp'd her to my bosom !  
 The golden hours on angel wings  
 Flew o'er me and my dearie ;  
 For dear to me as light and life  
 Was my sweet Highland Mary.

Wi' mony a vow and lock'd embrace  
 Our parting was fu' tender ;  
 And pledging aft to meet again,  
 We tore oursels asunder ;  
 But, O ! fell Death's untimely frost,  
 That nipt my flower sae early !  
 Now green 's the sod, and cauld 's the clay,  
 That wraps my Highland Mary !

O pale, pale now, those rosy lips,  
 I aft hac kiss'd sae fondly !  
 And closed for ay the sparkling glance  
 That dwelt on me sae kindly ;

And mouldering now in silent dust  
 That heart that lo'ed me dearly ;  
 But still within my bosom's core  
 Shall live my Highland Mary.

R. BURNS

## AULD ROBIN GRAY

When the sheep are in the fauld, and the kye at hame,  
 And a' the world to rest are gane,  
 The waes o' my heart fa' in showers frae my e'e,  
 While my gudeman lies sound by me.

Young Jamie lo'ed me weel, and sought me for his  
 bride ;

But saving a croun he had naething else beside :  
 To make the croun a pund, young Jamie gaed to sea ;  
 And the croun and the pund were baith for me.

He hadna been awa' a week but only twa,  
 When my father brak his arm, and the cow was  
 stown awa ;

My mother she fell sick, and my Jamie at the sea—  
 And auld Robin Gray came a-courtin' me.

My father couldna work, and my mother couldna  
 spin ;

I toil'd day and night, but their bread I couldna win ;  
 Auld Rob maintain'd them baith, and wi' tears in  
 his e'e

Said, Jennie, for their sakes, O, marry me !

My heart it said nay ; I look'd for Jamie back ;  
 But the wind it blew high, and the ship it was a  
 wrack ;

His ship it was a wrack—why didna Jamie dee ?  
 Or why do I live to cry, Wae 's me ?

My father urgit sair : my mother didna speak ;  
 But she look'd in my face till my heart was like to  
 break :

They gi'ed him my hand, but my heart was at the  
 sea,

Sae auld Robin Gray he was gudeman to me.

I hadna been a wife a week but only four,  
 When mournfu' as I sat on the stane at the door,  
 I saw my Jamie's wraith, for I couldna think it he—  
 Till he said, I'm come hame to marry thee.

O sair, sair did we greet, and muckle did we say ;  
 We took but ae kiss, and I bade him gang away :  
 I wish that I were dead, but I'm no like to dec ;  
 And why was I born to say, Wae 's me !

I gang like a ghaist, and I carena to spin ;  
 I daurna think on Jamie, for that wad be a sin ;  
 But I'll do my best a gude wife ay to be,  
 For auld Robin Gray he is kind unto me.

LADY A. LINDSAY

## 153

## DUNCAN GRAY

Duncan Gray cam here to woo,  
 Ha, ha, the wooing o't ;  
 On blythe Yule night when we were fou,  
 Ha, ha, the wooing o't :  
 Maggie coost her head fu' high,  
 Look'd asklent and unco skeigh,  
 Gart poor Duncan stand abeigh ;  
 Ha, ha, the wooing o't !

Duncan fleech'd, and Duncan pray'd ;  
 Meg was deaf as Ailsa Craig ;  
 Duncan sigh'd baith out and in,  
 Grat his een baith bleer't and blin',  
 Spak o' lowpin ower a linn !

Time and chance are but a tide,  
 Slighted love is sair to bide ;  
 Shall I, like a fool, quoth he,  
 For a haughty hizzie dee ?  
 She may gae to—France for me !

How it comes let doctors tell,  
 Meg grew sick—as he grew hail ;  
 Something in her bosom wrings,  
 For relief a sigh she brings ;  
 And O, her een, they spak sic things !

Duncan was a lad o' grace ;  
 Maggie's was a piteous case ;  
 Duncan couldna be her death,  
 Swelling pity smoor'd his wrath ;  
 Now they're crouse and canty baith :  
 Ha, ha, the wooing o't !

R. BURNS

### THE SAILOR'S WIFE

And are ye sure the news is true ?  
 And are ye sure he 's weel ?  
 Is this a time to think o' wark ?  
 Ye jades, lay by your wheel ;  
 Is this the time to spin a thread,  
 When Colin 's at the door ?  
 Reach down my cloak, I'll to the quay,  
 And see him come ashore.  
 For there 's nae luck about the house,  
 There 's nae luck at a' ;  
 There 's little pleasure in the house  
 When our gudeman 's awa'.

And gie to me my bigonet,  
 My bishop's satin gown ;  
 For I maun tell the baillie's wife  
 That Colin 's in the town.  
 My Turkey slippers maun gae on,  
 My stockings pearly blue ;  
 It 's a' to pleasure our gudeman,  
 For he 's baith leal and true.



Rise, lass, and mak a clean fireside,  
 Put on the muckle pot ;  
 Gie little Kate her button gown  
 And Jock his Sunday coat ;  
 And mak their shoon as black as slaes,  
 Their hose as white as snaw ;  
 It 's a' to please my ain gudeman,  
 For he 's been long awa'.

There 's twa fat hens upo' the coop  
 Been fed this month and mair ;  
 Mak haste and thraw their necks about,  
 That Colin weel may fare ;  
 And spread the table neat and clean,  
 Gar ilka thing look braw,  
 For wha can tell how Colin fared  
 When he was far awa' ?

Sae true his heart, sae smooth his speech,  
 His breath like caller air ;  
 His very foot has music in't  
 As he comes up the stair—  
 And will I see his face again ?  
 And will I hear him speak ?  
 I'm downright dizzy wi' the thought,  
 In troth I'm like to greet !

If Colin 's weel, and weel content,  
 I hae nae mair to crave :  
 And gin I live to keep him sae,  
 I'm blest aboon the lave :  
 And will I see his face again,  
 And will I hear him speak ?  
 I'm downright dizzy wi' the thought,  
 In troth I'm like to greet.  
 For there 's nae luck about the house,  
 There 's nae luck at a' ;  
 There 's little pleasure in the house  
 When our gudeman 's awa'.

W. J. MICKLE

155

## JEAN

Of a' the airts the wind can blaw  
 I dearly like the West,  
 For there the bonnie lassie lives,  
 The lassie I lo'e best :  
 There wild woods grow, and rivers row,  
 And mony a hill between ;  
 But day and night my fancy 's flight  
 Is ever wi' my Jean.

I see her in the dewy flowers,  
 I see her sweet and fair :  
 I hear her in the tunefu' birds,  
 I hear her charm the air :  
 There 's not a bonnie flower that springs  
 By fountain, shaw, or green,  
 There 's not a bonnie bird that sings  
 But minds me o' my Jean.

O blaw ye westlin winds, blaw saft  
 Amang the leafy trees ;  
 Wi' balmy gale, frae hill and dale  
 Bring hame the laden bees ;  
 And bring the lassie back to me  
 That 's ay sae neat and clean ;  
 Ae smile o' her wad banish care,  
 Sae charming is my Jean.

What sighs and vows amang the knowes  
 Hae pass'd atween us twa !  
 How fond to meet, how wae to part  
 That night she gaed awa !  
 The Powers aboon can only ken,  
 To whom the heart is seen,  
 That nane can be sae dear to me  
 As my sweet lovely Jean !

R. BURNS

156

## JOHN ANDERSON

John Anderson my jo, John,  
 When we were first acquent  
 Your locks were like the raven,  
 Your bonnie brow was brent ;  
 But now your brow is bald, John,  
 Your locks are like the snow ;  
 But blessings on your frosty pow ;  
 John Anderson my jo.

John Anderson my jo, John,  
 We clamb the hill thegither,  
 And mony a canty day, John,  
 We've had wi' ane anither :  
 Now we maun totter down, John,  
 But hand in hand we'll go,  
 And sleep thegither at the foot,  
 John Anderson my jo.

R. BURNS

157

## THE LAND O' THE LEAL

I'm wearing awa', Jean,  
 Like snaw when its thaw, Jean,  
 I'm wearing awa'  
 To the land o' the leal.  
 There 's nae sorrow there, Jean,  
 There 's neither cauld nor care, Jean,  
 The day is ay fair  
 In the land o' the leal.

Ye were ay leal and true, Jean,  
 Your task 's ended noo, Jean,  
 And I'll welcome you  
 To the land o' the leal.

Our bonnie bairn's there, Jean,  
 She was baith guid and fair, Jean;  
 O we grudged her right sair  
 To the land o' the leal!

Then dry that tearfu' e'e, Jean,  
 My soul lang's to be free, Jean,  
 And angels wait on me  
 To the land o' the leal.

Now fare ye weel, my ain Jean,  
 This world's care is vain, Jean;  
 We'll meet and ay be fain  
 In the land o' the leal.

LADY NAIRN

ODE ON A DISTANT PROSPECT OF  
 ETON COLLEGE

Ye distant spires, ye antique towers  
 That crown the watery glade,  
 Where grateful Science still adores  
 Her Henry's holy shade;  
 And ye, that from the stately brow  
 Of Windsor's heights th' expanse below  
 Of grove, of lawn, of mead survey,  
 Whose turf, whose shade, whose flowers among  
 Wanders the hoary Thames along  
 His silver-winding way:

Ah happy hills! ah pleasing shade!  
 Ah fields beloved in vain!  
 Where once my careless childhood stray'd,  
 A stranger yet to pain!  
 I feel the gales that from ye blow  
 A momentary bliss bestow,  
 As waving fresh their gladsome wing  
 My weary soul they seem to soothe,  
 And, redolent of joy and youth,  
 To breathe a second spring.

Say, Father Thames, for thou hast seen  
 Full many a sprightly race  
 Disporting on thy margent green  
 The paths of pleasure trace ;  
 Who foremost now delight to cleave  
 With pliant arm, thy glassy wave  
 The captive linnet which enthrall ?  
 What idle progeny succeed  
 To chase the rolling circle's speed  
 Or urge the flying ball ?

While some on earnest business bent  
 Their murmuring labours ply  
 'Gainst graver hours, that bring constraint  
 To sweeten liberty :  
 Some bold adventurers disdain  
 The limits of their little reign  
 And unknown regions dare descry :  
 Still as they run they look behind,  
 They hear a voice in every wind  
 And snatch a fearful joy.

Gay Hope is theirs by fancy fed,  
 Less pleasing when possess'd ;  
 The tear forgot as soon as shed,  
 The sunshine of the breast :  
 Theirs buxom Health, of rosy hue,  
 Wild Wit, Invention ever new,  
 And lively Cheer, of Vigour born ;  
 The thoughtless day, the easy night,  
 The spirits pure, the slumbers light  
 That fly th' approach of morn.

Alas ! regardless of their doom  
 The little victims play !  
 No sense have they of ills to come  
 Nor care beyond to-day :  
 Yet see how all around them wait  
 The ministers of human fate  
 And black Misfortune's baleful train !

Ah show them where in ambush stand  
 To seize their prey, the murderous band !  
 Ah, tell them they are men !

These shall the fury Passions tear,  
 The vultures of the mind,  
 Disdainful Anger, pallid Fear,  
 And Shame that skulks behind ;  
 Or pining Love shall waste their youth,  
 Or Jealousy with rankling tooth  
 That inly gnaws the secret heart,  
 And Envy wan, and faded Care,  
 Grim-visaged comfortless Despair,  
 And Sorrow's piercing dart.

Ambition this shall tempt to rise,  
 Then whirl the wretch from high  
 To bitter Scorn a sacrifice  
 And grinning Infamy.  
 The stings of Falsehood those shall try,  
 And hard Unkindness' alter'd eye,  
 That mocks the tear it forced to flow ;  
 And keen Remorse with blood defiled,  
 And moody Madness laughing wild  
 Amid severest woe.

Lo, in the Vale of Years beneath  
 A griesly troop are seen,  
 The painful family of Death  
 More hideous than their Queen :  
 This racks the joints, this fires the veins,  
 That every labouring sinew strains,  
 Those in the deeper vitals rage :  
 Lo, Poverty, to fill the band,  
 That numbs the soul with icy hand,  
 And slow-consuming Age.

To each his sufferings : all are men,  
 Condemn'd alike to groan ;  
 The tender for another's pain,  
 Th' unfeeling for his own.  
 Yet, ah ! why should they know their fate,  
 Since sorrow never comes too late,

And happiness too swiftly flies ?  
 Thought would destroy their paradise !  
 No more ;—where ignorance is bliss,  
 'Tis folly to be wise.

T. GRAY

159

HYMN TO ADVERSITY

Daughter of Jove, relentless power,  
 Thou tamer of the human breast,  
 Whose iron scourge and torturing hour  
 The bad affright, afflict the best !  
 Bound in thy adamant chain  
 The proud are taught to taste of pain,  
 And purple tyrants vainly groan  
 With pangs unfelt before, unpitied and alone.

When first thy Sire to send on earth  
 Virtue, his darling child, design'd,  
 To thee he gave the heavenly birth  
 And bade to form her infant mind.  
 Stern, rugged Nurse ! thy rigid lore  
 With patience many a year she bore :  
 What sorrow was, thou bad'st her know,  
 And from her own she learn'd to melt at others' woe.

Scared at thy frown terrific, fly  
 Self-pleasing Folly's idle brood,  
 Wild Laughter, Noise, and thoughtless Joy,  
 And leave us leisure to be good.  
 Light they disperse, and with them go  
 The summer Friend, the flattering Foe ;  
 By vain Prosperity received,  
 To her they vow their truth, and are again believed.

Wisdom in sable garb array'd  
 Immersed in rapturous thought profound,  
 And Melancholy, silent maid,  
 With leaden eye, that loves the ground,

Still on thy solemn steps attend :  
 Warm Charity, the general friend,  
 With Justice, to herself severe,  
 And Pity dropping soft the sadly-pleasing tear.

O, gently on thy suppliant's head  
 Dread Goddess, lay thy chastening hand !  
 Not in thy Gorgon terrors clad,  
 Not circled with the vengeful band  
 (As by the impious thou art seen)  
 With thundering voice, and threatening mien,  
 With screaming Horror's funeral cry,  
 Despair, and fell Disease, and ghastly Poverty :

Thy form benign, O Goddess, wear,  
 Thy milder influence impart,  
 Thy philosophic train be there  
 To soften, not to wound my heart.  
 The generous spark extinct revive,  
 Teach me to love and to forgive,  
 Exact my own defects to scan,  
 What others are to feel, and know myself a Man.  
T. GRAY

### THE SOLITUDE OF ALEXANDER SELKIRK

I am monarch of all I survey ;  
 My right there is none to dispute ;  
 From the centre all round to the sea  
 I am lord of the fowl and the brute.  
 O Solitude ! where are the charms  
 That sages have seen in thy face ?  
 Better dwell in the midst of alarms  
 Than reign in this horrible place.

I am out of humanity's reach,  
 I must finish my journey alone,  
 Never hear the sweet music of speech ;  
 I start at the sound of my own.



The beasts that roam over the plain  
My form with indifference see ;  
They are so unacquainted with man,  
Their tameness is shocking to me.

Society, Friendship, and Love  
Divinely bestow'd upon man,  
O had I the wings of a dove  
How soon would I taste you again !  
My sorrows I then might assuage  
In the ways of religion and truth,  
Might learn from the wisdom of age,  
And be cheer'd by the sallies of youth.

Ye winds that have made me your sport,  
Convey to this desolate shore  
Some cordial endearing report  
Of a land I shall visit no more :  
My friends, do they now and then send  
A wish or a thought after me ?  
O tell me I yet have a friend,  
Though a friend I am never to see.

How fleet is a glance of the mind !  
Compared with the speed of its flight,  
The tempest itself lags behind,  
And the swift-wingéd arrows of light.  
When I think of my own native land  
In a moment I seem to be there ;  
But alas ! recollection at hand  
Soon hurries me back to despair.

But the seafowl is gone to her nest,  
The beast is laid down in his lair ;  
Even here is a season of rest,  
And I to my cabin repair.  
There 's mercy in every place,  
And mercy, encouraging thought !  
Gives even affliction a grace  
And reconciles man to his lot.

W. COWPER

## 161

## TO MARY UNWIN

Mary ! I want a lyre with other strings,  
Such aid from heaven as some have feign'd they  
drew,

An eloquence scarce given to mortals, new  
And undebased by praise of meaner things,

That ere through age or woe I shed my wings  
I may record thy worth with honour due,  
In verse as musical as thou art true  
And that immortalizes whom it sings :—

But thou hast little need. There is a Book  
By seraphs writ with beams of heavenly light,  
On which the eyes of God not rarely look,

A chronicle of actions just and bright—  
There all thy deeds, my faithful Mary, shine ;  
And since thou own'st that praise, I spare thee mine.

W. COWPER

## 162

## TO THE SAME

The twentieth year is wellnigh past  
Since first our sky was overcast ;  
Ah would that this might be the last !  
My Mary !

Thy spirits have a fainter flow,  
I see thee daily weaker grow—  
'Twas my distress that brought thee low,  
My Mary !

Thy needles, once a shining store,  
For my sake restless heretofore,  
Now rust disused, and shine no more ;  
My Mary !

For though thou gladly wouldst fulfil  
The same kind office for me still,  
Thy sight now seconds not thy will,  
My Mary !

But well thou play'dst the housewife's part,  
And all thy threads with magic art  
Have wound themselves about this heart,  
My Mary !

Thy indistinct expressions seem  
Like language utter'd in a dream ;  
Yet me they charm, whate'er the theme,  
My Mary !

Thy silver locks, once auburn bright,  
Are still more lovely in my sight  
Than golden beams of orient light,  
My Mary !

For could I view nor them nor thee,  
What sight worth seeing could I see ?  
The sun would rise in vain for me,  
My Mary !

Partakers of thy sad decline  
Thy hands their little force resign ;  
Yet gently press'd, press gently mine,  
My Mary !

Such feebleness of limbs thou prov'st  
That now at every step thou mov'st  
Upheld by two ; yet still thou lov'st,  
My Mary !

And still to love, though press'd with ill,  
In wintry age to feel no chill,  
With me is to be lovely still,  
My Mary !

But ah ! by constant heed I know  
How oft the sadness that I show  
Transforms thy smiles to looks of woe,  
My Mary !

And should my future lot be cast  
 With much resemblance of the past,  
 Thy worn-out heart will break at last—  
     My Mary!

W. COWPER

### THE DYING MAN IN HIS GARDEN

Why, Damon, with the forward day  
 Dost thou thy little spot survey,  
 From tree to tree, with doubtful cheer,  
 Pursue the progress of the year,  
 What winds arise, what rains descend,  
 When thou before that year shalt end?

What do thy noontide walks avail,  
 To clear the leaf, and pick the snail,  
 Then wantonly to death decree  
 An insect usefuller than thee?  
 Thou and the worm are brother-kind,  
 As low, as earthy, and as blind.

Vain wretch! canst thou expect to see  
 The downy peach make court to thee?  
 Or that thy sense shall ever meet  
 The bean-flower's deep-embosom'd sweet  
 Exhaling with an evening blast?  
 Thy evenings then will all be past!

Thy narrow pride, thy fancied green  
 (For vanity's in little seen),  
 All must be left when Death appears,  
 In spite of wishes, groans, and tears;  
 Nor one of all thy plants that grow  
 But Rosemary will with thee go.

G. SEWELL

## TO-MORROW

In the downhill of life, when I find I'm declining,  
May my lot no less fortunate be  
Than a snug elbow-chair can afford for reclining,  
And a cot that o'erlooks the wide sea ;  
With an ambling pad-pony to pace o'er the lawn,  
While I carol away idle sorrow,  
And blithe as the lark that each day hails the dawn  
Look forward with hope for to-morrow.

With a porch at my door, both for shelter and shade  
too,  
As the sunshine or rain may prevail ;  
And a small spot of ground for the use of the spade  
too,  
With a barn for the use of the flail :  
A cow for my dairy, a dog for my game,  
And a purse when a friend wants to borrow ;  
I'll envy no nabob his riches or fame,  
Nor what honours await him to-morrow.

From the bleak northern blast may my cot be  
completely  
Secured by a neighbouring hill ;  
And at night may repose steal upon me more sweetly  
By the sound of a murmuring rill :  
And while peace and plenty I find at my board,  
With a heart free from sickness and sorrow,  
With my friends may I share what to-day may afford,  
And let them spread the table to-morrow.

And when I at last must throw off this frail covering  
Which I've worn for threescore years and ten,  
On the brink of the grave I'll not seek to keep  
hovering,  
Nor my thread wish to spin o'er again :  
But my face in the glass I'll serenely survey,  
And with smiles count each wrinkle and furrow ;  
As this old worn-out stuff, which is threadbare to-day,  
May become everlasting to-morrow.

J. COLLINS

## 165

Life ! I know not what thou art,  
But know that thou and I must part ;  
And when, or how, or where we met  
I own to me 's a secret yet.

Life ! we've been long together  
Through pleasant and through cloudy weather ;  
'Tis hard to part when friends are dear—  
Perhaps 'twill cost a sigh, a tear ;  
—Then steal away, give little warning,  
Choose thine own time ;  
Say not Good Night,—but in some brighter clime  
Bid me Good Morning.

A. L. BARBAULD

THE GOLDEN TREASURY  
BOOK FOURTH

166

ON FIRST LOOKING INTO CHAPMAN'S  
HOMER

Much have I travell'd in the realms of gold  
And many goodly states and kingdoms seen ;  
Round many western islands have I been  
Which bards in fealty to Apollo hold.

Oft of one wide expanse had I been told  
That deep-brow'd Homer ruled as his demesne :  
Yet did I never breathe its pure serene  
Till I heard Chapman speak out loud and bold :

—Then felt I like some watcher of the skies  
When a new planet swims into his ken ;  
Or like stout Cortez—when with eagle eyes

He stared at the Pacific, and all his men  
Look'd at each other with a wild surmise—  
Silent, upon a peak in Darien.

J. KEATS

167

ODE ON THE POETS

Bards of Passion and of Mirth  
Ye have left your souls on earth !  
Have ye souls in heaven too,  
Double-lived in regions new ?

—Yes, and those of heaven commune  
 With the spheres of sun and moon ;  
 With the noise of fountains wonderous  
 And the parle of voices thunderous ;  
 With the whisper of heaven's trees  
 And one another, in soft ease  
 Seated on Elysian lawns  
 Browsed by none but Dian's fawns ;  
 Underneath large blue bells tented,  
 Where the daisies are rose-scented,  
 And the rose herself has got  
 Perfume which on earth is not ;  
 Where the nightingale doth sing  
 Not a senseless, tranced thing,  
 But divine melodious truth ;  
 Philosophic numbers smooth ;  
 Tales and golden histories  
 Of heaven and its mysteries.

Thus ye live on high, and then  
 On the earth ye live again ;  
 And the souls ye left behind you  
 Teach us, here, the way to find you  
 Where your other souls are joying,  
 Never slumber'd, never cloying.  
 Here, your earth-born souls still speak  
 To mortals, of their little week ;  
 Of their sorrows and delights ;  
 Of their passions and their spites ;  
 Of their glory and their shame ;  
 What doth strengthen and what maim :—  
 Thus ye teach us, everyday,  
 Wisdom, though fled far away.

Bards of Passion and of Mirth  
 Ye have left your souls on earth !  
 Ye have souls in heaven too,  
 Double-lived in regions new !

J. KEATS



168

## LOVE

All thoughts, all passions, all delights,  
Whatever stirs this mortal frame,  
Are all but ministers of Love,  
And feed his sacred flame.

Oft in my waking dreams do I  
Live o'er again that happy hour,  
When midway on the mount I lay  
Beside the ruin'd tower.

The moonshine stealing o'er the scene  
Had blended with the lights of eve ;  
And she was there, my hope, my joy,  
My own dear Genevieve !

She lean'd against the arm'd man,  
The statue of the arm'd knight ;  
She stood and listen'd to my lay,  
Amid the lingering light.

Few sorrows hath she of her own,  
My hope ! my joy ! my Genevieve !  
She loves me best, whene'er I sing  
The songs that make her grieve.

I play'd a soft and doleful air,  
I sang an old and moving story—  
An old rude song, that suited well  
That ruin wild and hoary.

She listen'd with a flitting blush,  
With downcast eyes and modest grace ;  
For well she knew, I could not choose  
But gaze upon her face.

I told her of the Knight that wore  
Upon his shield a burning brand ;  
And that for ten long years he woo'd  
The Lady of the Land.

I told her how he pined : and ah !  
 The deep, the low, the pleading tone  
 With which I sang another's love  
 Interpreted my own.

She listen'd with a fitting blush,  
 With downcast eyes, and modest grace ;  
 And she forgave me, that I gazed  
 Too fondly on her face.

But when I told the cruel scorn  
 That crazed that bold and lovely Knight,  
 And that he cross'd the mountain-woods,  
 Nor rested day nor night ;

That sometimes from the savage den,  
 And sometimes from the darksome shade,  
 And sometimes starting up at once  
 In green and sunny glade

There came and look'd him in the face  
 An angel beautiful and bright ;  
 And that he knew it was a Fiend,  
 This miserable Knight !

And that unknowing what he did,  
 He leap'd amid a murderous band,  
 And saved from outrage worse than death  
 The Lady of the Land ;

And how she wept, and clasp'd his knees  
 And how she tended him in vain ;  
 And ever strove to expiate  
 The scorn that crazed his brain ;

And that she nursed him in a cave,  
 And how his madness went away,  
 When on the yellow forest-leaves  
 A dying man he lay ;

—His dying words—but when I reach'd  
 That tenderest strain of all the ditty,  
 My faltering voice and pausing harp  
 Disturb'd her soul with pity !

All impulses of soul and sense  
Had thrill'd my guileless Genevieve ;  
The music and the doleful tale,  
The rich and balmy eve ;

And hopes, and fears that kindle hope,  
An undistinguishable throng,  
And gentle wishes long subdued,  
Subdued and cherish'd long !

She wept with pity and delight,  
She blush'd with love, and virgin shame ;  
And like the murmur of a dream,  
I heard her breathe my name.

Her bosom heaved—she stepp'd aside,  
As conscious of my look she stept—  
Then suddenly, with timorous eye  
She fled to me and wept.

She half enclosed me with her arms,  
She press'd me with a meek embrace ;  
And bending back her head, look'd up,  
And gazed upon my face.

'Twas partly love, and partly fear,  
And partly 'twas a bashful art  
That I might rather feel, than see  
The swelling of her heart.

I calm'd her fears, and she was calm  
And told her love with virgin pride ;  
And so I won my Genevieve,  
My bright and beauteous Bride.

S. T. COLERIDGE

## ALL FOR LOVE

O talk not to me of a name great in story ;  
The days of our youth are the days of our glory ;  
And the myrtle and ivy of sweet two-and-twenty  
Are worth all your laurels, though ever so plenty.

What are garlands and crowns to the brow that is wrinkled ?

'Tis but as a dead flower with May-dew besprinkled :  
Then away with all such from the head that is hoary—  
What care I for the wreaths that can only give glory ?

O Fame !—if I e'er took delight in thy praises,  
'Twas less for the sake of thy high-sounding phrases,  
Than to see the bright eyes of the dear one discover  
She thought that I was not unworthy to love her.

There chiefly I sought thee, there only I found thee ;  
Her glance was the best of the rays that surround  
thee ;

When it sparkled o'er aught that was bright in my  
story,

I knew it was love, and I felt it was glory.

LORD BYRON

### THE OUTLAW

O Brignall banks are wild and fair,  
And Greta woods are green,  
And you may gather garlands there  
Would grace a summer-queen.

And as I rode by Dalton-Hall  
Beneath the turrets high,  
A Maiden on the castle-wall  
Was singing merrily :

' O Brignall Banks are fresh and fair,  
And Greta woods are green ;  
I'd rather rove with Edmund there  
Than reign our English queen.'

' If, Maiden, thou wouldst wend with me,  
To leave both tower and town,  
Thou first must guess what life lead we  
That dwell by dale and down.  
And if thou canst that riddle read,  
As read full well you may,  
Then to the greenwood shalt thou speed  
As blithe as Queen of May.'

Yet sung she, ' Brignall banks are fair,  
 And Greta woods are green ;  
 I'd rather rove with Edmund there  
 Than reign our English queen.

' I read you by your bugle-horn  
 And by your palfrey good,  
 I read you for a ranger sworn  
 ' To keep the king's greenwood.'  
 ' A Ranger, lady, winds his horn,  
 And 'tis at pcep of light ;  
 His blast is heard at merry morn,  
 And mine at dead of night.'  
 Yet sung she, ' Brignall banks are fair,  
 And Greta woods are gay ;  
 I would I were with Edmund there  
 To reign his Queen of May !

' With burnish'd brand and musketoon  
 So gallantly you come,  
 I read you for a bold Dragoon  
 ' That lists the tuck of drum.'  
 ' I list no more the tuck of drum,  
 No more the trumpet hear ;  
 But when the beetle sounds his hum  
 My comrades take the spear.  
 And O ! though Brignall banks be fair  
 And Greta woods be gay,  
 Yet mickle must the maiden dare  
 Would roign my Queen of May !

' Maiden ! a nameless life I lead,  
 A nameless death I'll die !  
 The fiend whose lantern lights the mead  
 Were better mate than I !  
 And when I'm with my comrades met  
 Beneath the greenwood bough,—  
 What once we were we all forget,  
 Nor think what we are now.'

*Chorus*

Yet Brignall banks are fresh and fair,  
 And Greta woods are green,  
 And you may gather garlands there  
 Would grace a summer-queen.

SIR W. SCOTT

## 171

There be none of Beauty's daughters  
 With a magic like Thee ;  
 And like music on the waters  
 Is thy sweet voice to me :  
 When, as if its sound were causing  
 The charmed ocean's pausing,  
 The waves lie still and gleaming,  
 And the lull'd winds seem dreaming :

And the midnight moon is weaving  
 Her bright chain o'er the deep,  
 Whose breast is gently heaving  
 As an infant's asleep :  
 So the spirit bows before thee  
 To listen and adore thee ;  
 With a full but soft emotion,  
 Like the swell of Summer's ocean.

LORD BYRON

## 172

## LINES TO AN INDIAN AIR

I arise from dreams of Thee  
 In the first sweet sleep of night,  
 When the winds are breathing low  
 And the stars are shining bright :  
 I arise from dreams of thee,  
 And a spirit in my feet  
 Has led me—who knows how ?  
 To thy chamber-window, Sweet !

The wandering airs they faint  
 On the dark, the silent stream—  
 The champak odours fail  
 Like sweet thoughts in a dream ;  
 The nightingale's complaint  
 It dies upon her heart,  
 As I must die on thine  
 O belovéd as thou art !

O lift me from the grass !  
 I die, I faint, I fail !  
 Let thy love in kisses rain  
 On my lips and eyelids pale.  
 My cheek is cold and white, alas !  
 My heart beats loud and fast ;  
 O ! press it close to thine again  
 Where it will break at last.

P. B. SHELLEY

## 173

She walks in beauty, like the night  
 Of cloudless climes and starry skies,  
 And all that 's best of dark and bright  
 Meets in her aspect and her eyes,  
 Thus mellow'd to that tender light  
 Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

One shade the more, one ray the less  
 Had half impair'd the nameless grace  
 Which waves in every raven tress  
 Or softly lightens o'er her face,  
 Where thoughts serenely sweet express  
 How pure, how dear their dwelling-place.

And on that cheek and o'er that brow  
 So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,  
 The smiles that win, the tints that glow  
 But tell of days in goodness spent, —  
 A mind at peace with all below,  
 A heart whose love is innocent.

LORD BYRON

## 174

She was a phantom of delight  
 When first she gleam'd upon my sight :  
 A lovely apparition, sent  
 To be a moment's ornament ;  
 Her eyes as stars of twilight fair ;  
 Like Twilight's, too, her dusky hair ;  
 But all things else about her drawn  
 From May-time and the cheerful dawn ;  
 A dancing shape, an image gay,  
 To haunt, to startle, and waylay.

I saw her upon nearer view,  
 A spirit, yet a woman too !  
 Her household motions light and free,  
 And steps of virgin-liberty ;  
 A countenance in which did meet  
 Sweet records, promises as sweet ;  
 A creature not too bright or good  
 For human nature's daily food,  
 For transient sorrows, simple wiles,  
 Praise, blame, love, kisses, tears, and smiles.

And now I see with eye serene  
 The very pulse of the machine ;  
 A being breathing thoughtful breath,  
 A traveller between life and death :  
 The reason firm, the temperate will,  
 Endurance, foresight, strength, and skill ;  
 A perfect woman, nobly plann'd  
 To warn, to comfort, and command ;  
 And yet a Spirit still, and bright  
 With something of an angel-light.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 175

She is not fair to outward view  
 As many maidens be ;  
 Her loveliness I never knew  
 Until she smiled on me.



O then I saw her eye was bright,  
A well of love, a spring of light.

But now her looks are coy and cold,  
To mine they ne'er reply,  
And yet I cease not to behold  
The love-light in her eye :  
Her very frowns are fairer far  
Than smiles of other maidens are.

H. COLERIDGE

## 176

I fear thy kisses, gentle maiden ;  
Thou needest not fear mine ;  
My spirit is too deeply laden  
Ever to burthen thine.

I fear thy mien, thy tones, thy motion ;  
Thou needest not fear mine ;  
Innocent is the heart's devotion  
With which I worship thine.

P. B. SHELLEY

## 177

## THE LOST LOVE

She dwelt among the untrodden ways  
Beside the springs of Dove ;  
A maid whom there were none to praise,  
And very few to love.

A violet by a mossy stone  
Half-hidden from the eye !  
—Fair as a star, when only one  
Is shining in the sky.

She lived unknown, and few could know  
When Lucy ceased to be ;  
But she is in her grave, and O !  
The difference to me !

W. WORDSWORTH

## 178

I travell'd among unknown men  
 In lands beyond the sea ;  
 Nor, England ! did I know till then  
 What love I bore to thee.

'Tis past, that melancholy dream !  
 Nor will I quit thy shore  
 A second time, for still I seem  
 To love thee more and more.

Among thy mountains did I feel  
 The joy of my desire ;  
 And she I cherish'd turn'd her wheel  
 Beside an English fire.

Thy mornings show'd, thy nights conceal'd  
 The bowers where Lucy play'd ;  
 And thine too is the last green field  
 That Lucy's eyes survey'd.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 179

## THE EDUCATION OF NATURE

Three years she grew in sun and shower ;  
 Then Nature said, ' A lovelier flower  
 On earth was never sown :  
 This child I to myself will take ;  
 She shall be mine, and I will make  
 A lady of my own.

' Myself will to my darling be  
 Both law and impulse : and with me  
 The girl, in rock and plain,  
 In earth and heaven, in glade and bower,  
 Shall feel an overseeing power  
 To kindle or restrain.

'She shall be sportive as the fawn  
That wild with glee across the lawn  
Or up the mountain springs ;  
And her's shall be the breathing balm,  
And her's the silence and the calm  
Of mute insensate things.

'The floating clouds their state shall lend  
To her ; for her the willow bend ;  
Nor shall she fail to see  
E'en in the motions of the storm  
Grace that shall mould the maiden's form  
By silent sympathy.

'The stars of midnight shall be dear  
To her ; and she shall lean her ear  
In many a secret place  
Where rivulets dance their wayward round,  
And beauty born of murmuring sound  
Shall pass into her face.

'And vital feelings of delight  
Shall rear her form to stately height,  
Her virgin bosom swell ;  
Such thoughts to Lucy I will give  
While she and I together live  
Here in this happy dell.'

Thus Nature spake—The work was done—  
How soon my Lucy's race was run !  
She died, and left to me  
This heath, this calm and quiet scene ;  
The memory of what has been,  
And never more will be.

W. WORDSWORTH

180

A slumber did my spirit seal ;  
I had no human fears :  
She seem'd a thing that could not feel  
The touch of earthly years.

No motion has she now, no force ;  
 She neither hears nor sees ;  
 Roll'd round in earth's diurnal course  
 With rocks, and stones, and trees !

W. WORDSWORTH

## 181

## LORD ULLIN'S DAUGHTER

A Chieftain to the Highlands bound  
 Cries ' Boatman, do not tarry !  
 And I'll give thee a silver pound  
 To row us o'er the ferry ! '

' Now who be ye, would cross Lochgyle  
 This dark and stormy water ? '

' O I'm the chief of Ulva's isle,  
 And this, Lord Ullin's daughter.

' And fast before her father's men  
 Three days we've fled together,  
 For should he find us in the glen,  
 My blood would stain the heather.

' His horsemen hard behind us ride—  
 Should they our steps discover,  
 Then who will cheer my bonny bride  
 When they have slain her lover ? '

Out spoke the hardy Highland wight,  
 ' I'll go, my chief, I'm ready :  
 It is not for your silver bright,  
 But for your winsome lady :—

' And by my word ! the bonny bird  
 In danger shall not tarry ;  
 So though the waves are raging white  
 I'll row you o'er the ferry.'

By this the storm grew loud apace,  
 The water-wraith was shrieking ;  
 And in the scowl of heaven each face  
 Grew dark as they were speaking.

But still as wilder blew the wind  
 And as the night grew drearer,  
 Adown the glen rode arméd men,  
 Their trampling sounded nearer.

'O haste thee, haste!' the lady cries,  
 'Though tempests round us gather;  
 I'll meet the raging of the skies,  
 But not an angry father.'

The boat has left a stormy land,  
 A stormy sea before her,—  
 When, O! too strong for human hand  
 The tempest gather'd o'er her.

And still they row'd amidst the roar  
 Of waters fast prevailing:  
 Lord Ullin reach'd that fatal shore,—  
 His wrath was changed to wailing.

For, sore dismay'd, through storm and shade  
 His child he did discover:—  
 One lovely hand she stretch'd for aid,  
 And one was round her lover.

'Come back! come back!' he cried in grief  
 'Across this stormy water:  
 And I'll forgive your Highland chief,  
 My daughter!—O my daughter!'

'Twas vain: the loud waves lash'd the shore,  
 Return or aid preventing:  
 The waters wild went o'er his child,  
 And he was left lamenting.

T. CAMPBELL

### JOCK O' HAZELDEAN

'Why weep ye by the tide, ladie?  
 Why weep ye by the tide?  
 I'll wed ye to my youngest son,  
 And ye sall be his bride:

And ye sall be his bride, ladie,  
 Sac comely to be seen '—  
 But ay she loot the tears down fa'  
 For Jock of Hazeldean.

' Now let this wilfu' grief be done,  
 And dry that cheek so pale ;  
 Young Frank is chief of Errington  
 And lord of Langley-dale ;  
 His step is first in peaceful ha',  
 His sword in battle keen '—  
 But ay she loot the tears down fa'  
 For Jock of Hazeldean.

' A chain of gold ye sall not lack,  
 Nor braid to bind your hair,  
 Nor mettled hound, nor managed hawk,  
 Nor palfrey fresh and fair ;  
 And you the foremost o' them a'  
 Shall ride our forest-queen '—  
 But ay she loot the tears down fa'  
 For Jock of Hazeldean.

The kirk was deck'd at morning tide,  
 The tapers glimmer'd fair ;  
 The priest and bridegroom wait the bride,  
 And dame and knight are there :  
 They sought her baith by bower and ha' ;  
 The ladie was not seen !  
 She 's o'er the Border, and awa'  
 Wi' Jock of Hazeldean.

SIR W. SCOTT

### FREEDOM AND LOVE

How delicious is the winning  
 Of a kiss at love's beginning,  
 When two mutual hearts are sighing  
 For the knot there 's no untying !

Yet remember, 'midst our wooing,  
 Love has bliss, but Love has ruing ;  
 Other smiles may make you fickle,  
 Tears for other charms may trickle.

Love he comes, and Love he tarries,  
 Just as fate or fancy carries ;  
 Longest stays, when sorest chidden ;  
 Laughs and flies, when press'd and bidden.

Bind the sea to slumber stilly,  
 Bind its odour to the lily,  
 Bind the aspen ne'er to quiver,  
 Then bind Love to last for ever.

Love 's a fire that needs renewal  
 Of fresh beauty for its fuel :  
 Love's wing moults when caged and captured,  
 Only free, he soars enraptured.

Can you keep the bee from ranging  
 Or the ringdove's neck from changing ?  
 No ! nor fetter'd Love from dying  
 In the knot there 's no untying.

T. CAMPBELL

184

### LOVE'S PHILOSOPHY

The fountains mingle with the river  
 And the rivers with the ocean,  
 The winds of heaven mix for ever  
 With a sweet emotion ;  
 Nothing in the world is single,  
 All things by a law divine  
 In one another's being mingle—  
 Why not I with thine ?

See the mountains kiss high heaven  
 And the waves clasp one another ;  
 No sister-flower would be forgiven  
 If it disdain'd its brother :

And the sunlight clasps the earth,  
 And the moonbeams kiss the sea—  
 What are all these kissings worth,  
 If thou kiss not me ?

P. B. SHELLEY

## ECHOES

How sweet the answer Echo makes  
 To Music at night  
 When, roused by lute or horn, she wakes,  
 And far away o'er lawns and lakes  
 Goes answering light !

Yet Love hath echoes truer far  
 And far more sweet  
 Than e'er, beneath the moonlight's star,  
 Of horn or lute or soft guitar  
 The songs repeat.

'Tis when the sigh,—in youth sincere  
 And only then,  
 The sigh that 's breathed for one to hear—  
 Is by that one, that only Dear  
 Breathed back again.

T. MOORE

## A SERENADE

Ah ! County Guy, the hour is nigh,  
 The sun has left the lea,  
 The orange-flower perfumes the bower,  
 The breeze is on the sea.  
 The lark, his lay who trill'd all day,  
 Sits hush'd his partner nigh ;  
 Breeze, bird, and flower confess the hour,  
 But where is County Guy ?



The village maid steals through the shade  
 Her shepherd's suit to hear ;  
 To Beauty shy, by lattice high,  
 Sings high-born Cavalier.  
 The star of Love, all stars above,  
 Now reigns o'er earth and sky,  
 And high and low the influence know—  
 But where is County Guy ?

SIR W. SCOTT

187

TO THE EVENING STAR

Gem of the crimson-colour'd Even,  
 Companion of retiring day,  
 Why at the closing gates of heaven,  
 Beloved Star, dost thou delay ?

So fair thy pensile beauty burns  
 When soft the tear of twilight flows ;  
 So due thy plighted love returns  
 To chambers brighter than the rose ;

To Peace, to Pleasure, and to Love  
 So kind a star thou seem'st to be,  
 Sure some enamour'd orb above  
 Descends and burns to meet with thee !

Thine is the breathing, blushing hour  
 When all unheavenly passions fly,  
 Chased by the soul-subduing power  
 Of Love's delicious witchery.

O ! sacred to the fall of day  
 Queen of propitious stars, appear,  
 And early rise, and long delay,  
 When Caroline herself is here !

Shine on her chosen green resort  
 Whose trees the sunward summit crown,  
 And wanton flowers, that well may court  
 An angel's feet to tread them down :—

Shine on her sweetly scented road  
 Thou star of evening's purple dome,  
 That lead'st the nightingale abroad,  
 And guid'st the pilgrim to his home.

Shine where my charmer's sweeter breath  
 Embalms the soft exhaling dew,  
 Where dying winds a sigh bequeath  
 To kiss the cheek of rosy hue :—

Where, winnow'd by the gentle air,  
 Her silken tresses darkly flow  
 And fall upon her brow so fair,  
 Like shadows on the mountain snow.

Thus, ever thus, at day's decline  
 In converse sweet to wander far—  
 O bring with thee my Caroline,  
 And thou shalt be my Ruling Star !

T. CAMPBELL.

### TO THE NIGHT

Swiftly walk over the western wave,  
     Spirit of Night !  
 Out of the misty eastern cave  
 Where, all the long and lone daylight,  
 Thou wovest dreams of joy and fear  
 Which make thee terrible and dear,—  
     Swift be thy flight !

Wrap thy form in a mantle grey  
     Star-inwrought !  
 Blind with thine hair the eyes of day,  
 Kiss her until she be wearied out,  
 Then wander o'er city, and sea, and land,  
 Touching all with thine opiate wand—  
     Come, long-sought !

When I arose and saw the dawn,  
     I sigh'd for thee ;  
 When light rode high, and the dew was gone,  
 And noon lay heavy on flower and tree,  
 And the weary Day turn'd to his rest  
 Lingering like an unloved guest,  
     I sigh'd for thee.

Thy brother Death came, and cried  
     Wouldst thou me ?  
 Thy sweet child Sleep, the filmy-eyed,  
 Murmur'd like a noontide bee  
 Shall I nestle near thy side ?  
 Wouldst thou me ?—And I replied  
     No, not thee !

Death will come when thou art dead,  
     Soon, too soon—  
 Sleep will come when thou art fled ;  
 Of neither would I ask the boon  
 I ask of thee, beloved Night—  
 Swift be thine approaching flight,  
     Come soon, soon !  
                                 P. B. SHELLEY

## 189

## TO A DISTANT FRIEND

Why art thou silent ! Is thy love a plant  
 Of such weak fibre that the treacherous air  
 Of absence withers what was once so fair ?  
 Is there no debt to pay, no boon to grant ?

Yet have my thoughts for thee been vigilant,  
 Bound to thy service with unceasing care—  
 The mind's least generous wish a mendicant  
 For nought but what thy happiness could spare.

Speak !—though this soft warm heart, once free to  
     hold  
 A thousand tender pleasures, thine and mine,  
 Be left more desolate, more dreary cold

Than a forsaken bird's-nest fill'd with snow  
 'Mid its own bush of leafless eglantine—  
 Speak, that my torturing doubts their end may know !  
 W. WORDSWORTH

## 190

When we two parted  
 In silence and tears,  
 Half broken-hearted,  
 To sever for years,  
 Pale grew thy cheek and cold,  
 Colder thy kiss ;  
 Truly that hour foretold  
 Sorrow to this !

The dew of the morning  
 Sunk chill on my brow ;  
 It felt like the warning  
 Of what I feel now.  
 Thy vows are all broken,  
 And light is thy fame :  
 I hear thy name spoken  
 And share in its shame.

They name thee before me,  
 A knell to mine ear ;  
 A shudder comes o'er me—  
 Why wert thou so dear ?  
 They know not I knew thee  
 Who knew thee too well :  
 Long, long shall I rue thee  
 Too deeply to tell.

In secret we met :  
 In silence I grieve  
 That thy heart could forget,  
 Thy spirit deceive.  
 If I should meet thee  
 After long years,  
 How should I greet thee ?—  
 With silence and tears.

LORD BYRON

191

## HAPPY INSENSIBILITY

In a drear-nighted December,  
 Too happy, happy Tree,  
 Thy branches ne'er remember  
 Their green felicity :  
 The north cannot undo them  
 With a sleety whistle through them,  
 Nor frozen thawings glue them  
 From budding at the prime.

In a drear-nighted December,  
 Too happy, happy Brook,  
 Thy bubblings ne'er remember  
 Apollo's summer look ;  
 But with a sweet forgetting  
 They stay their crystal fretting,  
 Never, never petting  
 About the frozen time.

Ah would 'twere so with many  
 A gentle girl and boy !  
 But were there ever any  
 Writhed not at passéd joy ?  
 To know the change and feel it,  
 When there is none to heal it  
 Nor numbéd sense to steal it—  
 Was never said in rhyme.

J. KEATS

192

Where shall the lover rest  
 Whom the fates sever  
 From his true maiden's breast,  
 Parted for ever ?  
 Where through groves deep and high  
 Sounds the far billow,

Where early violets die  
 Under the willow.  
 Eleu loro !  
 Soft shall be his pillow.

There, through the summer day  
 Cool streams are laving :  
 There, while the tempests sway,  
 Scarcely are boughs waving ;  
 There thy rest shalt thou take,  
 Parted for ever,  
 Never again to wake,  
 Never, O never !  
 Eleu loro !  
 Never, O never !

Where shall the traitor rest,  
 He, the deceiver,  
 Who could win maiden's breast,  
 Ruin, and leave her ?  
 In the lost battle,  
 Borne down by the flying,  
 Where mingles war's rattle  
 With groans of the dying ;  
 Eleu loro !  
 There shall he be lying.

Her wing shall the eagle flap  
 O'er the falsehearted ;  
 His warm blood the wolf shall lap  
 Ere life be parted :  
 Shame and dishonour sit  
 By his grave ever ;  
 Blessing shall hallow it  
 Never, O never !  
 Eleu loro !  
 Never, O never !

SIR W. SCOTT

193

## LA BELLE DAME SANS MERCI

- ' O what can ail thee, knight-at-arms,  
Alone and palely loitering ?  
The sedge has wither'd from the lake,  
And no birds sing.
- ' O what can ail thee, knight-at-arms !  
So haggard and so woebegone ?  
The squirrel's granary is full,  
And the harvest 's done.
- ' I see a lily on thy brow  
With anguish moist and fever-dew,  
And on thy cheeks a fading rose  
Fast withereth too.'
- ' I met a lady in the meads,  
Full beautiful—a fairy's child,  
Her hair was long, her foot was light,  
And her eyes were wild.
- ' I made a garland for her head,  
And bracelets too, and fragrant zone ;  
She look'd at me as she did love,  
And made sweet moan.
- ' I set her on my pacing steed  
And nothing else saw all day long,  
For sidelong would she bend, and sing  
A fairy's song.
- ' She found me roots of relish sweet,  
And honey wild and manna-dew,  
And sure in language strange she said  
" I love thee true."
- ' She took me to her elfin grot,  
And there she wept, and sigh'd full sore,  
And there I shut her wild wild eyes  
With kisses four.

' And there she lulléd me asleep,  
 And there I dream'd—Ah ! woe betide !  
 The latest dream I ever dream'd  
 On the cold hill's side.

' I saw pale kings and princes too,  
 Pale warriors, death-pale were they all ;  
 They cried—" La belle Dame sans Merci  
 Hath thee in thrall ! "

' I saw their starved lips in the gloam  
 With horrid warning gapéd wide,  
 And I awoke and found me here  
 On the cold hill's side.

' And this is why I sojourn here  
 Alone and palely loitering,  
 Though the sedge is wither'd from the lake  
 And no birds sing.'

J. KEATS

### THE ROVER

' A weary lot is thine, fair maid,  
 A weary lot is thine !  
 To pull the thorn thy brow to braid,  
 And press the rue for wine.  
 A lightsome eye, a soldier's mien,  
 A feather of the blue,  
 A doublet of the Lincoln green—  
 No more of me you knew  
 My Love !  
 No more of me you knew.

' This morn is merry June, I trow,  
 The rose is budding fain ;  
 But she shall bloom in winter snow  
 Ere we two meet again.'  
 He turn'd his charger as he spake  
 Upon the river shore,



He gave the bridle-reins a shake,  
 Said ' Adieu for evermore  
   My Love !  
 And adieu for evermore.'  
   SIR W. SCOTT

## 195

## THE FLIGHT OF LOVE

When the lamp is shatter'd  
 The light in the dust lies dead—  
 When the cloud is scatter'd,  
 The rainbow's glory is shed.  
 When the lute is broken,  
 Sweet tones are remember'd not ;  
 When the lips have spoken,  
 Loved accents are soon forgot.

As music and splendour  
 Survive not the lamp and the lute,  
 The heart's echoes render  
 No song when the spirit is mute—  
 No song but sad dirges,  
 Like the wind through a ruin'd cell,  
 Or the mournful surges  
 That ring the dead seaman's knell.

When hearts have once mingled,  
 Love first leaves the well-built nest ;  
 The weak one is singled  
 To endure what it once possess'd.  
 O Love ! who bewailest  
 The frailty of all things here,  
 Why choose you the frailest  
 For your cradle, your home, and your bier ?

Its passions will rock thee  
 As the storms rock the ravens on high ;  
 Bright reason will mock thee  
 Like the sun from a wintry sky.

From thy nest every rafter  
 Will rot, and thine eagle home  
 Leave thee naked to laughter,  
 When leaves fall and cold winds come.

P. B. SHELLEY

### THE MAID OF NEIDPATH

O lovers' eyes are sharp to see,  
 And lovers' ears in hearing ;  
 And love, in life's extremity,  
 Can lend an hour of cheering.  
 Disease had been in Mary's bower  
 And slow decay from mourning,  
 Though now she sits on Neidpath's tower  
 To watch her Love's returning.

All sunk and dim her eyes so bright,  
 Her form decay'd by pining,  
 Till through her wasted hand, at night,  
 You saw the taper shining.  
 By fits a sultry hectic hue  
 Across her cheek was flying ;  
 By fits so ashy pale she grew  
 Her maidens thought her dying.

Yet keenest powers to see and hear  
 Seem'd in her frame residing ;  
 Before the watch-dog prick'd his ear  
 She heard her lover's riding ;  
 Ere scarce a distant form was kenn'd  
 She knew and waved to greet him,  
 And o'er the battlement did bend  
 As on the wing to meet him.

He came—he pass'd—an heedless gaze  
 As o'er some stranger glancing ;  
 Her welcome, spoke in faltering phrase,  
 Lost in his courser's prancing—

The castle-arch, whose hollow tone  
Returns each whisper spoken,  
Could scarcely catch the feeble moan  
Which told her heart was broken.

SIR W. SCOTT

## 197

## THE MAID OF NEIDPATH

Earl March look'd on his dying child,  
And, smit with grief to view her—  
The youth, he cried, whom I exiled  
Shall be restored to woo her.

She's at the window many an hour  
His coming to discover :  
And he look'd up to Ellen's bower  
And she look'd on her lover—

But ah ! so pale, he knew her not,  
Though her smile on him was dwelling—  
And am I then forgot—forgot ?  
It broke the heart of Ellen.

In vain he weeps, in vain he sighs,  
Her cheek is cold as ashes ;  
Nor love's own kiss shall wake those eyes  
To lift their silken lashes.

T. CAMPBELL

## 198

Bright Star ! would I were steadfast as thou art—  
Not in lone splendour hung aloft the night,  
And watching, with eternal lids apart,  
Like nature's patient sleepless Eremite,

The moving waters at their priestlike task  
Of pure ablution round earth's human shores,  
Or gazing on the new soft fallen mask  
Of snow upon the mountains and the moors :—

No—yet still steadfast, still unchangeable,  
 Pillow'd upon my fair Love's ripening breast  
 To feel for ever its soft fall and swell,  
 Awake for ever in a sweet unrest ;

Still, still to hear her tender-taken breath,  
 And so live ever,—or else swoon to death.

J. KEATS

### THE TERROR OF DEATH

When I have fears that I may cease to be  
 Before my pen has glean'd my teeming brain,  
 Before high-piléd books, in charact'ry  
 Hold like rich garners the full-ripen'd grain ;

When I behold, upon the night's starr'd face,  
 Huge cloudy symbols of a high romance,  
 And think that I may never live to trace  
 Their shadows, with the magic hand of chance ;

And when I feel, fair Creature of an hour !  
 That I shall never look upon thee more,  
 Never have relish in the fairy power  
 Of unreflecting love—then on the shore

Of the wide world I stand alone, and think  
 Till Love and Fame to nothingness do sink.

J. KEATS

### DESIDERIA

Surprised by joy—impatient as the wind—  
 I turn'd to share the transport—O with whom  
 But Thee—deep buried in the silent tomb,  
 That spot which no vicissitude can find ?

Love, faithful love recall'd thee to my mind—  
 But how could I forget thee ? Through what power

Even for the least division of an hour  
Have I been so beguiled as to be blind

To my most grievous loss ?—That thought's return  
Was the worst pang that sorrow ever bore  
Save one, one only, when I stood forlorn,

Knowing my heart's best treasure was no more ;  
That neither present time, nor years unborn  
Could to my sight that heavenly face restore.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 201

At the mid hour of night, when stars are weeping, I  
fly  
To the lone vale we loved, when life shone warm in  
thine eye ;  
And I think oft, if spirits can steal from the regions  
of air  
To revisit past scenes of delight, thou wilt come to  
me there  
And tell me our love is remember'd, even in the  
sky !

Then I sing the wild song it once was rapture to  
hear  
When our voices, commingling, breathed like one  
on the ear ;  
And as Echo far off through the vale my sad orison  
rolls,  
I think, O my Love ! 'tis thy voice, from the King-  
dom of Souls  
Faintly answering still the notes that once were so  
dear.

T. MOORE

## 202

## ELEGY ON THYRZA

And thou art dead, as young and fair  
As aught of mortal birth ;  
And forms so soft and charms so rare  
Too soon return'd to Earth !

Though Earth received them in her bed,  
 And o'er the spot the crowd may tread  
 In carelessness or mirth,  
 There is an eye which could not brook  
 A moment on that grave to look.

I will not ask where thou liest low  
 Nor gaze upon the spot ;  
 There flowers or weeds at will may grow  
 So I behold them not :  
 It is enough for me to prove  
 That what I loved and long must love  
 Like common earth can rot ;  
 To me there needs no stone to tell  
 'Tis Nothing that I loved so well.

Yet did I love thee to the last,  
 As fervently as thou  
 Who didst not change through all the past  
 And canst not alter now.  
 The love where Death has set his seal  
 Nor age can chill, nor rival steal,  
 Nor falsehood disavow :  
 And, what were worse, thou canst not see  
 Or wrong, or change, or fault in me.

The better days of life were ours ;  
 The worst can be but mine :  
 The sun that cheers, the storm that lours,  
 Shall never more be thine.  
 The silence of that dreamless sleep  
 I envy now too much to weep ;  
 Nor need I to repine  
 That all those charms have pass'd away  
 I might have watch'd through long decay.

The flower in ripen'd bloom unmatch'd  
 Must fall the earliest prey ;  
 Though by no hand untimely snatch'd,  
 The leaves must drop away.  
 And yet it were a greater grief

To watch it withering, leaf by leaf,  
 Than see it pluck'd to-day ;  
 Since earthy eye but ill can bear  
 To trace the change to foul from fair.

I know not if I could have borne  
 To see thy beauties fade ;  
 The night that follow'd such a morn  
 Had worn a deeper shade :  
 Thy day without a cloud hath past,  
 And thou wert lovely to the last,  
 Extinguish'd, not decay'd ;  
 As stars that shoot along the sky  
 Shine brightest as they fall from high.

As once I wept, if I could weep,  
 My tears might well be shed  
 To think I was not near, to keep  
 One vigil o'er thy bed :  
 To gaze, how fondly ! on thy face,  
 To fold thee in a faint embrace,  
 Uphold thy drooping head ;  
 And show that love, however vain,  
 Nor thou nor I can feel again.

Yet how much less it were to gain,  
 Though thou hast left me free,  
 The loveliest things that still remain  
 Than thus remember thee !  
 The all of thine that cannot die  
 Through dark and dread Eternity  
 Returns again to me,  
 And more thy buried love endears  
 Than aught except its living years.

LORD BYRON

One word is too often profaned  
 For me to profane it,  
 One feeling too falsely disdain'd  
 For thee to disdain it.

One hope is too like despair  
 For prudence to smother,  
 And Pity from thee more dear  
 Than that from another.

I can give not what men call love ;  
 But wilt thou accept not  
 The worship the heart lifts above  
 And the Heavens reject not :  
 The desire of the moth for the star,  
 Of the night for the morrow,  
 The devotion to something afar  
 From the sphere of our sorrow ?

P. B. SHELLEY

GATHERING SONG OF DONALD  
 THE BLACK

Pibroch of Donuil Dhu  
 Pibroch of Donuil  
 Wake thy wild voice anew,  
 Summon Clan Conuil.  
 Come away, come away,  
 Hark to the summons !  
 Come in your war-array,  
 Gentles and commons.

Come from deep glen, and  
 From mountain so rocky ;  
 The war-pipe and pennon  
 Are at Inverlocky.  
 Come every hill-plaid, and  
 True heart that wears one,  
 Come every steel blade, and  
 Strong hand that bears one.

Leave untended the herd,  
 The flock without shelter ;  
 Leave the corpse uninterr'd,  
 The bride at the altar ;



Leave the deer, leave the steer,  
 Leave nets and barges :  
 Come with your fighting gear,  
 Broadswords and targes.

Come as the winds come, when  
 Forests are rended,  
 Come as the waves come, when  
 Navies are stranded :  
 Faster come, faster come,  
 Faster and faster,  
 Chief, vassal, page and groom,  
 Tenant and master.

Fast they come, fast they come ;  
 See how they gather !  
 Wide waves the eagle plume  
 Blended with heather.  
 Cast your plaids, draw your blades,  
 Forward each man set !  
 Pibroch of Donuil Dhu  
 Knell for the onset !

SIR W. SCOTT

A wet sheet and a flowing sea,  
 A wind that follows fast  
 And fills the white and rustling sail  
 And bends the gallant mast ;  
 And bends the gallant mast, my boys,  
 While like the eagle free  
 Away the good ship flies and leaves  
 Old England on the lee.

O for a soft and gentle wind !  
 I heard a fair one cry ;  
 But giv' to me the snoring breeze  
 And white waves heaving high ;

And white waves heaving high, my lads,  
 The good ship tight and free—  
 The world of waters is our home,  
 And merry men are we.

There 's tempest in yon hornéd moon,  
 And lightning in yon cloud ;  
 But hark the music, mariners !  
 The wind is piping loud ;  
 The wind is piping loud, my boys,  
 The lightning flashes free—  
 While the hollow oak our palace is,  
 Our heritage the sea.

A. CUNNINGHAM

## 206

Ye Mariners of England  
 That guard our native seas !  
 Whose flag has braved, a thousand years,  
 The battle and the breeze !  
 Your glorious standard launch again  
 To match another foe :  
 And sweep through the deep,  
 While the stormy winds do blow ;  
 While the battle rages loud and long  
 And the stormy winds do blow.

The spirits of your fathers  
 Shall start from every wave—  
 For the deck it was their field of fame,  
 And Ocean was their grave :  
 Where Blake and mighty Nelson fell  
 Your manly hearts shall glow,  
 As ye sweep through the deep,  
 While the stormy winds do blow ;  
 While the battle rages loud and long  
 And the stormy winds do blow.

Britannia needs no bulwarks,  
 No towers along the steep ;

Her march is o'er the mountain-waves,  
 Her home is on the deep.  
 With thunders from her native oak  
 She quells the floods below—  
 As they roar on the shore,  
 When the stormy winds do blow ;  
 When the battle rages loud and long,  
 And the stormy winds do blow.

The meteor flag of England  
 Shall yet terrific burn ;  
 Till danger's troubled night depart  
 And the star of peace return.  
 Then, then, ye ocean-warriors !  
 Our song and feast shall flow.  
 To the fame of your name,  
 When the storm has ceased to blow ;  
 When the fiery fight is heard no more,  
 And the storm has ceased to blow.

T. CAMPBELL

## 207

## BATTLE OF THE BALTIC

Of Nelson and the North  
 Sing the glorious day's renown,  
 When to battle fierce came forth  
 All the might of Denmark's crown,  
 And her arms along the deep proudly shone ;  
 By each gun the lighted brand  
 In a bold determined hand,  
 And the Prince of all the land  
 Led them on.

Like leviathans afloat  
 Lay their bulwarks on the brine ;  
 While the sign of battle flew  
 On the lofty British line ;  
 It was ten of April morn by the chime :  
 As they drifted on their path

There was silence deep as death ;  
 And the boldest held his breath  
 For a time.

But the might of England flush'd  
 To anticipate the scene ;  
 And her van the fleetest rush'd  
 O'er the deadly space between.  
 ' Hearts of oak ! ' our captains cried, when each gun  
 From its adamantine lips  
 Spread a death-shade round the ships,  
 Like the hurricane eclipse  
 Of the sun.

Again ! again ! again !  
 And the havoc did not slack,  
 Till a feeble cheer the Dane  
 To our cheering sent us back ;—  
 Their shots along the deep slowly boom :—  
 Then ceased—and all is wail,  
 As they strike the shatter'd sail ;  
 Or in conflagration pale  
 Light the gloom.

Out spoke the victor then  
 As he hail'd them o'er the wave,  
 ' Ye are brothers ! ye are men !  
 And we conquer but to save :—  
 So peace instead of death let us bring :  
 But yield, proud foe, thy fleet  
 With the crews, at England's feet,  
 And make submission meet  
 To our King.'

Then Denmark blest our chief  
 That he gave her wounds repose ;  
 And the sounds of joy and grief  
 From her people wildly rose,  
 As death withdrew his shades from the day :  
 While the sun look'd smiling bright  
 O'er a wide and woful sight,  
 Where the fires of funeral light  
 Died away.

Now joy, old England, raise !  
 For the tidings of thy might,  
 By the festal cities' blaze,  
 Whilst the wine-cup shines in light ;  
 And yet amidst that joy and uproar,  
 Let us think of them that sleep  
 Full many a fathom deep  
 By thy wild and stormy steep,  
 Elsinore !

Brave hearts ! to Britain's pride  
 Once so faithful and so true,  
 On the deck of fame they died  
 With the gallant good Riou :  
 Soft sigh the winds of Heaven o'er their grave !  
 While the billow mournful rolls  
 And the mermaid's song condoles  
 Singing glory to the souls  
 Of the brave !

T. CAMPBELL

208

### ODE TO DUTY

Stern Daughter of the Voice of God !  
 O Duty ! if that name thou love  
 Who art a light to guide, a rod  
 To check the erring, and reprove ;  
 Thou who art victory and law  
 When empty terrors overawe ;  
 From vain temptations dost set free,  
 And calm'st the weary strife of frail humanity !

There are who ask not if thine eye  
 Be on them ; who, in love and truth  
 Where no misgiving is, rely  
 Upon the genial sense of youth :  
 Glad hearts ! without reproach or blot,  
 Who do thy work, and know it not :  
 O ! if through confidence misplaced  
 They fail, thy saving arms, dread Power ! around  
 them cast.

Serene will be our days and bright  
 And happy will our nature be  
 When love is an unerring light,  
 And joy its own security.  
 And they a blissful course may hold  
 Ev'n now who, not unwisely bold,  
 Live in the spirit of this creed ;  
 Yet seek thy firm support, according to their need.

I, loving freedom, and untried,  
 No sport of every random gust,  
 Yet being to myself a guide,  
 Too blindly have reposed my trust :  
 And oft, when in my heart was heard  
 Thy timely mandate, I deferr'd  
 The task, in smoother walks to stray ;  
 But thee I now would serve more strictly, if I may.

Through no disturbance of my soul  
 Or strong compunction in me wrought,  
 I supplicate for thy control,  
 But in the quietness of thought :  
 Me this uncharter'd freedom tires ;  
 I feel the weight of chance desires :  
 My hopes no more must change their name ;  
 I long for a repose that ever is the same.

Stern Lawgiver ! yet thou dost wear  
 The Godhead's most benignant grace ;  
 Nor know we anything so fair  
 As is the smile upon thy face :  
 Flowers laugh before thee on their beds,  
 And fragrance in thy footing treads ;  
 Thou dost preserve the Stars from wrong ;  
 And the most ancient Heavens, through Thee, are  
 fresh and strong.

To humbler functions, awful Power !  
 I call thee : I myself commend  
 Unto thy guidance from this hour ;  
 O let my weakness have an end !

Give unto me, made lowly wise,  
 The spirit of self-sacrifice ;  
 The confidence of reason give ;  
 And in the light of truth thy Bondman let me live.  
 W. WORDSWORTH

## 209

## ON THE CASTLE OF CHILLON

Eternal Spirit of the chainless Mind !  
 Brightest in dungeons, Liberty, thou art—  
 For there thy habitation is the heart—  
 The heart which love of Thee alone can bind ;

And when thy sons to fetters are consign'd,  
 To fetters, and the damp vault's dayless gloom,  
 Their country conquers with their martyrdom,  
 And Freedom's fame finds wings on every wind.

Chillon ! thy prison is a holy place  
 And thy sad floor an altar, for 'twas trod,  
 Until his very steps have left a trace

Worn as if thy cold pavement were a sod,  
 By Bonnivard ! May none those marks efface !  
 For they appeal from tyranny to God.

LORD BYRON

## 210

## ENGLAND AND SWITZERLAND

1802

Two Voices are there, one is of the Sea,  
 One of the Mountains, each a mighty voice :  
 In both from age to age thou didst rejoice,  
 They were thy chosen music, Liberty !

There came a tyrant, and with holy glee  
 Thou fought'st against him, — but hast vainly  
 striven :

Thou from thy Alpine holds at length art driven  
 Where not a torrent murmurs heard by thee.

—Of one deep bliss thine ear hath been bereft ;  
Then cleave, O cleave to that which still is left—  
For, high-soul'd Maid, what sorrow would it be

That Mountain floods should thunder as before,  
And Ocean bellow from his rocky shore,  
And neither awful Voice be heard by Thee !

W. WORDSWORTH

## 211

ON THE EXTINCTION OF THE VENETIAN  
REPUBLIC

Once did She hold the gorgeous East in fee  
And was the safeguard of the West ; the worth  
Of Venice did not fall below her birth,  
Venice, the eldest child of liberty.

She was a maiden city, bright and free ;  
No guile seduced, no force could violate ;  
And when she took unto herself a mate,  
She must espouse the everlasting Sea.

And what if she had seen those glories fade,  
Those titles vanish, and that strength decay,—  
Yet shall some tribute of regret be paid

When her long life hath reach'd its final day :  
Men are we, and must grieve when even the shade  
Of that which once was great has pass'd away.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 212

LONDON, MDCCCII

O Friend ! I know not which way I must look  
For comfort, being, as I am, opprest  
To think that now our life is only drest  
For show : mean handiwork of craftsman, cook,



Or groom ! —We must run glittering like a brook  
 In the open sunshine, or we are unblest ;  
 The wealthiest man among us is the best :  
 No grandeur now in Nature or in book

Delights us. Rapine, avarice, expense,  
 This is idolatry ; and these we adore :  
 Plain living and high thinking are no more :

The homely beauty of the good old cause  
 Is gone ; our peace, our fearful innocence,  
 And pure religion breathing household laws.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 213

## THE SAME

Milton ! thou shouldst be living at this hour :  
 England hath need of thee : she is a fen  
 Of stagnant waters : altar, sword, and pen,  
 Fireside, the heroic wealth of hall and bower,

Have forfeited their ancient English dower  
 Of inward happiness. We are selfish men :  
 O ! raise us up, return to us again ;  
 And give us manners, virtue, freedom, power.

Thy soul was like a Star, and dwelt apart :  
 Thou hadst a voice whose sound was like the sea,  
 Pure as the naked heavens, majestic, free ;

So didst thou travel on life's common way  
 In cheerful godliness ; and yet thy heart  
 The lowliest duties on herself did lay.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 214

When I have borne in memory what has tamed  
 Great nations ; how ennobling thoughts depart  
 When men change swords for ledgers, and desert  
 The student's bower for gold,—some fears unnamed

I had, my Country !—am I to be blamed ?  
 Now, when I think of thee, and what thou art,  
 Verily, in the bottom of my heart,  
 Of those unfilial fears I am ashamed.

For dearly must we prize thee ; we who find  
 In thee a bulwark for the cause of men ;  
 And I by my affection was beguiled :

What wonder if a Poet now and then,  
 Among the many movements of his mind,  
 Felt for thee as a lover or a child !

W. WORDSWORTH

### HOHENLINDEN

On Linden, when the sun was low,  
 All bloodless lay the untrodden snow ;  
 And dark as winter was the flow  
 Of Iser, rolling rapidly.

But Linden saw another sight,  
 When the drum beat at dead of night  
 Commanding fires of death to light  
 The darkness of her scenery.

By torch and trumpet fast array'd,  
 Each horseman drew his battle-blade,  
 And furious every charger neigh'd  
 To join the dreadful revelry.

Then shook the hills with thunder riven ;  
 Then rush'd the steed, to battle driven ;  
 And louder than the bolts of Heaven  
 Far flash'd the red artillery.

But redder yet that light shall glow  
 On Linden's hills of stain'd snow ;  
 And bloodier yet the torrent flow  
 Of Iser, rolling rapidly.

'Tis morn ; but scarce yon level sun  
 Can pierce the war-clouds, rolling dun,  
 Where furious Frank and fiery Hun  
 Shout in their sulphurous canopy.

The combat deepens. On, ye Brave  
 Who rush to glory, or the grave !  
 Wave, Munich, all thy banners wave,  
 And charge with all thy chivalry !

Few, few shall part, where many meet !  
 The snow shall be their winding-sheet,  
 And every turf beneath their feet  
 Shall be a soldier's sepulchre.

T. CAMPBELL

## AFTER BLENHEIM

It was a summer evening,  
 Old Kaspar's work was done,  
 And he before his cottage door  
 Was sitting in the sun ;  
 And by him sported on the green  
 His little grandchild Wilhelmine.

She saw her brother Peterkin  
 Roll something large and round  
 Which he beside the rivolet  
 In playing there had found ;  
 He came to ask what he had found  
 That was so large and smooth and round.

Old Kaspar took it from the boy  
 Who stood expectant by ;  
 And then the old man shook his head,  
 And with a natural sigh  
 ' 'Tis some poor fellow's skull,' said he,  
 ' Who fell in the great victory.'

' I find them in the garden,  
 For there 's many here about ;  
 And often when I go to plough  
 The ploughshare turns them out.  
 For many thousand men,' said he,  
 ' Were slain in that great victory.'

' Now tell us what 'twas all about,'  
 Young Peterkin he cries ;  
 And little Wilhelmine looks up  
 With wonder-waiting eyes ;  
 ' Now tell us all about the war,  
 And what they fought each other for.'

' It was the English,' Kaspar cried,  
 ' Who put the French to rout ;  
 But what they fought each other for  
 I could not well make out.  
 But everybody said,' quoth he,  
 ' That 'twas a famous victory.'

' My father lived at Blenheim then,  
 Yon little stream hard by ;  
 They burnt his dwelling to the ground,  
 And he was forced to fly :  
 So with his wife and child he fled,  
 Nor had he where to rest his head.

' With fire and sword the country round  
 Was wasted far and wide,  
 And many a childing mother then  
 And newborn baby died :  
 But things like that, you know, must be  
 At every famous victory.

' They say it was a shocking sight  
 After the field was won ;  
 For many thousand bodies here  
 Lay rotting in the sun :  
 But things like that, you know, must be  
 After a famous victory.

' Great praise the Duke of Marlbro' won  
 And our good Prince Eugene ; '  
 ' Why, 'twas a very wicked thing ! '  
 Said little Wilhelmine ;  
 ' Nay . . nay . . my little girl,' quoth he,  
 ' It was a famous victory.

' And everybody praised the Duke  
 Who this great fight did win.'  
 ' But what good came of it at last ? '  
 Quoth little Peterkin :—  
 ' Why that I cannot tell,' said he,  
 ' But 'twas a famous victory.'

R. SOUTHEY

PRO PATRIA MORI

When he who adores thee has left but the name  
 Of his fault and his sorrows behind,  
 O ! say wilt thou weep, when they darken the fame  
 Of a life that for thee was resign'd !  
 Yes, weep, and however my foes may condemn,  
 Thy tears shall efface their decree ;  
 For, Heaven can witness, though guilty to them,  
 I have been but too faithful to thee.

With thee were the dreams of my earliest love ;  
 Every thought of my reason was thine :  
 In my last humble prayer to the Spirit above  
 Thy name shall be mingled with mine !  
 O ! blest are the lovers and friends who shall live  
 The days of thy glory to see ;  
 But the next dearest blessing that Heaven can give  
 Is the pride of thus dying for thee.

T. MOORE

THE BURIAL OF SIR JOHN MOORE  
AT CORUNNA

Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note,  
As his corpse to the rampart we hurried ;  
Not a soldier discharged his farewell shot  
O'er the grave where our hero we buried.

We buried him darkly at dead of night,  
The sods with our bayonets turning ;  
By the struggling moonbeam's misty light  
And the lantern dimly burning.

No useless coffin enclosed his breast,  
Not in sheet nor in shroud we wound him ;  
But he lay like a warrior taking his rest  
With his martial cloak around him.

Few and short were the prayers we said,  
And we spoke not a word of sorrow ;  
But we steadfastly gazed on the face that was dead,  
And we bitterly thought of the morrow.

We thought, as we hollow'd his narrow bed  
And smoothed down his lonely pillow,  
That the foe and the stranger would tread o'er his  
head,  
And we far away on the billow !

Lightly they'll talk of the spirit that 's gone  
And o'er his cold ashes upbraid him,—  
But little he'll reck, if they let him sleep on  
In the grave where a Briton has laid him.

But half of our heavy task was done  
When the clock struck the hour for retiring :  
And we heard the distant and random gun  
That the foe was sullenly firing.

Slowly and sadly we laid him down,  
 From the field of his fame fresh and gory ;  
 We carved not a line, and we raised not a stone—  
 But we left him alone with his glory.

C. WOLFE

## 219

## SIMON LEE THE OLD HUNTSMAN

In the sweet shire of Cardigan,  
 Not far from pleasant Ivor Hall,  
 An old man dwells, a little man,—  
 'Tis said he once was tall.  
 Full five-and-thirty years he lived  
 A running huntsman merry ;  
 And still the centre of his cheek  
 Is red as a ripe cherry.

No man like him the horn could sound,  
 And hill and valley rang with glee  
 When Echo banded, round and round,  
 The halloo of Simon Lee.  
 In those proud days, he little cared  
 For husbandry or tillage ;  
 To blither tasks did Simon rouse  
 The sleepers of the village.

He all the country could outrun,  
 Could leave both man and horse behind ;  
 And often, ere the chase was done,  
 He reeled, and was stone-blind.  
 And still there 's something in the world  
 At which his heart rejoices ;  
 For when the chiming hounds are out,  
 He dearly loves their voices !

But O the heavy change !—bereft  
 Of health, strength, friends, and kindred, see !  
 Old Simon to the world is left  
 In liveried poverty :

His master's dead, and no one now  
 Dwells in the Hall of Ivor ;  
 Men, dogs, and horses, all are dead ;  
 He is the sole survivor.

And he is lean and he is sick ;  
 His body, dwindled and awry,  
 Rests upon ankles swoln and thick ;  
 His legs are thin and dry.  
 One prop he has, and only one,  
 His wife, an aged woman,  
 Lives with him, near the waterfall,  
 Upon the village common.

Beside their moss-grown hut of clay,  
 Not twenty paces from the door,  
 A scrap of land they have, but they  
 Are poorest of the poor.  
 This scrap of land he from the heath  
 Enclosed when he was stronger ;  
 But what to them avails the land  
 Which he can till no longer ?

Oft, working by her husband's side,  
 Ruth does what Simon cannot do ;  
 For she, with scanty cause for pride,  
 Is stouter of the two.  
 And, though you with your utmost skill  
 From labour could not wean them,  
 'Tis little, very little, all  
 That they can do between them.

Few months of life has he in store  
 As he to you will tell,  
 For still, the more he works, the more  
 Do his weak ankles swell.  
 My gentle reader, I perceive  
 How patiently you've waited,  
 And now I feel that you expect  
 Some tale will be related.



O reader ! had you in your mind  
Such stores as silent thought can bring,  
O gentle reader ! you would find  
A tale in every thing.  
What more I have to say is short,  
And you must kindly take it :  
It is no tale ; but, should you think,  
Perhaps a tale you'll make it.

One summer-day I chanced to see  
This old man doing all he could  
To unearth the root of an old tree,  
A stump of rotten wood.  
The mattock totter'd in his hand ;  
So vain was his endeavour  
That at the root of the old tree  
He might have work'd for ever.

' You're overtask'd, good Simon Lee,  
Give me your tool,' to him I said ;  
And at the word right gladly he  
Received my proffer'd aid.  
I struck, and with a single blow  
The tangled root I sever'd,  
At which the poor old man so long  
And vainly had endeavour'd.

The tears into his eyes were brought,  
And thanks and praises seem'd to run  
So fast out of his heart, I thought  
They never would have done.  
—I've heard of hearts unkind, kind deeds  
With coldness still returning ;  
Alas ! the gratitude of men  
Hath oftener left me mourning.

W. WORDSWORTH

## THE OLD FAMILIAR FACES

I have had playmates, I have had companions  
 In my days of childhood, in my joyful school-days ;  
 All, all are gone, the old familiar faces.

I have been laughing, I have been carousing,  
 Drinking late, sitting late, with my bosom cronies ;  
 All, all are gone, the old familiar faces.

I loved a Love once, fairest among women :  
 Closed are her doors on me, I must not see her—  
 All, all are gone, the old familiar faces.

I have a friend, a kinder friend has no man :  
 Like an ingrate, I left my friend abruptly ;  
 Left him, to muse on the old familiar faces,  
 Ghost-like I paced round the haunts of my child-  
 hood,

Earth seem'd a desert I was bound to traverse,  
 Seeking to find the old familiar faces.

Friend of my bosom, thou more than a brother,  
 Why wert not thou born in my father's dwelling ?  
 So might we talk of the old familiar faces,

How some they have died, and some they have left  
 me,

And some are taken from me ; all are departed ;  
 All, all are gone, the old familiar faces.

C. LAMB

## THE JOURNEY ONWARDS

As slow our ship her foamy track  
 Against the wind was cleaving,  
 Her trembling pennant still look'd back  
 To that dear isle 'twas leaving.  
 So loath we part from all we love,  
 From all the links that bind us ;  
 So turn our hearts, as on we rove,  
 To those we've left behind us !

When, round the bowl, of vanish'd years  
 We talk with joyous seeming—  
 With smiles that might as well be tears,  
 So faint, so sad their beaming ;  
 While memory brings us back again  
 Each early tie that twined us,  
 O, sweet 's the cup that circles then  
 To those we've left behind us !

And when in other climes, we meet  
 Some isle or vale enchanting,  
 Where all looks flowery, wild, and sweet,  
 And nought but love is wanting ;  
 We think how great had been our bliss  
 If Heaven had but assign'd us  
 To live and die in scenes like this,  
 With some we've left behind us !

As travellers oft look back at eve  
 When eastward darkly going,  
 To gaze upon that light they leave  
 Still faint behind them glowing,—  
 So, when the close of pleasure's day  
 To gloom hath near consign'd us,  
 We turn to catch one fading ray  
 Of joy that 's left behind us.

T. MOORE

### YOUTH AND AGE

There 's not a joy the world can give like that it takes  
 away  
 When the glow of early thought declines in feeling's  
 dull decay ;  
 'Tis not on youth's smooth cheek the blush alone  
 which fades so fast,  
 But the tender bloom of heart is gone, ere youth  
 itself be past.

Then the few whose spirits float above the wreck of  
 happiness  
 Are driven o'er the shoals of guilt, or ocean of  
 excess :  
 The magnet of their course is gone, or only points  
 in vain  
 The shore to which their shiver'd sail shall never  
 stretch again.

Then the mortal coldness of the soul like death itself  
 comes down ;  
 It cannot feel for others' woes, it dare not dream its  
 own ;  
 That heavy chill has frozen o'er the fountain of our  
 tears,  
 And though the eye may sparkle still, 'tis where the  
 ice appears.

Though wit may flash from fluent lips, and mirth dis-  
 tract the breast,  
 Through midnight hours that yield no more their  
 former hope of rest ;  
 'Tis but as ivy-leaves around the ruin'd turret  
 wreath,  
 All green and wildly fresh without, but worn and  
 grey beneath.

O could I feel as I have felt, or be what I have been,  
 Or weep as I could once have wept o'er many a  
 vanish'd scene,—  
 As springs in deserts found seem sweet, all brackish  
 though they be,  
 So midst the wither'd waste of life, those tears would  
 flow to me !

LORD BYRON

### A LESSON

There is a flower, the Lesser Celandine,  
 That shrinks like many more from cold and rain,  
 And the first moment that the sun may shine,  
 Bright as the sun himself, 'tis out again !

When hailstones have been falling, swarm on swarm,  
 Or blasts the green field and the trees distress,  
 Oft have I seen it muffled up from harm  
 In close self-shelter, like a thing at rest.

But lately, one rough day, this flower I past,  
 And recognized it, though an alter'd form,  
 Now standing forth an offering to the blast,  
 And buffeted at will by rain and storm.

I stopp'd and said, with inly-mutter'd voice,  
 ' It doth not love the shower, nor seek the cold ;  
 This neither is its courage nor its choice,  
 But its necessity in being old.

' The sunshine may not cheer it, nor the dew ;  
 It cannot help itself in its decay ;  
 Stiff in its members, wither'd, changed of hue,'  
 And, in my spleen, I smiled that it was grey.

To be a prodigal's favourite—then, worse truth,  
 A miser's pensioner—behold our lot !  
 O Man ! that from thy fair and shining youth  
 Age might but take the things Youth needed not !

W. WORDSWORTH

224

PAST AND PRESENT

I remember, I remember  
 The house where I was born,  
 The little window where the sun  
 Came peeping in at morn ;  
 He never came a wink too soon  
 Nor brought too long a day ;  
 But now, I often wish the night  
 Had borne my breath away.

I remember, I remember  
 The roses, red and white,  
 The violets, and the lily-cups—  
 Those flowers made of light !

The lilacs where the robin built,  
 And where my brother set  
 The laburnum on his birthday,—  
 The tree is living yet !

I remember, I remember  
 Where I was used to swing,  
 And thought the air must rush as fresh  
 To swallows on the wing ;  
 My spirit flew in feathers then  
 That is so heavy now,  
 And summer pools could hardly cool  
 The fever on my brow.

I remember, I remember  
 The fir trees dark and high ;  
 I used to think their slender tops  
 Were close against the sky :  
 It was a childish ignorance,  
 But now 'tis little joy  
 To know I'm farther off from Heaven  
 Than when I was a boy.

T. HOOD

### THE LIGHT OF OTHER DAYS

Oft in the stilly night  
 Ere slumber's chain has bound me,  
 Fond Memory brings the light  
 Of other days around me :  
     The smiles, the tears  
     Of boyhood's years,  
 The words of love then spoken ;  
     The eyes that shone,  
     Now dimm'd and gone,  
 The cheerful hearts now broken !  
 Thus in the stilly night  
 Ere slumber's chain has bound me,  
 Sad Memory brings the light  
 Of other days around me.

When I remember all  
 The friends so link'd together  
 I've seen around me fall  
 Like leaves in wintry weather,  
 I feel like one  
 Who treads alone  
 Some banquet-hall deserted,  
 Whose lights are fled  
 Whose garlands dead,  
 And all but he departed !  
 Thus in the stilly night  
 Ere slumber's chain has bound me,  
 Sad Memory brings the light  
 Of other days around me.

T. MOORE

## 226

## INVOCATION

Rarely, rarely, comest thou,  
 Spirit of Delight !  
 Wherefore hast thou left me now  
 Many a day and night ?  
 Many a weary night and day  
 'Tis since thou art fled away.

How shall ever one like me  
 Win thee back again ?  
 With the joyous and the free  
 Thou wilt scoff at pain.  
 Spirit false ! thou hast forgot  
 All but those who need thee not.

As a lizard with the shade  
 Of a trembling leaf,  
 Thou with sorrow art dismay'd ;  
 Even the sighs of grief  
 Reproach thee, that thou art not near,  
 And reproach thou wilt not hear.

Let me set my mournful ditty  
To a merry measure ;—  
Thou wilt never come for pity,  
Thou wilt come for pleasure ;—  
Pity then will cut away  
Those cruel wings, and thou wilt stay.

I love all that thou lovest,  
Spirit of Delight !  
The fresh Earth in new leaves drest  
And the starry night ;  
Autumn evening, and the morn  
When the golden mists are born.

I love snow and all the forms  
Of the radiant frost ;  
I love waves, and winds, and storms,  
Everything almost  
Which is Nature's, and may be  
Untainted by man's misery.

I love tranquil solitude,  
And such society  
As is quiet, wise, and good.  
Between thee and me  
What diff'rence ? but thou dost possess  
The things I seek, not love them less.

I love Love—though he has wings,  
And like light can flee,  
But above all other things,  
Spirit, I love thee—  
Thou art love and life ! O come !  
Make once more my heart thy home !

P. B. SHELLEY



227

STANZAS WRITTEN IN DEJECTION NEAR  
NAPLES

The sun is warm, the sky is clear,  
The waves are dancing fast and bright,  
Blue isles and snowy mountains wear  
The purple noon's transparent light :  
The breath of the moist air is light  
Around its unexpanded buds ;  
Like many a voice of one delight—  
The winds', the birds', the ocean-floods'—  
The City's voice itself is soft like Solitude's.

I see the Deep's untrampled floor  
With green and purple sea-weeds strown ;  
I see the waves upon the shore  
Like light dissolved in star-showers thrown :  
I sit upon the sands alone ;  
The lightning of the noon-tide ocean  
Is flashing round me, and a tone  
Arises from its measured motion—  
How sweet ! did any heart now share in my emotion.

Alas ! I have nor hope nor health,  
Nor peace within nor calm around,  
Nor that Content, surpassing wealth,  
The sage in meditation found,  
And walk'd with inward glory crown'd—  
Nor fame, nor power, nor love, nor leisure ;  
Others I see whom these surround—  
Smiling they live, and call life pleasure ;  
To me that cup has been dealt in another measure.

Yet now despair itself is mild  
Even as the winds and waters are ;  
I could lie down like a tired child,  
And weep away the life of care



Which I have borne, and yet must bear,  
 Till death like sleep might steal on me,  
 And I might feel in the warm air  
 My cheek grow cold, and hear the sea  
 Breathe o'er my dying brain its last monotony.

P. B. SHELLEY

## 228

## THE SCHOLAR

My days among the Dead are passed ;  
 Around me I behold,  
 Where'er these casual eyes are cast,  
 The mighty minds of old :  
 My never-failing friends are they,  
 With whom I converse day by day.

With them I take delight in weal  
 And seek relief in woe ;  
 And while I understand and feel  
 How much to them I owe,  
 My cheeks have often been bedew'd  
 With tears of thoughtful gratitude.

My thoughts are with the Dead ; with them  
 I live in long-past years,  
 Their virtues love, their faults condemn,  
 Partake their hopes and fears,  
 And from their lessons seek and find  
 Instruction with an humble mind.

My hopes are with the Dead ; anon  
 My place with them will be,  
 And I with them shall travel on  
 Through all Futurity ;  
 Yet leaving here a name, I trust,  
 That will not perish in the dust.

R. SOUTHEY

229

## THE MERMAID TAVERN

Souls of Poets dead and gone,  
 What Elysium have ye known,  
 Happy field or mossy cavern,  
 Choicer than the Mermaid Tavern ?  
 Have ye tippled drink more fine  
 Than mine host's Canary wine ?  
 Or are fruits of Paradise  
 Sweeter than those dainty pies  
 Of Venison ? O generous food !  
 Drest as though bold Robin Hood  
 Would, with his Maid Marian,  
 Sup and bowse from horn and can.

I have heard that on a day  
 Mine host's signboard flew away  
 Nobody knew whither, till  
 An astrologer's old quill  
 To a sheepskin gave the story—  
 Said he saw you in your glory  
 Underneath a new-old Sign  
 Sipping beverage divine,  
 And pledging with contented smack  
 The Mermaid in the Zodiac !

Souls of Poets dead and gone  
 What Elysium have ye known—  
 Happy field or mossy cavern—  
 Choicer than the Mermaid Tavern ?

J. KEATS

230

## THE PRIDE OF YOUTH

Proud Maisie is in the wood,  
 Walking so early ;  
 Sweet Robin sits on the bush,  
 Singing so rarely.

' Tell me, thou bonny bird,  
 When shall I marry me ?'  
 — ' When six braw gentlemen  
 Kirkward shall carry ye.'

' Who makes the bridal bed,  
 Birdie, say truly ?'  
 — ' The grey-headed sexton  
 That delves the grave duly.

' The glowworm o'er grave and stone  
 Shall light thee steady ;  
 The owl from the steeple sing  
 Welcome, proud lady.'

SIR W. SCOTT

### THE BRIDGE OF SIGHS

One more Unfortunate  
 Weary of breath,  
 Rashly importunate,  
 Gone to her death !

Take her up tenderly,  
 Lift her with care ;  
 Fashion'd so slenderly,  
 Young, and so fair !

Look at her garments  
 Clinging like cerements ;  
 Whilst the wave constantly  
 Drips from her clothing ;  
 Take her up instantly,  
 Loving, not loathing.

Touch her not scornfully ;  
 Think of her mournfully,  
 Gently and humanly ;  
 Not of the stains of her—  
 All that remains of her  
 Now is pure womanly.

Make no deep scrutiny  
Into her mutiny  
Rash and undutiful :  
Past all dishonour,  
Death has left on her  
Only the beautiful.

Still, for all slips of hers,  
One of Eve's family—  
Wipe those poor lips of hers  
Oozing so clammyly.

Loop up her tresses  
Escaped from the comb,  
Her fair auburn tresses ;  
Whilst wonderment guesses  
Where was her home ?

Who was her father ?  
Who was her mother ?  
Had she a sister ?  
Had she a brother ?  
Or was there a dearer one  
Still, and a nearer one  
Yet, than all other ?

Alas ! for the rarity  
Of Christian charity  
Under the sun !  
O ! it was pitiful !  
Near a whole city full,  
Home she had none.

Sisterly, brotherly,  
Fatherly, motherly  
Feelings had changed :  
Love, by harsh evidence,  
Thrown from its eminence ;  
Even God's providence  
Seeming estranged.

Where the lamps quiver  
 So far in the river,  
 With many a light  
 From window and casement,  
 From garret to basement,  
 She stood, with amazement,  
 Houseless by night.

The bleak wind of March  
 Made her tremble and shiver ;  
 But not the dark arch,  
 Or the black flowing river :  
 Mad from life's history,  
 Glad to death's mystery  
 Swift to be hurl'd—  
 Anywhere, anywhere  
 Out of the world !

In she plunged boldly,  
 No matter how coldly  
 The rough river ran,  
 Over the brink of it,—  
 Picture it, think of it,  
 Dissolute Man !  
 Lave in it, drink of it,  
 Then, if you can !

Take her up tenderly,  
 Lift her with care ;  
 Fashion'd so slenderly,  
 Young, and so fair !

Ere her limbs frigidly  
 Stiffen too rigidly,  
 Decently, kindly,  
 Smooth and compose them ;  
 And her eyes, close them,  
 Staring so blindly !

Dreadfully staring  
 Thro' muddy impurity,  
 As when with the daring  
 Last look of despairing  
 Fix'd on futurity.

Perishing gloomily,  
 Spurr'd by contumely,  
 Cold inhumanity,  
 Burning insanity,  
 Into her rest.  
 —Cross her hands humbly  
 As if praying dumbly,  
 Over her breast !

Owning her weakness,  
 Her evil behaviour,  
 And leaving, with meekness,  
 Her sins to her Saviour !

T. HOOD

## 232

## ELEGY

O snatch'd away in beauty's bloom !  
 On thee shall press no ponderous tomb ;  
 But on thy turf shall roses rear  
 Their leaves, the earliest of the year,  
 And the wild cypress wave in tender gloom :

And oft by yon blue gushing stream  
 Shall Sorrow lean her drooping head,  
 And feed deep thought with many a dream,  
 And lingering pause and lightly tread ;  
 Fond wretch ! as if her step disturb'd the dead !

Away ! we know that tears are vain,  
 That Death nor heeds nor hears distress :  
 Will this unteach us to complain ?  
 Or make one mourner weep the less ?  
 And thou, who tell'st me to forget,  
 Thy looks are wan, thine eyes are wet.

LORD BYRON

233

## HESTER

When maidens such as Hester die,  
 Their place ye may not well supply,  
 Though ye among a thousand try  
     With vain endeavour.

A month or more hath she been dead,  
 Yet cannot I by force be led  
 To think upon the wormy bed  
     And her together.

A springy motion in her gait,  
 A rising step, did indicate  
 Of pride and joy no common rate  
     That flush'd her spirit :  
 I know not by what name beside  
 I shall it call : if 'twas not pride,  
 It was a joy to that allied  
     She did inherit.

Her parents held the Quaker rule,  
 Which doth the human feeling cool,  
 But she was train'd in Nature's school,  
     Nature had blest her.

A waking eye, a prying mind,  
 A heart that stirs, is hard to bind ;  
 A hawk's keen sight ye cannot blind,  
     Ye could not Hester.

My sprightly neighbour ! gone before  
 To that unknown and silent shore,  
 Shall we not meet, as heretofore  
     Some summer morning—  
 When from thy cheerful eyes a ray  
 Hath struck a bliss upon the day,  
 A bliss that would not go away,  
     A sweet fore-warning ?

C. LAMB



## 234

## CORONACH

He is gone on the mountain,  
 He is lost to the forest,  
 Like a summer-dried fountain,  
 When our need was the sorest.  
 The font reappearing  
 From the raindrops shall borrow,  
 But to us comes no cheering,  
 To Duncan no morrow !

The hand of the reaper  
 Takes the ears that are hoary,  
 But the voice of the weeper  
 Wails manhood in glory.  
 The autumn winds rushing  
 Waft the leaves that are serest,  
 But our flower was in flushing  
 When blighting was nearest.

Fleet foot on the correi,  
 Sage counsel in cumber,  
 Red hand in the foray,  
 How sound is thy slumber !  
 Like the dew on the mountain,  
 Like the foam on the river,  
 Like the bubble on the fountain,  
 Thou art gone, and for ever !

SIR W. SCOTT

## 235

## THE DEATH BED

We watch'd her breathing thro' the night,  
 Her breathing soft and low,  
 As in her breast the wave of life  
 Kept heaving to and fro.

But when the morn came dim and sad  
 And chill with early showers,  
 Her quiet eyelids closed—she had  
 Another morn than ours.

T. HOOD

### ROSABELLE

O listen, listen, ladies gay !  
 No haughty feat of arms I tell ;  
 Soft is the note, and sad the lay  
 That mourns the lovely Rosabelle.

' Moor, moor the barge, ye gallant crew !  
 And, gentle lady, deign to stay !  
 Rest thee in Castle Ravensheuch,  
 Nor tempt the stormy firth to-day.

' The blackening wave is edged with white ;  
 To inch and rock the sea-mews fly ;  
 The fishers have heard the Water-Sprite,  
 Whose sercams forebode that wreck is nigh.

' Last night the gifted Seer did view  
 A wet shroud swathed round lady gay ;  
 Then stay thee, Fair, in Ravensheuch ;  
 Why cross the gloomy firth to-day ?'

' 'Tis not because Lord Lindesay's heir  
 To-night at Roslin leads the ball,  
 But that my lady-mother there  
 Sits lonely in her castle-hall.

' 'Tis not because the ring they ride,  
 And Lindesay at the ring rides well,  
 But that my sire the wine will chide  
 If 'tis not fill'd by Rosabelle.'

—O'er Roslin all that dreary night  
 A wondrous blaze was seen to gleam ;  
 'Twas broader than the watch-fire's light,  
 And redder than the bright moonbeam.

It glared on Roslin's castled rock,  
 It ruddied all the copse-wood glen ;  
 'Twas seen from Dryden's groves of oak,  
 And seen from cavern'd Hawthornden.

Seem'd all on fire that chapel proud  
 Where Roslin's chiefs uncoffin'd lie,  
 Each Baron, for a sable shroud,  
 Sheath'd in his iron panoply.

Seem'd all on fire within, around,  
 Deep sacristy and altar's pale ;  
 Shone every pillar foliage-bound,  
 And glimmer'd all the dead men's mail.

Blazed battlement and pinnct high,  
 Blazed every rose-carved buttress fair—  
 So still they blaze, when fate is nigh  
 The lordly line of high Saint Clair.

There are twenty of Roslin's barons bold  
 Lie buried within that proud chapelle ;  
 Each one that holy vault doth hold,  
 But the sea holds lovely Rosabelle !

And each Saint Clair was buried there  
 With candle, with book, and with knell ;  
 But the sea-caves rung, and the wild winds sung  
 The dirge of lovely Rosabelle.

SIR W. SCOTT

### ON AN INFANT DYING AS SOON AS BORN

I saw where in the shroud did lurk  
 A curious frame of Nature's work ;  
 A flow'ret crushéd in the bud,  
 A nameless piece of Babyhood,  
 Was in her cradle-coffin lying ;  
 Extinct, with scarce the sense of dying :  
 So soon to exchange the imprisoning womb  
 For darker closets of the tomb !

She did but ope an eye, and put  
 A clear beam forth, then straight up shut  
 For the long dark : ne'er more to see  
 Through glasses of mortality.  
 Riddle of destiny, who can show  
 What thy short visit meant, or know  
 What thy errand here below ?  
 Shall we say, that Nature blind  
 Check'd her hand, and changed her mind  
 Just when she had exactly wrought  
 A finish'd pattern without fault ?  
 Could she flag, or could she tire,  
 Or lack'd she the Promethean fire  
 (With her nine moons' long workings sicken'd)  
 That should thy little limbs have quicken'd ?  
 Limbs so firm, they seem'd to assure  
 Life of health, and days mature ;  
 Woman's self in miniature !  
 Limbs so fair, they might supply  
 (Themselves now but cold imagery)  
 The sculptor to make Beauty by.  
 Or did the stern-eyed Fate descry  
 That babe or mother, one must die ;  
 So in mercy left the stock  
 And cut the branch ; to save the shock  
 Of young years widow'd, and the pain  
 When Single State comes back again  
 To the lone man who, reft of wife,  
 Thenceforward drags a maim'd life ?  
 The economy of Heaven is dark,  
 And wisest clerks have miss'd the mark  
 Why human buds, like this, should fall  
 More brief than fly ephemeral  
 That has his day ; while shrivell'd crones  
 Stiffen with age to stocks and stones ;  
 And crabbed use the conscience sears  
 In sinners of an hundred years.  
 —Mother's prattle, mother's kiss,  
 Baby fond, thou ne'er wilt miss :  
 Rites, which custom does impose,  
 Silver bells, and baby clothes ;  
 Coral redder than those lips

Which pale death did late eclipse ;  
 Music framed for infants' glee,  
 Whistle never tuned for thee ;  
 Though thou want'st not, thou shalt have them,  
 Loving hearts were they which gave them.  
 Let not one be missing ; nurse,  
 See them laid upon the hearse  
 Of infant slain by doom perverse.  
 Why should kings and nobles have  
 Pictured trophies to their grave,  
 And we, churls, to thee deny  
 Thy pretty toys with thee to lie—  
 A more harmless vanity ?

C. LAMB

## 238

## THE AFFLICTION OF MARGARET

Where art thou, my beloved Son,  
 Where art thou, worse to me than dead !  
 O find me, prosperous or undone !  
 Or if the grave be now thy bed,  
 Why am I ignorant of the same  
 That I may rest ; and neither blame  
 Nor sorrow may attend thy name ?

Seven years, alas ! to have received  
 No tidings of an only child—  
 To have despair'd, have hoped, believed,  
 And been for evermore beguiled,—  
 Sometimes with thoughts of very bliss !  
 I catch at them, and then I miss ;  
 Was ever darkness like to this ?

He was among the prime in worth,  
 An object beauteous to behold ;  
 Well born, well bred ; I sent him forth  
 Ingenuous, innocent, and bold :

If things ensued that wanted grace  
As hath been said, they were not base ;  
And never blush was on my face.

Ah ! little doth the young one dream  
When full of play and childish cares,  
What power is in his wildest scream  
Heard by his mother unawares !  
He knows it not, he cannot guess ;  
Years to a mother bring distress ;  
But do not make her love the less.

Neglect me ! no, I suffer'd long  
From that ill thought ; and being blind  
Said ' Pride shall help me in my wrong :  
Kind mother have I been, as kind  
As ever breathed : ' and that is true ;  
I've wet my path with tears like dew,  
Weeping for him when no one knew.

My Son, if thou be humbled, poor,  
Hopeless of honour and of gain,  
O ! do not dread thy mother's door ;  
Think not of me with grief and pain :  
I now can see with better eyes ;  
And worldly grandeur I despise  
And fortune with her gifts and lies.

Alas ! the fowls of heaven have wings,  
And blasts of heaven will aid their flight ;  
They mount—how short a voyage brings  
The wanderers back to their delight !  
Chains tie us down by land and sea ;  
And wishes, vain as mine, may be  
All that is left to comfort thee.

Perhaps some dungeon hears thee groan  
Maim'd, mangled by inhuman men ;  
Or thou upon a desert thrown  
Inheritest the lion's den ;  
Or hast been summon'd to the deep,  
Thou, thou, and all thy mates to keep  
An incommunicable sleep.

I look for ghosts : but none will force  
 Their way to me ; 'tis falsely said  
 That there was ever intercourse  
 Between the living and the dead ;  
 For surely then I should have sight  
 Of him I wait for day and night  
 With love and longings infinite.

My apprehensions come in crowds ;  
 I dread the rustling of the grass ;  
 The very shadows of the clouds  
 Have power to shake me as they pass ;  
 I question things, and do not find  
 One that will answer to my mind ;  
 And all the world appears unkind.

Beyond participation lie  
 My troubles, and beyond relief :  
 If any chance to heave a sigh  
 They pity me, and not my grief.  
 Then come to me, my Son, or send  
 Some tidings that my woes may end !  
 I have no other earthly friend.

W. WORDSWORTH

239

### HUNTING SONG

Waken, lords and ladies gay,  
 On the mountain dawns the day ;  
 All the jolly chase is here  
 With hawk and horse and hunting-spear ;  
 Hounds are in their couples yelling,  
 Hawks are whistling, horns are knelling,  
 Merrily, merrily mingle they,  
 ' Waken, lords and ladies gay.'

Waken, lords and ladies gay,  
 The mist has left the mountain grey,  
 Springlets in the dawn are steaming,  
 Diamonds on the brake are gleaming,

And foresters have busy been  
 To track the buck in thicket green ;  
 Now we come to chant our lay,  
 ' Waken, lords and ladies gay.'

Waken, lords and ladies gay,  
 To the greenwood haste away ;  
 We can show you where he lies,  
 Fleet of foot and tall of size ;  
 We can show the marks he made  
 When 'gainst the oak his antlers fray'd ;  
 You shall see him brought to bay ;  
 ' Waken, lords and ladies gay.'

Louder, louder, chant the lay,  
 Waken, lords and ladies gay !  
 Tell them youth and mirth and glee  
 Run a course as well as we ;  
 Time, stern huntsman ! who can balk,  
 Stanch as hound and fleet as hawk ;  
 Think of this, and rise with day,  
 Gentle lords and ladies gay !

SIR W. SCOTT

### TO THE SKYLARK

Ethereal minstrel ! pilgrim of the sky !  
 Dost thou despise the earth where cares abound ?  
 Or while the wings aspire, are heart and eye  
 Both with thy nest upon the dewy ground ?  
 Thy nest which thou canst drop into at will,  
 Those quivering wings composed, that music still !

To the last point of vision, and beyond  
 Mount, daring warbler !—that love-prompted strain  
 —'Twixt thee and thine a never-failing bond—  
 Thrills not the less the bosom of the plain :  
 Yet might'st thou seem, proud privilege ! to sing  
 All independent of the leafy Spring.



Leave to the nightingale her shady wood ;  
 A privacy of glorious light is thine,  
 Whence thou dost pour upon the world a flood  
 Of harmony, with instinct more divine ;  
 Type of the wise, who soar, but never roam—  
 True to the kindred points of Heaven and Home !  
 W. WORDSWORTH

## 241

## TO A SKYLARK

Hail to thee, blithe Spirit !  
 Bird thou never wert,  
 That from heaven, or near it  
 Pourest thy full heart  
 In profuse strains of unpremeditated art.

Higher still and higher  
 From the earth thou springest  
 Like a cloud of fire ;  
 The blue deep thou wingest,  
 And singing still dost soar, and soaring ever singest.

In the golden lightning  
 Of the sunken sun  
 O'er which clouds are brightening,  
 Thou dost float and run,  
 Like an unbodied joy whose race is just begun.

The pale purple even  
 Melts around thy flight ;  
 Like a star of heaven  
 In the broad daylight  
 Thou art unseen, but yet I hear thy shrill delight :

Keen as are the arrows  
 Of that silver sphere,  
 Whose intense lamp narrows  
 In the white dawn clear  
 Until we hardly see, we feel that it is there.

All the earth and air  
 With thy voice is loud,  
 As, when night is bare,  
 From one lonely cloud  
 The moon rains out her beams, and heaven is over-  
 flow'd.

What thou art we know not ;  
 What is most like thee ?  
 From rainbow clouds there flow not  
 Drops so bright to see  
 As from thy presence showers a rain of melody.

Like a poet hidden  
 In the light of thought,  
 Singing hymns unbidden,  
 Till the world is wrought  
 To sympathy with hopes and fears it heeded not :

Like a high-born maiden  
 In a palace tower,  
 Soothing her love-laden  
 Soul in secret hour  
 With music sweet as love, which overflows her bower :

Like a glow-worm golden  
 In a dell of dew,  
 Scattering unobtrusive  
 Its aerial hue  
 Among the flowers and grass, which screen it from the  
 view :

Like a rose embower'd  
 In its own green leaves,  
 By warm winds deflower'd,  
 Till the scent it gives  
 Makes faint with too much sweet these heavy-winged  
 thieves.

Sound of vernal showers  
 On the twinkling grass,  
 Rain-awaken'd flowers,  
 All that ever was  
 Joyous, and clear, and fresh, thy music doth surpass.

Teach us, sprite or bird,  
 What sweet thoughts are thine :  
 I have never heard  
 Praise of love or wine  
 That panted forth a flood of rapture so divine.

Chorus hymeneal  
 Or triumphal chaunt  
 Match'd with thine, would be all  
 But an empty vaunt—  
 A thing wherein we feel there is some hidden want.

What objects are the fountains  
 Of thy happy strain ?  
 What fields, or waves, or mountains ?  
 What shapes of sky or plain ?  
 What love of thine own kind ? what ignorance of  
 pain ?

With thy clear keen joyance  
 Languor cannot be :  
 Shadow of annoyance  
 Never came near thee :  
 Thou lovest ; but ne'er knew love's sad satiety.

Waking or asleep  
 Thou of death must deem  
 Things more true and deep  
 Than we mortals dream,  
 Or how could thy notes flow in such a crystal stream?

We look before and after,  
 And pine for what is not :  
 Our sincerest laughter  
 With some pain is fraught ;  
 Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest  
 thought.

Yet if we could scorn  
 Hate, and pride, and fear ;  
 If we were things born  
 Not to shed a tear,  
 I know not how thy joy we ever should come near.

Better than all measures  
 Of delightful sound,  
 Better than all treasures  
 That in books are found,  
 Thy skill to poet were, thou scorner of the ground !

Teach me half the gladness  
 That thy brain must know,  
 Such harmonious madness  
 From my lips would flow  
 The world should listen then, as I am listening now !  
 P. B. SHELLEY

## 242

## THE GREEN LINNET

Beneath these fruit-tree boughs that shed  
 Their snow-white blossoms on my head,  
 With brightest sunshine round me spread  
 Of Spring's unclouded weather,  
 In this sequester'd nook how sweet  
 To sit upon my orchard-seat !  
 And flowers and birds once more to greet,  
 My last year's friends together.

One have I mark'd, the happiest guest  
 In all this covert of the blest :  
 Hail to Thee, far above the rest  
 In joy of voice and pinion !  
 Thou, Linnet ! in thy green array  
 Presiding Spirit here to-day  
 Dost lead the revels of the May,  
 And this is thy dominion.

While birds, and butterflies, and flowers,  
 Make all one band of paramours,  
 Thou, ranging up and down the bowers,  
 Art sole in thy employment ;  
 A Life, a Presence like the air,  
 Scattering thy gladness without care,  
 Too blest with any one to pair,  
 Thyself thy own enjoyment.

Amid yon tuft of hazel trees  
 That twinkle to the gusty breeze,  
 Behold him perch'd in cactacies  
 Yet seeming still to hover ;  
 There, where the flutter of his wings  
 Upon his back and body flings  
 Shadows and sunny glimmerings,  
 That cover him all over.

My dazzled sight he oft deceives—  
 A brother of the dancing leaves ;  
 Then fits, and from the cottage-eaves  
 Pours forth his song in gushes,  
 As if by that exulting strain  
 He mock'd and treated with disdain  
 The voiceless Form he chose to feign,  
 While fluttering in the bushes.

W. WORDSWORTH

243

### TO THE CUCKOO

O blithe new-comer ! I have heard,  
 I hear thee and rejoice :  
 O Cuckoo ! shall I call thee bird,  
 Or but a wandering Voice ?

While I am lying on the grass  
 Thy twofold shout I hear ;  
 From hill to hill it seems to pass,  
 At once far off and near.

Though babbling only to the vale  
 Of sunshine and of flowers,  
 Thou bringest unto me a tale  
 Of visionary hours.

Thrice welcome, darling of the Spring !  
 Even yet thou art to me  
 No bird, but an invisible thing,  
 A voice, a mystery ;

The same whom in my schoolboy days  
I listen'd to ; that Cry  
Which made me look a thousand ways  
In bush, and tree, and sky.

To seek thee did I often rove  
Through woods and on the green ;  
And thou wert still a hope, a love ;  
Still long'd for, never seen !

And I can listen to thee yet ;  
Can lie upon the plain  
And listen, till I do beget  
That golden time again.

O blesséd bird ! the earth we pace  
Again appears to be  
An unsubstantial, fairy place,  
That is fit home for Thee !

W. WORDSWORTH

### ODE TO A NIGHTINGALE

My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains  
My sense, as though of hemlock I had drunk,  
Or emptied some dull opiate to the drains  
One minute past, and Lethe-wards had sunk :  
'Tis not through envy of thy happy lot,  
But being too happy in thy happiness,—  
That thou, light-wingéd Dryad of the trees,  
In some melodious plot  
Of beechen green, and shadows numberless,  
Singest of summer in full-throated ease.

O for a draught of vintage ! that hath been  
Cool'd a long age in the deep-delvéd earth,  
Tasting of Flora and the country-green,  
Dance, and Provençal song, and sunburnt mirth.  
O for a beaker full of the warm South,  
Full of the true, the blushful Hippocrene,

With beaded bubbles winking at the brim  
 And purple-stainéd mouth ;  
 That I might drink, and leave the world unseen,  
 And with thee fade away into the forest dim :

Fade far away, dissolve, and quite forget  
 What thou among the leaves hast never known,  
 The weariness, the fever, and the fret  
 Here, where men sit and hear each other groan ;  
 Where palsy shakes a few, sad, last grey hairs,  
 Where youth grows pale, and spectre-thin, and dies ;  
 Where but to think is to be full of sorrow  
 And leaden-eyed despairs ;  
 Where Beauty cannot keep her lustrous eyes,  
 Or new Love pine at them beyond to-morrow.

Away ! away ! for I will fly to thee,  
 Not charioted by Bacchus and his pards,  
 But on the viewless wings of Poesy,  
 Though the dull brain perplexes and retards :  
 Already with thee ! tender is the night,  
 And haply the Queen-Moon is on her throne,  
 Cluster'd around by all her starry Fays ;  
 But here there is no light  
 Save what from heaven is with the breezes blown  
 Through verdurous glooms and winding mossy  
 ways.

I cannot see what flowers are at my feet,  
 Nor what soft incense hangs upon the boughs,  
 But, in embalméd darkness, guess each sweet  
 Wherewith the seasonable month endows  
 The grass, the thicket, and the fruit-tree wild ;  
 White hawthorn, and the pastoral eglantine ;  
 Fast-fading violets cover'd up in leaves ;  
 And mid-May's eldest child  
 The coming musk-rose, full of dewy wine,  
 The murmurous haunt of flies on summer eves.

Darkling I listen ; and for many a time  
 I have been half in love with easeful Death,  
 Call'd him soft names in many a muséd rhyme,  
 To take into the air my quiet breath ;

Now more than ever seems it rich to die,  
 To cease upon the midnight with no pain,  
 While thou art pouring forth thy soul abroad  
 In such an ecstasy !  
 Still wouldst thou sing, and I have ears in vain—  
 To thy high requiem become a sod.

Thou wast not born for death, immortal Bird !  
 No hungry generations tread thee down ;  
 The voice I hear this passing night was heard  
 In ancient days by emperor and clown :  
 Perhaps the selfsame song that found a path  
 Through the sad heart of Ruth, when, sick for  
 home,  
 She stood in tears amid the alien corn ;  
 The same that oft-times hath  
 Charm'd magic casements, opening on the foam  
 Of perilous seas, in faery lands forlorn.

Forlorn ! the very word is like a bell  
 To toll me back from thee to my sole self !  
 Adieu ! the fancy cannot cheat so well  
 As she is fabled to do, deceiving elf.  
 Adieu ! adieu ! thy plaintive anthem fades  
 Past the near meadows, over the still stream,  
 Up the hill-side ; and now 'tis buried deep  
 In the next valley-glades :  
 Was it a vision, or a waking dream ?  
 Fled is that music :—do I wake or sleep ?  
J. KEATS

## UPON WESTMINSTER BRIDGE

*Sept. 3, 1802*

Earth has not anything to show more fair :  
 Dull would he be of soul who could pass by  
 A sight so touching in its majesty :  
 This City now doth like a garment wear



The beauty of the morning : silent, bare,  
 Ships, towers, domes, theatres, and temples lie  
 Open unto the fields, and to the sky,  
 All bright and glittering in the smokeless air.

Never did sun more beautifully steep  
 In his first splendour valley, rock, or hill ;  
 Ne'er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep !

The river glideth at his own sweet will :  
 Dear God ! the very houses seem asleep ;  
 And all that mighty heart is lying still !

W. WORDSWORTH

## 246

## OZYMANDIAS OF EGYPT

I met a traveller from an antique land  
 Who said : Two vast and trunkless legs of stone  
 Stand in the desert. Near them on the sand,  
 Half sunk, a shatter'd visage lies, whose frown  
 And wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command  
 Tell that its sculptor well those passions read  
 Which yet survive, stamp'd on these lifeless things.  
 The hand that mock'd them and the heart that fed ;  
 And on the pedestal these words appear :  
 ' My name is Ozymandias, king of kings :  
 Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair ! '  
 Nothing beside remains. Round the decay  
 Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare,  
 The lone and level sands stretch far away.

P. B. SHELLEY

247

COMPOSED AT NEIDPATH CASTLE, THE  
PROPERTY OF LORD QUEENSBERRY, 1803

Degenerate Douglas ! O the unworthy lord !  
Whom mere despite of heart could so far please  
And love of havoc (for with such disease  
Fame taxes him) that he could send forth word

To level with the dust a noble horde,  
A brotherhood of venerable trees,  
Leaving an ancient dome, and towers like these  
Beggar'd and outraged !—Many hearts deplored

The fate of those old trees ; and oft with pain  
The traveller at this day will stop and gaze  
On wrongs, which Nature scarcely seems to heed :

For shelter'd places, bosoms, nooks, and bays,  
And the pure mountains, and the gentle Tweed,  
And the green silent pastures, yet remain.

W. WORDSWORTH

248

ADMONITION TO A TRAVELLER

Yes, there is holy pleasure in thine eye !  
—The lovely cottage in the guardian nook  
Hath stirr'd thee deeply ; with its own dear brook,  
Its own small pasture, almost its own sky !

But covet not the abode—O do not sigh  
As many do, repining while they look ;  
Intruders who would tear from Nature's book  
This precious leaf with harsh impiety :

—Think what the home would be if it were thine,  
Even thine, though few thy wants !—Roof, window,  
door,  
The very flowers are sacred to the Poor,

The roses to the porch which they entwine :  
 Yea, all that now enchants thee, from the day  
 On which it should be touch'd would melt away !  
 W. WORDSWORTH

## 249

## TO THE HIGHLAND GIRL OF INVERSNEYDE

Sweet Highland Girl, a very shower  
 Of beauty is thy earthly dower !  
 Twice seven consenting years have shed  
 Their utmost bounty on thy head :  
 And these grey rocks ; that household lawn ;  
 Those trees—a veil just half withdrawn,  
 This fall of water that doth make  
 A murmur near the silent lake,  
 This little bay, a quiet road  
 That holds in shelter thy abode ;  
 In truth together ye do seem  
 Like something fashion'd in a dream ;  
 Such forms as from their covert peep  
 When earthly cares are laid asleep !  
 But O fair Creature ! in the light  
 Of common day, so heavenly bright,  
 I bless Thee, Vision as thou art,  
 I bless thee with a human heart :  
 God shield thee to thy latest years !  
 Thee, neither know I, nor thy peers ;  
 And yet my eyes are fill'd with tears.

With earnest feeling I shall pray  
 For thee when I am far away ;  
 For never saw I mien or face  
 In which more plainly I could trace  
 Benignity and home-bred sense  
 Ripening in perfect innocence.  
 Here scatter'd like a random seed,  
 Remote from men, Thou dost not need  
 The embarrass'd look of shy distress,  
 And maidenly shamefacedness :

Thou wear'st upon thy forehead clear  
 The freedom of a mountaineer :  
 A face with gladness overspread !  
 Soft smiles, by human kindness bred ;  
 And seemliness complete, that sways  
 Thy courtesies, about thee plays ;  
 With no restraint, but such as springs  
 From quick and eager visitings  
 Of thoughts that lie beyond the reach  
 Of thy few words of English speech :  
 A bondage sweetly brook'd, a strife  
 That gives thy gestures grace and life !  
 So have I, not unmoved in mind,  
 Seen birds of tempest-loving kind—  
 Thus beating up against the wind.

What hand but would a garland cull  
 For thee who art so beautiful ?  
 O happy pleasure ! here to dwell  
 Beside thee in some heathy dell ;  
 Adopt your homely ways, and dress,  
 A shepherd, thou a shepherdess !  
 But I could frame a wish for thee  
 More like a grave reality :  
 Thou art to me but as a wave  
 Of the wild sea : and I would have  
 Some claim upon thee, if I could,  
 Though but of common neighbourhood.  
 What joy to hear thee, and to see !  
 Thy elder brother I would be,  
 Thy father—anything to thee !

Now thanks to Heaven ! that of its grace  
 Hath led me to this lonely place.  
 Joy have I had ; and going hence  
 I bear away my recompense.  
 In spots like these it is we prize  
 Our memory, feel that she hath eyes :  
 Then why should I be loath to stir ?  
 I feel this place was made for her ;

To give new pleasure like the past,  
 Continued long as life shall last.  
 Nor am I loath, though pleased at heart,  
 Sweet Highland Girl ! from thee to part ;  
 For I, methinks, till I grow old  
 As fair before me shall behold  
 As I do now, the cabin small,  
 The lake, the bay, the waterfall ;  
 And Thee, the spirit of them all !

W. WORDSWORTH

250

### THE REAPER

Behold her, single in the field,  
 Yon solitary Highland Lass !  
 Reaping and singing by herself ;  
 Stop here, or gently pass !  
 Alone she cuts and binds the grain,  
 And sings a melancholy strain ;  
 O listen ! for the vale profound  
 Is overflowing with the sound.

No nightingale did ever chaunt  
 More welcome notes to weary bands  
 Of travellers in some shady haunt,  
 Among Arabian sands :  
 A voice so thrilling ne'er was ever heard  
 In spring-time from the cuckoo-bird,  
 Breaking the silence of the seas  
 Among the farthest Hebrides.

Will no one tell me what she sings ?  
 Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow  
 For old, unhappy, far-off things,  
 And battles long ago :  
 Or is it some more humble lay,  
 Familiar matter of to-day ?  
 Some natural sorrow, loss, or pain,  
 That has been, and may be again !

Whate'er the theme, the maiden sang  
 As if her song could have no ending;  
 I saw her singing at her work,  
 And o'er the sickle bending;  
 I listen'd. motionless and still;  
 And, as I mounted up the hill,  
 The music in my heart I bore,  
 Long after it was heard no more.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 251

## THE REVERIE OF POOR SUSAN

At the corner of Wood Street, when daylight appears,  
 Hangs a Thrush that sings loud, it has sung for  
 three years :

Poor Susan has pass'd by the spot, and has heard  
 In the silence of morning the song of the bird.

'Tis a note of enchantment ; what ails her ? She sees  
 A mountain ascending, a vision of trees ;  
 Bright volumes of vapour through Lothbury glide,  
 And a river flows on through the vale of Cheapside.

Green pastures she views in the midst of the dale  
 Down which she so often has tripp'd with her pail ;  
 And a single small cottage, a nest like a dove's,  
 The one only dwelling on earth that she loves.

She looks, and her heart is in heaven : but they fade,  
 The mist and the river, the hill and the shade ;  
 The stream will not flow, and the hill will not rise,  
 And the colours have all pass'd away from her eyes !

W. WORDSWORTH

252

## TO A LADY, WITH A GUITAR

Ariel to Miranda :—Take  
This slave of music, for the sake  
Of him, who is the slave of thee ;  
And teach it all the harmony  
In which thou canst, and only thou,  
Make the delighted spirit glow,  
Till joy denies itself again  
And, too intense, is turn'd to pain.  
For by permission and command  
Of thine own Prince Ferdinand,  
Poor Ariel sends this silent token  
Of more than ever can be spoken ;  
Your guardian spirit, Ariel, who  
From life to life must still pursue  
Your happiness, for thus alone  
Can Ariel ever find his own.  
From Prospero's enchanted cell,  
As the mighty verses tell,  
To the throne of Naples he  
Lit you o'er the trackless sea,  
Flitting on, your prow before,  
Like a living meteor.  
When you die, the silent Moon  
In her interlunar swoon  
Is not sadder in her cell  
Than deserted Ariel.  
When you live again on earth.  
Like an unseen Star of birth  
Ariel guides you o'er the sea  
Of life from your nativity.  
Many changes have been run  
Since Ferdinand and you begun  
Your course of love, and Ariel still  
Has track'd your steps and served your will.  
Now in humbler, happier lot,  
This is all remember'd not ;

And now, alas ! the poor sprite is  
 Imprison'd for some fault of his  
 In a body like a grave—  
 From you he only dares to crave,  
 For his service and his sorrow  
 A smile to-day, a song to-morrow.

The artist who this idol wrought  
 To echo all harmonious thought,  
 Fell'd a tree, while on the steep  
 The woods were in their winter sleep,  
 Rock'd in that repose divine  
 On the wind-swept Apennine ;  
 And dreaming, some of Autumn past,  
 And some of Spring approaching fast,  
 And some of April buds and showers,  
 And some of songs in July bowers,  
 And all of love ; and so this tree,—  
 O that such our death may be !—  
 Died in sleep, and felt no pain,  
 To live in happier form again :  
 From which, beneath Heaven's fairest star,  
 The artist wrought this loved Guitar ;  
 And taught it justly to reply  
 To all who question skilfully  
 In language gentle as thine own ;  
 Whispering in enamour'd tone  
 Sweet oracles of woods and dells,  
 And summer winds in sylvan cells ;  
 —For it had learnt all harmonies  
 Of the plains and of the skies,  
 Of the forests and the mountains,  
 And the many-voicéd fountains ;  
 The clearest echoes of the hills,  
 The softest notes of falling rills,  
 The melodies of birds and bees,  
 The murmuring of summer seas,  
 And pattering rain, and breathing dew,  
 And airs of evening ; and it knew  
 That seldom-heard mysterious sound  
 Which, driven on its diurnal round,



As it floats through boundless day,  
Our world enkindles on its way :  
—All this it knows, but will not tell  
To those who cannot question well  
The Spirit that inhabits it ;  
It talks according to the wit  
Of its companions ; and no more  
Is heard than has been felt before  
By those who tempt it to betray  
These secrets of an elder day.  
But, sweetly as its answers will  
Flatter hands of perfect skill,  
It keeps its highest holiest tone  
For one beloved Friend alone.

P. B. SHELLEY

## 253

## THE DAFFODILS

I wander'd lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host of golden daffodils,  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle on the milky way,  
They stretch'd in never-ending line  
Along the margin of a bay :  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced, but they  
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee :—  
A Poet could not but be gay  
In such a jocund company !  
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had brought ;

For oft, when on my couch I lie  
 In vacant or in pensive mood,  
 They flash upon that inward eye  
 Which is the bliss of solitude ;  
 And then my heart with pleasure fills  
 And dances with the daffodils.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 254

## TO THE DAISY

With little here to do or see  
 Of things that in the great world be,  
 Sweet Daisy ! oft I talk to thee  
     For thou art worthy,  
 Thou unassuming Commonplace  
 Of Nature, with that homely face,  
 And yet with something of a grace  
     Which love makes for thee !

Oft on the dappled turf at ease  
 I sit and play with similes  
 Loose types of things through all degrees,  
     Thoughts of thy raising ;  
 And many a fond and idle name  
 I give to thee, for praise or blame  
 As is the humour of the game,  
     While I am gazing.

A nun demure, of lowly port ;  
 Or sprightly maiden, of Love's court,  
 In thy simplicity the sport  
     Of all temptations ;  
 A queen in crown of rubies drest ;  
 A starveling in a scanty vest ;  
 Are all, as seems to suit thee best,  
     Thy appellations.

A little Cyclops, with one eye  
 Staring to threaten and defy,  
 That thought comes next—and instantly  
     The freak is over,

The shape will vanish, and behold !  
 A silver shield with boss of gold  
 That spreads itself, some fairy bold  
     In fight to cover.

I see thee glittering from afar—  
 And then thou art a pretty star,  
 Not quite so fair as many are  
     In heaven above thee !  
 Yet like a star, with glittering crest,  
 Self-poised in air thou seem'st to rest :—  
 May peace come never to his nest  
     Who shall reprove thee !

Sweet Flower ! for by that name at last  
 When all my reveries are past  
 I call thee, and to that cleave fast,  
     Sweet silent Creature !  
 That breath'st with me in sun and air,  
 Do thou, as thou art wont, repair  
 My heart with gladness, and a share  
     Of thy meek nature !

W. WORDSWORTH

## ODE TO AUTUMN

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness !  
 Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun ;  
 Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
 With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves  
     run ;  
 To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,  
 And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core ;  
 To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells  
 With a sweet kernel ; to set budding more  
 And still more, later flowers for the bees,  
 Until they think warm days will never cease ;  
 For Summer has o'erbrimm'd their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen Thee oft amid thy store ?  
 Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find  
 Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,  
 Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind ;  
 Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,  
 Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook  
 Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers ;  
 And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep  
 Steady thy laden head across a brook ;  
 Or by a cider-press, with patient look,  
 Thou watchest the last oozings, hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring ? Aye, where are  
 they ?

Think not of them,—thou hast thy music too,  
 While barréd clouds bloom the soft-dying day  
 And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue ;  
 Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn  
 Among the river-sallows, borne aloft  
 Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies ;  
 And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn ;  
 Hedge-crickets sing, and now with treble soft  
 The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft,  
 And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

J. KEATS

### ODE TO WINTER

*Germany, December, 1800*

When first the fiery-mantled Sun  
 His heavenly race began to run,  
 Round the earth and ocean blue  
 His children four the Seasons flew :—  
     First, in green apparel dancing,  
 The young Spring smiled with angel-grace ;  
     Rosy Summer, next advancing,  
 Rush'd into her sire's embrace—  
 Her bright-hair'd sire, who bade her keep  
     For ever nearest to his smiles,

On Calpe's olive-shaded steep  
 Or India's citron-cover'd isles.  
 More remote, and buxom-brown,  
 The Queen of vintage bow'd before his throne ;  
 A rich pomegranate gemm'd her crown,  
 A ripe sheaf bound her zone.

But howling Winter fled afar  
 To hills that prop the polar star ;  
 And loves on deer-borne car to ride  
 With barren darkness at his side,  
 Round the shore where loud Lofoden  
 Whirls to death the roaring whale,  
 Round the hall where Runic Odin  
 Howls his war-song to the gale—  
 Save when adown the ravaged globe  
 He travels on his native storm,  
 Deflowering Nature's grassy robe  
 And trampling on her faded form ;  
 Till light's returning Lord assume  
 The shaft that drives him to his northern field,  
 Of power to pierce his raven plume  
 And crystal-cover'd shield.

O sire of storms ! whose savage ear  
 The Lapland drum delights to hear,  
 When Frenzy with her bloodshot eye  
 Implores thy dreadful deity—  
 Archangel ! Power of desolation !  
 Fast descending as thou art,  
 Say, hath mortal invocation  
 Spells to touch thy stony heart :  
 Then, sullen Winter ! hear my prayer,  
 And gently rule the ruin'd year ;  
 Nor chill the wanderer's bosom bare  
 Nor freeze the wretch's falling tear :  
 To shuddering Want's unmantled bed  
 Thy horror-breathing agues cease to lend,  
 And gently on the orphan head  
 Of Innocence descend.

But chiefly spare, O king of clouds !  
 The sailor on his airy shrouds,  
 When wrecks and beacons strew the steep  
 And spectres walk along the deep.  
 Milder yet thy snowy breezes  
 Pour on yonder tented shores,  
 Where the Rhine's broad billow freezes,  
 Or the dark-brown Danube roars.  
 O winds of Winter ! list ye there  
 To many a deep and dying groan ?  
 Or start, ye demons of the midnight air,  
 At shrieks and thunders louder than your own ?  
 Alas ! e'en your unhallow'd breath  
 May spare the victim fallen low ;  
 But Man will ask no truce to death,  
 No bounds to human woe.

T. CAMPBELL

257

### YARROW UNVISITED

1803

From Stirling Castle we had seen  
 The mazy Forth unravell'd,  
 Had trod the banks of Clyde and Tay,  
 And with the Tweed had travell'd ;  
 And when we came to Clovenford,  
 Then said my ' winsome Marrow,'  
 ' Whate'er betide, we'll turn aside,  
 And see the Braes of Yarrow.'

' Let Yarrow folk, frae Selkirk town,  
 Who have been buying, selling,  
 Go back to Yarrow, 'tis their own,  
 Each maiden to her dwelling !  
 On Yarrow's banks let herons feed,  
 Hares couch, and rabbits burrow,  
 But we will downward with the Tweed,  
 Nor turn aside to Yarrow.

' There 's Galla Water, Leader Haughs,  
Both lying right before us ;  
And Dryburgh, where with chiming Tweed  
The lintwhites sing in chorus ;  
There 's pleasant Tiviot-dale, a land  
Made blithe with plough and harrow :  
Why throw away a needful day  
To go in search of Yarrow ?

' What 's Yarrow but a river bare  
That glides the dark hills under ?  
There are a thousand such elsewhere  
As worthy of your wonder.'  
—Strange words they seem'd of slight and scorn ;  
My true-love sigh'd for sorrow,  
And look'd me in the face, to think  
I thus could speak of Yarrow !

' O green,' said I, ' are Yarrow's holms,  
And sweet is Yarrow flowing !  
Fair hangs the apple frae the rock,  
But we will leave it growing.  
O'er hilly path and open strath  
We'll wander Scotland thorough ;  
But, though so near, we will not turn  
Into the dale of Yarrow.

' Let beeves and home-bred kine partake  
The sweets of Burn-mill meadow ;  
The swan on still Saint Mary's Lake  
Float double, swan and shadow !  
We will not see them ; will not go  
To-day, nor yet to-morrow ;  
Enough if in our hearts we know  
There 's such a place as Yarrow.

' Be Yarrow stream unseen, unknown ;  
It must, or we shall rue it :  
We have a vision of our own.  
Ah ! why should we undo it ?

The treasured dreams of times long past,  
 We'll keep them, winsome Marrow !  
 For when we're there, although 'tis fair,  
 'Twill be another Yarrow !

' If Care with freezing years should come  
 And wandering seem but folly,—  
 Should we be loath to stir from home,  
 And yet be melancholy ;  
 Should life be dull, and spirits low,  
 'Twill soothe us in our sorrow  
 That earth has something yet to show,  
 The bonny holms of Yarrow ! '

W. WORDSWORTH

### YARROW VISITED

*September, 1814*

And is this—Yarrow ?—This the Stream  
 Of which my fancy cherish'd  
 So faithfully, a waking dream,  
 An image that hath perish'd ?  
 O that some minstrel's harp were near  
 To utter notes of gladness  
 And chase this silence from the air,  
 That fills my heart with sadness !

Yet why ?—a silvery current flows  
 With uncontroll'd meanderings ;  
 Nor have these eyes by greener hills  
 Been soothed, in all my wanderings.  
 And, through her depths, Saint Mary's Lake  
 Is visibly delighted ;  
 For not a feature of those hills  
 Is in the mirror slighted.

A blue sky bends o'er Yarrow Vale,  
 Save where that pearly whiteness  
 Is round the rising sun diffused,  
 A tender hazy brightness ;



Mild dawn of promise ! that exclude ;  
 All profitless dejection ;  
 Though not unwilling here to admit  
 A pensive recollection.

Where was it that the famous Flower  
 Of Yarrow Vale lay bleeding ?  
 His bed perchance was yon smooth mound  
 On which the herd is feeding :  
 And haply from this crystal pool,  
 Now peaceful as the morning,  
 The Water-wraith ascended thrice,  
 And gave his doleful warning.

Delicious is the Lay that sings  
 The haunts of happy lovers,  
 The path that leads them to the grove,  
 The leafy grove that covers :  
 And pity sanctifies the verse  
 That paints, by strength of sorrow,  
 The unconquerable strength of love ;  
 Bear witness, rueful Yarrow !

But thou that didst appear so fair  
 To fond imagination,  
 Dost rival in the light of day  
 Her delicate creation :  
 Meek loveliness is round thee spread,  
 A softness still and holy :  
 The grace of forest charms decay'd,  
 And pastoral melancholy.

That region left, the vale unfolds  
 Rich groves of lofty stature,  
 With Yarrow winding through the pomp  
 Of cultivated nature ;  
 And rising from those lofty groves  
 Behold a ruin hoary,  
 The shatter'd front of Newark's Towers,  
 Renown'd in Border story.

Fair scenes for childhood's opening bloom,  
 For sportive youth to stray in,  
 For manhood to enjoy his strength,  
 And age to wear away in !  
 Yon cottage seems a bower of bliss,  
 A covert for protection  
 Of tender thoughts, that nestle there—  
 The brood of chaste affection.

How sweet on this autumnal day  
 The wild-wood fruits to gather,  
 And on my true-love's forehead plant  
 A crest of blooming heather !  
 And what if I enwreathed my own ?  
 'Twere no offence to reason ;  
 The sober hills thus deck their brows  
 To meet the wintry season.

I see—but not by sight alone,  
 Loved Yarrow, have I won thee ;  
 A ray of Fancy still survives—  
 Her sunshine plays upon thee !  
 Thy ever-youthful waters keep  
 A course of lively pleasure ;  
 And gladsome notes my lips can breathe  
 Accordant to the measure.

The vapours linger round the heights,  
 They melt, and soon must vanish ;  
 One hour is theirs, nor more is mine—  
 Sad thought ! which I would banish,  
 But that I know, where'er I go,  
 Thy genuine image, Yarrow !  
 Will dwell with me—to heighten joy,  
 And cheer my mind in sorrow.

W. WORDSWORTH

259

## THE INVITATION

Best and brightest, come away,  
Fairer far than this fair day,  
Which, like thee, to those in sorrow  
Comes to bid a sweet good-morrow  
To the rough year just awake  
In its cradle on the brake.  
The brightest hour of unborn Spring  
Through the Winter wandering,  
Found, it seems, the halcyon morn  
To hoar February born ;  
Bending from Heaven, in azure mirth,  
It kiss'd the forehead of the earth,  
And smiled upon the silent sea,  
And bade the frozen streams be free,  
And waked to music all their fountains,  
And breathed upon the frozen mountains,  
And like a prophetess of May  
Strew'd flowers upon the barren way,  
Making the wintry world appear  
Like one on whom thou smilest, dear.

Away, away, from men and towns,  
To the wild wood and the downs—  
To the silent wilderness  
Where the soul need not repress  
Its music, lest it should not find  
An echo in another's mind,  
While the touch of Nature's art  
Harmonizes heart to heart.

Radiant Sister of the Day  
Awake ! arise ! and come away !  
To the wild woods and the plains,  
To the pools where winter rains  
Image all their roof of leaves,  
Where the pine its garland weaves

Of sapless green, and ivy dun,  
 Round stems that never kiss the sun,  
 Where the lawns and pastures be  
 And the sandhills of the sea,  
 Where the melting hoar-frost wet ;  
 The daisy-star that never sets,  
 And wind-flowers and violets  
 Which yet join not scent to hue  
 Crown the pale year weak and new ;  
 When the night is left behind  
 In the deep east, dim and blind,  
 And the blue noon is over us,  
 And the multitudinous  
 Billows murmur at our feet,  
 Where the earth and ocean meet,  
 And all things seem only one  
 In the universal Sun.

P. B. SHELLEY

### THE RECOLLECTION

Now the last day of many days  
 All beautiful and bright as thou,  
 The loveliest and the last, is dead,  
 Rise, Memory, and write its praise !  
 Up,—to thy wonted work ! come, trace  
 The epitaph of glory fled,  
 For now the Earth has changed its face,  
 A frown is on the Heaven's brow.

We wander'd to the Pine Forest  
 That skirts the Ocean's foam ;  
 The lightest wind was in its nest,  
 The tempest in its home.  
 The whispering waves were half asleep,  
 The clouds were gone to play,  
 And on the bosom of the deep  
 The smile of Heaven lay ;

It seem'd as if the hour were one  
Sent from beyond the skies  
Which scatter'd from above the sun  
A light of Paradise !

We paused amid the pines that stood  
The giants of the waste,  
Tortured by storms to shapes as rude  
As serpents interlaced,—  
And soothed by every azure breath  
That under heaven is blown  
To harmonies and hues beneath,  
As tender as its own :  
Now all the tree-tops lay asleep  
Like green waves on the sea,  
As still as in the silent deep  
The ocean-woods may be.

How calm it was !—the silence there  
By such a chain was bound,  
That even the busy woodpecker  
Made stiller by her sound  
The inviolable quietness ;  
The breath of peace we drew  
With its soft motion made not less  
The calm that round us grew.  
There seem'd from the remotest seat  
Of the white mountain waste  
To the soft flower beneath our feet,  
A magic circle traced,—  
A spirit interfused around,  
A thrilling silent life ;  
To momentary peace it bound  
Our mortal nature's strife ;—  
And still I felt the centre of  
The magic circle there  
Was one fair form that fill'd with love  
The lifeless atmosphere.

We paused beside the pools that lie  
Under the forest bough ;

Each seem'd as 'twere a little sky  
 Gulf'd in a world below ;  
 A firmament of purple light  
 Which in the dark earth lay,  
 More boundless than the depth of night  
 And purer than the day—  
 In which the lovely forests grew  
 As in the upper air,  
 More perfect both in shape and hue  
 Than any spreading there.  
 There lay the glade and neighbouring lawn,  
 And through the dark green wood  
 The white sun twinkling like the dawn  
 Out of a speckled cloud.  
 Sweet views which in our world above  
 Can never well be seen  
 Were imaged by the water's love  
 Of that fair forest green :  
 And all was interfused beneath  
 With an Elysian glow,  
 An atmosphere without a breath,  
 A softer day below.  
 Like one beloved, the scene had lent  
 To the dark water's breast  
 Its every leaf and lineament  
 With more than truth exprest ;  
 Until an envious wind crept by,  
 Like an unwelcome thought  
 Which from the mind's too faithful eye  
 Blots one dear image out.  
 —Though thou art ever fair and kind,  
 The forests ever green,  
 Less oft is peace in Shelley's mind  
 Than calm in waters seen !

P. B. SHELLEY

261

## BY THE SEA

It is a beauteous evening, calm and free ;  
 The holy time is quiet as a Nun  
 Breathless with adoration ; the broad sun  
 Is sinking down in its tranquillity ;

The gentleness of heaven is on the Sea :  
 Listen ! the mighty Being is awake,  
 And doth with his eternal motion make  
 A sound like thunder—everlastingly.

Dear child ! dear girl ! that walkest with me here,  
 If thou appear untouch'd by solemn thought  
 Thy nature is not therefore less divine :

Thou liest in Abraham's bosom all the year,  
 And worshipp'st at the Temple's inner shrine,  
 God being with thee when we know it not.

W. WORDSWORTH

262

## TO THE EVENING STAR

Star that bringest home the bee,  
 And sett'st the weary labourer free !  
 If any star shed peace, 'tis Thou  
 That send'st it from above,  
 Appearing when Heaven's breath and brow  
 Are sweet as hers we love.

Come to the luxuriant skies,  
 Whilst the landscape's odours rise,  
 Whilst far-off lowing herds are heard  
 And songs when toil is done,  
 From cottages whose smoke unstirr'd  
 Curls yellow in the sun.

Star of love's soft interviews,  
 Parted lovers on thee muse ;  
 Their remembrancer in Heaven  
 Of thrilling vows thou art,  
 Too delicious to be riven  
 By absence from the heart.

T. CAMPBELL

## 263

## DATUR HORA QUIETI

The sun upon the lake is low,  
 The wild birds hush their song,  
 The hills have evening's deepest glow,  
 Yet Leonard tarries long.  
 Now all whom varied toil and care  
 From home and love divide,  
 In the calm sunset may repair  
 Each to the loved one's side.

The noble dame on turret high,  
 Who waits her gallant knight,  
 Looks to the western beam to spy  
 The flash of armour bright.  
 The village maid, with hand on brow  
 The level ray to shade,  
 Upon the footpath watches now  
 For Colin's darkening plaid.

Now to their mates the wild swans row,  
 By day they swam apart.  
 And to the thicket wanders slow  
 The hind beside the hart.  
 The woodlark at his partner's side  
 Twitters his closing song—  
 All meet whom day and care divide,  
 But Leonard tarries long !

SIR W. SCOTT



264

## TO THE MOON

Art thou pale for weariness  
Of climbing heaven, and gazing on the earth,  
Wandering companionless  
Among the stars that have a different birth,—  
And ever-changing, like a joyless eye  
That finds no object worth its constancy ?

P. B. SHELLEY

265

A widow bird sate mourning for her Love  
Upon a wintry bough ;  
The frozen wind crept on above,  
The freezing stream below.

There was no leaf upon the forest bare,  
No flower upon the ground,  
And little motion in the air  
Except the mill-wheel's sound.

P. B. SHELLEY

266

## TO SLEEP

A flock of sheep that leisurely pass by  
One after one ; the sound of rain, and bees  
Murmuring ; the fall of rivers, winds and seas,  
Smooth fields, white sheets of water, and pure sky ;

I've thought of all by turns, and still I lie  
Sleepless ; and soon the small birds' melodies  
Must hear, first utter'd from my orchard trees,  
And the first cuckoo's melancholy cry.

Even thus last night, and two nights more I lay,  
 And could not win thee, Sleep ! by any stealth :  
 So do not let me wear to-night away :

Without Thee what is all the morning's wealth ?  
 Come, blesséd barrier between day and day,  
 Dear mother of fresh thoughts and joyous health !

W. WORDSWORTH

### THE SOLDIER'S DREAM

Our bugles sang truce, for the night-cloud had lower'd,  
 And the sentinel stars set their watch in the sky ;  
 And thousands had sunk on the ground overpower'd,  
 The weary to sleep, and the wounded to die.

When reposing that night on my pallet of straw  
 By the wolf-scaring faggot that guarded the slain,  
 At the dead of the night a sweet Vision I saw ;  
 And thrice ere the morning I dreamt it again.

Methought from the battle-field's dreadful array  
 Far, far, I had roam'd on a desolate track :  
 'Twas Autumn,—and sunshine arose on the way  
 To the home of my fathers, that welcomed me back.

I flew to the pleasant fields traversed so oft  
 In life's morning march, when my bosom was young ;  
 I heard my own mountain-goats bleating aloft,  
 And knew the sweet strain that the corn-reapers  
 sung.

Then pledged we the wine-cup, and fondly I swore  
 From my home and my weeping friends never to  
 part ;

My little ones kiss'd me a thousand times o'er,  
 And my wife sobb'd aloud in her fullness of heart.

'Stay—stay with us !—rest !—thou art weary and  
 worn !'—

And fain was their war-broken soldier to stay ;—  
 But sorrow return'd with the dawning of morn,  
 And the voice in my dreaming ear melted away.

T. CAMPBELL

## A DREAM OF THE UNKNOWN

I dream'd that as I wander'd by the way  
 Bare Winter suddenly was changed to Spring,  
 And gentle odours led my steps astray,  
 Mix'd with a sound of waters murmuring  
 Along a shelving bank of turf, which lay  
 Under a copse, and hardly dared to fling  
 Its green arms round the bosom of the stream,  
 But kiss'd it and then fled, as Thou mightest in  
 dream.

There grew pied wind-flowers and violets,  
 Daisies, those pearl'd Arcturi of the earth,  
 The constellated flower that never sets ;  
 Faint oxlips ; tender bluebells at whose birth  
 The sod scarce heaved ; and that tall flower that wets  
 Its mother's face with heaven-collected tears,  
 When the low wind, its playmate's voice, it hears.

And in the warm hedge grew lush eglantine,  
 Green cow-bind and the moonlight-colour'd May,  
 And cherry-blossoms, and white cups, whose wine  
 Was the bright dew yet drain'd not by the day ;  
 And wild roses, and ivy serpentine  
 With its dark buds and leaves, wandering astray ;  
 And flowers azure, black, and streak'd with gold,  
 Fairer than any waken'd eyes behold.

And nearer to the river's trembling edge  
 There grew broad flag-flowers, purple prank'd with  
 white,  
 And starry river-buds among the sedge,  
 And floating water-lilies, broad and bright,  
 Which lit the oak that overhung the hedge  
 With moonlight beams of their own watery light ;  
 And bulrushes, and reeds of such deep green  
 As soothed the dazzled eye with sober sheen.

Methought that of these visionary flowers  
 I made a nosegay, bound in such a way  
 That the same hues, which in their natural bowers  
 Were mingled or opposed, the like array  
 Kept these imprison'd children of the Hours  
 Within my hand,—and then, elate and gay,  
 I hasten'd to the spot whence I had come  
 That I might there present it—O ! to Whom ?  
 P. B. SHELLEY

## THE INNER VISION

Most sweet it is with unuplifted eyes  
 To pace the ground, if path be there or none,  
 While a fair region round the traveller lies  
 Which he forbears again to look upon ;

Pleased rather with some soft ideal scene,  
 The work of Fancy, or some happy tone  
 Of meditation, slipping in between  
 The beauty coming and the beauty gone.

—If Thought and Love desert us, from that day  
 Let us break off all commerce with the Muse :  
 With Thought and Love companions of our way—

Whate'er the senses take or may refuse,—  
 The Mind's internal heaven shall shed her dews  
 Of inspiration on the humblest lay.

W. WORDSWORTH

## THE REALM OF FANCY

Ever let the Fancy roam !  
 Pleasure never is at home :  
 At a touch sweet Pleasure melteth,  
 Like to bubbles when rain pelteth ;

Then let wingéd Fancy wander  
 Through the thought still spread beyond her :  
 Open wide the mind's cage-door,  
 She'll dart forth, and cloudward soar.  
 O sweet Fancy ! let her loose ;  
 Summer's joys are spoilt by use,  
 And the enjoying of the Spring  
 Fades as does its blossoming :  
 Autumn's red-lipp'd fruitage too,  
 Blushing through the mist and dew,  
 Cloys with tasting : What do then ?  
 Sit thee by the ingle, when  
 The sear faggot blazes bright,  
 Spirit of a winter's night ;  
 When the soundless earth is muffled,  
 And the cakéd snow is shuffled  
 From the ploughboy's heavy shoon ;  
 When the Night doth meet the Noon  
 In a dark conspiracy  
 To banish Even from her sky.  
 —Sit thee there, and send abroad,  
 With a mind self-overawed,  
 Fancy, high-commission'd :—send her !  
 She has vassals to attend her ;  
 She will bring, in spite of frost,  
 Beauties that the earth hath lost ;  
 She will bring thee, all together,  
 All delights of summer weather ;  
 All the buds and bells of May  
 From dewy sward or thorny spray ;  
 All the heapéd Autumn's wealth,  
 With a still, mysterious stealth ;  
 She will mix these pleasures up  
 Like three fit wines in a cup,  
 And thou shalt quaff it ;—thou shalt hear  
 Distant harvest-carols clear ;  
 Rustle of the reapéd corn ;  
 Sweet birds antheming the morn :  
 And in the same moment—hark !  
 'Tis the early April lark,  
 Or the rooks, with busy caw,  
 Foraging for sticks and straw.

Thou shalt, at one glance, behold  
 The daisy and the marigold ;  
 White-plumed lilies, and the first  
 Hedge-grown primrose that hath burst ;  
 Shaded hyacinth, alway  
 Sapphire queen of the mid-May ;  
 And every leaf, and every flower  
 Pearléd with the selfsame shower.  
 Thou shalt see the field-mouse peep  
 Meagre from its celléd sleep ;  
 And the snake all winter-thin  
 Cast on sunny bank its skin ;  
 Freckled nest eggs thou shalt see  
 Hatching in the hawthorn-tree,  
 When the hen-bird's wing doth rest  
 Quiet on her mossy nest ;  
 Then the hurry and alarm  
 When the bee-hive casts its swarm ;  
 Acorns ripe down-pattering  
 While the autumn breezes sing.

O sweet Fancy ! let her loose ;  
 Everything is spoilt by use :  
 Where 's the cheek that doth not fade,  
 Too much gazed at ? Where 's the maid  
 Whose lip mature is ever new ?  
 Where 's the eye, however blue,  
 Doth not weary ? Where 's the face  
 One would meet in every place ?  
 Where 's the voice, however soft,  
 One would hear so very oft ?  
 At a touch sweet Pleasure melteth  
 Like to bubbles when rain pelteth.  
 Let then wingéd Fancy find  
 Thee a mistress to thy mind :  
 Dulcet-eyed as Ceres' daughter,  
 Ere the God of Torment taught her  
 How to frown and how to chide ;  
 With a waist and with a side  
 White as Hebe's, when her zone  
 Slipt its golden clasp, and down

Fell her kirtle to her feet  
 While she held the goblet sweet,  
 And Jove grew languid.—Break the mesh  
 Of the Fancy's silken leash ;  
 Quickly break her prison-string,  
 And such joys as these she'll bring :  
 —Let the wingéd Fancy roam !  
 Pleasure never is at home.

J. KEATS

271

HYMN TO THE SPIRIT OF NATURE

Life of Life ! Thy lips enkindle  
 With their love the breath between them ;  
 And thy smiles before they dwindle  
 Make the cold air fire ; then screen them  
 In those locks, where whoso gazes  
 Faints, entangled in their mazes.

Child of Light ! Thy limbs are burning  
 Through the veil which seems to hide them,  
 As the radiant lines of morning  
 Through thin clouds, ere they divide them ;  
 And this atmosphere divinest  
 Shrouds thee wheresoe'er thou shinest.

Fair are others : none beholds Thee ;  
 But thy voice sounds low and tender  
 Like the fairest, for it folds thee  
 From the sight, that liquid splendour ;  
 And all feel, yet see them never,—  
 As I feel now, lost for ever !

Lamp of Earth ! where'er thou movest  
 Its dim shapes are clad with brightness,  
 And the souls of whom thou lovest  
 Walk upon the winds with lightness

Till they fail, as I am failing,  
 Dizzy, lost, yet unbewailing!

P. B. SHELLEY

## 272

## WRITTEN IN EARLY SPRING

I heard a thousand blended notes  
 While in a grove I sat reclined,  
 In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts  
 Bring sad thoughts to the mind.

To her fair works did Nature link  
 The human soul that through me ran ;  
 And much it grieved my heart to think  
 What Man has made of Man.

Through primrose tufts, in that sweet bower,  
 The periwinkle trail'd its wreaths ;  
 And 'tis my faith that every flower  
 Enjoys the air it breathes.

The birds around me hopp'd and play'd,  
 Their thoughts I cannot measure—  
 But the least motion which they made  
 It seem'd a thrill of pleasure.

The budding twigs spread out their fan  
 To catch the breezy air ;  
 And I must think, do all I can,  
 That there was pleasure there.

If this belief from heaven be sent,  
 If such be Nature's holy plan,  
 Have I not reason to lament  
 What Man has made of Man ?

W. WORDSWORTH



273

## RUTH : OR THE INFLUENCES OF NATURE

When Ruth was left half desolate  
Her father took another mate ;  
And Ruth, not seven years old,  
A slighted child, at her own will  
Went wandering over dale and hill,  
In thoughtless freedom, bold.

And she had made a pipe of straw,  
And music from that pipe could draw  
Like sounds of winds and floods ;  
Had built a bower upon the green,  
As if she from her birth had been  
An infant of the woods.

Beneath her father's roof, alone  
She seem'd to live ; her thoughts her own ;  
Herself her own delight :  
Pleased with herself, nor sad nor gay.  
And, passing thus the live-long day,  
She grew to woman's height.

There came a youth from Georgia's shore—  
A military casque he wore  
With splendid feathers drest ;  
He brought them from the Cherokees ;  
The feathers nodded in the breeze  
And made a gallant crest.

From Indian blood you deem him sprung :  
But no ! he spake the English tongue  
And bore a soldier's name ;  
And, when America was free  
From battle and from jeopardy,  
He 'cross the ocean came.

With hues of genius on his check,  
In finest tones the youth could speak :

—While he was yet a boy  
The moon, the glory of the sun,  
And streams that murmur as they run  
Had been his dearest joy.

He was a lovely youth ! I guess  
The panther in the wilderness  
Was not so fair as he ;  
And when he chose to sport and play,  
No dolphin ever was so gay  
Upon the tropic sea.

Among the Indians he had fought :  
And with him many tales he brought  
Of pleasure and of fear ;  
Such tales as, told to any maid  
By such a youth, in the green shade,  
Were perilous to hear.

He told of girls, a happy rout !  
Who quit their fold with dance and shout,  
Their pleasant Indian town,  
To gather strawberries all day long ;  
Returning with a choral song  
When daylight is gone down.

He spake of plants that hourly change  
Their blossoms, through a boundless range  
Of intermingling hues ;  
With budding, fading, faded flowers,  
They stand the wonder of the bowers  
From morn to evening dews.

He told of the Magnolia, spread  
High as a cloud, high over head !  
The cypress and her spire ;  
—Of flowers that with one scarlet gleam  
Cover a hundred leagues, and seem  
To set the hills on fire.

The youth of green savannahs spake,  
And many an endless, endless lake

With all its fairy crowds  
Of islands, that together lie  
As quietly as spots of sky  
Among the evening clouds.

'How pleasant,' then he said, 'it were  
A fisher or a hunter there,  
In sunshine or in shade  
To wander with an easy mind,  
And build a household fire, and find  
A home in every glade !

'What days and what bright years ! Ah me !  
Our life were life indeed, with thee  
So pass'd in quiet bliss ;  
And all the while,' said he, 'to know  
That we were in a world of woe,  
On such an earth as this !'

And then he sometimes interwove  
Fond thoughts about a father's love,  
'For there,' said he, 'are spun  
Around the heart such tender ties,  
That our own children to our eyes  
Are dearer than the sun.

'Sweet Ruth ! and could you go with me  
My helpmate in the woods to be,  
Our shed at night to rear ;  
Or run, my own adopted bride,  
A sylvan huntress at my side,  
And drive the flying deer !

'Beloved Ruth !'—No more he said.  
The wakeful Ruth at midnight shed  
A solitary tear :  
She thought again—and did agree  
With him to sail across the sea,  
And drive the flying deer.

'And now, as fitting is and right,  
We in the church our faith will plight.

A husband and a wife.  
Even so they did ; and I may say  
That to sweet Ruth that happy day  
Was more than human life.

Through dream and vision did she sink,  
Delighted all the while to think  
That, on those lonesome floods  
And green savannahs, she should share  
His board with lawful joy, and bear  
His name in the wild woods.

But, as you have before been told,  
This Stripling, sportive, gay, and bold,  
And with his dancing crest  
So beautiful, through savage lands  
Had roam'd about, with vagrant bands  
Of Indians in the West.

The wind, the tempest roaring high,  
The tumult of a tropic sky  
Might well be dangerous food  
For him, a youth to whom was given  
So much of earth—so much of heaven,  
And such impetuous blood.

Whatever in those climes he found  
Irregular in sight or sound  
Did to his mind impart  
A kindred impulse, seem'd allied  
To his own powers, and justified  
The workings of his heart.

Nor less, to feed voluptuous thought,  
The beauteous forms of Nature wrought,—  
Fair trees and gorgeous flowers ;  
The breezes their own languor lent ;  
The stars had feelings, which they sent  
Into those favour'd bowers.

Yet, in his worst pursuits, I ween  
That sometimes there did intervene

Pure hopes of high intent :  
For passions link'd to forms so fair  
And stately, needs must have their share  
Of noble sentiment.

But ill he lived, much evil saw,  
With men to whom no better law  
Nor better life was known ;  
Deliberately and undeceived  
Those wild men's vices he received,  
And gave them back his own.

His genius and his moral frame  
Were thus impair'd, and he became  
The slave of low desires :  
A man who without self-control  
Would seek what the degraded soul  
Unworthily admires.

And yet he with no feign'd delight  
Had woo'd the maiden, day and night  
Had loved her, night and morn :  
What could he less than love a maid  
Whose heart with so much nature play'd—  
So kind and so forlorn ?

Sometimes most earnestly he said,  
' O Ruth ! I have been worse than dead ;  
False thoughts, thoughts bold and vain  
Encompass'd me on every side  
When I, in confidence and pride,  
Had cross'd the Atlantic main.

' Before me shone a glorious world  
Fresh as a banner bright, unfurl'd  
To music suddenly :  
I look'd upon those hills and plains,  
And seem'd as if let loose from chains  
To live at liberty !

' No more of this—for now, by thee,  
Dear Ruth ! more happily set free,

With nobler zeal I burn ;  
 My soul from darkness is released  
 Like the whole sky when to the east  
 The morning doth return.'

Full soon that better mind was gone ;  
 No hope, no wish remain'd, not one,—  
 They stirr'd him now no more ;  
 New objects did new pleasure give,  
 And once again he wish'd to live  
 As lawless as before.

Meanwhile, as thus with him it fared,  
 They for the voyage were prepared,  
 And went to the seashore :  
 But, when they thither came, the youth  
 Deserted his poor bride, and Ruth  
 Could never find him more.

God help thee, Ruth !—Such pains she had,  
 That she in half a year was mad,  
 And in a prison housed ;  
 And there, with many a doleful song  
 Made of wild words, her cup of wrong  
 She fearfully caroused.

Yet sometimes milder hours she knew,  
 Nor wanted sun, nor rain, nor dew,  
 Nor pastimes of the May,  
 —They all were with her in her cell ;  
 And a clear brook with cheerful knell  
 Did o'er the pebbles play.

When Ruth three seasons thus had lain,  
 There came a respite to her pain ;  
 She from her prison fled ;  
 But of the Vagrant none took thought ;  
 And where it liked her best she sought  
 Her shelter and her bread.

Among the fields she breathed again :  
 The master-current of her brain

Ran permanent and free ;  
And, coming to the banks of Tone,  
There did she rest ; and dwell alone  
Under the greenwood tree.

The engines of her pain, the tools  
That shaped her sorrow, rocks and pools,  
And airs that gently stir  
The vernal leaves—she loved them still,  
Nor ever tax'd them with the ill  
Which had been done to her.

A barn her Winter bed supplies ;  
But, till the warmth of Summer skies  
And Summer days is gone,  
(And all do in this tale agree)  
She sleeps beneath the greenwood tree,  
And other home hath none.

An innocent life, yet far astray !  
And Ruth will, long before her day,  
Be broken down and old.  
Sore aches she needs must have ! but less  
Of mind, than body's wretchedness,  
From damp, and rain, and cold.

If she is prest by want of food  
She from her dwelling in the wood  
Repairs to a roadside ;  
And there she begs at one steep place,  
Where up and down with easy pace  
The horsemen-travellers ride.

That oaten pipe of hers is mute  
Or thrown away : but with a flute  
Her loneliness she cheers ;  
This flute, made of a hemlock stalk,  
At evening in his homeward walk  
The Quantock woodman hears.

I, too, have pass'd her on the hills  
Setting her little water-mills

By spouts and fountains wild—  
 Such small machinery as she turn'd  
 Ere she had wept, ere she had mourn'd,  
 A young and happy child !

Farewell ! and when thy days are told,  
 Ill-fated Ruth ! in hallow'd mould  
 Thy corpse shall buried be ;  
 For thee a funeral bell shall ring,  
 And all the congregation sing  
 A Christian psalm for thee.

W. WORDSWORTH

WRITTEN IN THE EUGANEAN HILLS,  
 NORTH ITALY

Many a green isle needs must be  
 In the deep wide sea of Misery,  
 Or the mariner, worn and wan,  
 Never thus could voyage on  
 Day and night, and night and day,  
 Drifting on his dreary way,  
 With the solid darkness black  
 Closing round his vessel's track ;  
 Whilst above, the sunless sky  
 Big with clouds, hangs heavily,  
 And behind the tempest fleet  
 Hurries on with lightning feet,  
 Riving sail, and cord, and plank,  
 Till the ship has almost drank  
 Death from the o'er-brimming deep ;  
 And sinks down, down, like that sleep  
 When the dreamer seems to be  
 Weltering through eternity ;  
 And the dim low line before  
 Of a dark and distant shore  
 Still recedes, as ever still  
 Longing with divided will,



But no power to seek or shun,  
 He is ever drifted on  
 O'er the unreposing wave,  
 To the haven of the grave.

Aye, many flowering islands lie  
 In the waters of wide agony :  
 To such a one this morn was led  
 My bark, by soft winds piloted.  
 —'Mid the mountains Euganean  
 I stood listening to the paean  
 With which the legion'd rooks did hail  
 The Sun's uprise majestic :  
 Gathering round with wings all hoar,  
 Through the dewy mist they soar  
 Like grey shades, till the eastern heaven  
 Bursts, and then,—as clouds of even  
 Fleck'd with fire and azure, lie  
 In the unfathomable sky,—  
 So their plumes of purple grain  
 Starr'd with drops of golden rain  
 Gleam above the sunlight woods,  
 As in silent multitudes  
 On the morning's fitful gale  
 Through the broken mist they sail ;  
 And the vapours cloven and gleaming  
 Follow down the dark steep streaming,  
 Till all is bright, and clear, and still  
 Round the solitary hill.

Beneath is spread like a green sea  
 The waveless plain of Lombardy,  
 Bounded by the vaporious air,  
 Islanded by cities fair ;  
 Underneath Day's azure eyes,  
 Ocean's nursling, Venice lies,—  
 A peopled labyrinth of walls,  
 Amphitrite's destined halls,  
 Which her hoary sire now paves  
 With his blue and beaming waves.

Lo ! the sun upsprings behind,  
 Broad, red, radiant, half-reclined  
 On the level quivering line  
 Of the waters crystalline ;  
 And before that chasm of light,  
 As within a furnace bright,  
 Column, tower, and dome, and spire,  
 Shine like obelisks of fire,  
 Pointing with inconstant motion  
 From the altar of dark ocean  
 To the sapphire-tinted skies ;  
 As the flames of sacrifice  
 From the marble shrines did rise  
 As to pierce the dome of gold  
 Where Apollo spoke of old.

Sun-girt City ! thou hast been  
 Ocean's child, and then his queen ;  
 Now is come a darker day,  
 And thou soon must be his prey,  
 If the power that raised thee here  
 Hallow so thy watery bier.  
 A less drear ruin than now,  
 With thy conquest-branded brow  
 Stooping to the slave of slaves  
 From thy throne, among the waves  
 Wilt thou be,—when the sea-mew  
 Flies, as once before it flew,  
 O'er thine isles depopulate,  
 And all is in its ancient state,  
 Save where many a palace-gate  
 With green sea-flowers overgrown  
 Like a rock of ocean's own,  
 Topples o'er the abandon'd sea  
 As the tides change sullenly.  
 The fisher on his watery way  
 Wandering at the close of day,  
 Will spread his sail and seize his oar  
 Till he pass the gloomy shore,  
 Lest thy dead should, from their sleep  
 Bursting o'er the starlight deep,

Lead a rapid masque of death  
O'er the waters of his path.

Noon descends around me now :  
'Tis the noon of autumn's glow,  
When a soft and purple mist  
Like a vaporous amethyst,  
Or an air-dissolvéd star  
Mingling light and fragrance, far  
From the curved horizon's bound  
To the point of heaven's profound,  
Fills the overflowing sky ;  
And the plains that silent lie  
Underneath ; the leaves unsodden  
Where the infant Frost has trodden  
With his morning-wingéd feet  
Whose bright print is gleaming yet ;  
And the red and golden vines  
Piercing with their trellised lines  
The rough, dark-skirted wilderness ;  
The dun and bladed grass no less,  
Pointing from this hoary tower  
In the windless air ; the flower  
Glimmering at my feet ; the line  
Of the olive-sandall'd Apennine  
In the south dimly islanded ;  
And the Alps, whose snows are spread  
High between the clouds and sun ;  
And of living things each one ;  
And my spirit, which so long  
Darken'd this swift stream of song,—  
Interpenetrated lie  
By the glory of the sky ;  
Be it love, light, harmony,  
Odour, or the soul of all  
Which from heaven like dew doth fall,  
Or the mind which feeds this verse  
Peopling the lone universe.

Noon descends, and after noon  
Autumn's evening meets me soon,

Leading the infantine moon  
 And that one star, which to her  
 Almost seems to minister  
 Half the crimson light she brings  
 From the sunset's radiant springs :  
 And the soft dreams of the morn  
 (Which like wingéd winds had borne  
 To that silent isle, which lies  
 'Mid remember'd agonies,  
 The frail bark of this lone being),  
 Pass, to other sufferers fleeing,  
 And its ancient pilot, Pain,  
 Sits beside the helm again.

Other flowering isles must be  
 In the sea of Life and Agony :  
 Other spirits float and flee  
 O'er that gulf : even now, perhaps,  
 On some rock the wild wave wraps,  
 With folding wings they waiting sit  
 For my bark, to pilot it  
 To some calm and blooming cove,  
 Where for me, and those I love,  
 May a windless bower be built,  
 Far from passion, pain, and guilt,  
 In a dell 'mid lawny hills  
 Which the wild sea-murmur fills,  
 And soft sunshine, and the sound  
 Of old forests echoing round,  
 And the light and smell divine  
 Of all flowers that breathe and shine.  
 — We may live so happy there,  
 That the Spirits of the Air  
 Envyng us, may even entice  
 To our healing paradise  
 The polluting multitude ;  
 But their rage would be subdued  
 By that clime divine and calm,  
 And the winds whose wings rain balm  
 On the uplifted soul, and leaves  
 Under which the bright sea heaves ;

While each breathless interval  
 In their whisperings musical  
 The inspired soul supplies  
 With its own deep melodies ;  
 And the Love which heals all strife  
 Circling, like the breath of life,  
 All things in that sweet abode  
 With its own mild brotherhood.  
 They, not it, would change ; and soon  
 Every sprite beneath the moon  
 Would repent its envy vain,  
 And the Earth grow young again.

P. B. SHELLEY

## 275

## ODE TO THE WEST WIND

O wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being,  
 Thou, from whose unseen presence the leaves dead  
 Are driven, like ghosts from an enchanter fleeing,  
 Yellow, and black, and pale, and hectic red,  
 Pestilence-stricken multitudes : O thou  
 Who chariotest to their dark wintry bed  
 The wingéd seeds, where they lie cold and low,  
 Each like a corpse within its grave, until  
 Thine azure sister of the Spring shall blow  
 Her clarion o'er the dreaming earth, and fill  
 (Driving sweet buds like flocks to feed in air)  
 With living hues and odours plain and hill :  
 Wild Spirit, which art moving everywhere ;  
 Destroyer and Preserver ; Hear, oh, hear !

Thou on whose stream, 'mid the steep sky's com-  
 motion,  
 Loose clouds like earth's decaying leaves are shed,  
 Shook from the tangled boughs of Heaven and Ocean,  
 Angels of rain and lightning ; there are spread  
 On the blue surface of thine airy surge,  
 Like the bright hair uplifted from the head

Of some fierce Maenad, ev'n from the dim verge  
 Of the horizon to the zenith's height—  
 The locks of the approaching storm. Thou dirge  
 Of the dying year, to which this closing night  
 Will be the dome of a vast sepulchre,  
 Vaulted with all thy congregated might  
 Of vapours, from whose solid atmosphere  
 Black rain, and fire, and hail, will burst : oh, hear !

Thou who didst waken from his summer-dreams,  
 The blue Mediterranean, where he lay,  
 Lull'd by the coil of his crystalline streams,  
 Beside a pumice isle in Baiae's bay,  
 And saw in sleep old palaces and towers  
 Quivering within the wave's intenser day,  
 All overgrown with azure moss and flowers  
 So sweet, the sense faints picturing them ! Thou  
 For whose path the Atlantic's level powers  
 Cleave themselves into chasms, while far below  
 The sea-blooms and the oozy woods which wear  
 The sapless foliage of the ocean, know  
 Thy voice, and suddenly grow grey with fear  
 And tremble and despoil themselves : oh, hear !

If I were a dead leaf thou mightest bear ;  
 If I were a swift cloud to fly with thee ;  
 A wave to pant beneath thy power, and share  
 The impulse of thy strength, only less free  
 Than Thou, O uncontrollable ! If even  
 I were as in my boyhood, and could be  
 The comrade of thy wanderings over heaven,  
 As then, when to outstrip the skycy speed  
 Scarce seem'd a vision, I would ne'er have striven  
 As thus with thee in prayer in my sore need.  
 Oh, lift me as a wave, a leaf, a cloud !  
 I fall upon the thorns of life ! I bleed !  
 A heavy weight of hours has chain'd and bow'd  
 One too like thee : tameless, and swift, and proud.

Make me thy lyre, ev'n as the forest is :  
 What if my leaves are falling like its own !

The tumult of thy mighty harmonies  
 Will take from both a deep autumnal tone,  
 Sweet though in sadness. Be thou, Spirit fierce,  
 My spirit ! be thou me, impetuous one !  
 Drive my dead thoughts over the universe  
 Like wither'd leaves to quicken a new birth ;  
 And, by the incantation of this verse,  
 Scatter, as from an unextinguish'd hearth  
 Ashes and sparks, my words among mankind !  
 Be through my lips to unawaken'd earth  
 The trumpet of a prophecy ! O Wind,  
 If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind ?

P. B. SHELLEY

## 276

## NATURE AND THE POET

*Suggested by a Picture of Peele Castle in a Storm,  
 painted by Sir George Beaumont*

I was thy neighbour once, thou rugged Pile !  
 Four summer weeks I dwelt in sight of thee :  
 I saw thee every day ; and all the while  
 Thy Form was sleeping on a glassy sea.

So pure the sky, so quiet was the air !  
 So like, so very like, was day to day !  
 Whene'er I look'd, thy image still was there ;  
 It trembled, but it never pass'd away.

How perfect was the calm ! It seem'd no sleep,  
 No mood, which season takes away, or brings :  
 I could have fancied that the mighty Deep  
 Was even the gentlest of all gentle things.

Ah ! then if mine had been the painter's hand  
 To express what then I saw ; and add the gleam,  
 The light that never was on sea or land,  
 The consecration, and the Poet's dream,—

I would have planted thee, thou hoary pile,  
Amid a world how different from this !  
Beside a sea that could not cease to smile ;  
On tranquil land, beneath a sky of bliss.

A picture had it been of lasting ease,  
Elysian quiet, without toil or strife ;  
No motion but the moving tide, a breeze,  
Or merely silent Nature's breathing life.

Such, in the fond illusion of my heart,  
Such picture would I at that time have made ;  
And seen the soul of truth in every part,  
A steadfast peace that might not be betray'd.

So once it would have been,—'tis so no more ;  
I have submitted to a new control :  
A power is gone, which nothing can restore ;  
A deep distress hath humanized my soul.

Not for a moment could I now behold  
A smiling sea, and be what I have been :  
The feeling of my loss will ne'er be old ;  
This, which I know, I speak with mind serene.

Then, Beaumont, Friend ! who would have been the  
friend

If he had lived, of him whom I deplore,  
This work of thine I blame not, but commend ;  
This sea in anger, and that dismal shore.

O 'tis a passionate work !—yet wise and well,  
Well chosen is the spirit that is here ;  
That hulk which labours in the deadly swell,  
This rueful sky, this pageantry of fear !

And this huge Castle, standing here sublime,  
I love to see the look with which it braves,  
—Cased in the unfeeling armour of old time—  
The lightning, the fierce wind, and trampling waves.

Farewell, farewell the heart that lives alone,  
Housed in a dream, at distance from the Kind !  
Such happiness, wherever it be known,  
Is to be pitied, for 'tis surely blind.



But welcome fortitude, and patient cheer,  
 And frequent sights of what is to be borne!  
 Such sights, or worse, as are before me here :—  
 Not without hope we suffer and we mourn.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 277

## THE POET'S DREAM

On a Poet's lips I slept  
 Dreaming like a love-adept  
 In the sound his breathing kept ;  
 Nor seeks nor finds he mortal blisses,  
 But feeds on the aerial kisses  
 Of shapes that haunt Thought's wildernesses.  
 He will watch from dawn to gloom  
 The lake-reflected sun illumine  
 The yellow bees in the ivy-bloom,  
 Nor heed nor see what things they be—  
 But from these create he can  
 Forms more real than living Man,  
 Nurslings of Immortality !

P. B. SHELLEY

## 278

The World is too much with us ; late and soon,  
 Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers ;  
 Little we see in Nature that is ours ;  
 We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon !

This Sea that bares her bosom to the moon,  
 The winds that will be howling at all hours  
 And are up-gather'd now like sleeping flowers,  
 For this, for everything, we are out of tune ;

It moves us not.—Great God ! I'd rather be  
 A Pagan suckled in a creed outworn,—  
 So might I, standing on this pleasant lea,

Have glimpses that would make me less forlorn ;  
 Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea ;  
 Or hear old Triton blow his wreathéd horn.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 279

WITHIN KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL,  
 CAMBRIDGE

Tax not the royal Saint with vain expense,  
 With ill-match'd aims the Architect who plann'd  
 (Albeit labouring for a scanty band  
 Of white-robed Scholars only) this immense

And glorious work of fine intelligence !  
 —Give all thou canst ; high Heaven rejects the lore  
 Of nicely-calculated less or more :—  
 So deem'd the man who fashion'd for the sense

These lofty pillars, spread that branching roof  
 Self-poised, and scoop'd into ten thousand cells  
 Where light and shade repose, where music dwells

Lingering—and wandering on as loath to die ;  
 Like thoughts whose very sweetness yieldeth proof  
 That they were born for immortality.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 280

YOUTH AND AGE

Verse, a breeze 'mid blossoms straying,  
 Where Hope clung feeding, like a bee—  
 Both were mine ! Life went a-maying  
 With Nature, Hope, and Poesy,  
 When I was young !

When I was young ?—Ah, woeful when !  
 Ah ! for the change 'twixt Now and Then !



Like some poor nigh-related guest  
 That may not rudely be dismiss,  
 Yet hath out-stay'd his welcome while,  
 And tells the jest without the smile.

S. T. COLERIDGE

## 281

## THE TWO APRIL MORNINGS

We walk'd along, while bright and red  
 Uprose the morning sun ;  
 And Matthew stopp'd, he look'd, and said  
 ' The will of God be done ! '

A village schoolmaster was he,  
 With hair of glittering grey ;  
 As blithe a man as you could see  
 On a spring holiday.

And on that morning, through the grass  
 And by the steaming rills  
 We travell'd merrily, to pass  
 A day among the hills.

' Our work,' said I, ' was well begun ;  
 Then, from thy breast what thought,  
 Beneath so beautiful a sun,  
 So sad a sigh has brought ? '

A second time did Matthew stop ;  
 And fixing still his eye  
 Upon the eastern mountain-top,  
 To me he made reply :

' Yon cloud with that long purple cleft  
 Brings fresh into my mind  
 A day like this, which I have left  
 Full thirty years behind.

' And just above yon slope of corn  
 Such colours, and no other,  
 Were in the sky, that April morn,  
 Of this the very brother.

' With rod and line I sued the sport  
Which that sweet season gave,  
And, to the churchyard come, stopp'd short  
Beside my daughter's grave.

' Nine summers had she scarcely seen,  
The pride of all the vale ;  
And then she sang :—she would have been  
A very nightingale.

' Six feet in earth my Emma lay ;  
And yet I loved her more—  
For so it seem'd,—than till that day  
I e'er had loved before.

' And turning from her grave, I met  
Beside the churchyard yew  
A blooming Girl, whose hair was wet  
With points of morning dew.

' A basket on her head she bare ;  
Her brow was smooth and white :  
To see a child so very fair,  
It was a pure delight !

' No fountain from its rocky cave  
E'er tripp'd with foot so free ;  
She seem'd as happy as a wave  
That dances on the sea.

' There came from me a sigh of pain  
Which I could ill confine ;  
I look'd at her, and look'd again :  
And did not wish her mine !

—Matthew is in his grave, yet now  
Methinks I see him stand  
As at that moment, with a bough  
Of wilding in his hand.

W. WORDSWORTH

282

## THE FOUNTAIN

*A Conversation*

We talk'd with open heart, and tongue  
 Affectionate and true,  
 A pair of friends, though I was young,  
 And Matthew seventy-two.

We lay beneath a spreading oak,  
 Beside a mossy seat ;  
 And from the turf a fountain broke  
 And gurgled at our feet.

' Now, Matthew ! ' said I, ' let us match  
 This water's pleasant tune  
 With some old border-song, or catch  
 That suits a summer's noon ;

' Or of the church-clock and the chimes  
 Sing here beneath the shade  
 That half-mad thing of witty rhymes  
 Which you last April made ! '

In silence Matthew lay, and eyed  
 The spring beneath the tree ;  
 And thus the dear old man replied,  
 The grey-hair'd man of glee :

' No check, no stay, this Streamlet fears,  
 How merrily it goes !  
 'Twill murmur on a thousand years  
 And flow as now it flows.

' And here, on this delightful day,  
 I cannot choose but think  
 How oft, a vigorous man, I lay  
 Beside this fountain's brink.

' My eyes are dim with childish tears,  
My heart is idly stirr'd,  
For the same sound is in my ears  
Which in those days I heard.

' Thus fares it still in our decay :  
And yet the wiser mind  
Mourns less for what Age takes away,  
Than what it leaves behind.

' The blackbird amid leafy trees,  
The lark above the hill,  
Let loose their carols when they please,  
Are quiet when they will.

' With Nature never do they wage  
A foolish strife ; they see  
A happy youth, and their old age  
Is beautiful and free :

' But we are press'd by heavy laws ;  
And often, glad no more,  
We wear a face of joy, because  
We have been glad of yore.

' If there be one who need bemoan  
His kindred laid in earth,  
The household hearts that were his own,—  
It is the man of mirth.

' My days, my friend, are almost gone,  
My life has been approved,  
And many love me ; but by none  
Am I enough beloved.'

' Now both himself and me he wrongs,  
The man who thus complains !  
I live and sing my idle songs  
Upon these happy plains :

' And Matthew, for thy children dead  
I'll be a son to thee !'  
At this he grasp'd my hand and said,  
' Alas ! that cannot be.'

We rose up from the fountain-side ;  
 And down the smooth descent  
 Of the green sheep-track did we glide ;  
 And through the wood we went ;

And ere we came to Leonard's Rock  
 He sang those witty rhymes  
 About the crazy old church-clock,  
 And the bewilder'd chimes.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 283

## THE RIVER OF LIFE

The more we live, more brief appear  
 Our life's succeeding stages :  
 A day to childhood seems a year,  
 And years like passing ages.

The gladsome current of our youth,  
 Ere passion yet disorders,  
 Steals lingering like a river smooth  
 Along its grassy borders.

But as the careworn cheek grows wan,  
 And sorrow's shafts fly thicker,  
 Ye Stars, that measure life to man,  
 Why seem your courses quicker ?

When joys have lost their bloom and breath  
 And life itself is vapid,  
 Why, as we reach the Falls of Death,  
 Feel we its tide more rapid ?

It may be strange—yet who would change  
 Time's course to slower speeding,  
 When one by one our friends have gone  
 And left our bosoms bleeding ?

Heaven gives our years of fading strength  
 Indemnifying fleetness ;  
 And those of youth, a seeming length,  
 Proportion'd to their sweetness.

T. CAMPBELL



284

## THE HUMAN SEASONS

Four Seasons fill the measure of the year ;  
 There are four seasons in the mind of Man :  
 He has his lusty Spring, when fancy clear  
 Takes in all beauty with an easy span :

He has his Summer, when luxuriously  
 Spring's honey'd cud of youthful thought he loves  
 To ruminate, and by such dreaming high  
 Is nearest unto heaven : quiet coves

His soul has in its Autumn, when his wings  
 He furlth close ; contented so to look  
 On mists in idleness—to let fair things  
 Pass by unheeded as a threshold brook :—

He has his Winter too of pale misfeature,  
 Or else he would forgo his mortal nature.

J. KEATS

285

## A LAMENT

O World ! O Life ! O Time !  
 On whose last steps I climb,  
 Trembling at that where I had stood before ;  
 When will return the glory of your prime ?  
 No more—Oh, never more !

Out of the day and night  
 A joy has taken flight :  
 Fresh spring, and summer, and winter hoar  
 Move my faint heart with grief, but with delight  
 No more—Oh, never more !

P. B. SHELLEY

## 286

My heart leaps up when I behold  
 A rainbow in the sky :  
 So was it when my life began,  
 So is it now I am a man,  
 So be it when I shall grow old  
 Or let me die !  
 The Child is father of the Man :  
 And I could wish my days to be  
 Bound each to each by natural piety.

W. WORDSWORTH

## 287

ODE ON INTIMATIONS OF  
 IMMORTALITY FROM RECOLLECTIONS  
 OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

There was a time when meadow, grove, and stream,  
 The earth, and every common sight  
 To me did seem  
 Apparell'd in celestial light,  
 The glory and the freshness of a dream.  
 It is not now as it hath been of yore ;—  
 Turn wheresoe'er I may,  
 By night or day,  
 The things which I have seen I now can see no more.

The rainbow comes and goes,  
 And lovely is the rose ;  
 The moon doth with delight  
 Look round her when the heavens are bare ;  
 Waters on a starry night  
 Are beautiful and fair ;  
 The sunshine is a glorious birth ;  
 But yet I know, where'er I go,  
 That there hath past away a glory from the earth.

Now, while the birds thus sing a joyous song,  
     And while the young lambs bound  
         As to the tabor's sound,  
 To me alone there came a thought of grief :  
 A timely utterance gave that thought relief,  
     And I again am strong.  
 The cataracts blow their trumpets from the steep,—  
 No more shall grief of mine the season wrong :  
 I hear the echoes through the mountains throng,  
 The winds come to me from the fields of sleep,  
     And all the earth is gay ;  
         Land and sea  
     Give themselves up to jollity,  
         And with the heart of May  
 Doth every beast keep holiday ;—  
         Thou child of joy  
 Shout round me, let me hear thy shouts, thou happy  
     Shepherd-boy !

Ye blesséd Creatures, I have heard the call  
     Ye to each other make ; I see  
 The heavens laugh with you in your jubilee ;  
     My heart is at your festival,  
     My head hath its coronal,  
 The fullness of your bliss, I feel—I feel it all.  
     O evil day ! if I were sullen  
     While Earth herself is adorning  
         This sweet May-morning ;  
     And the children are culling  
         On every side  
     In a thousand valleys far and wide  
     Fresh flowers ; while the sun shines warm,  
 And the babe leaps up on his mother's arm :—  
     I hear, I hear, with joy I hear !  
     —But there 's a tree, of many, one,  
 A single field which I have look'd upon,  
 Both of them speak of something that is gone :  
     The pansy at my feet  
     Doth the same tale repeat :  
 Whither is fled the visionary gleam ?  
 Where is it now, the glory and the dream ?

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting ;  
 The Soul that rises with us, our life's Star,  
     Hath had elsewhere its setting  
     And cometh from afar ;  
 Not in entire forgetfulness,  
     And not in utter nakedness,  
 But trailing clouds of glory do we come  
     From God, who is our home :  
 Heaven lies about us in our infancy !  
 Shades of the prison-house begin to close  
     Upon the growing Boy,  
 But he beholds the light, and whence it flows,  
     He sees it in his joy ;  
 The Youth, who daily farther from the east  
     Must travel, still is Nature's priest,  
     And by the vision splendid  
     Is on his way attended ;  
 At length the Man perceives it die away,  
 And fade into the light of common day.

Earth fills her lap with pleasures of her own ;  
 Yearnings she hath in her own natural kind,  
 And, even with something of a mother's mind  
     And no unworthy aim,  
     The homely nurse doth all she can  
 To make her foster-child, her inmate, Man,  
     Forget the glories he hath known,  
 And that imperial palace whence he came.

Behold the Child among his new-born blisses,  
 A six years' darling of a pigmy size !  
 See, where 'mid work of his own hand he lies,  
 Fretted by sallies of his mother's kisses,  
 With light upon him from his father's eyes !  
 See, at his feet, some little plan or chart,  
 Some fragment from his dream of human life,  
 Shaped by himself with newly-learn'd art ;  
     A wedding or a festival,  
     A mourning or a funeral ;  
     And this hath now his heart,

And unto this he frames his song :  
     Then will he fit his tongue  
 To dialogues of business, love, or strife ;  
     But it will not be long  
     Ere this be thrown aside,  
     And with new joy and pride  
 The little actor cons another part ;  
 Filling from time to time his ' humorous stage  
 With all the Persons, down to palsied Age,  
 That life brings with her in her equipage ;  
     As if his whole vocation  
     Were endless imitation.

Thou, whose exterior semblance doth belie  
     Thy soul's immensity ;  
 Thou best philosopher, who yet dost keep  
 Thy heritage, thou eye among the blind,  
 That, deaf and silent, read'st the eternal deep,  
 Haunted for ever by the eternal Mind,—  
     Mighty Prophet ! Seer blest !  
     On whom those truths do rest  
 Which we are toiling all our lives to find,  
 In darkness lost, the darkness of the grave ;  
 Thou, over whom thy Immortality  
 Broods like the day, a master o'er a slave,  
 A Presence which is not to be put by ;  
 Thou little child, yet glorious in the might  
 Of heaven-born freedom on thy being's height,  
 Why with such earnest pains dost thou provoke  
 The years to bring the inevitable yoke,  
 Thus blindly with thy blessedness at strife ?  
 Full soon thy soul shall have her earthly freight,  
 And custom lies upon thee with a weight  
 Heavy as frost, and deep almost as life !

    O joy ! that in our embers  
     Is something that doth live,  
     That Nature yet remembers  
     What was so fugitive !  
 The thought of our past years in me doth breed  
 Perpetual benediction : not indeed

For that which is most worthy to be blest,  
 Delight and liberty, the simple creed  
 Of Childhood, whether busy or at rest,  
 With new-fledged hope still fluttering in his breast:—

—Not for these I raise

The song of thanks and praise ;

But for those obstinate questionings

Of sense and outward things,

Fallings from us, vanishings,

Blank misgivings of a creature

Moving about in worlds not realized,

High instincts, before which our mortal nature

Did tremble like a guilty thing surprised :

But for those first affections,

Those shadowy recollections,

Which, be they what they may,

Are yet the fountain-light of all our day,

Are yet a master-light of all our seeing ;

Uphold us—cherish—and have power to make

Our noisy years seem moments in the being

Of the eternal Silence : truths that wake,

To perish never ;

Which neither listlessness, nor mad endeavour,

Nor man nor boy,

Nor all that is at enmity with joy,

Can utterly abolish or destroy !

Hence, in a season of calm weather

Though inland far we be,

Our souls have sight of that immortal sea

Which brought us hither ;

Can in a moment travel thither—

And see the children sport upon the shore,

And hear the mighty waters rolling evermore.

Then, sing, ye birds, sing, sing a joyous song !

And let the young lambs bound

As to the tabor's sound !

We, in thought, will join your throng

Ye that pipe and ye that play,

Ye that through your hearts to-day

Feel the gladness of the May !

What though the radiance which was once so bright  
 Be now for ever taken from my sight,  
 Though nothing can bring back the hour  
 Of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower ;  
 We will grieve not, rather find  
 Strength in what remains behind ;  
 In the primal sympathy  
 Which having been must ever be ;  
 In the soothing thoughts that spring  
 Out of human suffering ;  
 In the faith that looks through death,  
 In years that bring the philosophic mind.

And O, ye Fountains, Meadows, Hills, and Groves,  
 Forbode not any severing of our loves !  
 Yet in my heart of hearts I feel your might ;  
 I only have relinquish'd one delight  
 To live beneath your more habitual sway ;  
 I love the brooks which down their channels fret  
 Even more than when I tripp'd lightly as they ;  
 The innocent brightness of a new-born day  
 Is lovely yet ;  
 The clouds that gather round the setting sun  
 Do take a sober colouring from an eye  
 That hath kept watch o'er man's mortality ;  
 Another race hath been, and other palms are won.  
 Thanks to the human heart by which we live,  
 Thanks to its tenderness, its joys, and fears,  
 To me the meanest flower that blows can give  
 Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears.

W. WORDSWORTH

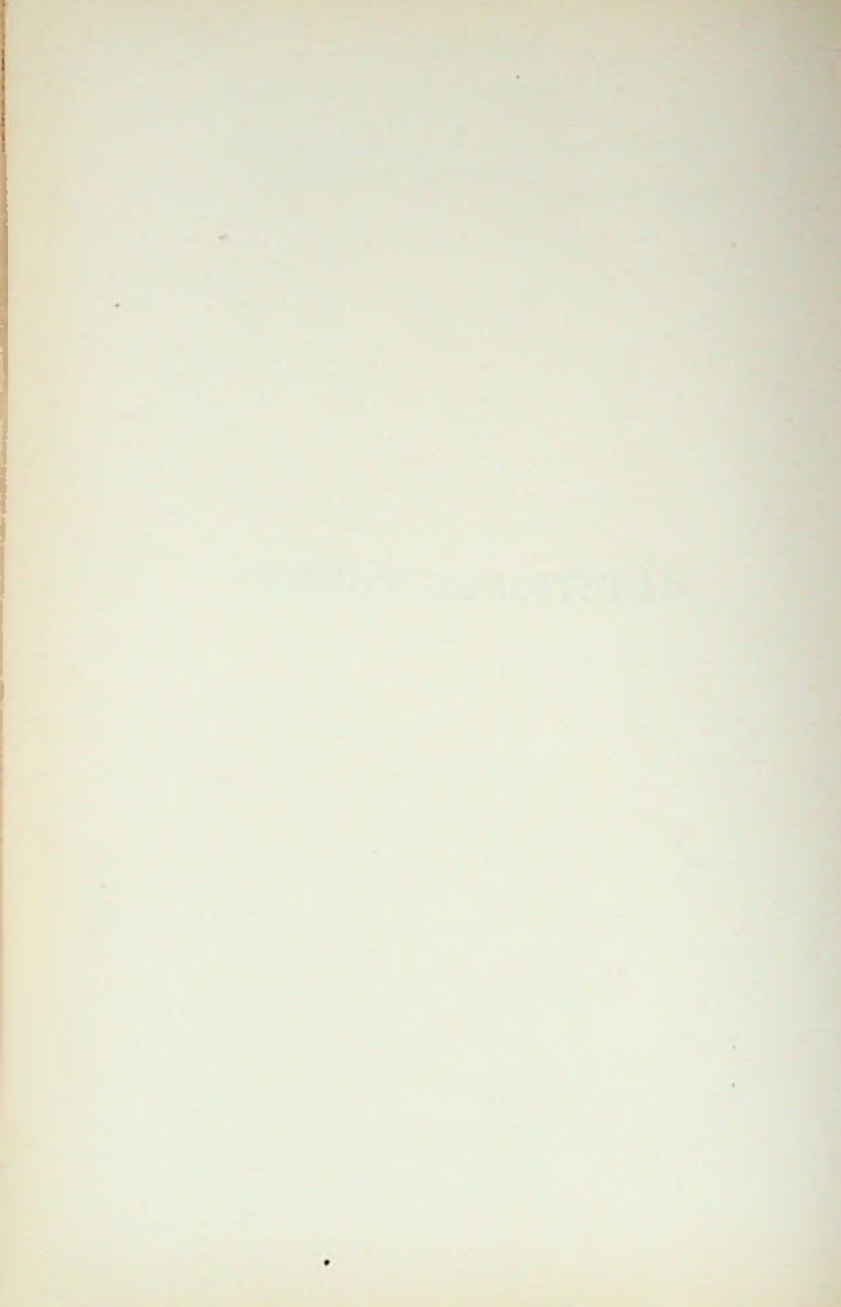
Music, when soft voices die,  
 Vibrates in the memory—  
 Odours, when sweet violets sicken,  
 Live within the sense they quicken.

Rose leaves, when the rose is dead,  
Are heap'd for the beloved's bed ;  
And so thy thoughts, when thou art gone,  
Love itself shall slumber on.

P. B. SHELLEY



**ADDITIONAL POEMS**



# THE GOLDEN TREASURY

## ADDITIONAL POEMS

289

I strove with none, for none was worth my strife,  
Nature I loved and, next to Nature, Art :  
I warned both hands before the fire of life ;  
It sinks, and I am ready to depart.

W. S. LANDOR

290

### ROSE AYLMER

Ah, what avails the sceptred race !  
Ah, what the form divine !  
What every virtue, every grace !  
Rose Aylmer, all were thine.

Rose Aylmer, whom these wakeful eyes  
May weep, but never see,  
A night of memories and sighs  
I consecrate to thee.

W. S. LANDOR

291

### THE MAID'S LAMENT

I loved him not ; and yet now he is gone  
I feel I am alone.  
I checked him while he spoke ; yet could he speak,  
Alas ! I would not check.

For reasons not to love him once I sought,  
 And wearied all my thought  
 To vex myself and him ; I now would give  
 My love, could he but live  
 Who lately lived for me, and when he found  
 'Twas vain, in holy ground  
 He hid his face amid the shades of death.  
 I waste for him my breath  
 Who wasted his for me ; but mine returns,  
 And this lorn bosom burns  
 With stifling heat, heaving it up in sleep,  
 And waking me to weep  
 Tears that had melted his soft heart ; for years  
 Wept he as bitter tears.  
 ' Merciful God ! ' such was his latest prayer,  
 ' These may she never share ! '  
 Quieter in his breath, his breast more cold  
 Than daisies in the mould,  
 Where children spell, athwart the churchyard gate,  
 His name and life's brief date.  
 Pray for him, gentle souls, whoc'er you be,  
 And, O, pray too for me !

W. S. LANDOR

292

### TO ROBERT BROWNING

There is delight in singing, tho' none hear  
 Beside the singer ; and there is delight  
 In praising, tho' the praiser sit alone  
 And see the praised far off him, far above.  
 Shakespeare is not our poet, but the world's,  
 Therefore on him no speech ! and brief for thee,  
 Browning ! Since Chaucer was alive and hale,  
 No man hath walked along our roads with step  
 So active, so inquiring eye, or tongue  
 So varied in discourse. But warmer climes  
 Give brighter plumage, stronger wing : the breeze  
 Of Alpine heights thou playest with, borne on  
 Beyond Sorrento and Amalfi, where  
 The Siren waits thee, singing song for song.

W. S. LANDOR

## 293

Proud word you never spoke, but you will speak  
 Four not exempt from pride some future day.  
 Resting on one white hand a warm wet cheek,  
 Over my open volume you will say,  
 'This man loved me'—then rise and trip away.  
 W. S. LANDOR

## 294

Well I remember how you smiled  
 To see me write your name upon  
 The soft sea-sand—'O! what a child!  
 You think you're writing upon stone!'

I have since written what no tide  
 Shall ever wash away, what men  
 Unborn shall read o'er ocean wide  
 And find Ianthé's name again.  
 W. S. LANDOR

## 295

## TO A WATERFOWL

Whither, 'midst falling dew,  
 While glow the heavens with the last steps of day,  
 Far through their rosy depths dost thou pursue  
 Thy solitary way?

Vainly the fowler's eye  
 Might mark thy distant flight to do thee wrong,  
 As, darkly painted on the crimson sky,  
 Thy figure floats along.

Seek'st thou the plashy brink  
 Of weedy lake, or marge of river wide,  
 Or where the rocking billows rise and sink  
 On the chafed ocean-side?

There is a power whose care  
Teaches thy way along that pathless coast,—  
The desert and illimitable air,—  
Lone wandering, but not lost.

All day thy wings have fanned,  
At that far height, the cold thin atmosphere,  
Yet stoop not, weary, to the welcome land,  
Though the dark night is near.

And soon that toil shall end ;  
Soon shalt thou find a summer home, and rest,  
And scream among thy fellows ; reeds shall bend,  
Soon, o'er thy sheltered nest.

Thou'rt gone, the abyss of heaven  
Hath swallowed up thy form ; yet on my heart  
Deeply hath sunk the lesson thou hast given,  
And shall not soon depart.

He who, from zone to zone,  
Guides through the boundless sky thy certain flight,  
In the long way that I must tread alone  
Will lead my steps aright.

W. C. BRYANT

## RONDEAU

Jenny kissed me when we met,  
Jumping from the chair she sat in ;  
Time, you thief, who love to get  
Sweets into your list, put that in !  
Say I'm weary, say I'm sad,  
Say that health and wealth have missed me,  
Say I'm growing old, but add,  
Jenny kiss'd me.

LEIGH HUNT

297

## THE WAR SONG OF DINAS VAWR

The mountain sheep are sweeter,  
But the valley sheep are fatter ;  
We therefore deemed it meet  
To carry off the latter.  
We made an expedition ;  
We met a host, and quelled it ;  
We forced a strong position,  
And killed the men who held it.

On Dyfed's richest valley,  
Where herds of kine were browsing,  
We made a mighty sally,  
To furnish our carousing.  
Fierce warriors rushed to meet us ;  
We met them, and o'erthrew them :  
They struggled hard to beat us ;  
But we conquered them, and slew them.

As we drove our prize at leisure,  
The king marched forth to catch us :  
His rage surpassed all measure,  
But his people could not match us.  
He fled to his hall-pillars ;  
And, ere our force we led off,  
Some sacked his house and cellars,  
While others cut his head off.

We there, in strife bewildering,  
Spilt blood enough to swim in :  
We orphaned many children,  
And widowed many women.  
The eagles and the ravens  
We glutted with our foemen ;  
The heroes and the cravens,  
The spearmen and the bowmen.

We brought away from battle,  
 And much their land bemoaned them,  
 Two thousand head of cattle,  
 And the head of him who owned them :  
 Ednyfed, King of Dyfed,  
 His head was borne before us ;  
 His wine and beasts supplied our feasts,  
 And his overthrow, our chorus.

T. L. PEACOCK

### THREE MEN OF GOTHAM

Seamen three ! What men be ye ?  
 Gotham's three wise men we be.  
 Whither in your bowl so free ?  
 To rake the moon from out the sea.  
 The bowl goes trim. The moon doth shine.  
 And our ballast is old wine ;  
 And your ballast is old wine.

Who art thou, so fast adrift ?  
 I am he they call Old Care.  
 Here on board we will thee lift.  
 No : I may not enter there.  
 Wherefore so ? 'Tis Jove's decree,  
 In a bowl Care may not be ;  
 In a bowl Care may not be.

Fear ye not the waves that roll ?  
 No : in charmed bowl we swim.  
 What the charm that floats the bowl ?  
 Water may not pass the brim.  
 The bowl goes trim. The moon doth shine.  
 And our ballast is old wine ;  
 And your ballast is old wine.

T. L. PEACOCK



299

## THE GRAVE OF LOVE

I dug, beneath the cypress shade,  
 What well might seem an elfin's grave ;  
 And every pledge in earth I laid,  
 That erst thy false affection gave.

I pressed them down the sod beneath ;  
 I placed one mossy stone above ;  
 And twined the rose's fading wreath  
 Around the sepulchre of love.

Frail as thy love, the flowers were dead,  
 Ere yet the evening sun was set :  
 But years shall see the cypress spread,  
 Immutable as my regret.

T. L. PEACOCK

300

## A JACOBITE'S EPITAPH

To my true king I offered free from stain  
 Courage and faith ; vain faith, and courage vain.  
 For him I threw lands, honours, wealth, away,  
 And one dear hope, that was more prized than they.  
 For him I languished in a foreign clime,  
 Grey-haired with sorrow in my manhood's prime ;  
 Heard on Lavernia Scargill's whispering trees,  
 And pined by Arno for my lovelier Tees ;  
 Beheld each night my home in fevered sleep,  
 Each morning started from the dream to weep ;  
 Till God, who saw me tried too sorely, gave  
 The resting-place I asked, an early grave.  
 O thou whom chance leads to this nameless stone,  
 From that proud country which was once mine own,  
 By those white cliffs I never more must see,  
 By that dear language which I spake like thee,  
 Forget all feuds, and shed one English tear  
 O'er English dust. A broken heart lies here

LORD MACAULAY

## 301

## THE BATTLE OF NASEBY

*By Obadiah Bind-their-kings-in-chains-and-their-nobles-with-links-of-iron, serjeant in Ireton's regiment*

Oh! wherefore come ye forth, in triumph from the  
 North,  
 With your hands, and your feet, and your raiment  
 all red?  
 And wherefore doth your rout send forth a joyous  
 shout?  
 And whence be the grapes of the wine-press which  
 ye tread?

Oh evil was the root, and bitter was the fruit,  
 And crimson was the juice of the vintage that we  
 trod;  
 For we trampled on the throng of the haughty and the  
 strong,  
 Who sate in the high places, and slew the saints of  
 God.

It was about the noon of a glorious day in June,  
 That we saw their banners dance, and their cuirasses  
 shine,  
 And the Man of Blood was there, with his long  
 essenced hair,  
 And Astley, and Sir Marmaduke, and Rupert of  
 the Rhine.

Like a servant of the Lord, with his Bible and his  
 sword,  
 The General rode along us to form us to the fight,  
 When a murmuring sound broke out, and swell'd into  
 a shout,  
 Among the godless horsemen upon the tyrant's  
 right.

And hark ! like the roar of the billows on the shore,

The cry of battle rises along their charging line !  
For God ! for the Cause ! for the Church ! for the  
Laws !

For Charles King of England, and Rupert of the  
Rhine !

The furious German comes, with his clarions and his  
drums,

His bravoos of Alsatia, and pages of Whitehall ;  
They are bursting on our flanks. Grasp your pikes,  
close your ranks ;

For Rupert never comes but to conquer or to fall.

They are here ! They rush on ! We are broken ! We  
are gone !

Our left is borne before them like stubble on the  
blast.

O Lord, put forth thy might ! O Lord, defend the  
right !

Stand back to back, in God's name, and fight it to  
the last.

Stout Skippon hath a wound ; the centre hath given  
ground :

Hark ! hark !—What means the trampling of  
horsemen on our rear ?

Whose banner do I see, boys ? 'Tis he, thank God !  
'tis he, boys.

Bear up another minute : brave Oliver is here.

Their heads all stooping low, their points all in a  
row,

Like a whirlwind on the trees, like a deluge on the  
dykes,

Our cuirassiers have burst on the ranks of the  
accurst,

And at a shock have scattered the forest of his  
pikes.

Fast, fast, the gallants ride, in some safe nook to hide  
 Their coward heads, predestined to rot on Temple  
 Bar :  
 And he—he turns, he flies:—shame on those cruel  
 eyes  
 That bore to look on torture, and dare not look on  
 war.

Ho ! comrades, scour the plain ; and, ere ye strip the  
 slain,  
 First give another stab to make your search secure,  
 Then shake from sleeves and pockets their broad-  
 pieces and lockets,  
 The tokens of the wanton, the plunder of the poor.

Fools, your doublets shone with gold, and your hearts  
 were gay and bold,  
 When you kissed your lily hands to your lemans  
 to-day ;  
 And to-morrow shall the fox, from her chambers in  
 the rocks,  
 Lead forth her tawny cubs to howl above the prey.

Where be your tongues that late mocked at heaven  
 and hell and fate,  
 And the fingers that once were so busy with your  
 blades,  
 Your perfumed satin clothes, your catches and your  
 oaths,  
 Your stage-plays and your sonnets, your diamonds  
 and your spades ?

Down, down, for ever down with the mitre and the  
 crown,  
 With the Belial of the Court, and the Mammon of  
 the Pope ;  
 There is woe in Oxford Halls ; there is wail in  
 Durham's Stalls :  
 The Jesuit smites his bosom ; the Bishop rends his  
 cope.

And She of the seven hills shall mourn her children's  
 ills,  
 And tremble when she thinks of the edge of Eng-  
 land's sword ;  
 And the Kings of earth in fear shall shudder when  
 they hear  
 What the hand of God hath wrought for the Houses  
 and the Word.

LORD MACAULAY

302

BLACKMWORE MAIDENS

The primrose in the sheäde do blow,  
 The cowslip in the zun,  
 The thyme upon the down do grow,  
 The clote where streams do run ;  
 An' where do pretty maidens grow  
 An' blow, but where the tow'r  
 Do rise among the bricken tuns,  
 In Blackmwore by the Stour.

If you could zee their comely gait,  
 An' pretty feüces' smiles,  
 A-trippèn on so light o' waight,  
 An' steppèn off the stiles ;  
 A-gwain to church, as bells do swing  
 An' ring within the tow'r,  
 You'd own the pretty maidens' pleäce  
 Is Blackmwore by the Stour.

If you vrom Wimborne took your road,  
 To Stower or Paladore,  
 An' all the farmers' housen show'd  
 Their daeters at the door ;  
 You'd cry to bachelors at hwome—  
 ' Here, come: 'ithin an hour  
 You'll vind ten maidens to your mind,  
 In Blackmwore by the Stour.'

An' if you looked 'ithin their door,  
 To zee em in their pleâce,  
 A-doèn housework up avoro  
 Their smilèn mother's feâce ;  
 You'd cry—' Why, if a man would wive  
 An' thrive, 'ithout a dow'r,  
 Then let en look en out a wife  
 In Blackmwore by the Stour.'

As I upon my road did pass  
 A school-house back in Majë,  
 There out upon the beäten grass  
 Wer maidens at their playë ;  
 An' as the pretty souls did twile  
 An' smile, I cried, ' The flow'r  
 O' beauty, then, is still in bud  
 In Blackmwore by the Stour.'

W. BARNES

## 303

## THE WIFE A-LOST

Since I noo mwore do zee your feâce,  
 Up steäirs or down below,  
 I'll zit me in the lwonesome pleâce,  
 Where flat-bough'd beech do grow ;  
 Below the beeches' bough, my love,  
 Where you did never come,  
 An' I don't look to meet ye now,  
 As I do look at hwome.

Since you noo mwore be at my zide,  
 In walks in zummer het,  
 I'll goo alwone where mist do ride,  
 Droo trees a-drippèn wet ;  
 Below the raïn-wet bough, my love,  
 Where you did never come,  
 An' I don't grieve to miss ye now,  
 As I do grieve at hwome.

Since now bezide my dinner-bwoard  
 Your vaice do never sound,  
 I'll eat the bit I can avword  
 A-vield upon the ground ;  
 Below the darksome bough, my love,  
 Where you did never dine,  
 An' I don't grieve to miss yc now,  
 As I at hwome do pine.

Since I do miss your vaice an' feäce  
 In praÿer at eventide,  
 I'll pray wi' woone sad vaice vor greäce  
 To goo where you do bide ;  
 Above the tree an' bough, my love,  
 Where you be gone avore,  
 An' be a-waiten vor me now,  
 To come vor evermwore.

W. BARNES

## 304

## BRAHMA

If the red slayer think he slays,  
 Or if the slain think he is slain,  
 They know not well the subtle ways  
 I keep, and pass, and turn again.

Far or forgot to me is near ;  
 Shadow and sunlight are the same ;  
 The vanished gods to me appear ;  
 And one to me are shame and fame.

They reckon ill who leave me out ;  
 When me they fly, I am the wings ;  
 I am the doubter and the doubt,  
 And I the hymn the Brahmin sings.

The strong gods pine for my abode,  
 And pine in vain the sacred Seven ;  
 But thou, meek lover of the good !  
 Find me, and turn thy back on heaven.

R. W. EMERSON

305

## TO EVA

O fair and stately maid, whose eyes  
 Were kindled in the upper skies  
     At the same torch that lighted mine ;  
 For so I must interpret still  
 Thy sweet dominion o'er my will,  
     A sympathy divine.

Ah ! let me blameless gaze upon  
 Features that seem at heart my own ;  
     Nor fear those watchful sentinels,  
 Who charm the more their glance forbids,  
 Chaste-glowing, underneath their lids,  
     With fire that draws while it repels.  
R. W. EMERSON

306

## AND SHALL TRELAWNY DIE ?

A good sword and a trusty hand !  
 A merry heart and true !  
 King James's men shall understand  
     What Cornish lads can do.

And have they fixed the where and when ?  
 And shall Trelawny die ?  
 Here 's twenty thousand Cornish men  
     Will know the reason why !

Out spake their captain brave and bold,  
 A merry wight was he :  
 ' If London Tower were Michael's hold,  
     We'll set Trelawny free !



We'll cross the Tamar, land to land,  
 The Severn is no stay,  
 With "one and all," and hand in hand,  
 And who shall bid us nay ?

And when we come to London wall,  
 A pleasant sight to view,  
 Come forth ! come forth ! ye cowards all,  
 Here 's men as good as you.

Trelawny he 's in keep and hold,  
 Trelawny he may die ;  
 But here 's twenty thousand Cornish bold  
 Will know the reason why !'

R. S. HAWKER

## 307

## THE SHANDON BELLS

With deep affection,  
 And recollection,  
 I often think of  
     Those Shandon bells,  
 Whose sounds so wild would,  
 In the days of childhood,  
 Fling around my cradle  
     Their magic spells.  
 On this I ponder  
 Whene'er I wander,  
 And thus grow fonder,  
     Sweet Cork, of thee ;  
 With thy bells of Shandon,  
 That sound so grand on  
 The pleasant waters  
     Of the River Lee.

I've heard bells chiming  
 Full many a clime in,  
 Tolling sublime in  
     Cathedral shrine,

While at a glib rate  
 Brass tongues would vibrate—  
 But all their music  
     Spoke naught like thine ;  
 For memory, dwelling  
 On each proud swelling  
 Of the belfry knelling  
     Its bold notes free,  
 Made the bells of Shandon  
 Sound far more grand on  
 The pleasant waters  
     Of the River Lee.

I've heard bells tolling  
 Old Adrian's Mole in,  
 Their thunder rolling  
     From the Vatican,  
 And cymbals glorious  
 Swinging uproarious  
 In the glorious turrets  
     Of Notre Dame ;  
 But thy sounds were sweeter  
 Than the dome of Peter  
 Flings o'er the Tiber,  
     Pealing solemnly ;—  
 O ! the bells of Shandon  
 Sound far more grand on  
 The pleasant waters  
     Of the River Lee.

There 's a bell in Moscow,  
 While in tower and kiosk O !  
 In Saint Sophia  
     The Turkman gets ;  
 And loud in air  
 Calls men to prayer  
 From the tapering summits  
     Of tall minarets.  
 Such empty phantom  
 I freely grant them ;

But there 's an anthem  
 More dear to me,—  
 'Tis the bells of Shandon  
 That sound so grand on  
 The pleasant waters  
 Of the River Lee.

F. MAHONY (FATHER PROUT)

## 308

FROM 'SONNETS FROM THE  
 PORTUGUESE'

I thought once how Theocritus had sung  
 Of the sweet years, the dear and wished-for years,  
 Who each one in a gracious hand appears  
 To bear a gift for mortals, old or young :  
 And, as I mused it in his antique tongue,  
 I saw, in gradual vision through my tears,  
 The sweet, sad years, the melancholy years,  
 Those of my own life, who by turns had flung  
 A shadow across me. Straightway I was 'ware,  
 So weeping, how a mystic Shape did move  
 Behind me, and drew me backward by the hair,  
 And a voice said in mastery, while I strove, . .  
 'Guess now who holds thee?'—'Death,' I said. But,  
 there,  
 The silver answer rang, . . 'Not Death, but Love.'

## 309

What can I give thee back, O liberal  
 And princely giver, who hast brought the gold  
 And purple of thine heart, unstained, untold,  
 And laid them on the outside of the wall  
 For such as I to take or leave withal,  
 In unexpected largesse? am I cold,  
 Ungrateful, that for these most manifold  
 High gifts, I render nothing back at all?  
 Not so; not cold,—but very poor instead.

Ask God who knows. For frequent tears have run  
 The colours from my life, and left so dead  
 And pale a stuff, it were not fitly done  
 To give the same as pillow to thy head.  
 Go farther! Let it serve to trample on.

## 310

Yet love, mere love, is beautiful indeed  
 And worthy of acceptation. Fire is bright,  
 Let temple burn, or flax. An equal light  
 Leaps in the flame from cedar-plank or weed.  
 And love is fire; and when I say at need  
*I love thee . . . mark! . . . I love thee! . . .* in thy sight  
 I stand transfigured, glorified aright,  
 With conscience of the new rays that proceed  
 Out of my face toward thine. There's nothing low  
 In love, when love the lowest: meanest creatures  
 Who love God, God accepts while loving so.  
 And what I *feel*, across the inferior features  
 Of what I *am*, doth flash itself, and show  
 How that great work of Love enhances Nature's.

## 311

If thou must love me, let it be for naught  
 Except for love's sake only. Do not say  
 'I love her for her smile . . . her look . . . her way  
 Of speaking gently, . . . for a trick of thought  
 That falls in well with mine, and certes brought  
 A sense of pleasant ease on such a day'—  
 For these things in themselves, Belovéd, may  
 Be changed, or change for thee,—and love, so wrought,  
 May be unwrought so. Neither love me for  
 Thine own dear pity's wiping my cheeks dry,—  
 A creature might forget to weep, who bore  
 Thy comfort long, and lose thy love thereby!  
 But love me for love's sake, that evermore  
 Thou may'st love on, through love's eternity.

## 312

How do I love thee ? Let me count the ways.  
 I love thee to the depth and breadth and height  
 My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight  
 For the ends of Being and ideal Grace.  
 I love thee to the level of everyday's  
 Most quiet need, by sun and candlelight.  
 I love thee freely, as men strive for Right ;  
 I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise,  
 I love thee with the passion put to use  
 In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.  
 I love thee with a love I seemed to lose  
 With my lost saints,—I love thee with the breath,  
 Smiles, tears, of all my life !—and, if God choose,  
 I shall but love thee better after death.

E. B. BROWNING

## 313

## A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

What was he doing, the great god Pan,  
 Down in the reeds by the river ?  
 Spreading ruin and scattering ban,  
 Splashing and paddling with hoof of a goat,  
 And breaking the golden lilies afloat  
 With the dragon-fly on the river.

He tore out a reed, the great god Pan,  
 From the deep cool bed of the river,  
 The limpid water turbidly ran.  
 And the broken lilies a-dying lay,  
 And the dragon-fly had fled away,  
 Ere he brought it out of the river.

High on shore sate the great god Pan,  
 While turbidly flowed the river ;  
 And hacked and hewed as a great god can,  
 With his hard bleak steel at the patient reed,  
 Till there was not a sign of a leaf indeed  
 To prove it fresh from the river.

He cut it short, did the great god Pan  
 (How tall it stood in the river !),  
 Then drew the pith, like the heart of a man,  
 Steadily from the outside ring,  
 And notched the poor dry empty thing  
 In holes, as he sate by the river.

' This is the way,' laughed the great god Pan  
 (Laughed while he sate by the river),  
 ' The only way, since gods began  
 To make sweet music, they could succeed.'  
 Then, dropping his mouth to a hole in the reed,  
 He blew in power by the river.

Sweet, sweet, sweet, O Pan !  
 Piercing sweet by the river !  
 Blinding sweet, O great god Pan !  
 The sun on the hill forgot to die,  
 And the lilies revived, and the dragon-fly  
 Came back to dream on the river.

Yet half a beast is the great god Pan,  
 To laugh as he sits by the river,  
 Making a poet out of a man :  
 The true gods sigh for the cost and pain,—  
 For the reed which grows never more again  
 As a reed with the reeds in the river.

E. B. BROWNING

### THE SLAVE'S DREAM

Beside the ungathered rice he lay,  
 His sickle in his hand ;  
 His breast was bare, his matted hair  
 Was buried in the sand.  
 Again, in the mist and shadow of sleep,  
 He saw his Native Land.

Wide through the landscape of his dreams  
The lordly Niger flowed ;  
Beneath the palm-trees on the plain  
Once more a king he strode ;  
And heard the tinkling caravans  
Descend the mountain-road.

He saw once more his dark-eyed queen  
Among her children stand ;  
They clasped his neck, they kissed his cheeks,  
They held him by the hand !—  
A tear burst from the sleeper's lids  
And fell into the sand.

And then at furious speed he rode  
Along the Niger's bank ;  
His bridle-reins were golden chains,  
And, with a martial clank,  
At each leap he could feel his scabbard of steel  
Smiting his stallion's flank.

Before him, like a blood-red flag,  
The bright flamingoes flew ;  
From morn to night he followed their flight,  
O'er plains where the tamarind grew,  
Till he saw the roofs of Caffre huts  
And the ocean rose to view.

At night he heard the lion roar,  
And the hyena scream,  
And the river-horse, as he crushed the reeds  
Beside some hidden stream ;  
And it passed, like a glorious roll of drums,  
Through the triumph of his dream.

The forests, with their myriad tongues,  
Shouted of liberty ;  
And the Blast of the Desert cried aloud,  
With a voice so wild and free,  
That he started in his sleep and smiled  
At their tempestuous glee.

He did not feel the driver's whip,  
 Nor the burning heat of day ;  
 For Death had illumined the Land of Sleep,  
 And his lifeless body lay  
 A worn-out fetter, that the soul  
 Had broken and thrown away !

H. W. LONGFELLOW

### THE ARSENAL AT SPRINGFIELD

This is the Arsenal. From floor to ceiling,  
 Like a huge organ, rise the burnished arms ;  
 But from their silent pipes no anthem pealing  
 Startles the villages with strange alarms.

Ah ! what a sound will rise, how wild and dreary,  
 When the death-angel touches those swift keys !  
 What loud lament and dismal Miserere  
 Will mingle with their awful symphonies !

I hear even now the infinite fierce chorus,  
 The cries of agony, the endless groan,  
 Which, through the ages that have gone before us,  
 In long reverberations reach our own.

On helm and harness rings the Saxon hammer,  
 Through Cimbric forest roars the Norseman's song,  
 And loud, amid the universal clamour,  
 O'er distant deserts sounds the Tartar gong.

I hear the Florentine, who from his palace  
 Wheels out his battle-bell with dreadful din,  
 And Aztec priests upon their teocallis  
 Beat the wild war-drums made of serpent's skin ;

The tumult of each sacked and burning village ;  
 The shout that every prayer for mercy drowns ;  
 The soldiers' revels in the midst of pillage ;  
 The wail of famine in beleaguered towns ;



The bursting shell, the gateway wrenched asunder,  
The rattling musketry, the clashing blade ;  
And ever and anon, in tones of thunder,  
The diapason of the cannonade.

Is it, O man, with such discordant noises,  
With such accursed instruments as these,  
Thou drownest Nature's sweet and kindly voices,  
And jarrest the celestial harmonies ?

Were half the power that fills the world with terror,  
Were half the wealth bestowed on camps and  
courts,  
Given to redeem the human mind from error,  
There were no need of arsenals or forts :

The warrior's name would be a name abhorred !  
And every nation that should lift again  
Its hand against a brother, on its forehead  
Would wear for evermore the curse of Cain !

Down the dark future, through long generations,  
The echoing sounds grow fainter and then cease ;  
And like a bell, with solemn, sweet vibrations,  
I hear once more the voice of Christ say, ' Peace !'

Peace ! and no longer from its brazen portals  
The blast of War's great organ shakes the skies !  
But beautiful as songs of the immortals,  
The holy melodies of love arise.

H. W. LONGFELLOW

## 316

## CHILDREN

Come to me, O ye children !  
For I hear you at your play,  
And the questions that perplexed me  
Have vanished quite away.

Ye open the eastern windows,  
That look toward the sun,  
Where thoughts are singing swallows  
And the brooks of morning run.

In your hearts are the birds and the sunshine,  
In your thoughts the brooklet's flow,  
But in mine is the wind of Autumn ;  
And the first fall of the snow.

Ah ! what would the world be to us  
If the children were no more ?  
We should dread the desert behind us  
Worse than the dark before.

What the leaves are to the forest,  
With light and air for food,  
Ere their sweet and tender juices  
Have been hardened into wood,

That to the world are children ;  
Through them it feels the glow  
Of a brighter and sunnier climate  
Than reaches the trunks below.

Come to me, O ye children !  
And whisper in my ear  
What the birds and the winds are singing  
In your sunny atmosphere.

For what are all our contrivings,  
And the wisdom of our books,  
When compared with your caresses,  
And the gladness of your looks ?

Ye are better than all the ballads  
That ever were sung or said ;  
For ye are the living poems,  
And all the rest are dead.

H. W. LONGFELLOW

I do not love thee !—no ! I do not love thee !  
And yet when thou art absent I am sad ;  
And envy even the bright blue sky above thee,  
Whose quiet stars may see thee and be glad.

I do not love thee !—yet, I know not why,  
 Whate'er thou dost seems still well done, to me :  
 And often in my solitude I sigh  
 That those I do love are not more like thee !

I do not love thee !—yet, when thou art gone,  
 I hate the sound (though those who speak be dear)  
 Which breaks the lingering echo of the tone  
 Thy voice of music leaves upon my ear.

I do not love thee !—yet thy speaking eyes,  
 With their deep, bright, and most expressive blue,  
 Between me and the midnight heaven arise,  
 Oftener than any eyes I ever knew.

I know I do not love thee ! yet, alas !  
 Others will scarcely trust my candid heart ;  
 And oft I catch them smiling as they pass,  
 Because they see me gazing where thou art.

CAROLINE E. S. NORTON

## 318

RUBAIYÁT OF OMAR KHAYYÁM OF  
 NAISHÁPÚR

## I

Awake ! for Morning in the Bowl of Night  
 Has flung the Stone that puts the Stars to Flight :  
 And Lo ! the Hunter of the East has caught  
 The Sultán's Turret in a Noose of Light.

## II

Dreaming when Dawn's Left Hand was in the Sky  
 I heard a Voice within the Tavern cry,  
 ' Awake, my Little ones, and fill the Cup  
 ' Before Life's Liquor in its Cup be dry.'

## III

And, as the Cock crew, those who stood before  
 The Tavern shouted—' Open then the Door !  
 ' You know how little while we have to stay,  
 ' And, once departed, may return no more.'

## IV

Now the New Year reviving old Desires,  
 The thoughtful Soul to Solitude retires,  
 Where the WHITE HAND OF MOSES on the Bough  
 Puts out, and Jesus from the ground suspires.

## V

Íráin indeed is gone with all its Rose,  
 And Jamshýd's Sev'n-ring'd Cup where no one knows ;  
 But still the Vine her ancient Ruby yields,  
 And still a Garden by the Water blows.

## VI

And David's Lips are lock't ; but in divine  
 High-piping Pehleví, with ' Wine ! Wine ! Wine !  
 ' Red Wine ! '—the Nightingale cries to the Rose  
 That yellow Cheek of hers to incarnadine.

## VII

Come, fill the Cup, and in the Fire of Spring  
 The Winter Garment of Repentance fling :  
 The Bird of Time has but a little way  
 To fly—and Lo ! the Bird is on the Wing.

## VIII

And look—a thousand Blossoms with the Day  
 Woke—and a thousand scatter'd into Clay :  
 And this first Summer Month that brings the Rose  
 Shall take Jamshýd and Kaikobád away.

## IX

But come with old Khayyám, and leave the Lot  
Of Kaikobád and Kaikhosru forgot :

Let Rustum lay about him as he will,  
Or Hátim Tai cry Supper—heed them not.

## X

With me along some Strip of Herbage strown  
That just divides the desert from the sown,

Where name of Slave and Sultán scarce is known,  
And pity Sultán Máhmúd on his Throne.

## XI

Here with a Loaf of Bread beneath the Bough,  
A Flask of Wine, a Book of Verse—and Thou

Beside me singing in the Wilderness—  
And Wilderness is Paradise enow.

## XII

‘How sweet is mortal Sovranty’—think some :  
Others—‘How blest the Paradise to come !’

Ah, take the Cash in hand and waive the Rest ;  
Oh, the brave Music of a *distant* Drum !

## XIII

Look to the Rose that blows about us—‘Lo,  
‘Laughing,’ she says, ‘into the World I blow :

‘At once the silken Tassel of my Purse  
‘Tear, and its Treasure on the Garden throw.’

## XIV

The Worldly Hope men set their Hearts upon  
Turns Ashes—or it prospers ; and anon,

Like Snow upon the Desert’s dusty Face  
Lighting a little Hour or two—is gone.

## XV

And those who husbanded the Golden Grain,  
 And those who flung it to the Winds like Rain,  
 Alike to no such aureate Earth are turn'd  
 As, buried once, Men want dug up again.

## XVI

Think, in this batter'd Caravanserai  
 Whose Doorways are alternate Night and Day,  
 How Sultán after Sultán with his Pomp  
 Abode his Hour or two, and went his way.

## XVII

They say the Lion and the Lizard keep  
 The Courts where Jamshýd gloried and drank deep ;  
 And Bahrá'm, that great Hunter—the Wild Ass  
 Stamps o'er his Head, and he lies fast asleep.

## XVIII

I sometimes think that never blows so red  
 The Rose as where some buried Caesar bled ;  
 That every Hyacinth the Garden wears  
 Dropt in its Lap from some once lovely Head.

## XIX

And this delightful Herb whose tender Green  
 Fledges the River's Lip on which we lean—  
 Ah, lean upon it lightly ! for who knows  
 From what once lovely Lip it springs unseen !

## XX

Ah, my Belovéd, fill the Cup that clears  
 To-DAY of past Regrets and future Fears—  
 To-morrow ?—Why, To-morrow I may be  
 Myself with Yesterday's Sev'n Thousand Years.

## XXI

Lo ! some we loved, the loveliest and best  
That Time and Fate of all their Vintage prest,  
Have drunk their Cup a Round or two before,  
And one by one crept silently to Rest.

## XXII

And we, that now make merry in the Room  
They left, and Summer dresses in new Bloom,  
Ourselves must we beneath the Couch of Earth  
Descend, ourselves to make a Couch—for whom ?

## XXIII

Ah, make the most of what we yet may spend,  
Before we too into the Dust descend ;  
Dust into Dust, and under Dust, to lie,  
Sans Wine, sans Song, sans Singer, and—sans End !

## XXIV

Alike for those who for TO-DAY prepare,  
And those that after a TO-MORROW stare,  
A Muezzin from the Tower of Darkness cries  
' Fools ! your Reward is neither Here nor There ! '

## XXV

Why, all the Saints and Sages who discuss'd  
Of the Two Worlds so learnedly, are thrust  
Like foolish Prophets forth ; their Words to Scorn  
Are scatter'd, and their Mouths are stopt with Dust.

## XXVI

Oh, come with old Khayyám, and leave the Wise  
To talk ; one thing is certain, that Life flies ;  
One thing is certain, and the Rest is Lies ;  
The Flower that once has blown for ever dies.

## XXVII

Myself when young did eagerly frequent  
 Doctor and Saint, and heard great Argument  
 About it and about : but evermore  
 Came out by the same Door as in I went.

## XXVIII

With them the Seed of Wisdom did I sow,  
 And with my own hand labour'd it to grow :  
 And this was all the Harvest that I reap'd—  
 ' I came like Water, and like Wind I go.'

## XXIX

Into this Universe, and *why* not knowing,  
 Nor *whence*, like Water willy-nilly flowing :  
 And out of it, as Wind along the Waste,  
 I know not *whither*, willy-nilly blowing.

## XXX

What, without asking, hither hurried *whence* ?  
 And, without asking, *whither* hurried hence !  
 Another and another Cup to drown  
 The Memory of this Impertinence !

## XXXI

Up from Earth's Centre, through the Seventh Gate  
 I rose, and on the Throne of Saturn sate,  
 And many Knots unravel'd by the Road ;  
 But not the Knot of Human Death and Fate.

## XXXII

There was a Door to which I found no Key :  
 There was a Veil past which I could not see :  
 Some little Talk awhile of ME and THEE  
 There seem'd—and then no more of THEE and ME.



## XXXIII

Then to the rolling Heav'n itself I cried,  
 Asking, 'What Lamp had Destiny to guide  
 'Her little Children stumbling in the Dark?'  
 And—'A blind Understanding!' Heav'n replied.

## XXXIV

Then to this earthen Bowl did I adjourn  
 My Lip the secret Well of Life to learn :  
 And Lip to Lip it murmur'd—'While you live  
 'Drink!—for once dead you never shall return.'

## XXXV

I think the Vessel, that with fugitive  
 Articulation answer'd, once did live,  
 And merry-make; and the cold Lip I kiss'd  
 How many Kisses might it take—and give!

## XXXVI

For in the Market-place, one Dusk of Day,  
 I watch'd the Potter thumping his wet Clay :  
 And with its all obliterated Tongue  
 It murmur'd—'Gently, Brother, gently, pray!'

## XXXVII

Ah, fill the Cup :—what boots it to repeat  
 How Time is slipping underneath our Feet :  
 Unborn TO-MORROW and dead YESTERDAY,  
 Why fret about them if TO-DAY be sweet!

## XXXVIII

One Moment in Annihilation's Waste,  
 One Moment, of the Well of Life to taste—  
 The Stars are setting and the Caravan  
 Starts for the Dawn of Nothing—Oh, make haste!

## XXXIX

How long, how long, in infinite Pursuit  
 Of This and That endeavour and dispute ?  
 Better be merry with the fruitful Grape  
 Than sadden after none, or bitter, Fruit.

## XL

You know, my Friends, how long since in my House  
 For a new Marriage I did make Carouse :  
 Divorced old barren Reason from my Bed,  
 And took the Daughter of the Vine to Spouse.

## XLI

For ' IS ' and ' IS-NOT ' though *with* Rule and Line,  
 And ' UP-AND-DOWN ' *without*, I could define,  
 I yet in all I only cared to know,  
 Was never deep in anything but—Wine.

## XLII

And lately, by the Tavern Door agape,  
 Came stealing through the Dusk an Angel Shape  
 Bearing a Vessel on his Shoulder ; and  
 He bid me taste of it ; and 'twas—the Grape !

## XLIII

The Grape that can with Logic absolute  
 The Two-and-Seventy jarring Sects confute :  
 The subtle Alchemist that in a Trice  
 Life's leaden Metal into Gold transmute.

## XLIV

The mighty Mahmúd, the victorious Lord,  
 That all the misbelieving and black Horde  
 Of Fears and Sorrows that infest the Soul  
 Scatters and slays with his enchanted Sword.

## XLV

But leave the Wise to wrangle, and with me  
The Quarrel of the Universe let be :

And, in some corner of the Hubbub coucht,  
Make Game of that which makes as much of Thee.

## XLVI

For in and out, above, about, below,  
'Tis nothing but a Magic Shadow-show,

Play'd in a Box whose Candle is the Sun,  
Round which we Phantom Figures come and go.

## XLVII

And if the Wine you drink, the Lip you press,  
End in the Nothing all Things end in—Yes—

Then fancy while Thou art, Thou art but what  
Thou shalt be—Nothing—Thou shalt not be less.

## XLVIII

While the Rose blows along the River Brink,  
With old Khayyám the Ruby Vintage drink :

And when the Angel with his darker Draught  
Draws up to Thee—take that, and do not shrink.

## XLIX

'Tis all a Chequer-board of Nights and Days  
Where Destiny with Men for Pices plays :

Hither and thither moves, and mates, and slays,  
And one by one back in the Closet lays.

## L

The Ball no Question makes of Ayes and Noes,  
But Right or Left as strikes the Player goes ;

And He that toss'd Thee down into the Field,  
He knows about it all—HE knows—HE knows !

## LI

The Moving Finger writes ; and, having writ,  
 Moves on : nor all thy Piety nor Wit  
 Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,  
 Nor all thy Tears wash out a Word of it.

## LII

And that inverted Bowl we call The Sky,  
 Whereunder crawling coop't we live and die,  
 Lift not thy hands to It for help—for It  
 Rolls impotently on as Thou or I.

## LIII

With Earth's first Clay They did the last Man's knead,  
 And then of the Last Harvest sow'd the Seed :  
 Yea, the first Morning of Creation wrote  
 What the last Dawn of Reckoning shall read.

## LIV

I tell Thee this—When, starting from the Goal,  
 Over the shoulders of the flaming Foal  
 Of Heav'n Parwin and Mushtara they flung,  
 In my predestin'd Plot of Dust and Soul

## LV

The Vine had struck a Fibre ; which about  
 If clings my Being—let the Sufi flout ;  
 Of my Base Metal may be filed a Key,  
 That shall unlock the Door he howls without.

## LVI

And this I know : whether the one True Light,  
 Kindle to Love, or Wrath-consume me quite,  
 One glimpse of It within the Tavern caught  
 Better than in the Temple lost outright.

## LVII

Oh Thou, who didst with Pitfall and with Gin  
Beset the Road I was to wander in,

Thou wilt not with Predestination round  
Enmesh me, and impute my Fall to Sin ?

## LVIII

Oh, Thou, who Man of baser Earth didst make,  
And who with Eden didst devise the Snake ;

For all the Sin wherewith the Face of Man  
Is blacken'd, Man's Forgiveness give—and take !

## KÚZA—NÁMA

## LIX

Listen again. One evening at the Close  
Of Ramazán, ere the better Moon arose,

In that old Potter's Shop I stood alone  
With the clay Population round in Rows.

## LX

And, strange to tell, among the Earthen Lot  
Some could articulate, while others not :

And suddenly one more impatient cried—  
' Who is the Potter, pray, and who the Pot ? '

## LXI

Then said another—' Surely not in vain  
' My Substance from the common Earth was ta'en,  
' That He who subtly wrought me into Shape  
' Should stamp me back to common Earth again.'

## LXII

Another said—' Why, ne'er a peevish Boy,  
' Would break the Bowl from which he drank in Joy ;  
' Shall He that *made* the Vessel in pure Love  
' And Fancy, in an after Rage destroy ! '

## LXIII

None answer'd this ; but after Silence spake  
 A Vessel of a more ungainly Make :  
 ' They sneer at me for leaning all awry ;  
 ' What ! did the Hand then of the Potter shake ? '

## LXIV

Said one—' Folks of a surly Tapster tell,  
 ' And daub his Visage with the Smoke of Hell ;  
 ' They talk of some strict Testing of us—Pish !  
 ' He's a Good Fellow, and 'twill all be well.'

## LXV

Then said another with a long-drawn Sigh,  
 ' My Clay with long oblivion is gone dry :  
 ' But, fill me with the old familiar Juice,  
 ' Methinks I might recover by and by !'

## LXVI

So while the Vessels one by one were speaking,  
 One spied the little Crescent all were seeking :  
 And then they jogg'd each other, ' Brother, Brother !  
 ' Hark to the Porter's Shoulder-knot a-creaking !'

## LXVII

Ah, with the Grape my fading Life provide,  
 And wash my Body whence the Life has died,  
 And in a Windingsheet of Vine-leaf wrapt,  
 So bury me by some sweet Garden-side.

## LXVIII

That ev'n my buried Ashes such a Snare  
 Of Perfume shall fling up into the Air,  
 As not a True Believer passing by  
 But shall be overtaken unaware.

## LXIX

Indeed the Idols I have loved so long  
 Have done my Credit in Men's Eye much wrong :  
 Have drown'd my Honour in a shallow Cup,  
 And sold my Reputation for a Song.

## LXX

Indeed, indeed, Repentance oft before  
 I swore—but was I sober when I swore ?  
 And then and then came Spring, and Rose-in-hand  
 My thread-bare Penitence apieces tore.

## LXXI

And much as Wine has play'd the Infidel,  
 And robb'd me of my Robe of Honour—well,  
 I often wonder what the Vintners buy  
 One half so precious as the Goods they sell.

## LXXII

Alas, that Spring should vanish with the Rose !  
 That Youth's sweet-scented Manuscript should close !  
 The Nightingale that in the Branches sang,  
 Ah, whence, and whither flown again, who knows !

## LXXIII

Ah Love ! could thou and I with Fate conspire  
 To grasp this sorry Scheme of Things entire,  
 Would not we shatter it to bits—and then  
 Re-mould it nearer to the Heart's Desire !

## LXXIV

Ah, Moon of my Delight who know'st no wane,  
 The Moon of Heav'n is rising once again :  
 How oft hereafter rising shall she look  
 Through this same Garden after me—in vain !

## LXXV

And when Thyself with shining Foot shall pass  
 Among the Guests Star-scatter'd on the Grass,  
 And in thy joyous Errand reach the Spot  
 Where I made one—turn down an empty Glass !

TANÁM SHUD.

E. FITZGERALD

## 319

## THE CHAMBERED NAUTILUS

This is the ship of pearl, which, poets feign,  
 Sails the unshadowed main,—  
 The venturous bark that flings  
 On the sweet summer wind its purpled wings  
 In gulfs enchanted, where the siren sings,  
 And coral reefs lie bare,  
 Where the cold sea-maids rise to sun their streaming  
 hair.

In webs of living gauze no more unfurl ;  
 Wrecked is the ship of pearl !  
 And every chambered cell,  
 Where its dreaming life was wont to dwell,  
 As the frail tenant shaped his growing shell,  
 Before thee lies revealed,—  
 Its irised ceiling rent, its sunless crypt unsealed !

Year after year beheld the silent toil  
 That spread his lustrous coil ;  
 Still, as the spiral grew,  
 He left the past year's dwelling for the new,  
 Stole with soft step its shining archway through,  
 Built up its idle door,  
 Stretched in his last-found home, and knew the old  
 no more.



Thanks for the heavenly message brought by thee,  
 Child of the wandering sea,  
 Cast from her lap forlorn !  
 From thy dead lips a clearer note is born  
 Than ever Triton blew from wreathed horn !  
 While on mine ear it rings,  
 Through the deep caves of thought I hear a voice that  
 sings :—

Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,  
 As the swift seasons roll !  
 Leave thy low-vaulted past !  
 Let each new temple, nobler than the last,  
 Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast,  
 Till thou at length art free,  
 Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting sea.  
 O. W. HOLMES

## 320

## THE MEN OF OLD

I know not that the men of old  
 Were better than men now,  
 Of heart more kind, of hand more bold,  
 Of more ingenuous brow :  
 I heed not those who pine for force  
 A ghost of Time to raise,  
 As if they thus could check the course  
 Of these appointed days.

Still it is true, and over true,  
 That I delight to close  
 This book of life self-wise and new,  
 And let my thoughts repose  
 On all that humble happiness.  
 The world has since foregone,—  
 The daylight of contentedness  
 That on those faces shone .

With rights, tho' not too closely scanned,  
 Enjoyed, as far as known,—  
 With will by no reverse unmanned,—  
 With pulse of even tone,—  
 They from to-day and from to-night  
 Expected nothing more,  
 Than yesterday and yesternight  
 Had proffered them before.

To them was life a simple art  
 Of duties to be done,  
 A game where each man took his part,  
 A race where all must run ;  
 A battle whose great scheme and scope  
 They little cared to know,  
 Content, as men at arms, to cope  
 Each with his fronting foe.

Man now his Virtue's diadem  
 Puts on, and proudly wears,  
 Great thoughts, great feelings, came to them,  
 Like instincts, unawares :  
 Blending their souls' sublimest needs  
 With tasks of every day,  
 They went about their gravest deeds,  
 As noble boys at play.—

And what if Nature's fearful wound  
 They did not probe and bear,  
 For that their spirits never swooned  
 To watch the misery there,—  
 For that their love but flowed more fast,  
 Their charities more free,  
 Not conscious what mere drops they cast  
 Into the evil sea.

A man's best things are nearest him,  
 Lie close about his feet,  
 It is the distant and the dim  
 That we are sick to greet :

For flowers that grow our hands beneath  
 We struggle and aspire,—  
 Our hearts must die, except they breathe  
 The air of fresh Desire.

But, Brothers, who up Reason's hill  
 Advance with hopeful cheer,—  
 O ! loiter not, those heights are chill,  
 As chill as they are clear ;  
 And still restrain your haughty gaze,  
 The loftier that ye go,  
 Remembering distance leaves a haze  
 On all that lies below.

LORD HOUGHTON

## 321

## THE MILLER'S DAUGHTER

It is the miller's daughter,  
 And she is grown so dear, so dear,  
 That I would be the jewel  
 That trembles at her ear :  
 For hid in ringlets day and night,  
 I'd touch her neck so warm and white.

And I would be the girdle  
 About her dainty dainty waist,  
 And her heart would beat against me,  
 In sorrow and in rest :  
 And I should know if it beat right,  
 I'd clasp it round so close and tight.

And I would be the necklace,  
 And all day long to fall and rise  
 Upon her balmy bosom,  
 With her laughter or her sighs :  
 And I would lie so light, so light,  
 I scarce should be unclasp'd at night.

LORD TENNYSON

## 322

## ST. AGNES' EVE

Deep on the convent-roof the snows  
 Are sparkling to the moon :  
 My breath to heaven like vapour goes :  
 May my soul follow soon !

The shadows of the convent-towers  
 Slant down the snowy sward,  
 Still creeping with the creeping hours  
 That lead me to my Lord :

Make Thou my spirit pure and clear  
 As are the frosty skies,  
 Or this first snowdrop of the year  
 That in my bosom lies.

As these white robes are soil'd and dark,  
 To yonder shining ground ;

As this pale taper's earthly spark,  
 To yonder argent round ;

So shows my soul before the Lamb,  
 My spirit before Thee ;

So in mine earthly house I am,  
 To that I hope to be.

Break up the heavens, O Lord ! and far,  
 Thro' all yon starlight keen,

Draw me, Thy bride, a glittering star,  
 In raiment white and clean.

He lifts me to the golden doors ;  
 The flashes come and go ;

All heaven bursts her starry floors,  
 And strows her lights below,

And deepens on and up ! the gates  
 Roll back, and far within

For me the Heavenly Bridegroom waits,  
 To make me pure of sin.

The sabbaths of Eternity,  
 One sabbath deep and wide—

A light upon the shining sea—  
 The Bridegroom with his bride !

LORD TENNYSON

323

## SIR GALAHAD

My good blade carves the casques of men,  
My tough lance thrusteth sure,  
My strength is as the strength of ten,  
Because my heart is pure.  
The shattering trumpet shrilleth high,  
The hard brands shiver on the steel,  
The splinter'd spear-shafts crack and fly,  
The horse and rider reel :  
They reel, they roll in clanging lists,  
And when the tide of combat stands,  
Perfume and flowers fall in showers,  
That lightly rain from ladies' hands.

How sweet are looks that ladies bend  
On whom their favours fall !  
For them I battle till the end,  
To save from shame and thrall :  
But all my heart is drawn above,  
My knees are bowed in crypt and shrine :  
I never felt the kiss of love,  
Nor maiden's hand in mine.  
More bounteous aspects on me beam,  
Me mightier transports move and thrill ;  
So keep I fair thro' faith and prayer  
A virgin heart in work and will.

When down the stormy crescent goes,  
A light before me swims,  
Between dark stems the forest glows,  
I hear a noise of hymns :  
Then by some secret shrine I ride ;  
I hear a voice, but none are there ;  
The stalls are void, the doors are wide,  
The tapers burning fair.  
Fair gleams the snowy altar-cloth,  
The silver vessels sparkle clean,  
The shrill bell rings, the censer swings,  
And solemn chaunts resound between.

Sometimes on lonely mountain-meres  
 I find a magic bark ;  
 I leap on board : no helmsman steers :  
 I float till all is dark.  
 A gentle sound, an awful light !  
 Three angels bear the holy Grail :  
 With folded feet, in stoles of white,  
 On sleeping wings they sail.  
 Ah, blessed vision ! blood of God !  
 My spirit beats her mortal bars,  
 As down dark tides the glory slides,  
 And star-like mingles with the stars.

When on my goodly charger borne  
 Thro' dreaming towns I go,  
 The cock crows ere the Christmas morn,  
 The streets are dumb with snow.  
 The tempest crackles on the leads,  
 And, ringing, springs from brand and mail ;  
 But o'er the dark a glory spreads,  
 And gilds the driving hail.  
 I leave the plain, I climb the height ;  
 No branchy thicket shelter yields ;  
 But blessed forms in whistling storms  
 Fly o'er waste fens and windy fields.

A maiden knight—to me is given  
 Such hope, I know not fear ;  
 I yearn to breathe the airs of heaven  
 That often meet me here.  
 I muse on joy that will not cease,  
 Pure spaces clothed in living beams,  
 Pure lilies of eternal peace,  
 Whose odours haunt my dreams ;  
 And, stricken by an angel's hand,  
 This mortal armour that I wear,  
 This weight and size, this heart and eyes,  
 Are touched, are turned to finest air.

The clouds are broken in the sky,  
 And thro' the mountain-walls  
 A rolling organ-harmony  
 Swells up, and shakes and falls.

Then move the trees, the copses nod,  
 Wings flutter, voices hover clear :  
 ' O just and faithful knight of God !  
 Ride on ! the prize is near.'  
 So pass I hostel, hall, and grange ;  
 By bridge and ford, by park and pale,  
 All-arm'd I ride, whate'er betide,  
 Until I find the holy Grail.

LORD TENNYSON

## 324

## BREAK, BREAK, BREAK

Break, break, break,  
 On thy cold grey stones, O Sea !  
 And I would that my tongue could utter  
 The thoughts that arise in me.

O well for the fisherman's boy,  
 That he shouts with his sister at play !  
 O well for the sailor lad,  
 That he sings in his boat on the bay !

And the stately ships go on  
 To their haven under the hill ;  
 But O for the touch of a vanish'd hand,  
 And the sound of a voice that is still !

Break, break, break,  
 At the foot of thy crags, O Sea !  
 But the tender grace of a day that is dead  
 Will never come back to me.

LORD TENNYSON

## 325

## THE BROOK

I come from haunts of coot and hern,  
 I make a sudden sally  
 And sparkle out among the fern,  
 To bicker down a valley.

By thirty hills I hurry down,  
Or slip between the ridges,  
By twenty thorps, a little town,  
And half a hundred bridges.

Till last by Philip's farm I flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on for ever.

I chatter over stony ways,  
In little sharps and trebles,  
I bubble into eddying bays,  
I babble on the pebbles.

With many a curve my bank I fret  
By many a field and fallow,  
And many a fairy-foreland set  
With willow-weed and mallow.

I chatter, chatter, as I flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on for ever.

I wind about, and in and out,  
With here a blossom sailing,  
And here and there a lusty trout,  
And here and there a grayling,

And here and there a foamy flake  
Upon me, as I travel,  
With many a silvery waterbreak  
Above the golden gravel,

And draw them all along, and flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on for ever.



I steal by lawns and grassy plots,  
 I slide by hazel covers ;  
 I move the sweet forget-me-nots  
 That grow for happy lovers.

I slip, I slide, I gloom, I glance,  
 Among my skimming swallows ;  
 I make the netted sunbeam dance  
 Against my sandy shallows.

I murmur under moon and stars  
 In brambly wildernesses ;  
 I linger by my shingly bars ;  
 I loiter round my cresses ;

And out again I curve and flow  
 To join the brimming river,  
 For men may come and men may go,  
 But I go on for ever.

LORD TENNYSON

## 326

As thro' the land at eve we went,  
 And pluck'd the ripen'd ears,  
 We fell out, my wife and I,  
 O we fell out, I know not why,  
 And kiss'd again with tears.  
 And blessings on the falling out  
 That all the more endears,  
 When we fall out with those we love,  
 And kiss again with tears !  
 For when we came where lies the child  
 We lost in other years,  
 There above the little grave,  
 O there above the little grave,  
 We kiss'd again with tears.

LORD TENNYSON

## 327

The splendour falls on castle walls  
 And snowy summits old in story :  
 The long light shakes across the lakes,  
 And the wild cataract leaps in glory.

Blow, bugle, blow, set the wild echoes flying,  
Blow, bugle ; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

O hark, O hear ! how thin and clear,  
And thinner, clearer, farther going !  
O sweet and far from cliff and scar  
The horns of Elfland faintly blowing !

Blow, let us hear the purple glens replying :  
Blow, bugle ; answer echoes, dying, dying, dying.

O love, they die in yon rich sky,  
They faint on hill or field or river :  
Our echoes roll from soul to soul,  
And grow for ever and for ever.

Blow, bugle, blow, set the wild echoes flying,  
And answer, echoes, answer, dying, dying, dying.  
LORD TENNYSON

## 328

Tears, idle tears, I know not what they mean,  
Tears from the depth of some divine despair  
Rise in the heart, and gather to the eyes,  
In looking on the happy Autumn-fields,  
And thinking of the days that are no more.

Fresh as the first beam glittering on a sail,  
That brings our friends up from the underworld,  
Sad as the last which reddens over one  
That sinks with all we love below the verge ;  
So sad, so fresh, the days that are no more.

Ah, sad and strange as in dark summer dawns  
The earliest pipe of half-awaken'd birds  
To dying ears, when unto dying eyes  
The casement slowly grows a glimmering square ;  
So sad, so strange, the days that are no more.

Dear as remember'd kisses after death,  
And sweet as those by hopeless fancy feign'd  
On lips that are for others ; deep as love,  
Deep as first love, and wild with all regret ;  
O Death in Life, the days that are no more.

LORD TENNYSON

## 329

O Swallow, Swallow, flying, flying South,  
Fly to her, and fall upon her gilded caves,  
And tell her, tell her what I tell to thee.

O tell her, Swallow, thou that knowest each,  
That bright and fierce and fickle is the South,  
And dark and true and tender is the North.

O Swallow, Swallow, if I could follow, and light  
Upon her lattice, I would pipe and trill,  
And cheep and twitter twenty million loves.

O were I thou that she might take me in,  
And lay me on her bosom, and her heart  
Would rock the snowy cradle till I died.

Why lingereth she to clothe her heart with love,  
Delaying as the tender ash delays  
To clothe herself, when all the woods are green ?

O tell her, Swallow, that thy brood is flown :  
Say to her, I do but wanton in the South,  
But in the North long since my nest is made.

O tell her, brief is life but love is long,  
And brief the sun of summer in the North,  
And brief the moon of beauty in the South.

O Swallow, flying from the golden woods,  
Fly to her, and pipe and woo her, and make her mine,  
And tell her, tell her, that I follow thee.

LORD TENNYSON

## 330

Now sleeps the crimson petal, now the white ;  
Nor waves the cypress in the palace walk ;  
Nor winks the gold fin in the porphyry font :  
The firefly wakens : waken thou with me.

Now droops the milkwhite peacock like a ghost,  
And like a ghost she glimmers on to me.

Now lies the Earth all Danaë to the stars,  
And all thy heart lies open unto me.

Now slides the silent meteor on, and leaves  
A shining furrow, as thy thoughts in me.

Now folds the lily all her sweetness up,  
And slips into the bosom of the lake :  
So fold thyself, my dearest, thou, and slip  
Into my bosom and be lost in me.

LORD TENNYSON

## 331

Come down, O maid, from yonder mountain height :  
What pleasure lives in height (the shepherd sang),  
In height and cold, the splendour of the hills ?  
But cease to move so near the Heavens, and cease  
To glide a sunbeam by the blasted Pine,  
To sit a star upon the sparkling spire ;  
And come, for Love is of the valley, come,  
For Love is of the valley, come thou down  
And find him ; by the happy threshold, he,  
Or hand in hand with Plenty in the maize,  
Or red with spirted purple of the vats,  
Or foxlike in the vine ; nor cares to walk  
With Death and Morning on the silver horns,  
Nor wilt thou snare him in the white ravine,  
Nor find him dropt upon the firths of ice,  
That huddling slant in furrow-cloven falls  
To roll the torrent out of dusky doors :  
But follow ; let the torrent dance thee down  
To find him in the valley ; let the wild  
Lean-headed Eagles yelp alone, and leave  
The monstrous ledges there to slope, and spill  
Their thousand wreaths of dangling water-smoke,  
That like a broken purpose waste in air :  
So waste not thou ; but come ; for all the vales  
Await thee ; azure pillars of the hearth

Arise to thee ; the children call, and I  
 Thy shepherd pipe, and sweet is every sound,  
 Sweeter thy voice, but every sound is sweet ;  
 Myriads of rivulets hurrying thro' the lawn,  
 The moan of doves in immemorial elms,  
 And murmuring of innumerable bees.

LORD TENNYSON

332

FROM 'IN MEMORIAM'

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
 The flying cloud, the frosty light :  
 The year is dying in the night ;  
 Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
 Ring, happy bells, across the snow :  
 The year is going, let him go ;  
 Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,  
 For those that here we see no more ;  
 Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
 Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,  
 And ancient forms of party strife ;  
 Ring in the nobler modes of life,  
 With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,  
 The faithless coldness of the times ;  
 Ring out, ring out, my mournful rhymes,  
 But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,  
 The civic slander and the spite ;  
 Ring in the love of truth and right,  
 Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease ;  
 Ring out the narrowing lust of gold ;  
 Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
 Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,  
 The larger heart, the kindlier hand ;  
 Ring out the darkness of the land,  
 Ring in the Christ that is to be.

LORD TENNYSON

## 333

Come into the garden, Maud,  
 For the black bat, Night, has flown,  
 Come into the garden, Maud,  
 I am here at the gate alone ;  
 And the woodbine spices are wafted abroad,  
 And the musk of the rose is blown.

For a breeze of morning moves,  
 And the planet of Love is on high,  
 Beginning to faint in the light that she loves  
 On a bed of daffodil sky,  
 To faint in the light of the sun she loves,  
 To faint in his light, and to die.

All night have the roses heard  
 The flute, violin, bassoon ;  
 All night has the casement jessamine stirr'd  
 To the dancers dancing in tune ;  
 Till a silence fell with the waking bird,  
 And a hush with the setting moon.

I said to the lily, ' There is but one  
 With whom she has heart to be gay.  
 When will the dancers leave her alone ?  
 She is weary of dance and play.'  
 Now half to the setting moon are gone,  
 And half to the rising day ;  
 Low on the sand and loud on the stone  
 The last wheel echoes away.

I said to the rose, 'The brief night goes  
 In babble and revel and wine.  
 O young lord-lover, what sighs are those  
 For one that will never be thine ?  
 But mine, but mine,' so I sware to the rose  
 'For ever and ever, mine.'

And the soul of the rose went into my blood,  
 As the music clash'd in the hall ;  
 And long by the garden lake I stood,  
 For I heard your rivulet fall  
 From the lake to the meadow and on to the wood,  
 Our wood, that is dearer than all ;

From the meadow your walks have left so sweet  
 That whenever a March-wind sighs  
 He sets the jewel-print of your feet  
 In violets blue as your eyes,  
 To the woody hollows in which we meet  
 And the valleys of Paradise.

The slender acacia would not shake  
 One long milk-bloom on the tree ;  
 The white lake-blossom fell into the lake,  
 As the pimpernel dozed on the lea ;  
 But the rose was awake all night for your sake,  
 Knowing your promise to me ;  
 The lilies and roses were all awake,  
 They sighed for the dawn and thee.

Queen rose of the rosebud garden of girls,  
 Come hither, the dances are done,  
 In gloss of satin and glimmer of pearls,  
 Queen lily and rose in one ;  
 Shine out, little head, sunning over with curls,  
 To the flowers, and be their sun.

There has fallen a splendid tear  
 From the passion-flower at the gate.  
 She is coming, my dove, my dear ;  
 She is coming, my life, my fate ;  
 The red rose cries, 'She is near, she is near' ;  
 And the white rose weeps, 'She is late' ;  
 The larkspur listens, 'I hear, I hear' ;  
 And the lily whispers, 'I wait.'

She is coming, my own, my sweet ;  
 Were it ever so airy a tread,  
 My heart would hear her and beat,  
 Were it earth in an earthly bed ;  
 My dust would hear her and beat,  
 Had I lain for a century dead ;  
 Would start and tremble under her feet,  
 And blossom in purple and red.

LORD TENNYSON

334

In Love, if Love be Love, if Love be ours,  
 Faith and unfaith can ne'er be equal powers :  
 Unfaith in aught is want of faith in all.

It is the little rift within the lute,  
 That by and by will make the music mute,  
 And ever widening slowly silence all.

The little rift within the lover's lute,  
 Or little pitted speck in garner'd fruit,  
 That rotting inward slowly moulders all.

It is not worth the keeping : let it go :  
 But shall it ? answer, darling, answer, no ;  
 And trust me not at all or all in all.

LORD TENNYSON

335

THE PRIVATE OF THE BUFFS

Some Sikhs and a private of the Buffs having remained behind with the grog carts, fell into the hands of the Chinese. On the next morning they were brought before the authorities, and commanded to perform the *Kotow*. The Sikhs obeyed ; but Moyse, the English soldier, declaring that he would not prostrate himself before any Chinaman alive, was immediately knocked upon the head, and his body thrown on a dunghill.—*The Times*.

*Last night, among his fellow roughs,*  
 He jested, quaffed, and swore,  
 A drunken private of the Buffs,  
 Who never looked before.



*To-day*, beneath the foeman's frown,  
He stands in Elgin's place,  
Ambassador from Britain's crown,  
And type of all her race.

Poor, reckless, rude, low-born, untaught,  
Bewildered, and alone,  
A heart, with English instinct fraught,  
He yet can call his own.  
Aye, tear his body limb from limb,  
Bring cord, or axe, or flame :  
He only knows, that not through *him*  
Shall England come to shame.

Far Kentish hop-fields round him seem'd,  
Like dreams, to come and go ;  
Bright leagues of cherry-blossom gleam'd,  
One sheet of living snow ;  
The smoke, above his father's door,  
In grey soft eddyings hung :  
Must he then watch it rise no more,  
Doom'd by himself so young ?

Yes, honour calls !—with strength like steel  
He put the vision by.  
Let dusky Indians whine and kneel ;  
An English lad must die.  
And thus, with eyes that would not shrink,  
With knee to man unbent,  
Unflinching on its dreadful brink,  
To his red grave he went.

Vain, mightiest fleets of iron framed ;  
Vain, those all-shattering guns ;  
Unless proud England keep, untamed,  
The strong heart of her sons.  
So, let his name through Europe ring—  
A man of mean estate,  
Who died, as firm as Sparta's King,  
Because his soul was great.

SIR F. H. DOYLE

336

## A CHRISTMAS HYMN

It was the calm and silent night !—  
 Seven hundred years and fifty-three  
 Had Rome been growing up to might,  
 And now was Queen of land and sea !  
 No sound was heard of clashing wars ;  
 Peace brooded o'er the hushed domain ;  
 Apollo, Pallas, Jove and Mars,  
 Held undisturbed their ancient reign,  
 In the solemn midnight  
 Centuries ago !

'Twas in the calm and silent night !  
 The senator of haughty Rome  
 Impatient urged his chariot's flight,  
 From lordly revel rolling home !  
 Triumphal arches gleaming swell  
 His breast with thoughts of boundless sway :  
 What reeked the Roman what befell  
 A paltry province far away,  
 In the solemn midnight  
 Centuries ago !

Within that province far away  
 Went plodding home a weary boor :  
 A streak of light before him lay,  
 Fall'n through a half-shut stable door  
 Across his path. He passed—for naught  
 Told what was going on within ;  
 How keen the stars ! his only thought ;  
 The air how calm and cold and thin,  
 In the solemn midnight  
 Centuries ago !

O strange indifference !—low and high  
 Drowsed over common joys and cares :  
 The earth was still—but knew not why ;  
 The world was listening—unawares ;

How calm a moment may precede  
 One that shall thrill the world for ever !  
 To that still moment none would heed,  
 Man's doom was linked no more to sever  
 In the solemn midnight  
 Centuries ago !

It is the calm and solemn night !  
 A thousand bells ring out, and throw  
 Their joyous peals abroad, and smite  
 The darkness, charmed and holy *now* !  
 The night that erst no name had worn,  
 To it a happy name is given ;  
 For in that stable lay new-born  
 The peaceful Prince of Earth and Heaven,  
 In the solemn midnight  
 Centuries ago.

A. DONETT

## 337

The year's at the spring,  
 And day's at the morn ;  
 Morning's at seven ;  
 The hill-side's dew-pearled ;  
 The lark's on the wing ;  
 The snail's on the thorn ;  
 God's in His heaven—  
 All's right with the world !  
 R. BROWNING

## 338

Give her but a least excuse to love me !  
 When—where—  
 How—can this arm establish her above me,  
 If fortune fixed her as my lady there,  
 There already, to eternally reprove me ?  
 (' Hist '—said Kate the queen ;  
 But ' Oh '—cried the maiden, binding her tresses,  
 ' 'Tis only a page that carols unseen  
 ' Crumbling your hounds their messes ! ' )

Is she wronged?—To the rescue of her honour,  
 My heart!  
 Is she poor?—What costs it to be styled a donor?  
 Merely an earth's to cleave, a sea's to part!  
 But that fortune should have thrust all this upon her!  
 ('Nay, list,'—bade Kate the queen;  
 And still cried the maiden, binding her tresses,  
 'Tis only a page that carols unseen  
 'Fitting your hawks their jesses!')

R. BROWNING

### THE LOST LEADER

Just for a handful of silver he left us,  
 Just for a riband to stick in his coat—  
 Found the one gift of which fortune bereft us,  
 Lost all the others she lets us devote;  
 They, with the gold to give, doled him out silver,  
 So much was theirs who so little allowed:  
 How all our copper had gone for his service!  
 Rags—were they purple, his heart had been proud!  
 We that had loved him so, followed him, honoured him,  
 Lived in his mild and magnificent eye,  
 Learned his great language, caught his clear accents,  
 Made him our pattern to live and to die!  
 Shakespeare was of us, Milton was for us,  
 Burns, Shelley, were with us,—they watch from  
 their graves!  
 He alone breaks from the van and the freemen,  
 He alone sinks to the rear and the slaves!

We shall march prospering,—not thro' his presence;  
 Songs may inspirit us,—not from his lyre;  
 Deeds will be done,—while he boasts his quiescence,  
 Still bidding crouch whom the rest bade aspire:  
 Blot out his name, then, record one lost soul more,  
 One task more declined, one more footpath untrod,  
 One more triumph for devils and sorrow for angels,  
 One wrong more to man, one more insult to God!

Life's night begins : let him never come back to us !  
 There would be doubt, hesitation, and pain,  
 Forced praise on our part—the glimmer of twilight,  
 Never glad confident morning again !  
 Best fight on well, for we taught him,—strike gallantly,  
 Menace our heart ere we master his own ;  
 Then let him receive the new knowledge and wait us,  
 Pardoned in Heaven, the first by the throne !  
 R. BROWNING

## 340

## HOME-THOUGHTS, FROM ABROAD

Oh, to be in England  
 Now that April 's there,  
 And whoever wakes in England  
 Sees, some morning, unaware,  
 That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf  
 Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,  
 While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough  
 In England—now !  
 And after April, when May follows,  
 And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows !  
 Hark, where my blossomed pear-tree in the hedge  
 Leans to the field and scatters on the clover  
 Blossoms and dewdrops—at the bent spray's edge—  
 That 's the wise thrush ; he sings each song twice over,  
 Lest you should think he never could recapture  
 The first fine careless rapture !  
 And though the fields look rough with hoary dew,  
 All will be gay when noontide wakes anew  
 The buttercups, the little children's dower  
 —Far brighter than this gaudy melon-flower !  
 R. BROWNING

## 341

## HOME-THOUGHTS, FROM THE SEA

Nobly, nobly Cape Saint Vincent to the North-west  
 died away ;  
 Sunset ran, one glorious blood-red, reeking into Cadiz  
 Bay ;

Bluish mid the burning water, full in face Trafalgar lay ;  
 In the dimmest North-east distance, dawned Gibraltar  
 grand and grey ;  
 ' Here and here did England help me : how can I help  
 England ? '—say,  
 Whoso turns as I, this evoning, turn to God to praise  
 and pray,  
 While Jove's planet rises yonder, silent over Africa.  
 R. BROWNING

## MISCONCEPTIONS

This is a spray the Bird clung to,  
 Making it blossom with pleasure,  
 Ere the high tree-top she sprung to,  
 Fit for her nest and her treasure.  
 Oh, what a hope beyond measure  
 Was the poor spray's, which the flying feet hung to,—  
 So to be singled out, built in, and sung to !

This is a heart the Queen leant on,  
 Thrilled in a minute erratic,  
 Ere the true bosom she bent on,  
 Meet for love's regal dalmatic.  
 Oh, what a fancy ecstatic  
 Was the poor heart's, ere the wanderer went on—  
 Love to be saved for it, proffered to, spent on !  
 R. BROWNING

## A WOMAN'S LAST WORD

Let's contend no more, Love,  
 Strive nor weep :  
 All be as before, Love,  
 —Only sleep !

What so wild as words are ?  
 I and thou  
 In debate, as birds are,  
 Hawk on bough !

See the creature stalking  
While we speak !  
Hush and hide the talking,  
Cheek on cheek !

What so false as truth is,  
False to thee ?  
Where the serpent's tooth is,  
Shun the tree—

Where the apple reddens  
Never pry—  
Lest we lose our Edens,  
Eve and I !

Be a god and hold me  
With a charm !  
Be a man and fold me  
With thine arm !

Teach me, only teach, Love !  
As I ought  
I will speak thy speech, Love,  
Think thy thought—

Meet, if thou require it,  
Both demands,  
Laying flesh and spirit  
In thy hands.

That shall be to-morrow  
Not to-night :  
I must bury sorrow  
Out of sight :

—Must a little weep, Love,  
(Foolish me !)  
And so fall asleep, Love,  
Loved by thee.

R. BROWNING

344

## LIFE IN A LOVE

Escape me ?

Never—

Beloved !

While I am I, and you are you,

So long as the world contains us both,

Me the loving and you the loath,

While the one eludes, must the other pursue.

My life is a fault at last, I fear :

It seems too much like a fate, indeed !

Though I do my best I shall scarce succeed.

But what if I fail of my purpose here ?

It is but to keep the nerves at strain,

To dry one's eyes and laugh at a fall,

And baffled, get up and begin again,—

So the chace takes up one's life, that's all.

While, look but once from your farthest bound

At me so deep in the dust and dark,

No sooner the old hope drops to ground

Than a new one, straight to the selfsame mark,

I shape me—

Ever

Removed !

R. BROWNING

345

## A GRAMMARIAN'S FUNERAL

SHORTLY AFTER THE REVIVAL OF LEARNING  
IN EUROPE

Let us begin and carry up this corpse,

Singing together.

Leave we the common crofts, the vulgar thorpes,

Each in its tether

Sleeping safe on the bosom of the plain,

Cared-for till cock-crow :

Look out if yonder be not day again

Rimming the rock-row !

That's the appropriate country ; there, man's thought,

Rarer, intenser,



Self-gathered for an outbreak, as it ought,  
 Chafes in the censer !  
 Leave we the unlettered plain its herd and crop ;  
 Seek we sepulture  
 On a tall mountain, citted to the top,  
 Crowded with culture !  
 All the peaks soar, but one the rest excels ;  
 Clouds overcome it ;  
 No, yonder sparkle is the citadel's  
 Circling its summit !  
 Thither our path lies ; wind we up the heights :  
 Wait ye the warning ?  
 Our low life was the level's and the night's ;  
 He 's for the morning !  
 Step to a tune, square chests, erect the head,  
 'Ware the beholders !  
 This is our master, famous, calm, and dead,  
 Borne on our shoulders.

Sleep, crop and herd ! sleep, darkling thorpe and croft,  
 Safe from the weather !  
 He, whom we convoy to his grave aloft,  
 Singing together,  
 He was a man born with thy face and throat,  
 Lyric Apollo !  
 Long he lived nameless : how should spring take note  
 Winter would follow ?  
 Till lo, the little touch, and youth was gone !  
 Cramped and diminished,  
 Moaned he, ' New measures, other feet anon !  
 My dance is finished ' ?  
 No, that 's the world's way ! (keep the mountain-side,  
 Make for the city.)  
 He knew the signal, and stepped on with pride  
 Over men's pity ;  
 Left play for work, and grappled with the world  
 Bent on escaping :  
 ' What 's in the scroll,' quoth he, ' thou keepest furled ?  
 Show me their shaping,  
 Theirs, who most studied man, the bard and sage,—  
 Give ! '—So he gowned him,

Straight got by heart that book to its last page :  
 Learned, we found him !  
 Yea, but we found him bald too—eyes like lead,  
 Accents uncertain :  
 ‘ Time to taste life,’ another would have said,  
 ‘ Up with the curtain ! ’—  
 This man said rather, ‘ Actual life comes next ?  
 Patience a moment !  
 Grant I have mastered learning’s crabbed text,  
 Still, there’s the comment.  
 Let me know all ! Prate not of most or least,  
 Painful or easy :  
 Even to the crumbs I’d fain eat up the feast,  
 Aye, nor feel queasy ! ’  
 Oh, such a life as he resolved to live,  
 When he had learned it,  
 When he had gathered all books had to give !  
 Sooner, he spurned it.  
 Image the whole, then execute the parts—  
 Fancy the fabric  
 Quite, ere you build, ere steel strike fire from quartz,  
 Ere mortar dab brick !

(Here’s the town-gate reached : there’s the market-  
 place  
 Gaping before us.)  
 Yea, this in him was the peculiar grace  
 (Hearten our chorus)  
 That before living he’d learn how to live—  
 No end to learning :  
 Earn the means first—God surely will contrive  
 Use for our earning.  
 Others mistrust and say—‘ But time escapes !  
 Live now or never ! ’  
 He said, ‘ What’s time ? leave Now for dogs and apes !  
 Man has Forever.’  
 Back to his book then : deeper drooped his head :  
*Calculus* racked him :  
 Leaden before, his eyes grew dross of lead :  
*Tussis* attacked him.

' Now, Master, take a little rest ! '—not he !  
 (Caution redoubled !  
 Step two a-breast, the way winds narrowly)  
 Not a whit troubled,  
 Back to his studies, fresher than at first,  
 Fierce as a dragon  
 He (soul-hydroptic with a sacred thirst)  
 Sucked at the flagon.  
 Oh, if we draw a circle premature,  
 Heedless of far gain,  
 Greedy for quick returns of profit, sure,  
 Bad is our bargain !

Was it not great ? did not he throw on God,  
 (He loves the burthen)—  
 God's task to make the heavenly period  
 Perfect the earthen ?  
 Did not he magnify the mind, show clear  
 Just what it all meant ?  
 He would not discount life, as fools do here,  
 Paid by instalment !  
 He ventured neck or nothing—Heaven's success  
 Found, or earth's failure :  
 ' Wilt thou trust death or not ? ' He answered ' Yes !  
 Hence with life's pale lure ! '  
 That low man seeks a little thing to do,  
 Sees it and does it :  
 This high man, with a great thing to pursue,  
 Dies ere he knows it.  
 That low man goes on adding one to one,  
 His hundred 's soon hit :  
 This high man, aiming at a million,  
 Misses an unit.  
 That, has the world here—should he need the next,  
 Let the world mind him !  
 This, throws himself on God, and unperplexed  
 Seeking shall find Him.  
 So, with the throttling hand of Death at strife,  
 Ground he at grammar ;  
 Still, thro' the rattle, parts of speech were rife :  
 While he could stammer

He settled *Hoti's* business—let it be!—  
 Properly based *Oun*—  
 Gave us the doctrine of the enclitic *De*,  
 Dead from the waist down.  
 Well, here 's the platform, here 's the proper place.  
 Hail to your purlicus,  
 All ye highfliers of the feathered race,  
 Swallows and curlews!  
 Here 's the top-peak! the multitude below  
 Live, for they can, there.  
 This man decided not to Live but Know—  
 Bury this man there?  
 Here—here 's his place, where meteors shoot, clouds  
 form,  
 Lightnings are loosened,  
 Stars come and go! let joy break with the storm,  
 Peace let the dew send!  
 Lofty designs must close in like effects:  
 Loftily lying,  
 Leave him—still loftier than the world suspects,  
 Living and dying.

R. BROWNING

## PORPHYRIA'S LOVER

The rain set early in to-night,  
 The sullen wind was soon awake,  
 It tore the elm-tops down for spite,  
 And did its worst to vex the lake:  
 I listened with heart fit to break.  
 When glided in Porphyria; straight  
 She shut the cold out and the storm,  
 And kneeled and made the cheerless grate  
 Blaze up, and all the cottage warm;  
 Which done, she rose, and from her form  
 Withdrew the dripping cloak and shawl,  
 And laid her soiled gloves by, untied  
 Her hat and let the damp hair fall,

And, last, she sat down by my side  
And called me. When no voice replied,  
She put my arm about her waist,  
And made her smooth white shoulder bare,  
And all her yellow hair displaced,  
And, stooping, made my cheek lie there,  
And spread o'er all her yellow hair,  
Murmuring how she loved me—she  
Too weak, for all her heart's endeavour,  
To set its struggling passion free  
From pride, and vainer ties dissever,  
And give herself to me for ever.  
But passion sometimes would prevail,  
Nor could to-night's gay feast restrain  
A sudden thought of one so pale  
For love of her, and all in vain :  
So, she was come through wind and rain ?  
Be sure I looked up at her eyes  
Happy and proud ; at last I knew  
Porphyria worshipped me ; surprise  
Made my heart swell, and still it grew  
While I debated what to do.  
That moment she was mine, mine, fair,  
Perfectly pure and good : I found  
A thing to do, and all her hair  
In one long yellow string I wound  
Three times her little throat around,  
And strangled her. No pain felt she ;  
I am quite sure she felt no pain.  
As a shut bud that holds a bee,  
I warily oped her lids ; again  
Laughed the blue eyes without a stain.  
And I untightened next the tress  
About her neck ; her cheek once more  
Blushed bright beneath my burning kiss :  
I propped her head up as before,  
Only, this time my shoulder bore  
Her head, which droops upon it still :  
The smiling rosy little head,  
So glad it has its utmost will,  
That all it scorned at once is fled,  
And I, its love, am gained instead !

Porphyria's love : she guessed not how  
 Her darling one wish would be heard.  
 And thus we sit together now,  
 And all night long we have not stirred,  
 And yet God has not said a word !

R. BROWNING

## 347

## RABBI BEN EZRA

## I

Grow old along with me !  
 The best is yet to be,  
 The last of life, for which the first was made :  
 Our times are in His hand  
 Who saith ' A whole I planned,  
 Youth shows but half ; trust God : see all nor be  
 afraid ! '

## II

Not that, amassing flowers,  
 Youth sighed ' Which rose make ours,  
 Which lily leave and then as best recall ? '  
 Not that, admiring stars,  
 It yearned ' Nor Jove, nor Mars ;  
 Mine be some figured flame which blends, transcends  
 them all ! '

## III

Not for such hopes and fears  
 Annulling youth's brief years,  
 Do I remonstrate : folly wide the mark !  
 Rather I prize the doubt  
 Low kinds exist without,  
 Finished and finite clods, untroubled by a spark.

## IV

Poor vaunt of life indeed,  
 Were man but formed to feed  
 On joy, to solely seek and find and feast :  
 Such feasting ended, then  
 As sure an end to men ;  
 Irks care the crop-full bird ? Frets doubt the maw-  
 crammed beast ?

## V

Rejoice we are allied  
 To That which doth provide  
 And not partake, effect and not receive !  
 A spark disturbs our clod ;  
 Nearer we hold of God  
 Who gives, than of His tribes that take, I must  
 believe.

## VI

Then, welcome each rebuff  
 That turns earth's smoothness rough,  
 Each sting that bids nor sit nor stand but go !  
 Be our joys three-parts pain !  
 Strive, and hold cheap the strain ;  
 Learn, nor account the pang ; dare, never grudge the  
 throe !

## VII

For thence,—a paradox  
 Which comforts while it mocks,—  
 Shall life succeed in that it seems to fail :  
 What I aspired to be,  
 And was not, comforts me :  
 A brute I might have been, but would not sink i' the  
 scale.

## VIII

What is he but a brute  
 Whose flesh hath soul to suit,  
 Whose spirit works lest arms and legs want play ?  
 To man, propose this test—  
 Thy body at its best,  
 How far can that project thy soul on its lone way ?

## IX

Yet gifts should prove their use :  
 I own the Past profuse  
 Of power each side, perfection every turn ;  
 Eyes, ears took in their dole,  
 Brain treasured up the whole ;  
 Should not the heart beat once ' How good to live and  
 learn ' ?

## X

Not once beat ' Praise be Thine !  
 I see the whole design,  
 I, who saw Power, see now Love perfect too :  
 Perfect I call Thy plan :  
 Thanks that I was a man !  
 Maker, remake, complete,—I trust what Thou shalt  
 do !'

## XI

For pleasant is this flesh ;  
 Our soul in its rose-mesh  
 Pulled ever to the earth, still yearns for rest :  
 Would we some prize might hold  
 To match those manifold  
 Possessions of the brute,—gain most, as we did best !

## XII

Let us not always say  
 ' Spite of this flesh to-day  
 I strove, made head, gained ground upon the whole !'  
 As the bird wings and sings,  
 Let us cry ' All good things  
 Are ours, nor soul helps flesh more, now, than flesh  
 helps soul !'

## XIII

Therefore I summon age  
 To grant youth's heritage,  
 Life's struggle having so far reached its term :  
 Thence shall I pass, approved  
 A man, for ay removed  
 From the developed brute ; a God though in the germ.



## XIV

And I shall thereupon  
 Take rest, ere I be gone  
 Once more on my adventure brave and new :  
 Fearless and unperplexed,  
 When I wage battle next,  
 What weapons to select, what armour to indue.

## XV

Youth ended, I shall try  
 My gain or loss thereby ;  
 Be the fire ashes, what survives is gold :  
 And I shall weigh the same,  
 Give life its praise or blame :  
 Young, all lay in dispute ; I shall know, being old.

## XVI

For note, when evening shuts,  
 A certain moment cuts  
 The deed off, calls the glory from the grey :  
 A whisper from the west  
 Shoots—' Add this to the rest,  
 Take it and try its worth : here dies another day.'

## XVII

So, still within this life,  
 Though lifted o'er its strife,  
 Let me discern, compare, pronounce at last,  
 'This rage was right i' the main,  
 That acquiescence vain :  
 The Future I may face now I have proved the Past.'

## XVIII

For more is not reserved  
 To man, with soul just nerved  
 To act to-morrow what he learns to-day :  
 Here, work enough to watch  
 The Master work, and catch  
 Hints of the proper craft, tricks of the tool's true play.

## XIX

As it was better, youth  
 Should strive, through acts uncouth,  
 Toward making, than repose on aught found made ;  
 So, better, age, exempt  
 From strife, should know, than tempt  
 Further. Thou waitedst age ; wait death nor be  
 afraid !

## XX

Enough now, if the Right  
 And Good and Infinite  
 Be named here, as thou callest thy hand thine own,  
 With knowledge absolute,  
 Subject to no dispute  
 From fools that crowded youth, nor let thee feel alone.

## XXI

Be there, for once and all,  
 Severed great minds from small,  
 Announced to each his station in the Past !  
 Was I, the world arraigned,  
 Were they, my soul disdained,  
 Right ? Let age speak the truth and give us peace  
 at last !

## XXII

Now, who shall arbitrate ?  
 Ten men love what I hate,  
 Shun what I follow, slight what I receive ;  
 Ten, who in ears and eyes  
 Match me : we all surmise,  
 They, this thing, and I, that : whom shall my soul  
 believe ?

## XXIII

Not on the vulgar mass  
 Called ' work,' must sentence pass,  
 Things done, that took the eye and had the price ;  
 O'er which, from level stand,  
 The low world laid its hand,  
 Found straightway to its mind, could value in a trice :

## XXIV

But all, the world's coarse thumb  
 And finger failed to plumb,  
 So passed in making up the main account ;  
 All instincts immature,  
 All purposes unsure,  
 That weighed not as his work, yet swelled the man's  
 amount :

## XXV

Thoughts hardly to be packed  
 Into a narrow act,  
 Fancies that broke through language and escaped ;  
 All I could never be,  
 All, men ignored in me,  
 This, I was worth to God, whose wheel the pitcher  
 shaped.

## XXVI

Aye, note that Potter's wheel,  
 That metaphor ! and feel  
 Why time spins fast, why passive lies our clay,—  
 Thou, to whom fools propound,  
 When the wine makes its round,  
 ' Since life fleets, all is change ; the Past gone, seize  
 to-day ! '

## XXVII

Fool ! All that is, at all,  
 Lasts ever, past recall ;  
 Earth changes, but thy soul and God stand sure :  
 What entered into thee,  
 That was, is, and shall be :  
 Time's wheel runs back or stops ; Potter and clay  
 endure.

## XXVIII

He fixed thee mid this dance  
 Of plastic circumstance,  
 This Present, thou, forsooth, wouldst fain arrest :  
 Machinery just meant  
 To give thy soul its bent,  
 Try thee and turn thee forth, sufficiently impressed.

## XXIX

What though the earlier grooves  
 Which ran the laughing loves  
 Around thy base, no longer pause and press ?  
 What though, about thy rim,  
 Skull-things in order grim  
 Grow out, in graver mood, obey the sterner stress ?

## XXX

Look not thou down but up !  
 To uses of a cup,  
 The festal board, lamp's flash and trumpet's peal,  
 The new wine's foaming flow,  
 The Master's lips a-glow !  
 Thou, heaven's consummate cup, what needst thou  
 with earth's wheel ?

## XXXI

But I need, now as then,  
 Thee, God, who moulded men ;  
 And since, not even while the whirl was worst,  
 Did I,—to the wheel of life  
 With shapes and colours rife,  
 Bound dizzily,—mistake my end, to slake Thy thirst :

## XXXII

So, take and use Thy work !  
 Amend what flaws may lurk,  
 What strain o' the stuff, what warpings past the aim !  
 My times be in Thy hand !  
 Perfect the cup as planned !  
 Let age approve of youth, and death complete the same !

R. BROWNING

## 348

## PROSPICE

Fear death ?—to feel the fog in my throat,  
The mist in my face,  
When the snows begin, and the blasts denote  
I am nearing the place,  
The power of the night, the press of the storm,  
The post of the foe ;  
Where he stands, the Arch Fear in a visible form,  
Yet the strong man must go :  
For the journey is done and the summit attained,  
And the barriers fall,  
Though a battle 's to fight ere the guerdon be gained,  
The reward of it all.  
I was ever a fighter, so—one fight more,  
The best and the last !  
I would hate that death bandaged my eyes, and forbore,  
And bade me creep past.  
No ! let me taste the whole of it, fare like my peers  
The heroes of old,  
Bear the brunt, in a minute pay glad life's arrears  
Of pain, darkness and cold.  
For sudden the worst turns the best to the brave,  
The black minute 's at end,  
And the elements' rage, the fiend-voices that rave,  
Shall dwindle, shall blend,  
Shall change, shall become first a peace, then a joy,  
Then a light, then thy breast,  
O thou soul of my soul ! I shall clasp thee again,  
And with God be the rest !

R. BROWNING

## 349

## THE EXECUTION OF MONTROSE

## I

Come hither, Evan Cameron !  
     Come, stand beside my knee—  
 I hear the river roaring down  
     Towards the wintry sea.  
 There 's shouting on the mountain's side,  
     There 's war within the blast—  
 Old faces look upon me,  
     Old forms go trooping past.  
 I hear the pibroch wailing  
     Amidst the din of fight,  
 And my dim spirit works again  
     Upon the verge of night !

## II

'Twas I that led the Highland host  
     Through wild Lochaber's snows,  
 What time the plaided clans came down  
     To battle with Montrose.  
 I've told thee how the Southrons fell  
     Beneath the broad claymore,  
 And how we smote the Campbell clan  
     By Inverlochy's shore.  
 I've told thee how we swept Dundee,  
     And tamed the Lindsay's pride ;  
 But never have I told thee yet  
     How the Great Marquis died !

## III

A traitor sold him to his foes ;  
     O deed of deathless shame !  
 I charge thee, boy, if e'er thou meet  
     With one of Assynt's name—

Be it upon the mountain's side,  
Or yet within the glen,  
Stand he in martial gear alone,  
Or backed by armed men—  
Face him, as thou wouldst face the man  
Who wronged thy sire's renown ;  
Remember of what blood thou art,  
And strike the caitiff down !

## IV

They brought him to the Watergate,  
Hard bound with hempen span,  
As though they held a lion there,  
And not a fenceless man.  
They set him high upon a cart—  
The hangman rode below—  
They drew his hands behind his back,  
And bared his noble brow.  
Then, as a hound is slipped from leash,  
They cheered the common throng,  
And blew the note with yell and shout,  
And bade him pass along.

## V

It would have made a brave man's heart  
Grow sad and sick that day,  
To watch the keen malignant eyes  
Bent down on that array.  
There stood the Whig west-country lords  
In balcony and bow,  
There sat their gaunt and withered dames,  
And their daughters all a-row ;  
And every open window  
Was full as full might be,  
With black-robed Covenanting carles,  
That goodly sport to see !

## VI

But when he came, though pale and wan,  
 He looked so great and high,  
 So noble was his manly front,  
 So calm his steadfast eye ;—  
 The rabble rout forbore to shout,  
 And each man held his breath,  
 For well they knew the hero's soul  
 Was face to face with death.  
 And then a mournful shudder  
 Through all the people crept,  
 And some that came to scoff at him,  
 Now turn'd aside and wept.

## VII

But onwards—always onwards,  
 In silence and in gloom,  
 The dreary pageant laboured,  
 Till it reach'd the house of doom :  
 Then first a woman's voice was heard  
 In jeer and laughter loud,  
 And an angry cry and a hiss arose  
 From the heart of the tossing crowd :  
 Then, as the Graeme looked upwards,  
 He met the ugly smile  
 Of him who sold his King for gold—  
 The master-fiend Argyle !

## VIII

The Marquis gazed a moment,  
 And nothing did he say,  
 But the cheek of Argyle grew ghastly pale,  
 And he turned his eyes away.  
 The painted harlot by his side,  
 She shook through every limb,  
 For a roar like thunder swept the street,  
 And hands were clenched at him,  
 And a Saxon soldier cried aloud  
 ' Back, coward, from thy place !  
 For seven long years thou hast not dared  
 To look him in the face.'



## IX

Had I been there with sword in hand,  
 And fifty Camerons by,  
 That day through high Dunedin's streets  
 Had pealed the slogan cry.  
 Not all their troops of trampling horse,  
 Nor might of mailed men—  
 Not all the rebels of the south  
 Had borne us backwards then !  
 Once more his foot on Highland heath  
 Had trod as free as air,  
 Or I, and all who bore my name,  
 Been laid around him there !

## X

It might not be. They placed him next  
 Within the solemn hall,  
 Where once the Scottish Kings were throned  
 Amidst their nobles all.  
 But there was dust of vulgar feet  
 On that polluted floor,  
 And perjured traitors filled the place  
 Where good men sate before.  
 With savage glee came Warristoun  
 To read the murderous doom,  
 And then uprose the great Montrose  
 In the middle of the room.

## XI

' Now by my faith as belted knight,  
 And by the name I bear,  
 And by the bright Saint Andrew's cross  
 That waves above us there—  
 Yea, by a greater, mightier oath—  
 And oh, that such should be !—  
 By that dark stream of royal blood  
 That lies 'twixt you and me—  
 I have not sought in battle-field  
 A wreath of such renown,  
 Nor dared I hope, on my dying day,  
 To win the martyr's crown !

## XII

' There is a chamber far away  
 Where sleep the good and brave,  
 But a better place ye have named for me  
 Than by my father's grave.  
 For truth and right, 'gainst treason's might,  
 This hand hath always striven,  
 And ye raise it up for a witness still  
 In the eye of earth and heaven.  
 Then nail my head on yonder tower—  
 Give every town a limb—  
 And God who made shall gather them :  
 I go from you to Him ! '

## XIII

The morning dawned full darkly,  
 The rain came flashing down,  
 And the jagged streak of the levin-bolt  
 Lit up the gloomy town :  
 The heavens were thundering out their wrath,  
 The fatal hour was come ;  
 Yet ever sounded sullenly  
 The trumpet and the drum.  
 There was madness on the earth below,  
 And anger in the sky,  
 And young and old, and rich and poor,  
 Came forth to see him die.

## XIV

Ah, God ! that ghastly gibbet !  
 How dismal 'tis to see  
 The great tall spectral skeleton,  
 The ladder, and the tree !  
 Hark ! hark ! it is the clash of arms—  
 The bells begin to toll—  
 He is coming ! he is coming !  
 God's mercy on his soul !  
 One last long peal of thunder—  
 The clouds are cleared away,  
 And the glorious sun once more looks down  
 Amidst the dazzling day.

## XV

He is coming ! he is coming !  
 Like a bridegroom from his room,  
 Came the hero from his prison  
 To the scaffold and the doom.  
 There was glory on his forehead,  
 There was lustre in his eye,  
 And he never walked to battle  
 More proudly than to die :  
 There was colour on his visage,  
 Though the cheeks of all were wan,  
 And they marvelled as they saw him pass,  
 That great and goodly man !

## XVI

He mounted up the scaffold,  
 And he turned him to the crowd ;  
 But they dared not trust the people,  
 So he might not speak aloud.  
 But he looked upon the heavens,  
 And they were clear and blue,  
 And in the liquid ether  
 The eye of God shone through :  
 Yet a black and murky battlement  
 Lay resting on the hill,  
 As though the thunder slept within—  
 All else was calm and still.

## XVII

The grim Geneva ministers  
 With anxious scowl drew near,  
 As you have seen the ravens flock  
 Around the dying deer.  
 He would not deign them word or sign,  
 But alone he bent the knee ;  
 And veiled his face for Christ's dear grace  
 Beneath the gallows-tree.  
 Then radiant and serene he rose,  
 And cast his cloak away :  
 For he had ta'en his latest look  
 Of earth, and sun, and day.

## XVIII

A beam of light fell o'er him,  
 Like a glory round the shriven,  
 And he climbed the lofty ladder  
 As it were the path to heaven.  
 There came a flash from out the cloud,  
 And a stunning thunder roll,  
 And no man dared to look aloft,  
 For fear was on every soul.  
 There was another heavy sound,  
 A hush and then a groan ;  
 And darkness swept across the sky—  
 The work of death was done !

W. E. AYTOUN

## 350

## TUBAL CAIN

Old Tubal Cain was a man of might  
 In the days when Earth was young ;  
 By the fierce red light of his furnace bright  
 The strokes of his hammer rung ;  
 And he lifted high his brawny hand  
 On the iron glowing clear,  
 Till the sparks rushed out in scarlet showers,  
 As he fashioned the sword and spear.  
 And he sang—' Hurra for my handiwork !  
 Hurra for the spear and sword !  
 Hurra for the hand that shall wield them well,  
 For he shall be king and lord ! '

To Tubal Cain came many a one,  
 As he wrought by his roaring fire,  
 And each one prayed for a strong steel blade  
 As the crown of his desire :  
 And he made them weapons sharp and strong,  
 Till they shouted loud for glee,  
 And gave him gifts of pearl and gold,  
 And spoils of the forest free.

And they sang—' Hurra for Tubal Cain,  
Who hath given us strength anew !  
Hurra for the smith, hurra for the fire,  
And hurra for the metal true ! '

But a sudden change came o'er his heart,  
Ere the setting of the sun,  
And Tubal Cain was filled with pain  
For the evil he had done ;  
He saw that men, with rage and hate,  
Made war upon their kind,  
That the land was red with blood they shed  
In their lust for carnage, blind.  
And he said—' Alas ! that ever I made,  
Or that skill of mine should plan,  
The spear and the sword for men whose joy  
Is to slay their fellow man.'

And for many a day old Tubal Cain  
Sat brooding o'er his woe ;  
And his hand forebore to smite the ore,  
And his furnace smouldered low.  
But he rose at last with a cheerful face,  
And a bright courageous eye,  
And bared his strong right arm for work,  
While the quick flames mounted high.  
And he sang—' Hurra for my handicraft ! '  
And the red sparks lit the air ;  
' Not alone for the blade which the bright steel made,'  
And he fashioned the first ploughshare.

And men, taught wisdom from the past,  
In friendship joined their hands,  
Hung the sword in the hall, the spear on the wall,  
And ploughed the willing lands ;  
And sang—' Hurra for Tubal Cain ! '  
Our staunch good friend is he ;  
And for the ploughshare and the plough  
To him our praise shall be.  
But while oppression lifts its head,  
Or a tyrant would be lord,  
Though we may thank him for the Plough,  
We'll not forget the Sword ! '

C. MACKAY

## 351

## QUA CURSUM VENTUS

As ships, becalmed at eve, that lay  
 With canvas drooping, side by side,  
 Two towers of sail at dawn of day  
 Are scarce long leagues apart descried ;

When fell the night, upsprang the breeze,  
 And all the darkling hours they plied,  
 Nor dreamt but each the self-same seas  
 By each was cleaving, side by side :

E'en so—but why the tale reveal  
 Of those, whom year by year unchanged,  
 Brief absence joined anew to feel,  
 Astounded, soul from soul estranged ?

At dead of night their sails were filled,  
 And onward each rejoicing steered—  
 Ah, neither blame, for neither willed,  
 Or wist, what first with dawn appeared !

To veer, how vain ! On, onward strain,  
 Brave barks ! In light, in darkness too,  
 Through winds and tides one compass guides—  
 To that, and your own selves, be true.

But O blithe breeze ! and O great seas,  
 Though ne'er, that earliest parting past,  
 On your wide plain they join again,  
 Together lead them home at last :

One port, methought, alike they sought,  
 One purpose hold where'er they fare,—  
 O bounding breeze, O rushing seas !  
 At last, at last, unite them there !

A. H. CLOUGH

## 352

Say not, the struggle naught availeth,  
The labour and the wounds are vain,  
The enemy faints not, nor faileth,  
And as things have been they remain.

If hopes were dupes, fears may be liars ;  
It may be, in yon smoke concealed,  
Your comrades chase e'en now the fliers,  
And, but for you, possess the field.

For while the tired waves, vainly breaking,  
Seem here no painful inch to gain,  
Far back, through creeks and inlets making,  
Comes silent, flooding in, the main.

And not by eastern windows only,  
When daylight comes, comes in the light,  
In front, the sun climbs slow, how slowly,  
But westward, look, the land is bright !

A. H. CLOUGH

## 353

Where lies the land to which the ship would go ?  
Far, far ahead, is all her seamen know.  
And where the land she travels from ? Away,  
Far, far behind, is all that they can say.

On sunny noons upon the deck's smooth face,  
Linked arm in arm, how pleasant here to pace ;  
Or, o'er the stern reclining, watch below  
The foaming wake far widening as we go.

On stormy nights when wild north-westerns rave,  
How proud a thing to fight with wind and wave !  
The dripping sailor on the reeling mast  
Exults to bear, and scorns to wish it past.

Where lies the land to which the ship would go ?  
 Far, far ahead, is all her seamen know.  
 And where the land she travels from? Away,  
 Far, far behind, is all that they can say.

A. H. CLOUGH

## 354

## 'O MAY I JOIN THE CHOIR INVISIBLE'

'*Longum illud tempus, quum non ero, magis me movet, quam hoc exiguum.*'—CICERO, *ad Att.* xii, 18.

O may I join the choir invisible  
 Of those immortal dead who live again  
 In minds made better by their presence : live  
 In pulses stirred to generosity,  
 In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn  
 For miserable aims that end with self,  
 In thoughts sublime that pierce the night like stars,  
 And with their mild persistence urge man's search  
 To vaster issues.

So to live is heaven :

To make undying music in the world,  
 Breathing as beauteous order that controls  
 With growing sway the growing life of man.  
 So we inherit that sweet purity  
 For which we struggled, failed, and agonized  
 With widening retrospect that bred despair.  
 Rebellious flesh that would not be subdued,  
 A vicious parent shaming still its child  
 Poor anxious penitence, is quick dissolved ;  
 Its discords, quenched by meeting harmonies,  
 Die in the large and charitable air.  
 And all our rarer, better, truer self,  
 That sobbed religiously in yearning song,  
 That watched to ease the burthen of the world,  
 Laboriously tracing what must be,  
 And what may yet be better—saw within  
 A worthier image for the sanctuary,  
 And shaped it forth before the multitude  
 Divinely human, raising worship so



To higher reverence more mixed with love—  
 That better self shall live till human Time  
 Shall fold its eyelids, and the human sky  
 Be gathered like a scroll within the tomb  
 Unread for ever.

This is life to come,  
 Which martyred men have made more glorious  
 For us who strive to follow. May I reach  
 That purest heaven, be to other souls  
 The cup of strength in some great agony,  
 Enkindle generous ardour, feed pure love,  
 Beget the smiles that have no cruelty—  
 Be the sweet presence of a good diffused,  
 And in diffusion ever more intense.  
 So shall I join the choir invisible  
 Whose music is the gladness of the world.

GEORGE ELIOT

## 355

## AIRLY BEACON

Airly Beacon, Airly Beacon ;  
 Oh the pleasant sight to see  
 Shires and towns from Airly Beacon,  
 While my love climbed up to me !

Airly Beacon, Airly Beacon ;  
 Oh the happy hours we lay  
 Deep in fern on Airly Beacon,  
 Courting through the summer's day !

Airly Beacon, Airly Beacon ;  
 Oh the weary haunt for me,  
 All alone on Airly Beacon,  
 With his baby on my knee !

C. KINGSLEY

356

## THE SANDS OF DEE

' O Mary, go and call the cattle home,  
 And call the cattle home,  
 And call the cattle home  
 Across the sands of Dee ' ;

The western wind was wild and dank with foam,  
 And all alone went she.

The western tide crept up along the sand,  
 And o'er and o'er the sand,  
 And round and round the sand,  
 As far as eye could see.

The rolling mist came down and hid the land :  
 And never home came she.

' Oh ! is it weed, or fish, or floating hair—  
 A tress of golden hair,  
 A drownéd maiden's hair  
 Above the nets at sea ?

Was never salmon yet that shone so fair  
 Among the stakes of Dee.'

They rowed her in across the rolling foam,  
 The cruel crawling foam,  
 The cruel hungry foam,  
 To her grave beside the sea :

But still the boatmen hear her call the cattle home  
 Across the sands of Dee.

C. KINGSLEY

357

## ODE TO THE NORTH-EAST WIND

Welcome, wild North-easter !  
 Shame it is to see

Odes to every zephyr ;  
 Ne'er a verse to thee.

Welcome, black North-easter !  
 O'er the German foam ;

O'er the Danish moorlands,  
From thy frozen home.  
Tired we are of summer,  
Tired of gaudy glare,  
Showers soft and steaming,  
Hot and breathless air.  
Tired of listless dreaming,  
Through the lazy day :  
Jovial wind of winter,  
Turn us out to play !  
Sweep the golden reed-beds ;  
Crisp the lazy dyke ;  
Hunger into madness  
Every plunging pike.  
Fill the lake with wild-fowl ;  
Fill the marsh with snipe ;  
While on dreary moorlands  
Lonely curlew pipe.  
Through the black fir-forest  
Thunder harsh and dry,  
Shattering down the snow-flakes  
Off the curdled sky.  
Hark ! The brave North-caster !  
Breast-high lies the scent,  
On by holt and headland,  
Over heath and bent.  
Chime, ye dappled darlings,  
Through the sleet and snow.  
Who can over-ride you ?  
Let the horses go !  
Chime, ye dappled darlings,  
Down the roaring blast ;  
You shall see a fox die  
Ere an hour be past.  
Go ! and rest to-morrow,  
Hunting in your dreams,  
While our skates are ringing  
O'er the frozen streams.  
Let the luscious South-wind  
Breathe in lovers' sighs,  
While the lazy gallants  
Bask in ladies' eyes.

What does he but soften  
 Heart alike and pen ?  
 'Tis the hard grey weather  
 Breeds hard English men.  
 What 's the soft South-wester ?  
 'Tis the ladies' breeze,  
 Bringing home their true loves  
 Out of all the seas :  
 But the black North-easter,  
 Through the snowstorm hurled,  
 Drives our English hearts of oak  
 Scaward round the world.  
 Come, as came our fathers,  
 Heralded by thee,  
 Conquering from the eastward,  
 Lords by land and sea.  
 Come ; and strong within us  
 Stir the Vikings' blood ;  
 Bracing brain and sinew ;  
 Blow, thou wind of God !  
 C. KINGSLEY

358

## YOUNG AND OLD

When all the world is young, lad,  
 And all the trees are green ;  
 And every goose a swan, lad,  
 And every lass a queen ;  
 Then hey for boot and horse, lad,  
 And round the world away ;  
 Young blood must have its course, lad,  
 And every dog his day.

When all the world is old, lad,  
 And all the trees are brown ;  
 And all the sport is stale, lad,  
 And all the wheels run down ;  
 Creep home, and take your place there,  
 The spent and maimed among :  
 God grant you find one face there,  
 You loved when all was young.

C. KINGSLEY

359

## O CAPTAIN! MY CAPTAIN!

O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,  
The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought  
is won,

The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,  
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and  
daring:

But O heart! heart! heart!

O the bleeding drops of red!

Where on the deck my Captain lies,  
Fallen cold and dead.

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;  
Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle  
trills,

For you bouquets and ribbon'd wreaths—for you the  
shores a-crowding,

For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces  
turning;

Here Captain! dear father!

This arm beneath your head!

It is some dream that on the deck  
You've fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,  
My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor  
will;

The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed  
and done,

From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object  
won;

Exult, O shores, and ring, O bells!

But I, with mournful tread,

Walk the deck my Captain lies,  
Fallen cold and dead.

WALT WHITMAN

Playing on the virginals,  
 Who but I ! Sae glad, sae free,  
 Smelling for all cordials,  
 The green mint and marjorie ;  
 Set among the budding broom,  
 Kingcup and daffodilly ;  
 By my side I made him room :  
 O love my Willie !

' Like me, love me, girl o' gowd,'  
 Sang he to my nimble strain ;  
 Sweet his ruddy lips o'erflowed  
 Till my heartstrings rang again :  
 By the broom, the bonny broom,  
 Kingcup and daffodilly,  
 In my heart I made him room :  
 O love my Willie !

' Pipe and play, dear heart,' sang he,  
 ' I must go, yet pipe and play ;  
 Soon I'll come and ask of thee  
 For an answer yea or nay ;'  
 And I waited till the flocks  
 Panted in yon waters stilly,  
 And the corn stood in the shocks :  
 O love my Willie !

I thought first when thou didst come  
 I would wear the ring for thee,  
 But the year told out its sum  
 Ere again thou sat'st by me ;  
 Thou hadst naught to ask that day  
 By kingcup and daffodilly ;  
 I said neither yea nor nay :  
 O love my Willie !

JEAN INGELow

361

THE HIGH TIDE ON THE COAST OF  
LINCOLNSHIRE (1571)

The old mayor climbed the belfry tower,  
The ringers ran by two, by three ;  
' Pull, if ye never pulled before ;  
    Good ringers, pull your best,' quoth he.  
' Play uppe, play uppe, O Boston bells !  
Ply all your changes, all your swells,  
    Play uppe *The Brides of Enderby.*'

Men say it was a stolen tyde—  
    The Lord that sent it, He knows all ;  
But in myne ears doth still abide  
    The message that the bells let fall :  
And there was naught of strange, beside  
The flight of mewes and peewits pied  
    By millions crouched on the old sea wall.

I sat and spun within the doore,  
    My thread brake off, I raised myne eyes ;  
The level sun, like ruddy ore,  
    Lay sinking in the barren skies,  
And dark against day's golden death  
She moved where Lindis wandereth,  
My sonne's faire wife, Elizabeth.

' Cusha ! Cusha ! Cusha !' calling,  
Ere the early dewes were falling,  
Farre away I heard her song  
' Cusha ! Cusha !' all along ;  
Where the reedy Lindis floweth,  
    Floweth, floweth,  
From the meads where melick groweth  
Faintly came her milking song—

'Cusha! Cusha! Cusha!' calling,  
 'For the dewes will soone be falling;  
 Leave your meadow grasses mellow,  
     Mellow, mellow;  
 Quit your cowslips, cowslips yellow;  
 Come uppe Whitefoot, come uppe Lightfoot,  
 Quit the stalks of parsley hollow,  
     Hollow, hollow;  
 Come uppe Jetty, rise and follow,  
 From the clovers lift your head;  
 Come uppe Whitefoot, come uppe Lightfoot,  
 Come uppe Jetty, rise and follow,  
     Jetty, to the milking shed.'

If it be long, aye, long ago.

When I beginne to think howe long,  
 Againe I hear the Lindis flow,  
     Swift as an arrowe, sharp and strong;  
 And all the aire, it seemeth mee,  
 Bin full of floating bells (sayth shee),  
 That ring the tune of Enderby.

Alle fresh the level pasture lay,  
     And not a shadowe mote be seene,  
 Save where full fyve good miles away  
     The steeple towered from out the greene;  
 And lo! the great bell farre and wide  
 Was heard in all the countryside  
 That Saturday at eventide.

The swanherds where their sedges are  
     Moved on in sunset's golden breath,  
 The shepherde lads I heard asarre,  
     And my sonne's wife, Elizabeth;  
 Till floating o'er the grassy sea  
 Came downe that kyndly message free,  
 The *Brides of Mavis Enderby*.

Then some looked uppe into the sky,  
     And all along where Lindis flows  
 To where the goodly vessels lie,  
     And where the lordly steeple shows.



They sayde ' And why should this thing be ?  
 What danger lowers by land or sea ?  
 They ring the tune of Enderby !

' For evil news from Mablethorpe,  
 Of pyrate galleys warping down ;  
 For shippes ashore beyond the scope,  
 They have not spared to wake the towne :  
 But while the west bin red to see,  
 And storms be none, and pyrates flee,  
 Why ring *The Brides of Enderby* ?'

I looked without, and lo ! my sonne  
 Came ridng downe with might and main :  
 He raised a shout as he drew on,  
 Till all the welkin rang again,  
 ' Elizabeth ! Elizabeth !'  
 (A sweeter woman ne'er drew breath  
 Than my sonne's wife, Elizabeth.)

' The olde sea wall (he cried) is downe,  
 The rising tide comes on apace,  
 And boats adrift in yonder towne  
 Go sailing uppe the market-place.'  
 He shook as one that looks on death :  
 ' God save you, mother !' straight he saith ;  
 ' Where is my wife, Elizabeth ?'

' Good sonne, where Lindis winds away,  
 With her two bairns I marked her long ;  
 And ere yon bells beganne to play  
 Afar I heard her milking song.'  
 He looked across the grassy lea,  
 To right, to left, ' Ho Enderby !'  
 They rang *The Brides of Enderby* !

With that he cried and beat his breast ;  
 For, lo ! along the river's bed  
 A mighty cygre reared his crest,  
 And uppe the Lindis raging sped.  
 It swept with thunderous noises loud ;  
 Shaped like a curling snow-white cloud,  
 Or like a demon in a shroud.

And rearing Lindis backward pressed  
 Shook all her trembling bankes amaine ;  
 Then madly at the eygre's breast  
 Flung uppe her weltering walls again.  
 Then bankes came downe with ruin and rout—  
 Then beaten foam flew round about—  
 Then all the mighty floods were out.

So farre, so fast the eygre drave,  
 The heart had hardly time to beat,  
 Before a shallow seething wave  
 Sobbed in the grasses at oure feet :  
 The feet had hardly time to flee  
 Before it broke against the knee,  
 And all the world was in the sea.

Upon the roofe we sate that night,  
 The noise of bells went sweeping by :  
 I marked the lofty beacon light  
 Stream from the church tower, red and high—  
 A lurid mark and dread to see ;  
 And awesome bells they were to mee,  
 That in the dark rang *Enderby*.

They rang the sailor lads to guide  
 From roofe to roofe who fearless rowed ;  
 And I—my sonne was at my side,  
 And yet the ruddy beacon glowed ;  
 And yet he moaned beneath his breath,  
 ' O come in life, or come in death !  
 O lost ! my love, Elizabeth.'

And didst thou visit him no more ?  
 Thou didst, thou didst, my daughter deare ;  
 The waters laid thee at his doore,  
 Ere yet the early dawn was clear.  
 Thy pretty bairns in fast embrace,  
 The lifted sun shone on thy face,  
 Downe drifted to thy dwelling-place.

That flow strewed wrecks about the grass,  
 That ebbe swept out the flocks to sea ;  
 A fatal ebbe and flow, alas !

To manye more than myne and mec :  
 But each will mourn his own (she saith),  
 And sweeter woman ne'er drew breath  
 Than my sonne's wife, Elizabeth.

I shall never hear her more  
 By the reedy Lindis shore,  
 'Cusha ! Cusha ! Cusha !' calling,  
 Ere the early dews be falling ;  
 I shall never hear her song,  
 'Cusha ! Cusha !' all along  
 Where the sunny Lindis floweth,  
 Goeth, floweth ;  
 From the meads where melick groweth,  
 When the water winding down,  
 Onward floweth to the town.

I shall never see her more  
 Where the reeds and rushes quiver,  
 Shiver, quiver ;  
 Stand beside the sobbing river,  
 Sobbing, throbbing, in its falling  
 To the sandy lonesome shore ;  
 I shall never hear her calling,  
 'Leave your meadow grasses mellow,  
 Mellow, mellow ;  
 Quit your cowslips, cowslips yellow ;  
 Come uppe Whitefoot, come uppe Lightfoot ;  
 Quit your pipes of parsley hollow,  
 Hollow, hollow ;  
 Come uppe Lightfoot, rise and follow ;  
 Lightfoot, Whitefoot,  
 From your clovers lift the head ;  
 Come uppe Jetty, follow, follow,  
 Jetty, to the milking shed.'

JEAN INGELOW

362

## THE SONG OF CALLICLES ON ETNA

Through the black, rushing smoke-bursts,  
 Thick breaks the red flame.  
 All Etna heaves fiercely  
 Her forest-cloth'd frame.

Not here, O Apollo !  
 Arc haunts meet for thee.  
 But, where Helicon breaks down  
 In cliff to the sea,

Where the moon-silver'd inlets  
 Send far their light voice  
 Up the still vale of Thisbe,  
 O speed, and rejoice !

On the sward, at the cliff-top,  
 Lie strewn the white flocks ;  
 On the cliff-side, the pigeons  
 Roost deep in the rocks.

In the moonlight the shepherds,  
 Soft lull'd by the rills,  
 Lie wrapt in their blankets,  
 Asleep on the hills.

—What Forms are these coming  
 So white through the gloom ?  
 What garments out-glistening  
 The gold-flower'd broom ?

What sweet-breathing Presence  
 Out-perfumes the thyme ?  
 What voices enrapture  
 The night's balmy prime ?—

'Tis Apollo comes leading  
 His choir, The Nine.  
 —The Leader is fairest,  
 But all are divine.

They are lost in the hollows,  
 They stream up again.  
 What seeks on this mountain  
 The glorified train ?—

They bathe on this mountain  
 In the spring by their road.  
 Then on to Olympus,  
 Their endless abode.

—Whose praise do they mention,  
 Of what is it told ?—  
 What will be for ever,  
 What was from of old.

First hymn they the Father  
 Of all things : and then  
 The rest of Immortals,  
 The action of men.

The Day in its hotness,  
 The strife with the palm ;  
 The Night in its silence,  
 The Stars in their calm.

M. ARNOLD

## SHAKESPEARE

Others abide our question. Thou art free.  
 We ask and ask : Thou smilest and art still.  
 Out-topping knowledge. For the loftiest hill  
 That to the stars uncrowns his majesty,  
 Planting his steadfast footsteps in the sea,  
 Making the Heaven of Heavens his dwelling-place,  
 Spares but the cloudy border of his base  
 To the foil'd searching of mortality :

And thou, who didst the stars and sunbeams know,  
 Self-school'd, self-scann'd, self-honour'd, self-secure,  
 Didst walk on Earth unguess'd at. Better so !  
 All pains the immortal spirit must endure,  
 All weakness that impairs, all griefs that bow,  
 Find their sole voice in that victorious brow.

M. ARNOLD

364

A SUMMER NIGHT

In the deserted moon-blanch'd street  
 How lonely rings the echo of my feet !  
 Those windows, which I gaze at, frown,  
 Silent and white, unopening down,  
 Repellent as the world :—but see !  
 A break between the housetops shows  
 The moon, and, lost behind her, fading dim  
 Into the dewy dark obscurity  
 Down at the far horizon's rim,

Doth a whole tract of heaven disclose.  
 And to my mind the thought  
 Is on a sudden brought  
 Of a past night, and a far different scene.  
 Headlands stood out into the moon-lit deep  
 As clearly as at noon ;  
 The spring-tide's brimming flow  
 Heav'd dazzlingly between ;  
 Houses with long white sweep  
 Girdled the glistening bay :  
 Behind, through the soft air,  
 The blue haze-cradled mountains spread away.  
 That night was far more fair ;  
 But the same restless pacings to and fro  
 And the same vainly throbbing heart was there,  
 And the same bright calm moon.

And the calm moonlight seems to say—  
 —' Hast thou then still the old unquiet breast  
 That neither deadens into rest  
 Nor ever feels the fiery glow  
 That whirls the spirit from itself away,

But fluctuates to and fro  
 Never by passion quite possess'd,  
 And never quite benumb'd by the world's sway ?'—  
 And I, I know not if to pray  
 Still to be what I am, or yield, and be  
 Like all the other men I see.  
 For most men in a brazen prison live,  
 Where in the sun's hot eye,  
 With heads bent o'er their toil, they languidly  
 Their lives to some unmeaning taskwork give,  
 Dreaming of nought beyond their prison wall.  
 And as, year after year,  
 Fresh products of their barren labour fall  
 From their tired hands, and rest  
 Never yet comes more near,  
 Gloom settles slowly down over their breast.  
 And while they try to stem  
 The waves of mournful thought by which they are  
 prest,  
 Death in their prison reaches them  
 Unfreed, having seen nothing, still unblest.

And the rest, a few,  
 Escape their prison, and depart  
 On the wide Ocean of Life anew.  
 There the freed prisoner, where'er his heart  
 Listeth, will sail ;  
 Nor does he know how there prevail,  
 Despotie on life's sea,  
 Trade-winds that cross it from eternity.  
 Awhile he holds some false way, undebarr'd  
 By thwarting signs, and braves  
 The freshening wind and blackening waves.  
 And then the tempest strikes him, and between  
 The lightning bursts is seen  
 Only a driving wreck,  
 And the pale Master on his spar-strewn deck  
 With anguish'd face and flying hair  
 Grasping the rudder hard,  
 Still bent to make some port he knows not where,  
 Still standing for some false impossible shore.

And sterner comes the roar  
 Of sea and wind, and through the deepening gloom,  
 Fainter and fainter wreck and helmsman loom,  
 And he too disappears, and comes no more.

Is there no life, but these alone ?  
 Madman or slave, must man be one ?

Plainness and clearness without shadow of stain,  
 Clearness divine !  
 Ye Heavens, whose pure dark regions have no sign  
 Of languor, though so calm, and though so great  
 Are yet untroubled and unpassionate :  
 Who, though so noble, share in the world's toil,  
 And though so task'd, keep free from dust and soil :  
 I will not say that your mild deeps retain  
 A tinge, it may be, of their silent pain  
 Who have long'd deeply once, and long'd in vain ;  
 But I will rather say that you remain  
 A world above man's head, to let him see  
 How boundless might his soul's horizons be,  
 How vast, yet of what clear transparency.  
 How it were good to sink there, and breathe free.  
 How high a lot to fill  
 Is left to each man still.

M. ARNOLD

365

MORALITY

We cannot kindle when we will  
 The fire that in the heart resides,  
 The spirit bloweth and is still,  
 In mystery our soul abides :  
     But tasks in hours of insight will'd  
     Can be through hours of gloom fulfil'd.

With aching hands and bleeding feet  
 We dig and heap, lay stone on stone ;  
 We bear the burden and the heat  
 Of the long day, and wish 'twere done.  
     Not till the hours of light return  
     All we have built do we discern.



Then, when the clouds are off the soul,  
 When thou dost bask in Nature's eye,  
 Ask, how *she* view'd thy self-control,  
 Thy struggling task'd morality.  
 Nature, whose free, light, cheerful air,  
 Oft made thee, in thy gloom, despair.

And she, whose censure thou dost dread,  
 Whose eyes thou wert afraid to seek,  
 See, on her face a glow is spread,  
 A strong emotion on her cheek.  
 ' Ah, child,' she cries, ' that strife divine—  
 Whence was it, for it is not mine ?

' There is no effort on *my* brow—  
 I do not strive, I do not weep.  
 I rush with the swift spheres, and glow  
 In joy, and, when I will, I sleep.—  
 Yet that severe, that earnest air,  
 I saw, I felt it once—but where ?

' I knew not yet the gauge of Time,  
 Nor wore the manacles of Space.  
 I felt it in some other clime—  
 I saw it in some other place.  
 —'Twas when the heavenly house I trod,  
 And lay upon the breast of God.'

M. ARNOLD

### THE FUTURE

A wanderer is man from his birth.  
 He was born in a ship  
 On the breast of the River of Time.  
 Brimming with wonder and joy  
 He spreads out his arms to the light,  
 Rivets his gaze on the banks of the stream.

As what he sees is, so have his thoughts been.  
 Whether he wakes  
 Where the snowy mountainous pass  
 Echoing the screams of the eagles  
 Hems in its gorges the bed  
 Of the new-born clear-flowing stream :

Whether he first sees light  
 Where the river in gleaming rings  
 Sluggishly winds through the plain :  
 Whether in sound of the swallowing sea :—  
 As is the world on the banks  
 So is the mind of the man.

Vainly does each as he glides  
 Fable and dream  
 Of the lands which the River of Time  
 Had left ere he woke on its breast,  
 Or shall reach when his eyes have been clos'd.  
 Only the tract where he sails  
 He wots of : only the thoughts,  
 Rais'd by the objects he passes, are his.

Who can see the green Earth any more  
 As she was by the sources of Time ?  
 Who imagines her fields as they lay  
 In the sunshine, unworn by the plough ?  
 Who thinks as they thought,  
 The tribes who then roam'd on her breast,  
 Her vigorous primitive sons ?

What girl  
 Now reads in her bosom as clear  
 As Rebekah read, when she sate  
 At eve by the palm-shaded well ?  
 Who guards in her breast  
 As deep, as pellucid a spring  
 Of feeling, as tranquil, as sure ?

What Bard,  
 At the height of his vision, can deem  
 Of God, of the world, of the soul,

With a plainness as near,  
As flashing as Moses felt,  
When he lay in the night by his flock  
On the starlit Arabian waste ?  
Can rise and obey  
The beck of the Spirit like him ?

This tract which the River of Time  
Now flows through with us, is the Plain.  
Gone is the calm of its earlier shore.  
Border'd by cities and hoarse  
With a thousand cries is its stream.  
And we on its breast, our minds  
Are confus'd as the cries which we hear,  
Changing and shot as the sights which we see.

And we say that repose has fled  
For ever the course of the River of Time.  
That cities will crowd to its edge  
In a blacker incessanter line ;  
That the din will be more on its banks,  
Denser the trade on its stream,  
Flatter the plain where it flows,  
Fiercer the sun overhead.  
That never will those on its breast  
See an ennobling sight,  
Drink of the feeling of quiet again.

But what was before us we know not,  
And we know not what shall succeed.

Haply, the River of Time,  
As it grows, as the towns on its marge  
Fling their wavering lights  
On a wider statelier stream—  
May acquire, if not the calm  
Of its early mountainous shore  
Yet a solemn peace of its own.

And the width of the waters, the hush  
Of the grey expanse where he floats,  
Freshening its current and spotted with foam

As it draws to the Ocean, may strike  
 Peace to the soul of the man on its breast :  
 As the pale waste widens around him—  
 As the banks fade dimmer away—  
 As the stars come out, and the night-wind  
 Brings up the stream  
 Murmurs and scents of the infinite Sea.

M. ARNOLD

367

### PHILOMELA

Hark ! ah, the Nightingale !  
 The tawny-throated !  
 Hark ! from that moonlit cedar what a burst  
 What triumph ! hark—what pain !

O Wanderer from a Grecian shore,  
 Still, after many years, in distant lands,  
 Still nourishing in thy bewilder'd brain  
 That wild, unquench'd, deep-sunken, old-world pain—  
 Say, will it never heal ?  
 And can this fragrant lawn  
 With its cool trees, and night,  
 And the sweet, tranquil Thames,  
 And moonshine, and the dew,  
 To thy rack'd heart and brain  
 Afford no balm ?  
 Dost thou to-night behold  
 Here, through the moonlight on this English grass,  
 The unfriendly palace in the Thracian wood ?  
 Dost thou again peruse  
 With hot cheeks and scar'd eyes  
 The too clear web, and thy dumb Sister's shame ?  
 Dost thou once more assay  
 Thy flight, and feel come over thee,  
 Poor Fugitive, the feathery change  
 Once more, and once more seem to make resound  
 With love and hate, triumph and agony,  
 Lone Daulis, and the high Cephissian vale ?

Listen, Eugenia—  
 How thick the bursts come crowding through the  
 leaves !  
 Again—thou hearest !  
 Eternal Passion !  
 Eternal Pain !

M. ARNOLD

368

## REQUIESCAT

Strew on her roses, roses,  
 And never a spray of yew.  
 In quiet she reposes :  
 Ah ! would that I did too.

Her mirth the world required :  
 She bath'd it in smiles of glee.  
 But her heart was tired, tired,  
 And now they let her be.

Her life was turning, turning,  
 In mazes of heat and sound.  
 But for peace her soul was yearning,  
 And now peace laps her round.

Her cabin'd, ample Spirit,  
 It flutter'd and fail'd for breath.  
 To-night it doth inherit  
 The vasty Hall of Death.

M. ARNOLD

369

## THE SCHOLAR GIPSY

' There was very lately a lad in the University of Oxford, who was by his poverty forced to leave his studies there ; and at last to join himself to a company of vagabond gipsies. Among these extravagant people, by the insinuating subtilty of his carriage, he quickly got so much of their love and esteem as that they discovered to him their mystery. After he had been a pretty while well exercised in the trade, there chanced to ride by a

couple of scholars, who had formerly been of his acquaintance. They quickly spied out their old friend among the gipsies; and he gave them an account of the necessity which drove him to that kind of life, and told them that the people he went with were not such imposters as they were taken for, but that they had a traditional kind of learning among them, and could do wonders by the power of imagination, their fancy binding that of others: that himself had learned much of their art, and when he had compassed the whole secret, he intended, he said, to leave their company, and give the world an account of what he had learned.—GLANVIL'S *Vanity of Dogmatizing*, 1661.

Go, for they call you, Shepherd, from the hill;  
 Go, Shepherd, and untie the wattled cotes:  
 No longer leave thy wistful flock unfed,  
 Nor let thy bawling fellows rack their throats,  
 Nor the cropp'd grasses shoot another head.  
 But when the fields are still,  
 And the tired men and dogs all gone to rest,  
 And only the white sheep are sometimes seen  
 Cross and recross the strips of moon-blanch'd  
 green;  
 Come, Shepherd, and again renew the quest.

Here, where the reaper was at work of late,  
 In this high field's dark corner, where he leaves  
 His coat, his basket, and his earthen cruse,  
 And in the sun all morning binds the sheaves,  
 Then here, at noon, comes back his stores to use;  
 Here will I sit and wait,  
 While to my ear from uplands far away  
 The bleating of the folded flocks is borne,  
 With distant cries of reapers in the corn—  
 All the live murmur of a summer's day.

Screen'd is this nook o'er the high, half-reap'd field,  
 And here till sun-down, Shepherd, will I be.  
 Through the thick corn the scarlet poppies peep  
 And round green roots and yellowing stalks I see  
 Pale blue convolvulus in tendrils creep:  
 And air-swept lindens yield  
 Their scent, and rustle down their perfum'd showers  
 Of bloom on the bent grass where I am laid,  
 And bower me from the August sun with shade;  
 And the eye travels down to Oxford's towers:

And near me on the grass lies Glanvil's book—  
 Come, let me read the oft-read tale again,  
 The story of that Oxford scholar poor  
 Of pregnant parts and quick inventive brain,  
 Who, tir'd of knocking at Preferment's door,  
 One summer morn forsook  
 His friends, and went to learn the Gipsy lore,  
 And roam'd the world with that wild brother-  
 hood,  
 And came, as most men deem'd, to little good,  
 But came to Oxford and his friends no more.

But once, years after, in the country lanes,  
 Two scholars whom at college erst he knew  
 Met him, and of his way of life enquir'd.  
 Whereat he answer'd, that the Gipsy crew,  
 His mates, had arts to rule as they desir'd  
 The workings of men's brains ;  
 And they can bind them to what thoughts they  
 will :  
 ' And I,' he said, ' the secret of their art,  
 When fully learn'd, will to the world impart :  
 But it needs heaven-sent moments for this  
 skill.'

This said, he left them, and return'd no more,  
 But rumours hung about the country side  
 That the lost Scholar long was seen to stray,  
 Seen by rare glimpses, pensive and tongue-tied,  
 In hat of antique shape, and cloak of grey,  
 The same the Gipsies wore.  
 Shepherds had met him on the Hurst in spring :  
 At some lone alehouse in the Berkshire moors,  
 On the warm ingle bench, the smock-frock'd  
 boors  
 Had found him seated at their entering,

But, mid their drink and clatter, he would fly :  
 And I myself seem half to know thy looks,  
 And put the shepherds, Wanderer, on thy trace ;  
 And boys who in lone wheatfields scare the rooks  
 I ask if thou hast pass'd their quiet place ;  
 Or in my boat I lie

Moor'd to the cool bank in the summer heats,  
 Mid wide grass meadows which the sunshine fills,  
 And watch the warm green-muffled Cumner hills,  
 And wonder if thou haunt'st their shy retreats.

For most, I know, thou lov'st retired ground.  
 Thee, at the ferry, Oxford riders blithe,  
 Returning home on summer nights, have met  
 Crossing the stripling Thames at Bab-lock-hithe,  
 Trailing in the cool stream thy fingers wet,  
 As the slow punt swings round :  
 And leaning backwards in a pensive dream,  
 And fostering in thy lap a heap of flowers,  
 Pluck'd in shy fields and distant Wychwood  
 bowers,  
 And thine eyes resting on the moonlit stream.

And then they land, and thou art seen no more.  
 Maidens who from the distant hamlets come  
 To dance around the Fyfield elm in May,  
 Oft through the darkening fields have seen thee  
 roam,  
 Or cross a stile into the public way.  
 Oft thou hast given them store  
 Of flowers—the frail-leaf'd, white anemone—  
 Dark bluebells drench'd with dew's of summer  
 eyes—  
 And purple orchises with spotted leaves—  
 But none has words she can report of thee.

And, above Godstow Bridge, when hay-time 's here  
 In June, and many a scythe in sunshine flames,  
 Men who through those wide fields of breezy grass  
 Where black-wing'd swallows haunt the glittering  
 Thames,  
 To bathe in the abandon'd lasher pass,  
 Have often pass'd thee near  
 Sitting upon the river bank o'ergrown :  
 Mark'd thy outlandish garb, thy figure spare,  
 Thy dark vague eyes, and soft abstracted air ;  
 But, when they came from bathing, thou wert  
 gone.



At some lone homestead in the Cunner hills,  
 Where at her open door the housewife darns,  
 Thou hast been seen, or hanging on a gate  
 To watch the threshers in the mossy barns.  
 Children, who early range these slopes and late  
 For cresses from the rills,  
 Have known thee watching, all an April day,  
 The springing pastures and the feeding kine ;  
 And mark'd thee, when the stars come out and  
 shine,  
 Through the long dewy grass move slow away.

In Autumn, on the skirts of Bagley wood,  
 Where most the Gipsies by the turf-edg'd way  
 Pitch their smok'd tents, and every bush you see  
 With scarlet patches tagg'd and shreds of grey,  
 Above the forest ground call'd Thessaly—  
 The blackbird picking food  
 Sees thee, nor stops his meal, nor fears at all ;  
 So often has he known thee past him stray  
 Rapt, twirling in thy hand a wither'd spray,  
 And waiting for the spark from Heaven to fall.

And once, in winter, on the causeway chill  
 Where home through flooded fields foot-travellers  
 go,  
 Have I not pass'd thee on the wooden bridge  
 Wrapt in thy cloak and battling with the snow,  
 Thy face towards Hinksey and its wintry ridge ?  
 And thou hast climb'd the hill  
 And gain'd the white brow of the Cunner range,  
 Turn'd once to watch, while thick the snowflakes  
 fall,  
 The line of festal light in Christ-Church hall—  
 Then sought thy straw in some sequester'd  
 grange.

But what—I dream ! Two hundred years are flown  
 Since first thy story ran through Oxford halls,  
 And the grave Glanvil did the tale inscribe  
 That thou wert wander'd from the studious walls  
 To learn strange arts, and join a Gipsy tribe :

And thou from earth art gone  
 Long since, and in some quiet churchyard laid ;  
 Some country nook, where o'er thy unknown  
 grave  
 Tall grasses and white flowering nettles wave—  
 Under a dark red-fruited yew-tree's shade.

—No, no, thou hast not felt the lapse of hours.  
 For what wears out the life of mortal men ?  
 'Tis that from change to change their being rolls :  
 'Tis that repeated shocks, again, again,  
 Exhaust the energy of strongest souls,  
 And numb the elastic powers.  
 Till having us'd our nerves with bliss and teen,  
 And tir'd upon a thousand schemes our wit,  
 To the just-pausing Genius we remit  
 Our worn-out life, and are—what we have been.

Thou hast not liv'd, why should'st thou perish, so ?  
 Thou hadst *one aim, one business, one desire* :  
 Else wert thou long since number'd with the  
 dead—  
 Else hadst thou spent, like other men, thy fire.  
 The generations of thy peers are fled,  
 And we ourselves shall go ;  
 But thou possessest an immortal lot,  
 And we imagine thee exempt from age  
 And living as thou liv'st on Glanvil's page,  
 Because thou hadst—what we, alas, have not !

For early didst thou leave the world, with powers  
 Fresh, undiverted to the world without,  
 Firm to their mark, not spent on other things ;  
 Free from the sick fatigue, the languid doubt,  
 Which much to have tried, in much been baffled,  
 brings.  
 O Life unlike to ours !  
 Who fluctuate idly without term or scope,  
 Of whom each strives, nor knows for what he  
 strives,  
 And each half lives a hundred different lives ;  
 Who wait like thee, but not, like thee, in hope.

Thou waitest for the spark from Heaven : and we,  
 Light half-believers of our casual creeds,  
 Who never deeply felt, nor clearly will'd,  
 Whose insight never has borne fruit in deeds,  
 Whose vague resolves never have been fulfill'd ;  
 For whom each year we see  
 Breeds new beginnings, disappointments new ;  
 Who hesitate and falter life away,  
 And lose to-morrow the ground won to-day—  
 Ah, do not we, Wanderer, await it too ?

Yes, we await it, but it still delays,  
 And then we suffer ; and amongst us One,  
 Who most has suffer'd, takes dejectedly  
 His seat upon the intellectual throne ;  
 And all his store of sad experience he  
 Lays bare of wretched days ;  
 Tells us his misery's birth and growth and signs,  
 And how the dying spark of hope was fed,  
 And how the breast was sooth'd, and how the  
 head,  
 And all his hourly varied anodynes.

This for our wisest : and we others pine,  
 And wish the long unhappy dream would end,  
 And waive all claim to bliss, and try to bear  
 With close-lipp'd Patience for our only friend,  
 Sad Patience, too near neighbour to Despair :  
 But none has hope like thine.  
 Thou through the fields and through the woods dost  
 stray,  
 Roaming the country side, a truant boy,  
 Nursing thy project in unclouded joy,  
 And every doubt long blown by time away.

O born in days when wits were fresh and clear,  
 And life ran gaily as the sparkling Thames ;  
 Before this strange disease of modern life,  
 With its sick hurry, its divided aims,  
 Its heads o'ertax'd, its palsied hearts, was rife—  
 Fly hence, our contact fear !

Still fly, plunge deeper in the bowering wood  
 Averse, as Dido did with gesture stern  
 From her false friend's approach in Hades turn,  
 Wave us away, and keep thy solitude.

Still nursing the unconquerable hope,  
 Still clutching the inviolable shade,  
 With a free onward impulse brushing through,  
 By night, the silver'd branches of the glade—  
 Far on the forest skirts, where none pursue  
 On some mild pastoral slope  
 Emerge, and resting on the moonlit pales,  
 Freshen thy flowers, as in former years,  
 With dew, or listen with enchanted ears,  
 From the dark dingles, to the nightingales.

But fly our paths, our feverish contact fly !  
 For strong the infection of our mental strife,  
 Which, though it gives no bliss, yet spoils for  
 rest ;  
 And we should win thee from thy own fair life,  
 Like us distracted, and like us unblest.  
 Soon, soon thy cheer would die,  
 Thy hopes grow timorous, and unfix'd thy powers,  
 And thy clear aims be cross and shifting made :  
 And then thy glad perennial youth would fade,  
 Fade, and grow old at last, and die like ours.

Then fly our greetings, fly our speech and smiles !  
 —As some grave Tyrian trader, from the sea,  
 Descried at sunrise an emerging prow  
 Lifting the cool-hair'd creepers stealthily,  
 The fringes of a southward-facing brow  
 Among the Aegean isles :  
 And saw the merry Grecian coaster come,  
 Freighted with amber grapes, and Chian wine,  
 Green bursting figs, and tunnies steep'd in brine ;  
 And knew the intruders on his ancient home,

The young light-hearted Masters of the waves ;  
 And snatch'd his rudder, and shook out more sail,  
 And day and night held on indignantly  
 O'er the blue Midland waters with the gale,  
 Betwixt the Syrtes and soft Sicily,  
 To where the Atlantic raves  
 Outside the Western Straits, and unbent sails  
 There, where down cloudy cliffs, through sheets  
 of foam,  
 Shy traffickers, the dark Iberians come ;  
 And on the beach undid his corded bales.

M. ARNOLD

## 370

## MIMNERMUS IN CHURCH

You promise heavens free from strife,  
 Pure truth, and perfect change of will ;  
 But sweet, sweet is this human life,  
 So sweet, I fain would breathe it still ;  
 Your chilly stars I can forgo,  
 This warm kind world is all I know.

You say there is no substance here,  
 One great reality above :  
 Back from that void I shrink in fear,  
 And childlike hide myself in love :  
 Show me what angels feel. Till then,  
 I cling, a mere weak man, to men.

You bid me lift my mean desires  
 From faltering lips and fitful veins  
 To sexless souls, ideal quires,  
 Unwearied voices, wordless strains :  
 My mind with fonder welcome owns  
 One dear dead friend's remembered tones.

Forsooth the present we must give  
 To that which cannot pass away ;  
 All beauteous things for which we live  
 By laws of time and space decay.  
 But oh, the very reason why  
 I clasp them, is because they die.

W. J. CORY

## 371

## HERACLITUS

They told me, Heraclitus, they told me you were dead,  
 They brought me bitter news to hear and bitter tears  
 to shed.

I wept, as I remembered, how often you and I  
 Had tired the sun with talking and sent him down the  
 sky.

And now that thou art lying, my dear old Carian guest,  
 A handful of grey ashes, long long ago at rest,  
 Still are thy pleasant voices, thy nightingales, awake :  
 For Death, he taketh all away, but them he cannot  
 take.

W. J. CORY

## 372

## AMATURUS

Somewhere beneath the sun,  
 These quivering heart-strings prove it,  
 Somewhere there must be one  
 Made for this soul, to move it ;  
 Some one that hides her sweetness  
 From neighbours whom she slights,  
 Nor can attain completeness,  
 Nor give her heart its rights ;  
 Some one whom I could court  
 With no great change of manner,  
 Still holding reason's fort,  
 Though waving fancy's banner ;

A lady, not so queenly  
     As to disdain my hand,  
 Yet born to smile serenely  
     Like those that rule the land ;  
 Noble, but not too proud ;  
     With soft hair simply folded,  
 And bright face crescent-browed,  
     And throat by Muses moulded ;  
 And eyelids lightly falling  
     On little glistening seas,  
 Deep-calm, when gales are brawling,  
     Though stirred by every breeze :  
 Swift voice, like flight of dove  
     Through minster arches floating,  
 With sudden turns, when love  
     Gets overnear to doting ;  
 Keen lips, that shape soft sayings  
     Like crystals of the snow,  
 With pretty half-betrayings  
     Of things one may not know ;  
 Fair hand, whose touches thrill,  
     Like golden rod of wonder,  
 Which Hermes wields at will  
     Spirit and flesh to sunder ;  
 Light foot, to press the stirrup  
     In fearlessness and glee,  
 Or dance, till finches chirrup,  
     And stars sink to the sea.

Forth, Love, and find this maid,  
     Wherever she be hidden :  
 Speak, Love, be not afraid,  
     But plead as thou art bidden ;  
 And say, that he who taught thee  
     His yearning want and pain,  
 Too dearly, dearly bought thee  
     To part with thee in vain.

W. J. CORY

## 373

## THE MARRIED LOVER

Why, having won her, do I woo ?  
 Because her spirit's vestal grace  
 Provokes me always to pursue,  
 But, spirit-like, eludes embrace ;  
 Because her womanhood is such  
 That, as on court-days subjects kiss  
 The Queen's hand, yet so near a touch  
 Affirms no mean familiarness ;  
 Nay, rather marks more fair the height  
 Which can with safety so neglect  
 To dread, as lower ladies might,  
 That grace could meet with disrespect ;  
 Thus she with happy favour feeds  
 Allegiance from a love so high  
 That thence no false conceit proceeds  
 Of difference bridged, or state put by ;  
 Because, although in act and word  
 As lowly as a wife can be,  
 Her manners, when they call me lord,  
 Remind me 'tis by courtesy ;  
 Not with her least consent of will,  
 Which would my proud affection hurt,  
 But by the noble style that still  
 Imputes an unattain'd desert ;  
 Because her gay and lofty brows,  
 When all is won which hope can ask,  
 Reflect a light of hopeless snows  
 That bright in virgin ether bask ;  
 Because, though free of the outer court  
 I am, this Temple keeps its shrine  
 Sacred to Heaven ; because, in short,  
 She's not and never can be mine.

C. K. D. PATMORE



374

## KEITH OF RAVELSTON

The murmur of the mourning ghost  
That keeps the shadowy kine ;—  
Oh, Keith of Ravelston,  
The sorrows of thy line !

Ravelston, Ravelston,  
The merry path that leads  
Down the golden morning hill  
And through the silver meads ;

Ravelston, Ravelston,  
The stile beneath the tree,  
The maid that kept her mother's kine,  
The song that sang she !

She sang her song, she kept her kine,  
She sat beneath the thorn,  
When Andrew Keith of Ravelston  
Rode through the Monday morn.

His henchmen sing, his hawk-bells ring,  
His belted jewels shine !—  
Oh, Keith of Ravelston,  
The sorrows of thy line !

Year after year, where Andrew came,  
Comes evening down the glade ;  
And still there sits a moonshine ghost  
Where sat the sunshine maid.

Her misty hair is faint and fair,  
She keeps the shadowy kine ;—  
Oh, Keith of Ravelston,  
The sorrows of thy line !

I lay my hand upon the stile,  
 The stile is lone and cold ;  
 The burnie that goes babbling by  
 Says naught that can be told.

Yet, stranger ! here, from year to year,  
 She keeps her shadowy kine ;—  
 Oh, Keith of Ravelston,  
 The sorrows of thy line !

Step out three steps, where Andrew stood—  
 Why blanch thy cheeks for fear ?  
 The ancient stile is not alone,  
 'Tis not the burn I hear !

She makes her immemorial moan,  
 She keeps her shadowy kine ;—  
 Oh, Keith of Ravelston,  
 The sorrows of thy line !

S. DOBELL

375

THE BLESSED DAMOZEL

The blesséd Damozel leaned out  
 From the gold bar of Heaven ;  
 Her eyes knew more of rest and shade  
 Than waters stilled at even ;  
 She had three lilies in her hand,  
 And the stars in her hair were seven.

Her robe, ungirt from clasp to hem,  
 No wrought flowers did adorn,  
 But a white rose of Mary's gift,  
 For service meetly worn ;  
 And her hair lying down her back  
 Was yellow like ripe corn.

Herseemed she scarce had been a day  
 One of God's choristers ;  
 The wonder was not yet quite gone  
 From that still look of hers ;  
 Albeit, to them she left, her day  
 Had counted as ten years.

(To *one*, it is ten years of years.  
 . . . Yet now, and in this place,  
 Surely she leaned o'er me—her hair  
 Fell all about my face . . .  
 Nothing : the Autumn fall of leaves.  
 The whole year sets apace.)

It was the rampart of God's house  
 That she was standing on ;  
 By God built over the sheer depth  
 The which is Space begun ;  
 So high, that looking downward thence  
 She scarce could see the sun.

It lies in Heaven, across the flood  
 Of ether, as a bridge.  
 Beneath, the tides of day and night  
 With flame and blackness ridge  
 The void, as low as where this earth  
 Spins like a fretful midge.

She scarcely heard her sweet new friends :  
 Playing at holy games,  
 Softly they spake among themselves  
 Their virginal chaste names ;  
 And the souls, mounting up to God,  
 Went by her like thin flames.

And still she bowed above the vast  
 Waste sea of worlds that swarm ;  
 Until her bosom must have made  
 The bar she leaned on warm,  
 And the lilies lay as if asleep  
 Along her bended arm.

From the fixed place of Heaven, she saw  
 Time like a pulso shake fierce  
 Through all the worlds. Her gaze still strove  
 Within the gulf to pierce  
 Its path; and now she spoke, as when  
 The stars sung in their spheres.

The sun was gone now. The curled moon  
 Was like a little feather  
 Fluttering far down the gulf. And now  
 She spoke through the still weather.  
 Her voice was like the voice the stars  
 Had when they sung together.

'I wish that he were come to me,  
 For he will come,' she said.  
 'Have I not prayed in Heaven?—on earth,  
 Lord, Lord, has he not prayed?  
 Are not two prayers a perfect strength?  
 And shall I feel afraid?

'When round his head the aureole clings,  
 And he is clothed in white,  
 I'll take his hand and go with him  
 To the deep wells of light,  
 And we will step down as to a stream  
 And bathe there in God's sight.

'We two will stand beside that shrine,  
 Occult, withheld, untrod,  
 Whose lamps are stirred continually  
 With prayers sent up to God;  
 And see our old prayers, granted, melt  
 Each like a little cloud.

'We two will lie i' the shadow of  
 That living mystic tree,  
 Within whose secret growth the Dove

Is sometimes felt to be,  
While every leaf that His plumes touch  
Saith His Name audibly.

'And I myself will teach to him,  
I myself, lying so,  
The songs I sing here ; which his voice  
Shall pause in, hushed and slow,  
And find some knowledge at each pause,  
Or some new thing to know.'

(Ah sweet ! Just now, in that bird's song,  
Strove not her accents there  
Fain to be hearkened ? When those bells  
Possessed the midday air,  
Was she not stepping to my side  
Down all the trembling stair ?)

'We two,' she said, 'will seek the groves  
Where the Lady Mary is,  
With her five handmaidens, whose names  
Are five sweet symphonies,  
Cecily, Gertrude, Magdalen,  
Margaret, and Rosalys.

'Circlewise sit they, with bound locks  
And foreheads garlanded ;  
Into the fine cloth white like flame  
Weaving the golden thread,  
To fashion the birth-ropes for them  
Who are just born, being dead.

'He shall fear, huply, and be dumb ;  
Then I will lay my cheek  
To his, and tell about our love,  
Not once abashed or weak :  
And the dear Mother will approve  
My pride, and let me speak.

'Herself shall bring us, hand in hand  
 To Him round whom all souls  
 Kneel, the unnumbered ransomed heads  
 Bowed with their aureoles :  
 And angels meeting us shall sing  
 To their citherns and citoles.

'There will I ask of Christ the Lord .  
 Thus much for him and me :—  
 Only to live as once on earth  
 At peace—only to be  
 As then awhile, for ever now  
 Together, I and he.'

She gazed, and listened, and then said,  
 Less sad of speech than mild,  
 'All this is when he comes.' She ceased.  
 The light thrilled past her, filled  
 With angels in strong level lapse  
 Her eyes prayed, and she smiled.

(I saw her smile.) But soon their flight  
 Was vague in distant spheres ;  
 And then she laid her arms along  
 The golden barriers,  
 And laid her face between her hands,  
 And wept. (I heard her tears.)

D. G. ROSSETTI

376

REST

O Earth, lie heavily upon her eyes ;  
 Seal her sweet eyes weary of watching, Earth ;  
 Lie close around her ; leave no room for mirth  
 With its harsh laughter, nor for sound of sighs.  
 She hath no questions, she hath no replies,

Hushed in and curtained with a blessed dearth  
 Of all that irked her from the hour of birth ;  
 With stillness that is almost Paradise.  
 Darkness more clear than noon-day holdeth her,  
 Silence more musical than any song ;  
 Even her very heart has ceased to stir :  
 Until the morning of Eternity  
 Her rest shall not begin nor end, but be ;  
 And when she wakes she will not think it long.

C. G. ROSSETTI

## 377

## SONG

When I am dead, my dearest,  
 Sing no sad songs for me ;  
 Plant thou no roses at my head,  
 Nor shady cypress tree :  
 Be the green grass above me  
 With showers and dewdrops wet :  
 And if thou wilt, remember,  
 And if thou wilt, forget.

I shall not see the shadows,  
 I shall not feel the rain ;  
 I shall not hear the nightingale  
 Sing on as if in pain :  
 And dreaming through the twilight  
 That doth not rise nor set,  
 Haply I may remember,  
 And haply may forget.

C. G. ROSSETTI

## 378

## REMEMBER

Remember me when I am gone away,  
 Gone far away into the silent land ;  
 When you can no more hold me by the hand,  
 Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.

Remember me when no more day by day  
 You tell me of our future that you planned :  
 Only remember me ; you understand  
 It will be late to counsel then or pray.  
 Yet if you should forget me for a while  
 And afterwards remember, do not grieve :  
 For if the darkness and corruption leave  
 A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,  
 Better by far you should forget and smile  
 Than that you should remember and be sad.

C. G. ROSSETTI

## 379

## UP-HILL

Does the road wind up-hill all the way ?  
 Yes, to the very end.  
 Will the day's journey take the whole long day ?  
 From morn to night, my friend.

But is there for the night a resting-place ?  
 A roof for when the slow dark hours begin.  
 May not the darkness hide it from my face ?  
 You cannot miss the inn.

Shall I meet other wayfarers at night ?  
 Those who have gone before.  
 Then must I knock, or call when just in sight ?  
 They will not keep you standing at that door.

Shall I find comfort, travel-sore and weak ?  
 Of labour you shall find the sum.  
 Will there be beds for me and all who seek ?  
 Yea, beds for all who come.

C. G. ROSSETTI



380

## SONG

Oh roses for the flush of youth,  
And laurel for the perfect prime ;  
But pluck an ivy branch for me  
Grown old before my time.

Oh violets for the grave of youth,  
And bay for those dead in their prime ;  
Give me the withered leaves I chose  
Before in the old time.

C. G. ROSSETTI

381

## A BIRTHDAY

My heart is like a singing bird  
Whose nest is in a watered shoot ;  
My heart is like an appletree  
Whose boughs are bent with thickset fruit ;  
My heart is like a rainbow shell  
That paddles in a halcyon sea ;  
My heart is gladder than all these  
Because my love is come to me.

Raise me a dais of silk and down ;  
Hang it with vair and purple dyes ;  
Carve it in doves, and pomegranates,  
And peacocks with a hundred eyes ;  
Work it in gold and silver grapes,  
In leaves and silver fleurs-de-lys ;  
Because the birthday of my life  
Is come, my love is come to me.

C. G. ROSSETTI

382

## BARBARA

On the Sabbath-day,  
 Through the churchyard old and grey,  
 Over the crisp and yellow leaves, I held my rustling  
     way ;  
 And amid the words of mercy, falling on my soul like  
     balms,  
 'Mid the gorgeous storms of music—in the mellow  
     organ-calms,  
 'Mid the upward-streaming prayers, and the rich and  
     solemn psalms,  
 I stood careless, Barbara.

My heart was elsewhere  
 While the organ shook the air,  
 And the priest, with outspread hands, blessed the  
     people with a prayer ;  
 But, when rising to go homeward, with a mild and  
     saint-like shine  
 Gleamed a face of airy beauty with its heavenly eyes  
     on mine—  
 Gleamed and vanished in a moment—O that face was  
     surely thine  
 Out of heaven, Barbara !

O pallid, pallid face !  
 O earnest eyes of grace !  
 When last I saw thee, dearest, it was in another place.  
 You came running forth to meet me with my love-gift  
     on your wrist :  
 The flutter of a long white dress, then all was lost in  
     mist—  
 A purple stain of agony was on the mouth I kissed,  
 That wild morning, Barbara.

I searched, in my despair,  
Sunny noon and midnight air ;  
I could not drive away the thought that you were  
    lingering there.  
O many and many a winter night I sat when you were  
    gone,  
My worn face buried in my hands, beside the fire  
    alone—  
Within the dripping churchyard, the rain plashing on  
    your stone,  
You were sleeping, Barbara.

'Mong angels, do you think  
Of the precious golden link  
I clasped around your happy arm while sitting by  
    yon brink ?  
Or when that night of gliding dance, of laughter and  
    guitars,  
Was emptied of its music, and we watched, through  
    lattice-bars,  
The silent midnight heaven creeping o'er us with its  
    stars,  
Till the day broke, Barbara ?

In the years I've changed ;  
Wild and far my heart has ranged,  
And many sins and errors now have been on me  
    avenged ;  
But to you I have 'been faithful, whatsoever good I  
    lacked :  
I loved you, and above my life still hangs that love  
    intact—  
Your love the trembling rainbow, I the reckless  
    cataract—  
Still I love you, Barbara.

Yet, Love, I am unblest ;  
With many doubts opprest,  
I wander like the desert wind without a place of rest.  
Could I but win you for an hour from off that starry  
    shore,

The hunger of my soul were stilled, for Death hath  
 told you more  
 Than the melancholy world doth know; things  
 deeper than all lore  
 You could teach me, Barbara.

In vain, in vain, in vain,  
 You will never come again.  
 There droops upon the dreary hills a mournful fringe  
 of rain;  
 The gloaming closes slowly round, loud winds are in  
 the tree,  
 Round selfish shores for ever moans the hurt and  
 wounded sea,  
 There is no rest upon the earth, peace is with Death  
 and thee,  
 Barbara!

A. SMITH

383

OLD LOVE

'You must be very old, Sir Giles,'  
 I said; he said: 'Yea, very old:'  
 Whereat the mournfullest of smiles  
 Creased his dry skin with many a fold.

'They hammer'd out my basnet point  
 Into a round salade,' he said,  
 'The basnet being quite out of joint,  
 Natheless the salade rasps my head.'

He gazed at the great fire awhile:  
 'And you are getting old, Sir John;'  
 (He said this with that cunning smile  
 That was most sad) 'we both wear on,

'Knights come to court and look at me,  
 With eyebrows up, except my lord,  
 And my dear lady, none I see  
 That know the ways of my old sword.'

(My lady ! at that word no pang  
 Stopp'd all my blood). 'But tell me, John,  
 Is it quite true that Pagans hang  
 So thick about the east, that on

'The eastern sea no Venice flag  
 Can fly unpaid for?' 'True,' I said,  
 'And in such way the miscreants drag  
 Christ's cross upon the ground, I dread

'That Constantine must fall this year.'  
 Within my heart: 'These things are small;  
 This is not small, that things outwear  
 I thought were made for ever, yea, all,

'All things go soon or late;' I said—  
 I saw the duke in court next day;  
 Just as before, his grand great head  
 Above his gold robes dreaming lay,

Only his face was paler; there  
 I saw his duchess sit by him;  
 And she—she was changed more; her hair  
 Before my eyes that used to swim,

And make me dizzy with great bliss  
 Once, when I used to watch her sit—  
 Her hair is bright still, yet it is  
 As though some dust were thrown on it.

Her eyes are shallower, as though  
 Some grey glass were behind; her brow  
 And checks the straining bones show through,  
 Are not so good for kissing now.

Her lips are drier now she is  
 A great duke's wife these many years,  
 They will not shudder with a kiss  
 As once they did, being moist with tears.

Also her hands have lost that way  
 Of clinging that they used to have ;  
 They look'd quite easy, as they lay  
 Upon the silken cushions brave

With broidery of the apples green  
 My Lord Duke bears upon his shield.  
 Her face, alas ! that I have seen  
 Look fresher than an April field,

This is all gone now ; gone also  
 Her tender walking ; when she walks  
 She is most queenly I well know,  
 And she is fair still :—as the stalks

Of faded summer-lilies are,  
 So is she grown now unto me  
 This spring-time, when the flowers star  
 The meadows, birds sing wonderfully.

I warrant once she used to cling  
 About his neck, and kiss'd him so,  
 And then his coming step would ring  
 Joy-bells for her—some time ago.

Ah ! sometimes like an idle dream  
 That hinders true life overmuch,  
 Sometimes like a lost heaven, these seem.—  
 This love is not so hard to smutch.

W. MORRIS

### SHAMEFUL DEATH

There were four of us about that bed ;  
 The mass-priest knelt at the side,  
 I and his mother stood at the head,  
 Over his feet lay the bride ;  
 We were quite sure that he was dead,  
 Though his eyes were open wide.

He did not die in the night,  
He did not die in the day,  
But in the morning twilight  
His spirit pass'd away,  
When neither sun nor moon was bright,  
And the trees were merely grey.

He was not slain with the sword,  
Knight's axe; or the knightly spear,  
Yet he never spoke a word  
After he came in here ;  
I cut away the cord  
From the neck of my brother dear.

He did not strike one blow,  
For the recreants came behind,  
In a place where the hornbeams grow,  
A path right hard to find,  
For the hornbeam boughs swing so,  
That the twilight makes it blind.

They lighted a great torch then,  
When his arms were pinion'd fast,  
Sir John the knight of the Fen,  
Sir Guy of the Dolorous Blast,  
With knights threescore and ten,  
Hung brave Lord Hugh at last.

I am threescore and ten,  
And my hair is all turn'd grey,  
But I met Sir John of the Fen  
Long ago on a summer day,  
And am glad to think of the moment when  
I took his life away.

I am threescore and ten,  
And my strength is mostly pass'd,  
But long ago I and my men,  
When the sky was overcast,  
And the smoke roll'd over the reeds of the fen,  
Slew Guy of the Dolorous Blast.

And now, knights all of you,  
 I pray you pray for Sir Hugh,  
 A good knight and a true,  
 And for Alice, his wife, pray too.

W. MORRIS

385

THE HAYSTACK IN THE FLOODS

Had she come all the way for this,  
 To part at last without a kiss ?  
 Yea, had she borne the dirt and rain  
 That her own eyes might see him slain  
 Beside the haystack in the floods ?

Along the dripping leafless woods,  
 The stirrup touching either shoe,  
 She rode astride as troopers do ;  
 With kirtle kilted to her knee,  
 To which the mud splash'd wretchedly ;  
 And the wet dripp'd from every tree  
 Upon her head and heavy hair,  
 And on her eyelids broad and fair ;  
 The tears and rain ran down her face.  
 By fits and starts they rode apace,  
 And very often was his place  
 Far off from her ; he had to ride  
 Ahead, to see what might betide  
 When the roads cross'd ; and sometimes, when  
 There rose a murmuring from his men,  
 Had to turn back with promises ;  
 Ah me ! she had but little ease ;  
 And often for pure doubt and dread  
 She sobb'd, made giddy in the head  
 By the swift riding ; while, for cold,  
 Her slender fingers scarce could hold  
 The wet reins ; yea, and scarcely, too,  
 She felt the foot within her shoe  
 Against the stirrup : all for this,  
 To part at last without a kiss  
 Beside the haystack in the floods.



For when they near'd the old soak'd hay,  
 They saw across the only way  
 That Judas, Godmar, and the three  
 Red running lions dismally  
 Grinn'd from his pennon, under which,  
 In one straight line along the ditch,  
 They counted thirty heads.

So then,  
 While Robert turn'd round to his men,  
 She saw at once the wretched end,  
 And, stooping down, tried hard to rend  
 Her coif the wrong way from her head,  
 And hid her eyes; while Robert said:  
 'Nay, love, 'tis scarcely two to one,  
 At Poitiers where we made them run  
 So fast—why, sweet my love, good cheer,  
 The Gascon frontier is so near,  
 Nought after this.'

But, 'O,' she said,  
 'My God! my God! I have to tread  
 The long way back without you; then  
 The court at Paris; those six men;  
 The gratings of the Chatelet;  
 The swift Seine on some rainy day  
 Like this, and people standing by,  
 And laughing, while my weak hands try  
 To recollect how strong men swim.  
 All this, or else a life with him,  
 For which I should be damned at last,  
 Would God that this next hour were past!'

He answer'd not, but cried his cry,  
 'St. George for Marny!' cheerily;  
 And laid his hand upon her rein.  
 Alas! no man of all his train  
 Gave back that cheery cry again;  
 And, while for rage his thumb beat fast  
 Upon his sword-hilt, some one cast  
 About his neck a kerchief long,  
 And bound him.

Then they went along  
 To Godmar ; who said : ' Now, Jehane,  
 Your lover's life is on the wane  
 So fast, that, if this very hour  
 You yield not as my paramour,  
 He will not see the rain leave off—  
 Nay, keep your tongue from gibe or scoff,  
 Sir Robert, or I slay you now.'

She laid her hand upon her brow,  
 Then gazed upon the palm, as though  
 She thought her forehead bled, and—' No.'  
 She said, and turn'd her head away,  
 As there were nothing else to say,  
 And everything were settled : red  
 Grew Godmar's face from chin to head :  
 ' Jehane, on yonder hill there stands  
 My castle, guarding well my lands :  
 What hinders me from taking you,  
 And doing what I list to do  
 To your fair wilful body, while  
 Your knight lies dead ?'

A wicked smile  
 Wrinkled her face, her lips grew thin,  
 A long way out she thrust her chin :  
 ' You know that I should strangle you  
 While you were sleeping ; or bite through  
 Your throat, by God's help—ah !' she said,  
 ' Lord Jesus, pity your poor maid !  
 For in such wise they hem me in,  
 I cannot choose but sin and sin,  
 Whatever happens : yet I think  
 They could not make me eat or drink,  
 And so should I just reach my rest.'  
 ' Nay, if you do not my behest,  
 O Jehane ! though I love you well,  
 Said Godmar, ' would I fail to tell  
 All that I know.' ' Foul lies,' she said.  
 ' Eh ? lies, my Jehane ? by God's head,

At Paris folks would deem them true !  
 Do you know, Jehane, they cry for you,  
 " Jehane the brown ! Jehane the brown !  
 Give us Jehane to burn or drown ! "  
 Eh—gag me Robert !—sweet my friend,  
 This were indeed a piteous end  
 For those long fingers, and long feet,  
 And long neck, and smooth shoulders sweet ;  
 An end that few men would forget  
 That saw it.—So, an hour yet :  
 Consider, Jehane, which to take  
 Of life or death ! '

So, scarce awake,  
 Dismounting, did she leave that place,  
 And totter some yards : with her face  
 Turn'd upward to the sky she lay,  
 Her head on a wet heap of hay,  
 And fell asleep : and while she slept,  
 And did not dream, the minutes crept  
 Round to the twelve again ; but she,  
 Being waked at last, sigh'd quietly,  
 And strangely childlike came, and said :  
 ' I will not.' Straightway Godmar's head,  
 As though it hung on strong wires, turn'd  
 Most sharply round, and his face burn'd.

For Robert—both his eyes were dry,  
 He could not weep, but gloomily  
 He seem'd to watch the rain ; yea, too,  
 His lips were firm ; he tried once more  
 To touch her lips ; she reach'd out, sore  
 And vain desire so tortured them,  
 The poor grey lips, and now the hem  
 Of his sleeve brush'd them.

With a start  
 Up Godmar rose, thrust them apart ;  
 From Robert's throat he loosed the bands  
 Of silk and mail ; with empty hands  
 Held out, she stood and gazed, and saw  
 The long bright blade without a flaw

Glide out from Godmar's sheath, his hand  
 In Robert's hair ; she saw him bend  
 Back Robert's head ; she saw him send  
 The thin steel down ; the blow told well,  
 Right backward the knight Robert fell,  
 And moan'd as dogs do, being half dead,  
 Unwitting, as I deem : so then  
 Godmar turn'd grinning to his men,  
 Who ran, some five or six, and beat  
 His head to pieces at their feet.

Then Godmar turn'd again and said :  
 ' So, Jehane, the first fitte is read !  
 Take note, my lady, that your way  
 Lies backward to the Chatelet !'  
 She shook her head and gazed awhile  
 At her cold hands with a rueful smile,  
 As though this thing had made her mad.

This was the parting that they had  
 Beside the haystack in the floods.

W. MORRIS

## 386

As we rush, as we rush in the train,  
 The trees and the houses go wheeling back,  
 But the starry heavens above the plain  
 Come flying on our track.

Oh the beautiful stars of the sky,  
 The silver doves of the forest of Night,  
 Over the dull earth swarm and fly,  
 Companions of our flight.

We will rush ever on without fear ;  
 Let the goal be far, the flight be fleet !  
 For we carry the Heavens with us, dear,  
 While the Earth slips from our feet !

J. THOMSON

387

## ODE

We are the music-makers,  
And we are the dreamers of dreams,  
Wandering by lone sea-breakers,  
And sitting by desolate streams ;  
World-losers and world-forsakers,  
On whom the pale moon gleams :  
Yet we are the movers and shakers  
Of the world for ever, it seems.

With wonderful deathless ditties  
We build up the world's great cities,  
And out of a fabulous story  
We fashion an empire's glory :  
One man with a dream, at pleasure,  
Shall go forth and conquer a crown ;  
And three with a new song's measure  
Can trample a kingdom down.

We, in the ages lying  
In the buried past of the earth,  
Built Nineveh with our sighing,  
And Babel itself in our mirth ;  
And o'erthrew them with prophesying  
To the Old of the New World's worth ;  
For each age is a dream that is dying,  
Or one that is coming to birth.

A breath of our inspiration  
Is the life of each generation ;  
A wondrous thing of our dreaming,  
Uncarthy, impossible seeming—  
The soldier, the king, and the peasant  
Are working together in one,  
Till our dream shall become their present,  
And their work in the world be done.

They had no vision amazing  
Of the goodly house they are raising,

They had no divine foreshowing  
 Of the land to which they are going :  
 But on one man's soul it hath broken,  
 A light that doth not depart ;  
 And his look, or a word he hath spoken,  
 Wrought flame in another man's heart.

And therefore to-day is thrilling  
 With a past day's late fulfilling ;  
 And the multitudes are enlisted  
 In the faith that their fathers resisted,  
 And, scorning the dream of to-morrow,  
 Are bringing to pass, as they may,  
 In the world, for its joy or its sorrow,  
 The dream that was scorned yesterday.

But we, with our dreaming and singing,  
 Ceaseless and sorrowless we !  
 The glory about us clinging  
 Of the glorious future we see,  
 Our souls with high music ringing :  
 O men ! it must ever be  
 That we dwell, in our dreaming and singing,  
 A little apart from ye.

For we are afar with the dawning  
 And the suns that are not yet high,  
 And out of the infinite morning  
 Intrepid you hear us cry—  
 How, spite of your human scorning,  
 Once more God's future draws nigh,  
 And already goes forth the warning  
 That ye of the past must die.

Great hail ! we cry to the comers  
 From the dazzling unknown shore ;  
 Bring us hither your sun and your summers,  
 And renew our world as of yore ;  
 You shall teach us your song's new numbers  
 And things that we dreamed not before ;  
 Yea, in spite of a dreamer who slumbers,  
 And a singer who sings no more.

A. W. E. O'SHAUGHNESSY

388

Out of the night that covers me,  
Black as the Pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever gods may be  
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance  
I have not winced nor cried aloud.  
Under the bludgeonings of chance  
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears  
Looms but the Horror of the shade,  
And yet the menace of the years  
Finds, and shall find, me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,  
How charged with punishments the scroll,  
I am the master of my fate :  
I am the captain of my soul.

W. E. HENLEY







**NOTES**

**INDEX OF WRITERS**

**AND**

**INDEX OF FIRST LINES**



# NOTES TO THE GOLDEN TREASURY

BY FRANCIS TURNER PALGRAVE

## SUMMARY OF BOOK FIRST

THE Elizabethan Poetry, as it is rather vaguely termed, forms the substance of this Book, which contains pieces from Wyatt under Henry VIII to Shakespeare midway through the reign of James I. and Drummond who carried on the early manner to a still later period. There is here a wide range of style;—from simplicity expressed in a language hardly yet broken in to verse,—through the pastoral fancies and Italian conceits of the strictly Elizabethan time,—to the passionate reality of Shakespeare: yet a general uniformity of tone prevails. Few readers can fail to observe the natural sweetness of the verse, the single-hearted straightforwardness of the thoughts:—nor less, the limitation of subject to the many phases of one passion, which then characterized our lyrical poetry,—unless when, as with Drummond and Shakespeare, the 'purple light of Love' is tempered by a spirit of sterner reflection.

It should be observed that this and the following Summaries apply in the main to the Collection here presented, in which (besides its restriction to Lyrical Poetry) a strictly representative or historical Anthology has not been aimed at. Great excellence, in human art as in human character, has from the beginning of things been even more uniform than Mediocrity, by virtue of the closeness of its approach to Nature:—and so far as the standard of Excellence kept in view has been attained in this volume, a comparative absence of extreme or temporary phases in style, a similarity of tone and manner, will be found throughout:—something neither modern nor ancient, but true in all ages, and like the works of Creation, perfect as on the first day.

PAGE NO.

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | l. 4 <i>Rouse Memnon's mother</i> : Awaken the Dawn from the dark Earth and the clouds where she is resting. Aurora in the old mythology is mother of Memnon (the East), and wife of Tithonus (the appearances of Earth and Sky during the last hours of Night). She leaves him every morning in renewed youth, to prepare the way for Phoebus (the Sun), whilst Tithonus remains in perpetual old age and greyness. |
|---|---|--|

PAGE NO.

2 2

l. 21 by *Peneus' streams*: Phoebus loved the Nymph Daphne whom he met by the river Peneus in the vale of Tempo. This legend expressed the attachment of the Laurel (Daphne) to the Sun, under whose heat the tree both fades and flourishes.

It has been thought worth while to explain these allusions, because they illustrate the character of the Grecian Mythology, which arose in the Personification of natural phenomena, and was totally free from those debasing and ludicrous ideas with which, through Roman and later misunderstanding or perversion, it has been associated.

2 —

l. 25 *Amphion's lyre*: He was said to have built the walls of Thebes to the sound of his music.

— —

l. 33 *Night like a drunkard reels*: Compare *Romeo and Juliet*, Act II, Scene 3: 'The grey-eyed morn smiles,' &c.—It should be added that three lines, which appeared hopelessly misprinted, have been omitted in this Poem.

3 4

l. 10 *Time's chest*: in which he is figuratively supposed to lay up past treasures. So in *Troilus*, Act III, Scene 3, 'Time hath a wallet at his back,' &c.

4 5

A fine example of the high-wrought and conventional Elizabethan Pastoralism, which it would be ludicrous to criticize on the ground of the unshepherd-like or unreal character of some images suggested. Stanza 6 was probably inserted by Izaak Walton.

6 9

This Poem, with 25 and 94, is taken from Davison's *Rhapsody*, first published in 1602. One stanza has been here omitted, in accordance with the principle noticed in the Preface. Similar omissions occur in 45, 87, 100, 128, 160, 165, 227, 235. The more serious abbreviation by which it has been attempted to bring Crashaw's 'Wishes' and Shelley's 'Euganean Hills' within the limits of lyrical unity, is commended with much diffidence to the judgement of readers acquainted with the original pieces.

7 9

*Present* in line 6 is here conjecturally printed for *Present*. A very few similar corrections of (it is presumed) misprints have been made:—as *thy* for *my*, 22, 9; *men* for *me*, 41, 3; and *one* for *our*, 252, 90; *looks* for *loos*, 271, 5; *dome* for *doom*, 275, 25:—with two or three more or less important.

10 15

This charming little poem, truly 'old and plain, and dallying with the innocence of love' like that spoken of in *Twelfth Night*, is taken, with 5, 17, 20, 34, and 40, from the most characteristic collection of Elizabeth's reign, *England's Helicon*, first published in 1600.

— 16

Readers who have visited Italy will be reminded of more than one picture by this gorgeous Vision of Beauty, equally sublime and pure in its Paradisaical

PAGE NO.

- naturalness. Lodge wrote it on a voyage to 'the Islands of Terceus and the Canaries'; and he seems to have caught, in those southern seas, no small portion of the qualities which marked the almost contemporary Art of Venice,—the glory and the glow of Veronese, or Titian, or Tintoret, when he most resembles Titian, and all but surpasses him.
- 10 16 l. 1 *The clear* is the crystalline or outermost heaven of the old cosmography. For *resembling* (l. 7) other copies give *refining*: the correct reading is perhaps *revealing*.
- 11 — l. 33 *for a fair there's fairer none*: If you desire a Beauty, there is none more beautiful than Rosaline.
- 13 18 l. 2 *that fair thou owest*: that beauty thou ownest.
- 15 23 ll. 7, 8 *the star . . . Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken*: apparently, Whose stellar influence is uncalculated, although his angular altitude from the plane of the astrolabe or artificial horizon used by astrologers has been determined.
- 17 27 l. 9 *keel*: skim.
- 19 29 l. 4 *expense*: waste.
- 30 l. 5 *Nativity, once in the main of light*: when a star has risen and entered on the full stream of light;—another of the astrological phrases no longer familiar.
- l. 7 *Crooked eclipses*: as coming athwart the Sun's apparent course.
- Wordsworth, thinking probably of the *Venus* and the *Lucrece*, said finely of Shakespeare: 'Shakespeare could not have written an Epic; he would have died of plethora of thought.' This prodigality of nature is exemplified equally in his Sonnets. The copious selection here given (which, from the wealth of the material, required greater consideration than any other portion of the Editor's task) contains many that will not be fully felt and understood without some earnestness of thought on the reader's part. But he is not likely to regret the labour.
- 20 31 l. 7 *upon misprision growing*: either, granted in error, or, on the growth of contempt.
- 32 With the tone of this Sonnet compare Hamlet's 'Give me that man That is not passion's slave,' &c. Shakespeare's writings show the deepest sensitiveness to passion:—hence the attraction he felt in the contrasting effects of apathy.
- 21 33 l. 4 *grame*: sorrow. It was long before English Poetry returned to the charming simplicity of this and a few other poems by Wyat.
- 22 34 l. 19 Pandion in the ancient fable was father to Philomela.
- 24 38 l. 4 *ramage*: confused noise.
- 39 l. 4 *censures*: judges.
- 25 40 By its style this beautiful example of old simplicity

## PAGE NO.

- and feeling may be referred to the early years of Elizabeth. L. 3 *late* forgot: lately.
- 26 41 l. 9 *haggards*: the least tameable hawks.
- 27 44 l. 2 *eyprus* or *cyprus*.—used by the old writers for *crape*; whether from the French *erespe* or from the Island whence it was imported. Its accidental similarity in spelling to *cypress* has, here and in Milton's *Penseroso*, probably confused readers.
- 29 46, 47 'I never saw anything like this funeral dirge,' says Charles Lamb, 'except the ditty which reminds Ferdinand of his drowned father in *The Tempest*. As that is of the water, watery; so this is of the earth, earthy. Both have that intenseness of feeling, which seems to resolve itself into the element which it contemplates.'
- 31 51 l. 8 *crystal*: fairness.
- 32 53 This 'Spousal Verse' was written in honour of the Ladies Elizabeth and Katherine Somerset. Although beautiful, it is inferior to the *Epithalamion* on Spenser's own marriage,—omitted with great reluctance as not in harmony with modern manners.
- 33 — l. 4 *seatcously*: elegantly.
- 35 — l. 21 *shend*: put out.
- 36 — l. 7 *a noble peer*: Robert Devereux, second Lord Essex, then at the height of his brief triumph after taking Cadiz; hence the allusion following to the Pillars of Hercules, placed near Gades by ancient legend. L. 19 *Eliza*: Elizabeth. L. 35 *twins of Jove*: the stars Castor and Pollux. L. 36 *baldric*, belt; the zodiac.
- 38 57 A fine example of a peculiar class of Poetry:—that written by thoughtful men who practised this Art but little. Wotton's, 72, is another. Jeremy Taylor, Bishop Berkeley, Dr. Johnson, Lord Macaulay, have left similar specimens.

## SUMMARY OF BOOK SECOND

THIS division, embracing the latter eighty years of the seventeenth century, contains the close of our Early poetical style and the commencement of the Modern. In Dryden we see the first master of the new: in Milton, whose genius dominates here as Shakespeare's in the former book,—the crown and consummation of the early period. Their splendid Odes are far in advance of any prior attempts, Spenser's excepted: they exhibit the wider and grander range which years and experience and the struggles of the time conferred on Poetry. Our Muses now give expression to political feeling, to religious thought, to a high philosophic statesmanship in writers such as Marvell, Herbert, and Wotton: whilst in Marvell and Milton, again, we find the first noble attempts at pure description of nature, destined in our own ages

to be continued and equalled. Meanwhile the poetry of simple passion, although before 1660 often deformed by verbal fancies and conceits of thought, and afterward by levity and an artificial tone,—produced in Herrick and Waller some charming pieces of more finished art than the Elizabethan: until in the courtly compliments of Sedley it seems to exhaust itself, and lie almost dormant for the hundred years between the days of Wither and Suckling and the days of Burns and Cowper.—That the change from our early style to the modern brought with it at first a loss of nature and simplicity is undeniable: yet the far bolder and wider scope which Poetry took between 1620 and 1700, and the successful efforts then made to gain greater clearness in expression, in their results have been no slight compensation.

## PAGE NO.

- 44 62 l. 8 *whist*: hushed. L. 31 *Pan*: used here for the Lord of all.
- 47 — l. 27 *Lars and Lemurís*: household gods and spirits of relations dead. L. 30 *Flamens*: Roman priests. L. 35 *that twice-batter'd god*: Dagon.
- 48 — l. 14 *Osiris*, the Egyptian god of Agriculture (here, perhaps by confusion with *Apis*, figured as a Bull), was torn to pieces by Typho and embalmed after death in a sacred chest. This myth, reproduced in Syria and Greece in the legends of Thammuz, Adonis, and perhaps Absyrtus, represents the annual death of the Sun or the Year under the influences of the winter darkness. Horus, the son of Osiris, as the New Year, in his turn overcomes Typho.—It suited the genius of Milton's time to regard this primeval poetry and philosophy of the seasons, which has a further reference to the contest of Good and Evil in Creation, as a malignant idolatry. Shelley's Chorus in *Hellas*, 'Worlds on worlds,' treats the subject in a larger and sweeter spirit. L. 16 *unshower'd grass*: as watered by the Nile only.
- 51 64 *The Late Massacre*: the Vaudois persecution, carried on in 1655 by the Duke of Savoy. This 'collect in verse,' as it has been justly named, is the most mighty Sonnet in any language known to the Editor. Readers should observe that, unlike our sonnets of the sixteenth century, it is constructed on the original Italian or Provençal model,—unquestionably far superior to the imperfect form employed by Shakespeare and Drummond.
- 65 Cromwell returned from Ireland in 1650. Hence the prophecies, not strictly fulfilled, of his deference to the Parliament, in stanzas xxi-xxiv.
- This Ode, beyond doubt one of the finest in our language, and more in Milton's style than has been reached by any other poet, is occasionally obscure from imitation of the condensed Latin syntax. The

meaning of st. v is 'rivalry or hostility are the same to a lofty spirit, and limitation more hateful than opposition.' The allusion in st. xi is to the old physical doctrines of the non-existence of a vacuum and the impenetrability of matter;—in st. xvii to the omen traditionally connected with the foundation of the Capitol at Rome. The ancient belief that certain years in life complete natural periods and are hence peculiarly exposed to death, is introduced in st. xxvi by the word *climacteric*.

55 66 *Lycidas*. The person lamented is Milton's college friend Edward King, drowned in 1637 whilst crossing from Chester to Ireland.

Strict Pastoral Poetry was first written or perfected by the Dorian Greeks settled in Sicily: but the conventional use of it, exhibited more magnificently in *Lycidas* than in any other pastoral, is apparently of Roman origin. Milton, employing the noble freedom of a great artist, has here united ancient mythology with what may be called the modern mythology of Camus and Saint Peter,—to direct Christian images.—The metrical structure of this glorious poem is partly derived from Italian models.

— — l. 15 *Sisters of the sacred well*: the Muses, said to frequent the fountain Helicon on Mount Parnassus.

66 — l. 26 *Mona*: Anglesea, called by the Welsh *Inis Dowil* or the Dark Island, from its dense forests. l. 27 *Deva*: the Dee, a river which probably derived its magical character from Celtic traditions: it was long the boundary of Briton and Saxon.—These places are introduced, as being near the scene of the shipwreck. l. 30 *Orpheus* was torn to pieces by Thracian women.

57 — ll. 3, 4 *Amuryllis* and *Neaera*: names used here for the love-idols of poets: as *Damoetas* previously for a shepherd. l. 10 *the blind Fury*: Atropos, fabled to cut the thread of life. ll. 20, 21 *Aretuse* and *Mincius*: Sicilian and Italian waters here alluded to as synonymous with the pastoral poetry of Theocritus and Virgil. l. 23 *oat*: pipe, used here like Collins' *oaten stop* l. 1, No. 146. for *Song*. l. 31 *Hippotades*: Aeolus, god of the Winds. l. 34 *Panope*: a Nereid. The names of local deities in the Hellenic mythology express generally some feature in the natural landscape, which the Greeks studied and analysed with their usual unequalled insight and feeling. *Panope* represents the boundlessness of the ocean-horizon when seen from a height, as compared with the limited horizon of the land in hilly countries such as Greece or Asia Minor. l. 38 *Camus*: the Cam; put for King's University.

58 — l. 2 *that sanguine flower*: the Hyacinth of the ancients; probably our Iris. l. 5 *The pilot*: Saint



PAGE NO.

- Peter, figuratively introduced as the head of the Church on earth, to foretell 'the ruin of our corrupted clergy, then in their height' under Laud's primacy. L. 24 *the wolf*: Popery. L. 28 *Alpheus*: a stream in Southern Greece, supposed to flow underseas to join the Arethuse. L. 34 *swart star*: the Dogstar, called swarthy because its heliacal rising in ancient times occurred soon after midsummer.
- 59 66 l. 18 *moist vows*: either tearful prayers, or prayers for one at sea. L. 19 *Bellerus*: a giant, apparently created here by Milton to personify Bellerium, the ancient title of the Land's End. L. 20 *the great Vision*:—the story was that the Archangel Michael had appeared on the rock by Marazion in Mount's Bay which bears his name. Milton calls on him to turn his eyes from the south homeward, and to pity Lycidas, if his body has drifted into the troubled waters off the Land's End. Finisterre being the land due south of Marazion, two places in that district (then by our trade with Corunna probably less unfamiliar to English ears), are named.—*Namancos* now Mujio in Galicia, *Bayona* north of the Minho, or perhaps a fortified rock (one of the *Cics* Islands) not unlike Saint Michael's Mount, at the entrance of Vigo Bay. L. 29 *orc*: rays of golden light.
- 60 — l. 8 *Doric lay*: Sicilian, pastoral.
- 62 70 *The assault* was an attack on London expected in 1642, when the troops of Charles I reached Brentford. 'Written on his door' was in the original title of this sonnet. Milton was then living in Aldersgate Street.
- 62 — l. 10 *The Emathian conqueror*: When Thebes was destroyed (335 B.C.) and the citizens massacred by thousands, Alexander ordered the house of Pindar to be spared. He was as incapable of appreciating the Poet as Lewis XIV of appreciating Racine: but even the narrow and barbarian mind of Alexander could understand the advantage of a showy act of homage to Poetry. Ll. 12-13 *the repeated air Of sad Electra's poet*: Amongst Plutarch's vague stories, he says that when the Spartan confederacy in 404 B.C. took Athens, a proposal to demolish it was rejected through the effect produced on the commanders by hearing part of a chorus from the Electra of Euripides sung at a feast. There is however no apparent congruity between the lines quoted (167-8, ed. Dindorf) and the result ascribed to them.
- 64 73 This high-toned and lovely Madrigal is quite in the style, and worthy of, the 'pure Simonides.'
- 65 75 Vaughan's beautiful though quaint verses should be compared with Wordsworth's great Ode, No. 287.
- 66 76 l. 8 *Favonius*: the spring wind.

PAGE NO.

67 77

l. 2 *Themis*: the goddess of justice. Skinner was grandson by his mother to Sir E. Coke;—hence, as pointed out by Mr. Keightley, Milton's allusion to the *bench*. L. 8: Sweden was then at war with Poland, and France with the Spanish Netherlands.

69 79

l. 4 *Sidneian showers*: either in allusion to the conversations in the *Arcadia*, or to Sidney himself as a model of 'gentleness' in spirit and demeanour.

73 84

*Elizabeth of Bohemia*: daughter to James I, and ancestor to Sophia of Hanover. These lines are a fine specimen of gallant and courtly compliment.

74 85

Lady M. Ley was daughter to Sir J. Ley, afterwards Earl of Marlborough, who died March, 1628-9, coincidentally with the dissolution of the third Parliament of Charles's reign. Hence Milton poetically compares his death to that of the Orator Isocrates of Athens, after Philip's victory in 328 B.C.

78, 79 92,

82 99

93 These are quite a Painter's poems.

*From Prison*: to which his active support of Charles I twice brought the high-spirited writer.

87 105

Inserted in Book II as written in the character of a Soldier of Fortune in the Seventeenth Century.

88 106

*waly waly*: an exclamation of sorrow, the root and the pronunciation of which are preserved in the word *caterwaul*. *Brac*, hillside: *burn*, brook: *busk*, adorn. *Saint Anton's Well*: at the foot of Arthur's Seat by Edinburgh. *Cramasic*, crimson.

89 107

l. 7 *burd*, maiden.

90 108

*corbies*, crows: *fail*, turf: *hausc*, neck: *theek*, thatch.—If not in their origin, in their present form this and the two preceding poems appear due to the Seventeenth Century, and have therefore been placed in Book II.

92 111

The remark quoted in the note to No. 47 applies equally to these truly wonderful verses, which, like *Lycidas*, may be regarded as a test of any reader's insight into the most poetical aspects of Poetry. The general differences between them are vast: but in imaginative intensity Marvell and Shelley are closely related.—This poem is printed as a translation in Marvell's works: but the original Latin is obviously his own. The most striking verses in it, here quoted as the book is rare, answer more or less to stanzas ii and vi:—

Alma Quies, teneo te! et te, gormana Quietis,  
Simplicitas! vos ergo diu per templa, per urbes  
Quaesivi, regum perque alta palatia, frustra:  
Sed vos hortorum per opaca silentia, longe  
Celarunt plantae virides, et concolor umbra.

94, 98 112, *L'Allegro* and *Il Penseroso*. It is a striking proof of Milton's astonishing power, that these, the

## PAGE NO.

- earliest pure Descriptive Lyrics in our language, should still remain the best in a style which so many great poets have since attempted. The Bright and the Thoughtful aspects of Nature are their subjects: but each is preceded by a mythological introduction in a mixed Classical and Italian manner. The meaning of the first is that Gaiety is the child of Nature; of the second, that Sorrow is the daughter of Sorrow and Genius.
- 94 112 l. 2: Perverse ingenuity has conjectured that for *Cerberus* we should read *Erebus*, who in the Mythology is brother at once and husband of Night. But the issue of that union is not Sadness, but Day and Aether:—completing the circle of primary Creation, as the parents are both children of Chaos, the first-begotten of all things. (Hesiod.)
- 95 — l. 24 *the mountain nymph*: compare Wordsworth's Sonnet, No. 210.
- 96 — l. 8 is in *apposition* to the preceding, by a grammatical licence not uncommon with Milton. L. 13 *tells his tale*: counts his flock. L. 26 *Cynosure*: the Pole Star. Ll. 29 sqq. *Corydon, Thyrsis &c.*: shepherd names from the old Idylls.
- 97 — l. 36 *Jonson's learned sock*: the gaiety of our age would find little pleasure in his elaborate comedies. L. 40 *Lydian airs*: a light and festive style of ancient music.
- 98 113 l. 3 *bestead*: avail.
- 99 — l. 1 *starr'd Ethiop queen*: Cassiopeia, the legendary Queen of Ethiopia, and thence translated amongst the constellations. L. 41 *Cynthia*: the Moon: her chariot is drawn by dragons in ancient representations.
- 100 — l. 28 *Hermes*, called Trismegistus, a mystical writer of the Neo-Platonist school. L. 39 *Thebes &c.*: subjects of Athenian Tragedy. L. 42 *Buskin'd*: tragic.
- 101 — l. 2 *Musaens*: a poet in Mythology. L. 7 *him that left half told*: Chaucer, in his incomplete 'Squire's Tale.' L. 14 *great barils*: Ariosto, Tasso, and Spenser are here intended. L. 21 *frounced*: curled. L. 22 *the Attie Boy*: Cephalus.
- 103 114 Emigrants supposed to be driven towards America by the government of Charles I. Ll. 23-4 *But apples &c.* A fine example of Marvell's imaginative hyperbole.
- 104 115 l. 6 *concent*: harmony.

## SUMMARY OF BOOK THIRD

It is more difficult to characterize the English Poetry of the eighteenth century than that of any other. For it was an age not only of spontaneous transition, but of bold experiment: it includes not only such divergences of thought as distinguish the *Rape of the Lock* from the *Parish Register*, but such vast contemporaneous differences as lie between Pope and Collins, Burns and Cowper. Yet we may clearly trace three leading moods or tendencies:—the aspects of courtly or educated life represented by Pope and carried to exhaustion by his followers; the poetry of Nature and of Man, viewed through a cultivated, and at the same time an impassioned frame of mind by Collins and Gray:—lastly, the study of vivid and simple narrative, including natural description, begun by Gay and Thomson, pursued by Burns and others in the north, and established in England by Goldsmith, Percy, Crabbe, and Cowper. Great varieties in style accompanied these diversities in aim: poets could not always distinguish the manner suitable for subjects so far apart; and the union of the language of courtly and of common life, exhibited most conspicuously by Burns, has given a tone to the poetry of that century which is better explained by reference to its historical origin than by naming it, in the common criticism of our day, artificial. There is, again, a nobleness of thought, a courageous aim at high and, in a strict sense, manly excellence in many of the writers:—nor can that period be justly termed tame and wanting in originality, which produced poems such as Pope's *Satires*, Gray's *Odes* and *Elegy*, the ballads of Gay and Carey, the songs of Burns and Cowper. In truth Poetry at this as at all times was a more or less unconscious mirror of the genius of the age: and the brave and admirable spirit of inquiry which made the eighteenth century the turning-time in European civilization is reflected faithfully in its verse. An intelligent reader will find the influence of Newton as markedly in the poems of Pope as of Elizabeth in the plays of Shakespeare. On this great subject, however, these indications must here be sufficient.

PAGE NO.  
115 123

*The Bard.* This Ode is founded on a fable that Edward I, after conquering Wales, put the native Poets to death.—After lamenting his comrades (st. ii, iii) the Bard prophesies the fate of Edward II and the conquests of Edward III (iv): his death and that of the Black Prince (v): of Richard II, with the wars of York and Lancaster, the murder of Henry VI, (the *meek usurper*,) and of Edward V and his brother (vi). He turns to the glory and prosperity following the accession of the Tudors (vii), through Elizabeth's reign (viii): and concludes with a vision of the poetry of Shakespeare and Milton.

— — 1. 13 *Gloster*: Gilbert de Clare, son-in-law to

## PAGE NO.

- Edward. L. 14 *Mortimer*, one of the Lords Marchers of Wales.
- 116 123 l. 9 *Arvon*: the shores of Carnarvonshire opposite Anglesey. L. 31 *She-wolf*: Isabel of France, adulterous Queen of Edward II.
- 117 — l. 23 *towers of Julius*: the Tower of London, built in part, according to tradition, by Julius Caesar. L. 29 *bristled boar*: the badge of Richard III. L. 35 *Half of thy heart*: Queen Eleanor died soon after the conquest of Wales.
- 118 — l. 7 *Arthur*: Henry VII named his eldest son thus, in deference to British feeling and legend.
- 119 125 l. 5 The Highlanders called the battle of Culloden, Drumossie.
- 120 126 *lilting*, singing blithely: *loaning*, broad lane: *bughts*, ponds: *acorning*, rallying: *dowie*, dreary: *daffin'* and *gabbin'*, joking and chatting: *leglin*, milk-pail: *sheuring*, reaping: *bandsters*, sheaf-binders: *tyart*, grizzled: *runkled*, wrinkled: *fleeching*, coaxing: *gloaming*, twilight: *bogle*, ghost: *dool*, sorrow.
- 122 128 The Editor has found no authoritative text of this poem, in his judgement superior to any other of its class in melody and pathos. Part is probably not later than the seventeenth century: in other stanzas a more modern hand, much resembling Scott's, is traceable. Logan's poem (127) exhibits a knowledge rather of the old legend than of the old verses.—*Hecht*, promised; the obsolete *hight*: *maris*, thrush: *ilka*, every: *lav'rock*, lark: *haughs*, valley-meadows: *twined*, parted from: *marrow*, mate: *syne*, then.
- 123 129 The Royal George, of 108 guns, whilst undergoing a partial careening in Portsmouth Harbour, was overset about 10 A.M. Aug. 29, 1782. The total loss was believed to be near 1,000 souls.
- 126 131 A little masterpiece in a very difficult style: Catullus himself could hardly have bettered it. In grace, tenderness, simplicity, and humour it is worthy of the Ancients; and even more so, from the completeness and unity of the picture presented.
- 130 136 Perhaps no writer who has given such strong proofs of the poetic nature has left less satisfactory poetry than Thomson. Yet he touched little which he did not beautify: and this song, with 'Rule, Britannia' and a few others, must make us regret that he did not more seriously apply himself to lyrical writing.
- 132 140 l. 1 *Aeolian lyre*: the Greeks ascribed the origin of their Lyrical Poetry to the colonies of Aeolis in Asia Minor. L. 17 *Thracia's hills*: supposed a favourite resort of Mars.
- 133 — l. 3 *feather'd king*: the Eagle of Jupiter, admirably described by Pindar in a passage here imitated by

- Gray. L. 9 *Idalia* in Cyprus, where *Cytherea* (Venus) was especially worshipped. L. 35 *Hyperion*: the Sun. St. vi-viii allude to the Poets of the islands and mainland of Greece, to those of Rome and of England.
- 135 140 l. 21 *Theban Eagle*: Pindar.
- 138 141 l. 7 *chaste-eyed Queen*: Diana.
- 139 142 l. 5 *Attic warbler*: the nightingale.
- 141 144 *sleekit, sleek*: *bickering brattle, flittering flight*: *laith, loath*: *pattle, ploughstaff*: *whiles, at times*: *a daimen icker, a corn-ear now and then*: *thrive, shock*: *lave, rest*: *loggage, aftergrass*: *snell, biting*: *but hald, without dwelling-place*: *thole, bear*: *cran-reuch, hoarfrost*: *thy lane, alone*: *a-gley, off the right line, awry*.
- 145 147 Perhaps the noblest stanzas in our language.
- 149 148 *stoure, dust-storm*: *braw, smart*.
- 150 149 *scaith, hurt*: *lent, guard*: *steer, molest*.
- 151 151 *drumlie, muddy*: *birk, birch*.
- 153 152 *greet, cry*: *daurna, dare not*.—There can hardly exist a poem more truly tragic in the highest sense than this: nor, except Sappho, has any Poetess known to the Editor equalled it in excellence.
- 153 *you, merry with drink*: *coost, carried*: *unco skeigh, very proud*: *gart, forced*: *abeigh, aside*: *Ailsa Craig, a rock in the Firth of Clyde*: *grat his een bleert, cried till his eyes were bleared*: *lowpin, leaping*: *linn, waterfall*: *sair, sore*: *smoor'd, smothered*: *crouse and canty, blythe and gay*.
- 154 154 Burns justly named this 'one of the most beautiful songs in the Scots or any other language.' One verse, interpolated by Beattie, is here omitted:—it contains two good lines, but is quite out of harmony with the original poem. *Bigonet, little cap*: probably altered from *bequinette*: *thraw, twist*: *caller, fresh*.
- 156 155 *airs, quarters*: *row, roll*: *shaw, small wood in a hollow, spinney*: *knowe, knolls*.
- 157 156 *jo, sweetheart*: *brent, smooth*: *pow, head*.
- 157 *leal, faithful*: *fain, nappy*.
- 158 158 Henry VI founded Eton.
- 164 161 The Editor knows no Sonnet more remarkable than this, which, with 162, records Cowper's gratitude to the lady whose affectionate care for many years gave what sweetness he could enjoy to a life radically wretched. Petrarch's sonnets have a more ethereal grace and a more perfect finish; Shakespeare's more passion; Milton's stand supreme in stateliness, Wordsworth's in depth and delicacy. But Cowper's unites with an exquisiteness in the turn of thought which the ancients would have called Irony, an intensity of pathetic tenderness peculiar to his loving and ingenuous nature.—There is much mannerism, much

PAGE NO.

that is unimportant or of now exhausted interest in his poems: but where he is great, it is with that elementary greatness which rests on the most universal human feelings. Cowper is our highest master in simple pathos.

186 163 l. 19 *fancied green*: cherished garden.

167 164 Little more than his name appears recoverable with regard to the author of this truly noble poem. It should be noted as exhibiting a rare excellence,—the climax of simple sublimity.

It is a lesson of high instructiveness to examine the essential qualities which give first-rate poetical rank to lyrics such as 'To-morrow' or 'Sally in our Alley,' when compared with poems written (if the phrase may be allowed) in keys so different as the subtle sweetness of Shelley, the grandeur of Gray and Milton, or the delightful Pastoralism of the Elizabethan verse. Intelligent readers will gain hence a clear understanding of the vast imaginative range of Poetry;—through what wide oscillations the mind and the taste of a nation may pass;—how many are the roads which Truth and Nature open to Excellence.

#### SUMMARY OF BOOK FOURTH

It proves sufficiently the lavish wealth of our own age in Poetry that the pieces which, without conscious departure from the standard of Excellence, render this Book by far the longest, were with very few exceptions composed during the first thirty years of the nineteenth century. Exhaustive reasons can hardly be given for the strangely sudden appearance of individual genius: but none, in the Editor's judgement, can be less adequate than that which assigns the splendid national achievements of our recent poetry to an impulse from the follies and wars that at the time disgraced our foreign neighbours. The first French Revolution was rather, in his opinion, one result, and in itself by no means the most important, of that far wider and greater spirit which through inquiry and doubt, through pain and triumph, sweeps mankind round the circles of its gradual development: and it is to this that we must trace the literature of modern Europe. But, without more detailed discussion on the motive causes of Scott, Wordsworth, Campbell, Keats, and Shelley, we may observe that these Poets, with others, carried to further perfection the later tendencies of the century preceding, in simplicity of narrative, reverence for human Passion and Character in every sphere, and impassioned love of Nature:—that, whilst maintaining on the whole the advances in art made since the Restoration, they renewed the half-forgotten melody and depth of tone which marked the best Elizabethan writers:—that, lastly, to what was thus inherited they added a richness

in language and a variety in metre, a force and fire in narrative, a tenderness and bloom in feeling, an insight into the finer passages of the Soul and the inner meanings of the landscape, a larger and wiser Humanity,—hitherto hardly attained, and perhaps unattainable even by predecessors of not inferior individual genius. In a word, the nation which, after the Greeks in their glory, has been the most gifted of all nations for Poetry, expressed in these men the highest strength and prodigality of its nature. They interpreted the age to itself—hence the many phases of thought and style they present:—to sympathize with each, fervently and impartially, without fear and without fancifulness, is no doubtful step in the higher education of the Soul. For, as with the Affections and the Conscience, Purity in Taste is absolutely proportionate to Strength:—and when once the mind has raised itself to grasp and to delight in Excellence, those who love most will be found to love most wisely.

## PAGE NO.

- 169 166 l. 11 *stout Cortez*: History requires here *Balbóa*: (A. T.) It may be noticed, that to find in Chapman's Homer the 'pure serene' of the original, the reader must bring with him the imagination of the youthful poet;—he must be 'a Greek himself,' as Shelley finely said of Keats.
- 173 169 The most tender and true of Byron's smaller poems.
- 174 170 This poem, with 236, exemplifies the peculiar skill with which Scott employs proper names:—nor is there a surer sign of high poetical genius.
- 191 191 The Editor in this and in other instances has risked the addition (or the change) of a Title, that the aim of the verses following may be grasped more clearly and immediately.
- 197 198 l. 4 *Nature's Eremite*: like a solitary thing in Nature.—This beautiful Sonnet was the last word of a poet deserving the title 'marvellous boy' in a much higher sense than Chatterton. If the fulfilment may ever safely be prophesied from the promise, England appears to have lost in Keats one whose gifts in Poetry have rarely been surpassed. Shakespeare, Milton, and Wordsworth, had their lives been closed at twenty-five, would (so far as we know) have left poems of less excellence and hope than the youth who, from the petty school and the London surgery, passed at once to a place with them of 'high collateral glory.'
- 199 201 It is impossible not to regret that Moore has written so little in this sweet and genuinely national style.
- 202 A masterly example of Byron's command of strong thought and close reasoning in verse:—as the next is equally characteristic of Shelley's wayward intensity, and 204 of the dramatic power, the vital



- PAGE NO. identification of the poet with other times and characters, in which Scott is second only to Shakespeare.
- 209 209 Bonnivard, a Genevese, was imprisoned by the Duke of Savoy in Chillon on the lake of Geneva for his courageous defence of his country against the tyranny with which Piedmont threatened it during the first half of the seventeenth century.—This noble Sonnet is worthy to stand near Milton's on the Vaudois massacre.
- 210 Switzerland was usurped by the French under Napoleon in 1800: Venice in 1797 (211).
- 212 215 This battle was fought Dec. 2, 1800, between the Austrians under Archduke John and the French under Moreau, in a forest near Munich. *Hohen Linden* means *High Linetrees*.
- 216 218 After the capture of Madrid by Napoleon, Sir J. Moore retreated before Soult and Ney to Corunna, and was killed whilst covering the embarkation of his troops. His tomb, built by Ney, bears this inscription—'John Moore, leader of the English armies, slain in battle, 1809.'
- 229 229 The Mermaid was the club-house of Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, and other choice spirits of that age.
- 230 l. 1 *Maisie*: Mary. Scott has given us nothing more complete and lovely than this little song, which unites simplicity and dramatic power to a wildwood music of the rarest quality. No moral is drawn, far less any conscious analysis of feeling attempted:—the pathetic meaning is left to be suggested by the mere presentment of the situation. Inexperienced critics have often named this, which may be called the Homeric manner, superficial, from its apparent simple facility: but first-rate excellence in it (as shown here, in 196, 156, and 129) is in truth one of the least common triumphs of Poetry.—This style should be compared with what is not less perfect in its way, the searching out of inner feeling, the expression of hidden meanings, the revelation of the heart of Nature and of the Soul within the Soul,—the Analytical method, in short,—most completely represented by Wordsworth and by Shelley.
- 235 234 *correi*: covert on a hillside. *Cumber*: trouble.
- 235 Two intermediate stanzas have been here omitted. They are very ingenious, but, of all poetical qualities, ingenuity is least in accordance with pathos.
- 247 243 This poem has an exaltation and a glory, joined with an exquisiteness of expression, which place it in the highest rank amongst the many masterpieces of its illustrious Author.
- 257 252 l. 24 *interlunar swoon*: interval of the Moon's invisibility.

- PAGE NO.
- 263 256 l. 1 *Calpe*: Gibraltar. L. 11 *Lofoden*: the Maelstrom whirlpool off the N.W. coast of Norway.
- 264 257 This lovely poem refers here and there to a ballad by Hamilton on the subject better treated in 127 and 128.
- 277 268 l. 10 *Arcturi*: seemingly used for *northern stars*. L. 20 *And wild roses &c.* Our language has no line modulated with more subtle sweetness. A good poet might have written *And roses wild*,—yet this slight change would disenchant the verse of its peculiar beauty.
- 280 270 l. 35 *Ceres' daughter*: Proserpine. L. 36 *God of Torment*: Pluto.
- 281 271 This impassioned address expresses Shelley's most rapt imaginations, and is the direct modern representative of the feeling which led the Greeks to the worship of Nature.
- 290 274 The leading idea of this beautiful description of a day's landscape in Italy is expressed with an obscurity not unfrequent with its author. It appears to be,—On the voyage of life are many moments of pleasure, given by the sight of Nature, who has power to heal even the worldliness and the uncharity of man.
- 291 — l. 36 *Amphitrite* was daughter to Ocean.
- 292 — l. 16 *Sun-girl City*: It is difficult not to believe that the correct reading is *Sea-girl*. Many of Shelley's poems appear to have been printed in England during his residence abroad: others were printed from his manuscripts after his death. Hence probably the text of no English Poet after 1660 contains so many errors. See the Note on No. 9.
- 296 275 l. 1 *Maenad*: a frenzied Nymph, attendant on Dionysus in the Greek mythology.
- — l. 19 Plants under water sympathize with the seasons of the land, and hence with the winds which affect them.
- 297 276 Written soon after the death, by shipwreck, of Wordsworth's brother John. This Poem should be compared with Shelley's following it. Each is the most complete expression of the innermost spirit of his art given by these great Poets:—of that Idea which, as in the case of the true Painter, (to quote the words of Reynolds,) 'subsists only in the mind: The sight never beheld it, nor has the hand expressed it; it is an idea residing in the breast of the artist, which he is always labouring to impart, and which he dies at last without imparting.'
- 298 — l. 34 *the Kind*: the human race.
- 300 278 l. 2 *Proteus* represented the everlasting changes, united with ever-recurrent sameness, of the Sea.
- 279 l. 1 *The royal Satol*: Henry VI.



# INDEX OF WRITERS

WITH DATES OF BIRTH AND DEATH, AND FIRST LINES OF THE  
POEMS AND TITLES

	PAGE
<b>ALEXANDER, WILLIAM, EARL OF STERLING (1567?-1640)</b>	
O if thou knew'st how thou thyself dost harm ( <i>To Aurora</i> ) . . .	15
<b>ARNOLD, MATTHEW (1822-1888)</b>	
A wanderer is man from his birth ( <i>The Future</i> ) . . .	419
Go, for they call you, Shepherd, from the hill ( <i>The Scholar Gipsy</i> ) . . .	423
Hark! ah, the Nightingale ( <i>Philomela</i> ) . . .	422
In the deserted moon-blanch'd street ( <i>A Summer Night</i> ) . . .	416
Others abide our question. Thou art free ( <i>Shakespeare</i> ) . . .	415
Strew on her roses, roses ( <i>Requiescat</i> ) . . .	423
Through the black, rusting smoke-bursts ( <i>The Song of Callicles on Etua</i> ) . . .	414
We cannot kindle when we will ( <i>Morality</i> ) . . .	418
<b>AYTOUN, WILLIAM EDMONSTOUNE (1813-1865)</b>	
Come hither, Evan Cameron ( <i>The Execution of Montrose</i> ) . . .	392
<b>BACON, FRANCIS, LORD VERULAM (1561-1626)</b>	
The World's a bubble, and the Life of Man ( <i>Life</i> ) . . .	38
<b>BARBAULD, ANNA LAETITIA (1743-1825)</b>	
Life! I know not what thou art . . .	168
<b>BARNESFIELD, RICHARD (1574-1627)</b>	
As it fell upon a day ( <i>The Nightingale</i> ) . . .	21
<b>BARNES, WILLIAM (1801-1886)</b>	
Since I noo mware do zee your seace ( <i>The Wife A-lost</i> ) . . .	328
The prinnywose in the sheide do blow ( <i>Blacknywore Maidens</i> ) . . .	327
<b>BEAUMONT, FRANCIS (1584-1616)</b>	
Mortality, behold and fear ( <i>On the Tombs in Westminster Abbey</i> ) . . .	60
<b>BROWNING, ELIZABETH BARRETT (1806-1861)</b>	
How do I love thee? Let me count the ways . . .	335
I thought once how Theocritus had sung . . .	333
If thou must love me, let it be for naught . . .	334
What can I give thee back, O liberal . . .	333
What was he doing, the great god Pan ( <i>A Musical Instrument</i> ) . . .	335
Yet love, mere love, is beautiful indeed . . .	334
<b>BROWNING, ROBERT (1812-1889)</b>	
Escape me? ( <i>Life in a Love</i> ) . . .	378
Fear death?—to feel the fog in my throat ( <i>Prospice</i> ) . . .	391
Give her but a least excuse to love me! . . .	373
Grow old along with me ( <i>Rabbi Ben Ezra</i> ) . . .	384
Just for a handful of silver he left us ( <i>The Lost Leader</i> ) . . .	374
Let us begin and carry up this corpse ( <i>A Grammarian's Funeral</i> ) . . .	378
Let's contend no more, Love ( <i>A Woman's Last Word</i> ) . . .	376
Nobly, nobly Cape Saint Vincent to the North-west died away ( <i>Home-Thoughts, from the Sea</i> ) . . .	375
Oh, to be in England ( <i>Home-Thoughts, from Abroad</i> ) . . .	375

	PAGE
<b>BROWNING ROBERT (1812-1889) (continued)</b>	
The rain set early in to-night ( <i>Porphyria's Lover</i> ) . . . . .	362
The year 's at the spring . . . . .	373
This is a spray the Bird clung to ( <i>Misconceptions</i> ) . . . . .	376
<b>BRYANT, WILLIAM CULLEN (1784-1878)</b>	
Whither, 'midst falling dew ( <i>To a Waterfowl</i> ) . . . . .	319
<b>BURNS, ROBERT (1759-1796)</b>	
Duncan Gray can here to woo ( <i>Duncan Gray</i> ) . . . . .	153
Go fetch to me a pint o' wine ( <i>A Farewell</i> ) . . . . .	127
John Anderson my jo, John . . . . .	157
O Mary, at thy window be ( <i>Mary Morison</i> ) . . . . .	149
O my Love's like a red, red rose . . . . .	150
O saw ye bonnie Lesley ( <i>Bonnie Lesley</i> ) . . . . .	149
Of a' the airts the wind can blow ( <i>Jean</i> ) . . . . .	156
The lovely lass o' Inverness ( <i>Lament for Culloden</i> ) . . . . .	119
Ye banks and braes and streams around ( <i>Highland Mary</i> ) . . . . .	151
Ye banks and braes o' bonnie Doon . . . . .	131
Wee, sleekit, cow'rin', tim'rous beastie ( <i>To a Field Mouse</i> ) . . . . .	141
<b>BYRON, GEORGE GORDON NOEL, LORD (1786-1824)</b>	
And thou art dead, as young and fair ( <i>Elegy on Thyra</i> ) . . . . .	199
Eternal Spirit of the chainless Mind ( <i>On the Castle of Chillon</i> ) . . . . .	209
O snatch'd away in beauty's bloom ( <i>Elegy</i> ) . . . . .	233
O talk not to me of a name great in story ( <i>All for Love</i> ) . . . . .	173
She walks in beauty, like the night . . . . .	177
There be none of Beauty's daughters . . . . .	176
There's not a joy the world can give like that it takes away ( <i>Youth and Age</i> ) . . . . .	221
When we two parted . . . . .	190
<b>CAMPBELL, THOMAS (1777-1841)</b>	
A Chieftain to the Highlands bound ( <i>Lord Ullin's Daughter</i> ) . . . . .	183
Earl March look'd on his dying child ( <i>The Maid of Neidpath</i> ) . . . . .	197
Gem of the crimson-colour'd Even ( <i>To the Evening Star</i> ) . . . . .	187
How delicious is the winning ( <i>Freedom and Love</i> ) . . . . .	164
Of Nelson and the North ( <i>Battle of the Baltic</i> ) . . . . .	205
On Linden, when the sun was low ( <i>Hohenlinden</i> ) . . . . .	212
Our bugles sang truce, for the night-cloud had lower'd ( <i>The     Soldier's Dream</i> ) . . . . .	276
Star that bringest home the bee ( <i>To the Evening Star</i> ) . . . . .	273
The more we live, more brief appear ( <i>The River of Life</i> ) . . . . .	306
When first the fiery-mantled Sun ( <i>Ode to Winter</i> ) . . . . .	262
Ye Mariners of England . . . . .	204
<b>CAREW, THOMAS (1596?-1639?)</b>	
He that loves a rosy cheek ( <i>The True Beauty</i> ) . . . . .	75
<b>CAREY, HENRY (1693?-1743)</b>	
Of all the girls that are so smart ( <i>Sally in our Alley</i> ) . . . . .	126
<b>CIBBER, COLLEY (1671-1757)</b>	
O say what is that thing call'd Light ( <i>The Blind Boy</i> ) . . . . .	111
<b>CLOUGH, ARTHUR HUGH (1819-1861)</b>	
As ships, becalmed at eve, that lay ( <i>Qua cursum ventus</i> ) . . . . .	400
Say not, the struggle naught availeth . . . . .	401
Where lies the land to which the ship would go? . . . . .	401
<b>COLERIDGE, HARTLEY (1796-1849)</b>	
She is not fair to outward view . . . . .	178
<b>COLERIDGE, SAMUEL TAYLOR (1772-1834)</b>	
All thoughts, all passions, all delights ( <i>Love</i> ) . . . . .	171
Verse, a breeze 'mid blossoms straying ( <i>Youth and Age</i> ) . . . . .	300

	PAGE
COLLINS, JOHN (— 1808)	
In the downhill of life, when I find I'm declining ( <i>To-morrow</i> )	167
COLLINS, WILLIAM (1721-1759)	
How sleep the Brave who sink to rest ( <i>Ode written in 1746</i> )	119
If aught of oaten stop or pastoral song ( <i>To Evening</i> )	143
When Music, heavenly maid, was young ( <i>The Passions</i> )	136
CONSTABLE, HENRY (1562-1613)	
Diaphenia like the daffadowndilly ( <i>Diaphenia</i> )	10
CORY, WILLIAM JOHNSON (1623-1692)	
Somewhere beneath the sun ( <i>Amaturus</i> )	432
They told me, Heracitus, they told me you were dead ( <i>Heracitus</i> )	432
You promise heavens free from strife ( <i>Minnermus in Church</i> )	431
COWLEY, ABRAHAM (1618-1667)	
Awake, awake, my Lyre ( <i>A Supplication</i> )	84
COWPER, WILLIAM (1731-1800)	
I am monarch of all I survey ( <i>The Solitude of Alexander     Selkirk</i> )	162
Mary! I want a lyre with other strings ( <i>To Mary Unwin</i> )	164
Sweet stream, that winds through yonder glade ( <i>To a Young     Lady</i> )	129
The poplars are fell'd, farewell to the shade ( <i>The Poplar Field</i> )	140
The twentieth year is well-nigh past ( <i>To Mary Unwin</i> )	164
Toll for the Brave ( <i>Loss of the Royal George</i> )	123
CRASHAW, RICHARD (1613?-1649)	
Who'er she be ( <i>Wishes for the Supposed Mistress</i> )	68
CUNNINGHAM, ALLAN (1784-1842)	
A wet sheet and a flowing sea	203
DANIEL, SAMUEL (1562-1619)	
Care-charmer Sleep, son of the sable Night	22
DARLEY, GEORGE (1795-1846)	
It is not Beauty I demand ( <i>The Loveliness of Love</i> )	74
DEKKER, THOMAS (1570?-1611?)	
Art thou poor, yet hast thou golden slumbers ( <i>The Happy Heart</i> )	37
DOBELL, SYDNEY THOMPSON (1824-1874)	
The murmur of the mourning ghost ( <i>Keith of Ravelston</i> )	425
DOMETT, ALFRED (1811-1887)	
It was the calm and silent night ( <i>A Christmas Hymn</i> )	372
DOYLE, FRANCIS HASTINGS CHARLES (1810-1888)	
Last night, among his fellow roughs ( <i>The Private of the Buffs</i> )	370
DRAYTON, MICHAEL (1563-1631)	
Since there's no help, come let us kiss and part ( <i>Love's Farewell</i> )	23
DRUMMOND, WILLIAM (1585-1649)	
Doth then the world go thus, doth all thus move	40
My lute, be as thou wert when thou didst grow ( <i>To His Lute</i> )	24
My thoughts hold mortal strife ( <i>Madrigal</i> )	27
Of this fair volume which we World do name ( <i>The Lessons of     Nature</i> )	39
Phoebus, arise! ( <i>Summons to Love</i> )	1
The last and greatest Herald of Heaven's King ( <i>Saint John     Baptist</i> )	41
This Life, which seems so fair	37
DRYDEN, JOHN (1631-1700)	
From Harmony, from heavenly Harmony ( <i>Song for Saint     Cecilia's Day, 1687</i> )	49
'Twas at the royal feast for Persia won ( <i>Alexander's Feast</i> )	105

	PAGE
ELIOT, GEORGE (MARY ANN CROSS) (1819-1880)	
O may I join the choir invisible . . . . .	402
ELLIOTT, JANE (1727-1805)	
I've heard them tilting at our ewe-milking ( <i>Lament for Flodden</i> ) . . . . .	120
EMERSON, RALPH WALDO (1803-1882)	
If the red slayer think he slays ( <i>Brahma</i> ) . . . . .	329
O fair and stately maid, whose eyes ( <i>To Eva</i> ) . . . . .	330
FITZGERALD, EDWARD (1809-1883)	
Awake! for Morning in the Bowl of Night ( <i>Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam</i> ) . . . . .	341
FLETCHER, JOHN (1579-1625)	
Hence, all you vain delights ( <i>Melancholy</i> ) . . . . .	86
GAY, JOHN (1685-1732)	
All in the Downs the fleet was moor'd ( <i>Black-eyed Susan</i> ) . . . . .	124
GOLDSMITH, OLIVER (1728-1774)	
When lovely woman stoops to folly . . . . .	131
GRAHAM, ROBERT (AFTERWARDS CUNNINGHAME-GRAHAM) (— ? 1797)	
If doughty deeds my lady please . . . . .	128
GRAY, THOMAS (1716-1771)	
Awake, Aeolian lyre, awake ( <i>The Progress of Poetry</i> ) . . . . .	132
Daughter of Jove, relentless power ( <i>Hymn to Adversity</i> ) . . . . .	161
Lo! where the rosy-bosom'd Hours ( <i>Ode on the Spring</i> ) . . . . .	139
Now the golden Morn aloft ( <i>Ode on the Pleasure arising from Vicissitude</i> ) . . . . .	109
Ruin seize thee, ruthless King ( <i>The Bard</i> ) . . . . .	115
The curfew tolls the knell of parting day ( <i>Elegy written in a Country Church-yard</i> ) . . . . .	145
'Twas on a lofty vase's side ( <i>On a favourite cat, drowned in a tub of gold fishes</i> ) . . . . .	112
Ye distant spires, ye antique towers ( <i>Ode on a distant prospect of Eton College</i> ) . . . . .	158
HAWKER, ROBERT STEPHEN (1803-1875)	
A good sword and a trusty hand ( <i>And shall Trelawny die?</i> ) . . . . .	330
HENLEY, WILLIAM ERNEST (1849-1903)	
Out of the night that covers me . . . . .	457
HERBERT, GEORGE (1593-1633)	
When God at first made Man ( <i>The Gifts of God</i> ) . . . . .	64
HERRICK, ROBERT (1591-1674)	
A sweet disorder in the dress . . . . .	78
Bid me to live, and I will live ( <i>To Anthea who may command him anything</i> ) . . . . .	60
Fair daffodils, we weep to see ( <i>To Daffodils</i> ) . . . . .	91
Fair pledges of a fruitful tree ( <i>To Blossoms</i> ) . . . . .	91
Gather ye rose-buds while ye may ( <i>Counsel to Girls</i> ) . . . . .	72
Sweet! be not proud of those two eyes ( <i>To Dianeme</i> ) . . . . .	76
Whenas in silks my Julia goes . . . . .	79
HEYWOOD, THOMAS (— ? 1650)	
Pack, clouds, away, and welcome day . . . . .	31
HOLMES, OLIVER WENDELL (1809-1894)	
This is the ship of pearl, which, poets feign ( <i>The Chambered Nautilus</i> ) . . . . .	354

	PAGE
<b>HOOD, THOMAS (1799-1845)</b>	
I remember, I remember ( <i>Past and Present</i> ) . . . . .	223
One more Unfortunate ( <i>The Bridge of Sighs</i> ) . . . . .	230
We watch'd her breathing thro' the night ( <i>The Death Bed</i> ) . . . . .	235
<b>HOUGHTON, RICHARD MONCKTON MILNES, LORD (1809-1885)</b>	
I know not that the men of old ( <i>The Men of Old</i> ) . . . . .	355
<b>HUNT, JAMES HENRY LEIGH (1764-1859)</b>	
Jenny kissed me when we met ( <i>Rondeau</i> ) . . . . .	320
<b>INGELOW, JEAN (1820-1897)</b>	
Playing on the virginals . . . . .	408
The old mayor climbed the belfry tower ( <i>The High Tide on the Coast of Lincolnshire, 1571</i> ) . . . . .	409
<b>JONSON, BEN (1573?-1637)</b>	
Drink to me only with thine eyes ( <i>To Celia</i> ) . . . . .	77
It is not growing like a tree ( <i>The Noble Nature</i> ) . . . . .	64
Queen and Huntress, chaste and fair ( <i>Hymn to Diana</i> ) . . . . .	67
<b>KEATS, JOHN (1795-1821)</b>	
Bards of Passion and of Mirth ( <i>Ode on the Poets</i> ) . . . . .	169
Bright Star! would I were steadfast as thou art . . . . .	197
Ever let the Fancy roam ( <i>The Realm of Fancy</i> ) . . . . .	278
Four Seasons fill the measure of the year ( <i>The Human Seasons</i> ) . . . . .	307
In a drear-nighted December ( <i>Happy Insensibility</i> ) . . . . .	191
Much have I travell'd in the realms of gold ( <i>On first looking into Chapman's Homer</i> ) . . . . .	169
My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains ( <i>Ode to a Nightingale</i> ) . . . . .	246
O what can ail thee, knight-at-arms ( <i>La Belle Dame sans Merci</i> ) . . . . .	193
Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness ( <i>Ode to Autumn</i> ) . . . . .	261
Souls of Poets dead and gone ( <i>The Mermaid Tavern</i> ) . . . . .	229
When I have fears that I may cease to be ( <i>The Terror of Death</i> ) . . . . .	198
<b>KINGSLEY, CHARLES (1819-1875)</b>	
Airy Beacon, Airy Beacon . . . . .	403
O Mary, go and call the cattle home ( <i>The Sands of Dee</i> ) . . . . .	404
Welcome, wild North-easter ( <i>Ode to the North-east Wind</i> ) . . . . .	404
When all the world is young, lad ( <i>Young and Old</i> ) . . . . .	406
<b>LAMB, CHARLES (1775-1834)</b>	
I have had playmates, I have had companions ( <i>The Old Familiar Faces</i> ) . . . . .	220
I saw where in the shroud did lurk ( <i>On an Infant dying as soon as born</i> ) . . . . .	237
When maidens such as Hester die ( <i>Hester</i> ) . . . . .	234
<b>LANDOR, WALTER SAVAGE (1775-1864)</b>	
Ah, what avails the sceptred race ( <i>Rose Aylmer</i> ) . . . . .	317
I loved him not; and yet now he is gone ( <i>The Maid's Lament</i> ) . . . . .	317
I strove with none, for none was worth my strife . . . . .	317
Proud word you never spoke, but you will speak . . . . .	319
There is delight in singing, tho' none hear ( <i>To Robert Browning</i> ) . . . . .	318
Well I remember how you smiled . . . . .	319
<b>LEDSAY, LADY ANNE (AFTERWARDS BARNARD) (1750-1825)</b>	
When the sheep are in the fauld, and the kye at hame ( <i>Auld Robin Gray</i> ) . . . . .	152

	PAGE
LODGE, THOMAS (1558 ?-1625)	
Like to the clear in highest sphere ( <i>Rosaline</i> ) . . . . .	10
LOGAN, JOHN (1748-1788)	
Thy braes were bonny, Yarrow stream ( <i>The Braes of Yarrow</i> ) . . . . .	121
LONGFELLOW, HENRY WADSWORTH (1807-1862)	
Beside the ungathered rice he lay ( <i>The Slave's Dream</i> ) . . . . .	336
Come to me, O ye children ( <i>Children</i> ) . . . . .	339
This is the Arsenal. From floor to ceiling ( <i>The Arsenal at Springfield</i> ) . . . . .	338
LOVELACE, RICHARD (1618-1658)	
If to be absent were to be ( <i>To Lucasta, on going beyond the Seas</i> ) . . . . .	83
Tell me not, Sweet, I am unkind ( <i>To Lucasta, on going to the Wars</i> ) . . . . .	72
When Love with unconfined wings ( <i>To Althea from Prison</i> ) . . . . .	82
LYLYE, JOHN (1554 ?-1600)	
Cupid and my Campaspe play'd ( <i>Cupid and Campaspe</i> ) . . . . .	31
MACAULAY, THOMAS BABINGTON, LORD (1800-1859)	
Oh! wherefore come ye forth, in triumph from the North ( <i>The Battle of Naseby</i> ) . . . . .	324
To my true king I offered free from stain ( <i>A Jacobite's Epitaph</i> ) . . . . .	323
MACKAY, CHARLES (1814-1869)	
Old Tubal Cain was a man of might ( <i>Tubal Cain</i> ) . . . . .	308
MAHONEY, FRANCIS SYLVESTER (FATHER PROUT) (1801-1866)	
With deep affection ( <i>The Shandon Bells</i> ) . . . . .	331
MARLOWE, CHRISTOPHER (1564-1593)	
Come live with me and be my love ( <i>The Passionate Shepherd to his Love</i> ) . . . . .	4
MARVELL, ANDREW (1621-1678)	
How vainly men themselves amaze ( <i>Thoughts in a Garden</i> ) . . . . .	92
The forward youth that would appear ( <i>Horatian Ode upon Cromwell's return from Ireland</i> ) . . . . .	51
Where the remote Bermudas ride ( <i>Song of the Emigrants in Bermuda</i> ) . . . . .	103
MICKLE, WILLIAM JULIUS (1735-1786)	
And are ye sure the news is true ( <i>The Sailor's Wife</i> ) . . . . .	154
MILTON, JOHN (1608-1674)	
Avenge, O Lord! Thy slaughter'd Saints, whose bones ( <i>On the late Massacre in Piemont</i> ) . . . . .	51
Blest pair of Sirens, pledges of Heaven's joy ( <i>At a Solemn Music</i> ) . . . . .	104
Captain, or Colonel, or Knight in arms ( <i>When the Assault was intended to the City</i> ) . . . . .	62
Cyriack, whose grandsire, on the royal bench ( <i>To Cyriack Skinner</i> ) . . . . .	67
Daughter to that good Earl, once President ( <i>To the Lady Margaret Ley</i> ) . . . . .	74
Hence, loathed Melancholy ( <i>L'Allégo</i> ) . . . . .	94
Hence, vain deluding Joys ( <i>Il Penseroso</i> ) . . . . .	98
Lawrence, of virtuous father virtuous son ( <i>To Mr. Lawrence</i> ) . . . . .	66
This is the month, and this the happy morn ( <i>Ode on the Morning of Christ's Nativity</i> ) . . . . .	42
When I consider how my light is spent ( <i>On his Blindness</i> ) . . . . .	63
Yet once more, O ye laurels, and once more ( <i>Lycidas</i> ) . . . . .	55



	PAGE
<b>MOORE, THOMAS (1770-1852)</b>	
As slow our ship her foamy track ( <i>The Journey Onwards</i> ) . . .	220
At the mid hour of night, when stars are weeping, I fly . . .	199
How sweet tho answer Echo makes ( <i>Echoes</i> ) . . .	166
Of in the stilly night ( <i>The Light of Other Days</i> ) . . .	224
When he who adores thee has left but the name ( <i>Pro patria mori</i> ) . . .	215
<b>MORRIS, WILLIAM (1834-1896)</b>	
Had she come all the way for this ( <i>The Haystack in the Floods</i> )	450
There were four of us about that bed ( <i>Shameful Death</i> ) . . .	448
You must be very old, Sir Giles ( <i>Old Love</i> ) . . .	446
<b>NAIRN, CAROLINA, LADY (1766-1845)</b>	
I'm wearing awa', Jean ( <i>The Land o' the Leal</i> ) . . .	157
<b>NASH, THOMAS (1567-1601)</b>	
Spring, the sweet Spring, is the year's pleasant King ( <i>Spring</i> )	1
<b>NORTON, CAROLINE ELIZABETH SARAH (AFTERWARDS LADY STIRLING-MAXWELL) (1808-1877)</b>	
I do not love thee!—no! I do not love thee! . . .	340
<b>O'SHAUGHNESSY, ARTHUR WILLIAM EDGAR (1844-1861)</b>	
We are the music-makers ( <i>Ode</i> ) . . .	455
<b>PATMORE, COVENTRY KERSEY DIGHTON (1823-1896)</b>	
Why, having won her, do I woo ( <i>The Married Lover</i> ) . . .	434
<b>PEACOCK, THOMAS LOVE (1785-1866)</b>	
I dug, beneath the cypress shade ( <i>The Grave of Love</i> ) . . .	323
Seamen three! What men be ye ( <i>Three Men of Gotham</i> ) . . .	322
The mountain sheep are sweeter ( <i>The War Song of Dinas Vawr</i> )	321
<b>PHILIPS, AMBROSE (1675?-1749)</b>	
Timely blossom, Infant fair ( <i>To Charlotte Pulteney</i> ) . . .	113
<b>POPE, ALEXANDER (1688-1744)</b>	
Happy the man whose wish and care ( <i>The Quiet Life</i> ) . . .	110
<b>PRIOR, MATTHEW (1664-1721)</b>	
The merchant, to secure his treasure . . .	130
<b>ROGERS, SAMUEL (1763-1855)</b>	
Mine be a cot beside the hill ( <i>A Wish</i> ) . . .	143
Sleep on, and dream of Heaven awhile ( <i>The Sleeping Beauty</i> )	129
<b>ROSSETTI, CRISTINA GEORGINA (1830-1894)</b>	
Does the road wind up-hill all the way ( <i>Up-Hill</i> ) . . .	442
My heart is like a singing bird ( <i>A Birthday</i> ) . . .	443
O Earth, lie heavily upon her eyes ( <i>Rest</i> ) . . .	440
O! roses for the flush of youth ( <i>Song</i> ) . . .	443
Remember me when I am gone away ( <i>Remember</i> ) . . .	441
When I am dead, my dearest ( <i>Song</i> ) . . .	441
<b>ROSSETTI, DANTE GABRIEL (1828-1882)</b>	
The blessed Damozel leaned out ( <i>The Blessed Damozel</i> ) . . .	436
<b>SCOTT, SIR WALTER (1771-1832)</b>	
A weary lot is thine, fair maid ( <i>The Rover</i> ) . . .	194
Ah! County Guy, the hour is nigh ( <i>A Sirenade</i> ) . . .	186
He is gone on the mountain ( <i>Coronach</i> ) . . .	235
O Brignall banks are wild and fair ( <i>The Outlaw</i> ) . . .	174
O listen, listen, ladies gay ( <i>Rosalinde</i> ) . . .	236
O lovers' eyes are sharp to see ( <i>The Maid of Neidpath</i> ) . . .	196
Pibroch of Donuil Dhu ( <i>Gathering Song of Donald the Black</i> )	202

	PAGE
<b>SCOTT, SIR WALTER (1771-1832) (continued)</b>	
Proud Maisie is in the wood ( <i>The Pride of Youth</i> ) . . . . .	229
The sun upon the lake is low ( <i>Datur Hora Quicti</i> ) . . . . .	274
Thy hue, dear pledge, is pure and bright ( <i>To a Lock of Hair</i> ) . . . . .	87
Waken, lords and ladies gay ( <i>Hunting Song</i> ) . . . . .	241
Where shall the lover rest . . . . .	191
Why weep ye by the tide, ladie ( <i>Jock o' Hazeldean</i> ) . . . . .	183
<b>SEDLAY, SIR CHARLES (1639?-1701)</b>	
Ah, Chloris! could I now but sit ( <i>Child and Maiden</i> ) . . . . .	71
Not, Celia, that I juster am . . . . .	81
<b>SEWELL, GEORGE (— 1726)</b>	
Why, Damon, with the forward day ( <i>The Dying Man in his Garden</i> ) . . . . .	106
<b>SHAKESPEARE, WILLIAM (1564-1616)</b>	
Being your slave, what should I do but tend ( <i>Absence</i> ) . . . . .	7
Blow, blow, thou winter wind . . . . .	26
Come away, come away, Death ( <i>Dirge of Love</i> ) . . . . .	27
Crabbed Age and Youth ( <i>A Madrigal</i> ) . . . . .	5
Farewell! thou art too dear for my possessing . . . . .	19
Fear no more the heat o' the sun ( <i>Fidèle</i> ) . . . . .	28
Full fathom five thy father lies ( <i>A Sea Dirge</i> ) . . . . .	29
How like a winter hath my absence been . . . . .	8
If thou survive my well-contented day ( <i>Post Mortem</i> ) . . . . .	20
It was a lover and his lass . . . . .	6
Let me not to the marriage of true minds ( <i>True Love</i> ) . . . . .	15
Like as the waves make towards the pebbled shore ( <i>Revolutions</i> ) . . . . .	19
No longer mourn for me when I am dead ( <i>The Triumph of Death</i> ) . . . . .	30
O me! what eyes hath love put in my head ( <i>Blind Love</i> ) . . . . .	24
O Mistress mine, where are you roaming ( <i>Carpe Diem</i> ) . . . . .	17
O never say that I was false of heart ( <i>The Unchangeable</i> ) . . . . .	9
On a day, alack the day ( <i>Love's Perjuries</i> ) . . . . .	13
Poor Soul, the centre of my sinful earth ( <i>Soul and Body</i> ) . . . . .	38
Shall I compare thee to a summer's day ( <i>To His Love</i> ) . . . . .	12
Since brass, nor stone, nor earth, nor boundless sea ( <i>Time and Love</i> ) . . . . .	3
Take, O take those lips away ( <i>A Madrigal</i> ) . . . . .	23
Tell me where is Fancy bred ( <i>Madrigal</i> ) . . . . .	30
That time of year thou may'st in me behold . . . . .	13
They that have power to hurt, and will do none ( <i>The Life without Passion</i> ) . . . . .	20
Tired with all these, for restful death I cry ( <i>The World's Way</i> ) . . . . .	40
To me, fair Friend, you never can be old . . . . .	9
Under the greenwood tree . . . . .	5
When I have seen by Time's fell hand defaced ( <i>Time and Love</i> ) . . . . .	3
When icicles hang by the wall ( <i>Winter</i> ) . . . . .	17
When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes ( <i>A Consolation</i> ) . . . . .	8
When in the chronicle of wasted time ( <i>To His Love</i> ) . . . . .	13
When to the sessions of sweet silent thought ( <i>Remembrance</i> ) . . . . .	18
<b>SHELLEY, PERCY BYSSHE (1792-1822)</b>	
A widow bird sate mourning for her Love . . . . .	275
Ariel to Miranda:—Take ( <i>To a Lady, with a Guitar</i> ) . . . . .	257
Art thou pale for weariness ( <i>To the Moon</i> ) . . . . .	275
Best and brightest, come away ( <i>The Invitation</i> ) . . . . .	269
Hail to thee, blithe Spirit ( <i>To a Skylark</i> ) . . . . .	243
I arise from dreams of Thee ( <i>Lines to an Indian air</i> ) . . . . .	176

	PAGE
I dream'd that as I wander'd by the way ( <i>A Dream of the Unknown</i> ) . . . . .	277
I fear thy kisses, gentle maiden . . . . .	179
I met a traveller from an antique land ( <i>Ozymandias of Egypt</i> ) . . . . .	251
Life of Life! Thy lips enkindle ( <i>Hymn to the Spirit of Nature</i> ) . . . . .	281
Many a green isle needs must be ( <i>Written in the Euganean Hills</i> ) . . . . .	290
Music, when soft voices die . . . . .	313
Now the last day of many days ( <i>The Recollection</i> ) . . . . .	270
O wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being ( <i>Ode to the West Wind</i> ) . . . . .	295
O World! O Life! O Time! ( <i>A Lament</i> ) . . . . .	307
On a Poet's lips I slept ( <i>The Poet's Dream</i> ) . . . . .	299
One word is too often profaned . . . . .	201
Rarely, rarely, comest thou ( <i>Invocation</i> ) . . . . .	225
Swiftly walk over the western wave ( <i>To the Night</i> ) . . . . .	188
The fountains mingle with the river ( <i>Love's Philosophy</i> ) . . . . .	185
The sun is warm, the sky is clear ( <i>Stanzas written in dejection near Naples</i> ) . . . . .	227
When the lamp is shatter'd ( <i>The Flight of Love</i> ) . . . . .	195
<b>SHIRLEY, JAMES (1596-1666)</b>	
The glories of our blood and state ( <i>Death the Leveller</i> ) . . . . .	61
Victorious men of earth, no more ( <i>The Last Conqueror</i> ) . . . . .	61
<b>SIDNEY, SIR PHILIP (1554-1586)</b>	
My true-love hath my heart, and I have his ( <i>A Ditty</i> ) . . . . .	10
<b>SMITH, ALEXANDER (1836-1867)</b>	
On the Sabbath-day ( <i>Barbara</i> ) . . . . .	444
<b>SOUTHEY, ROBERT (1774-1843)</b>	
It was a summer evening ( <i>After Blenheim</i> ) . . . . .	213
My days among the Dead are passed ( <i>The Scholar</i> ) . . . . .	226
<b>SPENSER, EDMUND (1552?-1599)</b>	
Calm was the day, and through the trembling air ( <i>Prothalamion</i> ) . . . . .	32
<b>SUCKLING, SIR JOHN (1609-1642)</b>	
Why so pale and wan, fond lover ( <i>Encouragements to a Lover</i> ) . . . . .	83
<b>SYLVESTER, JOSHUA (1563-1618)</b>	
Were I as base as is the lowly plain ( <i>Love's Omnipresence</i> ) . . . . .	16
<b>TENNYSON, ALFRED, LORD (1809-1892)</b>	
As thro' the land at eve we went . . . . .	363
Break, break, break . . . . .	361
Come down, O maid, from yonder mountain height . . . . .	366
Come into the garden, Maud . . . . .	368
Deep on the convent-roof the snows ( <i>St. Agnes' Eve</i> ) . . . . .	358
I come from haunts of coot and horn ( <i>The Brook</i> ) . . . . .	361
In Love, if Love be Love, if Love be ours . . . . .	370
It is the miller's daughter ( <i>The Miller's Daughter</i> ) . . . . .	357
My good blade carves the casques of men ( <i>Sir Galahad</i> ) . . . . .	359
Now sleeps the crimson petal, now the white . . . . .	365
O Swallow, Swallow, flying, flying South . . . . .	365
Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky ( <i>In Memoriam</i> ) . . . . .	367
Tears, idle tears, I know not what they mean . . . . .	364
The splendour falls on castle walls . . . . .	363
<b>THOMSON, JAMES (1700-1748)</b>	
For ever, Fortune, wilt thou prove . . . . .	130
When Britain first at Heaven's command ( <i>Rule, Britannia</i> ) . . . . .	114

	PAGE
THOMSON, JAMES (1834-1882)	
As we rush, as we rush in the train . . . . .	454
TONIE, THE SHEPHERD (? ANTHONY MUNDAY : 1553-1633)	
Beauty sat bathing by a spring ( <i>Colin</i> ) . . . . .	12
VAUGHAN, HENRY (1622-1695)	
Happy those early days, when I ( <i>The Retreat</i> ) . . . . .	65
VERE, EDWARD, EARL OF OXFORD (1550-1604)	
If women could be fair, and yet not fond ( <i>A Renunciation</i> ) . . . . .	26
WALLER, EDMUND (1606-1687)	
Go, lovely Rose . . . . .	76
That which her slender waist confined ( <i>On a Girdle</i> ) . . . . .	79
WEBSTER, JOHN (1580?-1625)	
Call for the robin redbreast and the wren ( <i>A Land Dirge</i> ) . . . . .	29
WHITMAN, WALT (1819-1892)	
O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done . . . . .	407
WITHER, GEORGE (1588-1667)	
Shall I, wasting in despair ( <i>The Manly Heart</i> ) . . . . .	85
WOLFE, CHARLES (1791-1823)	
Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note ( <i>The Burial of Sir John Moore at Corunna</i> ) . . . . .	216
WORDSWORTH, WILLIAM (1770-1850)	
A flock of sheep that leisurely pass by ( <i>To Sleep</i> ) . . . . .	275
A slumber did my spirit seal . . . . .	181
And is this—Yarrow?—This the Stream ( <i>Yarrow Visited</i> ) . . . . .	266
At the corner of Wood Street, when daylight appears ( <i>The Recreie of Poor Susan</i> ) . . . . .	256
Behold her, single in the field ( <i>The Reaper</i> ) . . . . .	255
Beneath these fruit-tree boughs that shed ( <i>The Green Linnet</i> ) . . . . .	246
Degenerate Douglas! O the unworthy lord ( <i>Composed at Neidpath Castle, the property of Lord Queensberry, 1803</i> ) . . . . .	252
Earth has not anything to show more fair ( <i>Upon Westminster Bridge</i> ) . . . . .	250
Ethereal minstrel! pilgrim of the sky ( <i>To the Skylark</i> ) . . . . .	242
From Stirling Castle we had seen ( <i>Yarrow Unvisited</i> ) . . . . .	264
I heard a thousand blended notes ( <i>Written in Early Spring</i> ) . . . . .	282
I travell'd among unknown men . . . . .	180
I wander'd lonely as a cloud ( <i>The Daffodils</i> ) . . . . .	259
I was thy neighbour once, thou rugged Pile ( <i>Nature and the Poet</i> ) . . . . .	297
In the sweet shire of Cardigan ( <i>Simon Lee the old Huntsman</i> ) . . . . .	217
It is a beauteous evening, calm and free ( <i>By the Sea</i> ) . . . . .	273
Milton! thou shouldst be living at this hour ( <i>London, 1802</i> ) . . . . .	211
Most sweet it is with unuplifted eyes ( <i>The Inner Vision</i> ) . . . . .	278
My heart leaps up when I behold . . . . .	308
O blithe new-comer! I have heard ( <i>To the Cuckoo</i> ) . . . . .	247
O Friend! I know not which way I must look ( <i>London, 1802</i> ) . . . . .	210
Once did She hold the gorgeous East in fee ( <i>On the Extinction of the Venetian Republic</i> ) . . . . .	210
She dwelt among the untrodden ways ( <i>The Lost Love</i> ) . . . . .	179
She was a phantom of delight . . . . .	178
Stern Daughter of the Voice of God ( <i>Ode to Duty</i> ) . . . . .	207
Surprised by joy—impatient as the wind ( <i>Desideria</i> ) . . . . .	198
Sweet Highland Girl, a very shower ( <i>To the Highland Girl of Inversneyde</i> ) . . . . .	253
Tax not the royal Saint with vain expense ( <i>Within King's College Chapel, Cambridge</i> ) . . . . .	300

	PAGE
The World is too much with us; late and soon . . . . .	299
There is a flower, the Lesser Celandine ( <i>A Lesson</i> ) . . . . .	299
There was a time when meadow, grove, and stream ( <i>Ode on Intimations of Immortality</i> ) . . . . .	308
Three years she grew in sun and shower ( <i>The Education of Nature</i> ) . . . . .	180
Two Voices are there, one is of the Sea ( <i>England and Switzerland, 1802</i> ) . . . . .	209
We talk'd with open heart, and tongue ( <i>The Fountain</i> ) . . . . .	304
We walk'd along, while bright and red ( <i>The Two April Mornings</i> ) . . . . .	302
When I have borne in memory what has tamed . . . . .	211
When Ruth was left half desolate ( <i>Ruth</i> ) . . . . .	283
Where art thou, my beloved Son ( <i>The Affliction of Margaret</i> ) . . . . .	239
Why art thou silent! Is thy love a plant ( <i>To a Distant Friend</i> ) . . . . .	189
With little here to do or see ( <i>To the Daisy</i> ) . . . . .	260
Yes, there is holy pleasure in thine eye ( <i>Admonition to a Traveller</i> ) . . . . .	252
<b>WOTTON, SIR HENRY (1568-1630)</b>	
How happy is he born and taught ( <i>Character of a Happy Life</i> ) . . . . .	63
You meaner beauties of the night ( <i>Elizabeth of Bohemia</i> ) . . . . .	73
<b>WYAT, SIR THOMAS (1503?-1542)</b>	
And wilt thou leave me thus ( <i>The Lover's Appeal</i> ) . . . . .	21
Forget not yet the tried intent ( <i>A Supplication</i> ) . . . . .	14
<b>UNKNOWN</b>	
Absence, hear thou my protestation ( <i>Present in Absence</i> ) . . . . .	6
As I was walking all alone ( <i>The Two Corbies</i> ) . . . . .	90
Down in yon garden sweet and gay ( <i>Willie Drowned in Yarrow</i> ) . . . . .	122
I wish I were where Helen lies ( <i>Fair Helen</i> ) . . . . .	89
Love not me for comely grace . . . . .	81
My Love in her attire doth shew her wit . . . . .	79
O waly waly up the bank ( <i>The Forsaken Bride</i> ) . . . . .	88
Over the mountains ( <i>The Great Adventurer</i> ) . . . . .	70
There is a garden in her face ( <i>Cherry-ripe</i> ) . . . . .	77
While that the sun with his beams hot ( <i>The Unfaithful Shepherdess</i> ) . . . . .	25



## INDEX OF FIRST LINES

	PAGE
Absence, hear thou my protestation . . . . .	6
A Chieftain to the Highlands bound . . . . .	182
A flock of sheep that leisurely pass by . . . . .	275
A good sword and a trusty hand . . . . .	330
Ah, Chloris! could I now but sit . . . . .	71
Ah! County Guy, the hour is nigh . . . . .	186
Ah, what avails the sceptred race . . . . .	317
Airly Beacon, Airly Beacon . . . . .	403
All in the Downs the fleet was moor'd . . . . .	124
All thoughts, all passions, all delights . . . . .	171
And are ye sure the news is true . . . . .	154
And is this—Yarrow?—This the Stream . . . . .	266
And thou art dead, as young and fair . . . . .	199
And wilt thou leave me thus . . . . .	21
Ariel to Miranda:—Take . . . . .	257
Art thou pale for weariness . . . . .	275
Art thou poor, yet hast thou golden slumbers . . . . .	37
As it fell upon a day . . . . .	21
As I was walking all alone . . . . .	90
A slumber did my spirit seal . . . . .	181
As ships, becalmed at eve, that lay . . . . .	400
As slow our ship her foamy track . . . . .	220
As thro' the land at eve we went . . . . .	363
As we rush, as we rush in the train . . . . .	454
A sweet disorder in the dress . . . . .	78
At the corner of Wood Street, when daylight appears . . . . .	256
At the mid hour of night, when stars are weeping, I fly . . . . .	199
Avenge, O Lord! Thy slaughter'd Saints, whose bones . . . . .	51
Awake, Aeolian lyre, awake . . . . .	132
Awake, awake, my Lyre . . . . .	84
Awake! for Morning in the Bowl of Night . . . . .	341
A wanderer is man from his birth . . . . .	419
A weary lot is thine, fair maid . . . . .	194
A wet sheet and a flowing sea . . . . .	203
A widow bird sate mourning for her Love . . . . .	275
Bards of Passion and of Mirth . . . . .	169
Beauty sat bathing by a spring . . . . .	12
Behold her, single in the field . . . . .	255
Being your slave, what should I do but tend . . . . .	7
Beneath these fruit-tree boughs that shed . . . . .	246
Beside the ungathered rice he lay . . . . .	336
Best and brightest, come away . . . . .	269
Bid me to live, and I will live . . . . .	80

	PAGE
Blest pair of Sirens, pledges of Heaven's joy . . . . .	104
Blow, blow, thou winter wind . . . . .	26
Break, break, break . . . . .	361
Bright Star! would I were steadfast as thou art . . . . .	197
Call for the robin redbreast and the wren . . . . .	29
Calm was the day, and through the trombling air . . . . .	32
Captain, or Colonel, or Knight in arms . . . . .	62
Carc-charmer Sleep, son of the sable Night . . . . .	22
Come away, come away, Death . . . . .	27
Come down, O maid, from yonder mountain height . . . . .	366
Come hithor, Evan Cameron . . . . .	302
Come into the garden, Maud . . . . .	368
Come live with me and be my Love . . . . .	4
Come to me, O ye children . . . . .	339
Crabbed Age and Youth . . . . .	5
Cupid and my Campaspe play'd . . . . .	31
Cyriack, whose grandsire, on the royal bench . . . . .	67
Daughter of Jove, relentless power . . . . .	161
Daughter to that good Earl, once President . . . . .	74
Deep on the convent-roof the snows . . . . .	358
Degenerate Douglas! O the unworthy lord . . . . .	252
Diaphenia like the daffadowndilly . . . . .	10
Does the road wind up-hill all the way . . . . .	442
Doth then the world go thus, doth all thus move . . . . .	40
Down in yon garden sweet and gay . . . . .	122
Drink to me only with thine eyes . . . . .	77
Duncan Gray cam here to woo . . . . .	153
Earl March look'd on his dying child . . . . .	197
Earth has not anything to show more fair . . . . .	250
Escape me? . . . . .	378
Eternal Spirit of the chainless Mind . . . . .	209
Ethereal minstrel! pilgrim of the sky . . . . .	242
Ever let the Fancy roam . . . . .	278
Fair Daffodils, we weep to see . . . . .	91
Fair pledges of a fruitful tree . . . . .	91
Farewell! thou art too dear for my possessing . . . . .	19
Fear death?—to feel the fog in my throat . . . . .	391
Fear no more the heat o' the sun . . . . .	28
For ever, Fortune, wilt thou prove . . . . .	130
Forget not yet the tried intent . . . . .	14
Four Seasons fill the measure of the year . . . . .	307
From Harmony, from heavenly Harmony . . . . .	49
From Stirling Castle we had seen . . . . .	264
Full fathom five thy father lies . . . . .	29
Gather ye rose-buds while ye may . . . . .	72
Gem of the crimson-colour'd Even . . . . .	187

	PAGE
Give her but a least excuse to love me . . . . .	373
Go fetch to me a pint o' wine . . . . .	127
Go, for they call you, Shepherd, from the hill . . . . .	424
Go, lovely Rose . . . . .	76
Grow old along with me . . . . .	384
Had she come all the way for this . . . . .	450
Hail to thee, blithe Spirit . . . . .	243
Happy the man, whose wish and care . . . . .	110
Happy those early days, when I . . . . .	65
Hark! ah, the Nightingale . . . . .	422
He is gone on the mountain . . . . .	235
Hence, all you vain delights . . . . .	86
Hence, loathed Melancholy . . . . .	94
Hence, vain deluding Joys . . . . .	98
He that loves a rosy cheek . . . . .	75
How delicious is the winning . . . . .	184
How do I love thee? Let me count the ways . . . . .	335
How happy is he born and taught . . . . .	63
How like a winter hath my absence been . . . . .	8
How sleep the Brave who sink to rest . . . . .	119
How sweet the answer Echo makes . . . . .	186
How vainly men themselves amaze . . . . .	92
I am monarch of all I survey . . . . .	162
I arise from dreams of Thee . . . . .	176
I come from haunts of coot and hern . . . . .	361
I do not love thee!—no! I do not love thee . . . . .	340
I dream'd that as I wander'd by the way . . . . .	277
I dug, beneath the cypress shade . . . . .	323
If aught of oaten stop or pastoral song . . . . .	143
If doughty deeds my lady please . . . . .	128
I fear thy kisses, gentle maiden . . . . .	179
If the red slayer thinks he slays . . . . .	329
If thou must love me, let it be for nought . . . . .	334
If thou survive my well-contented day . . . . .	29
If to be absent were to be . . . . .	83
If women could be fair, and yet not fond . . . . .	26
I have had playmates, I have had companions . . . . .	220
I heard a thousand blended notes . . . . .	282
I know not that the men of old . . . . .	355
I loved him not; and yet now he is gone . . . . .	317
I met a traveller from an antique land . . . . .	251
I'm wearing awa', Jean . . . . .	157
In a drear-nighted December . . . . .	191
In Love, if Love be Love, if Love be ours . . . . .	370
In the deserted moon-blanch'd street . . . . .	416
In the downhill of life, when I find I'm declining . . . . .	167
In the sweet shire of Cardigan . . . . .	217
I remember, I remember . . . . .	223
I saw where in the shroud did lurk . . . . .	237
I strove with none, for none was worth my strife . . . . .	317



	PAGE
It is a beauteous evening, calm and free . . . . .	273
It is not Beauty I demand . . . . .	74
It is not growing like a tree . . . . .	64
It is the miller's daughter . . . . .	357
I thought once how Theocritus had sung . . . . .	333
I travell'd among unknown men . . . . .	180
It was a lover and his lass . . . . .	6
It was a summer evening . . . . .	213
It was the calm and silent night . . . . .	372
I've heard them liting at our ewe-milking . . . . .	120
I wander'd lonely as a cloud . . . . .	259
I was thy neighbour once, thou rugged Pile . . . . .	297
I wish I were where Helen lies . . . . .	89
Jenny kissed me when we met . . . . .	320
John Anderson my jo, John . . . . .	157
Just for a handful of silver he left us . . . . .	374
<i>Last night</i> , among his fellow roughs . . . . .	370
Lawrence, of virtuous father virtuous son . . . . .	66
Let me not to the marriage of true minds . . . . .	15
Let's contend no more, Love . . . . .	376
Let us begin and carry up this corpse . . . . .	378
Life! I know not what thou art . . . . .	183
Life of Life! Thy lips enkindle . . . . .	281
Like as the waves make towards the pebbled shore . . . . .	19
Like to the clear in highest sphere . . . . .	10
Love not me for comely grace . . . . .	81
Lo! where the rosy-bosom'd Hours . . . . .	139
Many a green isle needs must be . . . . .	290
Mary! I want a lyre with other strings . . . . .	164
Milton! thou shouldst be living at this hour . . . . .	211
Mine be a cot beside the hill . . . . .	143
Mortality, behold and fear . . . . .	60
Most sweet it is with unuplifted eyes . . . . .	278
Much have I travell'd in the realms of gold . . . . .	169
Music, when soft voices die . . . . .	313
My days among the Dead are passed . . . . .	228
My good blade carves the casques of men . . . . .	359
My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains . . . . .	248
My heart is like a singing bird . . . . .	443
My heart leaps up when I behold . . . . .	308
My love in her attire doth shew her wit . . . . .	79
My lute, be as thou wert when thou didst grow . . . . .	24
My thoughts hold mortal strife . . . . .	27
My true-love hath my heart, and I have his . . . . .	16
Nobly, nobly Cape Saint Vincent to the North-west died away . . . . .	375
No longer mourn for me when I am dead . . . . .	30

	PAGE
Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note . . . . .	216
Not, Celia, that I juster am . . . . .	81
Now sleeps the crimson petal, now the white . . . . .	305
Now the golden Morn aloft . . . . .	109
Now the last day of many days . . . . .	270
O blithe new-comer! I have heard . . . . .	247
O Brignall banks are wild and fair . . . . .	174
O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done . . . . .	407
O Earth, lie heavily upon her eyes . . . . .	440
O fair and stately maid, whose eyes . . . . .	330
Of all the girls that are so smart . . . . .	126
Of a' the airts the wind can blow . . . . .	156
Of Nelson and the North . . . . .	205
O Friend! I know not which way I must look . . . . .	210
Of this fair volume which wo World do name . . . . .	39
Oft in the stilly night . . . . .	224
Oh roses for the flush of youth . . . . .	443
Oh, to be in England . . . . .	375
Oh! wherefore come ye forth, in triumph from the North . . . . .	324
O if thou knew'st how thou thyself dost harm . . . . .	15
O listen, listen, ladies gay . . . . .	236
O lovers' eyes are sharp to see . . . . .	196
O Mary, at thy window be . . . . .	149
O Mary, go and call the cattle home . . . . .	404
O may I join the choir invisible . . . . .	402
O me! what eyes hath love put in my head . . . . .	24
O Mistress mine, where are you roaming . . . . .	17
O my Love's like a red, red rose . . . . .	150
Old Tubal Cain was a man of might . . . . .	398
On a day, alack the day . . . . .	13
On a Poet's lips I slept . . . . .	299
On the Sabbath-day . . . . .	444
Once did She hold the gorgeous East in fee . . . . .	210
One more Unfortunate . . . . .	230
O never say that I was false of heart . . . . .	9
One word is too often profaned . . . . .	201
On Linden, when the sun was low . . . . .	212
O saw ye bonnie Lesley . . . . .	149
O say what is that thing call'd Light . . . . .	111
O snatch'd away in beauty's bloom . . . . .	233
O Swallow, Swallow, flying, flying South . . . . .	365
O talk not to me of a name great in story . . . . .	173
Others abide our question. Thou art free . . . . .	415
Our bugles sang truce, for the night-cloud had lower'd . . . . .	276
Out of the night that covers me . . . . .	457
Over the mountains . . . . .	70
O waly waly up the bank . . . . .	88
O what can ail thee, knight-at-arms . . . . .	193
O wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being . . . . .	295
O World! O Life! O Time . . . . .	307

	PAGE
Pack, clouds, away, and welcome day . . . . .	31
Phoebus, arise . . . . .	1
Pibroch of Donuil Dhu . . . . .	202
Playing on the virginals . . . . .	408
Poor Soul, the centre of my sinful earth . . . . .	38
Proud Maisie is in the wood . . . . .	229
Proud word you never spoke, but you will speak . . . . .	319
Queen and Huntress, chaste and fair . . . . .	67
Rarely, rarely, comest thou . . . . .	225
Remember me when I am gone away . . . . .	441
Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky . . . . .	367
Ruin seize thee, ruthless King . . . . .	115
Say not, the struggle naught availeth . . . . .	401
Seamen three! What men be ye . . . . .	322
Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness . . . . .	261
Shall I compare thee to a summer's day . . . . .	12
Shall I, wasting in despair . . . . .	85
She dwelt among the untrodden ways . . . . .	179
She is not fair to outward view . . . . .	178
She walks in beauty, like the night . . . . .	177
She was a phantom of delight . . . . .	178
Since brass, nor stone, nor earth, nor boundless sea . . . . .	3
Since I noo mware do zee your fëace . . . . .	328
Since there 's no help, come let us kiss and part . . . . .	23
Sleep on, and dream of Heaven awhile . . . . .	120
Somewhere beneath the sun . . . . .	432
Souls of Poets dead and gone . . . . .	229
Spring, the sweet Spring, is the year's pleasant king . . . . .	1
Star that bringest home the bee . . . . .	273
Stern Daughter of the Voice of God . . . . .	207
Strew on her roses, roses . . . . .	423
Surprised by joy—impatient as the wind . . . . .	198
Sweet, be not proud of those two eyes . . . . .	76
Sweet Highland Girl, a very shower . . . . .	253
Sweet stream, that winds through yonder glade . . . . .	129
Swiftly walk over the western wave . . . . .	188
Take, O take those lips away . . . . .	23
Tax not the royal Saint with vain expense . . . . .	300
Tears, idle tears, I know not what they mean . . . . .	364
Tell me not, Sweet, I am unkind . . . . .	72
Tell me where is Fancy bred . . . . .	30
That time of year thou may'st in me behold . . . . .	13
That which her slender waist confined . . . . .	79
The blessed Damozel leaned out . . . . .	436
The curfew tolls the knell of parting day . . . . .	145
The forward youth that would appear . . . . .	51
The fountains mingle with the river . . . . .	185

	PAGE
The glories of our blood and state . . . . .	61
The last and greatest Herald of Heaven's King . . . . .	41
The lovely lass o' Inverness . . . . .	119
The merchant, to secure his treasure . . . . .	130
The more we live, more brief appear . . . . .	306
The mountain sheep are sweeter . . . . .	321
The murmur of the mourning ghost . . . . .	435
The old mayor climbed the belfry tower . . . . .	409
The poplars are fell'd, farewell to the shade . . . . .	140
The primrose in the shade do blow . . . . .	327
The rain set early in to-night . . . . .	382
There be none of Beauty's daughters . . . . .	176
There is a flower, the Lesser Celandine . . . . .	222
There is a garden in her face . . . . .	77
There is delight in singing, tho' none hear . . . . .	318
There 's not a joy the world can give like that it takes away . . . . .	221
There was a time when meadow, grove, and stream . . . . .	308
There were four of us about that bed . . . . .	448
The splendour falls on castle walls . . . . .	363
The sun is warm, the sky is clear . . . . .	227
The sun upon the lake is low . . . . .	274
The twentieth year is well-nigh past . . . . .	164
The World is too much with us ; late and soon . . . . .	299
The World 's a bubble, and the Life of Man . . . . .	38
The year 's at the spring . . . . .	373
They that have power to hurt, and will do none . . . . .	20
They told me, Heraclitus, they told me you were dead . . . . .	432
This is a spray the Bird clung to . . . . .	376
This is the Arsenal. From floor to ceiling . . . . .	338
This is the month, and this the happy morn . . . . .	42
This is the ship of pearl, which, poets feign . . . . .	354
This Life, which seems so fair . . . . .	37
Three years she grew in sun and shower . . . . .	180
Through the black, rushing smoke-bursts . . . . .	414
Thy braes were bonny, Yarrow stream . . . . .	121
Thy hue, dear pledge, is pure and bright . . . . .	87
Timely blossom, Infant fair . . . . .	113
Tired with all these, for restful death I cry . . . . .	40
Toll for the Brave . . . . .	123
To me, fair Friend, you never can be old . . . . .	9
To my true King I offered free from stain . . . . .	323
'Twas at the royal feast for Persia won . . . . .	105
'Twas on a lofty vase's side . . . . .	112
Two Voices are there, one is of the Sea . . . . .	209
Under the greenwood tree . . . . .	5
Verse, a breeze 'mid blossoms straying . . . . .	300
Victorious men of earth, no more . . . . .	61
Waken, lords and ladies gay . . . . .	241
We are the music-makers . . . . .	455

## INDEX OF FIRST LINES

495

	PAGE
We cannot kindle when we will . . . . .	418
Wee, sleekit, cow'rin', tim'rous beastie . . . . .	141
Well I remember how you smiled . . . . .	319
Welcome, wild North-easter . . . . .	404
Were I as base as is the lowly plain . . . . .	16
We talk'd with open heart, and tongue . . . . .	304
We walk'd along, while bright and red . . . . .	302
We watch'd her breathing thro' the night . . . . .	235
What can I give thee back, O liberal . . . . .	333
What was he doing, the great god Pan . . . . .	335
When all the world is young, lad . . . . .	400
Whenas in silks my Julia goes . . . . .	79
When Britain first at Heaven's command . . . . .	114
When first the fiery-mantled Sun . . . . .	262
When God at first made Man . . . . .	64
When he who adores thee has left but the name . . . . .	215
When icicles hang by the wall . . . . .	17
When I am dead, my dearest . . . . .	441
When I consider how my light is spent . . . . .	63
When I have borne in memory what has tamed . . . . .	211
When I have fears that I may cease to be . . . . .	198
When I have seen by Time's fell hand defaced . . . . .	3
When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes . . . . .	8
When in the chronicle of wasted time . . . . .	13
When lovely woman stoops to folly . . . . .	131
When Love with unconfined wings . . . . .	82
When maidens such as Hester die . . . . .	234
When Music, heavenly maid, was young . . . . .	136
When Ruth was left half desolate . . . . .	283
When the lamp is shatter'd . . . . .	195
When the sheep are in the fauld, and the kye at hame . . . . .	152
When to the sessions of sweet silent thought . . . . .	18
When we two parted . . . . .	190
Where art thou, my beloved Son . . . . .	239
Where lies the land to which the ship would go . . . . .	401
Where shall the lover rest . . . . .	191
Where the remote Bermudas ride . . . . .	103
While that the sun with his beams hot . . . . .	25
Whither, 'midst falling dew . . . . .	319
Whoe'er she be . . . . .	68
Why art thou silent? Is thy love a plant . . . . .	189
Why, Damon, with the forward day . . . . .	166
Why, having won her, do I woo . . . . .	434
Why so pale and wan, fond lover . . . . .	83
Why weep ye by the tide, ladie . . . . .	183
With deep affection . . . . .	331
With little here to do or see . . . . .	260
Ye banks and braes and streams around . . . . .	151
Ye banks and braes o' bonnie Doon . . . . .	131
Ye distant spires, ye antique towers . . . . .	158

	PAGE
Ye Mariners of England. . . . .	204
Yes, there is holy pleasure in thine eye . . . . .	252
Yet love, mere love, is beautiful indeed . . . . .	334
Yet once more, O ye laurels, and once more . . . . .	55
You meaner beauties of the night . . . . .	73
You must be very old, Sir Giles . . . . .	446
You promise heavens free from strife . . . . .	431











НАРОДНА БИБЛИОТЕКА  
"РАДОЈЕ ДОМАКОВИЋ"

OC 821.111

THE GOLDEN TREASURY



000305972



ДЕ СКОВАЛ

COBISS 